



ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

To be held on

Wednesday, 9 December 2020
4pm

at

Guyra Council Chamber

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Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee Charter

Unleash the opportunities

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First Approved	15 January 2013
Last Review	22 July 2020
Next Review Due	

PREAMBLE

Armidale Regional Council was proclaimed on 12 May 2016 following the amalgamation of Armidale Dumaresq Council and Guyra Shire Council. Prior to the merger both councils shared internal audit services.

The Audit & Risk Committee was initially established to manage internal control, governance, risk management and external accounting responsibilities of Armidale Regional Council (the Council).

The *Local Government Amendment (Governance and Planning) Act 2016 No 38* ("the Amending Act") received assent on 30 August 2016. Some parts of the Amending Act have not commenced. When Part 4A (s428A(2)) of the Act commences the Committee will be under a statutory obligation to keep under review the following aspects of the Council's operations:

- a) Compliance
- b) Risk management
- c) Fraud control
- d) Financial management
- e) Governance
- f) Implementation of the strategic plan, delivery program and strategies
- g) Service reviews
- h) Collection of performance measurement data by the Council, and
- i) any other matters prescribed by the regulations

This Charter establishes the Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee ("ARIC", "the Committee") authority and responsibilities, conferred on the Committee by Council and explains the role of the Committee within the Council.

1. OBJECTIVE

The objective of the Committee is to provide independent assurance and assistance to the Council on risk management, internal control, governance, internal audits, organisational performance and external accountability responsibilities.

Specifically, the Committee will assist the Council to:

- Promote a culture of corporate governance and compliance with Council's statutory, regulatory and policy framework;
- Examine the effectiveness of Council's internal control framework to include business processes and systems;
- Review the effectiveness of the Council's enterprise risk management processes;
- Examine the effectiveness of audit processes;
- Review external financial statements reporting processes; and
- Provide information to the Council for the purpose of improving the performance of Council's functions.

2. DELEGATED AUTHORITY

The Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee has been established under the delegated authority of Council in accordance with Council's authority granted by section 355 of the Act.

The Committee is advisory in its function and has no authority to direct the General Manager or Council officers. The Committee has no executive powers, except those expressly provided by the Council. In carrying out its responsibilities, the Committee must at all times recognise that primary responsibility for management of Council rests with the Council and the General Manager as defined by the Act.

The Council authorises the Committee as a whole (but not individual members of the Committee) within the scope of its role and responsibilities, to:

- Obtain any information it needs from any employee or external party (subject to their legal obligations to protect information);
- Discuss any matters with the Auditor General, external auditor, and/or other external parties (subject to confidentiality considerations);
- Request the attendance of any employee or Councillor at Committee meetings;
- Obtain external legal or other professional advice considered necessary to meet its responsibilities; and
- Provide advice and seek the agreement of the General Manager concerning audit investigations into matters under their control.

The Committee can request that the General Manager provide information, such as policies, procedures and reports to assist them in fulfilling their objectives.

3. COMPOSITION AND TENURE

The Committee is to be appointed by the governing body of the Council.

3.1 Members (Voting)

The Committee shall consist of three (3) independent external members who are prequalified via the NSW Government's *Prequalification Scheme: Audit and Risk Committee Independent Chairs and Members*. Changes to the Committee composition and tenure will be by approval of the Council.

Councillors are ineligible to sit on the Committee.

Independent members must be selected from the panel of prequalified audit and risk committee independent chairs and members administered by the NSW Government.

Independent external members are appointed by the Council for either a three or five year term and may be reappointed, to a maximum of eight (8) consecutive years appointment. The initial term of membership of a Committee member on any one ARIC Committee will be three to five-years to ensure that the committee maintains a fresh approach. Members can be reappointed or extended for a further term or terms but the total period of continuous membership on any one committee will not be able to exceed eight years. This includes any term as Chair of the committee. Individuals who have served an eight-year term (either as a member or Chair) must have a three-year break from serving on the committee before being appointed again.

3.2 Attendees (non-voting)

- The General Manager, or delegate
- Internal Auditor

will attend all ARIC meetings (except where excluded by the Committee) however are not members of the Committee and do not have voting rights.

Council's external auditor may attend any meeting as an independent advisor, and may meet with the Committee without the presence of the General Manager.

The NSW Auditor-General, as Council's external auditor, or their representative, is to be invited to each Committee meeting as an independent non-voting observer and can choose whether to attend. The Committee can also exclude the external auditor if needed.

The General Manager may be excluded from a meeting, only while the Committee deals with a matter relating to the standard of performance of the General Manager, or the terms of the employment of the General Manager.

It is recommended that pursuant to the Local Government Act, the General Manager should allow the Committee to meet separately with the internal and external auditor, without the presence of management, on at least one occasion per year.

3.3 Chair of the Committee

The Chair must be prequalified as a Chair in accordance with the requirements to meet the NSW Government's prequalified audit and risk committee independent chairs qualification.

The governing body can appoint the Chair for one term only for a period of three to five-years. The Chair's term can be extended but any extension must not cause the total term of the Chair to exceed five years.

3.4 Independent member appointment process and member skills

Council is required to ensure that the committee as a collective body has the appropriate mix of skills, knowledge and experience to successfully implement its terms of reference and add value to the council.

At least one member of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee should have accounting or financial management experience with an understanding of accounting and auditing standards in a local government context.

Each individual should also have sufficient time to devote to their responsibilities as an ARIC Committee member.

Independent members shall be requested to nominate their services through a public invitation process. Appointment will be made by Council resolution, taking into account the appropriate experience and qualifications of the nominees. There are no specific residency requirements for independent members, who can be considered and appointed regardless of where they reside.

The independent external members will be eligible for extension or re-appointment following a formal review of their performance at the end of each term of appointment.

Members of the Committees must not act in a way that contravenes the Act (which includes compliance with Council's adopted Code of Conduct and Code of Meeting Practice) or any other Act. Members of the Committee are also required to comply with other relevant policies and procedures of Council.

3.5 Dismissal of committee members and the Chair

The governing body of council may terminate the engagement of the Chair or a member of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee where the Chair or member has:

- breached the conditions of the prequalification scheme
- breached the council's Code of Conduct
- performed unsatisfactorily, or
- declared, or is found to be in, a position of a conflict of interest which is unresolvable.

4. ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The ARIC Committee is to provide an advisory and assurance role only, and is to have no administrative function, delegated financial responsibility or any management functions.

In carrying out its responsibilities, the Committee must at all times recognise that primary responsibility for financial and other reporting, for internal controls, for compliance with laws, for ethical behaviour, for the management of Council, for risk management and for organisational improvements, rests with the elected Council and the General Manager in accordance with the Act.

The responsibilities of the Committee may be revised or expanded by the Council from time to time. The Committee's responsibilities are, however, not necessarily limited to:

Audit

Issue (s 428A)	Committee role and responsibilities
Internal audit	Advisory: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • providing overall strategic and executive direction for internal audit activities • advising the general manager and governing body of the council of the resources necessary to successfully deliver the internal audit function • assessing the adequacy and effectiveness of council's internal audit activities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • acting as a forum for communication between the governing body, general manager, senior management, the internal audit function and external audit • overseeing the coordination of audit programs conducted by internal and external audit and other review functions, and • ensuring the council achieves maximum value from its internal audit activities. Review: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the appropriateness of council's Internal Audit Charter, internal audit policies and procedures • audit/risk methodologies used • the findings/recommendations of internal audit activities, particularly recommendations that have been assessed as the most significant according to the risk to the council if they are not implemented • the effectiveness of corrective actions implemented

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External audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • compliance with statutory requirements • the performance of the Internal Auditor and the internal audit function as part of the council's internal audit quality improvement program • the findings of any external reviews of the internal audit function <p>Endorsement of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the council's Internal Audit Charter, internal audit strategic four-year plan and annual work plan, and • the appointment and remuneration of the Internal Auditor <p>Advisory:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • acting as a forum for communication on external audit issues, and • advising on the findings of external audits and monitoring the implementation by the council of any recommendations for corrective action.
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Risk

Issue (s 428A)	Committee's role and responsibilities
Risk management	<p>Advisory – advising whether:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the council has provided sufficient resources for risk management and staff are able to carry out their risk management responsibilities • the council's risk management framework complies with current Australian risk management standards • the council's risk management framework operates effectively and supports the achievement of council's strategic goals and objectives • management has embedded a positive risk management culture • risk management is fully integrated into all aspects of the council, including decision-making processes and operations • risks are formally considered when developing and implementing all council policies, programs, projects and other activities, including procurement • major risks have been identified and assessed by the council and appropriate risk treatments have been implemented that reflect council's risk criteria • risk information is captured and communicated in a timely manner across the council, enabling management and staff to carry out their responsibilities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • there are council-specific, fit-for-purpose tools, systems and processes to help all those responsible for managing risk to fulfil their responsibilities, and • the council's risk management policies, procedures and plans are being complied with. <p>Review the appropriateness and effectiveness of the council's:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • risk criteria • internal control framework • risk register and risk profile • risk reports • risk management framework in relation to its insurance arrangements, and • business continuity plans and natural disaster plans (including periodic testing). <p>Endorsement of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the council's risk management policy, risk management plan and risk criteria prior to their approval by the governing body of the council, and

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Control framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the council's risk profile and risk register/s prior to their approval by the general manager. <p>Providing independent assurance on the following internal controls implemented by the council to manage specific categories of risk:</p> <p>The council's compliance framework - advising whether:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> management has embedded a culture which is committed to lawful and ethical behaviour the council has in place necessary policies and procedures and that these are periodically reviewed and updated the council is complying with all necessary legislation, regulations, policies and procedures management has appropriately considered all legal and compliance risks as part of the council's risk assessment and management arrangements delegations are properly managed and exercised, and the council's system for monitoring compliance is effective
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Issue (s 428A)	Committee's role and responsibilities
	<p>The council's fraud and corruption framework - advising whether the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> council's fraud and corruption prevention plan and activities are adequate and effective, and council has appropriate processes and systems in place to capture and effectively investigate fraud-related information <p>The council's financial management and external accountability framework – including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> advising whether the council's financial management processes are adequate assessing the policies and procedures for council management's review and consideration of the council's current and future financial position and performance and the nature of that review (including the approach taken to addressing variances and budget risks) advising on the adequacy of early close and year-end review procedures, and

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> reviewing council's financial statements, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> providing input and feedback on council's financial statements advising whether council is meeting its external accountability requirements advising whether appropriate action has been taken in response to audit recommendations and adjustments satisfying itself that the financial statements are supported by appropriate management signoff reviewing the 'Statement by Councillors and Management' (made pursuant to s 413(2)(c) of the Local Government Act) reviewing the processes in place designed to ensure that financial information included in the council's annual report is consistent with the signed financial statements reviewing cash management policies and procedures reviewing policies and procedures for the collection, management and disbursement of grants and tied funding, and satisfying itself that the council has a performance management framework that is linked to organisational objectives and outcomes. <p>The council's governance framework – including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> advising on the adequacy and robustness of the processes and systems that the council has put in place to govern day-to-day activities and decision-making, and reviewing whether controls over external parties such as contractors and advisors are sound and effective.
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Improvement

Issue (s 428A)	Committee's role and responsibilities
Strategic planning	<input type="checkbox"/> advising whether the council is achieving the objectives and goals it set out in its community strategic plan and has successfully implemented its delivery program, operational plan and other strategies
Service delivery	<input type="checkbox"/> advising how the council is delivering local services and how it could improve its service delivery performance
Performance data and measurement	<input type="checkbox"/> assessing the adequacy of the performance indicators and data the council uses to measure its performance

Members of the Committee are expected to:

- understand the relevant legislative and regulatory requirements appropriate to the Council
- contribute the time needed to study and understand the papers provided
- apply good analytical skills, objectivity and good judgment; and
- express opinions frankly, ask questions that go to the fundamental core of issues, and pursue independent lines of enquiry.

Members of the Committee will, at all times in the discharge of their duties and responsibilities, adhere to Council's Code of Conduct, exercise honesty, objectivity and probity and not engage knowingly in acts or activities that have the potential to damage the reputation of the Councils.

Members must also refrain from entering into any activity that may prejudice their ability to carry out their duties and responsibilities objectively and must at all times act in a proper and prudent manner in the use of information acquired in the course of their duties. Members must not use Council information for any personal gain for themselves or their immediate families or any manner that would be contrary to law or detrimental to the welfare of the Councils.

Committee members must keep all information relating to Council confidential.

5. REPORTING

A report will be prepared by the Committee on an annual basis on the past financial year activities and presented to Council.

6. ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

6.1 Meetings

The Committee will meet at least quarterly. The need for any additional meetings will be decided by the Chair of the Committee, though other Committee members may make requests to the Chair for additional meetings. An additional meeting may be convened to review Council's financial statements.

A forward meeting plan, including meeting dates and agenda items, will be agreed by the Committee each year. The forward meeting plan will cover all Committee responsibilities as detailed in this Charter.

The Chair of the Committee has responsibility to set the Committee meeting agenda. Meeting agendas will be prepared and provided in advance to members, along with appropriate briefing materials not less than seven (7) days prior to the meeting. Agenda items can be referred to the Chair of the Committee by:

- Council
- General Manager
- Other Committee members
- Internal Auditor; and
- External Auditor.

Meetings are to be conducted in accordance with, and Members bound by, Council's Code of Meeting Practice.

6.2 Agenda & Minutes

The agenda for each Committee meeting is to be prepared and circulated at least one week before the meeting. It is to include as standing items internal audit, external audit, risk management, compliance, fraud and corruption, financial management, governance, strategic planning, service delivery and performance measurement.

Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting minutes are to:

- include a record of attendance
- include items of business considered, decisions and actions arising
- be approved by the Chair before circulation
- be provided to the governing body to enable Councillors to keep abreast of assurance issues throughout the year, as well as the general manager, Internal Auditor and external auditor;
- be provided within two weeks of the meeting date to ensure relevant individuals are made aware of any significant issues discussed at the meeting that need to be dealt with; and
- be treated as confidential unless otherwise specified by the committee - public access should be controlled to maintain confidentiality in accordance with council policy.

6.3 Attendance at Meetings and Quorums

A quorum will consist of two (2) Committee members. Meetings can be held in person, by telephone or by video conference. Meetings are not open to the public.

Internal Audit will be invited to attend each meeting unless requested not to do so by the Chair of the Committee. The Committee may also request the General Manager or any other employees to participate for certain agenda items, as well as the external auditor.

In addition to Committee members, the General Manager and the Internal Auditor are to attend committee meetings as non-voting observers, except where they are excluded by the committee.

The Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee will be able to request to meet with any of the following non-voting individuals whenever necessary in order to seek additional information or explanations:

- privately with the Internal Auditor and/or external auditor without the general manager present (this is to occur at least annually)
- council's Manager Finance (or equivalent) given their knowledge of, and responsibility for, council's financial management
- any councillor (the Chair of the Committee only)
- any employee or contractor of the council, and/or
- any external independent expert or external party whose advice is needed (subject to confidentiality considerations).

These individuals must comply with the Committee's request.

The Committee can also request any written reports or other risk management reports from Council's senior management, or other related information as necessary, to enable it to fulfil its assurance role in relation to Council's risk management framework. The Committee can also request senior managers to present at Committee meetings to discuss their activities and risks.

The committee will be able to hold closed ('in-camera') meetings whenever it needs to discuss confidential or sensitive issues with only Committee members present.

The Committee can obtain such external legal or other professional or subject matter expert advice, as considered necessary to meet its responsibilities. The service provider and payment of costs for that advice by the council is subject to the prior approval of the governing body of the council.

6.4 Secretariat & Access to Staff, Resources and Information

The Committee has appointed the Council's Governance Officer or their delegate to be responsible for providing the Committee with adequate secretariat support. The Secretariat will ensure the agenda for each meeting and supporting papers are circulated, and ensure minutes of the meetings are prepared, and maintained. Minutes shall be approved by the Chair and circulated to each member within two (2) weeks of the meeting being held.

The Committee is to have direct and unrestricted access to Council's General Manager, senior management and staff and contractors of the Council as required in order to perform its role.

The Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee is also to have direct and unrestricted access to such Council resources and information it needs to perform its role.

The Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee may only release Council information to external parties with the approval of the General Manager. The General Manager's approval is not required where the information is being provided to an external investigative, audit or oversight agency such as, but not limited to, the Office of Local Government, the NSW Audit Office, the Independent Commission Against Corruption or the NSW Ombudsman for the purpose of informing that agency of a matter that may warrant its attention.

6.5 Conflict of Interests, Pecuniary Interests, and Code of Conduct

Under s440 of the *Local Government Act*, ARIC Committee members agree to comply with, and be bound by Council's Code of Conduct. Complaints or breaches of Council's Code of Conduct will be dealt with in accordance with the *Procedures for the Administration of the Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW*. Committee members should also be deemed to be a 'designated person' and required to complete and submit returns of interests.

As required under the Model Code of Conduct, Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee members must declare any pecuniary or significant non-pecuniary conflicts of interest at the start of each Committee meeting, before discussion of the relevant agenda item or issue, or when the issue arises. Details of any conflicts of interest should also be appropriately minuted.

Where Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee members or observers at Committee meetings are deemed to have a real or perceived conflict of interest they are to remove themselves from Committee deliberations on the issue.

Members will also be required to comply with the conduct requirements of the NSW Government's panel of prequalified Audit and Risk Committee Independent Chairs and Members.

6.6 Induction

New members will receive relevant information and briefings on their appointment to assist them to meet their Committee responsibilities.

6.7 Assessment Arrangements

As part of council's quality assurance and improvement program, the Committee is to provide an annual assurance report to the governing body which provides:

- a summary of the work the committee performed to discharge its responsibilities during the preceding year;
- advice on the appropriateness of the Committee's Charter;
- an overall assessment of the following aspects of council's operations in accordance with section 428A of the Local Government Act:
 - compliance
 - risk management
 - fraud control
 - financial management
 - governance
 - implementation of the strategic plan, delivery program and strategies
 - service reviews
 - collection of performance measurement data by the council, and
 - any other matters prescribed by the regulation (i.e. internal audit), and
 - any other information to help the council improve the performance of its functions.

At least once each council term (i.e. four years), an external strategic review of the effectiveness of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee is to be conducted to assess how the committee is functioning. This will provide accountability and ensure that the governing body of the council can assess how the committee's performance and whether any changes to the committee's terms of reference or membership are required.

The strategic external review is to consider:

- whether the Committee has fulfilled its terms of reference;
- the appropriateness of the Committee's terms of reference (where the Committee's terms of reference contain additional provisions to those contained in the Model Terms of Reference);
- the performance of Committee members and whether any change of membership is required;
- the way the Committee, external auditor, council and internal audit function work together to manage risk and support the council and how effective this is; and
- whether the work of the Committee has contributed to the improvement of the factors identified in section 428A of the Local Government Act.

The external review is to address the collective performance of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee, as well as the individual performance of each member and the Chair. In considering the outcomes of the external strategic review, the review is to consider feedback on each member's performance by the Chair of the Committee, mayor and general manager. The governing body of council will be able to request the Chair of the committee to address the council and answer any questions about the operation of the committee.

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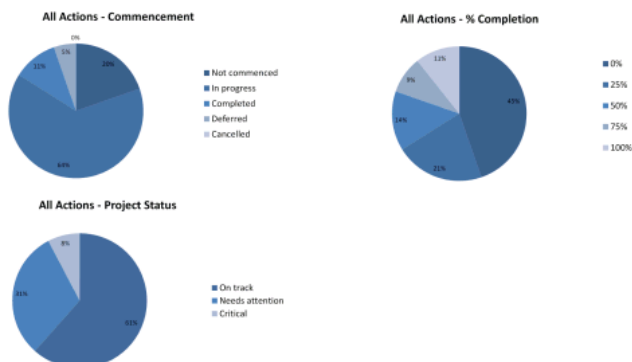
6.8 REVIEW

As part of Council's quality assurance and improvement program, where the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee's Terms of Reference include additional provisions, they are to be reviewed annually by the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee, and once each council term (i.e. four years) by an external party.



INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING

DASHBOARD - OPERATIONAL PLAN 2020-2021 SUMMARY (July - September)



ROP	Operational Plan Actions	Overall Rating	% Complete
G1.1.1	Airport Business Park - Construction, Sale and Opening	On track	
G1.1.2	Airport Lands Subdivision & Sale	On track	
G1.1.3	Kempsey Road Big Hill Project - Improvements to Heavy Vehicle Access	At Risk	
G1.1.4	Airport Security Screening Compliance	On track	
G1.1.5	Upgrade of infrastructure and facilities at the Guyra Community Hub building	On track	
G1.1.6	Design and begin construction on a commercially viable hydrotherapy pool	Needs attention	
G1.1.7	Expansion of Rail Trail Business Case	On track	
E1.1.1	Kempsey Road Disaster Recovery	At Risk	
E1.1.1	Mother of Dudo Lagoon & Nature Reserve Upgrade	Not applicable	
E1.1.2	Armidale Region Online Presence	Needs attention	
G1.4.1	Complete Guyra Main Street Upgrade Stages 2 and 3	On track	
E4.1.1	Economic Recovery Initiatives	Needs attention	
G4.3.1	Business Ecosystem establishment	Needs attention	
P1.3.1	Upgrade CRO CCTV Cameras, Security and Lighting on the Creeklands path	On track	
P2.1.1	Deliver and support community events and sponsorship	Needs attention	
P2.2.1	Curtis Park Amenity and play equipment upgrades	On track	
P2.3.1	Administer a Public Art Fund and Annual Arts and Cultural Program	On track	
P2.4.1	Community Connectivity Assistance Grant	Needs attention	
P3.4.1	Provide a Volunteering Engagement and Mentoring Service	On track	
P4.1.1	Implement Stage 1 of the Guyra Early Childhood Learning Centre upgrade	At Risk	
P4.1.1	Provide Community Assistance Grants to community groups	Needs attention	
L1.1.1	Undertake a Customer Services Realignment	At Risk	
L2.1.1	Apply for a Special Rate Variation	On track	
L3.2.1	Create a comprehensive Workforce Management Plan	Needs attention	
L3.3.1	Create a Digital Services Strategy	Not applicable	
L4.2.1	Develop the Armidale Masterplan 2040	Needs attention	
E1.1.1	Upgrades to stormwater drainage systems at Nowling Park	On track	
E1.2.1	Implement Air Quality Priority Actions as detailed in the EcoARC strategy	Needs attention	
E1.3.1	Emergency communication upgrades	On track	
E1.3.2	Planning and support services for emergencies and natural disasters	Needs attention	
E1.4.1	Improve environmental monitoring at Guyra Transfer Station	On track	
E1.4.2	Tree recovery and renewal works	On track	
E1.4.3	Installation of Koola Drinkers	Needs attention	
E2.1.1	Develop Project Zero30 actions	On track	
E2.1.2	Improved sorting facilities at Long Swamp Road Transfer Station	On track	
E2.3.1	Implement Climate Emergency Action Plan	Needs attention	
E3.1.1	Implement Bridge Safety Program for timber bridges	On track	
E3.1.2	Improve Heavy Vehicle Access to Castle Doyle Agribusinesses	On track	
E3.1.3	Bridge Renewal Program	On track	
E3.1.4	Mulpas Pipeline Remediation	On track	
E3.2.1	Renewal of water mains	Needs attention	
E3.2.2	Renewal of sewer mains	Not applicable	
E3.2.3	Increase water storage capacity of Mulpas Dam	Needs attention	
E3.2.4	Puddledock Raw Water Main and Pump Station Replacement Program	On track	
E3.2.5	Dumaresq Dam Wall Stabilisation	On track	
E3.3.1	Harris Park Lighting Upgrade	Not applicable	
E3.3.2	Playground shade sails replacement program	On track	
E3.4.1	Kerb and Guttering Renewal	On track	
E3.4.2	Renewal of Community Facilities	On track	
E3.4.3	Improve Council building electrical safety	On track	
E3.4.4	Major infrastructure preparations	On track	
E3.4.5	Council fleet safety and logistics improvements	On track	
E3.4.6	New street lighting at the University of New England	On track	
E4.1.1	Local Urban and Rural Roads Renewal Program	On track	
E4.1.2	Roadvale Road Upgrade	Needs attention	
E4.4.1	Construct new footpath in Kentucky Street Armidale	On track	



Integrated Planning and Reporting

Operational Plan **Action** Measures and Progress

Quarterly Report, July - September 2020

DP#	G1.1
DP	Plan for the needs of the region
OP	Airport Business Park - Construction, Sale and Opening
Measure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% of contracted works completed August 2020 Certificates and approvals completed for sold lots November 2020
OP Progress	Business Park complete. Opening ceremony took place on 8th October.
	In Progress
	75%
	On track
	Below Budget
OP	Airport Lands Subdivision & Sale
Measure	Compliance with agreements
Progress	On target - Tender closing on 12 November for engaging construction engineer.
	In Progress
	0%
	On track
	On Budget
OP	Airport Security Screening Compliance
Measure	Screening operational by December 2020
OP Progress	Security Screening equipment arriving in Armidale by the end of October 2020.
	In Progress
	75%
	On track
	On Budget
OP	Complete the design and begin construction on a commercially viable hydrotherapy pool and regional
Measure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final option agreed by Q1 Design developed by Q2 Construction commenced by Q4
OP Progress	Building Better Regions Fund - 4 Grant contract deferred until April 2021, subject to due diligence on business case and capacity to deliver being conducted by consultants.
	In Progress
	0%
	Needs attention
	On Budget
OP	Expansion of Rail Trail Business Case
Measure	Complete the expansion of the Business Case by Q4
OP Progress	On track. Progress report to be submitted to Council before the end of the year.
	In Progress
	50%
	On track
	Not applicable

OP	Kempsey Road Big Hill Project - Improvements to Heavy Vehicle Access
Measure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stage 1 and Stage 2 of Tranche 1 works completed • Compliance with funding deed
OP Progress	<p>The project is on hold from January 2020 due to natural disaster event and progression of the project is not feasible</p> <p>Deferred</p> <p>0%</p> <p>Critical</p> <p>Not applicable</p>
OP	Upgrade of infrastructure and facilities at the Guyra Community Hub building
Measure	Completed within budget, by December 2020.
Progress	<p>Project on target. There is an \$11,000 shortfall in budget allocation.</p> <p>In Progress</p> <p>75%</p> <p>On track</p> <p>On Budget</p>
DP#	G2.1
DP	Partner with local livestock and horticultural industries to ensure the ongoing growth and sustainability of the sectors
OP	Kempsey Road Disaster Recovery
Measure	Completed assessment and design. Implementation of a staged tender process to expedite the re-construction of the road. Medium-term works significantly initiated by Q4
OP Progress	<p>Ongoing assessment of post disaster conditions. ARC continue to work with Transport for NSW on scope of works and implementation of strategy.</p> <p>In Progress</p> <p>0%</p> <p>Critical</p> <p>Not applicable</p>
DP#	G3.1
DP	Develop a Tourism Strategy and branding to: * attract visitors to stay in the Armidale Region longer, and * enhance the economic and cultural offerings and attractions of the region.
OP	Armidale Region Online Presence
Measure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create online platform • Increase visitation to website by 5% • Increase number page views by 6% per session • Increase time on site by 7%
OP Progress	<p>Website brief not yet commenced. Once completed, a tender process can commence to award contract for the</p> <p>Not Commenced</p> <p>0%</p> <p>Needs attention</p> <p>On Budget</p>
OP	Mother of Ducks Lagoon & Nature Reserve Upgrade
Measure	Completion of project by Q1
Progress	<p>The Stronger Country Communities Funding grant has seen the successful completion of the following: The establishment of an approved Primitive Campground Area; vandal resistant amenities consisting of stainless steel</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>100%</p> <p>Not applicable</p> <p>On Budget</p>

DP#	G3.4
DP	Provide Central Business District (CBD) infrastructure that supports a more vibrant and varied offering of shopping
OP	Complete Guyra Main Street Upgrade Stages 2 and 3, including public art and beautification
Measure	Works completed Q4
OP Progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Art - Community consultation will be released with two concept options for selection and inputs. Landscaping - Internal crew are currently pricing and preparing program for landscaping installation in several areas between Ollera and Nincoola Streets.
	In Progress
	25%
	On track
	On Budget
DP#	G4.1
DP	Support businesses across the region with resources and events.
OP	Economic Recovery Initiatives
Measure	All initiatives completed by Q3
OP Progress	Much of the 'facilitation' initiatives have been achieved. 'Stimulus', 'Development' and 'Foundational' Initiatives are
	In Progress
	25%
	Needs attention
	On Budget
DP#	G4.3
DP	Encourage new business investment in the Armidale Region
OP	Business Ecosystem establishment
Measure	All planned 20/21 initiatives delivered by June 2021
OP Progress	Building has been brought up to meet current standards and refurbished, including redecorate and new lighting, new
	In Progress
	50%
	Needs attention
	On Budget
DP#	P1.3
DP	Partner with local police and other community and government agencies to develop strategies to reduce crime,
OP	Upgrade CBD CCTV Cameras, Security and Lighting on the Creeklands path
Measure	Plan completed by Q4
OP Progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CCTV upgrade - 5 new digital CCTV cameras installed – completed August 2020. Solar Lighting at the cycleway - 49 solar lights installed – completed September 2020.
	Completed
	100%
	On track
	Below Budget
DP#	P2.1
DP	Deliver and support local programs and events which meet the social and cultural needs of the community
OP	Deliver and support community events and sponsorship
Measure	Calendar created by Q2.
	Events supported and delivered according to schedule (pending COVID19 restrictions)
OP Progress	Awaiting appointment of Recovery Officer.
	Not Commenced
	0%
	Needs attention
	On Budget

DP#	P2.2
DP	Support increased community participation in sports and recreation throughout the region
OP	Curtis Park Amenity and play Equipment Upgrades
Measure	Complete project in 2020 within allocated funding
OP Progress	The Playground practical completion has been reached on the 16 Oct 2020 as per contractual agreement.
	Completed
	100%
	On track
	Below Budget
DP#	P2.3
DP	Deliver an Arts and Cultural Program throughout the region with an emphasis on enriching the lives of our
OP	Administer a Public Art Fund and Annual Arts and Cultural Program
Measure	Arts Fund developed by Q2.
	All successful 20-21 grants distributed by Q4
OP Progress	This project was not started in Q1. The aim is to have the Public Arts Fund established in Q2 and promote and
	Not Commenced
	0%
	On track
	On Budget
DP#	P2.4
DP	Support and empower the community to deliver community initiatives that improve the lives of residents and visitors
OP	Community Connectivity Assistance Grant
Measure	Equipment delivered to all successful applicants by June 2021
OP Progress	Criteria and application process (application form, assessment, etc) are yet to be developed.
	Not Commenced
	0%
	Needs attention
	On Budget
DP#	P3.4
DP	Develop strategies which promote inclusiveness of people from a culture and linguistically diverse (CALD) background
OP	Provide a Volunteering Engagement and Mentoring Service
Measure	Increase the number of registered and trained volunteers.
	Online system developed by Q2.
OP Progress	Review of alternative systems currently in progress.
	In Progress
	25%
	On track
	On Budget
DP#	P4.1
DP	Support the delivery of high quality early childhood and out-of-school services in the Guyra region
OP	Implement Stage 1 of the Guyra Early Childhood Learning Centre upgrade
Measure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building Design finalised • DA submitted • Construction Certificate and contract completed • Tenders drafted, released and awarded by Q2 • Demolition, civil works completed by Q2 • Building construction commenced Q3
OP Progress	A Development Application has been submitted, and a recommendation to go to October Council meeting to engage
	In Progress
	0%
	Critical
	Over Budget

DP#	P4.3
DP	Provide Aboriginal services and programs
OP	Provide Community Assistance Grants to community groups
Measure	Distribute financial assistance to all successful applicants within funding timelines
OP Progress	A review of community contributions is currently underway and will determine the process and timing of grant
	In Progress
	25%
	Needs attention
	On Budget
DP#	L1.1
DP	Develop and deliver an engagement strategy to ensure effective engagement with the community and provide
OP	Undertake a Customer Services Realignment to improve customer engagement.
Measure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved customer feedback Knowledge Base accessible by 30 September Hub and Realignment in place and 1st quarterly report completed August 2020 85% of current customer service and administration processes mapped by September 2021 50% of future state processes mapped by September 2020 Increased efficiency gains and savings realised by September 2020 Reduction of costs to outside contractors Improved online and face-to-face contact channels
OP Progress	<p>The Administration Hub was placed on hold by the Administrator (Ordinary Council Council Meeting 22 July), therefore the project has been modified.</p> <p>Original measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved customer feedback tracking has been implemented with complaints register weekly tracking and TRIM notifications to CS Manager The 85% of current processes have been mapped. Reduction of costs to outside contractors (Well Done) external call centre has been achieved. Content review has commenced with Exempt Planning <p>Additional Measures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CS Evaluation report & presentation - complete Training Needs - near complete
	In Progress
	25%
	Critical
	Below Budget
DP#	L2.1
DP	Financial sustainability is maintained through effective short, medium, and long term financial management,
OP	Apply for a Special Rate Variation to fund future infrastructure and community Improvements
Measure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determine SRV options for the purpose of public consultation in Q1 Run public consultation process on SRV options in Q1 Determine final SRV position to make application by Q2
OP Progress	Financial modelling is being undertaken and will include an update of the asset management plans. A report to
	In Progress
	25%
	On track
	On Budget

DP#	L3.2
DP	Develop and implement workforce plans and strategies which commit to building a skilled, motivated, inclusive and diverse workforce
OP	Create a comprehensive Workforce Management Plan
Measure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Software systems upgraded - additional module for capturing employee data for competence tracking of training and upskilling requirements. • Training days per employee
OP Progress	Software upgrade on hold due to budget review. Councils career website has been improved and updated on a
	In Progress
	50%
	Needs attention
	Below Budget
DP#	L3.3
DP	Council utilises appropriate data management systems to support service delivery and effective decision making
OP	Create a Digital Services Strategy to inform technology-based decisions and systems
Measure	Strategy implemented by December 2020
OP Progress	This project is to be Deferred, Reassigned and led by IT (with consultation/collaboration from
	Deferred
	0%
	Not applicable
	Not applicable
DP#	L4.2
DP	Council's strategic planning documents are integrated in a way which delivers community outcomes while effectively managing budgets, asset management and workforce planning
OP	Develop the Armidale Masterplan 2040
Measure	Armidale Masterplan 2014 adopted by Council by Q1
	Draft LSPS adopted by Q2
OP Progress	Project under review.
	At the Ordinary Council Meeting on 19 August 2020, Council resolved (187/20): a) That Council endorse the draft Local Strategic Planning Statement for public exhibition, for a minimum of 28 days, commencing 31 August 2020; b)
	Deferred
	0%
	Needs attention
	Not applicable
DP#	E1.1
DP	Maintain and improve local waterways, lagoons and creek lands in partnership with community groups and other
OP	Upgrades to stormwater drainage systems at Newling Park
Measure	Decreased quantity of sediments entering waterways
OP Progress	Design completed, project manager selected and project underway.
	In Progress
	0%
	On track
	On Budget
DP#	E1.2
DP	Partner with stakeholders to develop strategies and provide programs which improve air quality across the region,
OP	Implement Air Quality Priority Actions as detailed in the EcoARC strategy
Measure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air Quality Awareness Survey - 50% of residents aware of availability of air quality data • Achieve a return rate of 1000 people
OP Progress	Project requirements under review
	Not Commenced
	0%
	Needs attention
	Not applicable

DP#	E1.3
DP	Work with local emergency management agencies and committees to plan for the management of natural disasters
OP	Emergency communication upgrades
Measure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding distributed to Guyra SES by August 2020. All units purchased and fitted by June 2021.
OP Progress	Satellite Phone on order. Quotes received for UHF system.
	In Progress
	50%
	On track
	Below Budget
OP	Planning and support services for emergencies and natural disasters
Measure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business Continuity Plan completed by Q4 Temporary role filled and operational in Q1
OP Progress	At the Ordinary Council Meeting on 23 September, it was resolved to reallocate Federal Bushfire Funding including to replace funding for the Business Continuity Plan and Drought and Resilience Officer with other community projects.
	Not Commenced
	0%
	Needs attention
	Not applicable
DP#	E1.4
DP	Protect and enhance the natural environment to promote and support biodiversity
OP	Improve environmental monitoring at Guyra Transfer Station
Measure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bores installed by April 2021 Data published on website quarterly.
OP Progress	A proposal for the installation of two boreholes is being prepared by Council's consultants.
	Not Commenced
	0%
	On track
	On Budget
OP	Installation of Koala Drinkers to support the Koala population
Measure	All drinkers installed by Q4
OP Progress	Project under review.
	At the Ordinary Council meeting on 23 September 2020, Council resolved (239/20) that Council: a) Adopt the amended allocation for the Federal Bushfire Funding Grant \$1.3m as listed below; b) Note the allocation of the State
	Not Commenced
	0%
	Needs attention
	Not applicable
OP	Tree recovery and renewal works
Measure	Funded projects completed and funding acquitted by Q4
OP Progress	Estimate completion date for the removal of dead trees is the end of October 2020.
	In Progress
	75%
	On track
	On Budget

DP#	E2.1
DP	Promote or provide educational programs to increase community awareness of climate change risks and enable the
OP	Develop Project Zero30 actions to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030
Measure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emissions measurement commenced by Q2 Committee active and meeting monthly 2,000 social media followers
OP Progress	Post Doctorate Dr. Kara Tighe has been appointed, she has begun her literature review and scoping the modelling for the carbon account.
	In Progress
	25%
	On track
	Not applicable
DP#	E2.2
DP	Provide waste and recycling services, and environmentally responsible waste disposal facilities together with
OP	Improved sorting facilities at Long Swamp Road Transfer Station
Measure	Completed by Q4
OP Progress	Location and dimension of sorting slab determined.
	In Progress
	0%
	On track
	On Budget
DP#	E2.3
DP	Facilitate access to renewable energy for the local community and businesses
OP	Implement Climate Emergency Action Plan
Measure	2020/2021 actions completed Q4
OP Progress	CEWG representatives have been working with Council officers with a view to identify projects which available
	In Progress
	0%
	Needs attention
	Not applicable
DP#	E3.1
DP	Partnerships with all levels of government to support the provision of essential infrastructure for the region
OP	Bridge Renewal Program
Measure	Replace Pint Pot Bridge in 2021 Replace Dumaresq Creek Bridge in 2021
OP Progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pint Pot bridge replacement - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design in progress Construction to start Oct 2020. Completion expected to Feb 2021. Dumaresq bridge replacement - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design in progress Construction to start Jan 2021. Completion expected to Apr 2021.
	In Progress
	25%
	On track
	On Budget
OP	Implement Bridge Safety Program for timber bridges
Measure	Refurbishment of timber bridges to achieve no increase in number of load limited bridges.
OP Progress	Awaiting final confirmation of the Funding Agreement.
	Not Commenced
	0%
	On track
	Not applicable

OP	Improved Heavy Vehicle Access to Castle Doyle Agribusinesses
Measure	Replace Shingle Hut Bridge on Castledoyle Road in 2021
OP Progress	Shingle Hut bridge replacement is under construction.
	In Progress
	50%
	On track
	On Budget
OP	Malpas Pipeline Remediation
Measure	2020-2021 works completed by Q4
OP Progress	Work is progressing. Gabion walls around the piers at Site 1 have been installed. The project also includes bridge structure for future access. Earthworks for bridge pier foundation has been prepared. Currently awaiting the supply of galvanised rebar for strip footing.
	In Progress
	25%
	On track
	On Budget
DP#	E3.2
DP	Supply water and waste water services to meet the community needs in Armidale and Guyra, as well as
OP	Dumaresq Dam Wall Stabilisation
Measure	Phase 1 (60%) completed Q4
	Revised Measure:
	Phase 1 (design and tender) completed Q2 Phase 2 (construction) completed Q2 2021/2022
OP Progress	Tenders from selected contractors for the upgrading of the wall returned at the end of September. Currently being
	In Progress
	75%
	On track
	On Budget
OP	Increase water storage capacity of Malpas Dam
Measure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Study completed Detailed cost estimates completed
OP Progress	The project was put on hold pending the provision of a secure yield analysis for the Malpas Dam Catchment. This has now been received and the consultant has resumed their evaluation.
	In Progress
	0%
	Needs attention
	On Budget
OP	Puddledock Raw Water Main and Pump Station Replacement Program for future water security
Measure	50% of works completed Q4
OP Progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pipeline is in design phase Technical memorandum received from the designer CARDNO with recommendations on pump site location and pipe alignment based on hydraulic assessment. Proposed recommendations have been accepted by ARC. Project is now in full design stage.
	In Progress
	25%
	On track
	On Budget
OP	Renewal of sewer mains
Measure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Study completed Detailed cost estimates completed
OP Progress	Sewer mains relining contract for this year is complete with 6.5km of main relined (5.6km in Armidale & 0.9km in
	Completed
	100%
	Not applicable
	Below Budget

OP	Renewal of water mains
Measure	Proportion of network renewed is greater than 2% per annum
OP Progress	Water main replacements have not commenced to date as we are waiting on design plans.
	In Progress
	0%
	Needs attention
	Below Budget
DP#	E3.4
DP	Provide and maintain functional, appropriate, safe and desirable community facilities
OP	Council fleet safety and logistics improvements
Measure	20 new GPS units installed and activated
OP Progress	Units purchased and installed
	Completed
	100%
	On track
	On Budget
OP	Improved Council building electrical safety
Measure	Building compliance
OP Progress	Project delivery not commenced. Program determined, Quotes received.
	Not Commenced
	0%
	On track
	On Budget
OP	Kerb and Guttering Renewal
Measure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kerb and guttering replaced as per program of works Program completed by Q4
OP Progress	Works completed in St Andrews Avenue.
	In Progress
	50%
	On track
	On Budget
OP	Major Infrastructure preparations
Measure	All projects shovel-ready by Q4
OP Progress	1. Airport runway expansion - final concept design being prepared, will be sent to Council for approval to seek funding opportunities in Q2 3. CBD Precinct Masterplan - preliminary assessment of options being undertaken 4. Stage 2 Guyra Preschool - preliminary work has begun, waiting outcome of Stage 1 funding
	In Progress
	0%
	On track
	On Budget
OP	New street lighting at the University of New England
Measure	Project completed Q2
OP Progress	1. Electrical design received Essential Energy certification on 15th October 2. Contractor has been engaged and the expected project completion at end of December
	In Progress
	25%
	On track
	On Budget

OP	Renewal of Community Facilities
Measure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete SRV project within the conditions and allocation Budgeted amount applied to prioritised facilities
OP Progress	Projects have been identified and work orders allocated.
	In Progress
	50%
	On track
	On Budget
DP#	E3.3
DP	Regular review of open spaces to ensure parks, sportsgrounds, water recreation facilities and other open space meets
OP	Harris Park Lighting Upgrade
Measure	Project completed Q1
OP Progress	Successfully delivered below budget. Community sports clubs extremely happy with result.
	Completed
	100%
	Not applicable
	Below Budget
OP	Playground shade sails replacement program
Measure	Project completed by end of Q2
OP Progress	Council is seeking quotations and work will begin later in the financial year.
	Not Commenced
	0%
	On track
	On Budget
DP#	E4.1
DP	Maintain safe and effective traffic facilities on the road network
OP	Local Urban and Rural Roads Renewal Program
Measure	Prioritised Gravel Resheeting Program completed by Q4
OP Progress	12.74km of works completed to date. All priority 1 roads for 20-21 now completed. Priority 2 roads commenced.
	In Progress
	50%
	On track
	On Budget
OP	Rockvale Road Upgrade - 1.5km from Guyra Road Intersection to improve safety and reduce vehicle operator costs.
Measure	Works completed by Q4
OP Progress	Project pre-start-up meeting held on 19th October, ARC local serviced department is undertaking the full delivery of
	In Progress
	0%
	Needs attention
	Over Budget
DP#	E4.4
DP	Develop a network of footpaths and cycle ways to encourage sustainable and active transport options
OP	Construct new footpath in Kentucky Street Armidale
Measure	120m of all weather concrete footpath constructed by June 2021
OP Progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction to start Nov 2020. Completion expected to Dec 2020.
	In Progress
	25%
	On track
	On Budget

ADOPTED BY COUNCIL: [DATE TO BE COMPLETED BY GOVERNANCE]

1. PURPOSE

This document outlines a high-level approach to ensure decisions are made with an understanding of Council's risk environment and to facilitate the taking of risks and capitalising on opportunities, within council's risk appetite, to assist Council meet its strategic objectives.

2. APPLICATION

Risk management is a fundamental component of decision making in all Council activities. As such all Councillors and Officers should be guided by this Policy and associated procedures when making any decisions, and such decisions should consider the risks involved in taking those decisions and the impact of those decisions on the achievement of Council's objectives.

3. POLICY INTENT

Council maintains a strong commitment to embedding effective risk management into all activities and as such is a core responsibility of management. Management has the responsibility to evaluate the risk environment, to put in place appropriate controls and to monitor the effectiveness of these controls, as well as communicate the risk management framework, plan and procedures throughout Council.

The objectives of this policy are to facilitate Council striking a balance between risk management and opportunity taking, whilst achieving the objectives set out in Council's strategic plan by:

1. Ensuring Enterprise-Wide Risk Management is integrated into Council's strategic and operational planning processes in order to avoid, eliminate or minimise harm and/or loss.
2. Supporting and enabling effective delivery of equitable and appropriate services and facilities for the community whilst creating an environment of innovation and business improvement
3. Implementing risk management practices that lead to a risk aware culture
3. Having regard to long-term and cumulative commitments by Council to environment, economic, social and governance objectives aligned with its Integrated Planning and Reporting framework.

4. COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVES

Successful implementation of a risk management framework will enhance the delivery of all Community Outcomes listed in the Armidale Regional Council Community Strategic Plan 2017 – 2027.

5. POLICY

Details of Policy – what is the actual policy? Most of the content should be in this section of the policy.

5.1 Council's Risk Management Framework

Council identifies, assesses and manages risk at both an enterprise ('top-down') and a business ('bottom-up') level. This process covers the full spectrum of risks including policy, strategic, financial and operational risks,

including compliance. This Policy aims to achieve the proper identification and oversight of all the risks Council faces. Council's risk management approach will encompass the following key elements:

- Risk Management Policy
- Risk Appetite
- Risk Management Plan
- Risk Management Policies and Procedures

This framework is consistent with the accepted Australian Risk Management Standard (AS ISO 31000:2018 Risk Management) and comprises several important steps:

- *Identifying and analysing* the main risks facing the Council
- *Evaluating* those risks and making judgements about whether they are acceptable or not
- *Implementing* appropriately designed control systems to manage these risks in a way which is consistent with Council's risk appetite
- *Treating* risks by formulating responses following the identification of unacceptable risks, including actions to reduce the probability or consequences of events and formulation of contingency plans
- *Documenting* these processes, with summary tables (risk registers) the main forms of documentation, supplemented by risk manuals or related documents as appropriate
- *Ongoing monitoring, communication and review*

The approach aligns with and incorporates the principles of the 'three lines of defence' model, which is based on a set of layered defences that align responsibility for risk taking with accountability for risk control.

Business Units of Council (the first line) own and manage risks and are responsible for implementing controls to keep risks within the appetite of the organisation; the second line provides specialised risk and compliance management services; and the third line, primarily via the Internal Audit function, provides assurance to senior management on the effectiveness of governance, risk management and internal controls.

5.2 Risk Management Culture

Risk Management Culture refers to the set of shared values and behaviours that characterise how Council considers risk in its day-to-day activities. Risk Management Culture should be embedded into and not separate from the organisational culture. Risk culture is the glue that binds all the elements of risk management together, because it reflects the shared values, goals, practices and mechanisms that embed risk into an organisation's decision-making processes and risk management into its operating processes.

Council fosters a positive risk management culture where risk management is seen as a positive attribute of decision-making rather than a corrective measure. Staff are encouraged to have a willingness to engage effectively with risk.

5.3 Risk Profile and Appetite

Council seeks to manage its risk profile carefully. This reflects the view that satisfactory fulfilment of its important public responsibilities could be seriously jeopardised if poorly managed risks were to lead to

significant impairment of operations, financial losses, harm to the environment and/or damage to Council's reputation.

In support of this, Council will develop a risk appetite for Council's most significant risks. This will define the amount of risk Council is willing to accept in pursuit of its strategic goals and will form the basis of Council's approach to managing risk and taking opportunities in day to day operational activities as well as strategic decision making.

5.4 Risk Management Plan

A risk management plan will be developed to provide structure for how Council will implement the Risk Management Policy and conduct its risk management activities. The primary purpose of the plan is to ensure that the Council's arrangements for managing risks are clearly understood and practiced, and identifies where, when and how different types of decisions relating to risk are made across the Council and by whom.

The Risk Management Plan will include:

- roles, accountabilities and responsibilities in relation to risk management
- the timeframes for risk management activities
- the activities that Council will undertake to implement its risk management policy
- how risk management processes will be implemented and maintained
- resourcing requirements (people, IT and physical assets)
- training and development requirements
- performance measures used to evaluate the success of the risk management framework, and
- how and when the Council's Risk Management Framework will be reviewed

5.5 Risk Management Procedures

Risk management procedures shall be developed to provide a systematic way of identifying, assessing and prioritising risks, deciding how they will be managed, and documenting and communicating this across the Council. All risk management procedures are to be performed in accordance with AS ISO 31000:2018, using qualitative, semi-quantitative or quantitative methods and techniques that best suit the Council's operations, risk management maturity and decision-making needs.

5.6 Decision Making

To ensure its success, the Risk Management Framework will be integrated within all Council's decision-making processes, governance structures, operational procedures and integrated planning and reporting processes.

5.7 Risk Management Framework – Continuous Review

The Council executive is responsible for ensuring the effectiveness of the risk management framework can be assessed. This will be achieved by ensuring that:

- any approved risk treatment plans have performance targets and timelines that can be measured against goals and objectives, and
- a methodology is implemented to obtain the data needed to measure the impact of the Council's risk management framework.

An annual assessment that identifies that Council's risk register and risk profile should be undertaken to ensure that they are current and appropriate.

6. LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Risk management is a fundamental component of decision making in all Council activities. As such all policies and procedures of Council should be guided by this Policy and any associated risk management procedures to maintain appropriate risk management considerations at the heart of all decisions and processes.

This policy and council's risk management approach are informed by the Risk Management Guidelines (AS ISO 31000:2018) issued by Standards Australia.

7. REVIEW

This Policy will be reviewed every two years from the date of each adoption of the policy, or more frequently as required. This policy will be reviewed within one year of any significant restructure or change to Council's operating environment.

8. REPORTING

The General Manager will publish an attestation statement in the Council's Annual Report indicating, for the prior financial year, whether Council has complied with its risk management requirements.

9. RESPONSIBLE OFFICER

The Coordinator Governance and Risk is the Responsible Officer for the Policy and will be the principle point of contact for interpretation or queries on the policy. They will have responsibility for maintaining appropriate records relating to the Risk Management Framework and its application. The Coordinator Governance and Risk has additional responsibilities for implementation of actions under this policy which are defined in the next section.

10. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

10.1 Council

The elected Council is responsible for determining Council's Risk Appetite. The elected Council is also responsible, as part of the approval of the annual budget, for the provision of the resources needed to:

- implement an appropriate risk management framework, and

- deliver risk treatments and internal controls needed to ensure risks are appropriately managed.

10.2 General Manager

Consistent with the General Manager's role under section 335 of the *Local Government Act 1993* to conduct the day-to-day management of the Council, the General Manager has ultimate responsibility and accountability for risk management in the Council. This includes:

- approving the Council's risk management plan, risk treatment plans, risk register and risk profile
- overseeing the Council's risk management framework and ensuring it is effectively communicated, implemented and reviewed regularly
- ensuring council operates within its risk appetite
- promoting and championing a positive risk culture
- ensuring that all Council managers and staff (permanent, temporary or contract) understand their risk management responsibilities and that these are included in all job descriptions, staff induction programs, performance agreements and performance appraisals
- annually attesting that Council's risk management framework complies with statutory requirements and remains contemporary and in line with best practice; and
- approving the Council's implementation of corrective actions recommended by the Council's internal audit function, external audit and ARIC.

10.3 Directors and Managers

Directors and Managers have the responsibility for managing specific policy, project and program risks across the Council. This includes being responsible, within the sphere of their authority, for:

- promoting awareness of risks and risk treatments that must be implemented
- ensuring Council staff are implementing the Council's risk management framework as developed and intended and performing their risk management responsibilities
- identifying risks that will affect the achievement of the Council objectives
- establishing and/or implementing specific policies, operating and performance standards, budgets, plans, systems and/or procedures to manage risks, and
- monitoring the effectiveness of risk treatment and internal controls.

10.4 Coordinator Governance and Risk

The Coordinator Governance and Risk Manager will be the Responsible Officer for the Policy and will coordinate the following functions in relation to the Policy:

- implementing effective risk management communication mechanisms within Council
- developing and maintaining a risk reporting framework to enable regular advising/reporting of key risks, and the management of those risks, to the senior management group and ARIC

- supporting Directors and Managers by co-ordinating and providing clear and concise risk information, advice and/or reports that can be used in planning and decision-making
- undertaking regular reviews of both the policy and associated procedures
- helping to build a risk management culture within the Council, including facilitating and driving risk management at the strategic and operational level and ensuring consistency in practice
- train and educate relevant employees with respect to policy and procedures and ensure documents, tools, templates and user guides are current and readily available.
- coordinating the various activities relating to risk management within the Council
- ensuring there are easily accessible systems and processes in place to enable all staff to conveniently undertake risk management in their day-to-day work
- supporting Council staff with their risk management obligations and providing staff with advice and tools to ensure risk management compliance
- establishing and maintaining an ongoing monitoring system to track the risk management activities undertaken within Council and assessing the need for further action, and
- assessing risk management information for completeness, accuracy and consistency (for example, risk registers, risk treatment plans)

10.5 Staff

All Council staff are responsible for:

- helping to identify risks in their business unit
- implementing risk treatment plans within their area of responsibility
- following standard operating procedures (where applicable), and
- communicating or escalating new risks that emerge to their manager.

10.6 Council Executive

The Council executive have responsibility for reviewing and monitoring existing and emerging corporate risks, possible improvements and business continuity arrangements. An annual review of Council's corporate risk register will be undertaken which will be reported to the ARIC.

10.7 Internal Audit

The Internal Audit function develops and implements a risk-based audit program to provide assurance that risks are identified and key controls to mitigate these risks are well-designed and working effectively and that overall good governance is evident. Internal Audit reports are reported to the ARIC to ensure independent oversight of the effectiveness of controls and any recommendations that are made for improvement.

10.8 Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC)

The ARIC will be responsible for providing independent assurance to the General Manager and Council that the risk management framework is appropriate and working effectively and provide advice on an annual basis that Council has complied with its risk management requirements. This includes advising whether:

- Council's risk management framework operates effectively and supports the achievement of the council's strategic goals and objectives
- Council's risk appetite is appropriately reflected in the Council's internal control framework
- Council is operating within the risk appetite determined by Council
- risk management covers all relevant risk categories including strategic, operational, compliance, reputational and reporting risks
- Council takes an enterprise risk management approach that is fully integrated into all aspects of the Council, including decision-making processes and operations
- risks are formally considered when developing and implementing all Council policies, programs, projects and other activities, including procurement
- major risks have been identified and assessed by the council and appropriate risk treatments have been implemented that reflect the Council's risk criteria
- internal controls are effective and appropriate
- Council's risk management framework complies with AS ISO 31000:2018
- resources provided for risk management are sufficient for managing risks facing Council
- risk management policies, procedures and plans are being complied with.

11 RELATED PROCEDURES

A Risk Management Plan and associated Procedures will be developed, consistent with any guidance from the Office of Local Government, to support the implementation of this Policy.

APPROVAL AND REVIEW		
Responsible Business Unit	Governance, People and Systems	
Responsible Officer	Coordinator Governance and Risk	
Date/s adopted	<i>Council Executive</i> [updated by policy owner]	<i>Council</i> [DD Mmmm YYYY]
Date/s of previous adoptions	[Dates of previous adoptions]	
Date of next review	[Two years from last adoption]	
TRIM Reference		

INSTRUMENT OF DELEGATION TO GENERAL MANAGER

Pursuant to Section 377 of the *Local Government Act 1993* and a resolution of the Council at its meeting held on 09 December, 2020 Armidale Regional Council:

1. Revokes all previous delegations granted to the position of General Manager prior to the date of this Instrument; and
2. Delegates to the position of General Manager, or to the person who acts in that position, all of the functions, powers, duties and authorities of the Council that it may lawfully delegate under the *Local Government Act 1993*, any other Act, regulation, instrument, rule or the like (including any functions, powers, duties and authorities delegated to the Council by any authority, body, person or the like), other than those functions prescribed in section 377 of the *Local Government Act 1993* as functions which may not be delegated; subject to:
 - i. the acceptance of tenders being limited to a contract value of up to \$250,000 (GST inclusive) where all other tender requirements of the *Local Government Act 1993* and *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005* are met.
 - ii. these delegations and authorities being exercised in a manner consistent with relevant legislation and any applicable resolution of Council.
3. Pursuant to Section 68 of the *Noxious Weeds Act 1993* delegates to the position of General Manager, or to the person who acts in that position, all of the functions under the *Noxious Weeds Act 1993*, including, but not limited to, the function of appointing inspectors in accordance with the Act.
4. These delegations and authorities are effective from the date of the Resolution of the Council and remain in force until amended or revoked by a further resolution of the Council.

Pursuant to a Resolution of the Council at its meeting of Wednesday, 09 December 2020.

Date: _____

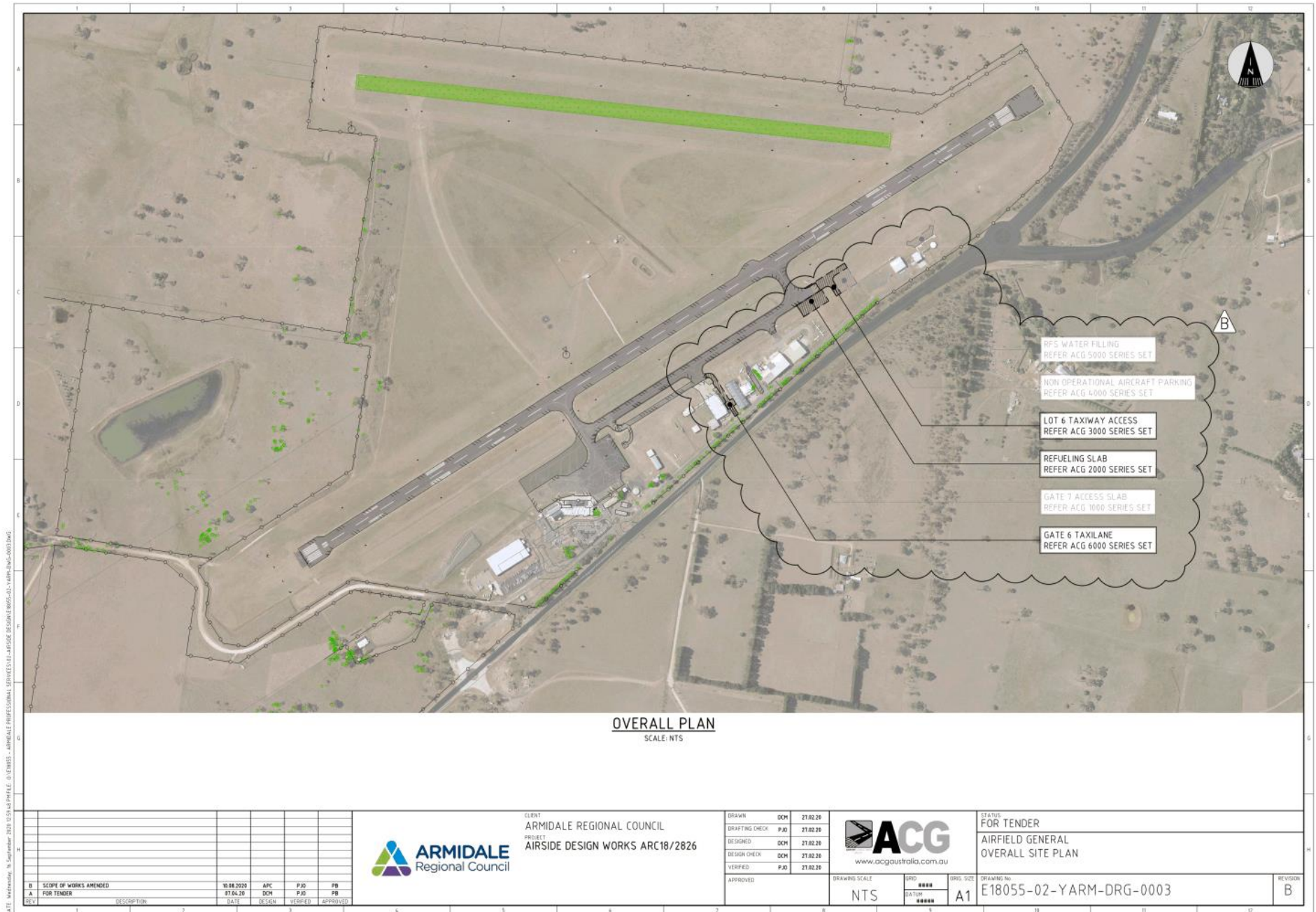
Viv May PSM
Interim Administrator

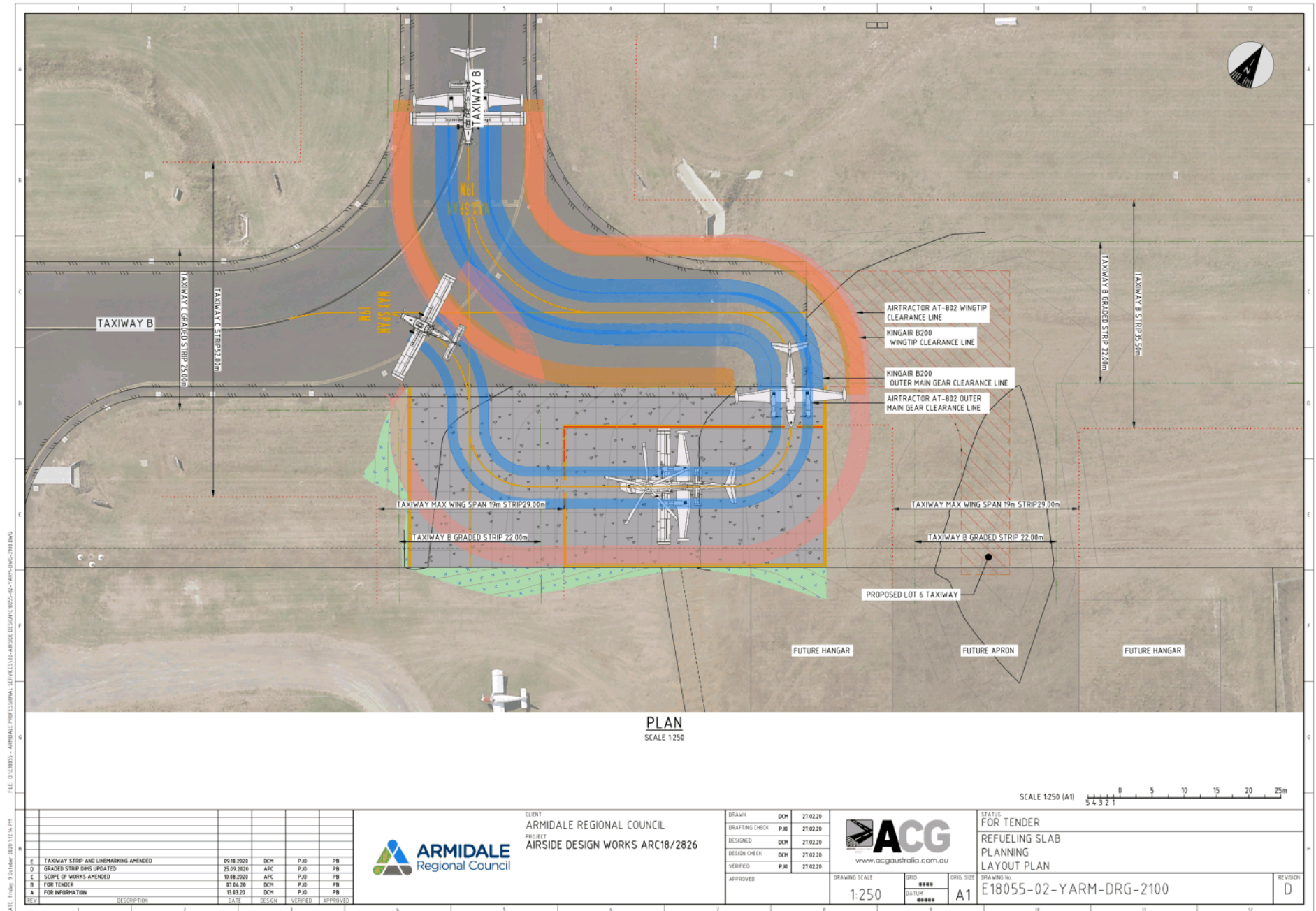
Acknowledgement of Delegations of Authority

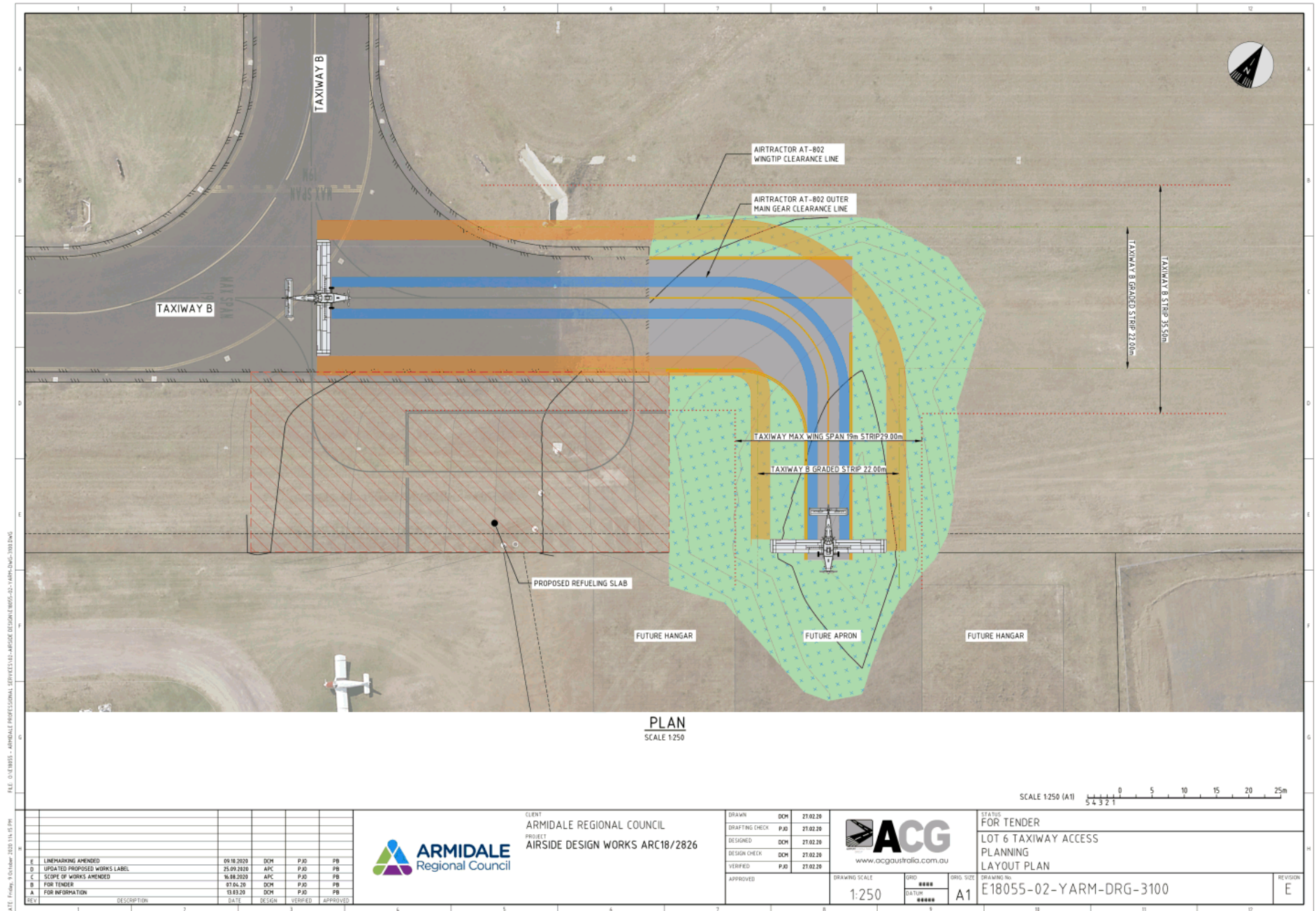
I, James Roncon, currently employed by the Council in the position of General Manager, do hereby acknowledge that I have read and understood this Instrument of Delegation and that I will perform the functions of the position of General Manager in accordance with the delegations and authorities in this Instrument of Delegation and the relevant position description.

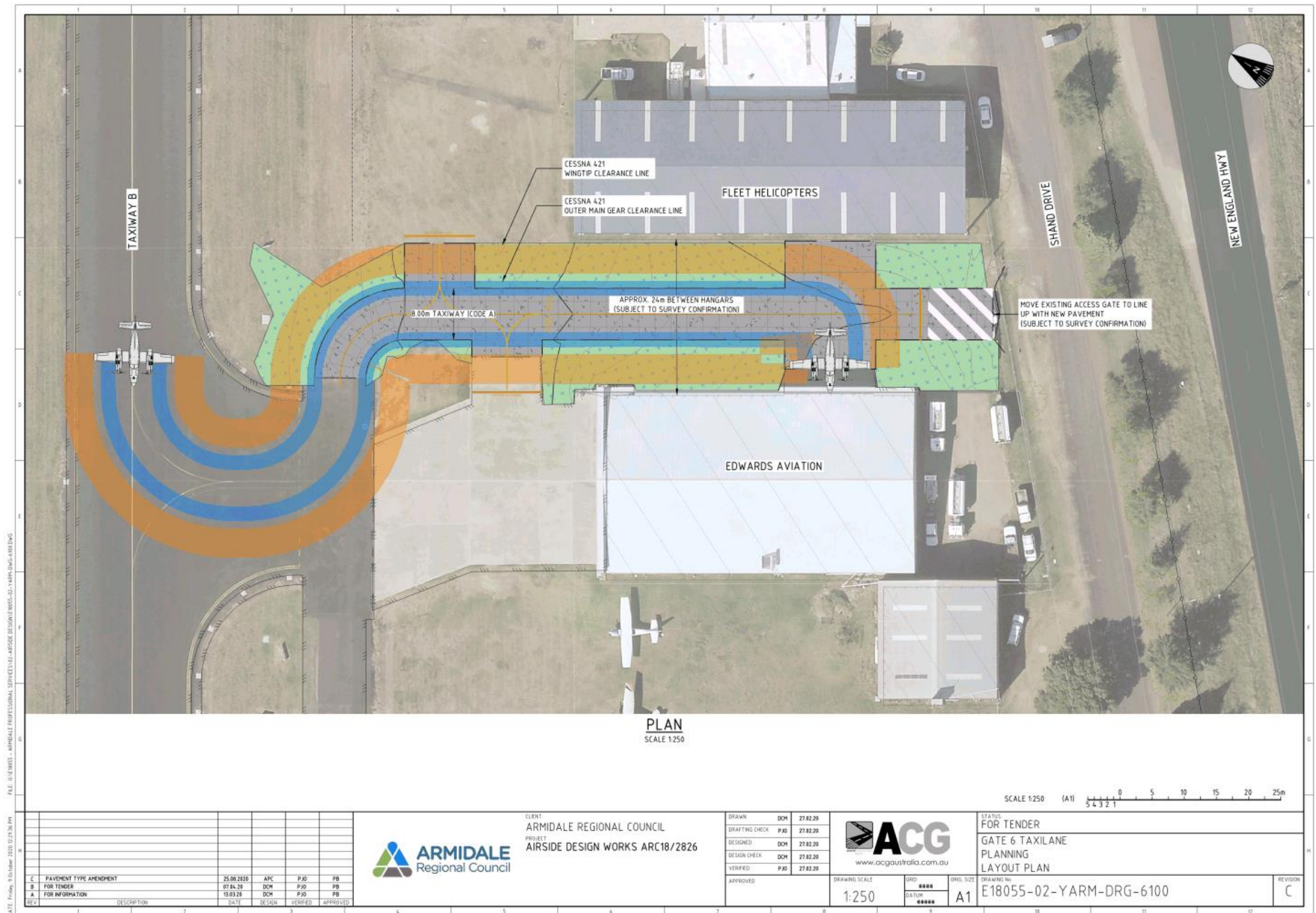
James Roncon
General Manager

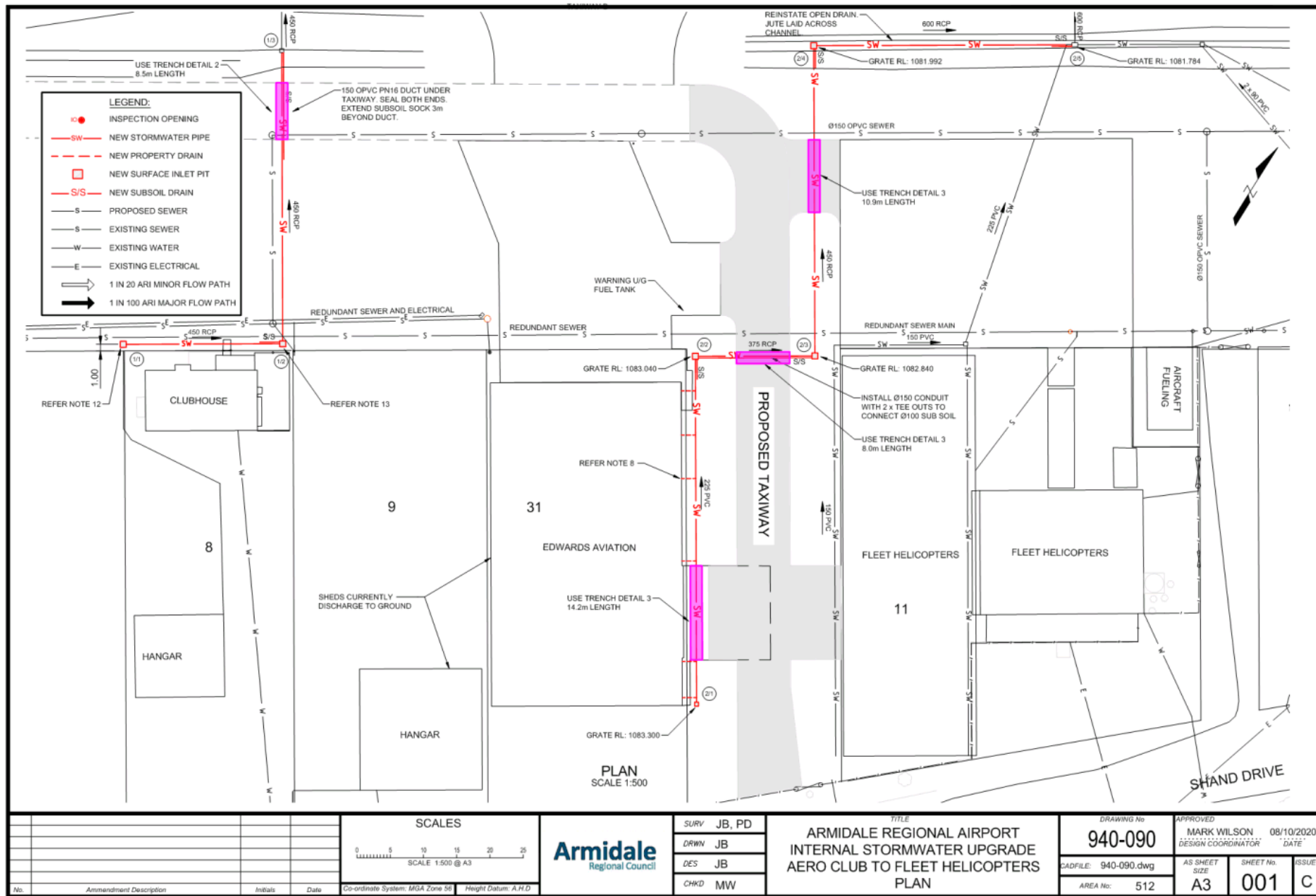
Date: _____











Armidale Regional Council

GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Unleash the Opportunities



Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

General Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

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Overview

Armidale Regional Council is constituted under the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW) and has its principal place of business at:

135 Rusden Street
Armidale NSW 2350

Council's guiding principles are detailed in Chapter 3 of the LGA and includes:

- principles applying to the exercise of functions generally by council,
- principles to be applied when making decisions,
- principles of community participation,
- principles of sound financial management, and
- principles for strategic planning relating to the development of an integrated planning and reporting framework.

A description of the nature of Council's operations and its principal activities are provided in Note 2(b).

Through the use of the internet, we have ensured that our reporting is timely, complete and available at minimum cost. All press releases, financial statements and other information are publicly available on our website: www.armidale.nsw.gov.au.

Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

General Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Understanding Council's Financial Statements

Introduction

Each year, individual Local Governments across NSW are required to present a set of audited financial statements to their council and community.

What you will find in the Statements

The financial statements set out the financial performance, financial position and cash flows of Council for the financial year ended 30 June 2020.

The format of the financial statements is standard across all NSW Councils and complies with both the accounting and reporting requirements of Australian Accounting Standards and requirements as set down by the Office of Local Government.

About the Councillor/Management Statement

The financial statements must be certified by senior staff as 'presenting fairly' the Council's financial results for the year and are required to be adopted by Council – ensuring both responsibility for and ownership of the financial statements.

About the Primary Financial Statements

The financial statements incorporate five "primary" financial statements:

1. The Income Statement

Summarises Council's financial performance for the year, listing all income and expenses. This statement also displays Council's original adopted budget to provide a comparison between what was projected and what actually occurred.

2. The Statement of Comprehensive Income

Primarily records changes in the fair value of Council's Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment.

3. The Statement of Financial Position

A 30 June snapshot of Council's financial position indicating its assets, liabilities and "net wealth".

4. The Statement of Changes in Equity

The overall change for the year (in dollars) of Council's "net wealth".

5. The Statement of Cash Flows

Indicates where Council's cash came from and where it was spent. This statement also displays Council's original adopted budget to provide a comparison between what was projected and what actually occurred.

About the Notes to the Financial Statements

The Notes to the Financial Statements provide greater detail and additional information on the five primary financial statements.

About the Auditor's Reports

Council's financial statements are required to be audited by the NSW Audit Office.

In NSW the auditor provides 2 audit reports:

1. an opinion on whether the financial statements present fairly the Council's financial performance and position, and
2. their observations on the conduct of the audit, including commentary on the Council's financial performance and financial position.

Who uses the Financial Statements?

The financial statements are publicly available documents and must be presented at a Council meeting between seven days and five weeks after the date of the audit report.

The public can make submissions to Council up to seven days subsequent to the public presentation of the financial statements.

Council is required to forward an audited set of financial statements to the Office of Local Government.

Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

General Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Statement by Councillors and Management made pursuant to Section 413(2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW) (as amended)

The attached General Purpose Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with:

- the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) (as amended) and the regulations made thereunder,
- the Australian Accounting Standards and other pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board
- the *Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting*.

To the best of our knowledge and belief, these statements:

- present fairly the Council's operating result and financial position for the year
- accord with Council's accounting and other records.

We are not aware of any matter that would render these statements false or misleading in any way.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of Council made on 23 September 2020.

Viv May
Interim Administrator
23 September 2020

John Rayner
Acting General Manager
23 September 2020

Kelly Stidworthy
Responsible Accounting Officer
23 September 2020

Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

Income Statement

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Original unaudited budget 2020	\$ '000	Notes	Actual 2020	Actual 2019
	Income from continuing operations			
32,939	Rates and annual charges	3a	33,409	32,256
20,084	User charges and fees	3b	18,091	21,334
3,005	Other revenues	3c	2,786	3,162
11,216	Grants and contributions provided for operating purposes	3d,3e	14,557	14,691
13,650	Grants and contributions provided for capital purposes	3d,3e	21,567	16,230
2,106	Interest and investment income	4	1,376	1,973
632	Rental income	13e	872	–
83,632	Total income from continuing operations		92,658	89,646
	Expenses from continuing operations			
25,332	Employee benefits and on-costs	5a	23,750	24,385
1,469	Borrowing costs	5b	2,000	1,654
14,792	Materials and contracts	5c	21,274	18,750
16,484	Depreciation and amortisation	5d	17,594	18,198
9,865	Other expenses	5e	8,231	9,632
–	Net losses from the disposal of assets	6	1,454	1,102
–	Revaluation decrement / impairment of IPP&E	5d	2,099	608
67,942	Total expenses from continuing operations		76,402	74,329
15,690	Net operating result from continuing operations		16,256	15,317
	Loss on boundary adjustment			
–	Loss on boundary adjustment	23	(40,446)	–
15,690	Net result for the year		(24,190)	15,317
15,690	Net result attributable to council		(24,190)	15,317
2,040	Net operating result for the year before grants and contributions provided for capital purposes		(5,311)	(913)

The Council has not restated comparatives when initially applying AASB 1058 *Income of Not-for-Profit Entities*, AASB 15 *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* and AASB 16 *Leases*. The comparative information has been prepared under AASB 111 *Construction Contracts*, AASB 118 *Revenue*, AASB 1004 *Contributions*, AASB 117 *Leases* and related Accounting Interpretations.

The above Income Statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

Statement of Comprehensive Income

for the year ended 30 June 2020

\$ '000	Notes	2020	2019
Net operating result for the year (as per Income Statement)		(24,190)	15,317
Other comprehensive income:			
Amounts which will not be reclassified subsequently to the operating result			
Gain (loss) on revaluation of IPP&E	11(a)	4,403	6,082
Total items which will not be reclassified subsequently to the operating result		4,403	6,082
Amounts which will be reclassified subsequently to the operating result when specific conditions are met			
Other movements		(32)	–
Total items which will be reclassified subsequently to the operating result when specific conditions are met		(32)	–
Total other comprehensive income for the year		4,371	6,082
Total comprehensive income for the year		(19,819)	21,399
 Total comprehensive income attributable to Council		 (19,819)	 21,399

The Council has not restated comparatives when initially applying AASB 1058 *Income of Not-for-Profit Entities*, AASB 15 *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* and AASB 16 *Leases*. The comparative information has been prepared under AASB 111 *Construction Contracts*, AASB 118 *Revenue*, AASB 1004 *Contributions*, AASB 117 *Leases* and related Accounting Interpretations.

The above Statement of Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

Statement of Financial Position

as at 30 June 2020

\$ '000	Notes	2020	2019
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	7(a)	20,856	11,040
Investments	7(b)	51,295	58,236
Receivables	8	9,175	12,357
Inventories	9a	1,027	846
Contract assets	12a	3,072	–
Current assets classified as 'held for sale'	10	1,359	921
Other	9b	606	171
Total current assets		87,390	83,571
Non-current assets			
Receivables	8	312	327
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	11(a)	856,984	859,990
Right of use assets	13a	279	–
Total non-current assets		857,575	860,317
Total assets		944,965	943,888
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Payables	14	8,161	7,431
Income received in advance	14	274	505
Contract liabilities	12b	7,245	–
Lease liabilities	13b	26	–
Borrowings	14	2,831	2,962
Provisions	15	7,329	7,434
Total current liabilities		25,866	18,332
Non-current liabilities			
Lease liabilities	13b	253	–
Borrowings	14	20,946	23,801
Provisions	15	23,987	4,563
Total non-current liabilities		45,186	28,364
Total liabilities		71,052	46,696
Net assets		873,913	897,192
EQUITY			
Accumulated surplus	16	845,741	873,423
Revaluation reserves	16	28,172	23,769
Council equity interest		873,913	897,192
Total equity		873,913	897,192

The Council has not restated comparatives when initially applying AASB 1058 *Income of Not-for-Profit Entities*, AASB 15 *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* and AASB 16 *Leases*. The comparative information has been prepared under AASB 111 *Construction Contracts*, AASB 118 *Revenue*, AASB 1004 *Contributions*, AASB 117 *Leases* and related Accounting Interpretations.

The above Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Financial Statements 2020

Armidale Regional Council

Statement of Changes in Equity
for the year ended 30 June 2020

\$ '000	Notes	as at 30/06/20			as at 30/06/19		
		Accumulated surplus	IPP&E revaluation reserve	Total equity	Accumulated surplus	IPP&E revaluation reserve	Total equity
Opening balance		873,423	23,769	897,192	858,106	17,687	875,793
Changes due to AASB 1058 and AASB 15 adoption	16	(3,460)	–	(3,460)	–	–	–
Changes due to AASB 16 adoption	16	–	–	–	–	–	–
Restated opening balance		869,963	23,769	893,732	858,106	17,687	875,793
Net operating result for the year		(24,190)	–	(24,190)	15,317	–	15,317
Restated net operating result for the period		(24,190)	–	(24,190)	15,317	–	15,317
Other comprehensive income							
– Correction of prior period errors		(32)	–	(32)	–	–	–
– Gain (loss) on revaluation of IPP&E	11(a)	–	4,403	4,403	–	6,082	6,082
Other comprehensive income		(32)	4,403	4,371	–	6,082	6,082
Total comprehensive income		(24,222)	4,403	(19,819)	15,317	6,082	21,399
Equity – balance at end of the reporting period		845,741	28,172	873,913	873,423	23,769	897,192

The Council has not restated comparatives when initially applying AASB 1058 *Income of Not-for-Profit Entities*, AASB 15 *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* and AASB 16 *Leases*. The comparative information has been prepared under AASB 111 *Construction Contracts*, AASB 118 *Revenue*, AASB 1004 *Contributions*, AASB 117 *Leases* and related Accounting Interpretations.

The above Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

Statement of Cash Flows

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Original unaudited budget 2020	\$ '000	Notes	Actual 2020	Actual 2019
Cash flows from operating activities				
Receipts:				
32,939	Rates and annual charges		33,155	32,487
20,084	User charges and fees		22,458	21,529
2,106	Investment and interest revenue received		1,944	1,763
24,866	Grants and contributions		34,100	34,096
–	Bonds, deposits and retention amounts received		40	–
3,637	Other		852	6,972
Payments:				
(25,332)	Employee benefits and on-costs		(23,001)	(24,478)
(14,792)	Materials and contracts		(24,576)	(21,150)
(1,469)	Borrowing costs		(2,350)	(1,676)
–	Bonds, deposits and retention amounts refunded		–	(2,088)
(9,864)	Other		(22,600)	(13,770)
32,175	Net cash provided (or used in) operating activities	17b	20,022	33,685
Cash flows from investing activities				
Receipts:				
1,333	Sale of investment securities		79,000	60,000
3,643	Sale of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment		2,870	2,792
–	Deferred debtors receipts		15	39
Payments:				
–	Purchase of investment securities		(72,059)	(70,116)
(38,025)	Purchase of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment		(17,046)	(29,637)
(33,049)	Net cash provided (or used in) investing activities		(7,220)	(36,922)
Cash flows from financing activities				
Payments:				
(2,952)	Repayment of borrowings and advances		(2,986)	(2,967)
(2,952)	Net cash flow provided (used in) financing activities		(2,986)	(2,967)
(3,826)	Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		9,816	(6,204)
10,390	Plus: cash and cash equivalents – beginning of year	17a	11,040	17,244
–	less: Lost Cash resulting from boundary adjustment		–	–
6,564	Cash and cash equivalents – end of the year	17a	20,856	11,040
40,461	plus: Investments on hand – end of year	7(b)	51,295	58,236
47,025	Total cash, cash equivalents and investments		72,151	69,276

The Council has not restated comparatives when initially applying AASB 1058 *Income of Not-for-Profit Entities*, AASB 15 *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* and AASB 16 *Leases*. The comparative information has been prepared under AASB 111 *Construction Contracts*, AASB 118 *Revenue*, AASB 1004 *Contributions*, AASB 117 *Leases* and related Accounting Interpretations.

The above Statement of Cash Flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

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Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 1. Basis of preparation

These financial statements were authorised for issue by Council on 23 September 2020. Council has the power to amend and reissue these financial statements in cases where critical information is received from public submissions or where the OLG directs Council to amend the financial statements.

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these consolidated financial statements are set out below.

These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

These general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Australian Accounting Interpretations, the *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)* and Regulations, and the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.

Council is a not for-profit entity.

The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars and are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars.

(a) Historical cost convention

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and certain classes of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment.

(b) Significant accounting estimates and judgements

The preparation of financial statements requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the Council's accounting policies.

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that may have a financial impact on the Council and that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

Council makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future.

The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results.

The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities with the next financial year include:

- (i) estimated fair values of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment - refer Note 11;
- (ii) estimated tip remediation provisions - refer Note 15; and
- (iii) employee benefit provisions - refer Note 15.

Significant judgements in applying the council's accounting policies

- (i) Impairment of receivables

Council has made a significant judgement about the impairment of a number of its receivables – refer Note 8.

Monies and other assets received by Council

(a) The Consolidated Fund

In accordance with the provisions of Section 409(1) of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW), all money and property received by Council is held in the Council's Consolidated Fund unless it is required to be held in the Council's Trust Fund.

Cash and other assets of the following entities have been included as part of the Consolidated Fund:

- General purpose operations
- Water service
- Sewerage service

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Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 1. Basis of preparation (continued)

(b) The Trust Fund

In accordance with the provisions of Section 411 of the *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)* (as amended), a separate and distinct Trust Fund is maintained to account for all money and property received by the council in trust which must be applied only for the purposes of, or in accordance with, the trusts relating to those monies.

Trust monies and property subject to Council's control have been included in these reports.

A separate statement of monies held in the Trust Fund is available for inspection at the council office by any person free of charge.

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of associated GST, unless the GST incurred is not recoverable from the taxation authority. In this case it is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense.

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to the taxation authority is included with other receivables or payables in the Statement of Financial Position.

Cash flows are presented on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing or financing activities that are recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority are presented as operating cash flows.

Volunteer services

Council acknowledges the important contribution that volunteers make in the provision of some of Council's community services. Volunteer services are not formally costed or recorded in the financial records, as the quantum of volunteer services is not considered to represent a material part of Council's service delivery nor impact on results.

New accounting standards and interpretations issued not yet effective

New accounting standards and interpretations issued but not yet effective

Certain new accounting standards and interpretations (ie. pronouncements) have been published by the Australian Accounting Standards Board that are not mandatory for the 30 June 2020 reporting period.

Council has elected not to apply any of these pronouncements in these financial statements before their operative dates.

Council's assessment of these new standards and interpretations (where they have been deemed as having a material impact on Council's future financial performance, financial position and cash flows) are set out below:

AASB 1059 Service Concession Arrangements: Grantors

AASB 2018-5 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Deferral of AASB 1059

AASB 2019-2 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Implementation of AASB 1059

This standard provides guidance for public sector entities (grantors) who have entered into service concession arrangements with private sector operators.

AASB 1059 requires grantors to recognise a service concession asset and, in most cases, a corresponding liability on the balance sheet.

A control approach is used to assess the service concession arrangements in place.

On initial recognition the asset is measured at current replacement cost based on AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement and existing assets of the grantors are reclassified at the date of transition.

After initial recognition, the grantor accounts for the assets under either AASB 116 Property, Plant and Equipment or AASB 138 Intangible Assets.

The nature of the consideration given to the operator will affect whether the grantor applies either the 'financial liability' or the 'grant of right' model for the recognition of the liability.

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Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 1. Basis of preparation (continued)

AASB 2019-2 makes amendments to the recognition and measurement of the asset and liability where the modified retrospective approach to transition is being used and provides a practical expedient due to the different effective dates of AASB 16 and AASB 1059.

Council does not expect any material impact to future financial statements as Council does not generally enter into service concession arrangements.

This standard has an effective date for the 30 June 2021 reporting period.

AASB2014-10 Sale or Contribution of Assets between an Investor and its Associate or Joint Venture
AASB2015-10 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Effective Date of Amendments to AASB 10 and AASB 128
AASB 2017-5 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Effective Date of Amendments to AASB 10 and AASB 128 and Editorial Corrections

The standard amendments address an acknowledged inconsistency between the requirements in AASB10 and those in AASB128 (2011) in dealing with the sale or contribution of assets between an investor and its associate or joint venture.

These amendments will only impact Council where there has been a sale or contribution of assets between Council and any Joint Venture or Associate. Council is not currently involved in any Joint Venture operation with any parties.

The main consequence of the amendments is that a full gain or loss is recognised when a transaction involves a business (whether it is housed in a subsidiary or not). A partial gain or loss is recognised when a transaction involves assets that do not constitute a business, even if these assets are housed in a subsidiary.

Apart from the standards listed above, there are no other released standards and interpretations (with future effective dates) that are expected to have a material impact on Council.

Council has elected not to apply any of these pronouncements in these financial statements before their operative dates.

New accounting standards adopted during the year

During the year Council adopted the following accounting standards and interpretations (as issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board) which were mandatorily effective from 1 July 2019:

- AASB 16 Leases
- AASB 15 Revenue from contracts with customers and associated amending standards.
- AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-profit entities

Further information on the newly adopted standards which had a material impact on Council's reported financial position, financial performance and/or associated financial statement disclosures can be found at Note 16.

Armidale Regional Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 2(a). Council functions/activities – financial information

Income, expenses and assets have been directly attributed to the following functions or activities. Details of those functions or activities are provided in Note 2(b).										
	Income from continuing operations		Expenses from continuing operations		Operating result from continuing operations		Grants included in income from continuing operations		Carrying amount of assets	
\$ '000	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019
Functions or activities										
Growth, Prosperity, and Economic Development	56,132	52,759	46,032	46,748	10,100	6,011	13,606	17,957	–	–
People and Community	3,959	5,688	12,439	13,744	(8,480)	(8,056)	2,085	3,936	113,522	106,644
Leadership for the Region	21,584	25,607	9,155	4,026	12,429	21,581	2,157	4,332	86,534	81,898
Environment and Infrastructure	10,983	5,592	8,776	9,811	2,207	(4,219)	5,466	1,029	744,909	755,346
Total functions and activities	92,658	89,646	76,402	74,329	16,256	15,317	23,314	27,254	944,965	943,888

Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 2(b). Council functions/activities - component descriptions

Details relating to the Council's functions/activities as reported in Note 2(a) are as follows:

Growth, Prosperity, and Economic Development

Includes tourism, economic development, private works and industrial development promotion.

People and Community

Includes public halls and community facilities, parks, gardens and recreation facilities, swimming pools, community development and support including aboriginal services, youth services, aged and disabled services. Also includes libraries, museums and other cultural facilities as well as bush fire and emergency services.

Leadership for the Region

Includes Civic governance and executive, finance and human resources services, risk management and occupational health and safety, ranger services, fleet and depot services and customer services.

Environment and Infrastructure

Includes urban and rural sealed and unsealed roads, bridges, footpaths, kerb and gutter, parking areas, airports, water and sewerage operations, cemeteries, footpaths and cycleways, street lighting, waste management and catchment management. Also includes development control, strategic planning, environmental management and animal control.

Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 3. Revenue from continuing operations

\$ '000	AASB	2020	2019
(a) Rates and annual charges			
Ordinary rates			
Residential	15 (1)	10,895	10,782
Farmland	15 (1)	4,771	4,793
Mining	15 (1)	64	65
Business	15 (1)	2,579	2,540
Less: pensioner rebates (mandatory)	15 (1)	(328)	(367)
Rates levied to ratepayers		17,981	17,813
Pensioner rate subsidies received	15 (1)	145	175
Total ordinary rates		18,126	17,988
Annual charges			
(pursuant to s.496, s.496A, s.496B, s.501 & s.611)			
Domestic waste management services	15 (1)	4,289	3,897
Water supply services	15 (1)	2,335	2,327
Sewerage services	15 (1)	5,837	5,435
Drainage	15 (1)	466	463
Waste management services (non-domestic)	15 (1)	2,568	2,396
Less: pensioner rebates (Council policy)	15 (1)	(420)	(448)
Annual charges levied		15,075	14,070
Pensioner subsidies received:			
– Water	15 (1)	78	72
– Sewerage	15 (1)	81	68
– Domestic waste management	15 (1)	49	58
Total annual charges		15,283	14,268
TOTAL RATES AND ANNUAL CHARGES		33,409	32,256

The **AASB** notation (above) identifies the revenue recognition pattern for material items of Council revenue:

15 (1) indicates income recognised under AASB 15 "at a point in time",

15 (2) indicates income recognised under AASB 15 "over time",

1058 (1) indicates income recognised under AASB 1058 "at a point in time", while

1058 (2) indicates income recognised under AASB 1058 "over time".

Council has used 2016 year valuations provided by the NSW Valuer General in calculating its rates.

Accounting policy for rates and charges

Rates and annual charges are recognised as revenue when the Council obtains control over the assets comprising these receipts which is the beginning of the rating period to which they relate.

Pensioner rebates relate to reductions in rates and certain annual charges for eligible pensioners' place of residence in the local government area that are not subsidised by the NSW Government.

Pensioner rate subsidies are received from the NSW Government to provide a contribution towards the pensioner rebates and are in substance a rates payment.

2019 accounting policy

Control over assets acquired from rates and annual charges is obtained at the commencement of the rating year as it is an enforceable debt linked to the rateable property or, where earlier, upon receipt of the rates.

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Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 3. Revenue from continuing operations (continued)

\$ '000	AASB	2020	2019
(b) User charges and fees			
Specific user charges			
(per s.502 - specific 'actual use' charges)			
Water supply services	15 (1)	5,268	9,197
Sewerage services	15 (1)	98	77
Drainage services	15 (1)	60	65
Waste management services (non-domestic)	15 (1)	2,983	2,854
Other	15 (1)	41	143
Total specific user charges		8,450	12,336
Other user charges and fees			
(i) Fees and charges – statutory and regulatory functions (per s.608)			
Inspection services	15 (1)	132	116
Planning and building regulation	15 (1)	241	201
Private works – section 67	15 (1)	587	300
Regulatory/ statutory fees	15 (1)	93	40
Registration fees	15 (1)	86	76
Regulatory fees	15 (1)	177	149
Section 10.7 certificates (EP&A Act)	15 (1)	70	76
Section 603 certificates	15 (1)	73	85
Total fees and charges – statutory/regulatory		1,459	1,043
(ii) Fees and charges – other (incl. general user charges (per s.608))			
Aerodrome	15 (1)	1,542	1,789
Aged care	15 (1)	2	3
Cemeteries	15 (1)	227	227
Child care	15 (1)	531	538
Leaseback fees – Council vehicles	15 (1)	103	110
Quarry revenues	15 (1)	381	586
RMS (formerly RTA) charges (state roads not controlled by Council)	15 (1)	5,134	4,037
Saleyards	15 (1)	–	6
Sundry sales	15 (1)	–	191
Swimming centres	15 (1)	198	227
Other	15 (1)	64	241
Total fees and charges – other		8,182	7,955
TOTAL USER CHARGES AND FEES		18,091	21,334

The **AASB** notation (above) identifies the revenue recognition pattern for material items of Council revenue:

15 (1) indicates income recognised under AASB 15 “at a point in time”,

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1058 (1) indicates income recognised under AASB 1058 “at a point in time”, while

1058 (2) indicates income recognised under AASB 1058 “over time”.

Accounting policy for user charges and fees

Revenue arising from user charges and fees is recognised when or as the performance obligation is completed and the customer receives the benefit of the goods / services being provided.

The performance obligation relates to the specific services which are provided to the customers and generally the payment terms are within 30 days of the provision of the service or in some cases such as caravan parks, the customer is required to pay on arrival. There is no material obligation for Council in relation to refunds or returns.

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Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 3. Revenue from continuing operations (continued)

Where an upfront fee is charged such as membership fees for the leisure centre the fee is recognised on a straight-line basis over the expected life of the membership.

Licences granted by Council are all either short-term or low value and all revenue from licences is recognised at the time that the licence is granted rather than the term of the licence.

2019 accounting policy

User charges and fees are recognised as revenue when the service has been provided.

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Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 3. Revenue from continuing operations (continued)

\$ '000	AASB	2020	2019
(c) Other revenues			
Rental income – other council properties (2019 only)	15 (1)	23	841
Fines – parking	15 (1)	344	166
Legal fees recovery – rates and charges (extra charges)	15 (1)	64	91
Commissions and agency fees	15 (1)	34	8
Diesel rebate	15 (1)	–	–
Insurance claims recoveries	15 (1)	154	28
Sales – general	15 (1)	134	34
Rental income – Kolora aged care	15 (1)	–	21
Items for resale	15 (1)	389	236
Sales – cattle	15 (1)	776	655
Rebates	15 (1)	619	555
Other	15 (1)	249	527
TOTAL OTHER REVENUE		2,786	3,162

The **AASB** notation (above) identifies the revenue recognition pattern for material items of Council revenue:

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1058 (2) indicates income recognised under AASB 1058 “over time”.

Accounting policy for other revenue

Where the revenue relates to a contract with customer, the revenue is recognised when or as the performance obligation is completed and the customer receives the benefit of the goods / services being provided.

Where the revenue relates to a contract which is not enforceable or does not contain sufficiently specific performance obligations then revenue is recognised when an unconditional right to a receivable arises or the cash is received, which is earlier.

2019 accounting policy:

Council recognises revenue when the amount of revenue can be reliably measured, it is probable that future economic benefits will flow to the Council and specific criteria have been met for each of the Council's activities as described below. Council bases its estimates on historical results, taking into consideration the type of customer, the type of transaction and the specifics of each arrangement.

Parking fees and fines are recognised as revenue when the service has been provided, or when the penalty has been applied, whichever occurs first.

Other revenue is recorded when the payment is due, the value of the payment is notified, or the payment is received, whichever occurs first.

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Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 3. Revenue from continuing operations (continued)

\$ '000	AASB	Operating 2020	Operating 2019	Capital 2020	Capital 2019
(d) Grants					
General purpose (untied)					
Current year allocation					
Financial assistance – general component	1058 (1)	2,118	2,127	–	–
Financial assistance – local roads component	1058 (1)	1,226	1,221	–	–
Payment in advance - future year allocation					
Financial assistance – general component	1058 (1)	2,243	2,205	–	–
Financial assistance – local roads component	1058 (1)	1,302	1,267	–	–
Total general purpose		6,889	6,820	–	–
Specific purpose					
Water supplies	1058 (2)	1,484	–	2,712	9,700
Aged care	1058 (2)	106	223	–	–
Bushfire and emergency services	1058 (2)	40	–	24	8
Child care	1058 (2)	137	–	–	–
Community care	1058 (2)	6	153	31	10
Economic development	1058 (2)	–	118	–	–
Employment and training programs	1058 (2)	5	–	–	–
Environmental programs	1058 (2)	11	–	–	–
Heritage and cultural	1058 (2)	9	–	–	–
Library	1058 (2)	142	102	–	–
LIRS subsidy	1058 (2)	67	79	–	–
NSW rural fire services	1058 (2)	1,135	345	6	1,036
Recreation and culture	1058 (2)	557	723	405	602
Street lighting	1058 (2)	85	84	–	–
Transport (roads to recovery)	1058 (2)	2,145	3,364	–	–
Transport (other roads and bridges funding)	1058 (2)	3	898	1,018	2,613
Airport	1058 (2)	–	–	5,945	–
Waste Management	1058 (2)	–	–	75	128
Other	1058 (2)	277	38	–	210
Total specific purpose		6,209	6,127	10,216	14,307
Total grants		13,098	12,947	10,216	14,307
Grant revenue is attributable to:					
– Commonwealth funding		9,153	10,749	1,026	1,487
– State funding		3,945	2,187	9,190	12,820
– Other funding		–	11	–	–
		13,098	12,947	10,216	14,307

The **AASB** notation (above) identifies the revenue recognition pattern for material items of Council revenue:

15 (1) indicates income recognised under AASB 15 “at a point in time”,

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Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 3. Revenue from continuing operations (continued)

\$ '000	Notes	AASB	Operating 2020	Operating 2019	Capital 2020	Capital 2019
(e) Contributions						
Developer contributions:						
(s7.4 & s7.11 - EP&A Act, s64 of the LGA):						
Cash contributions						
S 7.11 – contributions towards amenities/services		1058 (2)	–	–	182	219
S 7.12 – fixed development consent levies		1058 (2)	–	–	315	209
S 64 – water supply contributions		1058 (2)	–	–	352	364
S 64 – sewerage service contributions		1058 (2)	–	–	179	340
Total developer contributions – cash			–	–	1,028	1,132
Total developer contributions	27		–	–	1,028	1,132
Other contributions:						
Cash contributions						
Bushfire services		15 (1)	234	209	6	–
Community services		15 (1)	60	59	–	–
Other councils – joint works/services		15 (1)	71	31	–	–
Recreation and culture		15 (1)	25	138	–	–
Roads and bridges		15 (1)	–	18	40	507
RMS contributions (regional roads, block grant)		15 (1)	960	1,262	184	155
Sewerage (excl. section 64 contributions)		15 (1)	–	–	515	–
Tourism		15 (1)	23	17	–	–
Other		15 (1)	86	10	–	129
Total other contributions – cash			1,459	1,744	745	791
Non-cash contributions						
Other			–	–	9,578	–
Total other contributions – non-cash			–	–	9,578	–
Total other contributions			1,459	1,744	10,323	791
Total contributions			1,459	1,744	11,351	1,923
TOTAL GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS			14,557	14,691	21,567	16,230

The **AASB** notation (above) identifies the revenue recognition pattern for material items of Council revenue:

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15 (2) indicates income recognised under AASB 15 “over time”,

1058 (1) indicates income recognised under AASB 1058 “at a point in time”, while

1058 (2) indicates income recognised under AASB 1058 “over time”.

Accounting policy for grants and contributions**Accounting policy from 1 July 2019****Grant income under AASB 15**

Where grant income arises from an agreement which is enforceable and contains sufficiently specific performance obligations then the revenue are recognised when control of each performance obligations is satisfied.

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Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 3. Revenue from continuing operations (continued)

The performance obligations are varied based on the agreement but include [provide details of performance obligations within AASB 15 grants e.g. events, vaccinations]. Payment terms vary depending on the terms of the grant, cash is received upfront for some grants and on the achievement of certain payment milestones for others.

Each performance obligation is considered to ensure that the revenue recognition reflects the transfer of control and within grant agreements there may be some performance obligations where control transfers at a point in time and others which have continuous transfer of control over the life of the contract.

Where control is transferred over time, generally the input methods being either costs or time incurred are deemed to be the most appropriate methods to reflect the transfer of benefit.

Grant income

Assets arising from grants in the scope of AASB 1058 is recognised at the assets fair value when the asset is received. Councils considers whether there are any related liability or equity items associated with the asset which are recognised in accordance with the relevant accounting standard.

Once the assets and liabilities have been recognised then income is recognised for any remaining asset value at the time that the asset is received

Capital grants

Capital grants received to enable Council to acquire or construct an item of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment to identified specifications which will be under Council's control and which is enforceable are recognised as revenue as and when the obligation to construct or purchase is completed.

For construction projects, this is generally as the construction progresses in accordance with costs incurred since this is deemed to be the most appropriate measure of the completeness of the construction project as there is no profit margin.

For acquisitions of assets, the revenue is recognised when the asset is acquired and controlled by the Council.

Contributions

Council has obligations to provide facilities from contribution revenues levied on developers under the provisions of sections 7.4, 7.11 and 7.12 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

While Council generally incorporates these amounts as part of a Development Consents Order, such developer contributions are only recognised as income upon receipt by Council, due to the possibility that individual development consents may not be acted upon by the applicant and, accordingly, would not be payable to Council.

Developer contributions may only be expended for the purposes for which the contributions were required, but the Council may apply contributions according to the priorities established in work schedules

Accounting policy prior to 1 July 2019

Control over grants and contributions is normally obtained upon their receipt (or acquittal) and revenue is recognised at this time and is valued at the fair value of the granted or contributed asset at the date of transfer.

Where grants or contributions recognised as revenues during the financial year were obtained on condition that they be expended in a particular manner, or used over a particular period, and those conditions were un-discharged at reporting date, the unused grant or contribution is disclosed below.

A liability is recognised in respect of revenue that is reciprocal in nature to the extent that the requisite service has not been provided at reporting date.

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Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 3. Revenue from continuing operations (continued)

\$ '000	2020	2019
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(f) Unspent grants and contributions – external restrictions

Certain grants and contributions are obtained by Council on condition that they be spent in a specified manner due to externally imposed restrictions.

Operating grants

Unexpended at the close of the previous reporting period	5,116	9,243
Add: operating grants recognised as income in the current period but not yet spent (2019 only)	1,708	686
Add: operating grants received for the provision of goods and services in a future period	–	–
Less: operating grants now spent	(1,681)	(4,813)
Less: operating grants received in a previous reporting period now spent and recognised as income	–	–
Unexpended and held as externally restricted assets (operating grants)	5,143	5,116

Unexpended Operating Grants are grant monies received in relation to Council's Specific Purpose Operating projects and where those grant monies are not fully expended at year end. Several of Council's Specific Purpose Operating projects include transport and NSW Rural Fire Service related projects.

Capital grants

Unexpended at the close of the previous reporting period	1,881	115
Add: capital grants recognised as income in the current period but not yet spent (2019 only)	2,131	1,881
Add: capital grants received for the provision of goods and services in a future period	–	–
Less: capital grants now spent	(1,185)	(115)
Less: capital grants received in a previous reporting period now spent and recognised as income	–	–
Unexpended and held as externally restricted assets (capital grants)	2,827	1,881

Unexpended Capital Grants are grant monies received in relation to Council's Specific Purpose Capital projects and where those grant monies are not fully expended at year end. Several of Council's Specific Purpose Capital projects include water supply and transport related projects.

Contributions

Unexpended at the close of the previous reporting period	6,301	4,771
Add: contributions recognised as income in the current period but not yet spent	1,265	6,262
Add: contributions received for the provision of goods and services in a future period	–	–
Add: contributions recognised as income in the current period obtained in respect of a future rating identified by Council for the purpose of establishing a rate (2019 only)	–	–
Less: contributions now spent	(661)	(4,732)
Unexpended and held as externally restricted assets (contributions)	6,905	6,301

Unexpended Contributions are contribution monies received in relation to certain of Council's Operating and Capital projects and where those contribution monies are not fully expended at year end. Several of Council's Operating and Capital projects involving unexpended contributions include water supply and sewer headworks projects.

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Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 3. Revenue from continuing operations (continued)

	AASB 15 2020	AASB 1058 2020
\$ '000		

(g) Disaggregation of material revenue streams

The following shows the revenue recognition pattern for the material revenue streams of Council.

Revenue recognition at a point in time

Rates and annual charges	33,409	–
Financial assistance grants	–	6,889
User charges and fees	18,015	–
Grant revenue and non-developer contributions	–	–
Developer contributions	1,395	–
Fines	344	–
Sale of goods	1,299	–
Other [specify if material]	2,016	–
	<u>56,478</u>	<u>6,889</u>

Revenue recognised over time

Grant revenue	–	6,209
Grants to acquire or construct Council controlled assets	–	10,961
User charges and fees	–	–
Other [specify if material]	–	–
	<u>–</u>	<u>17,170</u>

Note 4. Interest and investment income

	2020	2019
\$ '000		

Interest on financial assets measured at amortised cost

– Overdue rates and annual charges (incl. special purpose rates)	107	109
– Cash and investments	1,262	1,849
– Deferred debtors	7	15
Finance income on the net investment in the lease	–	–
Total Interest and investment income	<u>1,376</u>	<u>1,973</u>

Interest revenue is attributable to:

Unrestricted investments/financial assets:

Overdue rates and annual charges (general fund)	82	70
General Council cash and investments	219	609

Restricted investments/funds – external:

Development contributions		
– Section 7.11, Section 7.12	122	130
Water fund operations	586	739
Sewerage fund operations	352	399
Other externally restricted assets	15	26

Total interest and investment revenue

	<u>1,376</u>	<u>1,973</u>
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Accounting policy for interest and investment revenue

Interest income is recognised using the effective interest rate at the date that interest is earned.

Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 5. Expenses from continuing operations

\$ '000	2020	2019
(a) Employee benefits and on-costs		
Salaries and wages	18,333	18,445
Employee termination costs	949	654
Travel expenses	83	159
Employee leave entitlements (ELE)	3,618	3,904
Superannuation	2,241	2,381
Workers' compensation insurance	472	398
Fringe benefit tax (FBT)	23	(1)
Payroll tax	144	147
Training costs (other than salaries and wages)	170	222
Protective clothing	82	86
Other	20	37
Total employee costs	26,135	26,432
Less: capitalised costs	(2,385)	(2,047)
TOTAL EMPLOYEE COSTS EXPENSED	23,750	24,385
Number of 'full-time equivalent' employees (FTE) at year end	272	277

Accounting policy for employee benefits and on-costs

Employee benefit expenses are recorded when the service has been provided by the employee.

Retirement benefit obligations

All employees of the Council are entitled to benefits on retirement, disability or death. Council contributes to various defined benefit superannuation plans and defined contribution superannuation plans on behalf of its employees.

Superannuation plans

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense as they become payable. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that a cash refund or a reduction in the future payments is available.

Council participates in a defined benefit superannuation plan under the Local Government Superannuation Scheme. Sufficient information to account for the plan as a defined benefit plan is not available, therefore Council accounts for its obligations to defined benefit plans on the same basis as its obligations to defined contribution plans, i.e. as an expense when it becomes payable – refer to Note 20 for more information.

\$ '000	Notes	2020	2019
(b) Borrowing costs			
(i) Interest bearing liability costs			
Interest on leases		1	–
Interest on loans		1,445	1,613
Total interest bearing liability costs		1,446	1,613
Total interest bearing liability costs expensed		1,446	1,613
(ii) Other borrowing costs			
Amortisation of discount of tip remediation liabilities	15	554	41
Total other borrowing costs		554	41
TOTAL BORROWING COSTS EXPENSED		2,000	1,654

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Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 5. Expenses from continuing operations (continued)

Accounting policy for borrowing costs

Borrowing costs incurred for the construction of any qualifying asset are capitalised during the period of time that is required to complete and prepare the asset for its intended use or sale. Other borrowing costs are expensed as incurred.

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Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 5. Expenses from continuing operations (continued)

\$ '000	2020	2019
(c) Materials and contracts		
Raw materials and consumables	14,349	18,388
Contractor and consultancy costs	30,237	27,220
Auditors remuneration ²	113	103
Legal expenses:		
– Legal expenses: planning and development	36	21
– Legal expenses: debt recovery	35	158
– Legal expenses: other	653	320
Expenses from leases of low value assets (2020 only)	165	–
Operating leases expense (2019 only):		
– Operating lease rentals: minimum lease payments ¹	–	160
Total materials and contracts	45,588	46,370
Less: capitalised costs	(24,314)	(27,620)
TOTAL MATERIALS AND CONTRACTS	21,274	18,750

Accounting policy for materials and contracts

Leases in which a significant portion of the risks and rewards of ownership are not transferred to Council as lessee are classified as operating leases. Payments made under operating leases (net of any incentives received from the lessor) are charged to the income statement on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

1. Operating lease payments are attributable to:

Office equipment & other items	–	160
	–	160

2. Auditor remuneration

During the year, the following fees were incurred for services provided by the auditor of Council, related practices and non-related audit firms

Auditors of the Council - NSW Auditor-General:**(i) Audit and other assurance services**

Audit and review of financial statements	100	96
Remuneration for audit and other assurance services	100	96

Total Auditor-General remuneration

100	96
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Non NSW Auditor-General audit firms**(i) Audit and other assurance services**

Other Assurance services including acquittal audits	13	7
Remuneration for audit and other assurance services	13	7

Total remuneration of non NSW Auditor-General audit firms

13	7
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Total Auditor remuneration

113	103
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Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 5. Expenses from continuing operations (continued)

\$ '000	Notes	2020	2019
(d) Depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non-financial assets			
Depreciation and amortisation			
Plant and equipment		1,965	1,798
Office equipment		183	299
Infrastructure:	11(a)		
– Buildings		2,149	2,476
– Other structures		142	136
– Roads		4,392	4,750
– Bridges		775	778
– Footpaths		262	277
– Stormwater drainage		630	668
– Water supply network		3,163	3,130
– Sewerage network		2,082	2,122
– Airport infrastructure		370	354
Right of use assets	13	–	–
Other assets:			
– Heritage collections		9	10
– Other		853	835
Reinstatement, rehabilitation and restoration assets:			
– Landfill and quarry assets	11(a)	619	565
Total gross depreciation and amortisation costs		<u>17,594</u>	<u>18,198</u>
Total depreciation and amortisation costs		<u>17,594</u>	<u>18,198</u>
Impairment / revaluation decrement of IPP&E			
Infrastructure:	11(a)		
– Buildings (relates to write-down of building assets to recoverable amount in preparation for sale)	11(a)	–	608
– Roads		215	–
– Capital work in progress		730	–
– Bulk earthworks (non-depreciable)		948	–
Non-current assets held for sale		206	–
Total gross IPP&E impairment / revaluation decrement costs / (reversals)		<u>2,099</u>	<u>608</u>
Total IPP&E impairment / revaluation decrement costs / (reversals) charged to Income Statement		<u>2,099</u>	<u>608</u>
TOTAL DEPRECIATION, AMORTISATION AND IMPAIRMENT FOR NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS		<u>19,693</u>	<u>18,806</u>

Accounting policy for depreciation, amortisation and impairment expenses of non-financial assets**Depreciation and amortisation**

Depreciation and amortisation are calculated using the straight line method to allocate their cost, net of their residual values, over their estimated useful lives. Useful lives are included in Note 11 for IPPE assets and Note 13 for right of use assets.

Depreciation is capitalised where in-house assets have contributed to new assets.

Impairment of non-financial assets

Intangible assets that have an indefinite useful life, or are not yet available for use, are tested annually for impairment, or more frequently if events or changes in circumstances indicate that they might be impaired. Other assets that do not meet the criteria above are tested for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be

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Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 5. Expenses from continuing operations (continued)

recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use.

For the purposes of assessing impairment, assets are grouped at the lowest levels for which there are separately identifiable cash inflows that are largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets (cash-generating units). Non-financial assets that suffered an impairment are reviewed for possible reversal of the impairment at each reporting date.

Impairment losses for revalued assets are firstly offset against the amount in the revaluation surplus for the class of asset, with only the excess to be recognised in the Income Statement.

\$ '000	2020	2019
(e) Other expenses		
Advertising	64	103
Training costs (other than salaries and wages)	–	–
Travel expenses	–	–
Bad and doubtful debts	72	448
Bank charges	121	122
Computer software charges	568	827
Contributions/levies to other levels of government	1,436	990
Councillor expenses – mayoral fee	42	43
Councillor expenses – councillors' fees	212	216
Councillors' expenses (incl. mayor) – other (excluding fees above)	122	3
Donations, contributions and assistance to other organisations (Section 356)	416	781
Electricity and heating	1,016	981
Insurance	1,018	1,077
Items for resale	398	537
Postage	183	214
Printing and stationery	113	230
Promotion and publicity	213	287
Street lighting	454	417
Subscriptions and publications	186	170
Telephone and communications	460	452
Valuation fees	98	103
Security	90	125
Licences	178	500
Other	771	1,006
Total other expenses	8,231	9,632
TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES	8,231	9,632

Accounting policy for other expenses

Other expenses are recorded on an accruals basis as the Council receives the goods or services.

Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 6. Gain or loss from disposal of assets

\$ '000	Notes	2020	2019
Operational Land & Building assets			
Proceeds from disposal – property		2,052	1,507
Less: carrying amount of property assets sold/written off		(1,147)	(750)
Net gain/(loss) on disposal		905	757
Plant and equipment assets			
	11(a)		
Proceeds from disposal – plant and equipment		818	1,285
Less: carrying amount of plant and equipment assets sold/written off		(504)	(595)
Net gain/(loss) on disposal		314	690
Infrastructure assets			
	11(a)		
Proceeds of disposal of Infrastructure assets		–	–
Less: carrying amount of infrastructure assets sold/written off		(2,673)	(2,488)
Net gain/(loss) on disposal		(2,673)	(2,488)
Real estate assets held for sale			
	9		
Proceeds from disposal - Real estate assets held for sale		–	–
Less: balance written off - assessed as non-recoverable		–	(61)
Net gain/(loss) on disposal		–	(61)
Investment assets			
	7(b)		
Proceeds from disposal/redemptions/maturities – investments		79,000	60,000
Less: carrying amount of investments sold/redeemed/matured		(79,000)	(60,000)
Net gain/(loss) on disposal		–	–
NET GAIN/(LOSS) ON DISPOSAL OF ASSETS		(1,454)	(1,102)

Accounting policy for disposal of assets

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with carrying amount. These are included in the Income Statement.

The gain or loss on sale of an asset is determined when control of the asset has irrevocably passed to the buyer and the asset is de-recognised.

Armidale Regional Council

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Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 7(a). Cash and cash equivalents

\$ '000	2020	2019
Cash and cash equivalents		
Cash on hand and at bank	20,856	11,040
Total cash and cash equivalents	20,856	11,040

Accounting policy for cash and cash equivalents

For Statement of Cash Flow presentation purposes, cash and cash equivalents include: cash on hand; deposits held at call with financial institutions; other short-term, highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value; and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities on the Statement of Financial Position.

Note 7(b). Investments

\$ '000	2020 Current	2020 Non-current	2019 Current	2019 Non-current
Investments				
b. 'Financial assets at amortised cost'	51,295	–	58,236	–
Total Investments	51,295	–	58,236	–
TOTAL CASH ASSETS, CASH EQUIVALENTS AND INVESTMENTS	72,151	–	69,276	–
Financial assets at amortised cost				
Short - medium term deposits	51,295	–	58,236	–
Total	51,295	–	58,236	–

Accounting policy for investments

Financial instruments are recognised initially on the date that the Council becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

On initial recognition, all financial instruments are measured at fair value plus transaction costs.

Financial assets

All recognised financial assets are subsequently measured in their entirety at amortised cost.

Classification

On initial recognition, Council classifies its financial assets into the following categories – those measured at:

- amortised cost
- fair value through profit and loss (FVTPL)
- fair value through other comprehensive income – equity instrument (FVOCI-equity)

Financial assets are not reclassified subsequent to their initial recognition.

Amortised cost

Assets measured at amortised cost are financial assets where:

- the business model is to hold assets to collect contractual cash flows, and
- the contractual terms give rise on specified dates to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding.

Council's financial assets measured at amortised cost comprise trade and other receivables, term deposits and cash and cash equivalents in the Statement of Financial Position. Term Deposits (with maturities of less than 365 days) and the NSW Government T-Corp Investment Management Cash Fund (which is considered to have a short - medium term investment horizon).

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Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 7(b). Investments (continued)

Subsequent to initial recognition, these assets are carried at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method less provision for impairment.

Interest income, impairment and gains or loss on de-recognition are recognised in profit or loss.

Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 7(c). Restricted cash, cash equivalents and investments

\$ '000	2020 Current	2020 Non-current	2019 Current	2019 Non-current
Total cash, cash equivalents and investments	72,151	–	69,276	–
attributable to:				
External restrictions	59,991	–	59,772	–
Internal restrictions	10,020	–	7,654	–
Unrestricted	2,140	–	1,850	–
	72,151	–	69,276	–

\$ '000	2020	2019
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Details of restrictions

External restrictions – included in liabilities

Specific purpose unexpended grants – general fund (2020 only)	7,245	–
Specific purpose unexpended loans – general	2,700	3,408
NIRW grant from EPA	1,087	947
External restrictions – included in liabilities	11,032	4,355

External restrictions – other

Developer contributions – general	2,749	2,387
Developer contributions – water fund	2,277	1,885
Developer contributions – sewer fund	1,740	1,530
RMS contributions	76	17
Specific purpose unexpended grants (recognised as revenue) – general fund	725	6,997
Water supplies	22,317	26,185
Sewerage services	16,183	13,927
Domestic waste management	1,362	607
Trust Fund	1,467	1,431
Other Contributions	63	451
External restrictions – other	48,959	55,417

Total external restrictions

59,991	59,772
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Internal restrictions

Plant and vehicle replacement	885	–
Infrastructure replacement	3,317	–
Employees leave entitlement	4,053	3,194
Carry over works	1,136	2,368
Other	629	2,092

Total internal restrictions

10,020	7,654
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TOTAL RESTRICTIONS

70,011	67,426
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Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 8. Receivables

\$ '000	2020 Current	2020 Non-current	2019 Current	2019 Non-current
Purpose				
Rates and annual charges	2,006	–	1,752	–
Interest and extra charges	186	–	368	–
User charges and fees	1,327	–	2,282	–
Private works	435	–	2,266	–
Accrued revenues				
– Interest on investments	366	–	752	–
Deferred debtors	–	312	–	327
Government grants and subsidies	3,157	–	4,300	–
Net GST receivable	651	–	975	–
Other debtors	1,439	–	111	–
Total	9,567	312	12,806	327
Less: provision of impairment				
Rates and annual charges	(156)	–	(223)	–
User charges and fees	(236)	–	(226)	–
Total provision for impairment – receivables	(392)	–	(449)	–
TOTAL NET RECEIVABLES	9,175	312	12,357	327

\$ '000	2020	2019
Movement in provision for impairment of receivables		
Balance at the beginning of the year (calculated in accordance with AASB 139)	449	280
Less Debts written off during the year	(73)	(240)
Add additional provision for impairment in the current year	16	409
Balance at the end of the year	392	449

Accounting policy for receivables

Recognition and measurement

Receivables are included in current assets, except for those with maturities greater than 12 months after the reporting date which are classified as non-current assets.

Receivables are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. Receivables are generally due for settlement within 30 days.

Cash flows relating to short-term receivables are not discounted if the effect of discounting is immaterial.

Impairment

Impairment of financial assets measured at amortised cost is recognised on an expected credit loss (ECL) basis.

When determining whether the credit risk of a financial asset has increased significantly since initial recognition, and when estimating ECL, the Council considers reasonable and supportable information that is relevant and available without undue cost or effort. This includes both quantitative and qualitative information and analysis based on Council's historical experience and informed credit assessment, and including forward-looking information.

When considering the ECL for rates debtors, Council takes into account that unpaid rates represent a charge against the rateable property that will be recovered when the property is next sold. For non-rates debtors, Council uses the presumption that an asset which is more than 30 days past due has seen a significant increase in credit risk.

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Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 8. Receivables (continued)

The Council uses the presentation that a financial asset is in default when:

- the other party is unlikely to pay its credit obligations to the Council in full, without recourse by the Council to actions such as realising security (if any is held) or
- the financial assets (for non-rates debtors) are more than 90 days past due.

Credit losses are measured as the present value of the difference between the cash flows due to the entity in accordance with the contract, and the cash flows expected to be received. This is applied using a probability weighted approach.

On initial recognition of the asset, an estimate of the expected credit losses for the next 12 months is recognised. Where the asset has experienced significant increase in credit risk then the lifetime losses are estimated and recognised.

Council uses the simplified approach for trade receivables where the expected lifetime credit losses are recognised on day 1.

There has been no change in the estimation techniques or significant assumptions made during the current reporting period.

The Council writes off a trade receivable when there is information indicating that the debtor is in severe financial difficulty and there is no realistic prospect of recovery, e.g. when the debtor has been placed under liquidation or has entered into bankruptcy proceedings, whichever occurs first.

Receivables written off are not subject to any further enforcement activity.

Where the Council renegotiates the terms of receivables due from certain customers, the new expected cash flows are discounted at the original effective interest rate and any resulting difference to the carrying value is recognised in profit or loss.

Rates and annual charges outstanding are secured against the property.

Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 9. Inventories and other assets

\$ '000	2020 Current	2020 Non-current	2019 Current	2019 Non-current
(a) Inventories				
(i) Inventories at cost				
Stores and materials	539	–	537	–
Trading stock	488	–	309	–
Total inventories at cost	1,027	–	846	–
TOTAL INVENTORIES	1,027	–	846	–

(b) Other assets

Prepayments	606	–	171	–
TOTAL OTHER ASSETS	606	–	171	–

(i) Other disclosures

\$ '000	Notes	2020 Current	2020 Non-current	2019 Current	2019 Non-current
(Valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value)					
Movements:					
Real estate assets at beginning of the year		–	–	61	–
– Write off of non-recoverable opening balance	6	–	–	(61)	–
Total real estate for resale		–	–	–	–

Accounting policy for inventories and other assets**Raw materials and stores, work in progress and finished goods**

Raw materials and stores, work in progress and finished goods are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Costs are assigned to individual items of inventory on the basis of weighted average costs. Costs of purchased inventory are determined after deducting rebates and discounts. Net realisable value is the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business less the estimated costs of completion and the estimated costs necessary to make the sale.

Note 10. Non-current assets classified as held for sale

(i) Non-current assets 'held for sale'

\$ '000	2020 Current	2020 Non-current	2019 Current	2019 Non-current
Land	464	–	–	–
Buildings - Former Kolora Aged Care facility site & buildings	895	–	921	–
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS CLASSIFIED AS 'HELD FOR SALE'	1,359	–	921	–

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Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 10. Non-current assets classified as held for sale (continued)

(ii) Details of assets and disposal groups

The property formerly used as the Kolora Aged Care facility in Guyra has been sold with settlement effected in August 2020.

At 30 June 2020, the carrying value of the property has been written down to its recoverable amount, indicated by the contract price, less disposal costs. Land parcels are being marketed for sale and are held at cost, as representative of lower of cost or market value.

Accounting policy for non-current assets classified as held for sale

Non-current assets (or disposal groups) are classified as held for sale if their carrying amount will be recovered principally through a sale transaction rather than through continued use. They are measured at the lower of their carrying amount and fair value less costs to sell, except for assets such as assets arising from employee benefits; financial assets; and investment properties that are carried at fair value.

An impairment loss is recognised for any initial or subsequent write-down of the asset (or disposal group) to fair value less costs to sell. A gain is recognised for any subsequent increases in fair value less costs to sell of an asset (or disposal group), but not in excess of any cumulative impairment loss previously recognised. A gain or loss not previously recognised by the date of the sale of the non-current asset (or disposal group) is recognised at the date of de-recognition.

Non-current assets (including those that are part of a disposal group) are not depreciated or amortised while they are classified as held for sale.

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Armidale Regional Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 11(a). Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment

	as at 30/06/19			Asset movements during the reporting period									as at 30/06/20		
	Gross carrying amount	Accumulated depreciation	Net carrying amount	Additions renewals ¹	Additions new assets	Carrying value of disposals	Depreciation expense	Impairment loss / revaluation decrements (recognised in P/L)	WIP transfers	Adjustments and transfers	Revaluation decrements to equity (ARR)	Revaluation increments to equity (ARR)	Gross carrying amount	Accumulated depreciation	Net carrying amount
\$ '000															
Capital work in progress	26,106	–	26,106	–	23,832	–	–	(730)	(27,467)	–	–	–	21,741	–	21,741
Plant and equipment	19,790	(9,598)	10,192	2,279	–	(504)	(1,965)	–	–	1,427	–	–	24,074	(12,645)	11,429
Office equipment	5,236	(4,891)	345	29	–	–	(183)	–	–	–	–	–	5,235	(5,044)	191
Land:															
– Operational land	21,312	–	21,312	–	–	(695)	–	–	–	(644)	–	4,989	24,962	–	24,962
– Community land	19,882	–	19,882	–	–	(460)	–	–	–	8,152	(59)	–	27,516	–	27,516
– Land under roads (post 30/6/08)	721	–	721	–	–	(64)	–	–	–	–	–	–	657	–	657
Infrastructure:															
– Buildings	120,498	(55,334)	65,164	50	136	(1,652)	(2,149)	–	211	–	–	–	118,483	(56,723)	61,760
– Other structures	10,410	(3,971)	6,439	132	14	(20)	(142)	–	185	–	–	–	10,878	(4,270)	6,608
– Roads	245,337	(68,395)	176,942	1,962	29	(21,383)	(4,392)	(215)	1,652	–	–	–	221,298	(66,703)	154,595
– Bridges	64,734	(22,440)	42,294	313	–	(386)	(775)	–	732	–	–	–	64,962	(22,784)	42,178
– Footpaths	14,703	(6,785)	7,918	18	48	(375)	(262)	–	–	–	–	–	14,219	(6,872)	7,347
– Bulk earthworks (non-depreciable)	152,653	–	152,653	–	–	(9,605)	–	(948)	–	–	–	–	142,100	–	142,100
– Stormwater drainage	62,456	(13,441)	49,015	202	–	(3,042)	(630)	–	1,361	–	–	–	60,393	(13,487)	46,906
– Water supply network	230,050	(76,337)	153,713	–	–	(1,782)	(3,163)	–	13,056	–	(216)	–	239,718	(78,110)	161,608
– Sewerage network	141,667	(37,855)	103,812	–	–	(4,731)	(2,082)	–	–	–	(311)	–	134,885	(38,197)	96,688
– Airport infrastructure	9,334	(1,987)	7,347	–	–	–	(370)	–	–	–	–	–	9,545	(2,568)	6,977
Other assets:															
– Heritage collections	130	(70)	60	–	–	–	(9)	–	–	–	–	–	131	(78)	53
– Artworks	112	–	112	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	112	–	112
– Other	19,685	(4,775)	14,910	–	–	(72)	(853)	–	10,270	–	–	–	30,174	(5,919)	24,255
Reinstatement, rehabilitation and restoration assets (refer Note 17):															
– Landfill & quarry assets	3,984	(2,931)	1,053	–	–	–	(619)	–	–	18,867	–	–	23,343	(4,042)	19,301
Total Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	1,168,800	(308,810)	859,990	4,985	24,059	(44,771)	(17,594)	(1,893)	–	27,802	(586)	4,989	1,174,426	(317,442)	856,984

(1) Renewals are defined as the replacement of existing assets (as opposed to the acquisition of new assets).

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Armidale Regional Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 11(a). Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (continued)

	as at 30/06/18			Asset movements during the reporting period								as at 30/06/19		
	Gross carrying amount	Accumulated depreciation	Net carrying amount	Additions renewals ⁽¹⁾	Additions new assets	Carrying value of disposals	Depreciation expense	Impairment loss / revaluation decrements (recognised in P/L)	WIP transfers	Adjustments and transfers	Revaluation increments to equity (ARR)	Gross carrying amount	Accumulated depreciation	Net carrying amount
\$ '000														
Capital work in progress	9,084	–	9,084	–	18,653	(75)	–	–	(1,556)	–	–	26,106	–	26,106
Plant and equipment	19,535	(8,962)	10,573	2,012	–	(595)	(1,798)	–	–	–	–	19,790	(9,598)	10,192
Office equipment	5,258	(4,614)	644	–	–	–	(299)	–	–	–	–	5,236	(4,891)	345
Land:														
– Operational land	21,815	–	21,815	–	–	(503)	–	–	–	–	–	21,312	–	21,312
– Community land	19,913	–	19,913	–	–	(31)	–	–	–	–	–	19,882	–	19,882
– Land under roads (post 30/6/08)	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	721	721	–	721
Infrastructure:														
– Buildings	123,983	(55,588)	68,395	–	948	(316)	(2,476)	(608)	142	(921)	–	120,498	(55,334)	65,164
– Other structures	10,345	(3,835)	6,510	–	234	(173)	(136)	–	4	–	–	10,410	(3,971)	6,439
– Roads	242,609	(63,645)	178,964	3,328	343	(961)	(4,750)	–	18	–	–	245,337	(68,395)	176,942
– Bridges	63,925	(22,420)	41,505	1,583	–	(423)	(778)	–	407	–	–	64,734	(22,440)	42,294
– Footpaths	14,538	(6,508)	8,030	–	24	–	(277)	–	141	–	–	14,703	(6,785)	7,918
– Bulk earthworks (non-depreciable)	152,653	–	152,653	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	152,653	–	152,653
– Stormwater drainage	62,414	(12,773)	49,641	53	–	(11)	(668)	–	–	–	–	62,456	(13,441)	49,015
– Water supply network	224,247	(71,702)	152,545	1,217	–	(383)	(3,130)	–	261	–	3,203	230,050	(76,337)	153,713
– Sewerage network	137,747	(34,998)	102,749	1,089	–	(99)	(2,122)	–	37	–	2,158	141,667	(37,855)	103,812
– Airport infrastructure	8,999	(1,633)	7,366	–	–	(211)	(354)	–	546	–	–	9,334	(1,987)	7,347
Other assets:														
– Heritage collections	130	(60)	70	–	–	–	(10)	–	–	–	–	130	(70)	60
– Other	19,584	(3,940)	15,644	–	153	(52)	(835)	–	–	–	–	19,685	(4,775)	14,910
– Artworks	112	–	112	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	112	–	112
Reinstatement, rehabilitation and restoration assets (refer Note 17):														
– Tip assets	2,703	(2,525)	178	–	–	–	(565)	–	–	1,439	–	3,984	(2,931)	1,053
Total Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	1,139,594	(293,203)	846,391	9,282	20,355	(3,833)	(18,198)	(608)	–	518	6,082	1,168,800	(308,810)	859,990

(1) Renewals are defined as the replacement of existing assets (as opposed to the acquisition of new assets).

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Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 11(a). Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (continued)

Accounting policy for infrastructure, property, plant and equipment

Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment are held at fair value. Independent comprehensive valuations are performed at least every five years, however the carrying amount of assets is assessed by Council at each reporting date to confirm that it is not materially different from current fair value.

Water and sewerage network assets are indexed at each reporting period in accordance with the Rates Reference Manual issued by Department of Industry (Dol) – Water.

Increases in the carrying amounts arising on revaluation are credited to the revaluation reserve. To the extent that the increase reverses a decrease previously recognising profit or loss relating to that asset class, the increase is first recognised as profit or loss. Decreases that reverse previous increases of assets in the same class are first charged against revaluation reserves directly in equity to the extent of the remaining reserve attributable to the class; all other decreases are charged to the Income Statement.

Subsequent costs are included in the asset's carrying amount or recognised as a separate asset, as appropriate, only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to Council and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. All other repairs and maintenance are charged to the Income Statement during the financial period in which they are incurred.

When infrastructure, property, plant and equipment are acquired by Council at significantly below fair value, the assets are initially recognised at their fair value at acquisition date.

Land is not depreciated. Depreciation on other assets is calculated using the straight-line method to allocate their cost, net of their residual values, over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Plant and equipment	Years	Other equipment	Years
Office equipment	5 to 10	Playground equipment	5 to 15
Office furniture	10 to 20	Benches, seats etc.	10 to 20
Computer equipment	4		
Vehicles	5 to 8	Buildings	
Heavy plant/road making equipment	5 to 8	Buildings: masonry	50 to 100
Other plant and equipment	5 to 15	Buildings: other	20 to 40
Water and sewer assets		Stormwater assets	
Dams and reservoirs	80 to 100	Drains	80 to 100
Bores	20 to 40	Culverts	50 to 80
Reticulation pipes: PVC	70 to 80	Flood control structures	80 to 100
Reticulation pipes: other	25 to 75		
Pumps and telemetry	15 to 20		
Transportation assets		Other infrastructure assets	
Sealed roads: surface	20	Bulk earthworks	Infinite
Sealed roads: structure	50	Swimming pools	50
Unsealed roads	20	Unsealed roads	20
Bridge: concrete	100	Other open space/recreational assets	20
Bridge: other	50	Other infrastructure	20
Road pavements	60		
Kerb, gutter and footpaths	40		

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each reporting date.

Land under roads

Land under roads is land under roadways and road reserves including land under footpaths, nature strips and median strips.

Council has elected not to recognise land under roads acquired before 1 July 2008 in accordance with AASB 1051 Land Under Roads.

Land under roads acquired after 1 July 2008 is recognised in accordance with AASB 116 Property, Plant and Equipment.

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Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 11(a). Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (continued)

Crown reserves

Crown reserves under Council's care and control are recognised as assets of the Council. While ownership of the reserves remains with the Crown, Council retains operational control of the reserves and is responsible for their maintenance and use in accordance with the specific purposes to which the reserves are dedicated.

Where the Crown reserves are under a lease arrangement they are accounted for under AASB 16 Leases, refer to Note 13.

Improvements on Crown reserves are also recorded as assets, while maintenance costs incurred by Council and revenues relating to the reserves are recognised within Council's Income Statement.

Rural Fire Service assets

Under Section 119 of the *Rural Fire Services Act 1997 (NSW)*, "all firefighting equipment purchased or constructed wholly or from money to the credit of the Fund is to be vested in the council of the area for or on behalf of which the firefighting equipment has been purchased or constructed".

Rural Fire Service assets are recognised as assets of the Council in these financial statements.

Note 11(b). Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment – current year impairments

Council has recognised impairment losses on certain Infrastructure, Property, Plant and Equipment during the reporting period, as disclosed in Note 5 (d).

Note 12. Contract assets and liabilities

\$ '000		2020 Current	2020 Non-current
(a) Contract assets			
Other		3,072	–
Total Contract assets		3,072	–
Total unrestricted assets		3,072	–
Total contract assets		3,072	–
\$ '000	Notes	2020 Current	2020 Non-current
(b) Contract liabilities			
Grants and contributions received in advance:			
Unexpended capital grants (to construct Council controlled assets)	(i)	2,828	–
Unexpended operating grants (received prior to performance obligation being satisfied)	(ii)	4,354	–
Unexpended operating contributions (received prior to performance obligation being satisfied)	(ii)	63	–
Total grants received in advance		7,245	–
Total contract liabilities		7,245	–

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Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 12. Contract assets and liabilities (continued)

Notes

(i) Council has received funding to construct assets including sporting facilities, bridges, library and other infrastructure. The funds received are under an enforceable contract which require Council to construct an identified asset which will be under Council's control on completion. The revenue is recognised as Council constructs the asset and the contract liability reflects the funding received which cannot yet be recognised as revenue. The revenue is expected to be recognised in the next 12 months.

(ii) The contract liability relates to grants received prior to the revenue recognition criteria in AASB 15 and AASB 1058 being satisfied since the performance obligations are ongoing.

	2020 Current	2020 Non-current
\$ '000		
(i) Contract liabilities relating to restricted assets		
Externally restricted assets		
Unspent grants held as contract liabilities (excl. Water & Sewer)	7,182	–
Unspent contributions held as contract liabilities (excl. Water & Sewer)	63	–
Contract liabilities relating to externally restricted assets	7,245	–
Total contract liabilities relating to restricted assets	7,245	–
Total contract liabilities	7,245	–

\$ '000	2020
----------------	-------------

(ii) Revenue recognised (during the financial year) from opening contract liability balances**Grants and contributions received in advance:**

Capital grants (to construct Council controlled assets)	454
Operating grants (received prior to performance obligation being satisfied)	1,189
Capital contributions (to construct Council controlled assets)	–
Operating contributions (received prior to performance obligation being satisfied)	90

Total Revenue recognised during the financial year that was included in the contract liability balance at the beginning of the period	1,733
--	--------------

Significant changes in contract assets and liabilities

The contract liabilities have arisen on adoption of AASB 15 and AASB 1058. Previously income received in advance was recognised for reciprocal contracts. The increase in a contract liability is primarily due to grants in the scope of AASB 15 and capital grants received by Council to acquire or construct assets which will be under Council's control. Previously, revenue was recognised on receipt of the funds.

	2020 Current	2020 Non-current
\$ '000		

Note 13. Leases

The Council has applied AASB 16 using the modified retrospective (cumulative catch-up) method and therefore the comparative information has not been restated and continues to be reported under AASB 117 and related Interpretations.

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Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 13. Leases (continued)

(i) Council as a lessee

Council has leases over a range of assets including land and buildings, and some office equipment. Information relating to the leases in place and associated balances and transactions is provided below.

Terms and conditions of leases

Buildings

Council leases land and buildings as part of access arrangements and for the provision of services. The leases are generally between 2 to 99 years and some include a renewal option to allow Council to renew the lease.

The leases contain an annual pricing mechanism based on either fixed increases or CPI movements at each anniversary of the lease inception.

Office and IT equipment

Leases for office and IT equipment are generally for low value assets, except for significant items such as photocopiers. The current photocopier lease which expired at 30 June 2020, has been extended for 12 months and is pending renewal. Payments are fixed with a variable component based upon usage.

\$ '000	Plant & Equipment	Ready to use	Various Property, Plant & Equipment	Total
(a) Right of use assets				
Opening balance at 30 June 2019	–	–	–	–
Adoption of AASB 16 at 1 July 2019 – first time lease recognition	–	–	313	313
Other movement	–	–	(34)	(34)
RIGHT OF USE ASSETS	–	–	279	279

\$ '000	2020 Current	2020 Non-current
(b) Lease liabilities		
Lease liabilities	26	253
TOTAL LEASE LIABILITIES	26	253

(i) The maturity analysis

The maturity analysis of lease liabilities based on contractual undiscounted cash flows is shown in the table below:

\$ '000	< 1 year	1 – 5 years	> 5 years	Total	Total per Statement of Financial Position
Cash flows	27	87	746	860	279
				2020	2020

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Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 13. Leases (continued)

\$ '000	Current	Non-current
(ii) Lease liabilities relating to restricted assets		
Total lease liabilities relating to unrestricted assets	26	253
<u>Total lease liabilities</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>253</u>

\$ '000	2020
---------	------

(c) Income Statement

The amounts recognised in the Income Statement relating to leases where Council is a lessee are shown below:

Interest on lease liabilities	1
Expenses relating to low-value leases	165
	<u>166</u>

(d) Statement of Cash Flows

Total cash outflow for leases	27
	<u>27</u>

Leases at significantly below market value – concessionary / peppercorn leases

Council has a number of leases at significantly below market for land and buildings which are used for:

- community services
- historical purposes

The leases are generally between 3 and 5 years and require payments of a maximum amount of \$1,000 per year. The use of the right-to-use asset is restricted by the lessors to specified community services and other purposes which Council either facilitates or provides, these services are detailed in the leases.

Council does not believe that any of the leases in place are individually material from a statement of financial position or performance perspective.

Accounting policy

Accounting policies under AASB 16 – applicable from 1 July 2019

At inception of a contract, Council assesses whether a lease exists – i.e. does the contract convey the right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration?

Council has elected not to separate non-lease components from lease components for any class of asset and has accounted for payments as a single component.

At the lease commencement, Council recognises a right-of-use asset and associated lease liability for the lease term. The lease term includes extension periods where Council believes it is reasonably certain that the option will be exercised.

The right-of-use asset is measured using the cost model where cost on initial recognition comprises: the lease liability, initial direct costs, prepaid lease payments, estimated cost of removal and restoration, less any lease incentives. The right-of-use is depreciated over the lease term on a straight-line basis and assessed for impairment in accordance with the impairment of asset accounting policy.

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Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 13. Leases (continued)

The lease liability is initially recognised at the present value of the remaining lease payments at the commencement of the lease. The discount rate is the rate implicit in the lease, however where this cannot be readily determined then the Council's incremental borrowing rate for a similar term with similar security is used.

Subsequent to initial recognition, the lease liability is measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method. The lease liability is re-measured when there is a lease modification, or change in estimate of the lease term or index upon which the lease payments are based (e.g. CPI).

Where the lease liability is re-measured, the right-of-use asset is adjusted to reflect the re-measurement.

Exceptions to lease accounting

Council has applied the exceptions to lease accounting for both short-term leases (i.e. leases with a term of less than or equal to 12 months) and leases of low-value assets. Council recognises the payments associated with these leases as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Leases at significantly below market value / concessionary leases

Council has elected to measure the right of use asset arising from the concessionary leases at cost which is based on the associated lease liability at initial recognition.

Accounting policy under AASB 117 and associated Accounting Interpretations (2019 only)

Refer to Note 5c and Note 16.

(e) Operating leases

\$ '000	2020
(i) Operating lease income	
Other lease income	
Other	872
Total income relating to operating leases	872

(iv) Maturity analysis of contractual lease income

Maturity analysis of future lease income receivable showing the undiscounted lease payments to be received after reporting date for operating leases:

< 1 year	695
1–2 years	631
2–3 years	567
3–4 years	155
4–5 years	125
> 5 years	748
Total undiscounted contractual lease income receivable	2,921

Accounting policy

When Council is a lessor, the lease is classified as either an operating or finance lease at inception date, based on whether substantially all of the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of the asset have been transferred to the lessee. If the risks and rewards have been transferred then the lease is classified as a finance lease, otherwise it is an operating lease.

When Council has a sub-lease over an asset and is the intermediate lessor then the head lease and sub-lease are accounted for separately. The classification of the sub-lease is based on the right-of-use asset which arises from the head lease rather than the useful life of the underlying asset.

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Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 13. Leases (continued)

If the lease contains lease and non-lease components then the non-lease components are accounted for in accordance with AASB 15 *Revenue from Contracts with Customers*.

The lease income is recognised on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

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Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 14. Payables and borrowings

\$ '000	2020 Current	2020 Non-current	2019 Current	2019 Non-current
Payables				
Goods and services – operating expenditure	1,985	–	2,920	–
Accrued expenses:				
– Borrowings	120	–	130	–
– Salaries and wages	851	–	–	–
– Other expenditure accruals	1,863	–	1,307	–
Security bonds, deposits and retentions	40	–	–	–
NIRW grant from EPA	1,087	–	947	–
Trust	1,453	–	1,432	–
Prepaid rates	762	–	695	–
Total payables	8,161	–	7,431	–
Income received in advance (2019 only)				
Payments received in advance	274	–	505	–
Total income received in advance	274	–	505	–
Borrowings				
Loans – secured ¹	2,831	20,946	2,962	23,801
Total borrowings	2,831	20,946	2,962	23,801
TOTAL PAYABLES AND BORROWINGS	11,266	20,946	10,898	23,801

⁽¹⁾ Loans are secured over the general rating income of Council.

Disclosures on liability interest rate risk exposures, fair value disclosures and security can be found in Note 19.

\$ '000	2020 Current	2020 Non-current	2019 Current	2019 Non-current
(a) Payables and borrowings relating to restricted assets				
Externally restricted assets				
Water	442	4,227	384	4,493
Sewer	–	–	20	3
Domestic waste management	1,385	8,234	1,305	9,556
Other	2,540	–	2,321	–
Payables and borrowings relating to externally restricted assets	4,367	12,461	4,030	14,052
Total payables and borrowings relating to restricted assets	4,367	12,461	4,030	14,052
Total payables and borrowings relating to unrestricted assets	6,899	8,485	6,868	9,749
TOTAL PAYABLES AND BORROWINGS	11,266	20,946	10,898	23,801

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Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 14. Payables and borrowings (continued)

\$ '000	2020	2019
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(b) Current payables and borrowings not anticipated to be settled within the next twelve months

The following liabilities, even though classified as current, are not expected to be settled in the next 12 months.

Other liabilities: Unspent loan	–	1,451
Total payables and borrowings	–	1,451

(c) Changes in liabilities arising from financing activities

\$ '000	as at 30/06/19		Non-cash changes				as at 30/06/20
	Opening Balance	Cash flows	Acquisition	Fair value changes	Acquisition due to change in accounting policy	Other non-cash movement	Closing balance
Loans – secured	26,763	(2,986)	–	–	–	–	23,777
Lease liabilities	–	–	279	–	–	–	279
TOTAL	26,763	(2,986)	279	–	–	–	24,056

\$ '000	as at 30/06/18		Non-cash changes				as at 30/06/19
	Opening Balance	Cash flows	Acquisition	Fair value changes	Other non-cash movement		Closing balance
Loans – secured	29,730	(2,967)	–	–	–	–	26,763
TOTAL	29,730	(2,967)	–	–	–	–	26,763

\$ '000	2020	2019
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(d) Financing arrangements

(i) Unrestricted access was available at balance date to the following lines of credit:

Bank overdraft facilities ¹	1,000	1,000
Credit cards/purchase cards	210	210
Total financing arrangements	1,210	1,210

Drawn facilities as at balance date:

– Credit cards/purchase cards	34	–
Total drawn financing arrangements	34	–

Undrawn facilities as at balance date:

– Bank overdraft facilities	1,000	1,000
– Credit cards/purchase cards	176	210
Total undrawn financing arrangements	1,176	1,210

Additional financing arrangements information

Breaches and defaults

During the current and prior year, there were no defaults or breaches of any of the loans.

Security over loans

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Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 14. Payables and borrowings (continued)

Land, buildings and other property held by Council, along with the general rating income of Council is provided as security for loans.

Unused limits and facilities

Council has access to an unused overdraft with a limit of \$1,000,000.

(1) The bank overdraft facility may be drawn at any time and may be terminated by the bank without notice.

Accounting policy for payables and borrowings

Council measures all financial liabilities initially at fair value less transaction costs. Subsequently, financial liabilities are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

The financial liabilities of the Council comprise trade payables and bank and other loans.

Payables

These amounts represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the council prior to the end of financial year that are unpaid. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition.

Borrowings

Borrowings are initially recognised at fair value, net of transaction costs incurred. Borrowings are subsequently measured at amortised cost. Any difference between the proceeds (net of transaction costs) and the redemption amount is recognised in the Income Statement over the period of the borrowings using the effective-interest method. Fees paid on the establishment of loan facilities are recognised as transaction costs of the loan to the extent that it is probable that some or all of the facility will be drawn down. In this case, the fee is deferred until the drawdown occurs. To the extent that there is no evidence that it is probable that some or all of the facility will be drawn down, the fee is capitalised as a prepayment for liquidity services and amortised over the period of the facility to which it relates.

Borrowings are removed from the Statement of Financial Position when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expired. The difference between the carrying amount of a financial liability that has been extinguished or transferred to another party and the consideration paid, including any non-cash assets transferred or liabilities assumed, is recognised in other income or finance cost.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless Council has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the reporting date.

Finance leases (2019 only)

Council is not party to any finance leasing arrangements.

Note 15. Provisions

\$ '000	2020 Current	2020 Non-current	2019 Current	2019 Non-current
Provisions				
Employee benefits				
Annual leave	2,247	–	2,159	–
Long service leave	4,910	383	5,120	380
Other leave – Accrued leave	172	–	155	–
Sub-total – aggregate employee benefits	7,329	383	7,434	380
Asset remediation/restoration:				
Asset remediation/restoration (future works)	–	23,604	–	4,183
Sub-total – asset remediation/restoration	–	23,604	–	4,183
TOTAL PROVISIONS	7,329	23,987	7,434	4,563

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Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 15. Provisions (continued)

\$ '000	2020 Current	2020 Non-current	2019 Current	2019 Non-current
(a) Provisions relating to restricted/unrestricted assets				
Externally restricted assets				
Domestic waste management	—	22,366	—	—
Provisions relating to externally restricted assets	—	22,366	—	—
Total provisions relating to unrestricted assets	7,329	1,621	7,434	4,563
<u>TOTAL PROVISIONS</u>	<u>7,329</u>	<u>23,987</u>	<u>7,434</u>	<u>4,563</u>

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Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 15. Provisions (continued)

\$ '000	2020	2019
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(b) Current provisions not anticipated to be settled within the next twelve months

The following provisions, even though classified as current, are not expected to be settled in the next 12 months.

Provisions – employees benefits	4,774	4,521
	<u>4,774</u>	<u>4,521</u>

(c) Description of and movements in provisions

\$ '000	ELE provisions			Total
	Annual leave	Long service leave	Other employee benefits	
2020				
At beginning of year	2,159	5,500	155	7,814
Leave Taken	(1,609)	(350)	(1,659)	(3,618)
Leave Accrued	1,697	143	1,676	3,516
Total ELE provisions at end of year	<u>2,247</u>	<u>5,293</u>	<u>172</u>	<u>7,712</u>
2019				
At beginning of year	2,223	5,510	174	7,907
Leave Taken	(1,524)	(795)	(1,678)	(3,997)
Leave Accrued	1,460	786	1,658	3,904
Total ELE provisions at end of year	<u>2,159</u>	<u>5,501</u>	<u>154</u>	<u>7,814</u>

\$ '000	Other provisions	
	Asset remediation	Total
2020		
At beginning of year	4,183	4,183
Changes to provision:		
– Revised discount rate	214	214
Additional provisions	19,761	19,761
Unwinding of discount	(554)	(554)
Total other provisions at end of year	<u>23,604</u>	<u>23,604</u>
2019		
At beginning of year	2,703	2,703
Unwinding of discount	41	41
Additional Provision	1,439	1,439
Total other provisions at end of year	<u>4,183</u>	<u>4,183</u>

Nature and purpose of non-employee benefit provisions**Landfill and Quarry remediation**

Council has a legal and public obligation to make, restore, rehabilitate and reinstate council landfill sites and quarries in-line with relevant licencing agreements.

During the 2019/20 Financial year, Council made a significant adjustment to the provision to restore, rehabilitate and restate Council's main landfill site.

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Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 15. Provisions (continued)

Council engaged an external consultant to visit Council's three (3) landfill sites (Long Swamp Road, Guyra and Waterfall Way Regional Landfill). The consultant provided updated rehabilitation costs for all three landfill sites and a rehabilitation model for Council to use to value the Rehabilitation provision in accordance with required Accounting Standards. The comprehensive model resulted in an increase in the Landfill Rehabilitation Provision from \$3.8 million at 30 June 2019 to \$22.4 million at 30 June 2020. At 30 June 2019, an internal review was completed by Council staff based upon using the phytocap rehabilitation method for the Long Swamp Road Landfill only. During 2020, degradation of the capping at the Guyra Landfill site was identified so further rehabilitation is required. The Waterfall Way Regional Landfill site was licensed by the EPA to accept landfill from 1 July 2020, so this is a new addition to the Landfill Rehabilitation Provision.

Council notes that the phytocap method of rehabilitation is only in testing phase with a limited number of councils in NSW.

The EPA have not yet provided approval for Council to use phytocap technology so a full capping methodology has been applied in valuing the Landfill Rehabilitation Provision at 30 June 2020.

Council performed an annual internal review of the Quarry Rehabilitation Provision and determined an additional \$1.0 million is required to rehabilitate the quarry sites, to provide a total Quarry Rehabilitation Provision of \$1.2m at 30 June 2020.

Any changes to these provisions will be reflected in future Financial Statements.

Accounting policy for provisions

Provisions are recognised when Council has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of past events, it is probable that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation, and the amount has been reliably estimated.

Where there are a number of similar obligations, the likelihood that an outflow will be required in settlement is determined by considering the class of obligations as a whole. A provision is recognised even if the likelihood of an outflow with respect to any one item included in the same class of obligations may be small.

Provisions are measured at the present value of management's best estimate of the expenditure required to settle the present obligation at the reporting date. The discount rate used to determine the present value reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the liability. The increase in the provision due to the passage of time is recognised as borrowing cost.

Employee benefits

Short-term obligations

Liabilities for wages and salaries (including non-monetary benefits, annual leave and accumulating sick leave expected to be wholly settled within 12 months after the end of the period in which the employees render the related service) are recognised in respect of employees' services up to the end of the reporting period and are measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled. The liability for annual leave and accumulating sick leave is recognised in the provision for employee benefits. All other short-term employee benefit obligations are presented as payables.

Other long-term employee benefit obligations

The liability for long-service leave and annual leave that is not expected to be wholly settled within 12 months after the end of the period in which the employees render the related service is recognised in the provision for employee benefits and measured as the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the end of the reporting period using the projected unit credit method. Consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures, and periods of service. Expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the end of the reporting period on national government bonds with terms to maturity and currency that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

On-costs

The employee benefit provisions include the aggregate on-cost liabilities that will arise when payment of current employee benefits is made in future periods. These amounts include superannuation, payroll tax and workers compensation expenses which will be payable upon the future payment of certain leave liabilities which employees are entitled to at the reporting period.

The obligations are presented as current liabilities in the Statement of Financial Position if the Council does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least 12 months after the reporting date, regardless of when the actual settlement is expected to occur.

Provisions for close-down and restoration, and environmental clean-up costs – landfills and quarries

Restoration

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Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 15. Provisions (continued)

Close-down and restoration costs include the dismantling and demolition of infrastructure, and the removal of residual materials and remediation of disturbed areas. Estimated close-down and restoration costs are provided for in the accounting period when the obligation arising from the related disturbance occurs, whether this occurs during the development or during the operation phase, based on the net present value of estimated future costs.

Provisions for close-down and restoration costs do not include any additional obligations which are expected to arise from future disturbance. The costs are estimated on the basis of a closure plan. The cost estimates are calculated annually during the life of the operation to reflect known developments, e.g. updated cost estimates and revisions to the estimated lives of operations, and are subject to formal review at regular intervals.

Rehabilitation

Where rehabilitation is conducted systematically over the life of the operation, rather than at the time of closure, provision is made for the estimated outstanding continuous rehabilitation work at each reporting date, and the cost is charged to the Income Statement.

Provision is made for the estimated present value of the costs of environmental clean-up obligations outstanding at the reporting date. These costs are charged to the Income Statement. Movements in the environmental clean-up provisions are presented as an operating cost, except for the unwinding of the discount which is shown as a borrowing cost.

Remediation procedures generally commence soon after the time the damage, remediation process, and estimated remediation costs become known, but may continue for many years depending on the nature of the disturbance and the remediation techniques.

As noted above, the ultimate cost of environmental remediation is uncertain and cost estimates can vary in response to many factors, including changes to the relevant legal requirements, the emergence of new restoration techniques, or experience at other locations. The expected timing of expenditure can also change, for example in response to changes in quarry reserves or production rates. As a result, there could be significant adjustments to the provision for close down and restoration and environmental clean-up, which would affect future financial results.

Other movements in the provisions for close-down and restoration costs, including those resulting from new disturbance, updated cost estimates, changes to the estimated lives of operations, and revisions to discount rates, are capitalised within property, plant and equipment. These costs are then depreciated over the lives of the assets to which they relate.

Close-down and restoration costs are a normal consequence of tip and quarry operations, and the majority of close-down and restoration expenditure is incurred at the end of the life of the operations. Although the ultimate cost to be incurred is uncertain, Council estimates the respective costs based on feasibility and engineering studies using current restoration standards and techniques.

Self-insurance

Council does not self-insure.

Armidale Regional Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 16. Accumulated surplus, revaluation reserves, changes in accounting policies, changes in accounting estimates and errors

(a) Nature and purpose of reserves

Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment revaluation reserve

The infrastructure, property, plant and equipment revaluation reserve is used to record increments / decrements of non-current asset values due to their revaluation.

Refer to the Statement of Changes in Equity for the rollforward of the Accumulated Surplus and Revaluation Reserve from 2019 to 2020 and comparatives for the prior year.

(b) Changes in accounting policies due to adoption of new accounting standards (not-retrospective)

During the year ended 30 June 2020, the Council has adopted AASB 15 *Revenue from Contracts with Customers*, AASB 1058 *Income of Not-for-profit Entities* and AASB 16 *Leases* using the modified retrospective (cumulative catch-up) method and therefore the comparative information for the year ended 30 June 2019 has not been restated and continues to comply with AASB 111 *Construction Contracts*, AASB 117 *Leases*, AASB 118 *Revenue*, AASB 1004 *Contributions* and associated Accounting Interpretations.

All adjustments on adoption of AASB 15 and AASB 1058 have been taken to retained earnings at 1 July 2019.

The impacts of adopting these standards and associated transition disclosures are provided below:

(i) AASB 15 and AASB 1058

Changes in accounting policies due to adoption of AASB 15 and AASB 1058

The following approach has been applied on transition to AASB 15 and AASB 1058:

Transfer of control to a customer – over time or at a point in time

AASB 15 has specific criteria regarding whether control is transferred over time or at a point in time. The entity has reviewed its contracts and concluded that the criteria for recognition over time is not met in some circumstances. In such cases, revenue and related production costs will be recognised at the delivery of each separate performance obligation instead of over the contract using a single margin.

Licences

Council has reviewed the licences it grants and considers that all licences are either short-term or low value and elects to recognise all revenue from licences up-front rather than spreading them over the life of the licence.

Prepaid rates

Under AASB 1004, rates were recorded as revenue at the earliest of receipt of the funds from the ratepayer and the beginning of the rating period. Under AASB 1058, prepaid rates are recognised as a financial liability until the beginning of the rating period.

Grants – operating

Under AASB 1004, most grant income was recognised as revenue on receipt. Under AASB 15, where an agreement is enforceable and contains sufficiently specific performance obligations, the revenue is either recognised over time as the work is performed, or recognised at the point in time that the control of the services passes to the customer.

Grants – capital

Under AASB 1004, most grant monies were recorded as revenue on receipt. Under AASB 1058, where Council has received assets (including cash) to acquire or construct a non-financial asset, the asset is to be controlled by Council and the contract is enforceable, then the asset is recognised as a contract liability on receipt and recorded as revenue as the performance obligation to acquire or construct the asset is completed.

\$ '000	Balance at 1 July 2019
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Opening contract balances at 1 July 2019

Contract assets

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Armidale Regional Council

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Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 16. Accumulated surplus, revaluation reserves, changes in accounting policies, changes in accounting estimates and errors (continued)

\$ '000	Balance at 1 July 2019
– Under AASB 15	1,270
– Under AASB 1058	896
Total Contract assets	2,166
Contract liabilities	
– Under AASB 15	138
– Under AASB 1058	7,202
Total Contract liabilities	7,340

Comparison of financial statement line items under AASB 15 compared to previous standards for the current year

The following tables show the impact of adopting AASB 15 and AASB 1058 on the Council's financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2020.

Statement of Financial Position

\$ '000	Carrying amount per Statement of Financial Position under AASB 15 and AASB 1058	Reclassific- ation	Remeasur-e ment	Carrying amount under previous revenue standards	Notes
Current assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	20,856	–	–	20,856	
Investments	51,295	–	–	51,295	
Receivables	9,175	–	3,072	12,247	
Inventories	1,027	–	–	1,027	
Contract assets	3,072	–	(3,072)	–	
Other	606	–	–	606	
Current assets classified as 'held for sale'	1,359	–	–	1,359	
Total current assets	87,390	–	–	87,390	
Current liabilities					
Payables	8,161	–	–	8,161	
Income received in advance	274	–	–	274	
Contract liabilities	7,245	–	(7,245)	–	
Lease liabilities	26	–	–	26	
Borrowings	2,831	–	–	2,831	
Provisions	7,329	–	–	7,329	
Total current liabilities	25,866	–	(7,245)	18,621	
Non-current assets					
Receivables	312	–	–	312	
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	856,984	–	–	856,984	
Right of use assets	279	–	–	279	
Total non-current assets	857,575	–	–	857,575	
Non-current liabilities					

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Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 16. Accumulated surplus, revaluation reserves, changes in accounting policies, changes in accounting estimates and errors (continued)

\$ '000	Carrying amount per Statement of Financial Position under AASB 15 and AASB 1058	Reclassification	Remeasurement	Carrying amount under previous revenue standards	Notes
Lease liabilities	253	–	–	253	
Borrowings	20,946	–	–	20,946	
Provisions	23,987	–	–	23,987	
Total Non-current liabilities	45,186	–	–	45,186	
Net assets	873,913	–	7,245	881,158	
Equity					
Accumulated surplus	845,741	–	7,245	852,986	
Revaluation reserves	28,172	–	–	28,172	
Council equity interest	873,913	–	7,245	881,158	
Total equity	873,913	–	7,245	881,158	

In compliance with AASB 1058, a Contract Liability of \$7,245,000 is recorded to recognise unexpended grant funds and contributions as at 30 June 2020. A Contract Asset of \$3,072,000 is recorded at 30 June 2020. Of the balance of \$7,245,000 Contract Liability at 30 June 2020, \$3,460,000 relates to grant funds and contributions received in prior financial years (before 1 July 2019) and unexpended at 30 June 2020. The remaining balance of \$3,785,000 relates to grant funds and contributions received during the year ended 30 June 2020 and unexpended at year end.

Applying the previous accounting standard AASB 1004, the Contract Liability of \$7,245,000 would be nil, Accumulated Surplus would increase by \$3,460,000 and the current year result would increase by \$3,785,000.

Income Statement

\$ '000	Income Statement and comprehensive income under AASB 15 and AASB 1058	Reclassification	Remeasurement	Income Statement and comprehensive income under previous revenue standards	Notes
<u>Income from continuing operations</u>					
Rates and annual charges	33,409	–	–	33,409	
User charges and fees	18,091	–	–	18,091	
Other revenues	2,786	–	–	2,786	
Grants and contributions provided for operating purposes	14,557	–	–	14,557	
Grants and contributions provided for capital purposes	21,567	–	7,245	28,812	
Interest and investment income	1,376	–	–	1,376	
Rental income	872	–	–	872	
Total Income from continuing operations	92,658	–	7,245	99,903	
<u>Expenses from continuing operations</u>					
Employee benefits and on-costs	23,750	–	–	23,750	

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Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 16. Accumulated surplus, revaluation reserves, changes in accounting policies, changes in accounting estimates and errors (continued)

\$ '000	Income Statement and comprehensive income under AASB 15 and AASB 1058	Reclassification	Remeasurement	Income Statement and comprehensive income under previous revenue standards	Notes
Borrowing costs	2,000	—	—	2,000	
Materials and contracts	21,274	—	—	21,274	
Depreciation and amortisation	17,594	—	—	17,594	
Other expenses	8,231	—	—	8,231	
Net losses from the disposal of assets	1,454	—	—	1,454	
Revaluation decrement / impairment of IPP&E	2,099	—	—	2,099	
Total Expenses from continuing operations	76,402	—	—	76,402	
Total Operating result from continuing operations	16,256	—	7,245	23,501	
Operating result from discontinued operations	(40,446)	—	—	(40,446)	
Net operating result for the year	(24,190)	—	7,245	(16,945)	
Total comprehensive income	(19,819)	—	—	(19,819)	

In compliance with AASB 1058, a Contract Liability of \$7,245,000 is recorded to recognise unexpended grant funds and contributions as at 30 June 2020. A Contract Asset of \$3,072,000 is recorded at 30 June 2020. Of the balance of \$7,245,000 Contract Liability at 30 June 2020, \$3,460,000 relates to grant funds and contributions received in prior financial years (before 1 July 2019) and unexpended at 30 June 2020. The remaining balance of \$3,785,000 relates to grant funds and contributions received during the year ended 30 June 2020 and unexpended at year end.

Applying the previous accounting standard AASB 1004, the Contract Liability of \$7,245,000 would be nil, Accumulated Surplus would increase by \$3,460,000 and the current year result would increase by \$3,785,000.

Adjustments to the current year figures for the year ended 30 June 2020

Statement of Financial Position

\$ '000	Original Balance 1 July, 2019	Impact Increase/ (decrease)	Restated Balance 1 July, 2019
Contract assets	—	—	—
Receivable	—	—	—
Total assets	943,888	—	943,888
Contract liabilities	—	—	—
Total liabilities	46,696	—	46,696
Accumulated surplus	873,423	(3,460)	869,963
Revaluation reserves	23,769	—	23,769
Total equity	897,192	(3,460)	897,192

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Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 16. Accumulated surplus, revaluation reserves, changes in accounting policies, changes in accounting estimates and errors (continued)

(iii) AASB 16 Leases

Council as a lessee

Under AASB 117, Council assessed whether leases were operating or finance leases, based on its assessment of whether the significant risks and rewards of ownership had been transferred to Council or remained with the lessor. Under AASB 16, there is no differentiation between finance and operating leases for the lessee and therefore all leases which meet the definition of a lease are recognised on the statement of financial position (except for short-term leases and leases of low-value assets).

Council has used the exception to lease accounting for short-term leases and leases of low-value assets, and the lease expense relating to these leases is recognised in the Income Statement on a straight-line basis.

Practical expedients used on transition

AASB 16 includes a number of practical expedients which can be used on transition. Council has used the following expedients:

- Contracts which had previously been assessed as not containing leases under AASB 117 were not re-assessed on transition to AASB 16.
- Lease liabilities have been discounted using the Council's incremental borrowing rate at 1 July 2019.
- Right-of-use assets at 1 July 2019 have been measured at an amount equal to the lease liability adjustment by the any prepaid or accrued lease payments.
- A single discount rate was applied to all leases with similar characteristics.
- The right-of-use asset was adjusted by the existing onerous lease provision (where relevant) at 30 June 2019 rather than perform impairment testing of the right-of-use asset.
- Excluded leases with an expiry date prior to 30 June 2020 from the Statement of Financial Position, and lease expenses for these leases have been recorded on a straight-line basis over the remaining term.
- Used hindsight when determining the lease term if the contract contains options to extend or terminate the lease.

Financial statement impact of adoption of AASB 16

Council has recognised right-of-use assets and lease liabilities of \$313,000 at 1 July 2019 for leases previously classified as operating leases, or leases that are significantly below market value which were previously off balance sheet.

The weighted average lessee's incremental borrowing rate applied to lease liabilities at 1 July 2019 was 5.71%.

\$ '000	Balance at 1 July 2019
Operating lease commitments at 30 June 2019 per Council financial statements	1,030

Reconciliation of lease liabilities recognised on adoption of AASB 16 Leases

Operating lease commitments discounted using the incremental borrowing rate at 1 July 2019	445
Add:	
Contracts not accounted for as operating lease commitments last year	–
Finance lease liabilities	–
Extension options reasonably certain to be exercised not included in the commitments note	–
Variable lease payments linked to an index	–
Other	–
Less:	
Short-term leases included in commitments note	(132)
Leases for low-value assets included in commitments note	–
Other	–
Lease liabilities recognised at 1 July 2019	<u>313</u>

Council as a lessor

For the arrangements where Council is a lessor, there are no significant accounting policy changes on adoption of AASB 16 except for sub-leases, which have now been classified in relation to the right-of-use asset under the head lease rather than

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Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 16. Accumulated surplus, revaluation reserves, changes in accounting policies, changes in accounting estimates and errors (continued)

the underlying asset.

Adjustments to the current year figures for the year ended 30 June 2020

Statement of Financial Position

\$ '000	Original Balance 1 July, 2019	Impact Increase/ (decrease)	Restated Balance 1 July, 2019
Rights-of-use assets	313	—	313
Total assets	—	—	—
Payables – accrued interest on leases (30/6/2019)	—	—	—
Leases	313	—	313
Total liabilities	—	—	—
Accumulated surplus	—	—	—
Total equity	—	—	—

Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 17. Statement of cash flow information

\$ '000	Notes	2020	2019
(a) Reconciliation of cash and cash equivalents			
Total cash and cash equivalents per Statement of Financial Position	7(a)	20,856	11,040
Balance as per the Statement of Cash Flows		20,856	11,040
(b) Reconciliation of net operating result to cash provided from operating activities			
Net operating result from Income Statement		(24,190)	15,317
Adjust for non-cash items:			
Depreciation and amortisation		17,594	18,198
Net losses/(gains) on disposal of assets		1,454	1,102
Adoption of AASB 15/1058		(3,460)	–
Other		(32)	–
Losses/(gains) recognised on fair value re-measurements through the P&L:			
– Revaluation decrements / impairments of IPP&E direct to P&L		2,099	608
Unwinding of discount rates on reinstatement provisions		(340)	41
+/- Movement in operating assets and liabilities and other cash items:			
Decrease/(increase) in receivables		3,239	227
Increase/(decrease) in provision for impairment of receivables		(57)	169
Decrease/(increase) in inventories		(181)	209
Decrease/(increase) in other current assets		(435)	81
Decrease/(increase) in contract assets		(3,072)	–
Increase/(decrease) in payables		(935)	(686)
Increase/(decrease) in accrued interest payable		(10)	(22)
Increase/(decrease) in other accrued expenses payable		1,407	546
Increase/(decrease) in other liabilities		37	(2,011)
Increase/(decrease) in contract liabilities		7,245	–
Increase/(decrease) in provision for employee benefits		(102)	(93)
Increase/(decrease) in other provisions		19,761	(1)
Net cash provided from/(used in) operating activities from the Statement of Cash Flows		20,022	33,685

Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 18. Interests in other entities

Unconsolidated structured entities

Council did not consolidate the following structured entities:

\$ '000	2020	2019
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1. New England Weeds Authority

New England Weeds Authority (NEWA), is the registered trading name of The New England Tablelands Noxious Plants County Council. NEWA is a single purpose Council which is a Local Control Authority for priority and invasive weeds under the NSW Biosecurity Act, 2015. The present area of operation of NEWA is the local government areas of Armidale Regional, Walcha, Uralla Shire, and Glen Innes Severn (under a Memorandum of Understanding). These Councils are located in the Northern Tablelands region of New South Wales.

The County Council's governance is in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 (LGA 1993) with the County Council first proclaimed in 1947.

NEWA is funded by contributions from its four Constituent Councils, grants and private works. Each Constituent Council has delegated its Noxious weeds control function to NEWA and contributes in accordance with NEWA's proclamation. NEWA's governing body consists of five Councillors elected by each of the Constituent Councils.

NEWA leases property from Council for office accommodation, parking and storage of chemicals under a 5 year lease agreement from 1 July 2015 - 30 June 2020. Council also provides servicing of vehicles owned by NEWA at cost. Management assessed the impact of the NEWA's operations to be insignificant to the financial statements of Council.

Nature of risks relating to the Unconsolidated Structured Entity

NEWA is a separately constituted and proclaimed County Council. The proclamation determined the contribution of each participating Council. These contributions are the total financial support required of each Constituent Council.

Council has no further obligations should NEWA become insolvent. As a proclaimed entity of the State of NSW, any additional funding obligations remain with the State.

Non-contractual financial support provided

Council did not provide any non contractual support to NEWA.

Current intention to provide financial support

Council will continue to provide a contribution to NEWA in accordance with NEWA's proclamation. Council's expected contribution for the 2020/2021 year is approximately \$205,000 including GST (2019: \$220,000 including GST).

2. New England Regional Art Museum (NERAM)

New England Regional Art Museum (NERAM) is a not for profit company limited by guarantee, and a Charitable Trust which has received endorsed deductible gift recipient status. NERAM is an organisation built with a combination of state and local government funding and community contributions. Council does not hold any ownership interest in NERAM.

NERAM's income is derived from several sources, including a 20 year funding agreement with Council (38%), NSW government (5%), with the balance made up from membership fees, art classes, commercial sponsorship and fundraising.

The 20 year funding agreement commenced on 15 April 2009 at \$265,000 per annum plus GST, indexed at Councils rate peg increase at each anniversary date. The funding agreement is due to expire on 14 April 2028. Under the funding agreement, Council also provides 'in kind' support for building maintenance, up to a capped amount of \$10,000 per annum indexed with CPI each year, on the building that NERAM occupies and leases from Council under a separate lease agreement.

Council has assessed the impact of the organisation's operations to be insignificant to the financial statements of Council.

Nature of risks relating to the Unconsolidated Structured Entity

Council provides 38% of funding for NERAM. As a public company limited by guarantee, the organisation is responsible for its own funding, while it may not exist without Council's ongoing support. Council makes 4 quarterly payments to NERAM in accordance with the funding agreement.

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Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 18. Interests in other entities (continued)

\$ '000	2020	2019
The main assets of NERAM are artworks. The nature of the Hinton and Coventry Trust prevent sale and usage of funds to fund operations. The assets and liabilities of NERAM are not considered significant to the financial statements of Council.		
Income received by Council relating to the Structured Entity		
– Rental Income	(11)	(11)
Assets in Council's Statement of Financial Position relating to the Structured Entity	7,061	7,311
Net assets in Council's Statement of Financial Position	7,061	7,311
 Difference – net asset/(net exposure) relating to the Structured Entity:	 7,061	 7,311

Non-contractual financial support provided

Council did not provide any non contractual support to NERAM.

Current intention to provide financial support

Council's current position is to maintain support and contributions in accordance with the 20 year funding agreement which commenced on 15 April 2009 and concludes on 14 April 2028.

Under the funding agreement, the commencement funding amount is \$265,000 per annum plus GST, increased on each anniversary date by what is commonly referred to as the rate pegging percentage for Council. Council's contribution for the 2020/21 year is estimated at \$355,000 plus GST.

Council also provides 'in kind' support to NERAM in terms of a lease of the building and maintenance of the land upon which NERAM is located, capped at a dollar value of \$10,000 per annum indexed to CPI.

3. New England Joint Organisation (NEJO)

The New England Joint Organisation ("NEJO") was established on 11 May 2018 and is a separately constituted entity pursuant to Part 7 (Sections 400O to 400ZH) of the Local Government Act (NSW) 1993, as amended, and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2008.

The principal purpose of the NEJO is to establish strategic regional priorities and to provide regional leadership to the geographical area for which it serves, and to identify and take up opportunities for intergovernmental cooperation on matters relating to the joint organisation area.

The NEJO comprises seven voting member councils: Armidale Regional Council, Glen Innes Severn Council, Inverell Shire Council, Moree Plains Shire Council, Narrabri Shire Council, Tenterfield Shire Council and Uralla Shire Council.

The Board of the NEJO consists of the Mayors of each Member Council, who are entitled to one (1) vote at Meetings, and a non-voting representative of the NSW Government, who is the Regional Director of the Department of Premier and Cabinet.

The Chairperson is to be elected by the voting representatives of the Board from one (1) of the Mayoral representatives. The Chairperson does not have a casting vote.

A decision of the Board is supported by a majority at which a quorum is present.

Armidale Regional Council, as a member of the NEJO, has a one-seventh voting right in respect to the decisions of the Board.

Decision making is based on majority votes, so Council does not have control, joint control or significant influence over relevant activities of the organisation.

In accordance with the NEJO's Charter, each member is required to contribute annual fees towards the operation of the organisation. In the 2018/2019 and 2019/2020 financial years, the contribution made by each council was \$5,000. The contribution by Council for the 2020/2021 financial year has been set at \$28,320 in the NEJO Operational Plan for 2020/2021.

For the year ended 30 June 2019, the NEJO's net operating result was \$272,563. The net operating result for the year ended 30 June 2020 is not yet available. Council is not entitled to any share or distribution of the NEJO net operating result.

Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 19. Commitments

\$ '000	2020	2019
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(a) Capital commitments (exclusive of GST)

Capital expenditure committed for at the reporting date but not recognised in the financial statements as liabilities:

Property, plant and equipment

Plant and equipment	568	1,523
Other	4,381	2,726
Total commitments	4,949	4,249

These expenditures are payable as follows:

Within the next year	4,949	4,249
Total payable	4,949	4,249

Sources for funding of capital commitments:

Externally restricted reserves	4,381	2,726
Internally restricted reserves	568	1,523
Total sources of funding	4,949	4,249

Details of capital commitments

For each of the commitments, tenders have been called and orders placed prior to year end, with an expectation of delivery early during the 2019/20 year.

(b) Finance lease commitments (2019 only)

Council is not party to any finance lease arrangements.

(c) Non-cancellable operating lease commitments (2019 only)

a. Commitments under non-cancellable operating leases at the reporting date, but not recognised as liabilities are payable:

Within the next year	—	165
Later than one year and not later than 5 years	—	99
Later than 5 years	—	766
Total non-cancellable operating lease commitments	—	1,030

b. Non-cancellable operating leases include the following assets:

Operating leases exist for:

(1) the provision of all photocopiers throughout all Council offices and facilities; and

Conditions relating to finance and operating leases:

All operating lease agreements are secured only against the leased asset.

No lease agreements impose any financial restrictions on Council regarding future debt.

Refer to Note 13 for information relating to leases for 2020.

Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 20. Contingencies

The following assets and liabilities do not qualify for recognition in the Statement of Financial Position, but their knowledge and disclosure is considered relevant to the users of Council's financial report.

LIABILITIES NOT RECOGNISED**1. Guarantees****(i) Defined benefit superannuation contribution plans**

Council contributes to a Defined Benefit Superannuation Plan under the Local Government Superannuation Scheme, named The Local Government Superannuation Scheme – Pool B ("the Scheme"). The Scheme is a defined benefit superannuation plan that has been deemed to be a 'multi-employer fund' for purposes of AASB119 Employee Benefits for the following reasons:

- Assets are not segregated within the sub-group according to the employees of each sponsoring employer.
- The contribution rates have been the same for all sponsoring employers. That is, contribution rates have not varied for each sponsoring employer according to the experience relating to the employees of that sponsoring employer.
- Benefits for employees of all sponsoring employers are determined according to the same formulae and without regard to the sponsoring employer.
- The same actuarial assumptions are currently used in respect of the employees of each sponsoring employer.

Given the factors above, each sponsoring employer is exposed to the actuarial risks associated with current and former employees of other sponsoring employers, and hence shares in the associated gains and losses (to the extent that they are not borne by members).

Description of the funding arrangements.

Pooled employers are required to pay standard employer contributions and additional lump sum contributions to the Scheme.

The standard employer contributions were determined using the new entrant rate method under which a contribution rate sufficient to fund the total benefits over the working life-time of a typical new entrant is calculated. The current standard employer contribution rates are:

Division B	1.9 times member contributions for non-180 Point Member; Nil for 181 Point Members*
Division C	2.5% salaries
Division D	1.64 times member contributions

* For 180 Point Members, Employers are required to contribute 7% of salaries to these members' accumulation accounts, which are paid in addition to members' defined benefits.

The additional lump sum contribution for each Pooled Employer is a share of the total additional contributions of \$40 million per annum from 1 July 2019 for 2 years to 30 June 2021, apportioned according to each employer's share of the accrued liabilities as at 30 June 2019. These additional lump sum contributions are used to fund the deficit of assets to accrued liabilities as at 30 June 2019.

The adequacy of contributions is assessed at each triennial actuarial investigation and monitored annually between triennials.

Description of the extent to which Council can be liable to the Scheme for other Council's obligations under the terms and conditions of the multi-employer Scheme

As stated above, each sponsoring employer (Council) is exposed to the actuarial risks associated with current and former employees of other sponsoring employers and hence shares in the associated gains and losses.

There is no relief under the Scheme's trust deed for employers to relinquish their defined benefit obligations. Under limited circumstances, an employer may withdraw from the Scheme when there are no active members, on full payment of outstanding additional contributions. There is no provision for allocation of any surplus which may be present at the date of withdrawal of the Council.

There are no specific provisions under the Scheme's trust deed dealing with deficits or surplus on wind-up.

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for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 20. Contingencies (continued)

The amount of Council employer contributions to the defined benefit section of the Local Government Superannuation Scheme and recognised as an expense for the year ended 30 June 2020 was \$422,023. The last valuation of the Scheme was performed by Mr Richard Boyfield, FIAA on 30 June 2019, and relates to the period ended 30 June 2019.

Council's expected contribution to the Scheme for the next annual reporting period is \$416,605.

The estimated employer reserves in the Scheme for the Pooled Employers at 30 June 2020 is:

Employer reserves only *	\$millions	Asset Coverage
Assets	1,695.2	
Past Service Liabilities	1,773.2	95.6%
Vested Benefits	1,757.5	96.5%

* excluding member accounts and reserves in both assets and liabilities.

The share of this deficit that is broadly attributed to Council is estimated to be in the order of 0.58% or \$452,400 as at 30 June 2019.

Council's share of that deficit cannot be accurately calculated as the Scheme is a mutual arrangement where assets and liabilities are pooled together for all member councils. For this reason, no liability for any deficiency or gain for any surplus is recognised in Council's accounts. Council has a possible obligation that may arise should the Scheme require immediate payment to correct any future deficiency.

The key economic long term assumptions used to calculate the present value of accrued benefits are:

Investment return	5.75% per annum
Salary inflation *	3.5% per annum
Increase in CPI	2.5% per annum

* Plus promotional increases

The contribution requirements may vary from the current rates if the overall sub-group experience is not in line with the actuarial assumptions in determining the funding program; however, any adjustment to the funding program would be the same for all sponsoring employers in the Pooled Employers group. Please note the estimated employer reserves financial position above is a preliminary calculation, and once all the relevant information has been received by the Scheme's Actuary, the final end of year review will be completed around November/December 2020.

(ii) Statewide Mutual

Council is a member of Statewide Mutual, a mutual pool scheme providing liability insurance to local government.

Membership includes the potential to share in either the net assets or liabilities of the Mutual depending on its past performance. Council's share of the net assets or liabilities reflects Council's contributions to the Mutual pool and the result of insurance claims within each of the Mutual years.

The future realisation and finalisation of claims incurred but not reported to 30 June 2020 may result in future liabilities or benefits as a result of past events that Council will be required to fund or share in respectively.

(iii) StateCover Mutual Limited

Council is a member of StateCover Mutual Limited and holds a partly paid share in the entity.

StateCover Mutual Limited is a public company providing workers compensation insurance cover to the NSW local government industry and specifically Council.

Council has a contingent liability to contribute further equity in the event of the erosion of the company's capital base as a result of the company's past performance and/or claims experience or as a result of any increased prudential requirements from APRA.

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Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 20. Contingencies (continued)

These future equity contributions would be required to maintain the company's minimum level of net assets in accordance with its licence requirements.

(iv) Other guarantees

During the 2018/19 year, Council provided a bank guarantee for \$10,000 relating to an easement over an independent party's land. The bank guarantee remains in place as at 30 June 2020.

Since year end, Council has provided a second bank guarantee of \$10,000 relating to another easement over an independent party's land.

Council has provided no other guarantees other than those listed above.

2. Other liabilities**(i) Third party claims**

The Council is involved from time to time in various claims incidental to the ordinary course of business including claims for damages relating to its services.

Council believes that it is appropriately covered for all claims through its insurance coverage and does not expect any material liabilities to eventuate.

(ii) Potential land acquisitions due to planning restrictions imposed by Council

Council has classified a number of privately owned land parcels as local open space or bushland.

As a result, where notified in writing by the various owners, Council will be required to purchase these land parcels.

At reporting date, reliable estimates as to the value of any potential liability (and subsequent land asset) from such potential acquisitions has not been possible.

3. Contingent liabilities**(i) Contingent Remediation Work**

During 2019, Council identified two sites where future potential remediation work may be required to comply with environmental requirements.

The two sites are:

- (1) the former Armidale Gas Works site, which may require certain land and waterway rehabilitation work; and
- (2) the Guyra recycling centre and waste transfer station, previously used as the Guyra Landfill, which may require certain rehabilitation work to ensure the long term capping of the site.

In relation to the former Armidale Gas Works site, Council continues to test and monitor the site for contamination and leaching.

At this stage, there is no present obligation for Council to incur costs of remediation. Council continues to work with the relevant authorities to monitor the site. Should the ongoing testing and monitoring indicate leaked contamination and leaching, remediation may be required to further rehabilitate the site.

In relation to the Guyra Recycling Centre and Waste Transfer Station (formerly the Guyra Landfill site), during 2020, in consultation with the environmental regulator, Council has determined the site requires remediation work and the costs associated with this work have been recognised as a provision for rehabilitation, as included in Note XX above.

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Note 20. Contingencies (continued)

ASSETS NOT RECOGNISED**(i) Infringement notices/fines**

Fines and penalty income, the result of Council issuing infringement notices is followed up and collected by the Infringement Processing Bureau.

Council's revenue recognition policy for such income is to account for it as revenue on receipt.

Accordingly, at year end, there is a potential asset due to Council representing issued but unpaid infringement notices.

Due to the limited information available on the status, value and duration of outstanding notices, Council is unable to determine the value of outstanding income.

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for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 21. Financial risk management

Risk management

Council's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks including (1) price risk, (2) credit risk, (3) liquidity risk and (4) interest rate risk.

The Council's overall risk management program focuses on the unpredictability of financial markets and seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the financial performance of the Council.

Council does not engage in transactions expressed in foreign currencies and is therefore not subject to foreign currency risk.

Financial risk management is carried out by Council's finance section under policies approved by the Council.

The fair value of Council's financial assets and financial liabilities approximates their carrying amount.

\$ '000	Carrying value 2020	Carrying value 2019	Fair value 2020	Fair value 2019
Financial assets				
Measured at amortised cost				
Cash and cash equivalents	20,856	11,040	20,856	11,040
Receivables	9,487	12,684	12,560	12,684
Investments				
– 'Financial assets at amortised cost'	51,295	58,236	51,295	58,236
Total financial assets	81,638	81,960	84,711	81,960
Financial liabilities				
Payables	8,161	7,431	7,124	6,736
Loans/advances	23,777	26,763	23,777	26,763
Lease liabilities	279	–	–	–
Total financial liabilities	32,217	34,194	30,901	33,499

Fair value is determined as follows:

- **Cash and cash equivalents, receivables, payables** – are estimated to be the carrying value that approximates market value.
- **Borrowings and held-to-maturity investments** – are based upon estimated future cash flows discounted by the current market interest rates applicable to assets and liabilities with similar risk profiles, unless quoted market prices are available.
- Financial assets classified (i) **'at fair value through profit and loss'** or (ii) **'available-for-sale'** – are based upon quoted market prices (in active markets for identical investments) at the reporting date or independent valuation.

Council's objective is to maximise its return on cash and investments whilst maintaining an adequate level of liquidity and preserving capital.

Council's finance area manages the cash and Investments portfolio with the assistance of independent advisors.

Council has an investment policy which complies with the Local Government Act 1993 and Ministerial Investment order 625. This policy is regularly reviewed by Council and its staff and an investment report is tabled before Council on a monthly basis setting out the portfolio breakup and its performance as required by Local Government regulations.

The risks associated with the instruments held are:

- **Price risk** – the risk that the capital value of Investments may fluctuate due to changes in market prices, whether the changes are caused by factors specific to individual financial instruments or their issuers or are caused by factors affecting similar instruments traded in a market.

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Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 21. Financial risk management (continued)

- **Interest rate risk** – the risk that movements in interest rates could affect returns and income.
- **Liquidity risk** – the risk that Council will not be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.
- **Credit risk** – the risk that the investment counterparty will not complete their obligations particular to a financial instrument, resulting in a financial loss to Council – be it of a capital or income nature.

Council manages these risks (amongst other measures) by diversifying its portfolio and only purchasing investments with high credit ratings or capital guarantees.

Council also seeks advice from independent advisers before placing any funds in cash equivalents and investments.

(a) Market risk – price risk and interest rate risk

The impact on result for the year and equity of a reasonably possible movement in the price of investments held and interest rates is shown below. The reasonably possible movements were determined based on historical movements and economic conditions in place at the reporting date.

\$ '000	Increase of values/rates		Decrease of values/rates	
	Profit	Equity	Profit	Equity
2020				
Possible impact of a 1% movement in interest rates	513	513	(513)	(513)
2019				
Possible impact of a 1% movement in interest rates	582	582	(582)	(582)

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Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 21. Financial risk management (continued)

(b) Credit risk

Council's major receivables comprise (i) rates and annual charges and (ii) user charges and fees.

Council manages the credit risk associated with these receivables by monitoring outstanding debt and employing stringent debt recovery procedures. Council also encourages ratepayers to pay their rates by the due date through incentives.

The credit risk for liquid funds and other short-term financial assets is considered negligible, since the counterparties are reputable banks with high quality external credit ratings.

There are no significant concentrations of credit risk, whether through exposure to individual customers, specific industry sectors and/or regions.

The level of outstanding receivables is reported to Council monthly and benchmarks are set and monitored for acceptable collection performance.

Council makes suitable provision for doubtful receivables as required and carries out credit checks on most non-rate debtors.

There are no material receivables that have been subjected to a re-negotiation of repayment terms.

Credit risk profile

Receivables – rates and annual charges

Credit risk on rates and annual charges is minimised by the ability of Council to secure a charge over the land relating to the debts – that is, the land can be sold to recover the debt. Council is also able to charge interest on overdue rates and annual charges at higher than market rates which further encourages the payment of debt.

\$ '000	Not yet overdue	< 1 year overdue	1 - 2 years overdue	2 - 5 years overdue	> 5 years overdue	Total
2020						
Gross carrying amount	–	1,411	230	253	112	2,006
2019						
Gross carrying amount	–	1,115	391	246	–	1,752

Receivables - non-rates and annual charges

Council applies the simplified approach for non-rates and annual charges debtors to provide for expected credit losses prescribed by AASB 9, which permits the use of the lifetime expected loss provision. To measure the expected credit losses, non-rates and annual charges debtors have been grouped based on shared credit risk characteristics and the days past due.

The loss allowance provision as at 30 June 2020 is determined as follows. The expected credit losses incorporate forward-looking information.

\$ '000	Not yet overdue	0 - 30 days overdue	31 - 60 days overdue	61 - 90 days overdue	> 91 days overdue	Total
2020						
Gross carrying amount	5,601	1,274	246	131	621	7,873
Expected loss rate (%)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	38.00%	3.00%
ECL provision	–	–	–	–	236	236
2019						
Gross carrying amount	6,165	2,213	474	1,163	1,366	11,381
Expected loss rate (%)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	16.55%	1.99%
ECL provision	–	–	–	–	226	226

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Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 21. Financial risk management (continued)

(c) Liquidity risk

Payables, lease liabilities and borrowings are both subject to liquidity risk – the risk that insufficient funds may be on hand to meet payment obligations as and when they fall due.

Council manages this risk by monitoring its cash flow requirements and liquidity levels and maintaining an adequate cash buffer.

Payment terms can (in extenuating circumstances) also be extended and overdraft facilities utilised as required.

Borrowings are also subject to interest rate risk – the risk that movements in interest rates could adversely affect funding costs and debt servicing requirements. Council manages this risk through diversification of borrowing types, maturities and interest rate structures. The finance team regularly reviews interest rate movements to determine if it would be advantageous to refinance or renegotiate part or all of the loan portfolio.

The timing of cash flows presented in the table below to settle financial liabilities reflects the earliest contractual settlement dates. The timing of expected outflows is not expected to be materially different from contracted cashflows.

The amounts disclosed in the table are the undiscounted contracted cash flows for non-lease liabilities and therefore the balances in the table may not equal the balances in the Statement of Financial Position due to the effect of discounting.

\$ '000	Weighted average interest rate	Subject to no maturity	≤ 1 Year	payable in: 1 - 5 Years	> 5 Years	Total cash outflows	Actual carrying values
2020							
Trade/other payables	0.00%	40	5,631	–	–	5,671	7,399
Loans and advances	5.71%	–	4,237	19,276	6,900	30,413	23,777
Total financial liabilities		40	9,868	19,276	6,900	36,084	31,176
2019							
Trade/other payables	0.00%	–	6,736	–	–	6,736	6,736
Loans and advances	5.42%	–	4,441	19,051	11,248	34,740	26,763
Total financial liabilities		–	11,177	19,051	11,248	41,476	33,499

Loan agreement breaches

No breaches of any loan agreements occurred during the year.

Armidale Regional Council

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Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 22. Material budget variations

Council's original financial budget for 2019/20 was adopted by the Council on 29 July 2020 and is unaudited.

While the Income Statement included in this General Purpose Financial Statements must disclose the original budget adopted by Council, the Local Government Act 1993 requires Council to review its financial budget on a quarterly basis, so that it is able to manage the various variations between actuals versus budget that invariably occur throughout the year.

This note sets out the details of **material variations** between Council's original budget and its actual results for the year as per the Income Statement – even though such variations may have been adjusted for during each quarterly budget review.

Material variations represent those variances between the original budget figure and the actual result that amount to **10%** or more.

Variation Key: **F** = Favourable budget variation, **U** = Unfavourable budget variation.

\$ '000	2020 Budget	2020 Actual	2020 ----- Variance -----	
REVENUES				
Rates and annual charges	32,939	33,409	470	1% F
User charges and fees	20,084	18,091	(1,993)	(10)% U
Ongoing severe drought conditions had a significant impact on water usage charges and this is the major reason for the unfavourable variance.				
Other revenues	3,005	2,786	(219)	(7)% U
Operating grants and contributions	11,216	14,557	3,341	30% F
Favourable result relates to grant funding received for drought relief (\$1.4m) and bushfire and drought stimulus (\$1.5m) that was not in the original budget.				
Capital grants and contributions	13,650	21,567	7,917	58% F
Unfavourable variance relates to the review of the capital program during the financial year to defer some projects where it was not expected they could be completed by 30 June 2020. This resulted in the deferral of both capital expenditure and grant income.				
Interest and investment revenue	2,106	1,376	(730)	(35)% U
Unfavourable variance relates to the negative impact from a drop in interest rates from when the budget was originally forecast.				
Rental income	632	872	240	38% F
The reason for the favourable variance is that the facilities lease income was higher than forecast.				
EXPENSES				
Employee benefits and on-costs	25,332	23,750	1,582	6% F
Borrowing costs	1,469	2,000	(531)	(36)% U
Unfavourable variance relates to the recognition of discount amortisation associated with landfill remediation. This was not budgeted for.				
Materials and contracts	14,792	21,274	(6,482)	(44)% U
Unfavourable variance relates to the additional costs associated with the drought response (\$3.6m), RMCC ordered works exceeded budget by \$2m but were claimed back from RMS, additional expenditure relating to bushfire response and cleanup (\$1.2m) was also incurred, most of which has been claimed under section 44 natural disaster funding arrangements. There were around \$0.9m in operational costs incurred that related to grant expenditure where Council was the auspicing body. This was not included in the original budget.				

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Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 22. Material budget variations (continued)

\$ '000	2020 Budget	2020 Actual	2020 ----- Variance -----	
Depreciation and amortisation	16,484	17,594	(1,110)	(7)% U
Unfavourable variance largely relates to increased depreciation on water and sewerage network assets.				
Other expenses	9,865	8,231	1,634	17% F
Around \$1m of the original budget related to fuel and registration expenses for Council fleet. The actual costs have been reported against materials and contracts, which is the predominant reason for the favourable budget variation.				
Net losses from disposal of assets	–	1,454	(1,454)	∞ U
The net result from disposal of assets was not budgeted for.				
Revaluation decrement / impairment of IPP&E	–	2,099	(2,099)	∞ U
The impact of infrastructure revaluation was not budgeted for.				
Operating result from discontinued operations	–	(40,446)	40,446	∞ F

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

Cash flows from operating activities	32,175	20,022	(12,153)	(38)% U
The unfavourable variance relates to a higher level of cash outflows relating to materials and contracts and other expenses.				
Cash flows from investing activities	(33,049)	(7,220)	25,829	(78)% F
The favourable variance relates to lower cash outflows relating to purchase of PPE. The original budget included a much higher level of capital expenditure than the end of year budget position.				
Cash flows from financing activities	(2,952)	(2,986)	(34)	1% U

Armidale Regional Council

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Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 23. Boundary adjustments

\$ '000

The Local Government (Armidale and Inverell - Alteration of Boundaries) Proclamation 2019 was effective from 1 July 2019. The object of the Proclamation is to alter the boundaries between the local government areas of Armidale Regional Council and Inverell Shire Council, so that the localities known as Tingha, Bassendean, Howell, Stanborough, Bundarra, Georges Creek, New Valley and The Basin (collectively referred to as Tingha) which comprise approximately 800 square kilometres, and which previously lay within the Armidale Regional local government area adjacent to that boundary, became part of the Inverell Shire Council local government area.

The transfer of assets from Armidale Regional Council included roads, land and buildings, water and sewer infrastructure assets and some other minor miscellaneous assets. These assets were transferred to Inverell Shire Council on 1 July 2019 for nil consideration.

Loss on boundary adjustment

Actual
2020

Assets and liabilities transferred to Inverell Shire Council

(40,446)

(40,446)

The written down value of the assets transferred is as follows:

Asset Category	\$'000
Operational Land	351
Community Land	23
LUR	62
Buildings	1,030
Other Structures	19
Roads	19,096
Bridges	295
Footpaths	355
Bulk Earthworks	9,605
Stormwater drainage	3,028
Water Supply	1,782
Sewerage	4,731
Other	69
Total Assets	40,446

Council believes the carrying amounts are not materially different from their fair values as at the date of transfer.

The fair value of the net assets transferred has been shown as a loss from boundary adjustments in the Income Statement.

Armidale Regional Council

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Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 24. Fair Value Measurement

The Council measures the following asset and liability classes at fair value on a recurring basis:

– Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment

The fair value of assets and liabilities must be estimated in accordance with various accounting standards for either recognition and measurement requirements or for disclosure purposes.

AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement requires all assets and liabilities measured at fair value to be assigned to a 'level' in the fair value hierarchy as follows:

Level 1: Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the entity can access at the measurement date.

Level 2: Inputs other than quoted prices included within level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.

Level 3: Inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs).

(1) Assets and liabilities that have been measured and recognised at fair values

2020		Fair value measurement hierarchy			
	Date of latest valuation	Level 1 Quoted prices in active mkts	Level 2 Significant observable inputs	Level 3 Significant unobservable inputs	Total
\$ '000					
Recurring fair value measurements					
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment					
Operational Land	30/6/19	–	–	25,608	25,608
Community Land	30/6/19	–	–	27,516	27,516
Land Under Roads	30/6/19	–	–	657	657
Buildings (specialised and non-specialised)	30/6/18	–	–	61,760	61,760
Infrastructure Assets	30/6/17	–	–	689,265	689,265
Other Assets (excludes Landfill & quarry assets also carried at cost)		–	–	11,783	11,783
Total infrastructure, property, plant and equipment		–	–	816,589	816,589
2019					
		Fair value measurement hierarchy			
	Date of latest valuation	Level 1 Quoted prices in active mkts	Level 2 Significant observable inputs	Level 3 Significant unobservable inputs	Total
\$ '000					
Recurring fair value measurements					
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment					
Operational Land	30/6/18	–	–	21,312	21,312
Community Land	30/6/18	–	–	19,882	19,882
Land Under Roads	30/6/19	–	–	721	721
Buildings (specialised and non-specialised)	30/6/18	–	–	65,164	65,164
Infrastructure Assets	30/6/17	–	–	715,043	715,043
Other Assets (excludes Landfill & quarry assets also carried at cost)		–	–	10,709	10,709
Total infrastructure, property, plant and equipment		–	–	832,831	832,831

Note that capital WIP is not included above since it is carried at cost.

(2) Valuation techniques used to derive level 2 and level 3 fair values

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Notes to the Financial Statements

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Note 24. Fair Value Measurement (continued)

Pre-amble

Where Council is unable to derive fair valuations using quoted market prices of identical assets (ie. level 1 inputs) Council instead utilises a spread of both observable inputs (level 2 inputs) and unobservable inputs (level 3 inputs).

The fair valuation techniques Council has employed while utilising level 2 and level 3 inputs are as follows:

Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (IPP&E)

Operational Land

This asset class comprises all of Council's land classified as Operational Land under the NSW Local Government Act 1993. The key unobservable input to the valuation is the price per square metre. Generally, fair value is the most advantageous price reasonably obtainable by the seller and the most advantageous price reasonably obtained by the buyer. This is not necessarily the market selling price of the asset, rather, it is regarded as the maximum value that Council would rationally pay to acquire the asset if it did not hold it, taking into account quoted market price in an active and liquid market, the current market price of the same or similar asset, the cost of replacing the asset, if management intend to replace the asset, the remaining useful life and condition of the asset; and cash flows from the future use and disposal.

Community Land

Valuations of all Council's Community Land and Council managed land were based on either the Unimproved Capital Value (UCV) provided by the Valuer-General or an average unit rate based on the UCV for similar properties where the Valuer-General did not provide a UCV having regard to the highest and best use for this land. As these rates were not considered to be observable market evidence they have been classified as Level 3.

Community Land was brought in at fair value following the engagement of an external, independent and qualified valuer to determine the fair value of Community Land at 30 June 2018.

Buildings

The approach taken with buildings, estimated the replacement cost of each building by componentising the buildings into significant parts with different useful lives and taking into account a range of factors. While all buildings were physically inspected and the unit rates based on square metres could be supported from market evidence (Level 2), other inputs (such as obsolescence) require extensive professional judgement, and impact significantly on the final determination of fair value. In forming valuations of each building, the market to which the asset could be sold in was taken into account and compared back against the cost. Many of the buildings council owns are specific purpose and valued using current replacement cost approach, and as such, these assets were classified as having been valued using Level 3 valuation inputs.

Buildings were brought in at fair value following the engagement of an external, independent and qualified valuer to determine the fair value of Buildings at 30 June 2018.

Infrastructure Assets (Roads, Bridges, Footpaths, Bulk Earthworks, Stormwater Drainage, Water Supply Network, Sewerage Network, Other Structures and Other Assets)

Infrastructure assets are specialised assets which do not have an active market. Therefore, in determining the fair value Council uses current replacement cost approach. This valuation approach requires consideration of the following factors (valuation techniques): (1) Appropriate componentisation of complex assets; (2) Unit rates for each component based on the on-cost to a market participant buyer; and (3) Condition assessment (obsolescence).

Transport Assets (Roads, Bridges, Footpaths, Bulk Earthworks and Stormwater Drainage) were last revalued by merged councils using internal and credible external valuers at 30 June 2015. In bringing in these assets into the Council, the assets underwent additional desk revaluation with the help of the independent, external valuer at 12 May 2016.

Water and Sewerage Infrastructure Assets were revalued at 30 June 2017 by an independent, external valuer.

Other Structures and Other Assets were brought in at fair value from merged councils which engaged external, independent valuers to determine the fair value at 12 May 2016.

Other Assets (Plant & Equipment, Office Equipment, Heritage Collections and Artworks)

Other Assets are not revalued every five years. The depreciated cost of the asset category is considered a close proxy for fair value.

All of Council's non-financial assets are considered as being utilised for their highest and best use.

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Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 24. Fair Value Measurement (continued)

(3) Fair value measurements using significant unobservable inputs (level 3)

a. The following tables present the changes in level 3 fair value asset classes.

\$ '000	Operational land	Community land	Buildings	Infrastructure assets	Other assets	Total
2019						
Opening balance	21,815	19,913	68,395	715,607	11,399	837,129
Transfers from/(to) another asset class	–	–	(779)	1,414	–	635
Purchases (GBV)	–	–	948	8,024	2,012	10,984
Disposals (WDV)	(503)	(31)	(316)	(2,313)	(595)	(3,758)
Depreciation and impairment	–	–	(3,084)	(13,050)	(2,107)	(18,241)
FV gains – other comprehensive income	–	–	–	6,082	–	6,082
Closing balance	21,312	19,882	65,164	715,764	10,709	832,831
2020						
Opening balance	21,312	19,882	65,164	715,764	10,709	832,831
Transfers from/(to) another asset class	–	–	211	27,256	–	27,467
Purchases (GBV)	–	–	270	3,879	2,271	6,420
Disposals (WDV)	(697)	(460)	(1,637)	(42,618)	(504)	(45,916)
Depreciation and impairment	–	–	(2,248)	(13,832)	(2,157)	(18,237)
FV gains – other comprehensive income	4,989	8,094	–	(527)	1,464	14,020
Closing balance	25,604	27,516	61,760	689,922	11,783	816,585

Armidale Regional Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 25. Related party disclosures

(a) Key management personnel

Key management personnel (KMP) of the council are those persons having the authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the council, directly or indirectly.

The aggregate amount of KMP compensation included in the Income Statement is:

\$ '000	2020	2019
Compensation:		
Short-term benefits	1,311	1,104
Post-employment benefits	84	69
Other long-term benefits	36	31
Total	1,431	1,204

(b) Other transactions with KMP and their related parties

Other transactions that occur between KMP and their related parties and Council, as part of Council delivering a public service objective (e.g. access by KMP to use library facilities or Council swimming pools), occur on an arm's length basis, with no additional benefits being provided to KMP over and above those benefits provided to the public.

There are no other disclosures to be made by KMP.

Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 26. Events occurring after the reporting date

Council is not aware of any material or significant 'non-adjusting events' that should be disclosed.

Armidale Regional Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 27. Statement of developer contributions

Under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, Council has significant obligations to provide Section 7.11 (contributions towards provision or improvement of amenities or services) infrastructure in new release areas.

It is possible that the funds contributed may be less than the cost of this infrastructure, requiring Council to borrow or use general revenue to fund the difference.

Summary of contributions and levies

	as at 30/06/19	Contributions received during the year		Interest earned in year	(Expenditure) & Other Adjustments during year	Internal borrowing (to)/from	as at 30/06/20	
	Opening Balance	Cash	Non-cash				Held as restricted asset	Cumulative internal borrowings due/(payable)
\$ '000								
Drainage	45	–	–	1	–	–	46	–
Roads	786	179	–	17	–	–	982	–
Traffic facilities	18	–	–	–	–	–	18	–
Parking	32	–	–	1	–	–	33	–
Open space	329	–	–	6	–	–	335	–
Community facilities	52	–	–	1	–	–	53	–
Other	8	–	–	–	–	–	8	–
Bushfire	1	–	–	–	–	–	1	–
Street Trees	81	3	–	2	–	–	86	–
S7.11 contributions – under a plan	1,352	182	–	28	–	–	1,562	–
S7.12 levies – under a plan	977	302	–	20	(174)	–	1,125	–
Total S7.11 and S7.12 revenue under plans	2,329	484	–	48	(174)	–	2,687	–
S7.4 planning agreements	54	–	–	1	–	–	55	–
S64 contributions	3,419	544	–	73	(12)	–	4,024	–
Total contributions	5,802	1,028	–	122	(186)	–	6,766	–

S7.11 Contributions – under a plan

CONTRIBUTION PLAN

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Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 27. Statement of developer contributions (continued)

\$ '000	as at 30/06/19	Contributions received during the year		Interest earned in year	(Expenditure) & Other Adjustments during year	Internal borrowing (to)/from	as at 30/06/20	
	Opening Balance	Cash	Non-cash				Held as restricted asset	Cumulative internal borrowings due/(payable)
Drainage	45	–	–	1	–	–	46	–
Roads	786	179	–	17	–	–	982	–
Traffic facilities	18	–	–	–	–	–	18	–
Bridges	32	–	–	1	–	–	33	–
Open space	329	–	–	6	–	–	335	–
Community facilities	52	–	–	1	–	–	53	–
Bushfire	1	–	–	–	–	–	1	–
Street Trees	81	3	–	2	–	–	86	–
Other	8	–	–	–	–	–	8	–
Total	1,352	182	–	28	–	–	1,562	–

S7.12 Levies – under a plan

CONTRIBUTION PLAN

Other	977	302	–	20	(174)	–	1,125	–
Total	977	302	–	20	(174)	–	1,125	–

Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 28. Result by fund

\$ '000	General ¹ 2020	Water 2020	Sewer 2020
Income Statement by fund			
Income from continuing operations			
Rates and annual charges	25,390	2,252	5,767
User charges and fees	12,526	5,378	187
Interest and investment revenue	438	586	352
Other revenues	1,826	71	889
Grants and contributions provided for operating purposes	13,073	1,484	–
Grants and contributions provided for capital purposes	17,846	3,027	694
Rental income	872	–	–
Total income from continuing operations	71,971	12,798	7,889
Expenses from continuing operations			
Employee benefits and on-costs	20,169	2,293	1,288
Borrowing costs	1,672	328	–
Materials and contracts	11,767	7,403	2,104
Depreciation and amortisation	12,201	3,233	2,160
Other expenses	7,008	598	625
Net losses from the disposal of assets	1,454	–	–
Revaluation decrement /impairment of IPPE	2,099	–	–
Total expenses from continuing operations	56,370	13,855	6,177
Operating result from continuing operations	15,601	(1,057)	1,712
Discontinued operations			
Net profit/(loss) from discontinued operations	(33,933)	(1,782)	(4,731)
Net operating result for the year	(18,332)	(2,839)	(3,019)
Net operating result attributable to each council fund	(18,332)	(2,839)	(3,019)
Net operating result for the year before grants and contributions provided for capital purposes	(36,178)	(5,866)	(3,713)

NB. All amounts disclosed above are gross – that is, they include internal charges and recoveries made between the funds.

(1) General fund refers to all of Council's activities except for its water and sewer activities which are listed separately.

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Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 28. Result by fund (continued)

\$ '000	General ¹ 2020	Water 2020	Sewer 2020
Statement of Financial Position by fund			
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	20,856	–	–
Investments	8,778	24,594	17,923
Receivables	7,505	1,382	288
Inventories	539	–	488
Contract assets	3,072	–	–
Other	606	–	–
Non-current assets classified as 'held for sale'	1,359	–	–
Total current assets	42,715	25,976	18,699
Non-current assets			
Receivables	312	–	–
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	580,930	173,064	102,990
Right of use assets	279	–	–
Total non-current assets	581,521	173,064	102,990
TOTAL ASSETS	624,236	199,040	121,689
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Payables	8,152	9	–
Income received in advance	104	170	–
Contract liabilities	7,245	–	–
Lease liabilities	26	–	–
Borrowings	2,568	263	–
Provisions	7,329	–	–
Total current liabilities	25,424	442	–
Non-current liabilities			
Lease liabilities	253	–	–
Borrowings	16,719	4,227	–
Provisions	23,987	–	–
Total non-current liabilities	40,959	4,227	–
TOTAL LIABILITIES	66,383	4,669	–
Net assets	557,853	194,371	121,689
EQUITY			
Accumulated surplus	540,587	187,638	117,516
Revaluation reserves	17,266	6,733	4,173
Council equity interest	557,853	194,371	121,689
Total equity	557,853	194,371	121,689

NB. All amounts disclosed above are gross – that is, they include internal charges and recoveries made between the funds. Assets and liabilities shown in the water and sewer columns are restricted for use for these activities.

(1) General fund refers to all of Council's activities except for its water and sewer activities which are listed separately.

Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 29(a). Statement of performance measures – consolidated results

\$ '000	Amounts 2020	Indicator 2020	Prior periods		Benchmark
			2019	2018	
1. Operating performance ratio					
Total continuing operating revenue excluding capital grants and contributions less operating expenses ^{1,2}	(1,758)	(2.47)%	1.09%	(8.73)%	>0.00%
Total continuing operating revenue excluding capital grants and contributions ¹	71,091				
2. Own source operating revenue ratio					
Total continuing operating revenue excluding all grants and contributions ¹	56,534	61.01%	65.51%	71.27%	>60.00%
Total continuing operating revenue ¹	92,658				
3. Unrestricted current ratio					
Current assets less all external restrictions	25,058	2.64x	2.40x	1.53x	>1.50x
Current liabilities less specific purpose liabilities	9,480				
4. Debt service cover ratio					
Operating result before capital excluding interest and depreciation/impairment/amortisation ¹	17,836	3.58x	4.47x	2.81x	>2.00x
Principal repayments (Statement of Cash Flows) plus borrowing costs (Income Statement)	4,986				
5. Rates, annual charges, interest and extra charges outstanding percentage					
Rates, annual and extra charges outstanding	2,036	5.74%	5.46%	6.86%	<10.00%
Rates, annual and extra charges collectible	35,477				
6. Cash expense cover ratio					
Current year's cash and cash equivalents plus all term deposits	72,151	11.47 mths	12.57 mths	13.37 mths	>3.00 mths
Monthly payments from cash flow of operating and financing activities	6,293				

(1) Excludes fair value increments on investment properties, reversal of revaluation decrements, reversal of impairment losses on receivables, net gain on sale of assets and net share of interests in joint ventures and associates using the equity method and includes pensioner rate subsidies

(2) Excludes impairment/revaluation decrements of IPPE, fair value decrements on investment properties, net loss on disposal of assets and net loss on share of interests in joint ventures and associates using the equity method

Armidale Regional Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 29(b). Statement of performance measures – by fund

\$ '000	General Indicators ³		Water Indicators		Sewer Indicators		Benchmark
	2020	2019	2020	2019	2020	2019	
1. Operating performance ratio							
Total continuing operating revenue excluding capital grants and contributions less operating expenses ^{1,2}	2.42%	(1.02)%	(41.80)%	11.41%	14.15%	(0.86)%	>0.00%
Total continuing operating revenue excluding capital grants and contributions ¹							
2. Own source operating revenue ratio							
Total continuing operating revenue excluding capital grants and contributions ¹	57.04%	66.10%	64.75%	55.10%	91.20%	93.39%	>60.00%
Total continuing operating revenue ¹							
3. Unrestricted current ratio							
Current assets less all external restrictions	2.64x	2.40x	∞	74.50x	∞	760.30x	>1.50x
Current liabilities less specific purpose liabilities							
4. Debt service cover ratio							
Operating result before capital excluding interest and depreciation/impairment/amortisation ¹	3.50x	3.53x	(1.11)x	7.59x	158.90x	102.75x	>2.00x
Principal repayments (Statement of Cash Flows) plus borrowing costs (Income Statement)							
5. Rates, annual charges, interest and extra charges outstanding percentage							
Rates, annual and extra charges outstanding	6.36%	2.87%	3.32%	6.97%	4.24%	15.34%	<10.00%
Rates, annual and extra charges collectible							
6. Cash expense cover ratio							
Current year's cash and cash equivalents plus all term deposits	5.10	5.34	142.45	61.31	57.61	56.86	>3.00
Payments from cash flow of operating and financing activities	mths	mths	mths	mths	mths	mths	mths

(1) - (2) Refer to Notes at Note 31a above.

(3) General fund refers to all of Council's activities except for its water and sewer activities which are listed separately.

Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 29(c). Statement of performance measures – consolidated results (graphs)

1. Operating performance ratio



Purpose of operating performance ratio

This ratio measures Council's achievement of containing operating expenditure within operating revenue.

Commentary on 2019/20 result

2019/20 ratio (2.47)%

The 2020 operating result has deteriorated from the previous year predominantly due to the impact of drought on water usage charges and the creation of additional costs. The drought is estimated to have cost Council \$6.3 million in the 2019/20 financial year and this has had a significant negative impact on the level of Council's water reserve. Negative impacts on the operating result were also created by COVID-19 and this is estimated to have cost Council around \$0.7 million in 2019/20.

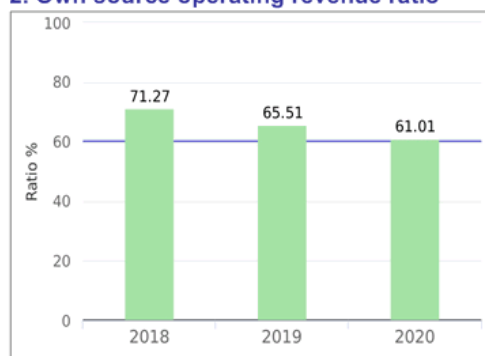
Benchmark: — > 0.00%

Source of benchmark: Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting #28

Ratio achieves benchmark

Ratio is outside benchmark

2. Own source operating revenue ratio



Purpose of own source operating revenue ratio

This ratio measures fiscal flexibility. It is the degree of reliance on external funding sources such as operating grants and contributions.

Commentary on 2019/20 result

2019/20 ratio 61.01%

This ratio is impacted by the level of grants and contributions received and is slightly lower in 2020 than the previous year due to a higher level of capital contributions recognised as revenue. This ratio is also impacted by new accounting standards, which have changed how Council must recognise grant revenues.

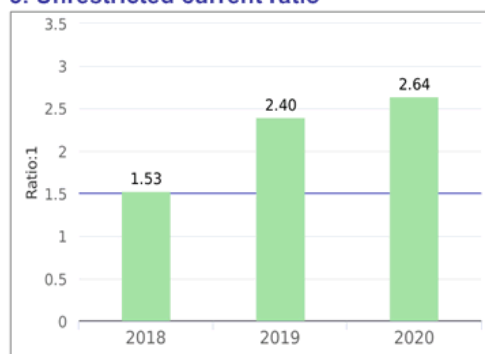
Benchmark: — > 60.00%

Source of benchmark: Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting #28

Ratio achieves benchmark

Ratio is outside benchmark

3. Unrestricted current ratio



Purpose of unrestricted current ratio

To assess the adequacy of working capital and its ability to satisfy obligations in the short term for the unrestricted activities of Council.

Commentary on 2019/20 result

2019/20 ratio 2.64x

This ratio has improved slightly from the previous year. Gradual improvement is as a result of strategies introduced in 2018/19 to improve the operating result and cash position, which occurred to avoid Council falling below the minimum level recommended by the Office of Local Government.

Benchmark: — > 1.50x

Source of benchmark: Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting #28

Ratio achieves benchmark

Ratio is outside benchmark

continued on next page ...

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Armidale Regional Council

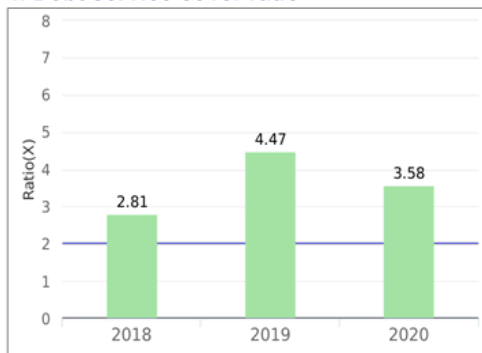
Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 29(c). Statement of performance measures – consolidated results (graphs)

4. Debt service cover ratio



Purpose of debt service cover ratio

This ratio measures the availability of operating cash to service debt including interest, principal and lease payments

Commentary on 2019/20 result

2019/20 ratio 3.58x

This ratio has deteriorated from the previous year due to the operating result position worsening.

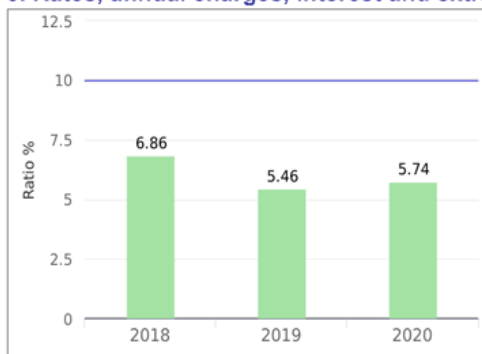
Benchmark: — > 2.00x

Source of benchmark: Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting #28

Ratio achieves benchmark

Ratio is outside benchmark

5. Rates, annual charges, interest and extra charges outstanding percentage



Purpose of rates, annual charges, interest and extra charges outstanding

To assess the impact of uncollected rates and annual charges on Council's liquidity and the adequacy of recovery efforts.

Commentary on 2019/20 result

2019/20 ratio 5.74%

This ratio has worsened slightly from the previous year although this is not unexpected with the impact of COVID-19 impacting on ratepayers' ability to pay. In response to COVID-19 Council has also ceased external debt recovery action and has permitted payment deferrals and arrangements to be put in place.

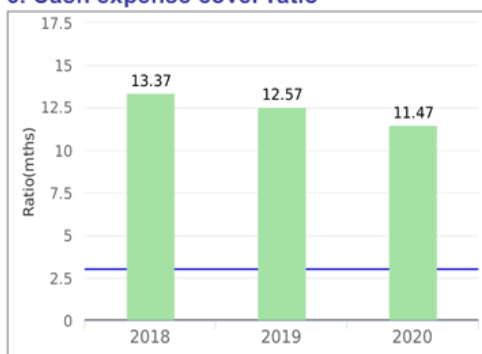
Benchmark: — < 10.00%

Source of benchmark: Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting #28

Ratio achieves benchmark

Ratio is outside benchmark

6. Cash expense cover ratio



Purpose of cash expense cover ratio

This liquidity ratio indicates the number of months a Council can continue paying for its immediate expenses without additional cash inflow.

Commentary on 2019/20 result

2019/20 ratio 11.47 mths

The ratio has worsened slightly from the previous year and reflects the consolidated result including the General, Water and Sewerage funds. Council retains funds in the Water and Sewerage reserves for the purposes of infrastructure replacement, which is important as they are essential community services.

Benchmark: — > 3.00mths

Source of benchmark: Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting #28

Ratio achieves benchmark

Ratio is outside benchmark

Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

General Purpose Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2020

Independent Auditor's Report

Please uplift Council's Audit Report PDF (opinion) for inclusion in the GPFS report (via the Home screen).

Armidale Regional Council

Financial Statements 2020

General Purpose Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2020

Independent Auditor's Report

Please uplift Council's Audit Report PDF (commentary) for inclusion in the GPFS report (via the Home screen).

Armidale Regional Council

SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2020

Unleash the Opportunities



Armidale Regional Council

Special Purpose Financial Statements 2020

Special Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

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Background

- i. These Special Purpose Financial Statements have been prepared for the use by both Council and the Office of Local Government in fulfilling their requirements under National Competition Policy.
- ii. The principle of competitive neutrality is based on the concept of a 'level playing field' between persons/entities competing in a market place, particularly between private and public sector competitors.

Essentially, the principle is that government businesses, whether Commonwealth, state or local, should operate without net competitive advantages over other businesses as a result of their public ownership.

- iii. For Council, the principle of competitive neutrality and public reporting applies only to declared business activities.

These include **(a)** those activities classified by the Australian Bureau of Statistics as business activities being water supply, sewerage services, abattoirs, gas production and reticulation, and **(b)** those activities with a turnover of more than \$2 million that Council has formally declared as a business activity (defined as Category 1 activities).

- iv. In preparing these financial statements for Council's self-classified Category 1 businesses and ABS-defined activities, councils must **(a)** adopt a corporatisation model and **(b)** apply full cost attribution including tax-equivalent regime payments and debt guarantee fees (where the business benefits from Council's borrowing position by comparison with commercial rates).

Armidale Regional Council

Special Purpose Financial Statements 2020

Special Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Statement by Councillors and Management made pursuant to the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting

The attached Special Purpose Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with:

- the NSW Government Policy Statement 'Application of National Competition Policy to Local Government',
- the Division of Local Government Guidelines 'Pricing and Costing for Council Businesses – A Guide to Competitive Neutrality',
- the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting,
- the NSW Office of Water Best-Practice Management of Water and Sewerage Guidelines.

To the best of our knowledge and belief, these statements:

- present fairly the operating result and financial position for each of Council's declared business activities for the year, and
- accord with Council's accounting and other records.
- present overhead reallocation charges to the water and sewerage businesses as fair and reasonable.

We are not aware of any matter that would render these statements false or misleading in any way.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of Council made on 23 September 2020.

Viv May
Interim Administrator
23 September 2020

John Rayner
Acting General Manager
23 September 2020

Kelly Stidworthy
Responsible Accounting Officer
23 September 2020

Armidale Regional Council

Special Purpose Financial Statements 2020

Income Statement – Water Supply Business Activity

for the year ended 30 June 2020

\$ '000	2020	2019
Income from continuing operations		
Access charges	2,252	2,227
User charges	5,296	9,307
Fees	82	13
Interest	586	739
Grants and contributions provided for non-capital purposes	1,484	–
Other income	71	64
Total income from continuing operations	9,771	12,350
Expenses from continuing operations		
Employee benefits and on-costs	2,293	1,968
Borrowing costs	328	334
Materials and contracts	7,403	4,856
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	3,233	3,201
Loss on sale of assets	–	383
Debt guarantee fee (if applicable)	135	143
Other expenses	598	582
Total expenses from continuing operations	13,990	11,467
Surplus (deficit) from continuing operations before capital amounts	(4,219)	883
Grants and contributions provided for capital purposes	3,027	10,064
Surplus (deficit) from continuing operations after capital amounts	(1,192)	10,947
Surplus (deficit) from discontinued operations	(1,782)	–
Surplus (deficit) from all operations before tax	(2,974)	10,947
Less: corporate taxation equivalent (27.5%) [based on result before capital]	–	(243)
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) AFTER TAX	(2,974)	10,704
Plus accumulated surplus	190,507	179,417
Plus/less: accumulated surplus transferred as a result of boundary adjustment	–	–
Plus adjustments for amounts unpaid:		
– Debt guarantee fees	135	143
– Corporate taxation equivalent	–	243
Closing accumulated surplus	187,668	190,507
Return on capital %	(2.2)%	0.7%
Subsidy from Council	5,414	1,039
Calculation of dividend payable:		
Surplus (deficit) after tax	(2,974)	10,704
Less: capital grants and contributions (excluding developer contributions)	(3,027)	(9,700)
Surplus for dividend calculation purposes	–	1,004
Potential dividend calculated from surplus	–	502

Armidale Regional Council

Special Purpose Financial Statements 2020

Income Statement – Sewerage Business Activity

for the year ended 30 June 2020

\$ '000	2020	2019
Income from continuing operations		
Access charges	5,767	5,340
User charges	98	77
Liquid trade waste charges	60	65
Fees	29	25
Interest	352	399
Other income	889	736
Total income from continuing operations	7,195	6,642
Expenses from continuing operations		
Employee benefits and on-costs	1,288	1,400
Borrowing costs	–	3
Materials and contracts	2,104	2,390
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	2,160	2,208
Loss on sale of assets	–	85
Other expenses	625	698
Total expenses from continuing operations	6,177	6,784
Surplus (deficit) from continuing operations before capital amounts	1,018	(142)
Grants and contributions provided for capital purposes	694	469
Surplus (deficit) from continuing operations after capital amounts	1,712	327
Surplus (deficit) from discontinued operations	(4,731)	–
Surplus (deficit) from all operations before tax	(3,019)	327
Less: corporate taxation equivalent (27.5%) [based on result before capital]	(280)	–
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) AFTER TAX	(3,299)	327
Plus accumulated surplus	120,565	120,238
Plus/less: accumulated surplus transferred as a result of boundary adjustment	–	–
Plus adjustments for amounts unpaid:		
– Corporate taxation equivalent	280	–
Closing accumulated surplus	117,546	120,565
Return on capital %	1.0%	(0.1)%
Subsidy from Council	–	1,565
Calculation of dividend payable:		
Surplus (deficit) after tax	(3,299)	327
Less: capital grants and contributions (excluding developer contributions)	(694)	(129)
Surplus for dividend calculation purposes	–	198
Potential dividend calculated from surplus	–	99

Armidale Regional Council

Special Purpose Financial Statements 2020

Statement of Financial Position – Water Supply Business Activity

as at 30 June 2020

\$ '000	2020	2019
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Investments	24,594	28,305
Receivables	1,382	2,423
Total current assets	25,976	30,728
Non-current assets		
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	173,064	170,885
Total non-current assets	173,064	170,885
TOTAL ASSETS	199,040	201,613
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities		
Payables	9	118
Income received in advance	170	–
Borrowings	263	266
Total current liabilities	442	384
Non-current liabilities		
Borrowings	4,227	4,493
Total non-current liabilities	4,227	4,493
TOTAL LIABILITIES	4,669	4,877
NET ASSETS	194,371	196,736
EQUITY		
Accumulated surplus	187,638	190,477
Revaluation reserves	6,733	6,259
TOTAL EQUITY	194,371	196,736

Armidale Regional Council

Special Purpose Financial Statements 2020

Statement of Financial Position – Sewerage Business Activity

as at 30 June 2020

\$ '000	2020	2019
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Investments	17,923	15,457
Receivables	288	974
Inventories	488	305
Total current assets	18,699	16,736
Non-current assets		
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	102,990	108,057
Total non-current assets	102,990	108,057
TOTAL ASSETS	121,689	124,793
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities		
Borrowings	–	20
Total current liabilities	–	20
Non-current liabilities		
Borrowings	–	3
Total non-current liabilities	–	3
TOTAL LIABILITIES	–	23
NET ASSETS	121,689	124,770
EQUITY		
Accumulated surplus	117,516	120,535
Revaluation reserves	4,173	4,235
TOTAL EQUITY	121,689	124,770

Armidale Regional Council

Special Purpose Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Special Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 1. Significant Accounting Policies

A statement summarising the supplemental accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the Special Purpose Financial Statements (SPFS) for National Competition Policy (NCP) reporting purposes follows.

These financial statements are SPFS prepared for use by Council and the Office of Local Government. For the purposes of these statements, the Council is a non-reporting not-for-profit entity.

The figures presented in these Special Purpose Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with the recognition and measurement criteria of relevant Australian Accounting Standards, other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) and Australian Accounting Interpretations.

The disclosures in these Special Purpose Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with the Local Government Act 2093 (NSW), the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*, and the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.

The statements are prepared on an accruals basis. They are based on historic costs and do not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current values of non-current assets. Certain taxes and other costs, appropriately described, have been imputed for the purposes of the National Competition Policy.

The Statement of Financial Position includes notional assets/liabilities receivable from/payable to Council's general fund. These balances reflect a notional intra-entity funding arrangement with the declared business activities.

National Competition Policy

Council has adopted the principle of 'competitive neutrality' in its business activities as part of the National Competition Policy which is being applied throughout Australia at all levels of government.

The framework for its application is set out in the June 1996 NSW government policy statement titled 'Application of National Competition Policy to Local Government'.

The *Pricing and Costing for Council Businesses, A Guide to Competitive Neutrality* issued by the Office of Local Government in July 1997 has also been adopted.

The pricing and costing guidelines outline the process for identifying and allocating costs to activities and provide a standard for disclosure requirements.

These disclosures are reflected in Council's pricing and/or financial reporting systems and include taxation equivalents, Council subsidies, return on investments (rate of return), and dividends paid.

Declared business activities

In accordance with Pricing and Costing for Council Businesses – A Guide to Competitive Neutrality, Council has declared that the following are to be considered as business activities:

Category 1

(where gross operating turnover is over \$2 million)

1. Water Supplies

Comprising the whole of the operations and assets of water supply systems. As the total annual operating revenues are greater than \$2,000,000 is defined as a category 1 "Business Unit".

2. Sewerage Service

Comprising the whole of the operations and assets of the sewer reticulation and treatment system. As the total annual operating revenues are greater than \$2,000,000 is defined as a category 1 "Business Unit".

Monetary amounts

Amounts shown in the financial statements are in Australian dollars and rounded to the nearest one thousand dollars.

continued on next page ...

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Armidale Regional Council

Special Purpose Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Special Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 1. Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

(i) Taxation equivalent charges

Council is liable to pay various taxes and financial duties. Where this is the case, they are disclosed as a cost of operations just like all other costs.

However, where Council does not pay some taxes which are generally paid by private sector businesses, such as income tax, these equivalent tax payments have been applied to all Council-nominated business activities and are reflected in Special Purpose Financial Statements.

For the purposes of disclosing comparative information relevant to the private sector equivalent, the following taxation equivalents have been applied to all Council-nominated business activities (this does not include Council's non-business activities):

Notional rate applied (%)

Corporate income tax rate – 27.5%

Land tax – the first \$692,000 of combined land values attracts 0%. For the combined land values in excess of \$692,001 up to \$4,231,000 the rate is 1.6% + \$100. For the remaining combined land value that exceeds \$4,231,000 a premium marginal rate of 2.0% applies.

Payroll tax – 5.45% on the value of taxable salaries and wages in excess of \$850,000.

Income tax

An income tax equivalent has been applied on the profits of the business activities.

Whilst income tax is not a specific cost for the purpose of pricing a good or service, it needs to be taken into account in terms of assessing the rate of return required on capital invested.

Accordingly, the return on capital invested is set at a pre-tax level - gain/(loss) from ordinary activities before capital amounts, as would be applied by a private sector competitor. That is, it should include a provision equivalent to the corporate income tax rate, currently 27.5%.

Income tax is only applied where a gain/ (loss) from ordinary activities before capital amounts has been achieved.

Since the taxation equivalent is notional – that is, it is payable to Council as the 'owner' of business operations - it represents an internal payment and has no effect on the operations of the Council. Accordingly, there is no need for disclosure of internal charges in the SPFS.

The rate applied of 27.5% is the equivalent company tax rate prevalent at reporting date. No adjustments have been made for variations that have occurred during the year.

Local government rates and charges

A calculation of the equivalent rates and charges payable on all category 1 businesses has been applied to all land assets owned or exclusively used by the business activity.

Loan and debt guarantee fees

The debt guarantee fee is designed to ensure that council business activities face 'true' commercial borrowing costs in line with private sector competitors.

In order to calculate a debt guarantee fee, Council has determined what the differential borrowing rate would have been between the commercial rate and Council's borrowing rate for its business activities.

(ii) Subsidies

Government policy requires that subsidies provided to customers, and the funding of those subsidies, must be explicitly disclosed.

continued on next page ...

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Armidale Regional Council

Special Purpose Financial Statements 2020

Notes to the Special Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 1. Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Subsidies occur when Council provides services on a less-than-cost-recovery basis. This option is exercised on a range of services in order for Council to meet its community service obligations.

Accordingly, 'subsidies disclosed' (in relation to National Competition Policy) represents the difference between revenue generated from 'rate of return' pricing and revenue generated from prices set by Council in any given financial year.

The overall effect of subsidies is contained within the Income Statement of each reported business activity.

(iii) Return on investments (rate of return)

The NCP policy statement requires that councils with Category 1 businesses 'would be expected to generate a return on capital funds employed that is comparable to rates of return for private businesses operating in a similar field'.

Such funds are subsequently available for meeting commitments or financing future investment strategies.

The actual rate of return achieved by each business activity is disclosed at the foot of each respective Income Statement.

The rate of return is calculated as follows:

Operating result before capital income + interest expense

Written down value of I,PP&E as at 30 June

As a minimum, business activities should generate a return equal to the Commonwealth 10 year bond rate which is 0.88% at 30/6/20.

(iv) Dividends

Council is not required to pay dividends to either itself (as owner of a range of businesses) or to any external entities.

Local government water supply and sewerage businesses are permitted to pay an annual dividend from its water supply or sewerage business surplus.

Each dividend must be calculated and approved in accordance with the Department of Industry – Water guidelines and must not exceed:

- 50% of this surplus in any one year, or
- the number of water supply or sewerage assessments at 30 June 2019 multiplied by \$30 (less the payment for tax equivalent charges, not exceeding \$3 per assessment).

In accordance with the Department of Industry – Water guidelines a Dividend Payment form, Statement of Compliance, Unqualified Independent Financial Audit Report and Compliance Audit Report are required to be submitted to the Department of Industry – Water.

Armidale Regional Council

Special Purpose Financial Statements 2020

Special Purpose Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2020

Please upift Council's Audit Report PDF (opinion) for inclusion in the SPFS report (via the Home screen).



Planning,
Industry &
Environment

Planning and Assessments

Energy Assessments

Contact: Iwan Davies

Phone: 02 9274 6296

Email: iwan.davies@planning.nsw.gov.au

Mr John Rayner
Acting General Manager
Armidale Regional Council
PO Box 75A
ARMIDALE NSW 2350

By email: council@armidale.nsw.gov.au

26 October 2020

Dear Mr Rayner

**Oven Mountain Pumped Hydro Energy Storage Project
Critical State Significant Infrastructure Declaration**

On 4 September 2020 the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, Hon Rob Stokes MP, declared the Oven Mountain Pumped Hydro Energy Storage Project to be "Critical State Significant Infrastructure" (CSSI) under Section 5.13 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

The CSSI declaration includes the proposed development of a 600 MW pumped hydro energy storage and generation project, and grid connection, including:

- development of new pumped hydroelectric and generation works on land adjacent to the Macleay River near Georges Junction;
- construction of a new underground pumped hydroelectric power station;
- development of upper and lower reservoirs constructed on an ephemeral tributary of the Macleay River, including tunnels between the reservoirs; and
- associated upgrades and additions to the electricity transmission network, between the generation works and the Armidale substation.

As the declaration applies to the development of infrastructure on land within the Armidale Regional Local Government Area, I have attached a copy of the declaration for your records.

I have also attached a flow chart which outlines the key steps in the CSSI assessment process, which includes comprehensive environmental assessment and community consultation in a similar manner to other State significant projects.

At this stage, the Department expects to receive a request for environmental assessment requirements for the preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in late 2020, and the EIS expected in late 2021.

The Department will publicly exhibit the EIS once received and I would encourage Council to make a formal submission at that time. The Department will also be undertaking additional community consultation in the region during the exhibition period.

I wish to assure you that the Department will be closely consulting with Armidale Regional Council throughout the assessment process to ensure the interests and concerns of Council and the local community are fully considered in the merit assessment of the project.

In the meantime, the Department would be happy to provide you with a briefing or further information about the project and the CSSI assessment process.

Iwan Davies, Team Leader Energy Assessments, is the key point of contact for the Department on this project. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Iwan on 02 9274 6296 or iwan.davies@planning.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely,



Nicole Brewer
Director
Energy Assessments

Attachment 1 – Environmental Planning and Assessment Amendment (Oven Mountain Pumped Hydro Energy Storage Project) Order 2020

Attachment 2 – Critical State Significant Infrastructure Flow Chart



New South Wales

Environmental Planning and Assessment Amendment (Oven Mountain Pumped Hydro Energy Storage Project) Order 2020

under the

Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

I, the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, in pursuance of sections 5.12(4) and 5.13 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, make the following Order.

ROBERT STOKES, MP
Minister for Planning and Public Spaces

Explanatory note

The object of this Order is to declare certain development for the purposes of the Oven Mountain Pumped Hydro Energy Storage Project to be State significant infrastructure and critical State significant infrastructure. The project includes development of pumped hydroelectric and generation works, electrical transmission lines and other ancillary development.

This Order is made under sections 5.12(4) and 5.13 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

Published LW 4 September 2020 (2020 No 524)

Environmental Planning and Assessment Amendment (Oven Mountain Pumped Hydro Energy Storage Project) Order 2020 [NSW]

Environmental Planning and Assessment Amendment (Oven Mountain Pumped Hydro Energy Storage Project) Order 2020

under the

Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

1 Name of Order

This Order is the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Amendment (Oven Mountain Pumped Hydro Energy Storage Project) Order 2020*.

2 Commencement

This Order commences on the day on which it is published on the NSW legislation website.

Environmental Planning and Assessment Amendment (Oven Mountain Pumped Hydro Energy Storage Project) Order 2020 [NSW]
 Schedule 1 Amendment of State Environmental Planning Policy (State and Regional Development) 2011

Schedule 1 Amendment of State Environmental Planning Policy (State and Regional Development) 2011

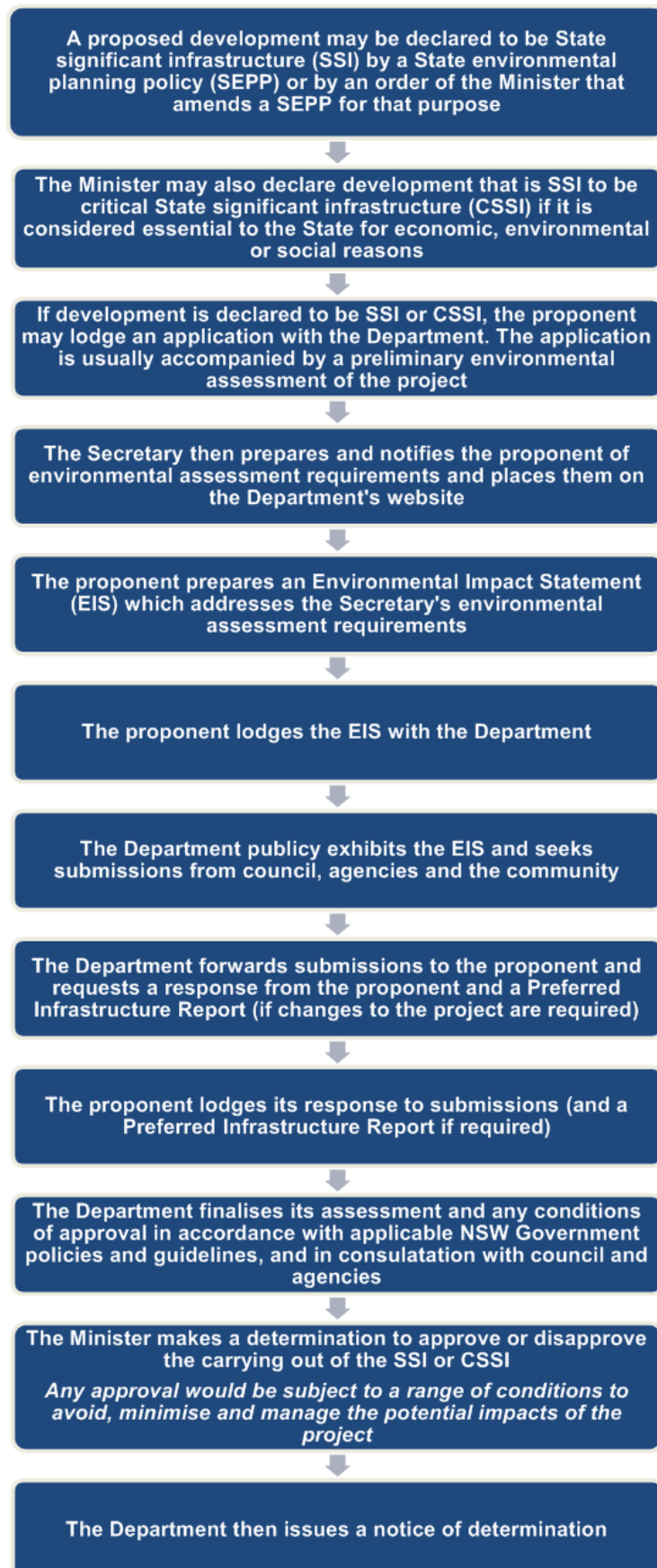
Schedule 5 Critical State significant infrastructure

Insert at the end of the Schedule, with appropriate clause numbering—

Oven Mountain Pumped Hydro Energy Storage Project

- (1) Development for the purposes of the Oven Mountain Pumped Hydro Energy Storage Project.
- (2) The Oven Mountain Pumped Hydro Energy Storage Project includes the following—
 - (a) pumped hydroelectric and generation works, including—
 - (i) subsurface works to facilitate exploratory geotechnical investigations, and
 - (ii) new upper and lower water storage dams and reservoirs, and
 - (iii) a new underground pumped hydroelectric power station, and
 - (iv) water and access tunnels, surge tank, intake and outlet structures, and
 - (v) water offtake works to connect the water storage dams and reservoirs to the Macleay River, and
 - (vi) decommissioning works and rehabilitation of the site,
 - (b) transmission works, including—
 - (i) new electricity transmission lines to connect the pumped hydroelectric and generation works to the existing electricity transmission network, and
 - (ii) new electricity transmission infrastructure and upgrades on the existing transmission network back to, or in the vicinity of, the existing substation at Armidale, and
 - (iii) augmentation of the existing substation, or the construction and operation of a new substation near Armidale,
 - (c) ancillary development, including (but not limited to) access roads, on-site quarry and related infrastructure, utilities and communications infrastructure, construction accommodation, construction compounds and construction power supply.
- (3) The development is to be carried out on land in the local government areas of Armidale Regional Council and Kempsey Shire Council.
- (4) The development does not include the carrying out of surveys, sampling, environmental investigations, geotechnical borehole drilling, test drilling, test excavations or other tests or investigations for the purposes of the preliminary design and assessment of the Project.

SSI and CSSI - Assessment Pathway



Northern Tablelands Koala Conservation Project Advisory Committee (PAC)

Terms of Reference Version 1 26 November 2020

The Southern New England Landcare [Steering Committees Policy](#) should be read in conjunction with these Terms of Reference.

1 NAME

The name of the committee is the Northern Tablelands Koala Conservation Project Advisory Committee (the Committee).

2 PURPOSE

The Committee is responsible for providing advice to the Project Manager (Southern New England Landcare) on the direction and implementation of the Northern Tablelands Koala Conservation Project (the Project).

The core responsibilities of the committee are to:

- provide input to the Project Plan
- consider the potential social, economic, environmental and financial impacts of the committee recommendations
- consider and advise the Project Manager on any matter referred to the committee
- provide input into the strategic direction of the Project.

3 SCOPE AND AUTHORITY

The committee makes recommendations about Project direction and implementation to the Project Manager. The Committee has no formal decision-making authority.

4 MEMBERSHIP

Committee members will include one or more representatives from each partner organisation involved in the Project. Each organisation will nominate their preferred member to the committee, however one or more representative from each partner organisation may attend advisory committee meetings. If necessary, there will be only one vote per organisation. Membership of the advisory committee will be reviewed in one year.

- Armidale Regional Council (1 member)
- Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (Project Sponsor) (1 member)
- Northern Tablelands Local Land Services (1 member)
- Stringybark Ecological (1 member)
- Southern New England Landcare (Chair and Executive Officer)

From time to time the committee may agree to add new members from other organisations involved in the project. New members will be appointed by a majority vote of the committee.

The size of the committee is limited to a maximum of ten members.

5 CHAIRPERSON

The Advisory Committee will determine the chairperson of the committee.

6 EXECUTIVE TEAM/SECRETARIAT

The role of Executive Officer will be filled by the Project Office with administrative support provided by the Project Support Officer.

The responsibilities of the Executive Team are to:

- provide executive support to the committee
- prepare the meeting agenda and minutes
- prepare a report to the Project Manager containing the minutes and any comments on the recommendations made by the committee
- provide to the committee the outcome and resolutions of the Project Manager regarding each recommendation.

7 MEETING ARRANGEMENTS

The committee will meet at least quarterly, with capacity for additional meetings as needed.

Meeting schedules and locations will be determined by the Chairperson, in consultation with committee members.

Arrangements for meetings will be as follows:

- the agenda and supporting material will be circulated at least three (3) business days prior to a meeting
- any supporting material or papers that are confidential will be clearly marked as such and remain confidential to members
- any general business items tabled during meetings will be short, requiring no more than five (5) minutes' presentation or discussion
- meetings will be run in a fair and independent manner and support open and constructive dialogue
- minutes will be circulated within seven (7) days of each meeting
- minutes of the meeting will be submitted to the Project Manager as soon as possible after the meeting
- a quorum of members is required at all meetings and shall be 50% plus one of all voting members.

8 TERM OF THE COMMITTEE

The committee will function for the duration of the Northern Tablelands Koala Conservation Project.

9 DELEGATIONS

The committee has no delegations from the Project Sponsor or Project Manager.

10 FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

Unless expressly resolved by the Project Manager, the committee has no powers to commit or expend any project funds.

11 MEETING PRINCIPLES

Committee meetings should be:

- Transparent: decisions are made in a way that is open and accountable
- Informed: decisions are made based on relevant, quality information
- Inclusive: decisions respect the diverse needs and interests of interested stakeholders
- Respectful: meeting attendees treat each other with respect
- Effective: meetings are well organised, effectively run and skilfully chaired
- Orderly: meeting attendees behave in a way that contributes to the orderly conduct of the meeting.

12 REMUNERATION OF MEMBERS

Members of the committee will not be remunerated for meeting attendance and no reimbursement of travel expenses will be payable, unless in special circumstances.

13 MEDIA LIAISON

All media about the project is subject to approval by the Project Sponsor.

14 STANDARD AGENDA ITEMS

Agendas will be determined by the Chairperson. As a minimum, agendas will include the following standard items:

- meeting open and apologies
- confirmation of previous minutes and matters arising

- declarations of interest
- reports on priority actions
- reports and advice on project progress and emerging issues
- specific items varying from meeting to meeting
- review of relevant meeting actions or follow up requirements (action log)
- formal close.

15 REVIEW

Review of these Terms of Reference will be conducted towards the end of the project, 30 June 2021 or as requested by committee.

DRAFT Project Charter

Northern Tablelands Koala Conservation Project

A Saving our Species Partnership

Document History

Version	Issue Date	Changes	Edited by
1.0	8 July 2020	First draft	Mike Roache
1.1	17 July 2020	Comments and edits	Project partners

Document Endorsement

Role	Organisation	Name	Signature	Date
Project Sponsor	Department of Planning, Industry and Environment	Mike Roache		
Project Manager	Southern New England Landcare	Karen Zirkler		
Project Partner	Armidale Regional Council	Jocelyn Ullman		
Project Partner	Uralla Shire Council	Des Anderson		
Project Partner	Northern Tablelands Local Land Services	Elsie Baker		
Project Partner	Stringybark Ecological	David Carr		

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Introduction

Saving our Species (SoS) is the NSW Government's framework for threatened species conservation. The program identifies actions needed to conserve each species in the wild for the next 100 years, including the cost of these actions and who should carry them out.

The Northern Tablelands region has been identified as an important area for the future of koalas. It has several koala populations that are not subject to the same population and development pressures as those on the coast. The region may also be more resilient to the impacts of a changing climate.

Dedicated staff capacity has been identified as a limiting factor in delivering successful conservation programs. In the 2020-21 financial year, the Northern Tablelands Koala Conservation Project will be part-funded by the Saving our Species Iconic Koala Project. The funding will support the employment of a dedicated project officer who can build and support a network of stakeholders committed to securing koalas in the wild in the region. Significant in-kind contributions from partner organisations will ensure the ambitious objectives of the project can be met.

This project charter outlines the purpose of the project, the way the project will be structured and how it will be successfully implemented. It describes the project:

- vision, objectives, scope and deliverables (what the project sets out to achieve)
- stakeholders, roles and responsibilities (who will take part in it)
- resources, financial and quality plans (how it will be undertaken).

Vision

The Northern Tablelands Koala Conservation Project aims to secure the survival of koalas in the wild throughout the Northern Tablelands region for at least the next 100 years.

Objectives

In the first year, the project will:

- employ a dedicated koala project officer to coordinate conservation effort across project partners and other stakeholders
- consolidate and strengthen a regional network of koala conservation stakeholders
- identify and map priority areas for koala habitat restoration
- build community and landholder awareness of koalas and their habitat requirements

- host landholder field days and planning workshops promoting koala conservation actions
- apply for and secure grant funds for koala conservation actions
- collate and distribute known data sources for koalas and their habitat in the region
- participate in the development of a collaborative fire management plan for koala habitat
- participate in the development of a koala disease plan of action
- identify landholders willing to enter private land conservation agreements and facilitate engagement with the Biodiversity Conservation Trust
- improve the project's understanding of koala populations and habitat in the region.

Where possible, the project will:

- facilitate on-ground conservation works for koala conservation, such as habitat restoration planning, weed control, and stock exclusion
- support councils to develop koala plans of management or koala management strategies
- strengthen connections with wildlife carers to explore opportunities for improved koala rehabilitation, including locating suitable release sites
- contribute to koala surveys and tracking.

Project Scope

The geographic scope of the project will be limited during the first year (July 2020 to June 2021).

Targeted landholder engagement will be limited to the area bounded by Guyra in the north, Uralla to the south, Wollomombi in the east and Thunderbolts Way in the west.

Project communications will extend across the Northern Tablelands.

Expansion of geographic scope will be discussed by project partners towards the end of the first year of the project.



Figure 1: Indicative geographic scope for the project in year one (Formal project scope map to be added by Project Advisory Committee)

Deliverables

Table 1: Proposed project outputs and delivery dates

Output	Date
Employ a dedicated koala conservation project officer	September 2020
Establish a Project Advisory Committee with terms of reference agreed by project partners	August 2020
Develop a Project Implementation Plan for the whole project in consultation with Project Advisory Committee (including Communications Plan and Risk Management Plan)	September 2020
Host a forum of regional koala conservation stakeholders to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> identify priorities facilitate a regional fire management plan for koala habitat in the region facilitate a koala disease plan of action for the region 	November 2020
Collate known data sources for koalas and their habitat in the region	November 2020
Identify and map priority areas for koala habitat restoration	December 2020

Host community field day that promotes the project, tracking & survey processes, practical koala protection and launches an expression of interest process for involvement	March 2020
Facilitate community contributions to koala surveys and tracking	July 2020 - June 2021
Approach landholders in key koala habitat areas to discuss options to manage and protect koala habitat including revegetation works, Landholder Management Agreements or Biodiversity Conservation Trust Conservation Covenants	June 2021
Secure grant funding for on-ground conservation works	June 2021
Draft regional fire management plan for koala habitat	June 2021
Draft koala disease plan of action for the region	June 2021

Stakeholders

The Northern Tablelands Koala Conservation Project will benefit from the participation of all interested stakeholders.

Partners in the project to date include:

- Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
- Southern New England Landcare Ltd
- Armidale Regional Council
- Uralla Shire Council
- Northern Tablelands Local Land Services
- Stringybark Ecological

Project partners and the project officer have engaged or will seek to engage additional project partners, including:

- Other councils
- Armidale Tree Group
- Biodiversity Conservation Trust

- Local Aboriginal Land Councils
- University of New England
- University of Sunshine Coast
- Wildlife carers.
- Sustainable Living Armidale - Wildlife Habitat Group

Other key stakeholders include private and public landholders with koala populations and/or koala habitat on their properties.

Roles and Responsibilities

Table 2: Proposed roles and responsibilities of partner organisations

Role	Organisation	Responsibilities
Project Sponsor	Department of Planning, Industry and Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing the project. • Setting the project requirements, timetable, resources and budget. • Drafting the funding agreement. • Providing seed funding. • Approving the detailed project plan. • Approving any major changes in scope. • Receiving project reports and taking appropriate action. • Resolving issues escalated by the Project Manager/Project Advisory Committee. • Approving project announcements.
Project Manager, Project Advisory Committee member	Southern New England Landcare Ltd	<p>Host the project, which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruit Project Officer • Develop Project Officer work plan • Supervise project implementation by Project Officer • Project administration, including financial • Report quarterly to the Project Advisory Committee, on project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Finances ○ Implementation plan ○ Communications plan ○ Risk management plan • Advise and consider advice from the Project Advisory Committee.

Project Officer	Southern New England Landcare Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop Project Implementation Plan (inc Communications Plan and Risk Management Plan) in consultation with the Project Advisory Committee. • Manage project budget • Coordinate delivery of project outputs. • Prepare quarterly reports to Project Advisory Committee against project finances, implementation plan, communications plan and risk management plan. • Prepare reports to Project Sponsor as required.
Partner, Project Advisory Committee member	Armidale Regional Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in Project Advisory Committee meetings and activities. • Assist the Project Sponsor with the definition of the project vision and objectives. • Provide advice and in-kind contributions to the Project Manager to help deliver project outputs. • Review project actions prior to the completion of each project milestone. • Ensure all business risks are identified and managed accordingly. • Ensure good project governance. • Contribute to koala conservation within their sphere of influence. • Provide available data sources including koala sightings data, mapping and previous studies. • Provide network contact details and facilitate introductions.
Partner, Project Advisory Committee member	Uralla Shire Council	
Partner, Project Advisory Committee member	Northern Tablelands Local Land Services	
Partner, Project Advisory Committee member	Stringybark Ecological	
Affiliate	Biodiversity Conservation Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide support and advice to Project Officer/Project Advisory Committee when required.
Affiliate	Local Aboriginal Land Councils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide support and advice to Project Officer/Project Advisory Committee when required.
Affiliate	Wildlife carers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide support and advice to Project Officer/Project Advisory Committee when required.

Project Governance

The Project Sponsor will draft the Project funding agreement, in consultation with the Project Manager and Project Advisory Committee.

The Project Manager will be responsible for making day-to-day decisions about the project. The level of delegation of decision-making to the Project Officer will be at the discretion of the Project Manager.

The Project Advisory Committee will be subject to agreed terms of reference. The Advisory Committee will provide detailed recommendations about project direction and implementation to the Project Manager.

The following high-level commitments have been agreed by the project partners. Further work will be required to develop these details.

- The Project Advisory Committee is to meet quarterly.
- Recruitment for the Project Officer should be a transparent process, with input from the Project Advisory Committee.
- The Project Officer should present a progress report at each Advisory Committee meeting.
- The Project Advisory Committee will provide comments on progress reports before the Project Manager sends them to the Project Sponsor.
- The Project Manager will provide project financial reports to the Project Advisory Committee before each quarterly meeting.
- All project partners must disclose any actual or potential conflicts as soon as possible after the relevant facts come to the partner's knowledge. The Project Advisory Committee must deal with any conflicts in a transparent way, according to their terms of reference.

Resources

The Project Manager will develop a detailed financial plan as part of the Project Plan. The Project Advisory Committee has discussed and agreed an indicative budget breakdown.

Subject to approval by DPIE, Saving our Species proposes to contribute \$170,000 + GST to the project for the 2020-21 financial year.

Table 3: Proposed indicative budget allocation

Cost	Indicative proportion of budget (%)
Project officer salary and on-costs	55

Project administration fee including monitoring of project delivery	15
Operating Costs	
Vehicle costs	5
Habitat management and other on-ground works	15
Koala population monitoring: surveys, mapping and data collation	6
Community engagement & education costs: products, advertising & promotion	4
Landholder engagement	Part of the project officer's duties
Consolidating and strengthening networks	
Facilitating delivery of project outputs	
Applying for grants	
TOTAL	100 %

Partner Contributions

The project will be most successful when all project partners can make substantial contributions of time, capacity, resources and expertise.

Table 4: Proposed partner contributions

Organisation	Contributions (In-kind)
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of draft resources and templates Member of Project Advisory Committee
Southern New England Landcare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of project officer mentoring, promotional material development, access to landholder database, eNews and Landchat newsletters, field day equipment. Chair and Executive Officer of Project Advisory Committee
Armidale Regional Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Member of Project Advisory Committee Ongoing recording of Koala sightings provided by members of the public to Council, and forwarding to

	<p>BioNET.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planting of koala food trees in parks and gardens to provide food and shelter trees. Weed expertise and control. Control of wandering dogs within town areas, education as to roaming dogs being a threat to koalas, normal Council Ranger workload. Education to the community about dog control issues. Armidale Regional Council has received funding for a Koala Management Strategy through DPIE and any information that we obtain through the development of this document can be shared. Mapping and associated resources, development of education programs and associated resources. Potentially fire-related information, mapping from control centre. Council is also enacting EcoARC, Councils "Greenprint" document and will continue to advocate the protection of koalas through our strategic planning work.
Uralla Shire Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Member of Project Advisory Committee.
Northern Tablelands Local Land Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of 1 week of monitoring surveys in the target region, with opportunity for the project officer to be involved Promotion of materials through our media channels Data of previous monitoring surveys. Member of Project Advisory Committee
Stringybark Ecological	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of data and mapping from previous projects; promotion of project through website and social media; loan of specialised equipment. Member of Project Advisory Committee.

Success Criteria

The Northern Tablelands Koala Conservation Project will be considered successful in June 2021 according to the following criteria:

- The Project Manager and Project Officer, with the assistance of the Project Partners, have delivered all agreed outputs in the project funding agreement.
- Additional funding is secured to extend the project beyond June 2021.

Assumptions

- Southern New England Landcare Ltd will successfully recruit a Project Officer and provide all administrative and management support for that officer.
- The Project Sponsor and Project Partners will contribute expertise, capacity and in-kind contributions to the project where possible.
- The Project Advisory Committee will provide sensible and timely advice to the Project Manager. The Project Manager will carefully consider all advice from the Project Advisory Committee before making decisions.

Constraints

- Seed funding provided by Saving our Species will likely be insufficient to deliver all project outputs.
- Significant in-kind contributions from Project Partners will be required, as well as grant funds if available.

Risks

The most apparent risks associated with the project are documented here. Risks are defined as any event which may adversely affect the ability of the project to deliver the outputs. Risks may be strategic, environmental, financial, operational or technical in nature.

The Project Manager will include a more detailed risk management plan in the Project Implementation Plan.

Table 5: Project risks and mitigating actions

Risk Description	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating Actions
Inability to recruit project officer	Low	Very High	Offer a competitive salary and attractive benefits
Available resources are insufficient to deliver project outputs	Medium	High	Ensure Project Partner contributions are clearly described from the outset of the project. Apply for grants to top up project funding and leverage other opportunities.
COVID 19 restrictions impede project progress	High	High	Ensure a Plan B for events and activities that will be affected by restrictions e.g. online meeting and workshops.

Drought and/or bushfire impedes on ground works throughout the project timeframe	Medium	Very High	Be prepared to allow for extensions to landholder projects.
Landholders reluctant to participate	Medium	High	Be prepared to spend more project officer time to engage landholders. Build community-wide support for project



Project Implementation Plan, Communications Plan & Risk Management Plan

Project title:	IKP-NTAP SOS Northern Tablelands Koala Partnership Project
Contract number:	IKP-NTAP
Name of organisation:	Southern New England Landcare Ltd
Contact person:	Des Andersen
Contact number:	02 6772 9123
Contact email:	des.andersen@snelandcare.org.au

Grant funding:	\$170 000
Additional Funding	\$TBD
In-kind co-contributions:	\$TBD

Project planning phase:	1 July 2020 to 15 October
Project start date:	9 September, 2020
Project end date:	30 June 2021
Evaluation Report:	31 July 2021

Project Description

Southern New England Landcare Ltd will host a Koala Conservation Project Officer, to be supported by funding from the NSW Department of Planning Industry and Environment Saving Our Species program.

The dedicated Project Officer, with assistance from Southern New England Landcare, will work with a Project Advisory Committee, prepare a Project Implementation Plan, host a forum of regional stakeholders, collate data sources and maps of priority areas, coordinate community field events, coordinate community contributions to koala tracking programs, engage landholders, source grants, facilitate a draft regional fire management plan and a regional koala disease plan of action. The project will conclude on June 30, 2021.

What does the project plan to achieve?

The project aims to ensure the survival of the Koala in the wild in this region for the next 100 years and beyond. The project provides direct actions to engage the community to help support koala conservation using recent data related to koala populations in the southern New England area.

The project scope, referred to as the Area of Interest (Aoi), encompasses an area extending north to south from Black Mountain to Uralla and east to west from Wollomombi to Invergowrie. Survey data has shown that this area supports transient and sedentary Koala populations.

The project will raise community awareness throughout the Aoi in order to engage the community in direct koala conservation actions. These actions include:

- Habitat restoration and establishment on farms and in or adjacent to key koala corridors
- Reducing koala Key Threatening Processes (KTPs) through community involvement in education and awareness raising programs
- Enhancing conservation of koala populations by increasing community involvement in “citizen science” contributions via recording and reporting processes.

How will the project achieve these outcomes?

The project will be underpinned by activities to raise community awareness of the local koala population and the subsequent actions that enhance the survival probability of koalas in the wild.

From October to December the project will establish partnerships with key stakeholders and use various media platforms, including online and print media, radio and targeted face to face events to initiate community interest and generate awareness of project activities and events. This stage will include the formation of stakeholder interest groups and the investigation of external links to the project that potentially provide additional support for on-ground activities.

From January to June the project will focus on delivering field events to instigate activities that directly involve community groups in specific koala conservation projects. These will include landholder focussed field events aiming to protect and enhance koala habitat corridors, general community targeted activities to enhance understanding of available actions to report koala sightings, response mechanisms when encountering sick, injured or threatened koalas and actions to help mitigate KTP's such as providing watering stations, reducing dog attacks and alleviating vehicle strikes.

This stage will include the development of a Koala Disease Action Plan and Koala Bushfire Action Plan.

Project Team

The Project Team includes project staff, contractors, consultants, volunteers and any other individuals and/or organisations involved in the project.

Organisation or group	Role / Interest
Southern New England Landcare Ltd Project Manager	Oversee and manage the delivery of project milestones
Southern New England Landcare Ltd Project Officer	Primary person responsible for the delivery of project milestones
Southern New England Landcare Ltd Support Officer	Provide support to the Project Manager and Project Officer
Project Advisory Committee	To review and provide guidance and advice to the project team at scheduled intervals
Key Stakeholders (Regional Forum)	Provide key information and, where appropriate, resources to assist the project.
Consultants	A paid service to be engaged by the project team. Consultants will provide professional services to assist the project where relevant and appropriate.
Local Native Tree nurseries	Co-promote project/events. Participate in events as appropriate as guest speakers/presenters/participants.
Participating Landholders	Provide direct actions through in-kind contributions to help establish and restore Koala habitat and reduce the impact of Key Threatening Processes.
Participating Community Members	Provide direct actions to help reduce the impact of Key Threatening Processes.

Project Implementation Plan

Activity Milestone		Activity Description	Delivery Target	Delivery Method	Who is responsible?	Activity completion date(s)
M1	Complete contract & invoice	Sign contract and invoice DPIE \$170,000 + GST	1 contract signed, 1 invoice sent	email	Project Manager	Completed 13.8.2020
M2	Recruit Koala Conservation Project Officer	Recruit Koala Conservation Project Officer	Officer recruited	NA	Project Manager, Selection Panel	Completed 22.9.2020
M3	Establish & maintain Project Advisory Committee	1 meeting per quarter commencing November 2020. PAC to receive agenda and related documents 2 weeks before meeting.	3 meetings	Face to face meetings / online teleconference	Project Officer Support Officer	26.11.20 25.02.21 27.05.21
M4	Develop Project Implementation Plan	Develop PIP to provide reference point and guiding framework for project milestones	PIP reviewed and endorsed by Project Advisory Committee Meeting 1	Deliver electronically to Project Advisory Committee 2 weeks prior to first scheduled meeting	Project Officer / Support Officer	30.11.2020
M5	Regional Koala Conservation Stakeholder Forum	To identify shared goals, commonality with project priorities and existing resources and negotiate resource sharing and appropriate, project related actions.	1 workshop/forum delivered	Face to face preferred but may need to revert to online option	Project Officer / Support Officer	16.12.20
M6	Collate Data Sources	Collate information including Koala sightings, available GIS, anecdotal records and digital sources (i.e. BioNet) to generate spatial information regarding Koala sightings, movements and population dynamics. This will support field events, on ground actions, and disease and recovery planning.	1 x visual display	Map (physical & electronic versions), visual display and report brief.	Project Officer / Support Officer	30.11.20

Activity Milestone		Activity Description	Delivery Target	Delivery Method	Who is responsible?	Activity completion date(s)
M7	Map Priority Areas	1 x Koala map to provide spatial display of Koala sightings, movements and population dynamics.	1 x Koala map	Electronic visual display	Project Officer / Support Officer	30.11.20
		1 x On Ground Works map to provide spatial display of protected and restored habitat, carer locations, drinkers and community KTP mitigation support networks.	1 x Targeted On Ground Works map			30.06.21
M8	Community field events	Regional Koala Forum plus two main events. Also expose project through other SNElandcare project synergies such as PHN Grant events and NT LLS Grant events. Approach industry experts as key demonstrators and speakers at events.	2 main events = 50 participants 4 ancillary events = 50 participants	Events to be located throughout project area	Project Officer / Support Officer	30.06.21
M9	Coordinate community contributions to koala tracking programs	Promote better engagement and information flow with landholders and the broader community for koala conservation actions. Include communication strategies, citizen science, volunteers, on-ground conservation actions, awareness programs, and landholder engagement.	5000 people reached	Public awareness raising via media, online videos social media, print media, field days, infobrochure	Project Officer / Support Officer	30.06.21
M10	Landholder engagement	Organise and deliver media blitz to provide information to potential landholders and gather EOI's. EOI's from SNEL file might also contribute. The PHN Grant events will provide a good channel to raise landholder interest. The development of EOI's into	At least 6 landholders with LMAs	1 Capacity building field day as per M8 1 site visit per LMA	Project Officer / Support Officer	30.06.21

Activity Milestone		Activity Description	Delivery Target	Delivery Method	Who is responsible?	Activity completion date(s)
		LMA's should be implemented through community events i.e. Bushfire Recovery Partnerships. LMAs must be within or adjacent to identified and mapped priority areas. Dave Carr to be consulted.				
M11	Source grants for on ground works	Potential grants for external funding will be generated to support on ground habitat restoration and conservation works.	Add \$25,000 to existing budget	Available external or reallocation grants	Project Officer / Support Officer	30.06.21
M12	Draft Regional Fire Management Plan	Discuss using existing plan with NTLLS/ecologists to develop a plan for direct response plan of action.	1 x Regional Fire Management Plan	Written plan	Project Officer / Support Officer	30.06.21
M13	Draft regional Koala Disease Plan of Action.	Discuss using existing plan with NTLLS/ecologists to develop a plan for direct response plan of action.	1 x Disease Management Plan	Written plan	Project Officer / Support Officer	30.06.21

Risk Management Plan

Activity / Outcome	Potential risk	Likelihood	Impact	Risk Level	Treatment/action/mitigation options
M3 - Establish & maintain Project Advisory Committee	Lack of time for scheduled meetings	Possible	Moderate	Medium	Ensure meetings are scheduled in accordance with the project deliverables.
	Lack of participants at scheduled meetings	Possible	Moderate	Medium	Provide adequate notice and agenda prior to scheduled meetings. Provide a short list of optional meeting times. Distribute invitations for participants.
M4 - Develop Project Implementation Plan	Insufficient resources to deliver project outputs	Possible	Moderate	Medium	Set realistic completion date. Project Officer and Project Manager to report progress to Project Advisory Committee.
M6 - Collate Data Sources	Insufficient resources to deliver project outputs	Possible	Moderate	Medium	Ensure Project Partner contributions are clearly described from the outset of the project and obtained appropriately.
M7 - Map Priority Areas	Insufficient resources to deliver project outputs	Possible	Moderate	Medium	Ensure Project Partner contributions are clearly described from the outset of the project and obtained appropriately.
M5 - Regional Koala Conservation Stakeholder Forum	Insufficient interest and engagement from stakeholders	Possible	Moderate	Medium	Generate interest amongst stakeholders of project outcomes and common benefits. Ensure specific requests for contributions is communicated clearly and obtained appropriately.
M9 - Coordinate community contributions to koala tracking programs	Insufficient interest and engagement from community	Possible	Major	High	Develop and deliver a communication strategy to sufficiently raise community awareness of the project objectives and the role and relevance of community involvement. Develop simple, easily accessible reporting platforms.
M8 - Community field events	Insufficient interest and engagement from community	Possible	Major	High	Develop and deliver a communication strategy to sufficiently raise community awareness of the project objectives and the role and relevance of community involvement.
	Target audience not aligned with project objectives	Unlikely	Moderate	Medium	Deliver a targeted promotional campaign to align with relevant landholder and community groups

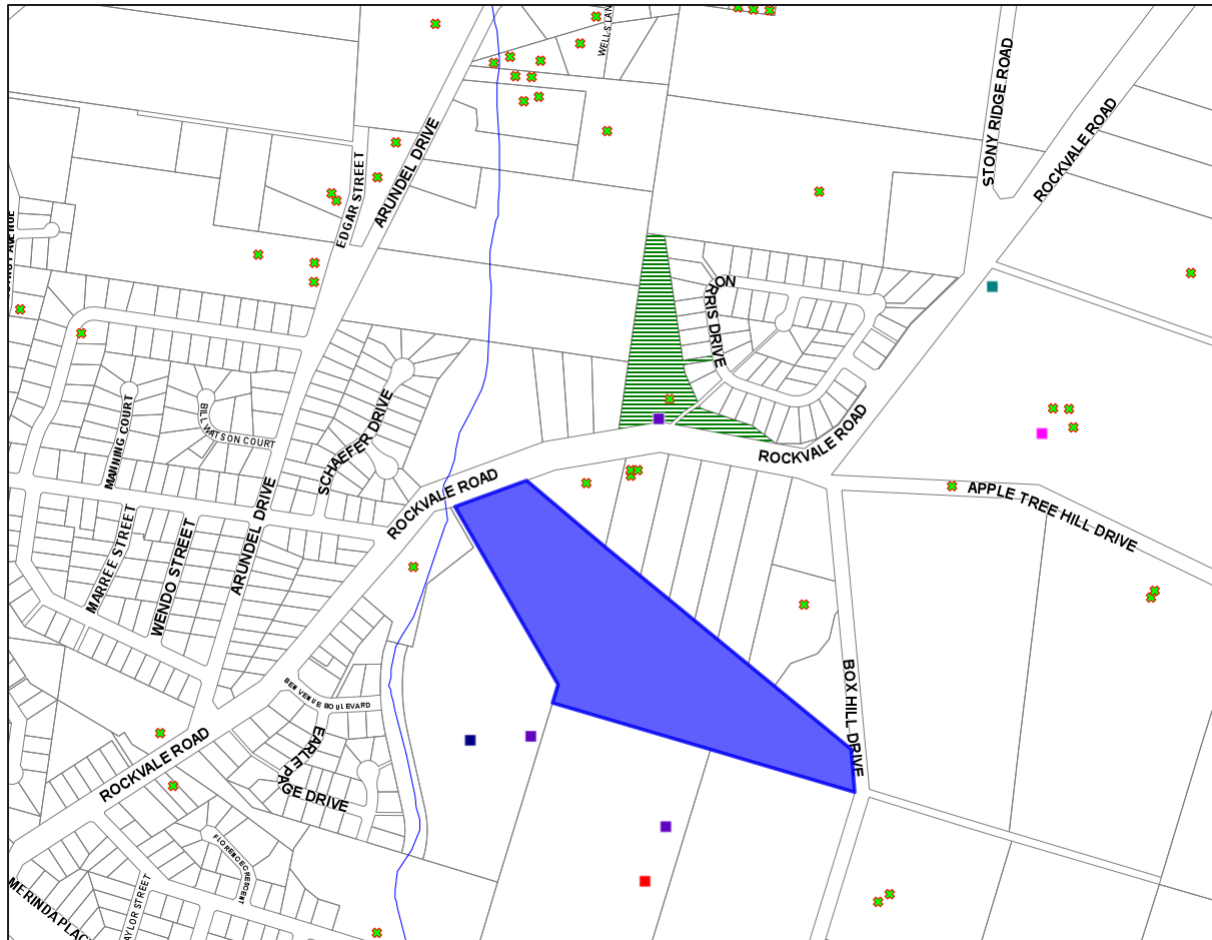
M13 - Draft regional Koala Disease Plan of Action	Insufficient resources to deliver project outputs	Possible	Moderate	Medium	Communicate and engage with relevant stakeholders to gather appropriate materials for the plan.
M12 - Draft Regional Fire Management Plan	Insufficient resources to deliver project outputs	Possible	Moderate	Medium	Communicate and engage with relevant stakeholders to gather appropriate materials for the plan.
M11 - Source grants for on ground works	Lack of grant availability	Possible	Moderate	Medium	Investigate and source grants from multiple sources including government, philanthropic and associated organisational grant funding.
M10 - Landholder engagement	Insufficient interest and engagement from landholders	Possible	Moderate	Medium	Deliver a targeted promotional campaign to align with relevant landholder and community groups.

Communication Strategy

Stakeholder	Impact of the project on this stakeholder	Target message	Frequency / Proposed date	Communication method	Evaluation method to determine effectiveness
Community	Provides skills and knowledge in how to reduce threatening processes Provides ability to participate in Koala conservation	How you can help to conserve our iconic Koala as a species?	Commence awareness raising in November 2020. Engage on ground via SNEL events. Deliver 2 targeted field events February 2021 and April 2021	Print media Online media Radio/TV Guest presenters/demonstrators at field events	Number of people attending events Number of individuals contacting SNEL Field day evaluation questionnaire results
Landholders	Provides skills and knowledge in how to reduce threatening processes Provides opportunities for funded on ground conservation works.	How you can help to conserve our iconic Koala as a species?	Commence awareness raising in November 2020. Engage on ground via SNEL events. Deliver 2 targeted field events February 2021 and April 2021	Print media Online media Radio/TV Guest presenters/demonstrators at field events Directly engage with Landcare groups face to face and phone/media	Number of landholders engaged with a Landholder Management Agreement Area of land under Landholder Management Agreement Number of landholders engaged in KTP mitigation and/or reporting actions
Wildlife Carers	Direct involvement in Disease Plan and Bushfire recovery plan Connecting with community to assist with Koala caring needs	How your role is critical in enacting Koala Disease and Bushfire Recovery Plans How your role as a wildlife carer can better support the community to provide an efficient caring process.	Regional Forum December 2020 LLS/Landcare Bushfire recovery event Aurora event	Face to face, online or phone	Wildlife carers to be directly involved in actions that support bushfire and disease recovery plans

Research and Industry organisations	Project charter outlines scope for collaborative work with research organisations through the Regional Stakeholder Forum	How we can <i>all</i> work better together (more effectively and efficiently) to achieve Koala conservation? e.g. To identify commonality with project priorities and existing resources and negotiate resource sharing and appropriate, project related actions.	Regional Forum December 2020	Face to face or online	Engage key research organisations in project through the Regional Stakeholder Forum. Key researchers may participate in project events.
North Coast, Mid North Coast and Southern Tablelands Koala Conservation Officers	Shared outcomes and results of the projects given their common objectives?	How we can <i>all</i> work better together (more effectively and efficiently) to achieve Koala conservation? To encourage, where appropriate, the sharing of ideas, strategies and resources that support the project.	Commencing 11 Nov 2020 then bi-monthly	Online	Meetings attended
Ecologists and industry professionals	This project provides latest information for our region on Koala Conservation to assist them with their work?	How we can <i>all</i> work better together (more effectively and efficiently) to achieve Koala conservation? e.g. Approach Ecologists to provide support to the project through knowledge and data sharing. Ecologists to be offered a paid position in supporting project milestones including event presentations and media broadcasts.	Individual meetings to be set in October – November 2020	Face to face consultation	Engage industry professionals in project through discussions. Key researchers may participate in Regional Stakeholder Forum and project events.
Native Tree Nurseries	Native nurseries will be required to provide native vegetation tube stock for proposed habitat establishment objectives.	Communicating the need for propagating specific species that support Koala conservation in our region. Provide a rough estimate of tree species and approximate numbers that project will require. Investigate opportunities for shared on ground actions that fit within project scope.	November 2020	Face to face consultation	Sufficient and appropriate tube stock is available for 2021 spring planting.




Map showing Archery club location at 95 Rockvale Rd with recent koala sightings and endangered woodland bird sightings



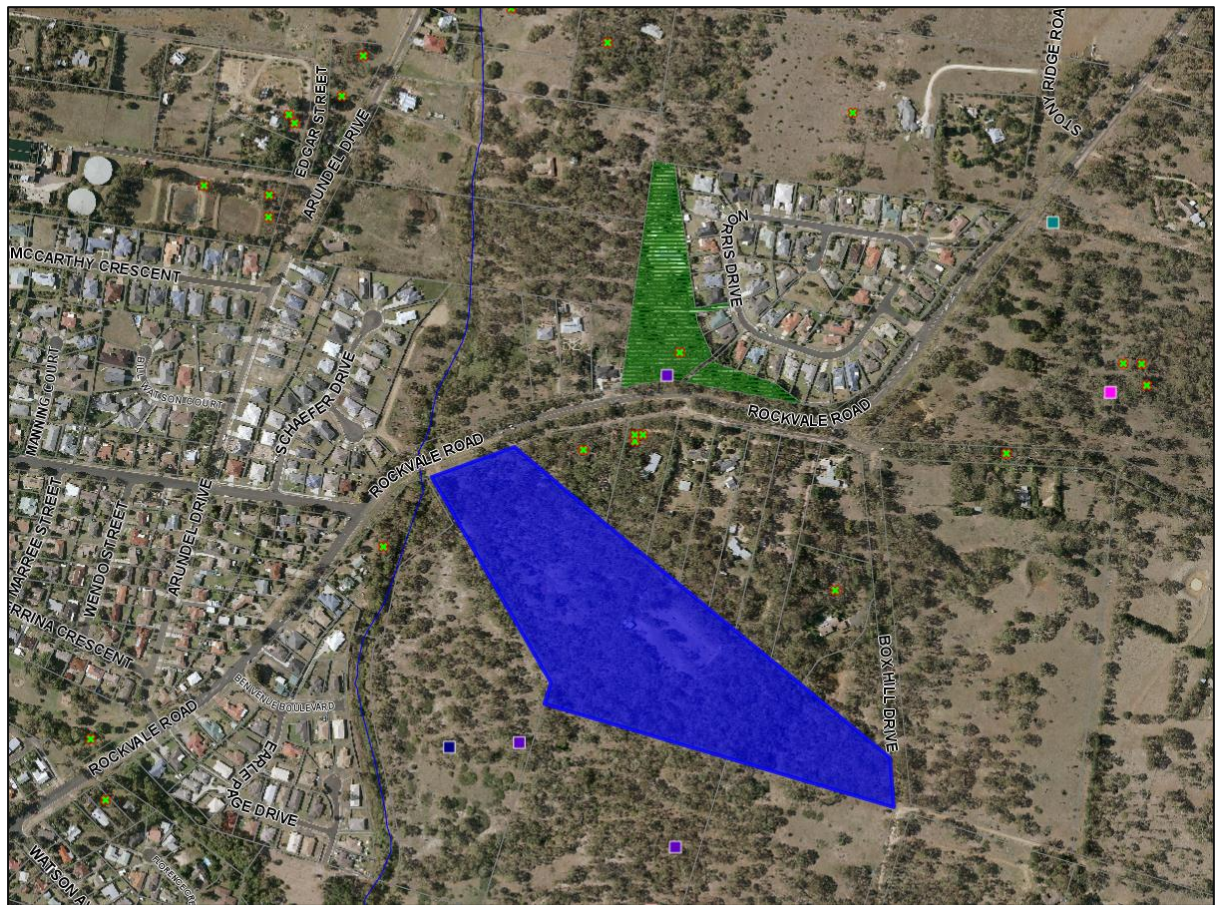
Blue area: Archery Club reserve

Green hatched area: Reserve under SEPP44 Koala Plan of Management

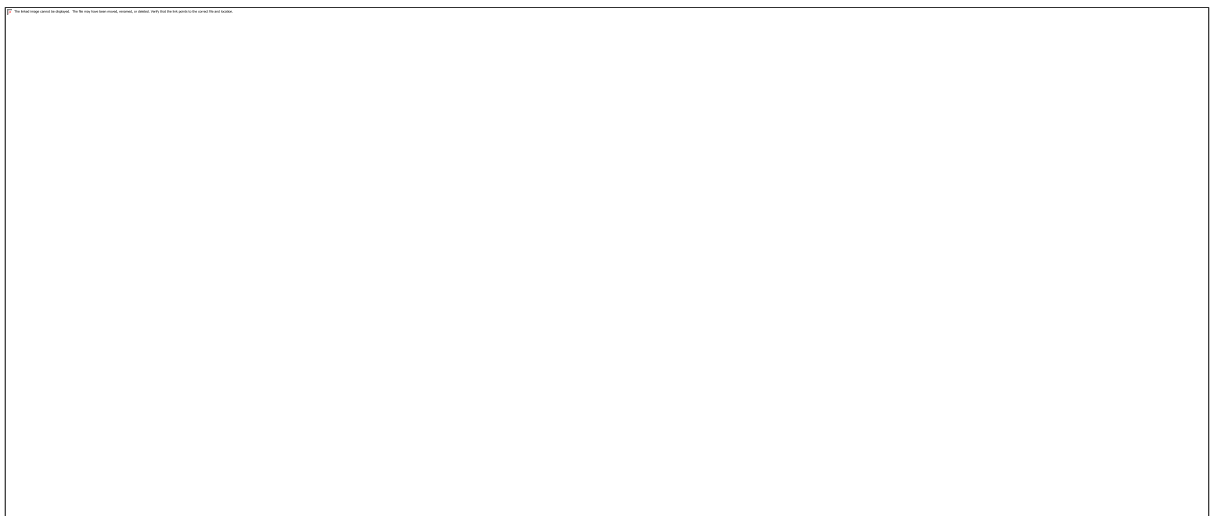
 Koala Register sightings

   Endangered fauna including woodland bird sightings

Aerial photo showing the Archery reserve as a key element within current remnant woodland landscape connectivity in north Armidale peri-urban area



Wollomombi “Night Soil Lane” unformed Crown road reserve



9 November 2020

Your ref: CT-Case No. 3594

Our ref: <TRIM file number(s)>

Jonathan Pope
Aboriginal Land Claim Investigation Unit
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment - Crown Lands
PO Box 2185
DANGAR NSW 2309

Dear Mr Pope

Aboriginal Land Claim No. 47032 & 49515

I refer to your letter of 29 September 2020 in relation to Aboriginal Land Claim No.s 47032 & 49515 over Lot 1079 DP 755808 and Lot 1122 DP 39591 – known as 1LI Myrtle Drive, Armidale and 44 Myrtle Drive, Armidale. The following information is provided in response to the criteria outlined in Section 36(1) of the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983*.

The aerial photographs of Lot 1166 DP 721188 and Lot 1122 DP 39591 from Council's GIS Aerial Imagery dated October 2009 (extracted on 10 November 2020) are enclosed.

The information provided relates to the land at the date of the Land Claim (highlighted below), that is:

Claim No	Land Council	Land Claimed	Lodged	Reserve Status
47032	Armidale	Lot 1079 DP 755808	24 January 2019	
49515	Armidale	Lot 1079 DP 755808 Lot 1122 DP 39591	19 August 2019	Lot 1122 DP 39591: Reserve 755808 - Future Public Requirements

1. Is the land lawfully occupied or lawfully used?

The subject land is lawfully used.

Council's records identify Lot 1079 DP 755808 as being 1LI Myrtle Drive, Armidale, and Lot 1122 DP 39591 as being 44 Myrtle Drive, Armidale. Both lots are currently zoned IN1 General Industrial under *Armidale Dumaresq Local Environmental Plan (ADLEP) 2012* (See Figure 1 below).

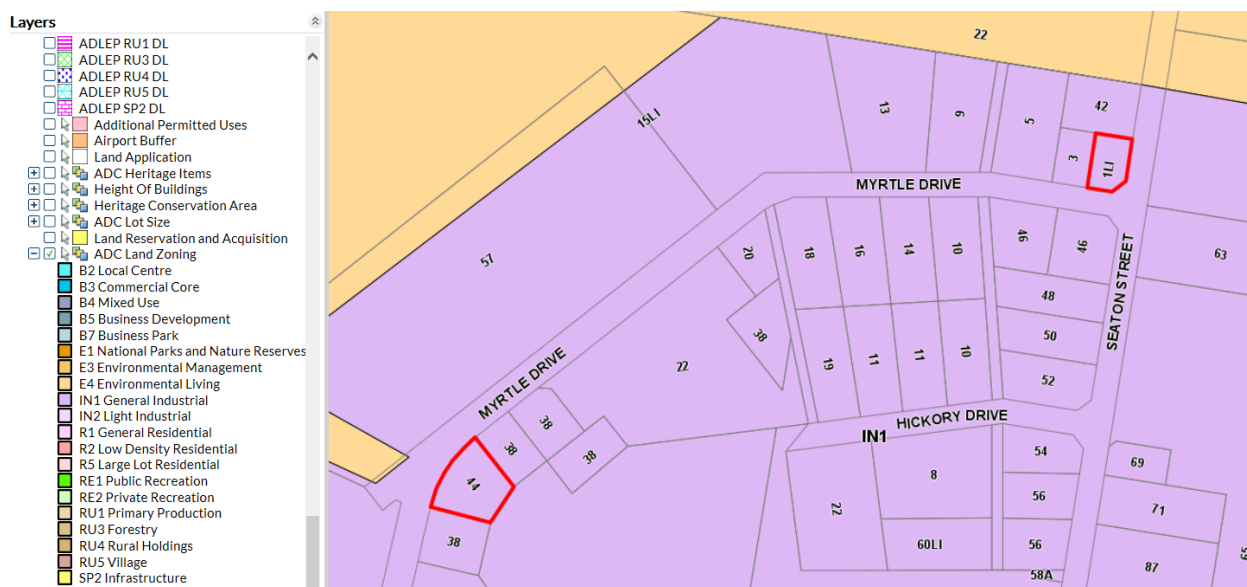


Figure 1: Current zoning of the subject land

Council's property file for the subject site contains the following applications:

For 1LI Myrtle Drive, Armidale – Lot 1079 DP 755808

- Development application no. 10/93 – consent granted for the use of the site for tyre recycling and storage, 18 August 1993 (for both Lot 1078 & 1079 DP 755808).

For 44 Myrtle Drive, Armidale – Lot 1122 DP 39591

- Development Application no. 78/89 – consent granted for the use of the site for the outdoor storage of construction materials, bushfire fighting equipment and plant items, involving the erection of an open sided store and the removal of two mature trees, 23 May 1989.
- Development Application no. 163/97 – consent granted for a new building for storage of departmental equipment submitted 27 November 1997, 1 April 1998.

It is identified on Council's Information System that following planning constraints apply to the subject lots:

Lot & DP	Constraints
Lot 1079 DP 755808	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potentially contaminated land • Bushfire affected
Lot 1122 DP 39591	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flora and Fauna study • Bushfire affected

2. Is the land needed for an essential public purpose?

The land is unlikely to be needed for an essential public purpose. Generally, Council does not have plans to use the land for local government purposes, other than to provide services (water/sewer etc.).

The land has been zoned for industrial purposes since 1988. The land was zoned 4(a) Industrial under *Armidale Dumaresq Local Environmental Plan 2008 (ADLEP 2008)* from 2008 to 2012 when **ADLEP 2008** was replaced with **ADLEP 2012**. Under ADLEP 2012 Lot 1079 DP 755808 and Lot 1122 DP 39591 are both zoned IN1 General Industrial.

The New England Development Strategy (2010), which has been adopted by Council and endorsed by the Director-General of the Department of Planning, outlines key land use policies and principles and provides the planning context for the preparation of LEPs up until 2032. The Strategy does not identify the land for future essential public purposes over this timeframe.

Please contact me by email at swang@armidale.nsw.gov.au if I can be of further assistance.

Yours sincerely

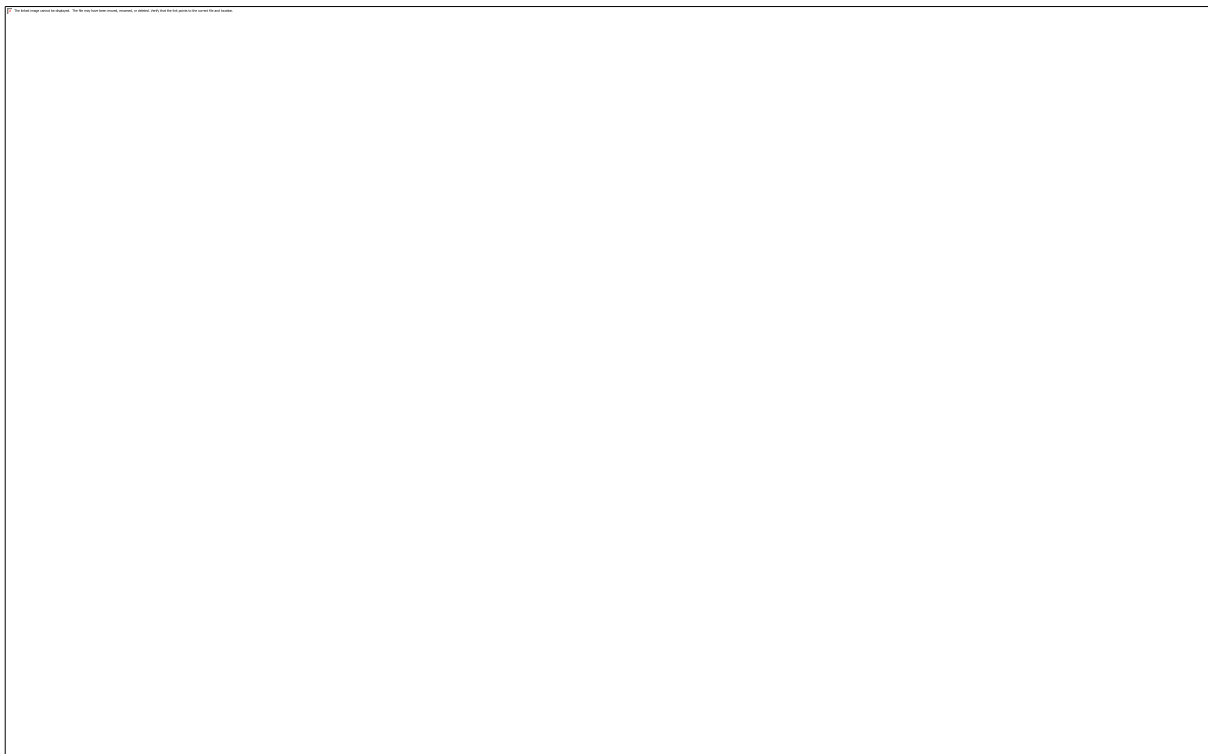
Shili Wang
Strategic Planner

Encl: Aerial Imagery dated October 2009 (extracted on 10 November 2020).

As at Monday, 16 November 2020 **Total water storage is at 67.1%.** Individual dam levels are below;

Dam	Capacity, ML	Current Storage, ML	% of Dam	% Total Storage
Malpas	12266	7913	64.5%	58.9%
Puddledock	700	660	94.3%	4.9%
Guyra	463	442	95.5%	3.3%
Total Storage	13429	9015		67.1%

Malpas Dam storage in the last two years is as below (source Water NSW real time data)



ARC Water Production



Authored by Arun Gautam, Project Engineer

ADOPTED BY COUNCIL: [DATE TO BE COMPLETED BY GOVERNANCE]

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to detail Council policy on the keeping of animals in urban areas.

2. APPLICATION

The policy applies to all residents living with the urban areas of Armidale Regional Council

3. POLICY INTENT

The main objectives of this policy are to:

- To maintain residential amenity and minimise the nuisance affects associated with the keeping of animals in urban areas.

4. COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVES

This policy help with good governance of the community .

5. POLICY

General

The keeping of animals, specifically in relation to animal numbers or the manner in which they are kept, can be the subject of Orders pursuant to Section 124 of the Local Government Act 1993

The Regulation to the Act (see specifically Schedule 2 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005) includes standards for the keeping of specific birds or animals being poultry, swine, horses and cattle. These provisions must be read in connection with this Policy.

Where a development application is required (for example, for the construction of housing for animals) Council will exercise its discretion under Section 4.15 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and consider the circumstances of individual proposals, and will normally consult with neighbours as provided for in Council's Community Participation Plan.

Please note that applications involving Companion Animals Boarding and Breeding Establishments are subject to specific requirements under Council's Development Control Plan.

The keeping of Indigenous animals such as Kangaroos and Wallabies is regulated under Commonwealth and State legislation such as the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth).

The keeping of non-indigenous animals is regulated by the Non Indigenous Animals Act 1987 and related Regulation and is not subject to any direct Council controls. However, if justified complaints are received, Council may take the matter up with the relevant authority (currently the NSW Department of Primary Industries).

The welfare of animals is also subject to the provisions of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979 and NSW Department of Primary Industries published Welfare Codes. See:

<http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/livestock/animal-welfare/general>

Policy provisions relating to specific animals/birds:

Bees

One standard 10 frame bee hive may be kept without special permission of Council. One or two boxes may be added to the hive during summer, provided there is only one colony.

Beehives must be registered with the NSW Department of Primary Industries.

Birds

Commercial aviaries require development consent, however the construction of small private bird aviaries may be exempt from approval pursuant to Council's Local Environmental Plan/Development Control Plan. Noise emissions must be maintained at or below 5dB above background noise level at the property boundary.

Cockatoo-type breeds will be the subject of strict controls relating to objectionable noise and/or unreasonable hours.

Food storage areas and the ground surface beneath are to be cleansed as frequently as is necessary to preserve a state of cleanliness, free from offensive odour and in such manner as to ensure that flies and/or vermin are not attracted to the premises.

Keeping of Pigeons

The following general conditions shall apply to the keeping of pigeons:

1. The use must not be for commercial purposes.
2. The number of pigeons to be housed on the premises must be limited to:
 - Members of recognised Pigeon Racing or Fanciers Association - 150 pigeons.
 - Non members or non-active members - 10 pigeons unless Council determines to the contrary, having in mind isolation, or other relevant factors in the particular case.
3. A curfew for the carrying out of flying exercises will exist between the hours of 8.00am to 3.30pm.
4. Lofts shall be located at least 12m clear of any dwelling, or a greater distance as may be determined by Council in the particular case.
5. Lofts shall be erected clear of fences and other buildings so as to facilitate cleansing and maintenance.
6. The loft doors/gates shall not be left open and unattended at any time, ie an "open loft" is not permitted.
7. Pigeon lofts and the ground surface beneath are to be cleansed as frequently as is necessary to preserve a state of cleanliness, free from offensive odour and in such manner as to ensure that flies and/or vermin are not attracted to the premises.

8. The loft floor must be maintained dry at all times (other than during cleaning) and must be protected from the weather for that purpose.
9. The lofts and birds must be kept free of lice at all times.
10. Galvanised 25mm x 25mm mesh floors will be provided with a minimum clearance of 300mm between the underside of the floor and the impervious ground surface. Timber floors are not considered appropriate.
11. Concrete floors (where used) will be turned down a minimum distance of 200mm below the ground surface at the perimeter of the concrete floor.
12. Lofts will be constructed of materials that blend with the environment and that can be easily maintained. All surfaces likely to come in contact with excreta shall be impervious to facilitate ease of cleansing. Lofts must be proofed against rats and other vermin.
13. All bird droppings and other waste must be collected and stored or disposed of in such a manner so as not to create any nuisance and will be subject to the approval of Council's Health Surveyor.
14. Grain and other foods are to be kept in a vermin proof building or containers, to the satisfaction of Council's Health Surveyor.
15. The premises must allow an area of 14 pigeons per cubic metre of loft space.

Cats

The keeping of cats is encouraged under the following conditions:

- (i) Cats do not cause damage to other property.
- (ii) Cats do not cause a nuisance to other residents.

The behaviour of the cats is subject to the provisions of the Companion Animals Act 1998 and owners are encouraged to contain their cats during the hours of darkness to prevent attacks on native fauna.

A maximum of 6 cats normally housed at any premises on an urban allotment, this will be used as a guide for Council's administration of the Orders provisions for numbers under the Local Government Act 1993.

Dogs

The behaviour of dogs is subject to the provisions of the Companion Animals Act 1998.

Dogs kept at urban properties are to have adequate shelter and protection from the weather.

The area in which the dogs are housed is to be maintained in a hygienic condition to:

- (i) Limit the spread of disease; and.
- (ii) Minimise offensive odour.

The following maximum numbers of dogs housed at a premises on any urban allotment will be used as a guide only for Council's administration of the Orders provisions for numbers under the Local Government Act 1993:

600m ²	2 Dogs
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850m ²	3 Dogs
1000m ²	4 Dogs

Construction of kennel facilities must comply with the Building Code of Australia.

Disposal of faeces and other animal related waste must be by an approved sewer connection or other adequate approved means of disposal.

Goats and Sheep

The keeping of sheep or goats for commercial purposes within a residential area is not permitted.

The use of sheep and goats to maintain an area in a neat and tidy condition is encouraged provided that:

- (i) The area is fenced satisfactorily to prevent their escape.
- (ii) Neighbouring trees/shrubs are protected.
- (iii) The area is kept free of offensive odour and flies.

One animal per 750m² per allotment is to be used as a basis for administering the Orders provisions for numbers under the Local Government Act 1993.

Horses and Cattle

Note: The Regulation to the Act (see specifically Schedule 2 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005) includes standards for the keeping of horses and cattle. These provisions must be read in connection with this Policy.

The keeping of horses and cattle for commercial purposes or feed lots within a residential area is not permitted.

The use of horses or cattle to maintain a vacant urban area in a neat and tidy condition is encouraged, subject to the following conditions:

- (i) That the area is fenced satisfactorily to prevent their escape.
- (ii) Horses and cattle must not be kept within 9 metres of a dwelling and other buildings usually occupied by humans and not less than 1 metre from any boundary fences, to prevent damage to such fences.
- (iii) Neighbouring trees/shrubs are to be protected.
- (iv) The area must be kept free of offensive odour/flies and rodents.
- (v) Cattle and horses must be restricted to within not less than

One animal per 1000m² allotment is to be used as a basis for administering the Orders provisions for numbers under the Local Government Act 1993.

Pigs

Note: The Regulation to the Act (see specifically Schedule 2 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005) includes standards for the keeping of swine. These provisions must be read in connection with this Policy.

One animal per 2000m² allotment is to be used as a basis for administering the Orders provisions for numbers under the Local Government Act 1993.

Poultry

Note: The Regulation to the Act (see specifically Schedule 2 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005) includes standards for the keeping of poultry.. These provisions must be read in connection with this Policy.

The keeping of poultry in a residential area is encouraged, subject to the following conditions:

- (i) The area is kept free of offensive odour/flies and rodents.
- (ii) The poultry yard is fenced to ensure the poultry do not escape.
- (iii) Cages/Hen houses must have a concrete floor and comply with the Building Code of Australia.
- (iv) The following distances for the location of poultry housing from a dwelling are considered adequate:

Housing for Fowls (<i>gallus gallus</i>) or guinea fowls	4.5 Metres
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Other Housing (eg Duck/Geese)	30 Metres
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- (v) Roosters are not permitted.

The following maximum numbers to be housed at a premises on any urban allotment will be used as a basis for administering the Orders provisions for numbers under the Local Government Act 1993.

Hens	20 fowls
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Other poultry	10 birds
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6. LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

- Local Government Act 1993
- Schedule 2 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005)

7. REVIEW

This Policy will be reviewed every two years from the date of each adoption of the policy, or more frequently as required.

8. REPORTING

There is no reporting directly linked to this policy.

9. RESPONSIBLE OFFICER

- This policy applied to the Rangers and is to responsibility of Coordinator Regulation

10. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Rangers are responsible for the implementation of this policy .

11. RELATED PROCEDURES

Nil

APPROVAL AND REVIEW		
Responsible Business Unit	Development and Regulation	
Responsible Officer	Coordinator Regulations	
Date/s adopted	<i>Council Executive</i> [updated by policy owner]	<i>Council</i> [DD Mmmm YYYY]
Date/s of previous adoptions	Version I: Revised November 2008 – supersedes adopted version from September 2000 Version II: March 2013	
Date of next review	Development 2022	
TRIM Reference		

Summary of community submissions – Dumaresq Dam upgrade plan LGES

No.	Submitter/ Date	Submission summary	Key points	Council staff recommendation in response to submission
1	Barbara Finch 29/10/20	Colour concrete surfaces incl. carpark as light concrete will detract. Keep roofed picnic shelters away from water views. Consider kiosk small and near trees away from water views. All structures should be timber in keeping with conservation area	Suitability of design, colour, materials and maintaining water views	Staff recommends specification changes to upgrade Plan.
2	Jonathon Galletly 3/11/20	Maintain beach sand	Maintain beach area	Staff recommends no changes to upgrade Plan. Comments noted and passed on to officers for operational consideration
3	Dr Dorothy Robinson 4/11/20	Would like to see waterslides and flying fox	Waterslides & flying fox	Staff recommends no changes to upgrade Plan. Comments noted and passed on to officers for information and future planning and consideration
4	Chris Bonning 6/11/20	Consideration of a managed waste water system. <i>Commercial Wastewater Treatment System (AWTS) that can treat 6000l a day</i>	Wastewater treatment system required	Staff recommends specification changes to upgrade Plan.
5	Lee-Anne McKinnon 12/11/20	Needs a larger car park to accommodate >50 cars	Increase capacity of car park	Staff recommends investigation of additional car parking options to be incorporated in future stages if unable to be accommodated in stage 1.
6	Julie Kliendienst 17/11/20	No kiosk. Bench seats at water's edge for parental supervision, maintain beach	Seating on beach for parental supervision	Staff recommends specification changes to upgrade Plan.
7	James Harris 18/11/20	Playground required. Use portable stage instead. Prioritise toilets, construct cycleway to dam from Elm Avenue. Extend walking trails to Mt Duval etc.	Playground, walking trails, no stage	Staff recommends no changes to stage 1 of the upgrade Plan. Comments noted and passed on to officers for information and future planning and consideration
8	Jock McCardell 18/11/20	Dumaresq Dam Rd dangerous and should be limited to 80km/hr.	Dumaresq dam Rd should be speed limited	Staff recommends no changes to upgrade Plan. Comments noted and passed on to officers for information and future planning and consideration
9	Daryl and Benal Albertson 18/11/20	Upgrade walking tracks and add interpretive signage. Mountain bike separate from walking track at distance. Maintain fish stocking and promote canoe fishing	Upgrade walking tracks, separate bike track, maintain fish stocks	Staff recommends noting proposed distance separation of walking tracks and bike tracks. Fish stocking passed on to officers for operational consideration
10	David Wright 18/11/20	34 car spaces is inadequate. Dam buster race can attract up to 200 cars	Increase car parking	Staff recommends investigation of additional car parking options to be incorporated in future stages if unable to be accommodated in stage 1.
11	Suzanne Wright 18/11/20	34 car spaces is inadequate. Dam buster race can attract up to 200 cars	Increase car parking	Staff recommends investigation of additional car parking options to be incorporated in future stages if unable to be accommodated in stage 1.

\$3.9 MILLION 'CASH SPLASH' FOR DUMARESQ DAM REC AREA UPGRADE



Northern Tablelands MP Adam Marshall, left, and Armidale Regional Council Administer Viv May at Dumaresq Dam today for the funding announcement.

Monday, 26 October 2020

DUMARESQ Dam will become the region's next big ecotourism destination, with Northern Tablelands MP Adam Marshall today announcing **\$3.9 million** in funding to redevelop recreation facilities at one of Armidale's best kept secret locations.

Mr Marshall said the improvements, funded by the State and Commonwealth Governments, would unleash a flood of opportunities for the previously underutilised former water storage dam.

"Offering stunning bush walks and the perfect place for families to paddle safely on the water, Dumaresq Dam has always had the potential to be one of Armidale's biggest visitor drawcards," Mr Marshall said.

"While many locals know and access Dumaresq Dam for kayaking and water activities, this **\$3,889,131** grant, through the Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund, will open the area up to an additional 30,000 visitors per year.

“Armidale Regional Council plans to modernise facilities at the dam by installing a new amenities block, boat ramp, jetty and kiosk.

“An outdoor community stage and viewing platform at the water’s edge are also included in the preliminary designs, along with changes to the road network to improve traffic flow throughout the park and allow for car parking.

“Importantly, this project aims to increase Dumaresq Dam’s appeal as a campsite, supporting efforts to generate 4,600 overnight visitors annually.

“A new limited camping area will include basic sites without power, and be accompanied by picnic shelters, barbecue facilities and a camp kitchen.

“It’s expected 10 construction jobs will be created as a result of this development and up to 30 new full-time equivalent tourism related positions.”

NSW Public Works Advisory will act as project managers, working alongside Armidale Regional Council.

Mr Marshall said the Dumaresq Dam Ecotourism Development would assist the region’s economic recovery.

“It can’t be overstated how important tourism is going to be getting businesses back on their feet after what’s been a horror two years of drought, bushfires and the COVID-19 pandemic,” he said.

“Camping is a low cost holiday but while people are here they will still buy a coffee from a café and spend money purchasing groceries, all of which helps keep a local employed.

“This development will definitely attract wildlife lovers with the Dumaresq Dam reserve to be managed for the conservation of wildlife habitat and as a critical linkage between core koala habitat between Mount Duval Nature Reserve.

“With this money now secured I look forward to seeing what is included in Council’s final blueprint when the designs are approved following public exhibition.”

Armidale Regional Council’s Dumaresq Dam Redevelopment Plan Stage 1 is currently on public exhibition and can be viewed at <https://yoursay.armidale.nsw.gov.au/public-exhibition-dumaresq-dam-redevelopment-plan-stage-1>

The redevelopment plan was informed by the Dumaresq Dam Upgrade Plan which was adopted in 2016 and included extensive community consultation.



The Hon. John Barilaro MP
Deputy Premier
Minister for Regional New South Wales
Minister for Industry and Trade

Ref: A3980558

Cr. Simon Murray
Mayor
Armidale Regional Council
PO Box 75A
Armidale NSW 2350

Dear Cr. Murray

Dumaresq Dam Ecotourism Development

I am pleased to inform you that the funding for \$3,889,131 for the Dumaresq Dam Ecotourism Development has been approved and will be jointly funded by the NSW and Australian governments.

The NSW and Australian governments are focused on supporting the recovery of communities in bushfire-affected regions across NSW. The funding of local infrastructure projects will drive economic and social recovery, strengthen morale, increase preparedness for future natural disasters and help communities get back on their feet in the short, medium and long-term.

Funding for this project is conditional on Public Works Advisory (PWA) being appointed as the project manager. I have asked PWA to work in a close partnership with your organisation to deliver the project.

I ask that you please sign and return the attached Confidentiality Agreement to GMO@dpc.nsw.gov.au to enable an opportunity for a public announcement to be made by the NSW and Australian governments. The project will still be able to progress with PWA while plans for any public announcement are made. I encourage you to contact the office of the NSW Deputy Premier via media@deputypremier.nsw.gov.au with any suitable media opportunities.

Please note that funding deeds are required to be finalised within 60 days of this offer. If you have not finalised your funding deed within this period, your offer of funding may be rescinded.

After you have returned the attached Confidentiality Agreement you will be contacted by the Department of Regional NSW to discuss the conditions for the funding of this project, how the deed will be managed with PWA and any requirements that must be met for the project to proceed.

I look forward to seeing this important community project commence shortly.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J Barilaro'.

The Hon. John Barilaro MP
Deputy Premier
Minister for Regional New South Wales
Minister for Industry and Trade

CC: Mr John Rayner, Acting General Manager, Armidale Regional Council

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Drought Management Plan 2020 (Town Water)

A stylized, light green geometric logo is located in the bottom left corner of the page. It consists of several overlapping lines that form a series of triangles and a larger, rounded shape, resembling a stylized 'A' or a modern architectural element.

Unleash the opportunities

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ARMIDALE REGIONAL COUNCIL

DROUGHT MANAGEMENT PLAN 2020

	Position	Name	Date
Prepared	Engineer	Arun Gautam	20 November 2020
Approved	Director Businesses & Services	Scot MacDonald	30 November 2020

This plan was prepared in accordance with NSW Water Directorate Drought Management Planning Guidelines 2016 and DPIE Water's Drought Management Checklist, August 2007.

This plan was adopted by Council on **DATE**

Executive Summary

This Plan

This Drought Management Plan (DMP) , guides the Armidale Regional Council (ARC) as a Local Water Utility. Council supplies treated water to residents and businesses in Guyra and Armidale.

The aim of the DMP is to:

- ❑ Provide guidance to staff when managing drought events
- ❑ Inform the community of the issues associated with drought management and the community's role during drought
- ❑ Extend water security to Council's customers as long as operationally possible while maintaining water standards to Australian Drinking Water Guidelines.
- ❑ Optimise water security for residents and businesses.

Having a sound Drought Management Plan in place is part of the NSW Government best-practice management requirements for water supply.

This Drought Management Plan has the following uses with relation to drought management:

- ❑ Operational plan
- ❑ Resourcing strategy
- ❑ Authorised approach, that is, staff have the confidence that the actions in this plan have been authorised in advance
- ❑ Basis for government grant applications
- ❑ Basis of a public awareness and community communication program

This plan gives authority to Council's General Manager, in consultation with Council, to declare drought and implement the actions herein described.

This Drought Management Plan has been prepared with a view to providing Council with a comprehensive drought management strategy. The NSW Local Government PPRR (prevention, preparation, response and recovery) emergency management approach has been applied. This approach provides a strategic and systematic drought management process to reduce risk to the community and the environment. It involves effectively integrating implementation strategies before (i.e. prevent and prepare), during and after drought events.

Drought Prevention Strategy

Drought prevention actions are proactive measures that Armidale Regional Council (ARC) can undertake in anticipation of declining water storage levels and changing customer water use.. Prevention actions may be activated prior to drought or during drought declared stages. Preventative actions are provided in section 0.

Drought Preparedness Strategy

Being prepared for drought is essential to reduce the impact of water limitations and to enhance the capacity of ARC and the community to respond to drought conditions. This drought management plan is part of the necessary preparedness. Further discussion is provided in section 0.

Drought Response Strategy

Drought Triggers and Water Level Restrictions

Drought triggers are situations that activate staged response strategies according to the severity of the drought. The triggers are described in Section 0 and summarised in the table below.

It is important to note, Water Triggers and Restrictions are an important feature of Council's strategies, however every drought event is different, and Council and staff must be adaptive to prevailing conditions. In practice this means Council officers may recommend and Council may approve variations to triggers and restrictions as condition warrant.

Table 1: Proposed Water Restrictions Triggers

Level	Triggers	Target Total Demand (ML/day)/ Residential Demand (Litres/person/day)
P Permanent	Applicable all Times	8.2*/200* (90% of the average – new norm)
1 Low	Total storage level below 80% and adverse three month climate outlook by the Bureau of Meteorology. Authoritative advice on an adverse climatic forecast (e.g. drought declared by the government in the area). Operational Issues affecting the ability to supply.	7.4/180 (80% average)
2 Moderate	Total storage level below 70%. Operational Issues affecting the ability to supply. Consumption target of previous level not achieved for 2 weeks.	7.0/170 (75% average)
3 High	Total storage level fell below 60%. Serious Operational Issues affecting the ability to supply. Consumption target of previous level not achieved for 2 weeks	6.6/160 (70% average)

Level	Triggers	Target Total Demand (ML/day)/ Residential Demand (Litres/person/day)
4 Very High	Total storage level fell below 55%. Serious Operational Issues affecting the ability to supply. Consumption target of previous level not achieved for 2 weeks.	6.4/155 (65% average)
5 Emergency	Total storage level below 50%. Serious Operational Issues affecting the ability to supply. Consumption target of previous level not achieved for 2 weeks.	6.2/150 (60% average)

*Ninety percent of average annual water production by Armidale and Guyra WTPs over 2014 to 2018. This is daily annual average demand and need to be adjusted for seasonal variations.

Demand-Side Actions

Demand-side actions are intended to reduce the water consumption, matching the demand to the diminishing water resources. Restrictions on the use of water are the main actions. Details are provided in Section 4.3.

Supply-Side Actions

Supply-side actions aim to supplement the existing water resources with additional water sources. Details of these actions are provided in Section 0.

Drought Management Team

A Drought Management Team will be formed as part of the drought response, and will be responsible for managing Council's response during drought. Table 33 in section 4.2.2 lists the roles and the responsibilities of the team.

Monitoring

A continuous monitoring program will be implemented during drought to track the availability and quality of water, the demand, and the effectiveness of the response plan. Details are provided in Section 0.

Drought Recovery Strategy

The recovery process is set out to support affected communities in the reconstruction of the physical infrastructure and the restoration of emotional, social, economic and physical wellbeing. The recovery actions are described in section 0.

Background Information

Background information on the water supply scheme, the climate, and the regulatory framework is provided in Sections 0, 0 and 0.

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1 Introduction

1.1 Context

This Drought Management Plan (DMP) has been developed in order to:

- ❑ Provide guidance to staff when managing drought events
- ❑ Inform the community of the issues associated with drought management and the community's role during drought
- ❑ Extend water security to Council's customers as long as operationally possible while maintaining water standards to Australian Drinking Water Guidelines.
- ❑ Optimise water security for residents and businesses.
- ❑

The NSW Government Best-Practice Management of Water Supply and Sewerage Guidelines (2007) require Local Water Utilities to have a Drought Management Plan in place and be ready to implement their plan when drought conditions arise. This plan satisfies the guidelines requirement. A copy of the Best-Practice Guidelines Drought Management checklist is included in Appendix A.

1.2 This Plan

This DMP provides a combination of long-term and short-term management actions to respond to drought incidents and nominates who is responsible for leading and carrying out the required actions.. The aims of this plan are to:

- ❑ Ensure that timely warning is provided to the appropriate authorities and other stakeholders (including customers) in a drought event
- ❑ Provide relevant information for use in response to a situation when water availability is at risk
- ❑ Identify customer groups who have different requirements during droughts, for example hospitals and schools.
- ❑ Outline procedures to Council staff so as to respond to and mitigate drought related issues
- ❑ Enable timely warning to appropriate personnel to implement appropriate actions
- ❑ Document how ARC will manage the water supply scheme during water shortages due to drought

This functions of the DMP are:

- ❑ As an operational plan for water supply management during drought
- ❑ As a resourcing strategy and staff allocation to manage drought
- ❑ As an authorised approach to drought management enabling staff to act knowing that necessary actions have been endorsed
- ❑ As the basis for government grant applications to address the needs identified in this plan

- ❑ As the basis of a public awareness and community engagement tool for use by Council to demonstrate transparent and responsible drought management

The plan includes strategies specific to the ARC town water supply in Armidale and Guyra network.

1.3 Drought Planning

1.3.1 Objectives of Drought Planning

Drought planning is an emergency response plan that aims to reduce the impact of water scarcity on the community, business, economy and environment.

1.3.2 The PPRR Approach

This plan has a four-step approach referred to as PPRR (prevention, preparation, response and recovery) approach. The PPRR is a continuous process that involves effectively integrating implementation strategies before (i.e. prevent and prepare), during and after drought events with particular emphasis on response and recovery.

An overview of the four phases is provided below:

- ❑ **Prevention.** Actions to reduce or eliminate the likelihood or effects of drought related issues. These include understanding the climate patterns and their impact on water availability, understanding water sharing plans rules and analysing past drought events. They also may include upgrading the water resources, typically through capital investment.
- ❑ **Preparedness.** Developing strategies for drought situations before an incident occurs, to ensure effective response and recovery. This DMP is a key component of this phase.
- ❑ **Response.** Actions to control contain and/or minimise the impacts of the drought. Typically this would involve implementation of demand-side and supply-side actions listed in this DMP.
- ❑ **Recovery.** Restoration of 'normal' water supply conditions, including actions to assist the community and businesses to recover from the impacts of drought.

This plan describes the actions that ARC will implement in the prevention, preparedness, response and recovery stages of a drought incident.

2 Drought Prevention Strategy

2.1 Overview

Drought prevention actions are proactive measures that LWUs can undertake in order to increase coping capacity. Prevention actions may be activated / implemented prior to drought or during drought-declared periods. This will be determined at Council's discretion.

During drought, existing water resources are expected to decrease at a rate dependent on the respective water demand rate at a particular water restriction level. While current water resources are diminishing, other supply options may be considered as potential alternatives for supplementary or emergency water sources.

Some prevention actions are described below.

2.2 Short-term Actions

2.2.1 Permanent Water Conservation

ARC will implement permanent water conservation measures by encouraging water efficient practices.

2.2.2 Voluntary Water Restrictions

When the water source's availability is approaching the level that would trigger the implementation of water restrictions, ARC will start a pre-activation of voluntary water restrictions (i.e., implementation of water conservation measures).

Council will communicate the importance of using water saving measures, especially in times developing drought.

2.2.3 Drought Water Pricing

Demand is affected by price.

ARC will consider the introduction of scarcity pricing before and/or during drought to reduce discretionary water use (possibly a two-step usage charge). The price signal also communicates to customers the seriousness of the event.

ARC will monitor the impact of the pricing on the demand and assess the effectiveness of this action. Higher pricing may be necessary to meet higher costs of responding to drought and reduced revenue that will impact the efficacy of the Water Fund to maintain and renew assets.

2.3 Long-term Actions

Hydrological studies show that the ARC water supply dams do not have sufficient storage to provide secure supply in drought emergencies.. The 'secure yield' of the dams are adequate to meet the

current demand under historic climate but are not adequate for current demand under climate change condition and future demands under both historic and climate change conditions.

2.3.1 Renewing Puddledock Transfer Main

ARC has secured 50% funding to renew the Puddledock transfer main under NSW Government's Safe and Secure Funding programme. Renewing existing Puddledock transfer main along with the pump station will help boost the capacity of Armidale's town water supply and it also provide supplementary source in case of failure of Malpas Dam transfer line.

2.3.2 Increase in Surface Storage

The capacity of Malpas Dam is 12,266 ML. The capacity could be more than doubled by increasing the FSL by 6.5m to meet future demand and to deal with potential adverse climate effect on secure yield. Alternative surface storage options may also need to be considered. ARC will be seeking state and federal funding for the project.

2.3.3 Groundwater

ARC engaged a hydrogeologist during drought in 2019 to report on potential Groundwater supplies . There were 26 sites identified for test drilling. The work is still in progress but it is likely that there are a number of bores in Guyra could be used as a town water source subject to NRAR approval. Test drilling had less success in Armidale but has potential to reduce demand on potable supply by using bore water for the irrigation of parks and sports fields.

3 Preparedness

3.1 Overview

Being prepared for drought is essential to reduce the effect of and to enhance the capacity of ARC and the community to cope with the consequences of drought. This means that ARC should have action plans in place ready to be implemented and have ongoing activities to prepare Council staff and the community for those situations, such as training exercises, monitoring and consultation.

The benefits of being prepared for incidents and having a drought management plan are:

- ❑ Having a pre-determined and agreed list of actions to be taken in drought, allowing for an effective implementation of those actions
- ❑ Allows ARC to promptly seek drought relief support and funding from relevant authorities
- ❑ Have well defined protocols of drought restriction activation and escalation

This DMP documents ARC's preparedness in regards to incidents affecting town water supply. The actions described in this plan have been endorsed by Council, therefore in case of emergencies, the appointed staff can quickly activate relevant personnel required to take actions to respond to the problem; to acquire other resources required for drought management and to quickly implement the pre-determined drought response actions outlined in section 0. The following sections describe some of the ongoing activities that ARC should undertake in order to be prepared for drought situations.

3.2 Exercising Drought Management

In order to ensure the effectiveness of this plan and to prepare staff for emergency situations, a periodic program for exercising drought management will be developed and implemented in conjunction with other emergency training programs. These exercises will be a simulation of drought starting and intensifying, requiring actions.

3.3 Data Availability

The DMP may include, as attachments, technical information (i.e. design, operational, maintenance plans) relevant to the water supply system. This is to ensure that in case of emergencies all relevant information is in one document facilitating an effective and prompt response to the problem.

These attachments should be updated regularly, as the plans are modified.

3.4 Monitoring

Continuous monitoring of the water sources and water supply schemes is essential to understand the performance of the water sources and their capability of supplying demand. Monitoring of these parameters assists ARC in preparing for unconventional situations. In order to ensure a safe and sustainable water supply, the following monitoring is required.

- ❑ Drinking water daily demand

- ☐ Daily monitoring of water supply source
 - River flows and depth
 - Water level at dams / reservoirs

- ☐ Daily temperature and rainfall
- ☐ BoM forecasts

3.5 Consultation

3.5.1 Community Engagement

Engagement with the community is a critical element of an effective drought management program, as it ensures customer acceptance and behavioural changes, required to reduce water demand.

ARC will inform the community about the DMP and the drought action plans in place. This will assist the community to understand the critical importance of drought management actions and the need to conserve water. ARC may also involve the community in the development and review of this plan.

ARC Communication and Engagement Plan 2019 (TRIM AI/2020/27191) prepared by GHD broadly outline the approach to the communications and engagement for the leadership, communication and long-term water planning and management during Level 5 water restrictions.

3.5.2 Government Consultation

Consultation on the implementation of the Drought Management Plan would be expected to be with:

- ☐ Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE)/ Water Group
- ☐ Natural Resource Access Regulator (NRAR)
- ☐ NSW Health (especially in relation to water quality)
- ☐ Neighbouring LWUs

4 Drought Response Strategy

The response strategy consists of implementing appropriate actions to control, contain or minimise the impacts of droughts. The implementation of the DMP includes identifying and reviewing situations, overseeing the implementation of supply and demand actions, approving media releases and reviewing operations. These actions will be the responsibility of the Drought Management Team.

The following sections describe the response strategy during drought incidents.

4.1 Drought Strategy Activation Plan

4.1.1 Overview

The drought response strategy will be activated in an event when the water supply is affected due to natural climate conditions.

The main scenario that would activate a drought management response, including the introduction of supply restrictions, is water scarcity.

4.1.2 Drought Triggers

Triggers are the conditions that will activate the response strategy plan. The triggers are based on progressive reductions in water availability. The triggers for implementing drought restrictions are provided in the Table 1.

These triggers initiate demand-side actions which are expected to reduce the demand to a target daily demand (refer Table 3). If the demand reduction is not achieved by the introduction of the restrictions for each level, the next level should be applied.

Table 2 lists water supply system drought triggers levels. The Relax column indicates the mark where the level can be relaxed, and the status changed to a lower level.

Table 2: Proposed Water Restrictions/Relaxation Triggers

Level	Triggers	Target Total Demand (ML/day) / Residential Demand (Litres/person/day)	Relax
P Permanent	Applicable all Times	8.2*/200* (90% of the average – new norm)	N/A

Level	Triggers	Target Total Demand (ML/day) / Residential Demand (Litres/person/day)	Relax
1 Low	Total storage level below 80% and adverse three month climate outlook by the Bureau of Meteorology. Authoritative advice on an adverse climatic forecast (e.g. drought declared by the government in the area). Operational Issues affecting the ability to supply.	7.4/180 (80% average)	Total Storage rises to 90% Go to Water Conservation
2 Moderate	Total storage level below 70%. Operational Issues affecting the ability to supply. Consumption target of previous level not achieved for 2 weeks.	7.0/170 (75% average)	Total Storage rises to 90% Go to Water Conservation
3 High	Total storage level fell below 60%. Serious Operational Issues affecting the ability to supply. Consumption target of previous level not achieved for 2 weeks	6.6/160 (70% average)	Total Storage rises to 80% Go to Level 1
4 Very High	Total storage level fell below 55%. Serious Operational Issues affecting the ability to supply. Consumption target of previous level not achieved for 2 weeks.	6.4/155 (65% average)	Total Storage rises to 70% Go to Level 2
5 Emergency	Total storage level below 50%. Serious Operational Issues affecting the ability to supply. Consumption target of previous level not achieved for 2 weeks.	6.2/150 (60% average)	Total Storage rises to 60% Go to Level 3

*Ninety percent of average annual water production by Armidale and Guyra WTPs over 2014 to 2018. This is daily annual average demand and need to be adjusted for seasonal variations.

4.2 Drought Management Team Roles and Responsibilities

4.2.1 Activation and Setting Restriction Level

ARC General Manager can proclaim this drought management plan to be in force once General Manager determines that Trigger 1 has been reached. This decision should be ratified by Council.

The General Manager has the authority to change the restriction levels on the advice of the Chair of the Drought Management Team (DMT). Changes to Water Level Restrictions should seek adoption at a Council meeting.

4.2.2 Drought Management Team

The General Manager will appoint the drought management team (DMT) and will activate/deactivate DMT as required. Roles and responsibilities of DMT are in the Table 3.

Table 3: DMT Roles and Preliminary Responsibilities

Chair	Levels 1, 2, 3 and 4 : Manager of Utilities Levels 5: Director Businesses and Services
Responsibilities	Coordinate the activities of the team Communicate with Council Communicate with government agencies – high level Communicate with senior management
Incident Manager	Levels 1,2,3 and 4 : Operations Engineer Level 5: Manager of Utilities
Responsibilities	Monitor and assess data Provide an assessment of the situation Brief the DMT Chair and Council Allocate roles to team members, including stand-ins Prioritise tasks and develop response actions Ensure adequate facilities and resources – both specialist and support Communicate with stakeholders, neighbouring LWUs, government agencies and major customers – action level Hold regular team meetings, and chair if the Chair is not available Monitor the use of actions and their effectiveness Monitor team member performance and take action if required Determine completion of the response phase, and commence recovery Post incident, coordinate review of incident and update of the Drought Management Plan
Communication Manager	Nominated officer from Media, Communications and Engagement
Responsibilities	Support the DMT Chair and Incident Manager with communication Prepare communication material as appropriate Issue media statements and interviews if appropriate (and approved by the Director or GM) Maintain media database including social networks Monitor and manage social networks communication
Administrative Support	General Manager to nominate or redeploy one of the staff for administration support
Responsibilities	Record keeping Prepare progress reports as required for distribution to DMT members Provide administrative support, telephone answering, email first review and general office duties Attend and minute meetings

Water Efficiency Officer	General Manger to redeploy one of the staff as Water Efficiency Officer
Responsibilities	Promote Water Conservation Work with commercial and institutional customers high water users to help achieve water efficiency Support the Incident Manager and Chair
Support Team	Chair to nominate as required depending on the severity of the incidence
Responsibilities	Support the Incident Manager and Chair

4.3 Demand-Side Action Plan

4.3.1 Water Restrictions

Water restrictions aim to reduce water demand by customers through regulating the type and duration of water-using activities. If not specifically mentioned, the restrictions of each level apply to the all higher levels. For example, if fixed hoses are prohibited for Level 2, fixed hoses are also prohibited for the higher levels.

A schedule of the water restrictions levels, their definitions and comprehensive list of proposed rules in each category of restriction are provided in **Appendix B**.

4.4 Supply-Side Action Plan

When drought occurs, actions must be taken to mitigate the effects of water shortage and to ensure that a reliable water supply is available to meet the health and safety needs of the community while supporting the economy.. Supply-side actions are actions taken by Council aimed at supporting the restrictions as well as preparing for worsening situations.

4.4.1 Staged Action-Plan

Drought management supply-side actions should be implemented while the community, guided by Council, takes action to reduce water demand using water restrictions as one of its strategies. The supply actions are proposed to be implemented within a time frame so that water supply is sufficient to sustain the estimated water demand at the particular water restriction level. The supply-side actions are actions that the Council will undertake to continually supply water to its customers during drought. Alternative water supply options are described in Section 0.

In 2015 Armidale Dumaresq Council engaged WREMA Pty Ltd to undertake the secure yield study of the Armidale water supply in accordance with NOW (2013) guideline 'Assuring future urban water security – Assessment and adaptation guidelines for NSW local water utilities – DRAFT – December 2013'. The study found that the Malpas dam can meet the demand of Armidale for many years to come for stationary climate while satisfying NOW (2013) 5/10/10 rule. However, in response to the drought (2019) and in consultation with Department of Planning Industry and Environment (DPIE) officers, Council engaged NSW Public Works to update the secure yield of its water supply dams by extending the climate data to include the recent drought. The study found that the secure yield of the water supply dams were severely impacted by the drought (2019) and the secure yield of water

supply dams can meet the current unrestricted demand under stationary climate but can not meet the future demand under stationary climate or the current restricted demand under climate changed scenarios. ARC is working with DPIE Water and NSW Public Works to develop a strategy to secure water for the region.

Table 4 lays out how supply actions are implemented as restriction levels are increased.

Table 4: Staged Drought Supply-Side Actions

Level	Supply Side Activity	Potential Daily Supply, ML/day
1 Low	Consider to stop the operation of Scour Valves at the dams.	7.4 (80% average)
2 Moderate	Stop the operation of Scour Valves at the dams. Stop flushing of Council mains and reservoir cleaning.	7.0 (75% average)
3 High	Consider to operate Puddledock dam for regular supply while keeping Malpas for more serious drought to come. Consider to operate ground water bores if available. Stop environmental flows at Malpas dam when the dam level reaches 55% and below. Investigate re-use of the backwash water. Investigate the re-use of STP effluent at the sewer treatment plant or other water sources for watering of Council's parks in the city area.	6.6 (70% average)
4 Very High	Operate Puddledock dam for regular supply while keeping Malpas for more serious drought to come. Commence work on the re-use scheme if found feasible. Investigate the options to reduce evaporation losses from the dam.	6.4 (65% average)

Level	Supply Side Activity	Potential Daily Supply, ML/day
5 Extreme	<p>Operate Puddledock dam in Armidale and ground water bores if available in Guyra for regular supply while keeping Malpas for more serious drought to come.</p> <p>Use alternative sources of water wherever possible</p> <p>Use groundwater from all available ground water bores.</p> <p>Commence work to reduce evaporation losses if they are cost effective.</p> <p>Plan to undertake water quality testing as dam level drops which in turn will help modify the treatment processes when required to handle the change in incoming raw water quality</p> <p>Prepare for Water carting to Guyra.</p>	6.2 (60% average)

4.4.2 Water Carting

Water cartage to Armidale City is impractical and expensive. However the water carting from Armidale to Guyra may be feasible. It is anticipated that water carting to Guyra would require 6 large trucks or semi-trailers carting water for 10 hours per day (20 kl per load x 5 loads per day x 6 trucks = 0.6ML / day). It was learned in 2019 drought it is beneficial to cart water earlier than when dam is empty so that the supply is maintained half by dam water and half by carted water resulting in less trucks on the local roads per day. Additionally, it will avoid the risk that Guyra town not getting water if highways are blocked..

Technical and financial assistance towards the cost of water cartage is available from the NSW Government but is subject to quantities and cartage arrangements being agreed with DPIE Water. Further details regarding water carting are provided in the DPIE Water document titled “Drought Relief for Country Towns”.

4.5 Monitoring During Drought

The following monitoring will be carried out during drought. Some of the items listed below are recorded on a regular basis as part of the water business requirements:

- ☐ Daily water demand
- ☐ Daily supply from each source (including non-drinking water)
- ☐ Daily monitoring of water sources (river flows, dam levels, groundwater table level)
- ☐ Daily temperature and rainfall
- ☐ Impact of restrictions on water consumptions
- ☐ Comprehensive testing of water quality from any emergency supply such as new bores before commencing supply. Assistance is available from NSW Health
- ☐ Ongoing water source quality:

- Electrical conductivity (monthly)
- Total Dissolved Solids (monthly)
- pH (daily)
- Alkalinity (monthly)
- Algae levels (daily)
- Taste and odour (on complaint)
- Chemical analysis (monthly)
- Microbial analysis (weekly)

A chart showing the daily demand, restriction level, temperature and rainfall is to be prepared and updated at least weekly.

Deep water samples are also need to be tested for chemical and physical analysis to adjust the treatment processes if required as the dam level goes down.

Monitoring is intended to provide effective management of the incident. Some or all of the data may be used as part of the communication campaign.

4.6 Communication Strategy

4.6.1 Community

Purpose

The purpose of the communication strategy is to:

- ❑ Communicate the restriction levels and expected behaviour in a timely and effective manner
- ❑ Provide general information to the community and businesses and enlist its support and understanding to the actions taken by ARC

Channels

Some of the communication channels that may be used:

- ❑ Advertisements on radio, television and newspapers
- ❑ Press releases
- ❑ Social media
- ❑ Interviews / media conferences / presentation to community group meetings
- ❑ Signs in key locations and major roadways
- ❑ Place copies of the restrictions notice on common noticeboards around the town
- ❑ Have the restrictions explained in schools so that the message gets taken home
- ❑ Letterbox drop of the notice and Brochure or mail out to all residents and business. Include these with water bills
- ❑ Rangers carrying additional brochures to be passed out where they initially warn residents
- ❑ Announcement by high profile persons (e.g. Mayor)
- ❑ Develop a program to make hotel and motel guests aware of the restrictions in place

Messages

Typically, the messages include:

- ☐ Restriction levels and what they mean
- ☐ Background / need
- ☐ Effort by Council and stakeholders (e.g. supply side projects)
- ☐ Contact for special cases / exemptions / additional information
- ☐ This is not a failure, but an event that occurs due to circumstances, and it is managed appropriately.

Contact List

Table 5: Contact Details of the Local Media

Organisation	Address	Phone
Armidale Express	115 Faulkner Street ARMIDALE 2350	02 6776 0500
The Guyra Argus		02 6776 0500
Radio 2AD	123 Rusden St Armidale 2350	02 6772 1144
FM 100.3		02 6772 1333
2TM (gives their news to the above)	Radio Centre, Goonoo Goonoo Road, South Tamworth	02 6765 7055 02 6765 9585
2ARM- FM 92.1 Armidale Community Radio	PO Box 707 ARMIDALE 2350	02 6772 1486
Tune! FM UNE 106.9 FM	University of New England ARMIDALE 2350	02 6773 2399
ABC New England North West	470 Peel Street Tamworth 2340	02 6760 2411 Fax: 02 6760 2499
Prime Television Tamworth	PO Box 634 Calala 2340	02 6761 9777
NBN Television	226 Bridge St TAMWORTH 2340	02 6762 1990 Fax: (02) 6762 1995
TEN Television (Northern NSW)	Shop 4 Tamworth Lifestyle centre 31-41 The Ringers Rd. Tamworth 2340	02 6763 2700
SBS Television		1800 500 727

4.6.2 Agencies

Purpose

The separate communication strategy is required for regulators, other government agencies, Water Managers and neighbouring utilities in order to:

- ☐ Share resources for managing the drought
- ☐ Apply for regulatory and financial support as required
- ☐ Obtain access to alternative water sources.

Contact List

Table 6: Contact Details of Government Agencies

Organisation	Name	Phone	Email
DPIE Water	Glenn George, Regional Manager North	02 6653 0127	glenn.george@dpi.nsw.gov.au
EPA	Michael Lewis, Regional Operations Office - Armidale	2 6773 7000 0418 208 635	Michael.Lewis@epa.nsw.gov.au
NSW Health	Glenn Pearce, Senior Environmental Health Officer	02 6764 8000	glenn.pearce@hnehealth.nsw.gov.au ,
NSW Fire Brigade	66 Barney St ARMIDALE 2350	02 6771 5076	
Rural Fire Services	Fire Control Centre Mann St ARMIDALE 2350	02 6771 2400	

5 Recovery Strategy

The recovery process will commence at the end of the response operations. The end of the drought should start with Council revoking drought conditions. The DMT will cease operation, but members will still be available to assist the Recovery Coordinator, mainly in debriefing and assessing the response.

A Recovery Coordinator will be appointed by the DMT to oversee the recovery process. The Recovery Coordinator will be responsible for:

- ❑ Preparing a response report and recommending actions based on the experience. The report will be submitted to the General Manager within 4 weeks of revoking the drought condition and to Council within 8 weeks. Once endorsed by Council the report will become the main component of the preparedness stage
- ❑ Assessing the remaining drought impacts and determining the appropriate personnel to co-ordinate the recovery activities. This will be based on the drought recovery survey described below.

A drought recovery survey will be developed to evaluate the recovery process needed to restore the physical infrastructure and the restoration of emotional, social, economic and physical wellbeing. The drought recovery survey will assess the following criteria in order to determine the recovery actions required:

- ❑ **Ownership:** Determine the ownership of private or public asset and the source of assistance that may be available
- ❑ **Severity of impact:** Develop a scale to determine the severity of social, economic and financial impact to be based upon
- ❑ **Time to recover:** Evaluate a timeframe required to recover from the drought impact
- ❑ **Cost of impacts:** The financial loss due to the drought impact
- ❑ **Resources required:** Resources (financial and others) required to complete the recovery process

With the outcomes of the drought recovery survey, ARC will be able to seek the appropriate resources to address the recovery needs. The recovery process will involve restoring the community to the point where normal social and economic activities may resume.

ARC will not compensate private customers for costs or financial losses caused by the drought. ARC, however, will assist customers and co-ordinate activities associated with seeking compensation from other sources such as government and insurance companies.

When the drought period is considered over and the conditions return to normal, the following actions are to be considered:

- ❑ Reviewing the Drought Management Plan and actions in the light of experience
- ❑ Insurance compensation

- ☐ Government assistance
- ☐ Liaise with tax office to provide tax relief (reduction or delay of payment deadline)
- ☐ Develop rehabilitation/recovery programs based on the drought recovery survey
- ☐ Ensure fire control programs are in place
- ☐ Assist the community in resolving conflicts.

6 Water Supply Scheme

6.1 Location

Armidale Regional Council (ARC) located in the New England Region of New South Wales, is half-way between Brisbane and Sydney, and was formed from amalgamation in 2016 of the former Armidale Dumaresq Council and adjoining Guyra Shire Council. ARC is also the Local Water Utility (LWU). Armidale city, as the region's centre, has a population of about 22,000 and a further 2000 live in Guyra 35km north of Armidale and 6000 in rural areas and other villages.

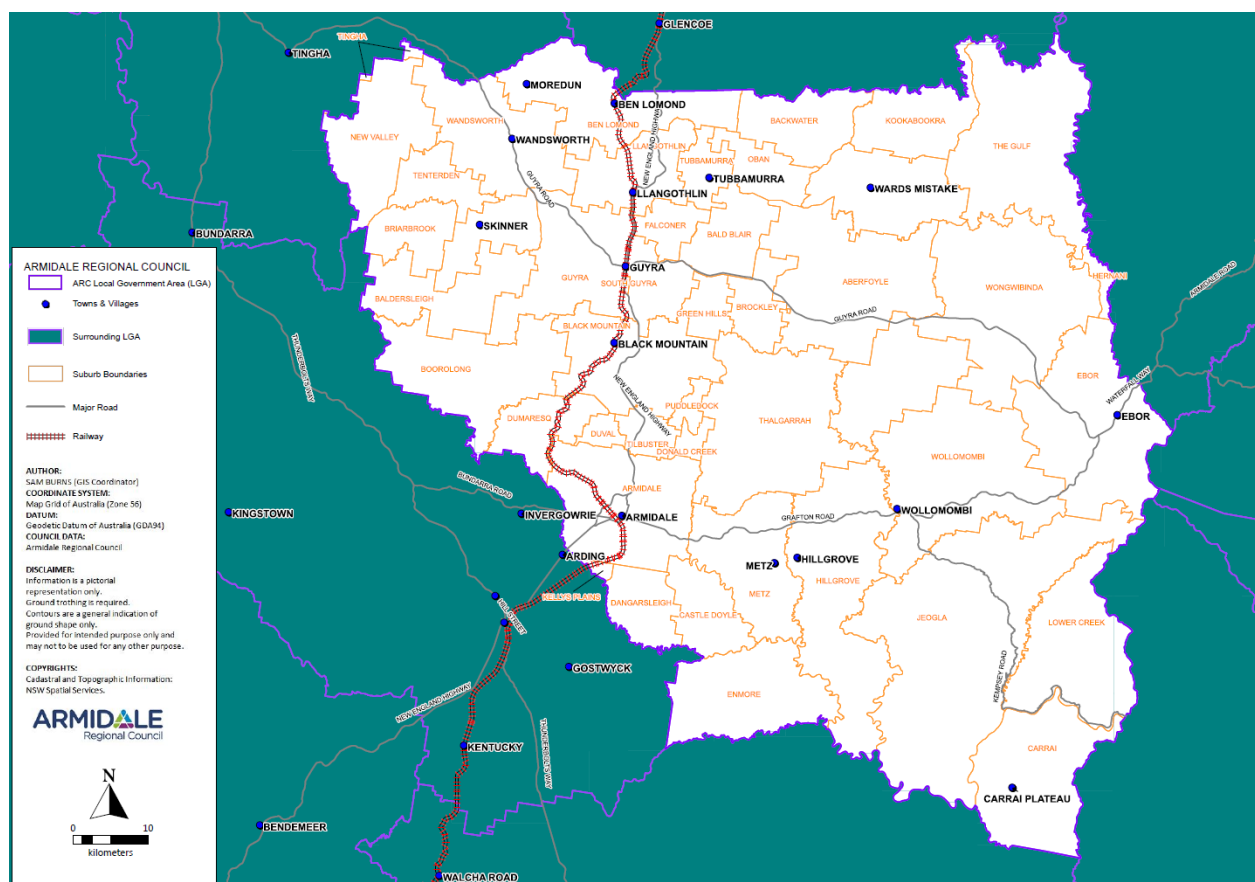


Figure 1: Location Map

6.2 Existing Water Supply Schemes

ARC has two water supply schemes for Armidale and Guyra as shown in Figure 2.

Armidale's main water source is Malpas Dam holding 12,260ML and was built in 1968. The dam provides a high level of drought security to Armidale, confirmed in a recent review of the dam's secure yield. Puddledock and Gara Dams have been retained as backups in case the supply from Malpas Dam needs to be interrupted for operational reasons. Pipes from all three dams manifold to a

common DN450 steel inlet to the single Water Treatment Plant on north side of town. Water Treatment Plant consists of Coagulation and flocculation, Horizontal sedimentation tank, Ozonation Plant, Biological activated carbon filtration and Soda ash, Chlorine gas and Fluoride dosing units. Ozonation plant was installed in 2008 and has design capacity of 22.5 ML/d. Finished water gravitates or pumped to various clear water reservoirs and then to the customers.

Guyra's town water is sourced from two small dams located on the Gara River, 7km north of the town. Hydrologic studies show that the dams are too small to guarantee supply during an extended drought. The 'secure yield' of the dams is 390 million litres a year compared to an average annual usage of 435 million litres.

Two 70L/s duplicate pumps transfer raw water from Guyra #1 Dam via parallel rising mains to a 0.4 ML balancing tank and then water gravitates to the water treatment plant. The plant has a nominal capacity of 6.05 ML per day and is located approx. 2.5km north of Guyra on Falconer Road. After treatment, water is pumped to two clear water reservoirs, 0.9 ML and 2.5 ML capacity. From the reservoirs, water is distributed by a gravity reticulation network to consumers including a large scale glasshouse farm to grow tomatoes. One exception is the supply by a dedicated line from the treatment plant to the old Abattoir site on the northern side of Guyra which now operates as a rabbit farm.

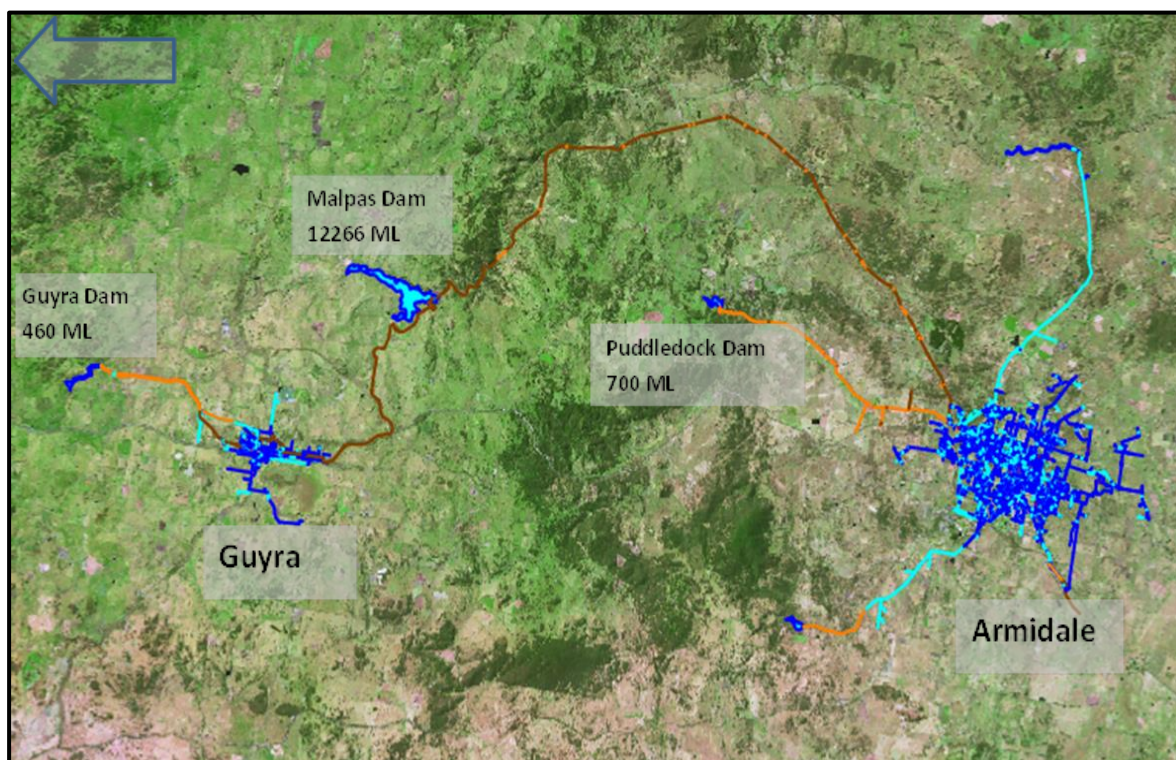


Figure 2: ARC Water Supply Schemes

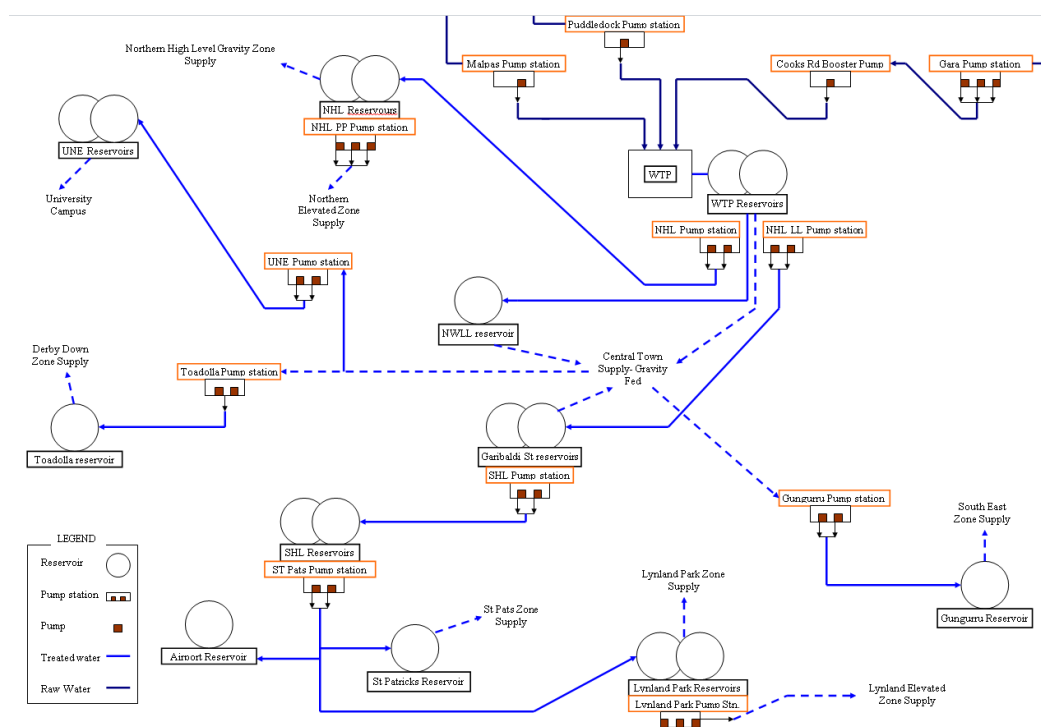


Figure 3A: Water Supply Scheme – Armidale

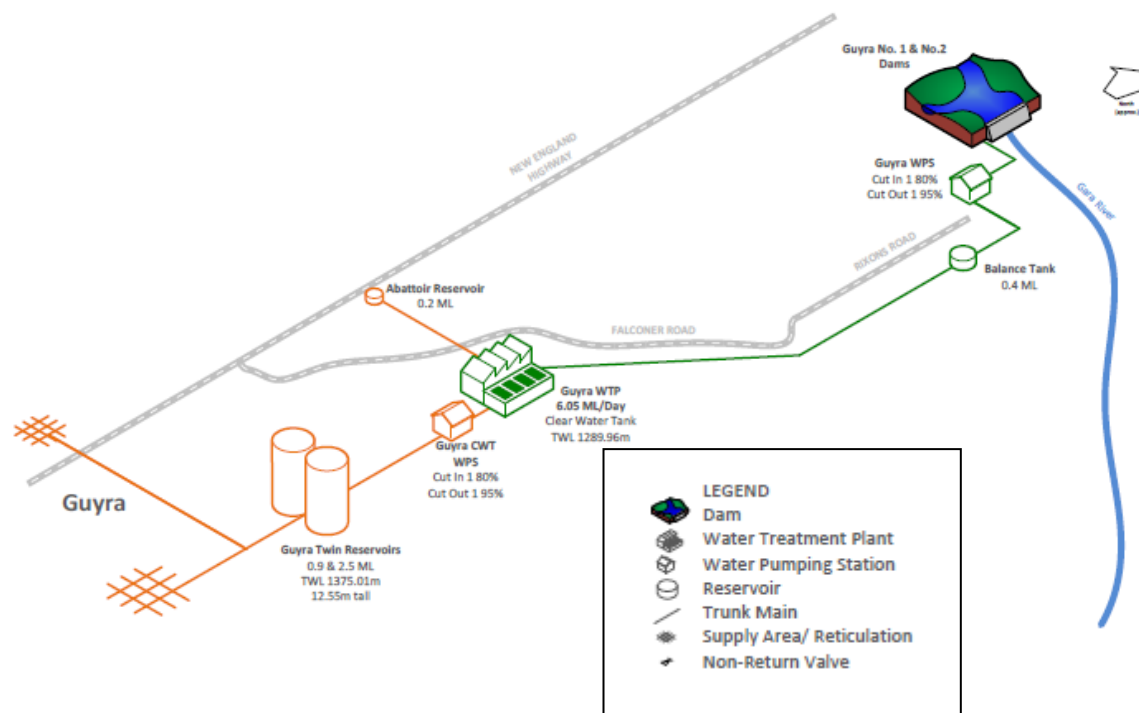


Figure 3G: Water Supply Scheme – Guyra

6.3 Water Sources

6.3.1 Existing Sources

Armidale water supply scheme has 3 water supply storage dams; Malpas, Puddledock and Gara Dam and Guyra water supply has two small dams as shown in Fig 4. Malpas can also supply to the Guyra. There is 1 additional Dumaresq Dam in Armidale but is used only for recreational purpose.

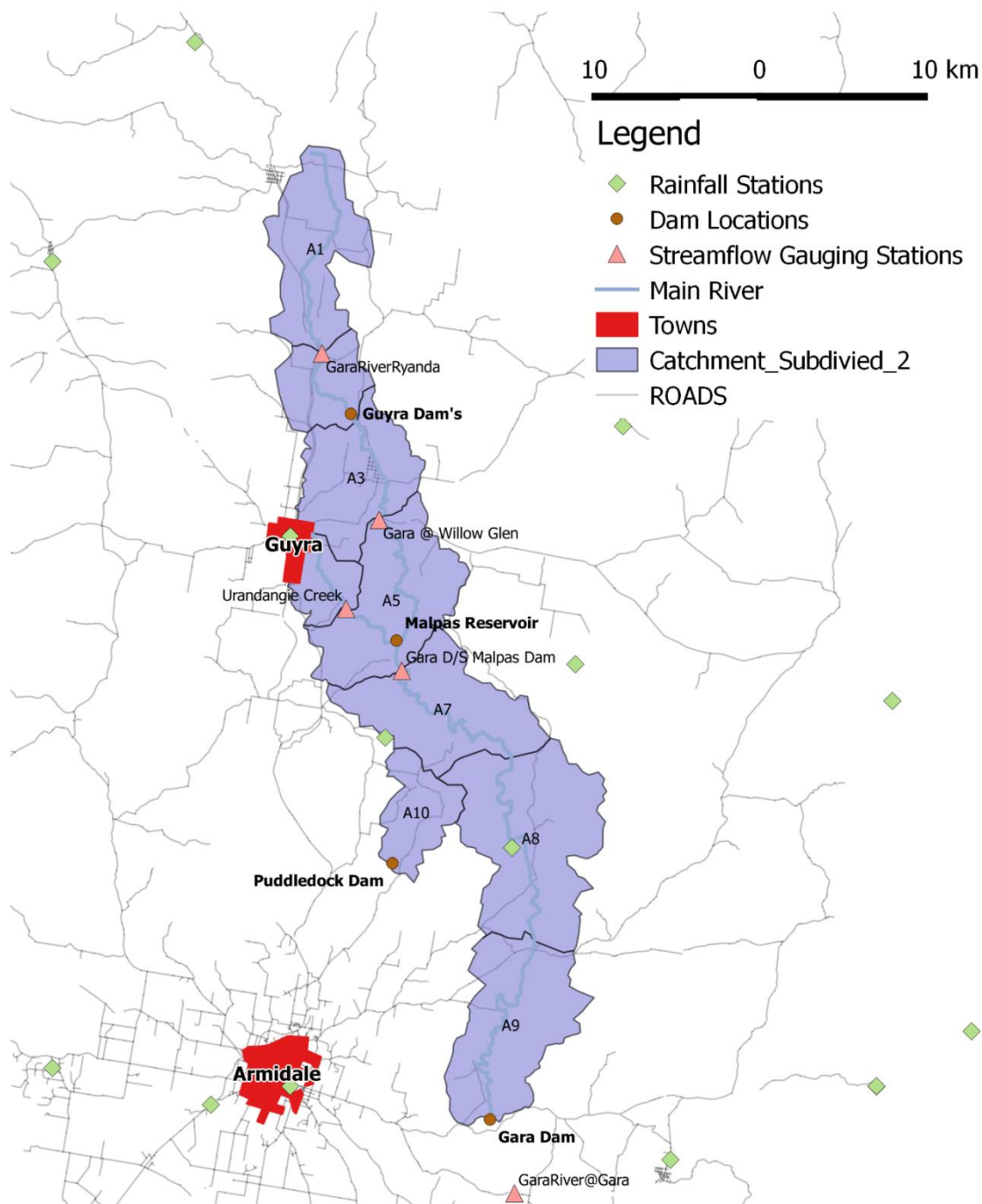


Fig 4: Gara River Catchment

Brief details of all water source dams are provided in the Table 7.

Table 7: Brief details Water Supply Sources

Dam	Catchment Area (km ²)	Total Capacity (ML)	Dead Storage (ML)	Inundated area at FSL (ha)	Licenced annual extraction volume (ML)*	Enviro release (ML/day)	Headworks Transfer Capacities (ML/day)		Spillway Elevation (m)
							Gravity	With Pump	
Armidale Water Supply Scheme									
Malpas Dam	196	12,266	105	179.67	6772	1-3 [#]	19.0	25.9	1175.70
Puddledock Dam	24	696	-	14.10	-	unknown	1.0	6.0	1063.71
Gara Dam	397	219	-	9.40	130	0.2	n/a	4.8	943.03
Guyra Water Supply Scheme									
South Guyra Dam	74	112	2	4.78	729	-	n/a	6.0	1262.8
North Guyra Dam	73	352	52	13.58	-	-	n/a	n/a	1267.3

#If inflows measured at Willow Glenn are less than 1ML/day then release is inflows plus 1ML/day, if inflows are >1ML/day but < 6ML/day then outflows ≥2 ML/day, if inflows are >6ML/day then outflows ≥3 ML/day. The release will cease when dam levels reaches to 55% of its total capacity.

**Based On Bathymetric Survey – CEH 2015 for Guyra Dams and Michel 1999 in case of Malpas/Puddledock and Gara.*

Malpas has a catchment of about 195km² which includes the catchment for Guyra's two water supply dams. The dam was designed with the potential to add gates to the spillway to double storage capacity. Design drawings show a future Full Supply Level about 5.5m (18 feet) higher than the current spillway level. The 35km long delivery pipeline from Malpas Dam to Armidale is mostly DN450 MSCL pipe. Under gravity the main can deliver 220L/s from Malpas to Armidale. A water pumping station was built in 1987 just downstream of the Dam which can boost flow to 300 L/s. Water restriction has never been applied in Armidale water supply scheme since Malpas dam was built however the dam storage went down to 5000ML (38.5% of then capacity 13000ML) in May 1981 which is the recorded lowest level and it went down to 57% more recently in January 2015 as shown in Fig 5 .

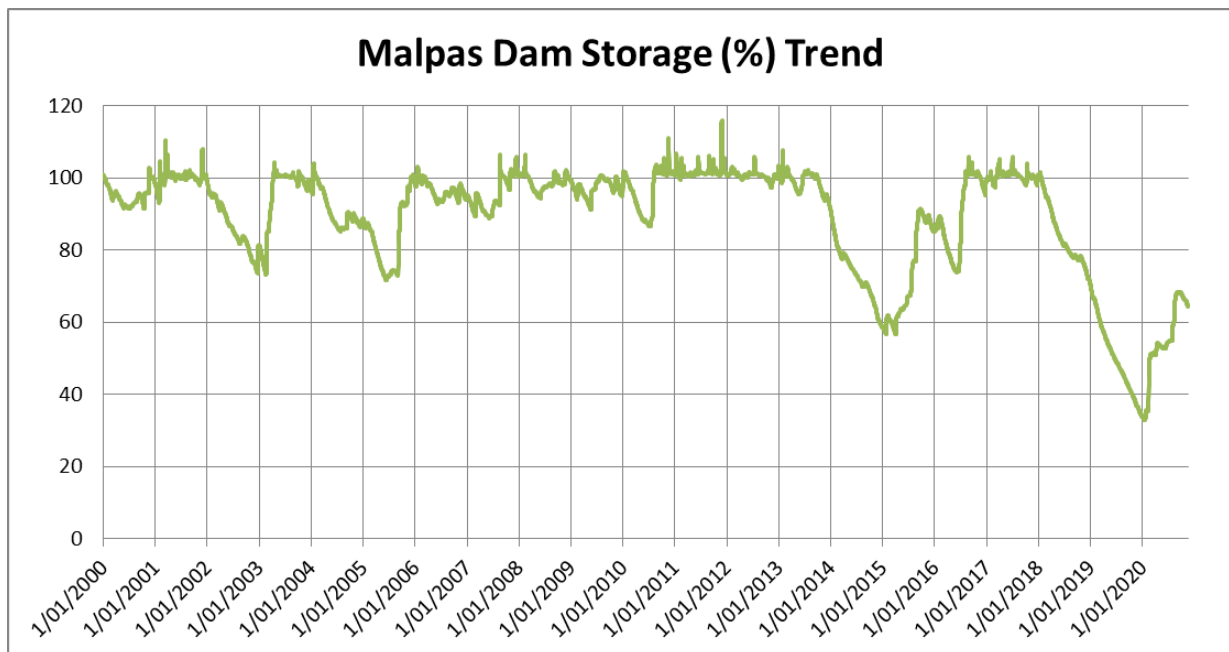


Fig 5: Malpas Dam Historical Storage

Puddledock dam is on Puddledock Creek about 14km northeast of Armidale and was built in 1928. Gravity supply from the dam to Armidale Water Treatment is very limited, about 1ML/day through a DN300 pipeline. The small Puddledock water pumping station can boost the supply to 6ML/day if Malpas Dam is offline. Council has secured NSW Government Safe and Secure funding to replace much of the pipeline and relocate the booster station to enable 10ML/d to be drawn from Puddledock Dam. This work is expected to commence in the first half of 2021.

Gara Dam is a small concrete gravity dam on the Gara River about 13km east of Armidale. The dam was built in the 1950s. Supply from the dam must be pumped to get it to the Water Treatment Plant. There are two booster pumping stations on the DN250 delivery main, both in poor condition. Council is considering for decommissioning of the dam.

Two Guyra dams North and South (also known as Top and Bottom or Dam 2 and Dam 1 respectively) are located on the Gara River about 7km north of Guyra town. South or Dam 1 was built in 1957 and the North or Dam 2 was built in 1967 in such a way that the Dam 2 flows directly into Dam 1. The Dam 2 was designed with the provision to raise the height of dam wall by a further 3.3m. A pump station fitted with duty/standby pumps rated at 70 l/s pumps water from South dam (Dam 1) to 0.4 ML balancing tank and then water gravitates to the water treatment plant. Frequent restrictions have been applied in Guyra in last three years but there is no record of restrictions prior to that.

All of ARC dams had a history of cyanobacterial (blue green algae) events and ARC undertakes regular algae monitoring of all of its dams. Cyanobacteria when in excessive number can cause odours, taints and tastes. They can also produce harmful toxins.

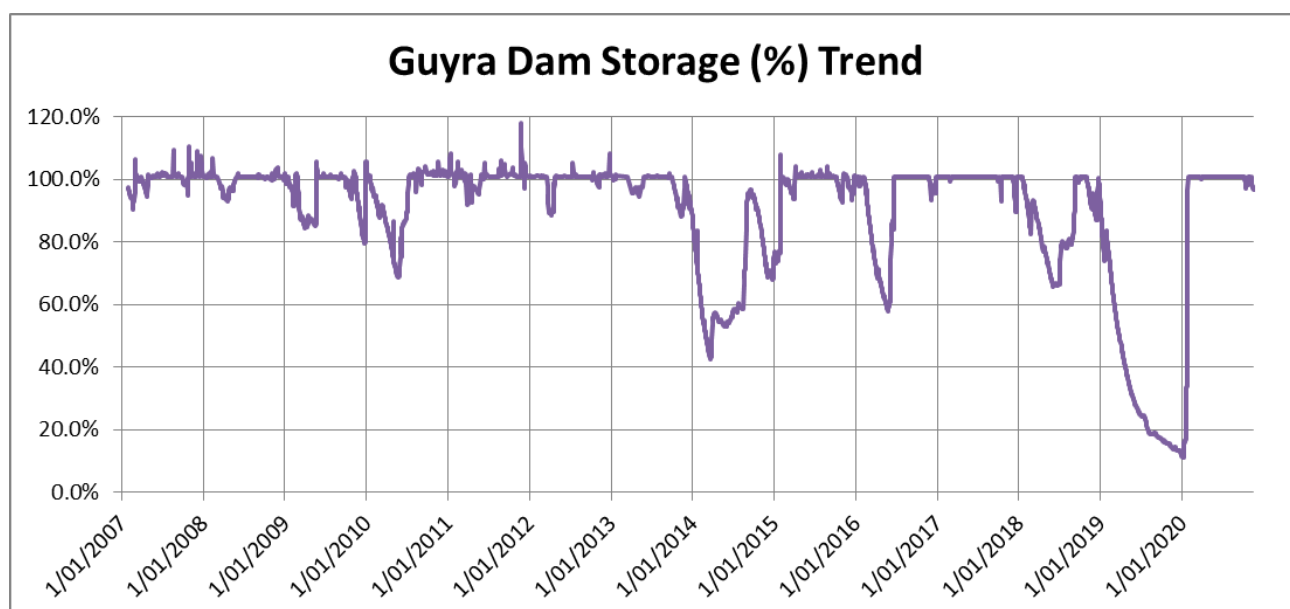


Fig 6: Guyra Dams Historical Storage

6.3.2 Potential Sources

Alternate sources of water in Armidale Regional Council area are limited. Few of them are discussed below and will also require further investigation if they can be used in drought.

Dead Storage

Dead storage is the lowest portion of dam storage that is usually not accessible under normal operations. Water quality is generally quite poor when water levels drop to such low levels. There may be opportunities to use dead storage water for non potable use.

Ground Water

Council is in seeking approval from NRAR for Water Access Licences to extract groundwater from four bores in Guyra. Council has sought a maximum extraction of 512 MLs per annum from the bore network to be piped to Guyra's water treatment plant.

Water Cartage

Water carting to Armidale may be very difficult and expensive. Any potential water source in case of severe drought in Armidale is from Tamworth, Bellingen or Inverell which all are 100 to 200Km away from Armidale. Using \$0.56/Km/KL (the figure sourced from Coffs Harbour Drought Management Plan 2012 which in turn was based on carting event from Berridale to Cooma to relieve a blue-green algae incident and the cost was slightly less in case of carting water from Armidale to Guyra in 2019) for transport, it will cost about \$267 K daily or \$8M for a month to supply 50 % of average demand of 6.35ML per day. It will require 2 trips for 45 water trucks each with 35KL capacity. The exercise is going to be difficult to manage logistically and is also very expensive.

However, water carting may be possible in case of Guyra scheme. It is anticipated that water carting from Armidale to Guyra would require 6 water trucks each with 20KL capacity for 10 hours per day (20 kl per load x 5 loads per day x 6 trucks = 0.6ML / day) to supply 50 % of average demand of 1.22ML per day. It will approximately cost \$12K per day to maintain the supply of 50% of average demand.

Technical and financial assistance towards the cost of water cartage is available from the NSW Government but is subject to quantities and cartage arrangements being agreed with DPIE Water.

6.4 Water Demand

6.4.1 Water Pricing

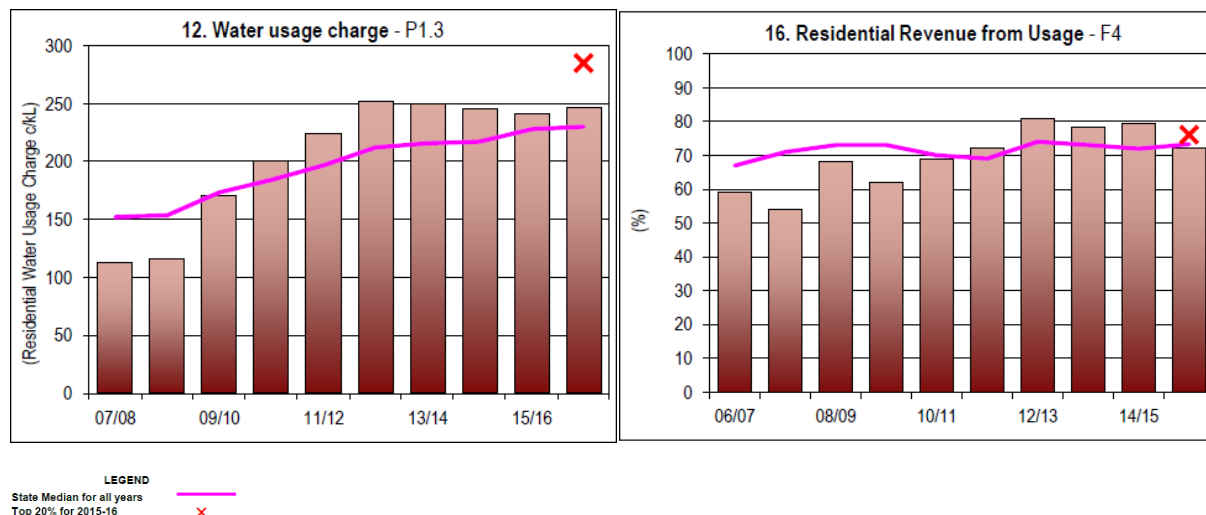


Fig 7: Water Usage Charge and Residential Revenue from Usage (Source: ARC TBL Water Supply Performance 2015-16)

NSW Best-Practice Pricing states that at least 75 % of residential revenue is from water usage charges for utilities with 4,000 or more connected properties and is at least 50% for smaller utilities. Armidale Regional Council's water usage charge is slightly above state median and its residential revenue from usage charge is around 75% for a few years, which should provide a strong pricing signal as anticipated in NSW Best-Practice Management Framework.

6.4.2 Water Users

Population of Armidale Regional Council is 30,311 (ABS ERP 2016). It is estimated that 22,000 people in Armidale, 2000 people in Guyra is covered by reticulated water supply system. The remaining population of about 6,000 are currently obtaining water from rainwater tanks and private bores.

As the drought becomes more severe there will be an increasing number of rural properties with rainwater tanks requiring refill from the town water supply system. This may create an additional demand of about 1ML per day (6000 x 150 Lpcd) in Council's water supply system. These are generally accessed from standpipes in Armidale (2) and Guyra. The standpipes are metered and charged using a credit card. The standpipes have been restricted to residents of ARC Local Government Area, but this was difficult to monitor and there was evidence of residents and water carters transporting water outside of the LGA.

ARC's water supply dams were designed and constructed solely to provide for the long-term security of town water supply during any drought. Environmental release from Malpas dam will cease when it gets to 55% of its storage and the other dams do not have requirements for environment release. However farmers living along the Gara River downstream of the dams may demand water release which may not be possible to meet.

6.4.3 Historical and Current Water Usage

User pay pricing was introduced in the 1990's, which resulted in a 35% reduction in consumption. Nevertheless, household water consumption is higher than NSW State average and national median as shown in the Fig 8. There has been significant increase in water usage price from 2020/21 and its impact is still to be seen.

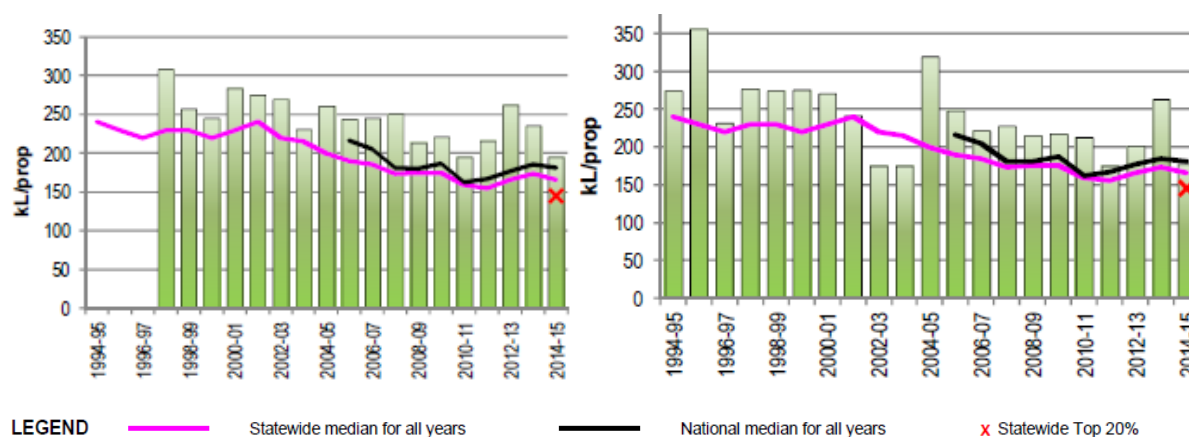


Fig 8: Armidale (left) and Guyra (right) Average Annual Residential Water Usage (kL/property)

In the last 10 years, Armidale average daily water production is 7.65ML with peak daily demand of 18.72ML as shown in the Fig 9.

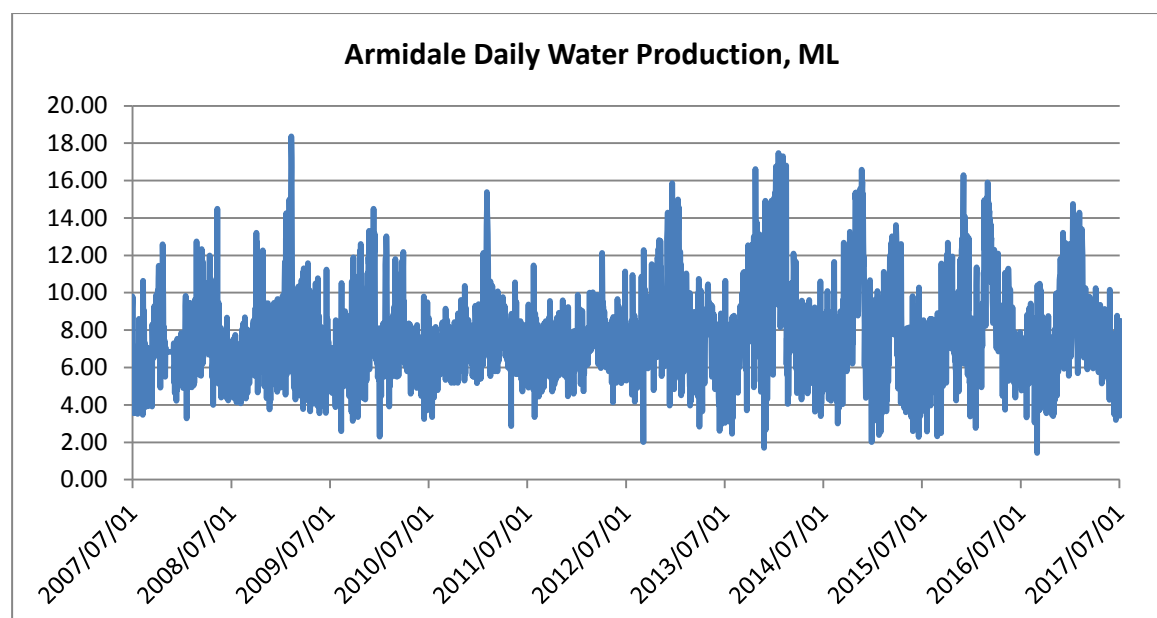


Fig 9: Armidale Historical Daily Water Production, ML

In the last 10 years, Guyra average daily water production is 1.22ML with peak daily demand of 4.71ML as shown in the Fig 9.

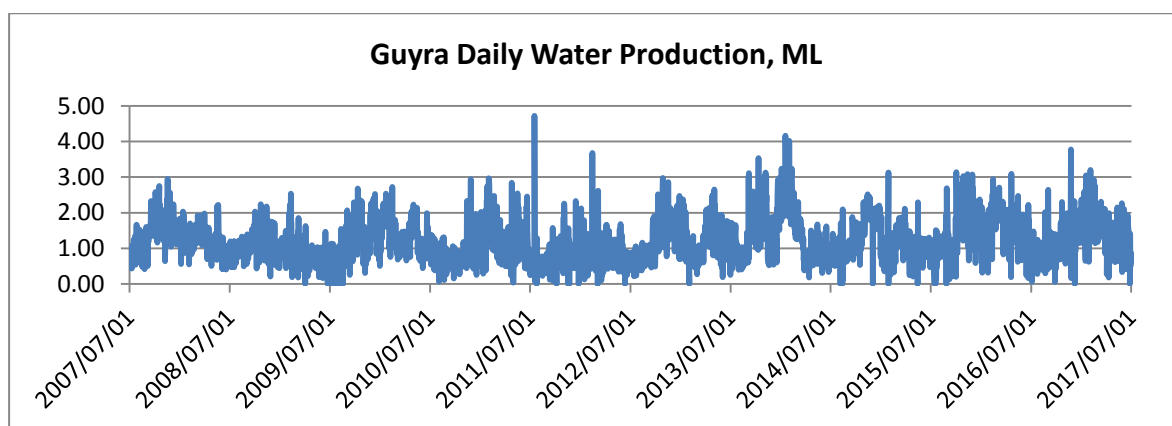


Fig 10: Guyra Historical Daily Water Production, ML

Breakdown of water consumption by customer category is as shown in the Fig 11 and 12. 70% of Armidale water use is from residential customers whereas it is only 32% in case of Guyra. Glass house tomato uses more than 40% of water in Guyra. Target restriction in case of Armidale can be achieved with the focus on residential customers but it may not be possible in case of Guyra without the help from the tomato farm.

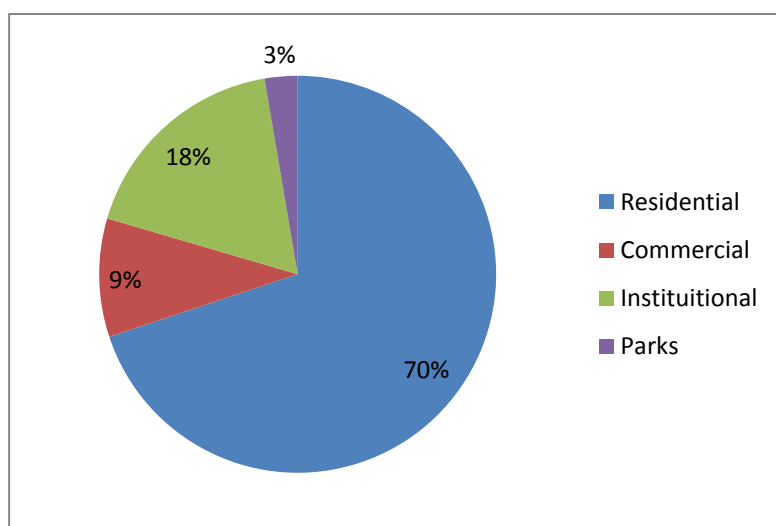


Fig 11: Armidale Average Water Consumption by Customer Category

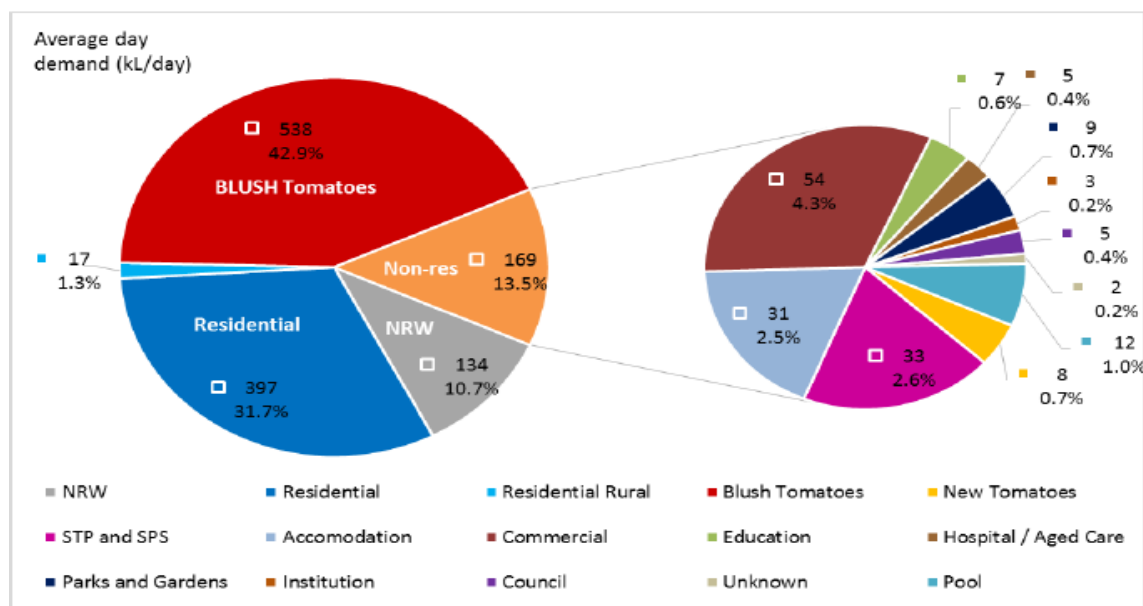


Fig 12: Guyra Water Consumption by Customer Category

6.4.4 Top Water Consumers

It is recommended that ARC approaches major water users in advance of drought to make special arrangements for water restrictions during droughts. Whilst it may be the case that significant savings can be made during droughts, many of the large potable water users may not be able to cut back their consumption without affecting their services, production and/or staffing levels. Council should take this into consideration when preparing special arrangements with each customer. The customers with higher non-essential water use should be targeted first.

6.4.5 Dry Year Annual Demand Analyses

Extract of draft IWCN Issues paper have been reproduced below for current and forecasted demand in Armidale and Guyra.

Table 8: Armidale Water Forecast

	2016	2018	2023	2028	2033	2038	2043	2048
Average year metered demand (ML/year)	2,421	2,476	2,617	2,762	2,909	3,064	3,235	3,414
Peak day production (ML/day)	18	18	20	21	22	23	24	26
Dry year extraction (ML/year)	3,675	3,764	3,994	4,230	4,470	4,722	4,999	5,289

Table 9: Guyra Water Forecast

	2016	2022	2027	2032	2037	2042	2046
Average year demand production (ML/year)	425	433	444	456	469	485	504
Peak day production (ML/day)	4.4	4.5	4.6	4.7	4.8	4.8	5.0
Dry year extraction (ML/year)	589	607	625	644	666	690	712

7 Climate

7.1 Rainfall, Evaporation and Temperature

The New England Region experiences a dry sub-humid temperate climate with the majority of rain falling in the summer months. Average annual rainfall is just less than 800mm in Armidale which goes up to about 900mm in Guyra as shown in Fig: 13 Isohyetal Map for Gara River Catchment. Mean monthly maximum temperatures vary from 26.8 degrees Celsius in January to 10.1 degrees Celsius in July and mean monthly minimum temperatures vary from 13.9 degrees Celsius in January to -1.1 degrees in July. The mean annual evaporation is approximately 1600mm, with monthly values varying from 60mm in June to 210mm in January.

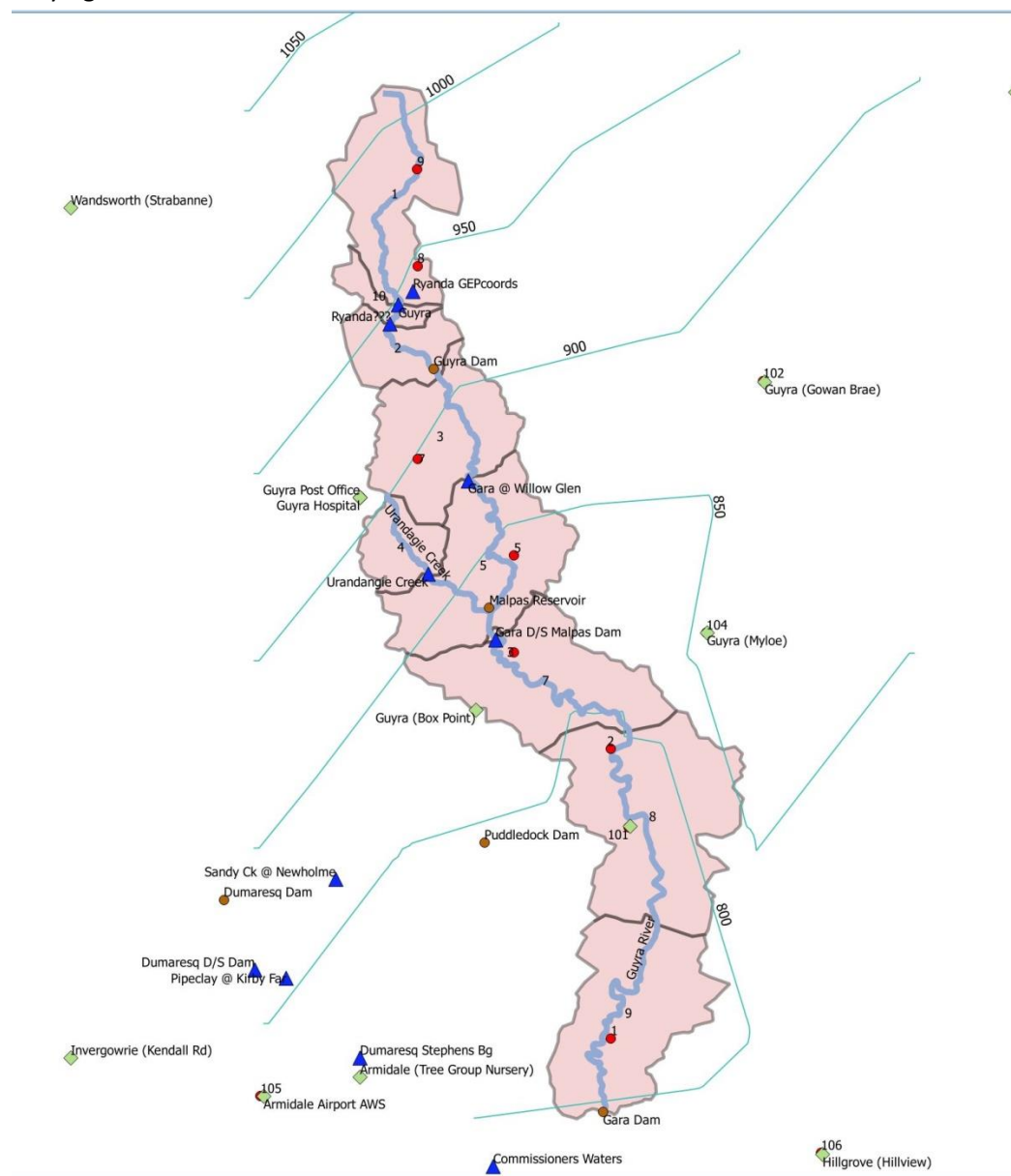
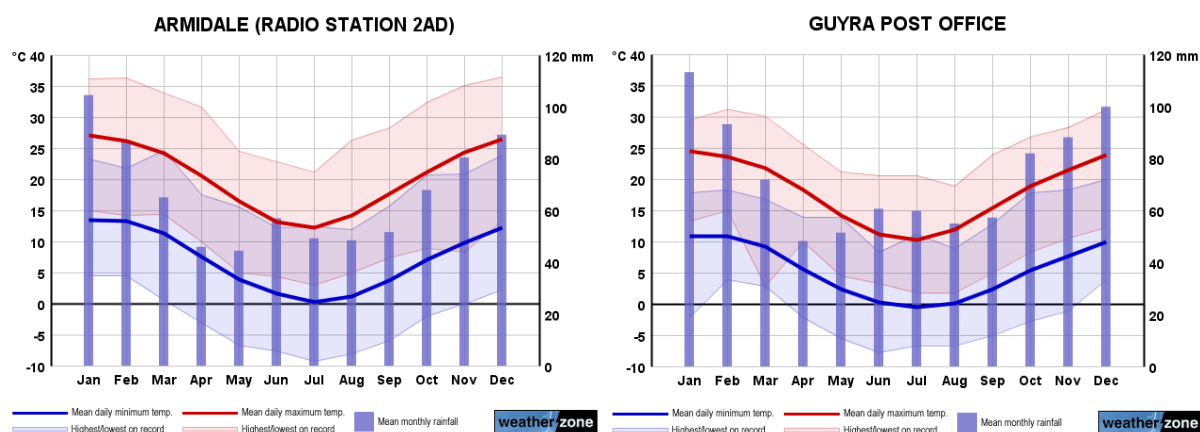


Figure 13: Isohyetal Map



Note: Armidale Radio (BOM station 56002) commenced in 1857 and closed in 1997 and Guyra Post Office (BOM Station 56016) commenced in 1886 and is current.

Fig 14: Armidale (left) and Guyra (right) Climate Data

7.2 Climate Change

NSW Climate Impact Profile 2010 predicts some changes to climate. Daily maximum temperatures in the New England/North West region are projected to increase over all seasons by 1–3°C. Rainfall is projected to increase in all seasons except winter, when it is expected to decrease by 10–20%. Evaporation is likely to increase throughout the year. Overall water balance is likely to remain similar to what it is at present, but with some redistribution of runoff likely to produce substantial increases in summer and a substantial decrease during spring and winter.

The NSW Office of Water engaged NSW Public Works to conduct a pilot study to determine the potential impact of variable climatic patterns on 11 local water utility water supply systems in regional NSW. The pilot study found that future secure yield under the methodology proposed by NOW(2013) also known as “5/10/10” rule, is reduced by up to 9% for coastal and table land utilities and by approximately 30% for inland water utilities in mid and southern NSW. The pilot study used 0.9°C global warming by ~ 2030 and the 15 global climate models.

Secure yield of ARC water supply dams were found to be reduced by about 32% with the consideration of climate change (NUWS 2020). The study utilised climate data provided by DPIE Water for a future climate change scenario corresponding to a 1 degree rise in global temperature by year 2030.

7.3 Drought Restrictions History

Council introduced water restriction in late February 2019 in Guyra and early March 2019 in Armidale. It was the first water restriction imposed in Armidale since Malpas Dam was built in 1968. However, water restrictions have been applied in the past in Guyra.

Some of the actions Council took during the restrictions are listed below

- Demand management through education, rebates and imposed restrictions;
- Finding and fixing leaks in ageing infrastructure;

- Water carting from Armidale to Guyra;
- Commissioning of Malpas Dam to Guyra pipeline.
- Additional testing – deep water samples
- Targeting high water users to constrain consumption
- Offering rebates on residential water tanks, front loading dish washers and shower heads.

As the drought worsens, higher level of water restrictions were progressively introduced with Level 5 Emergency water restrictions on 24 June 2019 in Guyra and 1 October in Armidale. Residential water consumption was below the target level of 160 litres per capita per day since the introduction of level 5 restriction as shown in the graph below.

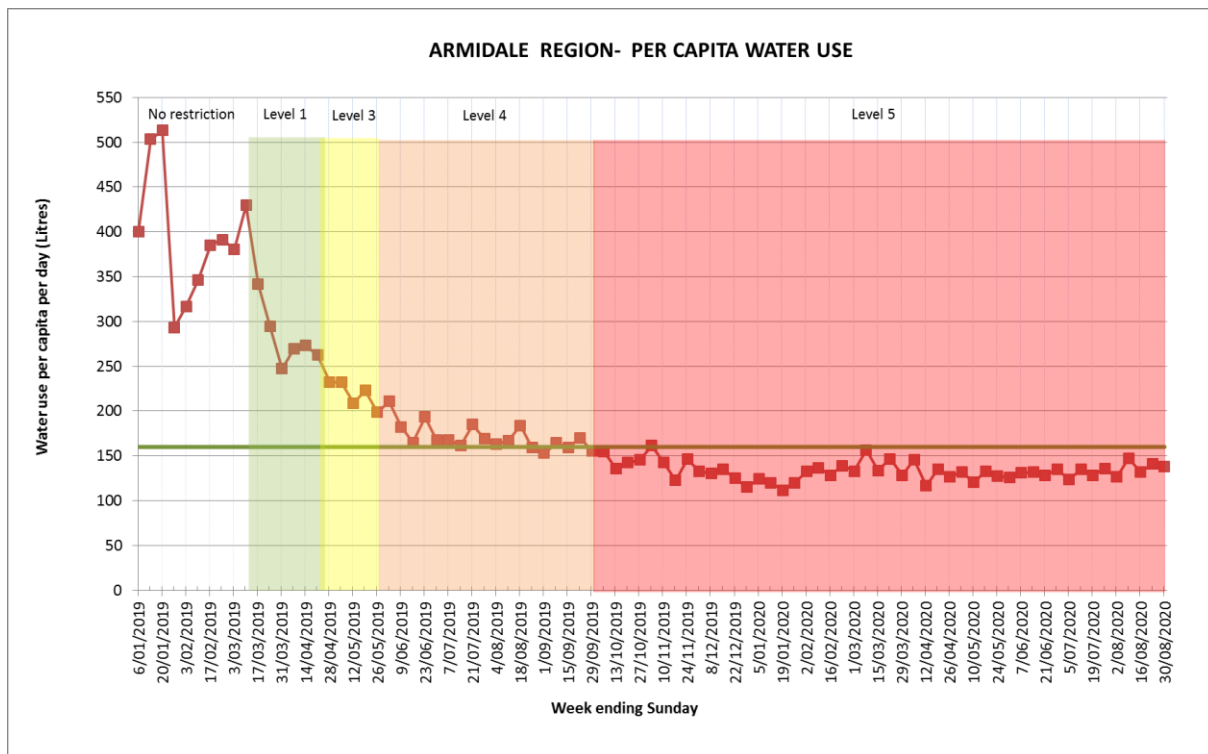


Fig 15: Residential Water Use in Armidale and Guyra combined during the drought

Some of the highlights of 2019 drought were

- Malpas and Guyra dam catchment, as measured by Guyra Post Office weather station (the Bureau's Station No. 056016), observed 330.8mm of rainfall in 2019 which is NOT only the lowest in 130 years but 40% less than the second lowest (553.9mm) recorded in 1919, exactly a century ago.
- Guyra dam hit the level that it couldn't supply Guyra town forcing water carting from Armidale.
- Malpas dam level fell to 32.8% on 15th Jan 2020. The lowest since it was built in 1970.
- Poor water quality, as dam level drops to unprecedented level, provided extra challenges to treat water.

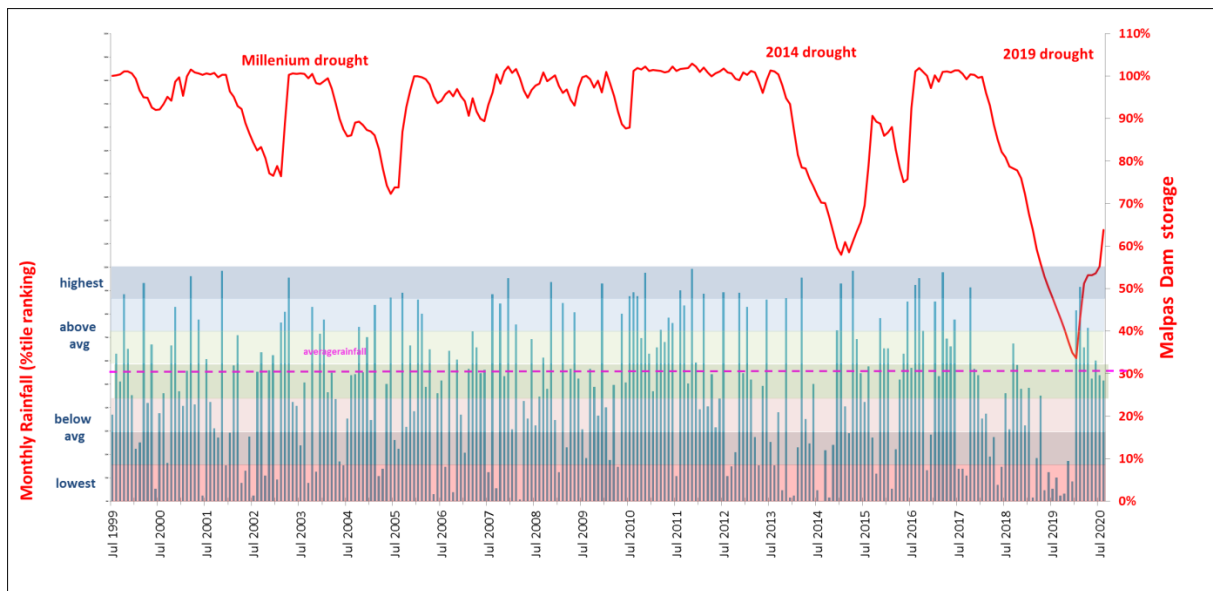


Fig 16: Malpas Dam Storage Trend and the Rainfall in the last 20 years

8 Regulatory Framework

8.1 Armidale Regional Council

ARC delivers water under the provisions of the NSW *Local Government Act 1993*. Some aspects of the water business are carried out under the provisions of the NSW *Water Management Act 2000*. ARC is empowered to restrict water supply (e.g. by public notice published in a newspaper circulating within Armidale Regional Council area) under the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*.

The *Local Government Act 1993* Section 637 reads: “a person who wilfully or negligently wastes or misuses water from a public water supply, or causes any such water to be wasted, is guilty of an offence”. The maximum penalty which can apply is:

- ❑ Maximum penalty: 20 penalty units
- ❑ Current (s17 of Crimes (Sentencing Procedure) Act 1999) penalty unit: \$110

Consumers who are identified breaching water restrictions in place may have their supply cut off or restricted by Council in accordance with Clause 144 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*.

This plan is administered by the Council. During drought, this plan will be overseen by the Drought Management Team. The implementation of this Drought Management Plan will be the responsibility of the Drought Incident Manager.

8.2 DPIE Water

8.2.1 General

DPIE Water works with partner agencies and with the community to provide a reliable, sustainable supply of water for households, irrigators, farmers, industry and the environment.

Available water determinations are made for each water source generally at the start of a water year (on 1 July). The licensed volume or the percentage of the share component is defined by DPI Water. Since the introduction of the *Water Management Act 2000*, DPI Water is preparing water sharing plans for rivers and groundwater systems across New South Wales.

8.2.2 Water Sharing Plans

By setting the rules for how water is allocated for the next 10 years, a water sharing plan provides a decade of certainty for the environment and water users. This not only ensures that water is specifically provided for the environment through a legally binding plan, but also allows licence holders, such as irrigators, who require large volumes of water to plan their business activities.

No water supply dams except Malpas dam are not subject to any water sharing plans. Malpas dam is subject to Water Sharing Plan for the Macleay Unregulated and Alluvial Water Sources 2016 (<https://legislation.nsw.gov.au/#/view/subordleg/2016/385>). The plan was made under section 50 of the Water Management Act 2000 and commenced on 1 July 2016. Section 28 of the plan sets the following rules for Malpas Dam releases (current as January 2017):

“28 Releases in the Malpas Dam Water Source

(1) In the Malpas Dam Water Source, releases of water must be made from Malpas Dam in accordance with this clause.

(2) Subject to subclause (3), when inflows to Malpas Dam, as measured at the Gara River at Willow Glen gauge (206035), are:

(a) less than 1 ML/day, a release equal to or greater than the inflows plus 1 ML/day, as measured at the Gara River downstream Malpas Dam gauge (206039), must be made from Malpas Dam, or

(b) equal to or greater than 1 ML/day and less than or equal to 6 ML/day, a release of 2 ML/day or greater, as measured at the Gara River downstream Malpas Dam gauge (206039), must be made from Malpas Dam, or

(c) greater than 6 ML/day, a release of 3 ML/day or greater, as measured at the Gara River downstream Malpas Dam gauge (206039), must be made from Malpas Dam.

(3) Subclause (2) does not apply when the Malpas Dam is less than or equal to 55% of the dam's storage capacity.”

8.3 Fire Fighting Requirements

In spite of the water restriction actions, preference will be provided to accommodating firefighting requirements.

Minimum of 150KL of water is reserved for firefighting purpose in each reservoir, which is able to provide water for 4 hours with a flow rate of 10l/s. In the event that the emergency conditions last for more than 3 days, fire services will be directed to arrange alternate water source (e.g. water tankers) if appropriate.

Council anticipates making available to the NSW RFS all of its tank storages holding groundwater.

References

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NSW Public Works (2012). Pilot Study Report on Assessing Impact of Global Warming and Climate Variability on Non-metropolitan NSW Water Supplies, prepared for the NSW Office of Water, May 2012.

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Appendix A DPI Water Drought Management Plan Checklist

Extract of DPI Water Best – Practice Management Guidelines – Strategic Business Plan – Drought Management Plan Checklist

Strategic Business Plan – Check List

6.6 Drought Management^{4,8}

- ☐ A. Are all water supply sources suitably monitored (eg. level, flow, relevant water quality) and recorded? If not, implement suitable monitoring and recording.
 - ☐ B. Includes a graph of the water demand over time with super-imposed restriction periods, storage/ground water level and relevant climatic data since the last SBP Update.
 - ☐ C. Includes a summary of water supply system performance since the last SBP Update and any management/emergency response actions undertaken.
 - ☐ D. Review the adopted drought management plan, especially the schedule of trigger points for drought water restrictions and the level of water restrictions, and the associated measures. Update where warranted and include as an Appendix.
-

⁴ All items under this element must be reviewed when preparing the Strategic Business Plan.

⁸ A separate Drought Management Plan with NOW Concurrence will not be necessary in the future if these items are addressed in your SBP.

Appendix B Detailed Restriction Rules

Details of Restriction Levels and Proposed Rules

In addition to Permanent Water Conservation Measures, there are five levels of water conservation measures/ restrictions that correlate to the five drought response levels. A general description of each level of restrictions is included below. The measures also include special provisions for the elderly, infirmed and disabled.

Permanent Water Conservation Measures: As part of Councils overall Demand Management strategy in conserving water at all times (during drought and non-drought periods) the following permanent water conservation measures apply;

- Sprinklers / fixed hoses are not to be used for watering of gardens and lawns between; 8.00am to 6.00pm during Eastern Daylight Saving Time; and between 9.00am and 4.00pm Eastern Standard Time.
- Hand held hoses fitted with a trigger nozzle may be used at any time for general watering of gardens and vehicle washing.
- No hosing down of hard surfaces (pressurised hose to be used).
- New turf may be watered at any time with an approved Water Management Plan for up to six weeks from installation of turf.

Permanent water conservation is voluntary only; the Local Government Act and regulation do not currently provide a mechanism to enforce these measures except s637 of the Act which prohibits waste of water.

Level 1 Low: This is the first temporary level of restriction and would involve a restriction on the use of hoses and drip irrigation systems during the heat of the day, as well as limiting the use of sprinklers to 2 hours per day. The introduction of this level of restrictions would raise community awareness of drought conditions, however only minor reductions in water consumptions would be achieved.

New turf may be watered at any time with an approved Water Management Plan for up to six weeks from installation of turf.

Level 2 Moderate: This level of restriction would involve a ban on sprinklers, as well as limiting the use of hoses and drip irrigation systems to 2 hours per day in order to reduce water consumption to just below average consumption levels. Implementation of this level of restrictions would create some level of inconvenience for the community; however most lawns and gardens would not be significantly impacted.

Level 3 High: This level of restriction would further limit the use of hoses and drip irrigation to 2 hours twice a week in order to further reduce water consumption below average consumption levels. Implementation of this level of restrictions would create inconvenience for the community. Some losses of lawns and gardens would be expected at this stage.

Level 4 Very High: This severe level of restriction would involve a ban on all outdoor and non-essential usage in order to reduce water consumption to around winter consumption levels. Due to the major impacts of this level of restrictions, implementation of level 4 restrictions would only occur in very rare circumstances. Impacts would include the severe stress, and in many cases dying off, of lawns and gardens. Non-residential customers would be urged to reduce their demand.

Level 5 Emergency: This extreme level of restriction would involve an all-out campaign to reduce water consumption to absolute minimum levels (<150 L/person/day). This level of restrictions would involve a major disruption to normal lifestyles, including reduced shower times, reduced number of washing machine loads and a ban on the use of residential evaporative coolers (except where exemptions apply). Non-residential customers would be requested to restrict the use of water for only essential services. Aggressive water conservation measures are at Level 5 to extend Armidale's water supply for as long as possible, with the possible temporary shutting down of non-essential, water dependent services.

Level 5 Emergency restrictions will have further three 'trigger points', based on the number of days before the town water supply runs out. Level 5 Trigger 1 will commence when total storage level get to about 40 % (or 365 days of water is left in the dam) and progress to Trigger 2 with 250 days and Trigger 3 with 60 days. Each trigger point has specific messaging and actions and is outlined in the ARC Drought Management Water Restrictions Communication and Engagement Strategy 2019.

Armidale Regional Council Drought Management Plan - Water Restriction Guide																			
Category	Activity	Permanent		Level 1		Level 2		Level 3		Level 4		Level 5		Level 5 Trigger 1		Level 5 Trigger 2		Level 5 Trigger 3	
	Total storage (%)			Low		Moderate		High		Very High		Emergency		Emergency		Emergency		Emergency	
	Target demand	200 L/P/D		180 L/P/D		170 L/P/D		160 L/P/D		155 L/P/D		145 L/P/D		120 L/P/D		100 L/P/D		80 L/P/D	
General watering lawns and gardens	Buckets/cans	✓		✓		✓		R	2 hours Note D	X	Recycled water only	X	Recycled water only	X	Recycled water only	X	Recycled water only	X	Recycled water only
	Hand held hoses (with trigger nozzle)	✓		R	Not during heat of the day Note E	R	2 hours Note D	R	2 Hours On Sunday and Wednesday Note D	X		X		X		X		X	
	Water efficient drip irrigation	✓		R	Not during heat of the day Note E	R	2 hours Note D	X		X		X		X		X		X	
	Sprinklers and fixed hoses	R	Not during heat of the day	R	2 hours only Note D	X		X		X		X		X		X		X	
	Watering of new turf for upto 6 weeks	R	Not during heat of the day	R	Not during heat of the day Note E	R	2 hours Note D	R	2 Hours On Sunday and Wednesday Note D	X		X		X		X		X	
Public parks, gardens and facilities	Watering vegetation	✓		R	Not during heat of the day Note E	R	Selected parks and sports field and all garden beds. Note E & H	R	Selected parks and sports field and all garden beds. Note G&H	X		X		X		X		X	
Vehicle washing	Buckets	✓		✓		✓		R	Not during heat of the day Note E	R	Windscreen /Licence plate cleaning only	R	Windscreen /Licence plate cleaning only	R	Windscreen /Licence plate cleaning only	R	Windscreen /Licence plate cleaning only	R	Windscreen /Licence plate cleaning only
	Hand held hoses	✓		R	Not during heat of the day Note E	R	2 hours Note D	X		X		X		X		X		X	
Washing down hard surfaces	High pressure cleaner	✓		✓		✓		X		X		X		X		X		X	
	Hand held hoses	X		X		X		X		X		X		X		X		X	
Private swimming pools	Filling	✓		R	Permit required for filling pools >5kL	R	Permit required for filling pools >5kL	X		X		X		X		X		X	
	Topping up	✓		✓		✓		R	Buckets only - no fixed hoses.	X		X		X		X		X	
Council swimming pool	Lawns and surrounds	✓		R	Lawn areas watered in accordance with Level 1 restrictions	R	Lawn areas watered in accordance with Level 2 restrictions	R	Lawn areas watered in accordance with Level 3 restrictions	X		X		X		X		X	
	Topping up	✓		✓		✓		✓		✓		✓		✓		✓		X	
Hydrotherapy Pool		✓	No restrictions to health facilities	✓	No restrictions to health facilities	✓	No restrictions to health facilities	✓	No restrictions to health facilities	✓	No restrictions to health facilities	✓	No restrictions to health facilities	✓	No restrictions to health facilities	✓	No restrictions to health facilities	✓	No restrictions to health facilities
Evaporative coolers	Use of water for cooling	✓		✓		✓		✓		✓		R	Business, commercial and domestic aged and disabled only.	R	Business, commercial and domestic aged and disabled only.	R	Business, commercial and domestic aged and disabled only.	R	Business, commercial and domestic aged and disabled only.
Water cartage	Treated water for stock and domestic	✓		✓		✓		R	Internal domestic use only	R	Internal domestic use only	R	Internal domestic use only	R	Internal domestic use only	R	Internal domestic use only	R	Internal domestic use only

Armidale Regional Council Drought Management Plan - Water Restriction Guide																			
Category	Activity	Permanent		Level 1		Level 2		Level 3		Level 4		Level 5		Level 5 Trigger 1		Level 5 Trigger 2		Level 5 Trigger 3	
				Low		Moderate		High		Very High		Emergency		Emergency		Emergency		Emergency	
	Total storage (%)			80%		70%		60%		55%		50%		The Day Zero – 365 days		The Day Zero – 250 days		The Day Zero – 60 days	
	Target demand	200 L/P/D		180 L/P/D		170 L/P/D		160 L/P/D		155 L/P/D		145 L/P/D		120 L/P/D		100 L/P/D		80 L/P/D	
	Treated water for all other uses	✓		✓		✓		X		X		X		X		X		X	
Commercial and industrial	General use (excl lawns and garden)	✓		✓		✓		R	Target 15% reduction in usage.	R	Target 20% reduction in usage.	R	Target 25% reduction in usage.	R	Target 25% reduction in usage.	R	Target 25% reduction in usage.	R	Target 25% reduction in usage.
	Landscaping (incl lawns and garden)	✓		R	Not during heat of the day Note E	R	Hand held hoses only for 2 hours Note D	X		X		X		X		X		X	
	Irrigation of sports areas	✓		R	Not during heat of the day Note E Water Management Plan encouraged	R	2 hours with approved Water Management Plan Note D	R	Target 50% reduction in usage	X		X		X		X		X	
Elm St Guyra Tomato Farm	Irrigation of Hydroponic Tomatoes	✓		✓		✓		R	Target 15% reduction in usage.	R	Target 20% reduction in usage.	R	Target 25% reduction in usage with approved Water Management Plan – supply may be limited to the amenities when Malpas dam gets to 35%.						
Key:		Notes:																	
✓= Allowed at all times		A. Restrictions apply to the use of Armidale and Guyra town water.																	
X = Banned at all times		B. Greywater and rainwater can be used at any time provided that rainwater tanks are not topped up from town supplies.																	
R = Restricted use only		C. A Water Management Plan may be approved to allow the use of fixed sprinklers outside the nominated hours during Permanent and Level 1 restriction periods.																	
		D. Any reference to 2 hours of restricted watering means between the hours of 6.00 pm and 8.00 pm during daylight saving and 5.00 pm and 7.00 pm at all other times.																	
		E. Not during the heat of the day means not between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm during daylight saving and 10.00 am and 3.00 pm at other times.																	
		F. Periods of water restrictions Level 1 to Level 5 will be policed by Council Officers. The maximum penalty under the Local Government Act for a breach of restrictions is \$2,200 for corporations and \$220 for individuals.																	
		G. Selected parks and sports fields may be watered for 1 watering cycle on Mondays & Thursdays outside the daytime.																	
		H. Armidale Central Park, Armidale Sportsground, Rologas Field, Harris Park, Guyra Lions Park Sporting Complex																	

Survey Responses

28 October 2020 - 26 November 2020

Survey - drought management - town water

Your Say Armidale

Project: Survey - Share your views on drought management - town water supply



VISITORS					
114					
CONTRIBUTORS			RESPONSES		
72			72		
5	2	65	5	2	65
Registered	Unverified	Anonymous	Registered	Unverified	Anonymous



Respondent No: 1

Login:

Email:

Responded At: Nov 16, 2020 17:17:13 pm

Last Seen: Nov 26, 2020 21:15:48 pm

IP Address: 106.69.132.208

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day.At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day.What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- 190-180 Litres /person/day
-
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise.Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?
- NO
-

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	YES
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	YES
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	At level 4
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 2. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 3. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 4. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 5. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 6. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation



Respondent No: 2

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 16, 2020 17:39:52 pm

Last Seen: Nov 16, 2020 17:39:52 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day.At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day.What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise.Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?

YES

YES

190-180 Litres /person/day

YES

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	<p>At level 3</p>
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 2. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 3. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 4. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 5. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 6. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs



Respondent No: 3

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 16, 2020 17:43:22 pm

Last Seen: Nov 16, 2020 17:43:22 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day.At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day.What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- 210-200 Litres /person/day
-
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise.Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?
- NO
-

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	<p>Other (please specify)</p>
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	<p>At level 4</p>
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 2. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 3. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 4. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 5. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 6. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water.



Respondent No: 4

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 16, 2020 17:49:39 pm

Last Seen: Nov 16, 2020 17:49:39 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day. At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day. What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise. Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?

YES

YES

190-180 Litres /person/day

YES

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	YES
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	YES
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	At level 3
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 2. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 3. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 4. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 5. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 6. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation



Respondent No: 5

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 16, 2020 17:50:28 pm

Last Seen: Nov 16, 2020 17:50:28 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day.At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day.What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise.Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?

YES

YES

200-190 Litres /person/day

YES

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	YES
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	NO
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	At level 3
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 2. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 3. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 4. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 5. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 6. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million)



Respondent No: 6

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 16, 2020 17:54:16 pm

Last Seen: Nov 16, 2020 17:54:16 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day.At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day.What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- 210-200 Litres /person/day
-
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise.Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?
- YES
-

Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?	NO
Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?	YES
Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?	At level 4
Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 2. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 3. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 4. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 5. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 6. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water.



Respondent No: 7

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 16, 2020 17:57:54 pm

Last Seen: Nov 16, 2020 17:57:54 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day.At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day.What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise.Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?

YES

YES

200-190 Litres /person/day

YES

Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?	NO
Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?	YES
Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?	At level 4
Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.	<p>1. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies</p> <p>2. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation</p> <p>3. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation</p>



Respondent No: 8

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 16, 2020 18:00:17 pm

Last Seen: Nov 16, 2020 18:00:17 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day.At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day.What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise.Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?

YES

YES

200-190 Litres /person/day

NO

Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?

NO

Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?

YES

Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?

At level 3

Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.

1.



Respondent No: 9

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 16, 2020 18:03:57 pm

Last Seen: Nov 16, 2020 18:03:57 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day.At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day.What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise.Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?

YES

YES

190-180 Litres /person/day

YES

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	<p>At level 5</p>
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 2. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 3. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 4. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 5. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 6. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation



Respondent No: 10

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 16, 2020 18:20:44 pm

Last Seen: Nov 16, 2020 18:20:44 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day.At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day.What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- 190-180 Litres /person/day
-
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise.Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?
- YES
-

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	YES
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	YES
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	At level 5
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 2. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 3. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 4. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 5. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 6. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation



Respondent No: 11

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 16, 2020 18:35:30 pm

Last Seen: Nov 16, 2020 18:35:30 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- NO
-
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- NO
-
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day.At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day.What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- 190-180 Litres /person/day
-
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise.Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?
- YES
-

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	<p>At level 5</p>
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 2. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 3. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 4. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 5. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 6. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water.



Respondent No: 12

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 16, 2020 18:35:48 pm

Last Seen: Nov 16, 2020 18:35:48 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day.At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day.What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- 200-190 Litres /person/day
-
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise.Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?
- YES
-

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	<p>At level 5</p>
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 2. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 3. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 4. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 5. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 6. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation



Respondent No: 13

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 16, 2020 18:38:02 pm

Last Seen: Nov 16, 2020 18:38:02 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day. At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day. What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise. Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?

YES

YES

190-180 Litres /person/day

YES

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	YES
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	YES
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	At level 3
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 2. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 3. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 4. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 5. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 6. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation



Respondent No: 14

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 16, 2020 18:49:20 pm

Last Seen: Nov 16, 2020 18:49:20 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day. At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day. What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise. Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?

YES

YES

200-190 Litres /person/day

YES

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	<p>Other (please specify)</p>
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	<p>At level 5</p>
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 2. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 3. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 4. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 5. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 6. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million)



Respondent No: 15

Login:

Email:

Responded At: Nov 16, 2020 20:44:34 pm

Last Seen: Nov 16, 2020 09:30:29 am

IP Address: 49.180.3.150

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- NO
Other (please specify)
-
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day.At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day.What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- 190-180 Litres /person/day
-
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise.Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?
- YES
-

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	<p>YES Other (please specify)</p>
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	<p>At level 5</p>
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 2. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 3. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 4. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 5. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 6. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million)



Respondent No: 16

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 16, 2020 20:47:51 pm

Last Seen: Nov 16, 2020 20:47:51 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day.At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day.What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- 230-220 Litres /person/day
-
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise.Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?
- Other (please specify)
-

Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?	YES
Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?	YES
Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?	At level 3
Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 2. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 3. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 4. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 5. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 6. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million)



Respondent No: 17

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 17, 2020 06:43:38 am

Last Seen: Nov 17, 2020 06:43:38 am

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- Other (please specify)
-
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day. At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day. What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- 190-180 Litres /person/day
-
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise. Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?
- YES
-

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	<p>Other (please specify)</p>
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	<p>YES Other (please specify)</p>
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	<p>At level 5</p>
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 2. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 3. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 4. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 5. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 6. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water.



Respondent No: 18

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 17, 2020 09:02:25 am

Last Seen: Nov 17, 2020 09:02:25 am

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day.At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day.What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- 220-210 Litres /person/day
-
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise.Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?
- NO
-

Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?	NO
Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?	YES
Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?	At level 4
Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 2. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 3. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 4. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 5. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 6. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation



Respondent No: 19

Login:

Email:

Responded At: Nov 17, 2020 10:14:02 am

Last Seen: Nov 16, 2020 23:10:29 pm

IP Address: 203.35.32.87

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day. At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day. What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise. Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?

YES

YES

190-180 Litres /person/day

YES

Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?	YES
Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?	YES
Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?	Never
Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 2. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 3. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 4. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 5. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 6. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies



Respondent No: 20

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 17, 2020 12:44:11 pm

Last Seen: Nov 17, 2020 12:44:11 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- NO
Other (please specify)
-
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- NO
-
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day.At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day.What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- 240-230 Litres /person/day
-
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise.Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?
- YES
-

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	<p>At level 5</p>
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 2. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 3. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 4. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 5. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 6. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation



Respondent No: 21

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 17, 2020 19:06:17 pm

Last Seen: Nov 17, 2020 19:06:17 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day.At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day.What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- 190-180 Litres /person/day
-
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise.Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?
- NO
-

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	<p>At level 3</p>
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 2. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 3. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 4. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 5. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 6. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation



Respondent No: 22

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 18, 2020 11:31:24 am

Last Seen: Nov 18, 2020 11:31:24 am

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day. At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day. What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise. Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?

YES

YES

240-230 Litres /person/day

YES

Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?	YES
Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?	YES
Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?	At level 5
Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 2. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 3. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 4. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 5. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 6. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million)



Respondent No: 23

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 18, 2020 11:36:48 am

Last Seen: Nov 18, 2020 11:36:48 am

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day.At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day.What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise.Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?

YES

YES

200-190 Litres /person/day

NO

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	YES
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	YES
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	At level 3
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 2. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 3. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 4. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 5. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 6. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million)



Respondent No: 24

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 18, 2020 11:42:06 am

Last Seen: Nov 18, 2020 11:42:06 am

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day.At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day.What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- 200-190 Litres /person/day
-
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise.Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?
- NO
-

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	<p>At level 5</p>
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 2. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 3. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 4. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 5. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 6. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water.



Respondent No: 25

Login:

Email:

Responded At: Nov 18, 2020 12:35:16 pm

Last Seen: Nov 16, 2020 10:37:18 am

IP Address: 1.129.104.47

Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?

Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?

Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day. At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day. What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?

Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise. Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?

NO

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	<p>Other (please specify)</p>
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	<p>Other (please specify)</p>
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	<p>At level 4</p>
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 2. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 3. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 4. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 5. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 6. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water.



Respondent No: 26

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 18, 2020 13:00:34 pm

Last Seen: Nov 18, 2020 13:00:34 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day.At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day.What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- 220-210 Litres /person/day
-
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise.Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?
- YES
-

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	YES
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	YES
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	Never
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 2. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 3. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 4. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 5. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 6. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million)



Respondent No: 27

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 18, 2020 13:46:34 pm

Last Seen: Nov 18, 2020 13:46:34 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day.At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day.What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- 240-230 Litres /person/day
-
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise.Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?
- YES
-

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	YES
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	YES
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	At level 5
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 2. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 3. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 4. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 5. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 6. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation



Respondent No: 28

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 18, 2020 14:06:22 pm

Last Seen: Nov 18, 2020 14:06:22 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day.At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day.What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- 190-180 Litres /person/day
-
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise.Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?
- YES
-

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	YES
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	YES
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	At level 5
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 2. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 3. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 4. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 5. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 6. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million)



Respondent No: 29

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 18, 2020 14:41:46 pm

Last Seen: Nov 18, 2020 14:41:46 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day.At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day.What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- 200-190 Litres /person/day
-
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise.Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?
- YES
-

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	<p>YES</p> <p>Other (please specify)</p>
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	<p>At level 4</p>
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 2. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 3. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 4. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 5. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 6. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water.



Respondent No: 30

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 18, 2020 15:07:02 pm

Last Seen: Nov 18, 2020 15:07:02 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day.At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day.What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- 200-190 Litres /person/day
-
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise.Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?
- YES
-

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	<p>Other (please specify)</p>
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	<p>At level 4</p>
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 2. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 3. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 4. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 5. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 6. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million)



Respondent No: 31

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 18, 2020 15:39:29 pm

Last Seen: Nov 18, 2020 15:39:29 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- Other (please specify)
-
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day.At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day.What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- 240-230 Litres /person/day
-
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise.Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?
- NO
-

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	<p>At level 3</p>
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 2. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 3. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 4. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 5. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 6. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation



Respondent No: 32

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 18, 2020 16:08:59 pm

Last Seen: Nov 18, 2020 16:08:59 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day. At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day. What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- 190-180 Litres /person/day
-
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise. Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?
- Other (please specify)
-

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	<p>At level 5</p>
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 2. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 3. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 4. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 5. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 6. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million)



Respondent No: 33

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 18, 2020 16:44:23 pm

Last Seen: Nov 18, 2020 16:44:23 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day. At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day. What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise. Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?

YES

YES

190-180 Litres /person/day

YES

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	<p>At level 3</p>
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 2. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 3. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 4. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 5. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 6. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs



Respondent No: 34

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 18, 2020 18:43:34 pm

Last Seen: Nov 18, 2020 18:43:34 pm

IP Address: n/a

Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?

Other (please specify)

Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?

YES

Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day. At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day. What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?

240-230 Litres /person/day

Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise. Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?

YES

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	YES
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	YES
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	Never
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 2. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 3. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 4. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 5. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 6. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation



Respondent No: 35

Login:

Email:

Responded At: Nov 18, 2020 20:16:31 pm

Last Seen: Nov 18, 2020 20:16:31 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day.At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day.What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- 210-200 Litres /person/day
-
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise.Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?
- YES
-

Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?	YES
Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?	NO
Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?	At level 4
Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 2. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 3. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 4. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 5. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 6. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation



Respondent No: 36

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 18, 2020 20:05:56 pm

Last Seen: Nov 18, 2020 20:05:56 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- Other (please specify)
-
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day.At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day.What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- 200-190 Litres /person/day
-
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise.Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?
- YES
-

Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?	Other (please specify)
Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?	YES
Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?	At level 4
Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 2. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 3. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 4. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 5. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 6. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation



Respondent No: 37

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 18, 2020 20:12:12 pm

Last Seen: Nov 18, 2020 20:12:12 pm

IP Address: n/a

Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?

Other (please specify)

Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?

YES

Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day. At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day. What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?

190-180 Litres /person/day

Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise. Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?

NO

Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?	NO
Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?	YES
Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?	At level 4
Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 2. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 3. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 4. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 5. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 6. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million)



Respondent No: 38

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 18, 2020 22:23:09 pm

Last Seen: Nov 18, 2020 22:23:09 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day.At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day.What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- 190-180 Litres /person/day
-
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise.Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?
- YES
-

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	YES
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	YES
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	At level 5
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 2. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 3. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 4. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 5. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 6. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million)



Respondent No: 39

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 19, 2020 05:59:06 am

Last Seen: Nov 19, 2020 05:59:06 am

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day. At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day. What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise. Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?

YES

YES

190-180 Litres /person/day

YES

Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?	NO
Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?	YES
Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?	At level 3
Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 2. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 3. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 4. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 5. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 6. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water.



Respondent No: 40

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 19, 2020 06:39:38 am

Last Seen: Nov 19, 2020 06:39:38 am

IP Address: n/a

Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?

Other (please specify)

Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?

Other (please specify)

Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day. At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day. What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?

240-230 Litres /person/day

Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise. Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?

YES

Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?	YES
Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?	YES
Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?	Never
Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 2. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 3. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 4. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 5. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation



Respondent No: 41

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 19, 2020 11:22:57 am

Last Seen: Nov 19, 2020 11:22:57 am

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day.At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day.What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- 200-190 Litres /person/day
-
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise.Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?
- YES
-

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	<p>At level 5</p>
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 2. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 3. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 4. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 5. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 6. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water.



Respondent No: 42

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 19, 2020 12:04:45 pm

Last Seen: Nov 19, 2020 12:04:45 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- NO
Other (please specify)
-
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- NO
Other (please specify)
-
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day. At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day. What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- 240-230 Litres /person/day
-
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise. Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?
- YES
-

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	<p>Other (please specify)</p>
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	<p>Never</p>
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 2. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 3. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 4. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 5. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 6. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million)



Respondent No: 43

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 19, 2020 15:32:32 pm

Last Seen: Nov 19, 2020 15:32:32 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- NO
Other (please specify)
-
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- NO
Other (please specify)
-
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day. At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day. What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- 220-210 Litres /person/day
-
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise. Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?
- YES
-

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	<p>At level 3</p>
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 2. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 3. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 4. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 5. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 6. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation



Respondent No: 44

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 19, 2020 16:49:30 pm

Last Seen: Nov 19, 2020 16:49:30 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- NO
-
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- NO
-
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day.At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day.What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- 210-200 Litres /person/day
-
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise.Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?
- NO
-

Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?	YES
Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?	YES
Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?	At level 3
Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 2. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 3. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 4. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 5. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 6. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million)



Respondent No: 45

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 19, 2020 21:03:54 pm

Last Seen: Nov 19, 2020 21:03:54 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day.At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day.What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise.Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?

YES

YES

190-180 Litres /person/day

YES

Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?	YES
Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?	YES
Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?	At level 4
Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 2. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 3. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 4. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 5. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 6. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation



Respondent No: 46

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 20, 2020 14:34:11 pm

Last Seen: Nov 20, 2020 14:34:11 pm

IP Address: n/a

Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?

Other (please specify)

Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?

Other (please specify)

Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day. At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day. What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?

240-230 Litres /person/day

Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise. Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?

Other (please specify)

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	<p>YES</p> <p>Other (please specify)</p>
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	<p>Other (please specify)</p>
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	<p>Never</p>
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 2. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 3. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 4. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 5. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 6. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation



Respondent No: 47

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 20, 2020 15:57:09 pm

Last Seen: Nov 20, 2020 15:57:09 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day.At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day.What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- 190-180 Litres /person/day
-
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise.Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?
- Other (please specify)
-

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	<p>Other (please specify)</p>
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	<p>At level 4</p>
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 2. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 3. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 4. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 5. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 6. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water.



Respondent No: 48

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 21, 2020 12:13:33 pm

Last Seen: Nov 21, 2020 12:13:33 pm

IP Address: n/a

Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?

Other (please specify)

NO

Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?

NO

Other (please specify)

Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day. At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day. What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?

Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise. Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?

YES

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	YES
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	YES
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	At level 3
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 2. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 3. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 4. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 5. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 6. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation



Respondent No: 49

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 22, 2020 09:04:34 am

Last Seen: Nov 22, 2020 09:04:34 am

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day.At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day.What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise.Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?

YES

YES

190-180 Litres /person/day

NO

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	YES
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	YES
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	At level 5
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 2. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 3. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 4. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 5. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 6. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation



Respondent No: 50

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 22, 2020 12:24:05 pm

Last Seen: Nov 22, 2020 12:24:05 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day. At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day. What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise. Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?

YES

YES

190-180 Litres /person/day

YES

Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?	YES
Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?	YES
Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?	At level 4
Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 2. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 3. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 4. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 5. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 6. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation



Respondent No: 51

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 23, 2020 13:49:22 pm

Last Seen: Nov 23, 2020 13:49:22 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day. At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day. What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise. Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?

YES

YES

190-180 Litres /person/day

YES

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	<p>Other (please specify)</p>
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	<p>At level 5</p>
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 2. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 3. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 4. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 5. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 6. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water.



Respondent No: 52

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 24, 2020 08:57:34 am

Last Seen: Nov 24, 2020 08:57:34 am

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day. At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day. What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise. Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?

YES

YES

200-190 Litres /person/day

YES

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	<p>At level 4</p>
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 2. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 3. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 4. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 5. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 6. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies



Respondent No: 53

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 24, 2020 09:11:46 am

Last Seen: Nov 24, 2020 09:11:46 am

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day. At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day. What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise. Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?

YES

YES

190-180 Litres /person/day

YES

Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?	YES
Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?	NO
Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?	At level 4
Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 2. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 3. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 4. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 5. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 6. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million)



Respondent No: 54

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 24, 2020 09:11:55 am

Last Seen: Nov 24, 2020 09:11:55 am

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- Other (please specify)
-
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day.At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day.What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- 190-180 Litres /person/day
-
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise.Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?
- Other (please specify)
-

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	<p>Other (please specify)</p>
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	<p>At level 3</p>
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 2. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 3. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 4. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 5. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 6. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water.



Respondent No: 55

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 24, 2020 09:22:30 am

Last Seen: Nov 24, 2020 09:22:30 am

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day. At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day. What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise. Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?

YES

YES

190-180 Litres /person/day

YES

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	<p>Other (please specify)</p>
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	<p>At level 4</p>
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 2. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 3. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 4. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 5. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 6. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation



Respondent No: 56

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 24, 2020 10:40:47 am

Last Seen: Nov 24, 2020 10:40:47 am

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day. At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day. What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise. Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?

YES

YES

190-180 Litres /person/day

YES

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	YES
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	YES
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	At level 4
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 2. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 3. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 4. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 5. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 6. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water.



Respondent No: 57

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 24, 2020 11:54:45 am

Last Seen: Nov 24, 2020 11:54:45 am

IP Address: n/a

Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?

Other (please specify)

Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?

Other (please specify)

Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day. At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day. What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?

240-230 Litres /person/day

Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise. Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?

Other (please specify)

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	<p>Other (please specify)</p>
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	<p>At level 4</p>
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 2. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 3. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 4. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 5. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 6. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water.



Respondent No: 58

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 24, 2020 12:07:03 pm

Last Seen: Nov 24, 2020 12:07:03 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day. At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day. What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise. Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?

YES

YES

230-220 Litres /person/day

YES

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	YES
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	YES
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	At level 4
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 2. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 3. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 4. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 5. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 6. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water.



Respondent No: 59

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 24, 2020 13:32:34 pm

Last Seen: Nov 24, 2020 13:32:34 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- NO
-
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- NO
-
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day.At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day.What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- 240-230 Litres /person/day
-
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise.Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?
- YES
-

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	YES
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	YES
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	At level 5
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 2. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 3. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 4. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 5. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 6. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies



Respondent No: 60

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 24, 2020 13:44:07 pm

Last Seen: Nov 24, 2020 13:44:07 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day.At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day.What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- 190-180 Litres /person/day
-
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise.Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?
- YES
-

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	YES
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	NO
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	At level 4
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 2. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 3. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 4. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 5. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 6. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water.



Respondent No: 61

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 24, 2020 13:59:46 pm

Last Seen: Nov 24, 2020 13:59:46 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- YES
Other (please specify)
-
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day.At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day.What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- 190-180 Litres /person/day
-
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise.Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?
- YES
Other (please specify)
-

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	<p>YES</p> <p>Other (please specify)</p>
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	<p>At level 4</p>
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 2. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 3. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 4. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 5. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 6. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation



Respondent No: 62

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 24, 2020 14:35:51 pm

Last Seen: Nov 24, 2020 14:35:51 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day.At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day.What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise.Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?

YES

YES

190-180 Litres /person/day

NO

Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?	YES
Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?	YES
Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?	At level 4
Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 2. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 3. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 4. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 5. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 6. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation



Respondent No: 63

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 24, 2020 16:10:55 pm

Last Seen: Nov 24, 2020 16:10:55 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day.At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day.What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise.Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?

YES

YES

200-190 Litres /person/day

YES

Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?	YES
Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?	YES
Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?	At level 4
Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 2. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 3. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 4. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 5. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 6. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation



Respondent No: 64

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 24, 2020 16:19:47 pm

Last Seen: Nov 24, 2020 16:19:47 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day.At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day.What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise.Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?

YES

YES

190-180 Litres /person/day

YES

Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?	NO
Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?	YES
Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?	At level 5
Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 2. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 3. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 4. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 5. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 6. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water.



Respondent No: 65

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 24, 2020 16:30:42 pm

Last Seen: Nov 24, 2020 16:30:42 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- NO
-
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day.At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day.What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- 190-180 Litres /person/day
-
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise.Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?
- YES
-

Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?	YES
Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?	NO
Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?	At level 3
Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 2. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 3. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 4. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 5. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 6. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water.



Respondent No: 66

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 24, 2020 16:38:47 pm

Last Seen: Nov 24, 2020 16:38:47 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day. At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day. What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise. Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?

YES

YES

200-190 Litres /person/day

NO

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	<p>At level 4</p>
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 2. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 3. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 4. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 5. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 6. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million)



Respondent No: 67

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 24, 2020 19:00:05 pm

Last Seen: Nov 24, 2020 19:00:05 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- NO
-
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- NO
-
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day.At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day.What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- 240-230 Litres /person/day
-
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise.Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?
- YES
-

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	YES
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	YES
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	Never
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 2. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 3. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 4. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 5. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 6. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies



Respondent No: 68

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 24, 2020 22:21:50 pm

Last Seen: Nov 24, 2020 22:21:50 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day. At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day. What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- 220-210 Litres /person/day
-
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise. Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?
- NO
-

Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?	YES
Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?	NO
Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?	At level 5
Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 2. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 3. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 4. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 5. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 6. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million)



Respondent No: 69

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 25, 2020 14:48:25 pm

Last Seen: Nov 25, 2020 14:48:25 pm

IP Address: n/a

- Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?
- YES
-
- Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day.At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day.What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?
- 200-190 Litres /person/day
-
- Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise.Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?
- YES
-

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	YES
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	YES
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	At level 5
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 2. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 3. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water. 4. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 5. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 6. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation



Respondent No: 70

Login:

Email:

m

Responded At: Nov 25, 2020 19:16:14 pm

Last Seen: Nov 25, 2020 19:16:14 pm

IP Address: n/a

Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?

Other (please specify)

Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?

YES

Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day. At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day. What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?

190-180 Litres /person/day

Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise. Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?

YES

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	<p>YES Other (please specify)</p>
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	<p>At level 5</p>
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 2. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 3. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 4. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 5. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 6. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water.



Respondent No: 71

Login:

Email:

Responded At: Nov 25, 2020 18:05:29 pm

Last Seen: Nov 25, 2020 06:42:40 am

IP Address: 49.195.8.223

Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?

Other (please specify)

Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?

NO

Other (please specify)

Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day. At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day. What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?

190-180 Litres /person/day

Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise. Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?

Other (please specify)

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	<p>YES</p> <p>Other (please specify)</p>
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	<p>Other (please specify)</p>
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<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 2. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 3. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 4. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 5. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 6. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water.



Respondent No: 72

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Nov 26, 2020 09:38:03 am

Last Seen: Nov 26, 2020 09:38:03 am

IP Address: n/a

Q1. During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. Level 1 = 80 %Level 2 = 70 %Level 3 = 60 %Level 4 = 55 %Level 5 = 50 %Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviourNoting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictionsDo you agree?

Other (please specify)

Q2. At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 LLevel 2 = 170 LLevel 3 = 160 LLevel 4 = 150 LLevel 5 = 140 LLevel 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a yearLevel 5b = 100 LLevel 5c = 80 LDo you agree?

YES

Q3. As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is approx. 180L /person/day. At the height of the drought emergency in 2019 when we were on maximum water saving, residents in this region did an amazing job and managed to bring their water consumption right down to 145L /person/day. What do you consider should be the Armidale region's 'new normal'?

190-180 Litres /person/day

Q4. Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise. Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?

NO

<p>Q5. Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source non-potable water to try to keep the trees alive but there was only enough water for about two watering sessions a week for a limited period. Should heritage listed public parks like Central Park be watered during level 4 and 5 water restrictions?</p>	<p>Other (please specify)</p>
<p>Q6. If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?</p>	<p>Other (please specify)</p>
<p>Q7. When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?</p>	<p>At level 4</p>
<p>Q8. To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies 2. Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs 3. Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million) 4. Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation 5. Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation 6. Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water.

Survey - drought management - town water

SURVEY RESPONSE REPORT

28 October 2020 - 26 November 2020

PROJECT NAME:

Survey - Share your views on drought management - town water supply



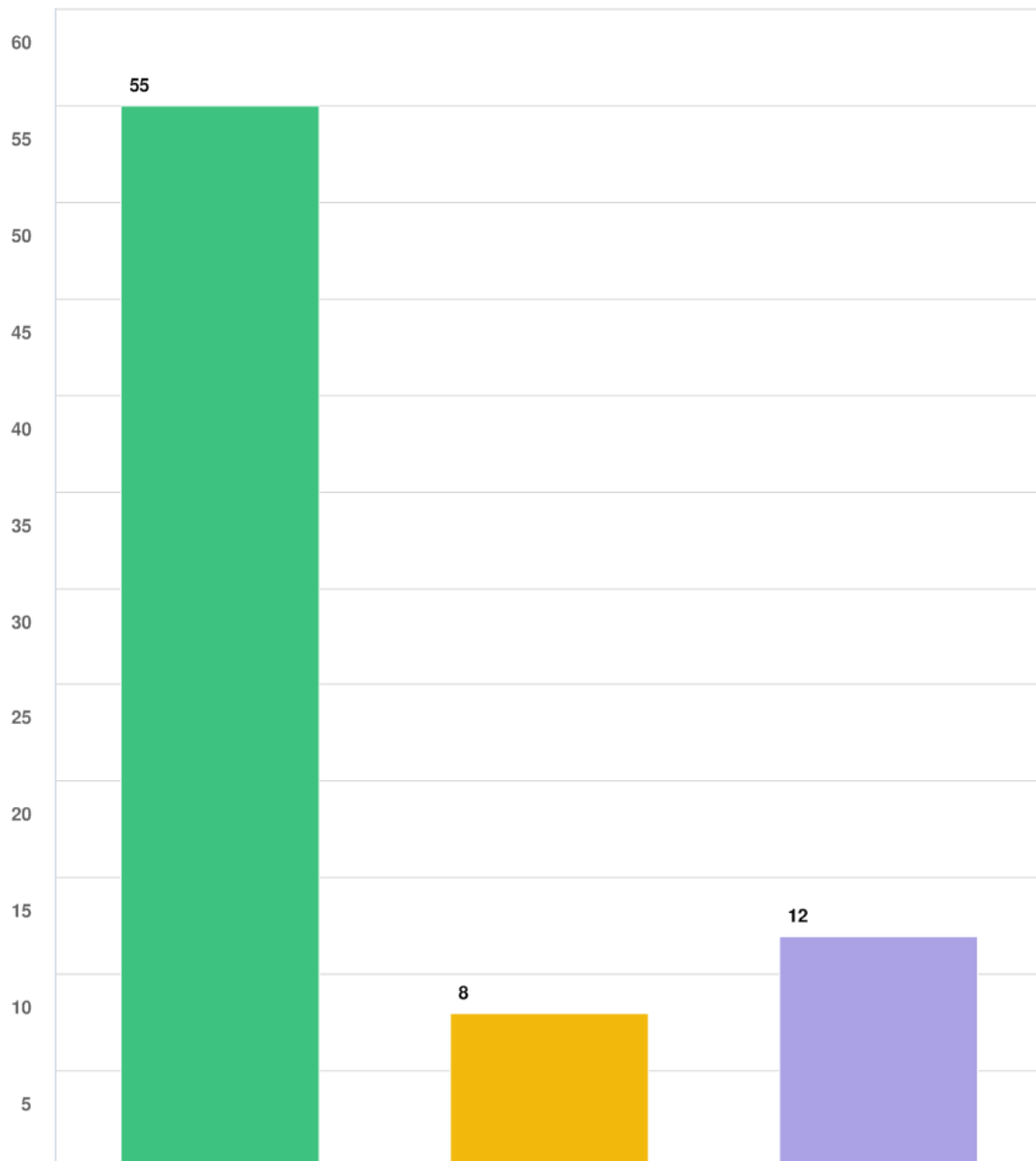
Survey - drought management - town water : Survey Report for 28 October 2020 to 26 November 2020



SURVEY QUESTIONS

Survey - drought management - town water : Survey Report for 28 October 2020 to 26 November 2020

Q1 During the recent stakeholder sessions on the development of a new Drought Management Plan it was generally agreed that five restriction levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community...



Question options

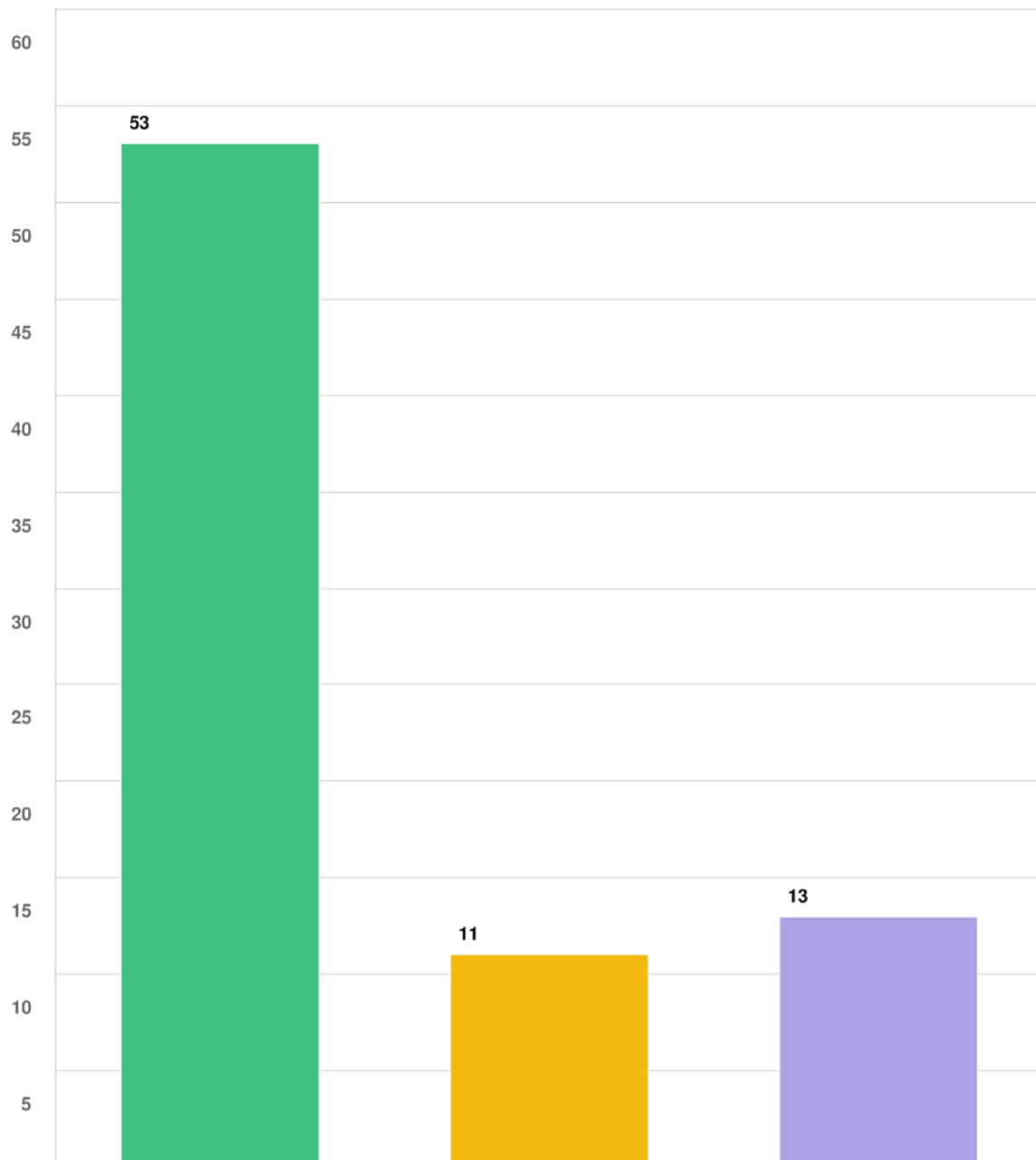
● YES ● NO ● Other (please specify)

Optional question (71 response(s), 1 skipped)

Question type: Checkbox Question

Survey - drought management - town water : Survey Report for 28 October 2020 to 26 November 2020

Q2 At the triggers agreed upon the litres per person per day consumption target per trigger level are listed below. Level 1 = 180 L Level 2 = 170 L Level 3 = 160 L Level 4 = 150 L Level 5 = 140 L Level 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a year Level 5...



Question options

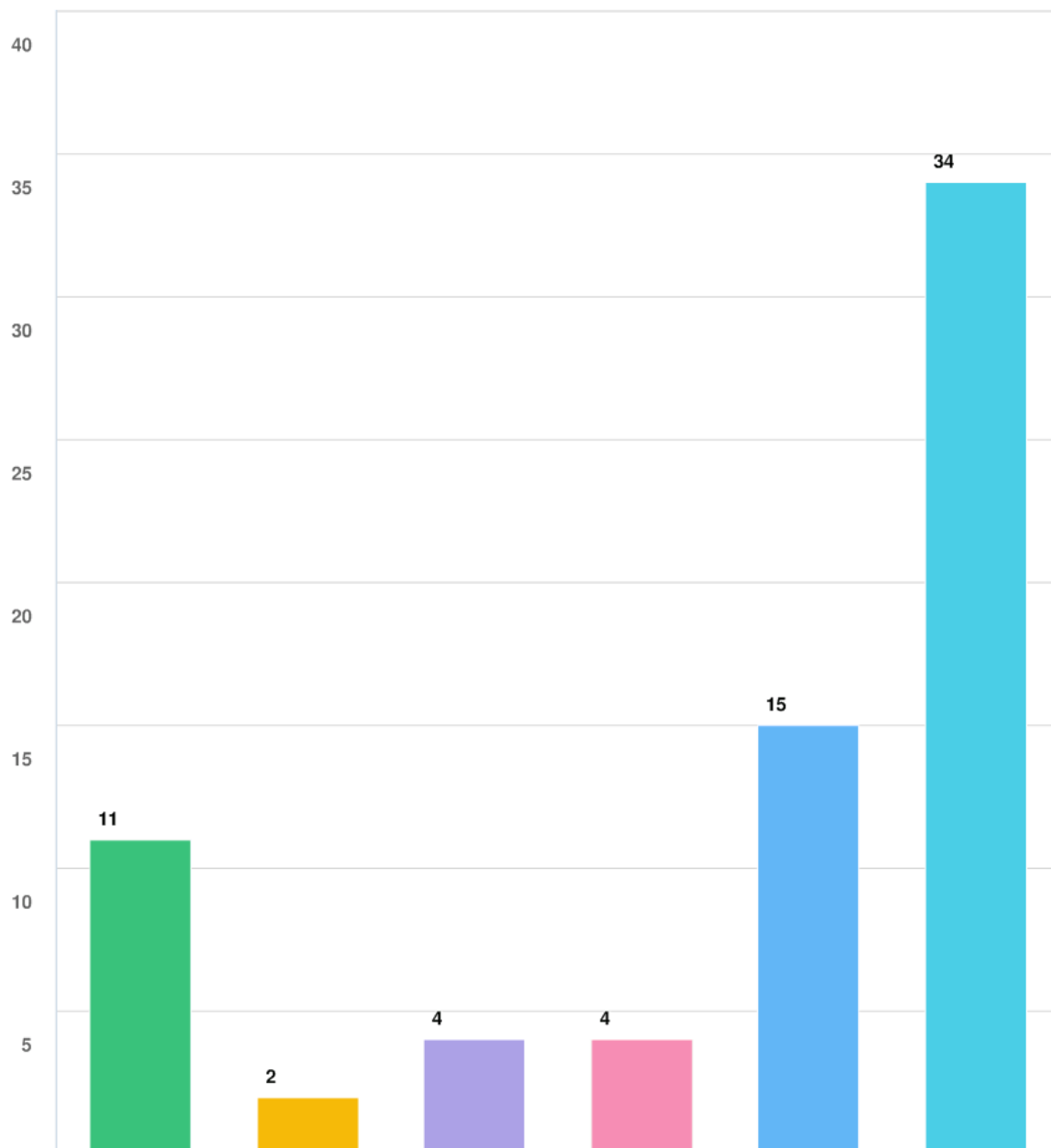
● YES ● NO ● Other (please specify)

Optional question (71 response(s), 1 skipped)

Question type: Checkbox Question

Survey - drought management - town water : Survey Report for 28 October 2020 to 26 November 2020

Q3 As we move into a new understanding of managing our town water usage for the long term. We need to consider what our 'new normal' is for average per person per day water consumption when not under water restriction rules. The NSW State average is a...



Question options

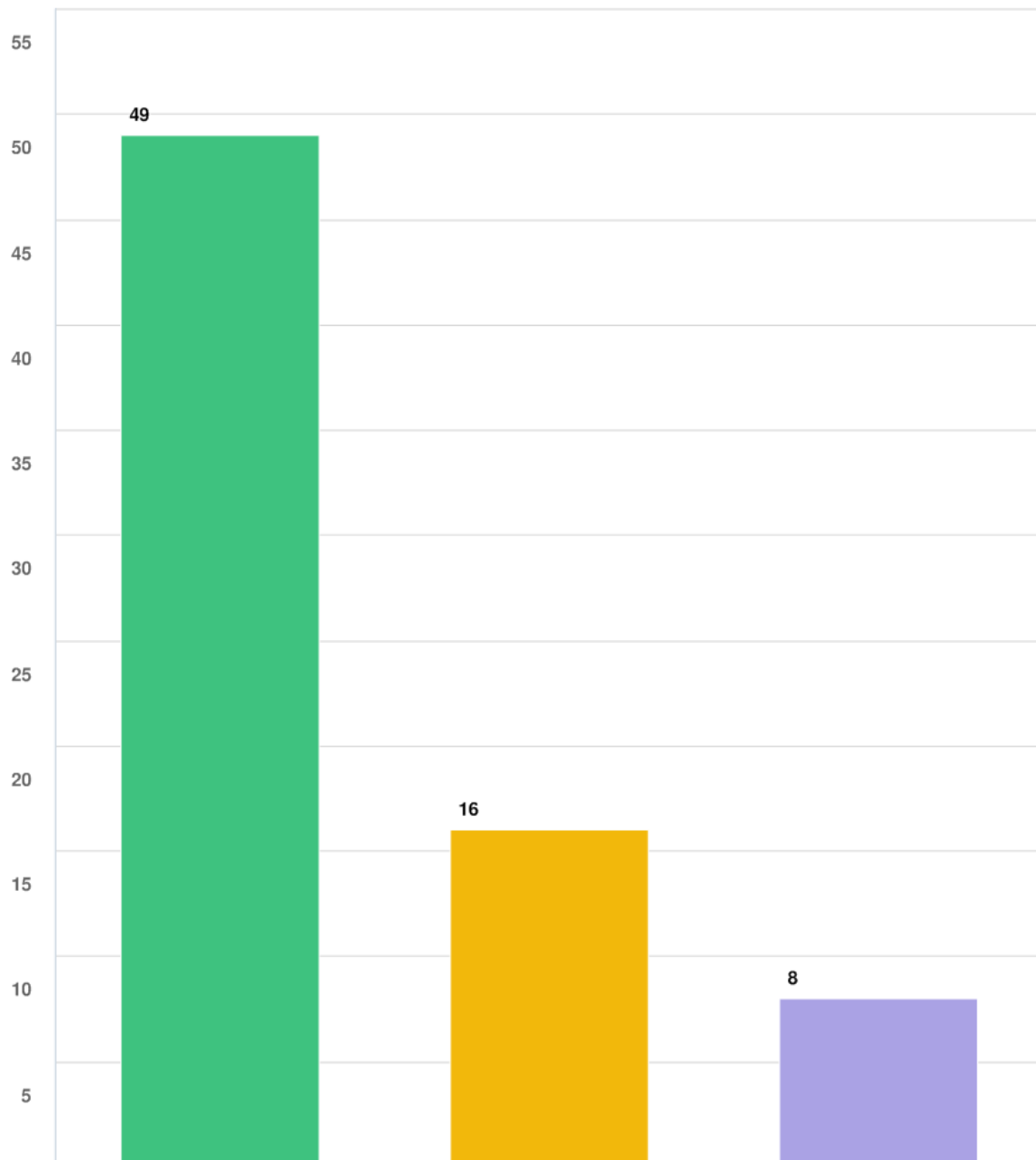
● 240-230 Litres /person/day
 ● 230-220 Litres /person/day
 ● 220-210 Litres /person/day
 ● 210-200 Litres /person/day
 ● 200-190 Litres /person/day
 ● 190-180 Litres /person/day

Optional question (70 response(s), 2 skipped)

Question type: Checkbox Question

Survey - drought management - town water : Survey Report for 28 October 2020 to 26 November 2020

Q4 Public swimming pools are a valuable social outlet for many people in the community, they also provide relief from summer temperatures and a place to regularly exercise. Should public swimming pools be open during level 5 restrictions?



Question options

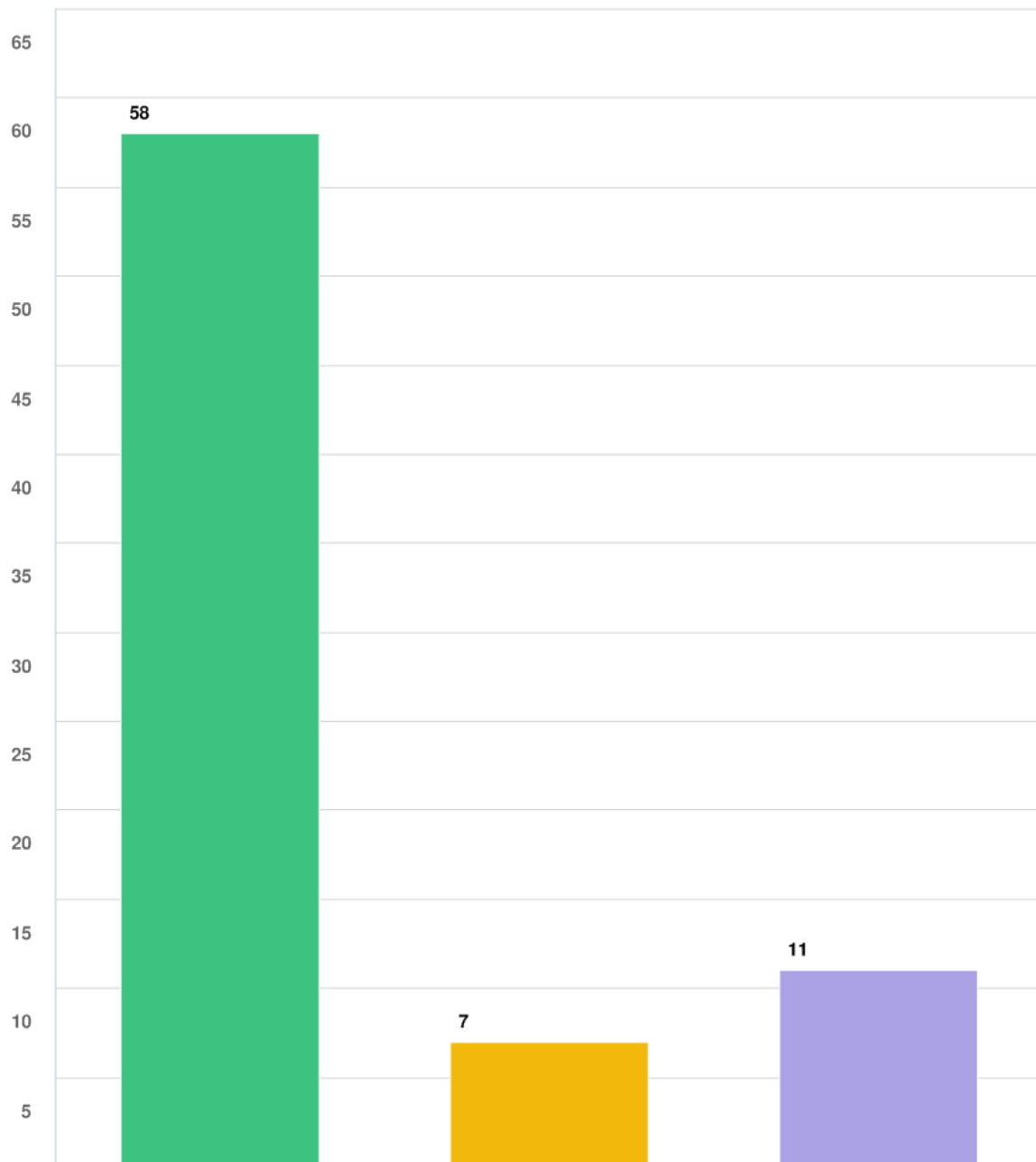
● YES ● NO ● Other (please specify)

Optional question (72 response(s), 0 skipped)

Question type: Checkbox Question

Survey - drought management - town water : Survey Report for 28 October 2020 to 26 November 2020

Q5 Heritage listed public parks like Armidale's Central Park are home to very old and rare species of trees. During the drought in 2019 the park was under extreme stress and some trees were struggling and could have died. Council was able to source no...



Question options

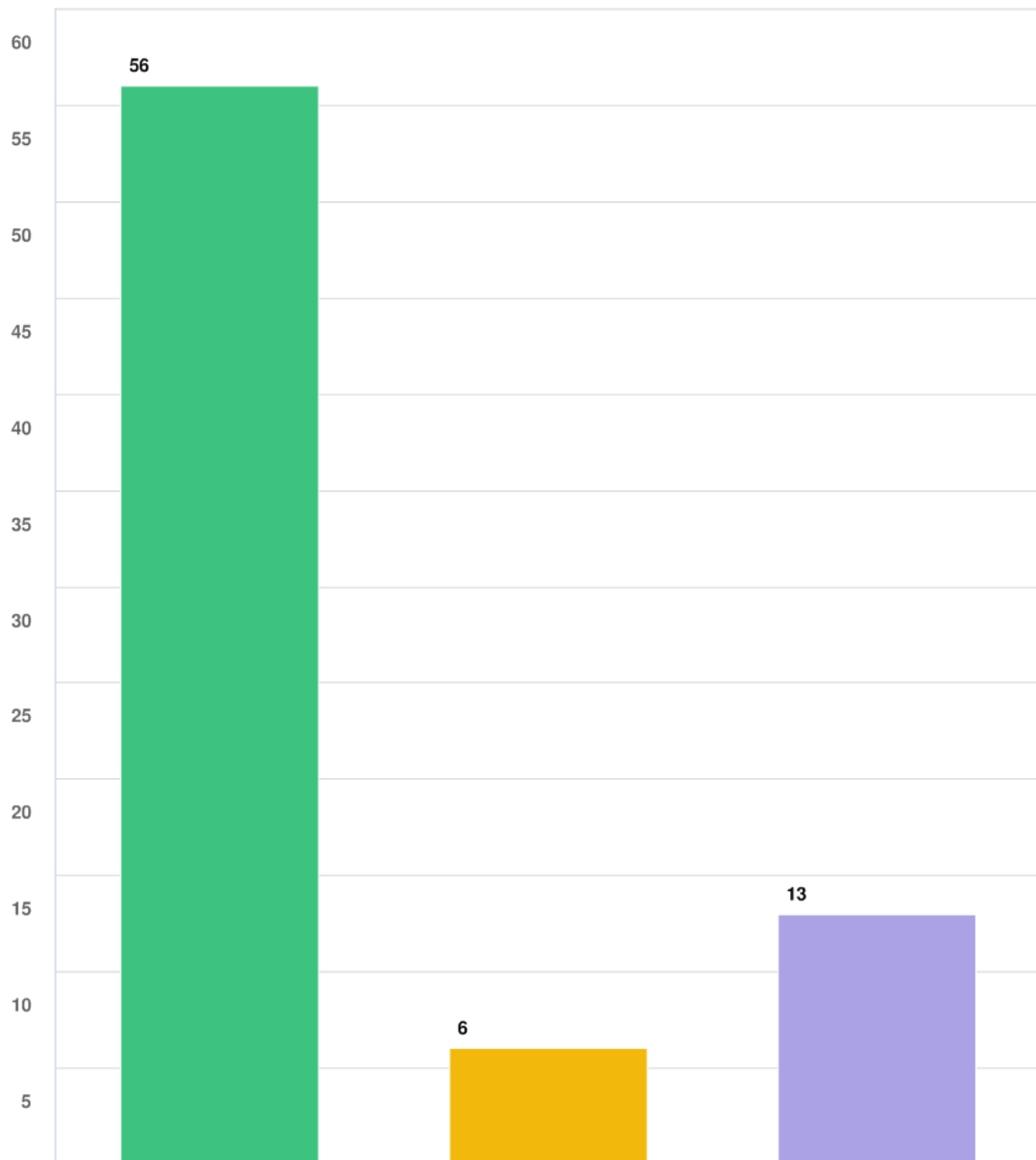
● YES ● NO ● Other (please specify)

Optional question (72 response(s), 0 skipped)

Question type: Checkbox Question

Survey - drought management - town water : Survey Report for 28 October 2020 to 26 November 2020

Q6 If Council could find a sustainable source of water (Ground water or safe recycled water) to water playing fields and parks as an alternative to using potable water, would you be in favour of this option?



Question options

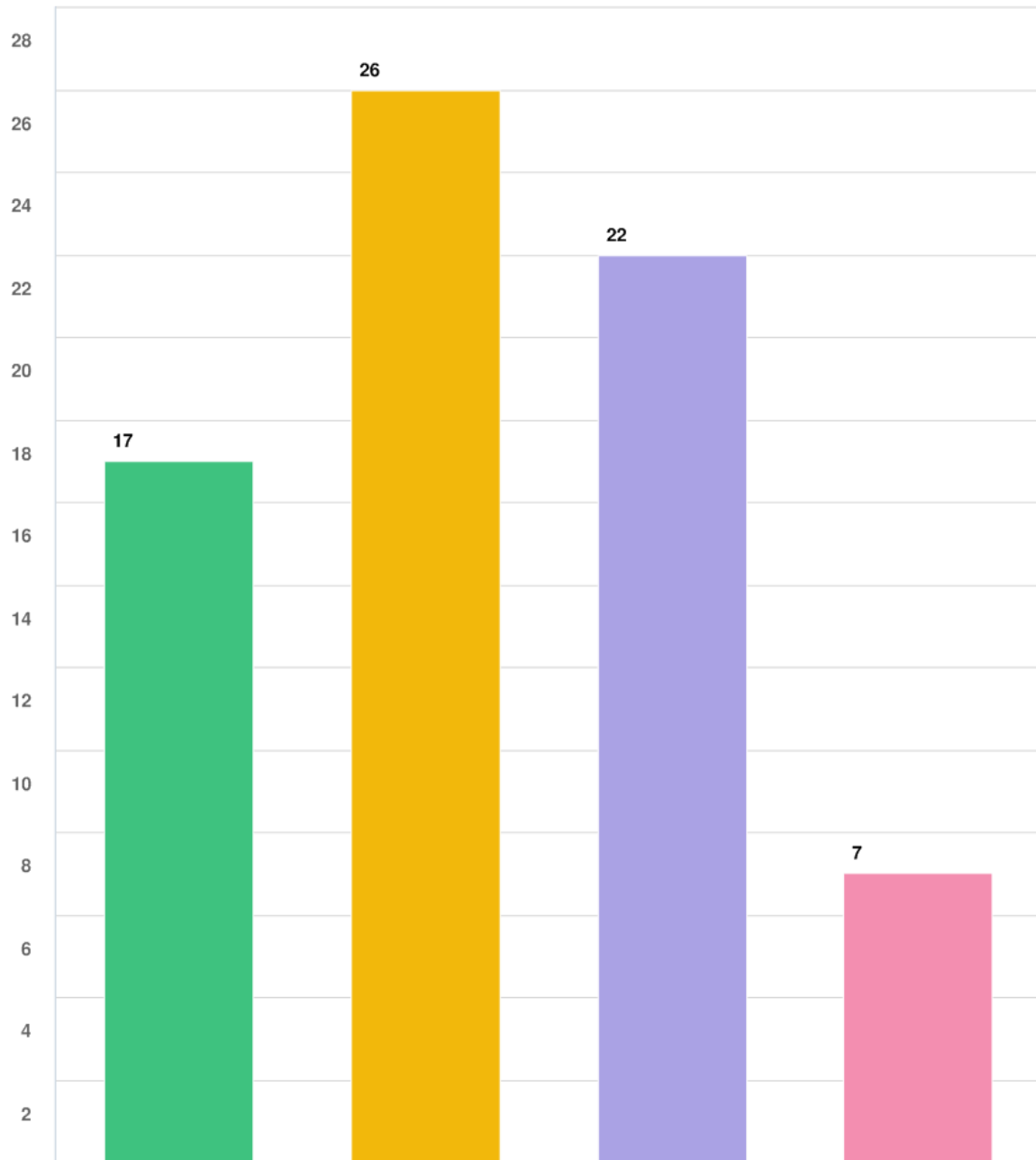
● YES ● NO ● Other (please specify)

Optional question (72 response(s), 0 skipped)

Question type: Checkbox Question

Survey - drought management - town water : Survey Report for 28 October 2020 to 26 November 2020

Q7 When should irrigating of sportsfields be stopped?



Question options

● At level 3 ● At level 4 ● At level 5 ● Never

Optional question (72 response(s), 0 skipped)
Question type: Checkbox Question

Survey - drought management - town water : Survey Report for 28 October 2020 to 26 November 2020

Q8 To assist Council to manage the Armidale region's water infrastructure and to develop initiatives to improve water conservation please rank the projects below. from 1. being the highest priority to 6. the lowest.

OPTIONS	AVG. RANK
The Armidale region to become a leader in water conservation and sustainability. Water utility management decisions would be based on best practice water conservation strategies	2.48
Continue investing in ongoing water conservation education programs	2.74
Financial incentives offered to new residential and business construction and to developers for increased water conservation	3.06
Invest in Smart Water Metre Readers (approx. cost \$5 million)	3.99
Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation	4.29
Signage be mandated on properties that can access the potable network but also use an alternative water source like water tanks (not connected into the potable network) or underground water.	4.37

Optional question (71 response(s), 1 skipped)

Question type: Ranking Question



Minutes

09 November 2020

Project	Armidale Regional Council Drought Management Plan	From	Chris Donnelly Mel Dunn
Subject	Facilitated Workshop 1	Tel	+61 2 92397397
Venue/Date/Time	Armidale Airport / 20 Oct 2020 / 12 pm - 3pm	Job No	12539930
Attendees	Ray Dufty - ARC parks and Gardens Scott Breen - Armidale Secondary College Annette Kilarr - Sustainable Living Armidale Helen Webb - Sustainable Living Armidale Jo Leoni - Armidale Community Garden Monty Maguire - Powerhouse Hotel Suzanne Mitchell - UNE Sustainability Manager Rob Richardson - Armidale Region Ratepayers Association Barry Ward - Wards Car Wash, Armidale Steven Ahoy - Aboriginal representative - Cultural Officer UNE Karen Zirkler - Southern New England Landcare Anne Rix - Family Support Services Anthony Fox - Armidale Business Chamber president Steve McMillan - Armidale Region Sports Council Scot MacDonald - Director Business and Services Arun Gautam - Project Engineer Mark Byrne - Project Officer EAM/WSS Glenn George - DPIE		

Minutes

- 1. Welcome** – Mel Dunn set the scene, outlining the agenda for the afternoon, why everyone was here, explained housekeeping rules and did an acknowledgement to county.
- 2. Introductions** – Scot MacDonald explained the history of the Drought Management Plan and gave a snapshot of that happened in the last drought and the need for an updated plan, as well as touching on the next steps. Introductions were then undertaken with everyone present in the room.

24DJSZNHUEPC-1850682920-9/Armidale Drought Management Plan - Workshop 1 notes.docx

GHD Pty Ltd ABN 39 008 488 373

Level 15 133 Castlereagh Street Sydney New South Wales 2000 Australia

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Minutes

3. **DPIE update and overview of Drought Management Planning** – Glenn George presented the drivers for an updated plan and spoke to the evolution of the most recent drought. He touched on what day zero planning looks like and the need for a physical and policy response. Discussion was held on what 'Emergency' can look like for some councils and lessons learnt from the last drought.
4. **Overview of Drought Management Plan** – Arun Gautam presented the Armidale Regional Councils water supply scheme and explained the data presented in his slides which included; historical rainfall, runoff and storage data. It was explained that Council had implemented several key initiatives including education and communication campaigns. Discussion was held on the historical water consumption data, especially over the last drought period and how many Litres per person, per day, Armidale residents were consuming on average. Waters security options were then discussed as well as proposed operational requirements and the mix of supply options.
5. **Opportunities, Considerations and Questions** – All (see overleaf)
6. **Stakeholder Engagement exercise:** Extensive discussion as held on the following:
 - **Levels of restrictions:** it was generally agreed that five levels were the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community
 - **Triggers:** majority of the room agreed on the following points regarding triggers: there should be a level of permanent conservation; the triggers should start earlier than they did in the last drought; transparency on the triggers is needed; more lead time is needed so people/business can prepare for the next level

The following notes were reported on in the workshop around trigger points:

- o Level 1 = 80 %
- o Level 2 = 70 %
- o Level 3 = 60 %
- o Level 4 = 55 %
- o Level 5 = 50 %
- o Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviour
- o Noting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictions
- **Litres / Per person/ per day consumption target per trigger level:** the group landed on the following targets with little opposition:
 - o Level 1 = 180 L
 - o Level 2 = 170 L
 - o Level 3 = 160 L
 - o Level 4 = 160 L
 - o Level 5 = 150 L
 - o Level 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a year
 - o Level 5b = 100 L
 - o Level 5c = 80 L

Minutes

- **The new norm:** the group discussed the new norm being between 190-200 L per person per day and the need to relax restrictions slowly to aid recovery of the system. The group consider that this should be the permanent conservation level going forward for Armidale.
- **Things to consider included:**
 - o Grey water use for parks
 - o Council to apply for their own exemptions when needed (e.g. parks)
 - o Public school leakage program required when coming out of Level 3
 - o Exemptions worked well for UNE, e.g. Experiments
 - o Education programs for kids required
 - o 'Smart' horticulture planning needed for future growth in the region
 - o Forecasting growth to the 'supply'
 - o Business audits refresh – needed at Level 4
 - o Stock + domestic take investigated – how does the drought plan deal with this – can it be more efficient
 - o A need for a Drought Resilience Strategy
 - A need for Rain tanks in residents, new development and schools
 - Grey water to water garden for residents
 - Community garden exemptions to grow your own food
 - Celebrating success for reduced water usage for individuals (financial incentives)
 - Water meters that are smarter
 - Change types of trees in park to be more water resistant – Irrigation Modernisation
 - Community want flexibility on how they use the 160L consumption target
 - Community want transparency in exemption permits
 - The need to maintain heritage trees
 - Use sprinklers smartly on Level 1
 - When should the sports fields be shut – Level 4 with exemption of priority parks
 - Mental health considerations are vital
 - Keeping the pool open in summer is important
 - Start restrictions when there is a minimum of 2 years left (2.5 better)
 - Need clear, consistent community messaging in uncertain times
 - Only get out of level 1 when the dams are full
 - Need to include academics / uni / experts in the planning process
- 7. **Close** – Chris Donnelly wrapped up the feedback received in the session, explained the consultation activities that would occur now and beyond, and noted that a water activities table in the form of a water restrictions guide would be sent out to the group for their comment in relation to the need to match the demand to the supply at each trigger level and what actions are allowed/restricted at each level.

Workshop closed: 3:15 pm

Refer to Action table below

Action Table

Number	Discussion	Responsibility
1	There was discussion held around the need for scenario planning in the region. This scenario planning would help establish pre-defined realistic triggers.	
2	It was queried as to what planning has been done for the 'unexpected' eg, Malpas Dam gets to zero / critical times. It was noted that the work of the drought planning is different from long term solution mapping which is happening as part of the Integrated Water Cycle Management process which looks at long term water security solution and identifying the need for fast tracking critical infrastructure project.	
3	It was queried as to whether the region could have go to a 80 L/ day / per person target and it was noted that yes, there were plans in place for 160 L, 120 L, 80 L etc. It was emphasised that there was a need to proactively manage the path to day zero, as well as look at drought emergency works.	
4	Questions were raised as to whether the overseas experiences was looked at eg, Israel and South Africa. It was noted that DPIE technical advisors would have looked at international experiences. It was noted that there was a solid modelling and planning process behind the work.	
5	There were questions and concerns raised around the communication undertaken by Council in the past and the need for more communication and transparency.	
6	The question was raised on the network and system of Guyra Dam. It was noted that there was only a small secure yield available in the dam and the cost of implementing infrastructure so it could be extracted efficiently was significant.	
7	Questions were raised about dead storage at Malpas Dam, noting it could be as high as 6%. It was noted that for the planning exercise the dead storage was not included in the available surface water.	
8	A question was raised as to whether Malpas Dam was on the same river as the Guyra Dam. It was acknowledged that Malpas Dam is downstream of Guryra Dam, however the catchment for Malpas was much larger.	
9	Discussion was held on the consultation and communication campaigns that were rolled out in the last drought. It was noted that there were pop up sessions and programs undertaken with a variety of stakeholders including; university, businesses, schools. It was noted that a lot of emphasis was given to the residents as there was a 70 / 30 % spilt and targeting residents gives a between bang for buck. The comment was also made that changes didn't happen swiftly to begin with and a lot of work was needed to change consumption patterns early on int the drought. However, the residents embraced the change in the end and hit the 160 L/ per person / per day target.	
10	It was noted from the Powerhouse Hotel that education is needed for out of towners (increased signage at airport etc) and further support from council with collateral and messaging. As well as a lead in time so the hotels can develop messaging for their guests on what the triggers mean in terms of actions required from patrons. It was noted that this needed to be integrated into the Tourism sphere in the region.	

- 11 Discussion was held on how the behaviours have changed since the restrictions have lifted. It was noted that consumption has started to creep up a little since the rain in January this year.
- 12 The question was raised if Malpas Dam would be upgraded. It was noted that works would be part of the emergency drought works. It was noted that a secure yield assessment was needed.
- 13 Discussion was held on the bores field and it was questioned as to whether they were only to be used in emergency. It was noted that they are the backup supply and there may be a potential to use them down the track, but this would be subject to gaining a licence from DPIE. It was noted that for the Integrated Water Cycle Management plan all options for supply are mapped including bores. Landcare voiced their concerns over the use of bores. It was noted that a drought resilience plan was needed for the region.
- 14 The question was raised if the pipeline issues were fixed and it was noted that they were. Council was also commended on the site tour undertaken during the drought.



Minutes

09 November 2020

Project	Armidale Regional Council Drought Management Plan	From	Chris Donnelly Mel Dunn
Subject	Facilitated Workshop 2	Tel	+61 2 92397397
Venue/Date/Time	Gala Centre, Guyra / 20 Oct 2020 / 5pm - 8:30pm	Job No	12539930
Attendees	Ali Cairns – Resident Rebecca Smith – Guyra Central School Rob Lenahan – Armidale Region Ratepayers Association Hans Hietbrink – Guyra Business Chamber Robyn Jackson – Former Mayor of Guyra Wendy Mulligan – Guyra Garden Club Callan Schaefer – NSW Farmers' Guyra Branch – Chair James Jackson – NSW Farmers' Guyra Branch member Peter Davis – Costas – State Manager Vertical Farming Richard Makim – Armidale Region Ratepayers Association Liz Brow – Guyra Garden Club Scot MacDonald – Director Business and Services Arun Gautam – Project Engineer Mark Byrne – Project Officer EAM/WSS Glenn George – DPIE		

Minutes

- Welcome** – Mel Dunn set the scene, she outlined the agenda for the evening, why everyone was here, explained housekeeping rules and did an acknowledgement to county.
- Introductions** – Scot MacDonald explained the history of the Drought Management Plan and gave a snapshot of that happened in the last drought and the need for an updated plan, as well as touching on next steps. Introductions were then undertaken with everyone present in the room.
- DPIE update and overview of Drought Management Planning** – Glenn George presented the drivers for an updated plan and spoke to the evolution of the last drought. He touched on what day zero planning looks like and the need for a physical and policy response. Discussion was held on what 'Emergency' can look like for some councils and lessons learnt from the last drought.

24DJSZNHUEPC-1850682920-9/Armidale Drought Management Plan - Workshop 2 notes.docx

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Minutes

4. **Overview of Drought Management Plan** – Arun Gautam presented the Armidale Regional Councils water supply scheme and explained the data presented in his slides which included; historical rainfall, runoff and storage data. It was explained that Council had implemented several key initiatives including education and communication campaigns. Discussion was held on the historical water consumption data, especially over the last drought period and how many litres per person, per day, Armidale residents were consuming on average. Waters security options were then discussed as well as proposed operational requirements and the mix of supply options.
5. **Opportunities, Considerations and Questions** – All (see overleaf)
6. **Stakeholder Engagement exercise:** Extensive discussion was held on the following:
 - **Levels of restrictions:** it was generally agreed that five levels was the best option due to consistency with neighbouring regions and ease of messaging for the community. One member of the community objected to five levels, but was unable to articulate the number of levels they would prefer.
 - **Triggers:** majority of the room agreed on the following points regarding triggers: there should be a level of permanent conservation; the triggers should start earlier than they did in the last drought; transparency on the triggers is needed

The following notes were reported on in the workshop around trigger points:

- Level 1 = 80 %
- Level 2 = 70 %
- Level 3 = 60 %
- Level 4 = 55 %
- Level 5 = 50 %
- Noting that Triggers escalation and relaxation needed to be indexed on climate forecasts; consumption patterns and storage behaviour
- Noting that Trigger relaxation needs to consider climatic forecasting and the time of year and there must be at available water of next level coming out of restrictions
- **Litres / Per person/ per day consumption target per trigger level:** the group landed on the following targets with little opposition:
 - Level 1 = 180 L
 - Level 2 = 170 L
 - Level 3 = 160 L
 - Level 4 = 150 L
 - Level 5 = 140 L
 - Level 5a = 120 L / Day zero messaging just over a year
 - Level 5b = 100 L
 - Level 5c = 80 L

Minutes

- **The new norm:** The group discussed the new norm being between 190 – 200 L per person per day and the need to relax restrictions slowly to aid recovery of the system
- **Things to consider included:**
 - o Public pools should remain open under Level 5 in summer
 - o Community gardens could apply for exemption /benefits of growing your own food needs to be recognised
 - o Mental health benefits of gardening should be recognised – happy to have no watering in Level 5
 - o Daylight hours should be considered in planning
 - o Big stick for high water users is encouraged
 - o Community parks; majority use bores and smart watering practices/gardening– priority parks should be maintained (eg, MaKie Park)
 - o Sports field near the new truck stop should be considered – irrigation system needs to be maintained (on town water)
 - o Need for a holistic water strategy and a resilience strategy / holistic Drought and Emergency Response Plan
 - o Position council as a water wise area and continue the conversation
 - o Signage should be mandated if not using on town water
 - o New technology thinking need to investigate how to access the dead storage
 - o Going beyond the minimum requirements of legislation that requires Water Tanks to be installed on new homes. Look at further options to require Water Tanks to be added to existing homes.
 - o Stormwater harvesting need to be prioritised
 - o Harnessing backwash water at water treatment plants
 - o Frequency of reading meters needs to be increased
 - o Automatic reading meters implemented
 - o Tanks needed in – schools, universities, businesses
 - o Improve infrastructure to existing smaller dams
 - o Incentives for champions needed
 - o Educational programs required
 - o Water Smart Gardens need to be promoted
- 7. **Close** – Chris Donnelly wrapped up the feedback received in the session, explained the consultation activities that would occur now and beyond, and noted that a water activities table in the form of a water restrictions guide would be sent out to the group for their comment in relation to the need to match the demand to the supply at each trigger level and what actions are allowed/restricted at each level.

Workshop closed: 8:30pm

Refer to Action table below

Action Table

Number	Discussion	Responsibility
1	There was discussion held around whether the first nations representatives were invited. It was noted that they were (Pauline Patterson was invited – NSW Aboriginal Lands Council – Guyra).	Jo Harrison to follow up on if apology was received.
2	It was queried as to why the slide pack was not distributed provided. Apology was given, however, it was noted that it was an interactive facilitated session primarily.	
3	It was queried as to what the secure yield was in the area. Council noted that they are working on this with their Integrated Water Cycle Management Planning. I.e, the quality of water that the system can deliver safely. It was noted that the secure yield can include any water source and a combination of sources makes up the sustainable secure yield.	
4	Questions were raised as to whether the full 31% of Malpas Dam can be used and and there are challenges with any system in accessing this dead storage. It was also noted that days to zero didn't include the dead storage. The water quality is unknown and there may be too many heavy metals. It was also noted that the deep dam water testing in malpas informed that that it has high dissolved organic matter which water treatment plant will struggle to treat . It was suggested by one of the participants that the EPA said it would be too toxic to use the dead storage.	
5	There were questions and concerns were raised around groundwater extraction. It was suggested that concerns with impacts on biodiversity, aquifers, tree loss, habitat loss, wildlife impacts need to be considered. It was suggested that a Drought and Emergency Response Plan be developed that looked at all faces and risk that need to be mitigated in a holistic fashion. It was noted by DPIE that a suite of hydro – geologists were looking at groundwater modelling and they are very conservative in their approach to allow any water extraction from ground water.	
6	The question was raised on the network and system impacts and it was suggested that it was a whole Murry Darling Basin issue of mismanagement. The concerns on the impacts to the environment were noted by the group. It was suggested by one of the participants that the State Government had no water management plan for the New England region and it was essential, especially for planning in the Guyra area	
7	Questions were raised about the new Drought Management Plan and it was queried as to whether it should be developed now or postponed until there is a democratically elected council that can endorse the plan.	
8	A question was raised as to whether the plan should be named Drought Proof Plan. It should be based on proactive approach not fear was the suggestion of the group. The Drought Management Plan needs defined protocols for actions.	
9	Discussion was held on councils initiatives such as Stormwater Harvesting/ recycling and it was noted that Orange Council do this well. The Council noted that the Integrated Water Cycle Management Plan will investigate this further as well as use of wastewater from the Water Treatment Plant.	

- 10 It was noted from a participant in the group that 70,000 L / hr were flowing from the Water Treatment Plant into the creek and that needed to be investigated and capitalised on. Council noted that the backwash was being looked at but the water quality needed to be considered, as algae can present an issue.
- 11 Discussion was held on the use of tanks and the need to all urban areas to increase the use of tanks to service the garden and toilets. BASIX was then discussed. It was noted that tank programs should be run with Schools, Uni and Businesses in the area.
- 12 The question was raised if the bores would recharge and what their use would be. It was noted by Council that DPIE are the regulating authority and they were currently undertaking studies which will be public information and a central extraction licence was pending approval. It was noted that the western side of the Lachlan Belt has about 60,000 GL and the Armidale Council were proposing to take 512 ML only. Discussion continued on the general impact on biodiversity including wetlands and that one participant then voiced concerns over the confidence on the hydrological findings.
- 13 Discussion was held on the other small dams in the region and whether they can be used for supply. It was noted that new infrastructure would need to be built to service these. Gara Dam is very small but has a large catchment, but would need a infrastructure upgrade.
- 14 The group emphasised the need for a more holistic plan such as a water management / resilience plan not a drought management plan and that more town resident representatives were needed around the table, as they would be implementing the actions on the ground.

Armidaire Regional Council Drought Management Plan - Water Restriction Guide												
Category		Permanent Water Conservation	Level 1 (Low)	Level 2 (Moderate)	Level 3 (High)	Level 4 (Very High)		Level 5 (Emergency)		Level 5 (Emergency)		
	Tigger point (total available surface water)		80%	70%	60%	55%		50%		TBC		
	Days to zero (For reference only)		26 mths	23 mths	19 mths	17 mths		15 mths		Days to zero message continues		
	Consumption Target	200 L/P/D	180 L/P/D	170 L/P/D	160 L/P/D	Armidaire Workshop recommendation 160 L/P/D	Guyra Workshop recommendation 150 L/P/D	Armidaire Workshop recommendation 150 L/P/D	Guyra Workshop recommendation 140 L/P/D	120 L/P/D	100 L/P/D	80 L/P/D
General watering lawns and gardens	Buckets/cans	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Restricted	Banned		Banned		Banned	Banned	Banned
					2 hours Note: D	Recycled water only Note: B						
	Hand held hoses (with trigger nozzle)	Allowed	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted	Banned		Banned		Banned	Banned	Banned
				Not during the heat of the day Note: E	2 hours Note: D	2 hours On Sun and Wed Note: D	Recycled water only Note: B					
	Water efficient drip irrigation	Allowed	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted	Banned		Banned		Banned	Banned	Banned
				Not during the heat of the day Note: E	2 hours Note: D	2 hours On Sun and Wed Note: D						
	Sprinklers and fixed hoses	Restricted	Restricted	Banned	Banned	Banned		Banned		Banned	Banned	Banned
		Not during the heat of the day Note: E	2 hours Note: D									
	Watering of new turf for up to 6 weeks	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted	Banned		Banned		Banned	Banned	Banned
		Not during the heat of the day Note: E	Not during the heat of the day Note: E	2 hours Note: D	2 hours On Sun and Wed Note: D							
Public parks, gardens and facilities	Watering vegetation	Allowed	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted	Banned		Banned		Banned	Banned	Banned
			Not during the heat of the day Note: E	Selected parks and sports fields and all garden beds Note: E	Selected parks and sports fields Note: G & H	When coming out of Level 5 restrictions Note: G & H						
Vehicle washing	Buckets	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Restricted	Restricted		Restricted		Restricted	Restricted	Restrict
					Not during the heat of the day Note: E	Windscreen and licence plate cleaning only						
	Hand held hoses	Allowed	Restricted	Restricted	Banned	Banned		Banned		Banned	Banned	Banned
Washing down hard surfaces	High pressure cleaner	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Banned	Banned		Banned		Banned	Banned	Banned
	Hand held hoses	Allowed	Banned	Banned	Banned	Banned		Banned		Banned	Banned	Banned
	Filling	Allowed	Restricted	Restricted	Banned	Banned		Banned		Banned	Banned	Banned
			Permit required for filling pools >5kL	Permit required for filling pools >5kL								

Private swimming pools

Private swimming pools		Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Restricted	Banned	Banned	Banned	Banned	Banned
	Topping up				Buckets only - no hoses					
Council swimming pool	Lawns and surrounds	Allowed	Restricted Not during the heat of the day Note: E	Restricted 2 hours Note: D	Restricted 2 hours On Mon and Thurs Note: D	Banned	Banned	Banned	Banned	Banned
	Topping up	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed
Hydrotherapy Pool	Hydrotherapy Pool	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed
No restrictions on health facilities										
Evaporative coolers	Use of water for cooling	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted
							Business, Aged Care, Disability Care			
Water cartage	Treated water for stock and domestic	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted
	Treated water for all other uses	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Banned	Banned	Banned	Banned	Banned	Banned
Commercial and industrial	General use (excl lawns and garden)	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted
					Target 15% reduction in usage	Target 20% reduction in usage	Target 25% reduction in usage			
	Landscaping (incl lawns and garden)	Allowed	Restricted Not during the heat of the day Note: E	Restricted Hand held hoses only for 2 hours Note: D	Restricted 2 hours On Mon and Thurs Note: D	Banned	Banned	Banned	Banned	Banned
		Allowed	Restricted Not during the heat of the day Note: E	Restricted Selected sports fields and all garden beds Note: E, G & H	Restricted Selected sports fields Note: G & H	Banned	Banned	Banned	Banned	Banned
Elm St Guyra Tomato Farm	Irrigation of Hydroponic Tomatoes	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted	Banned	Banned	Banned
					Target 15% reduction in usage	Target 20% reduction in usage with approved Water Management Plan	Target 25% reduction in usage with approved Water Management Plan – supply may be limited to the amenities when Malpas dam gets to 35%.			

Key:
 Allowed = Allowed at all times
 Banned = Banned at all times
 Restricted = Restricted use only

Notes:
 A. Restrictions apply to the use of Armidale and Guyra town water.
 B. Greywater and rainwater can be used at any time provided that rainwater tanks are not topped up from town supplies.
 C. A Water Management Plan may be approved to allow the use of fixed sprinklers outside the nominated hours during Permanent and Level 1 restriction periods.
 D. Any reference to 2 hours of restricted watering means between the hours of 6.00 pm and 8.00 pm during daylight saving and 5.00 pm and 7.00 pm at all other times.
 E. Not during the heat of the day means not between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm during daylight saving and 10.00 am and 3.00 pm at other times.
 F. Periods of water restrictions Level 1 to Level 5 will be policed by Council Officers. The maximum penalty under the Local Government Act for a breach of restrictions is \$2,200 for corporations and \$220 for individuals.
 G. When coming out of Level 5 Emergency Selected parks and sports fields may be watered for 1 watering cycle Mondays & Thursdays.
 H. Armidale Central Park, Armidale Sportsground, Rologas Field, Harris Park, Guyra Lions Park Sporting Complex

- I would be quite happy to go along with the Guyra stronger consumption targets for levels 4 and 5.
- b) My original thought was that the banning of all outdoor water use would be a sufficient restriction, so indoor water targets could remain the same as level 3.
- c) However, it is true that 160 L/P/D is still quite a generous allowance, so it wouldn't really be too onerous to demand a continuing fall in indoor water consumption with each new level, and it would probably make more sense to consumers if this were the case.
- d) If the situation becomes dire then there is little choice about updating messaging; the cost is what it is, we can't not do it.

2. seems ok

3. No, better to go in hard fairly early to get the message across; going easy in the early stages sends the message that it isn't really all that serious.
4. no! As far as indoor restrictions go I have no problems, but as co-ordinator of the Community Garden I found the restrictions, and then in the later stages banning, of outdoor water use very difficult and I wouldn't want to see them made any harsher.
- My one concern is with the watering of new turf; I don't know what sort of watering regime it takes to keep new turf alive but I'd hope that whatever is allowed could be aligned with whatever it actually takes to do the job, which could be more frequently than just twice a week in level 3 - (maybe for less time?)

On Fri, Oct 30, 2020 at 1:47 PM Community Input <cominput@ghd.com> wrote:

Good afternoon all,

Thank you again for your contributions last Tuesday in Armidale and Guyra to the development of the Drought Management Plan for Armidale Regional Council. Your comments, suggested initiatives and concerns raised will help Council contribute (develop) to a draft Plan that will be put out for Public Exhibition later this year. As indicated in the face to face workshops we committed to sharing what the Water Restriction Guide would look like based on the feedback you provided.

As you can see below there was a slight difference in discussion between the two workshops for the consumption targets at Level 4 and Level 5. We seek your feedback on the table below:

1. The trigger points at both workshop identified the same percentage of total available surface water.
 - a. Do you feel that the consumption targets should continue to fall at each level?
 - b. What reasons can you provide for the consumption target staying the same?
 - c. What reason can you provide for the consumption falling?
 - d. If there are no inflows into the catchment, changes in info/education messaging would be required to occur swiftly over a 4 month period. Do the costs concern you of changing of messaging between Level 3, Level 4 and Level 5, which could happen over a four months?
2. We have captured the selected priority parks within Council area that should have some watering recommend when coming out of Level 5? Are there any other parks and recreation areas that you think should be considered?
3. Are there any restrictions you feel are harsh too early?
4. Are there any restrictions you feel are too relaxed when we reach the higher levels of restrictions

We need you to please provide this feedback to us by next Friday 6 November 2020 before 5pm.

Draft for comment Armidale Regional Council Drought Management Plan - Water Restriction Guide												
Category		Permanent Water Conservation	Level 1 (Low)	Level 2 (Moderate)	Level 3 (High)	Level 4 (Very High)		Level 5 (Emergency)		Level 5 (Emergency)		
	Tigger point (total available surface water)		80%	70%	60%	55%		50%		TBC		
	Days to zero (For reference only)		26 mths	23 mths	19 mths	17 mths		15 mths (Days to zero message commences)		(Days to zero message continues)		
	Consumption Target	200 L/P/D	180 L/P/D	170 L/P/D	160 L/P/D	Armidale Workshop recommendation 160 L/P/D	Guyra Workshop recommendation 150 L/P/D	Armidale Workshop recommendation 150 L/P/D	Guyra Workshop recommendation 140 L/P/D	120 L/P/D	100 L/P/D	80 L/P/D
General watering lawns and gardens	Buckets/cans	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Restricted	Banned		Banned		Banned	Banned	Banned
					2 hours Note: D	Recycled water only Note: B						
	Hand held hoses (with trigger nozzle)	Allowed	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted	Banned		Banned		Banned	Banned	Banned
			Not during the heat of the day Note: E	2 hours Note: D	2 hours On Sun and Wed Note: D	Recycled water only Note: B						
	Water efficient drip irrigation	Allowed	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted	Banned		Banned		Banned	Banned	Banned
			Not during the heat of the day Note: E	2 hours Note: D	2 hours On Sun and Wed Note: D							
	Sprinklers and fixed hoses	Restricted	Restricted	Banned	Banned	Banned		Banned		Banned	Banned	Banned
		Not during the heat of the day Note: E	2 hours Note: D									
	Watering of new turf for up to 6 weeks	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted	Banned		Banned		Banned	Banned	Banned
		Not during the heat of the day Note: E	Not during the heat of the day Note: E	2 hours Note: D	2 hours On Sun and Wed Note: D							
Public parks, gardens and facilities	Watering vegetation	Allowed	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted	Banned		Banned		Banned	Banned	Banned
			Not during the heat of the day Note: E	Selected parks and sports fields and all garden beds Note: E	Selected parks and sports fields Note: G & H	When coming out of Level 5 restrictions Note: G & H						
Vehicle washing	Buckets	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Restricted	Restricted		Restricted		Restricted	Restricted	Restricted
					Not during the heat of the day Note: E	Windscreen and licence plate cleaning only						
	Hand held hoses	Allowed	Restricted	Restricted	Banned	Banned		Banned		Banned	Banned	Banned
		Not during the heat of the day Note: E	2 hours Note: D									
Washing down hard surfaces	High pressure cleaner	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Banned	Banned		Banned		Banned	Banned	Banned
	Hand held hoses	Allowed	Banned	Banned	Banned	Banned		Banned		Banned	Banned	Banned
Private swimming pools	Filling	Allowed	Restricted	Restricted	Banned	Banned		Banned		Banned	Banned	Banned
			Permit required for filling pools >5kL	Permit required for filling pools >5kL								
	Topping up	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Restricted	Banned		Banned		Banned	Banned	Banned
Council swimming pool	Lawns and surrounds	Allowed	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted	Banned		Banned		Banned	Banned	Banned
			Not during the heat of the day Note: E	2 hours Note: D	2 hours On Mon and Thurs Note: D							
	Topping up	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed		Allowed		Allowed	Allowed	Allowed

Hydrotherapy Pool	Hydrotherapy Pool	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed
		No restrictions on health facilities								
Evaporative coolers	Use of water for cooling	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted
		Business, Aged Care, Disability Care								
Water cartage	Treated water for stock and domestic	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted
		For internal domestic use only								
	Treated water for all other uses	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Banned	Banned	Banned	Banned	Banned	Banned
Commercial and industrial	General use (excl lawns and garden)	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted
					Target 15% reduction in usage	Target 20% reduction in usage	Target 25% reduction in usage			
	Landscaping (incl lawns and garden)	Allowed	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted	Banned	Banned	Banned	Banned	Banned
			Not during the heat of the day Note: E	Hand held hoses only for 2 hours Note: D	2 hours On Mon and Thurs Note: D					
	Irrigation of sports areas	Allowed	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted	Banned	Banned	Banned	Banned	Banned
			Not during the heat of the day Note: E	Selected sports fields and all garden beds Note: E, G & H	Selected sports fields Note: G & H	When coming out of Level 5 restrictions Note: G & H				
Elm St Guyra Tomato Farm	Irrigation of Hydroponic Tomatoes	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted	Banned	Banned	Banned
					Target 15% reduction in usage	Target 20% reduction in usage with approved Water Management Plan	Target 25% reduction in usage with approved Water Management Plan – supply may be limited to the amenities when Malpas dam gets to 35%.			

Key:

Allowed = Allowed at all times
 Banned = Banned at all times
 Restricted = Restricted use only

Notes:

- A. Restrictions apply to the use of Armidale and Guyra town water.
 B. Greywater and rainwater can be used at any time provided that rainwater tanks are not topped up from town supplies.
 C. A Water Management Plan may be approved to allow the use of fixed sprinklers outside the nominated hours during Permanent and Level 1 restriction periods.
 D. Any reference to 2 hours of restricted watering means between the hours of 6.00 pm and 8.00 pm during daylight saving and 5.00 pm and 7.00 pm at all other times.
 E. Not during the heat of the day means not between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm during daylight saving and 10.00 am and 3.00 pm at other times.
 F. Periods of water restrictions Level 1 to Level 5 will be policed by Council Officers. The maximum penalty under the Local Government Act for a breach of restrictions is \$2,200 for corporations and \$220 for individuals.
 G. When coming out of Level 5 Emergency - selected parks and sports fields may be watered for 1 watering cycle Mondays & Thursdays.
 H. Armidale Central Park, Armidale Sportsground, Rologas Field, Harris Park, Guyra Lions Park Sporting Complex

- 1 The trigger points at both workshops identified the same percentage of total available surface water.
 - a. Do you feel that the consumption targets should continue to fall at each level?
We do believe that the consumption targets should fall at each level, however, that at Level 4 it should be 160 L/P/D and at Level 5 (light red) 150 L/P/D and Level 5 (dark red) 140 L/P/D (Trigger Point 40% - total available surface water)

Because outdoor watering is banned at levels 4 & 5 (both) having that extra bit of recycled water from shower/sink/washing machines etc. for gardens will be necessary and welcome.
 - b. What reasons can you provide for the consumption target staying the same?
Not applicable (with reference to 1a)
 - c. What reason can you provide for the consumption falling?
As the dam level falls so too should the consumption targets
 - d. If there are no inflows into the catchment, changes in info/education messaging would be required to occur swiftly over a 4 month period. Do the costs concern you of changing of messaging between Level 3, Level 4 and Level 5, which could happen over a four months?
No. We realise that the message has to be put out there. This worked effectively during our water crisis in 2019 with regard to what levels we were on and what that meant with regard to restrictions. Where the messaging from Armidale Regional Council was not good was what they were basing their target decisions on, as we knew that they had scrapped their previous drought management plans (Armidale Dumaresq 2005 and Guyra Shire Council 2016). There was also no public consultation until early December 2019 (and this was very restricted in numbers). In short, Council was good at telling residents what to do, however, not interested in listening to our opinions. Fortunately this seems to be changing!
- 2 We have captured the selected priority parks within Council area that should have some watering recommend when coming out of Level 5? Are there any other parks and recreation areas that you think should be considered?
Lambert Park (opposite the Armidale Hospital) should also be considered in this section of the spreadsheet. During summer this is an important cricket venue, and outdoor sports and activities are important for people's physical and mental well-being (which is why the Council swimming pool is being kept operational).

It is also imperative that the trees in Central Park are hand-watered during Level 5. The decision to do this was made very late in 2019 and consequently some significant trees were lost. This park is iconic and historic and the trees must be kept alive!

3 Are there any restrictions you feel are harsh too early?

Yes. At the Armidale workshop (and you say that this was also the case in Guyra) there was general agreement with the Trigger Points on your spreadsheet. I have now discussed the Trigger Points (total available surface water), and the corresponding restrictions associated with each of the levels, with the executive of the Armidale Regional Ratepayers Association, and we are very concerned that the Trigger Point percentages of surface water are too high and we strongly urge you to reduce these as follows (which from memory is more in-line with your initial recommendation):

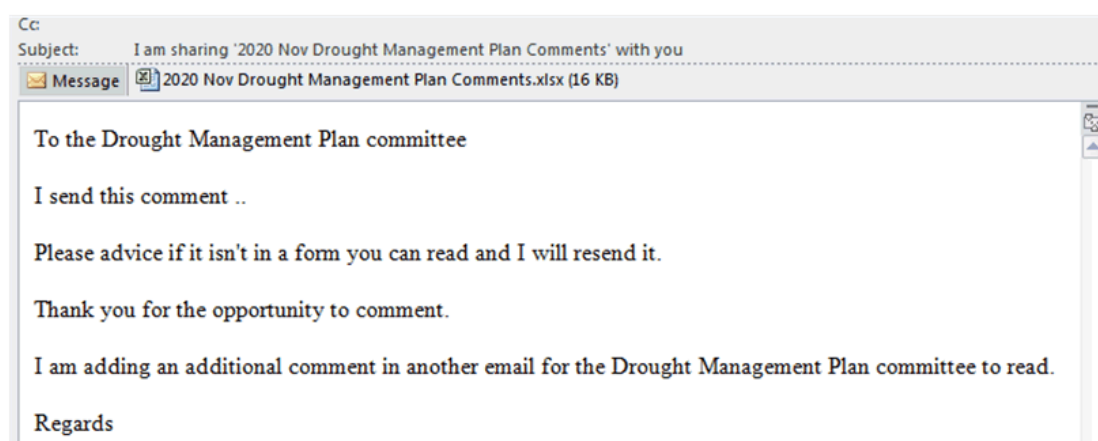
- Level 1-Trigger Point 70% (total available surface water)
- Level 2-Trigger Point 60% (total available surface water)
- Level 3 -Trigger Point 55% (total available surface water)
- Level 4- Trigger Point 50% (total available surface water)
- Level 5 (light red) - Trigger Point 45% (total available surface water)
- Level 5 (dark red) –Trigger Point 40% (total available surface water)

4 Are there any restrictions you feel are too relaxed when we reach the higher levels of restrictions

Yes. The restrictions for the Elm Street Tomato Farm are too lenient! This facility was a big part of the problem in 2019 and should never have been allowed to be doubled in size (by the former Guyra Shire Council) without a corresponding increase in the Guyra water storage (which apparently was considered then dismissed as an option).

If the tomato farm (particularly Elm Street) issue isn't addressed in this draft Drought Management Plan, we can guarantee that it will be addressed by the constituents of both Armidale and Guyra when it goes on public display. The fact that Armidale Regional Council (in our opinion) were so secretive about their arrangement with The Costa Group (and particularly the Elm Street facility) was a big reason as to why this Council is now in interim administration.

The Costa Group should be treated the same as the other commercial and industrial facilities on your spreadsheet and we can't stress strongly enough the need for your reviewing their requirements and bringing them more in-line with the other commercial and industrial facilities and also that residents aren't so severely impacted by the tomato factories as we all were in 2019.



Dear Chris & Mel,

Thank you for including us in your workshops and also giving us the opportunity to have input into the draft Drought Management Plan prior to it going on public display.

I have conferred with other members of the executive of the Armidale Regional Ratepayers Association and have answered your questions/made comments as per our attached PDF document based on this collaboration.

With kind regards,

To: Community Input

Cc:

Subject: Re: Drought Management Plan workshop in Armidale and Guyra Tuesday 20 October 2020

Thank you for the outcomes of the Drought Management Plan workshop in Guyra. The difference in the two workshop outcomes was that in Guyra, unfortunately very few townspeople turned up. Having farmers who came along for the wrong reasons decide on consumption targets and trigger levels was unhelpful. I feel that Guyra levels should be the same as Armidale's. Costs to advertise different levels of available consumption should not stop the availability of knowledge to consumers. I believe that there are no further parks particularly in Guyra that need to be watered. Realise that this is a very abbreviated comment but wanted to get my comments back to you today.

Regards

From: Community Input

Sent: Friday, 20 October 2020 2:47 PM

To: Community Input; Council@armidale.nsw.gov.au

Subject: RE: Drought Management Plan workshop in Armidale and Guyra Tuesday 20 October 2020

Good afternoon all,

Thank you again for your contributions last Tuesday in Armidale and Guyra to the development of the Drought Management Plan for Armidale Regional Council. Your comments, suggested initiatives and concerns raised will help Council contribute (develop) to a draft Plan that will be put out for Public Exhibition later this year. As indicated in the face to face workshops we committed to sharing what the Water Restriction Guide would look like based on the feedback you provided.

As you can see below there was a slight difference in discussion between the two workshops for the consumption targets at Level 4 and Level 5.

We seek your feedback on the table below:

- The trigger points at both workshop identified the same percentage of total available surface water
 - Do you feel that the consumption targets should continue to fall at each level? I BELIEVE THAT THE LEVEL THREE TO FOUR THEN FIVE IS TOO CLOSE, AND THAT IT SHOULD GO DOWN IN LOTS OF 10 %
 - What reasons can you provide for the consumption target staying the same? I HAVE NO ISSUES WITH CONSUMPTION RATES
 - What reason can you provide for the consumption falling? IT SHOULD FALL A BIT AS THE WATER LEVELS GET LOWER
 - If there are no inflows into the catchment, changes in information messaging would be required to occur swiftly over a 4 month period. Do the costs concern you of changing of messaging between Level 3, Level 4 and Level 5, which could happen over a four months? NO OTHER WISE PEOPLE WILL NOT KNOW WHAT IS GOING ON, YOU ONLY HAVE TO TALK TO THE COMMUNITY TO FIND THIS OUT, THEY NEED CONSTANT REMINDERS
- We have captured the selected priority parks within Council area that should have some watering recommendation when coming out of Level 5? Are there any other parks and recreation areas that you think should be considered? THERE IS A BORE LOCATED ELIZABETH PARK NUMBER TWO FIELD, A MILLION DOLLARS WOULD PUT PIPES TANKS AND PUMPS TO LAMBERT, HARRIS, BOLOGAS AND SPORTS GROUND AREAS. THESE ARE THE FOUR MAIN SPORTING OVALS FOR SUMMER AND WINTER SPORT USE. THIS WOULD ELVIATE THE USE OF MALPAS DAM WATER FOR WATERING SPORTING FIELDS, AT LEAST, NO ONE SEEMS TO WANT TO DO ANY THING ABOUT THIS. THE PARKS MENTIONED WILL BE FINE
- Are there any restrictions you feel are harsh too early? NO HAVE TO BE HARSH ESPECIALLY IF NO RAIN FOR MONTHS
- Are there any restrictions you feel are too relaxed when we reach the higher levels of restrictions NO ALL ARE FINE

CAN I ADD FURTHER THAT A DROUGHT MANAGEMENT PLAN IS MORE THEN JUST MALPAS DAM, WHAT ABOUT WATER AVAILABLE FOR FARMERS THAT HAVE NO WATER AT ALL WHERE DO THEY GET WATER FROM? ALSO PROVISION OF WASTE CHARGES BEING WAIVED FOR THE DUMPING OF DEAD TREES TWIGS ETC. PLUS NOTHING MENTIONED ABOUT DUNAREESQ, GARA, PUDDLEDOCK DAMS AND WHAT CAN BE DONE WITH THEIR WATER SUPPLY

Good Morning,

Thanks you for inviting UNE to participate in the workshop and for facilitating the discussion. Please see comments below:

- The trigger points at both workshop identified the same percentage of total available surface water.
 - Do you feel that the consumption targets should continue to fall at each level? Yes
 - What reasons can you provide for the consumption target staying the same? No reasons, targets should fall at each level.
 - What reason can you provide for the consumption falling? The falling consumption targets will act as a reminder to residents and businesses that water isn't finite, and that water use should reflect the supply capacity.
 - If there are no inflows into the catchment, changes in information messaging would be required to occur swiftly over a 4 month period. Do the costs concern you of changing of messaging between Level 3, Level 4 and Level 5, which could happen over a four months? It is our understanding that a lot of the costs associated with the communication last year was, at the time, a one-off and now that these materials and community connections have been established it will be much more economical to implement the messaging. UNE will continue to work closely with Council to promote both ARC communications, and also develop targeted material for staff and students at UNE.
- We have captured the selected priority parks within Council area that should have some watering recommendation when coming out of Level 5? Are there any other parks and recreation areas that you think should be considered? It is requested that Council consider some of the UNE facilities, including the aquatic centre, as part of the selected priority areas. We are currently in the process of drought-proofing our site and have committed to reducing our reliance on town water for irrigation. The substantial savings that we have demonstrated we can achieve could offset the irrigation of selected UNE fields, depending on the upcoming calendar of local and regional events (please see comments from Sport UNE attached).
- Are there any restrictions you feel are harsh too early? No
- Are there any restrictions you feel are too relaxed when we reach the higher levels of restrictions? No

We need you to please provide this feedback to us by next Friday 6 November 2020 before 5pm.

I want to reiterate that the ARC response to the drought and water crisis last year was fantastic. ARC is also to be commended for taking this proactive approach to the new Drought Management planning and the involvement of the community and key stakeholders.

Category	Type	Per. Water. Cons.	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5A	Level 5B	
		Same as Level 1	100%	100%	85%	75%	70%	50%	
		Days to zero			Notify 2 wks before Local Newspap ers	Notify 2 weeks before Local Newspape r	Notify 2 weeks before Signs at Hwy entry	Notify 2 weeks before Signs Hwy, centre town	Local Newspaper always has the update Malpas / Ryanda Dam % Section in the Local Paper EVERY WEEK, FB page , Council website It adds known water breach information to share to public weekly
		160 L/P/D	150 L/P/D	140 L/P/D	140 L/P/D	123 L/P/D	100 L/P/D	80 L/P/D	Low why. ARC has no recognition of Catchments serving Malpas Catchment. This very well considered Water level NB per person considers Mother of Ducks Lagoon under bore threats. Add Guyra as the main catchment into Malpas Dam and you will know why all the deep aquifer bores planned for Guyra for Emergency Use, so far undefined, feed water to Malpas Catchment. It is obvious to anyone living in this higher level area, who research Catchments

as I do daily in my Guyra region.
 Add the future expansion of the hydroponic enterprise that had to source water from our Guyra region, including Mother of Ducks Lagoon as a Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem not recognised by ARC using one report to say no impact. Which is already occurring at the Izzeard Park Bore Site. See end of report re Guyra as a threatened water supply Catchment to Malpas Dam. Yes. Malpas Dam.

Vegetable Gardens	Tanks only	tanks only	tanks only	tanks only	tanks only			
General watering gardens only Tanks serve gardens under new legislation in the next 2 years. Lawns are bucket watered using	Buckets / Cans						Rinse Water / Tank	Rinse Water / Tank
house rinse water always Lawns are not needed into the	Hand Held Hose	yes / Tank	yes / Tank	yes / Tank	yes / Tank 1 Hours, 4 X week	Yes / Tank 1 Hour, 3 X week	Yes / Tank 1 Hour , 2 X week	Rinse Water / Tank

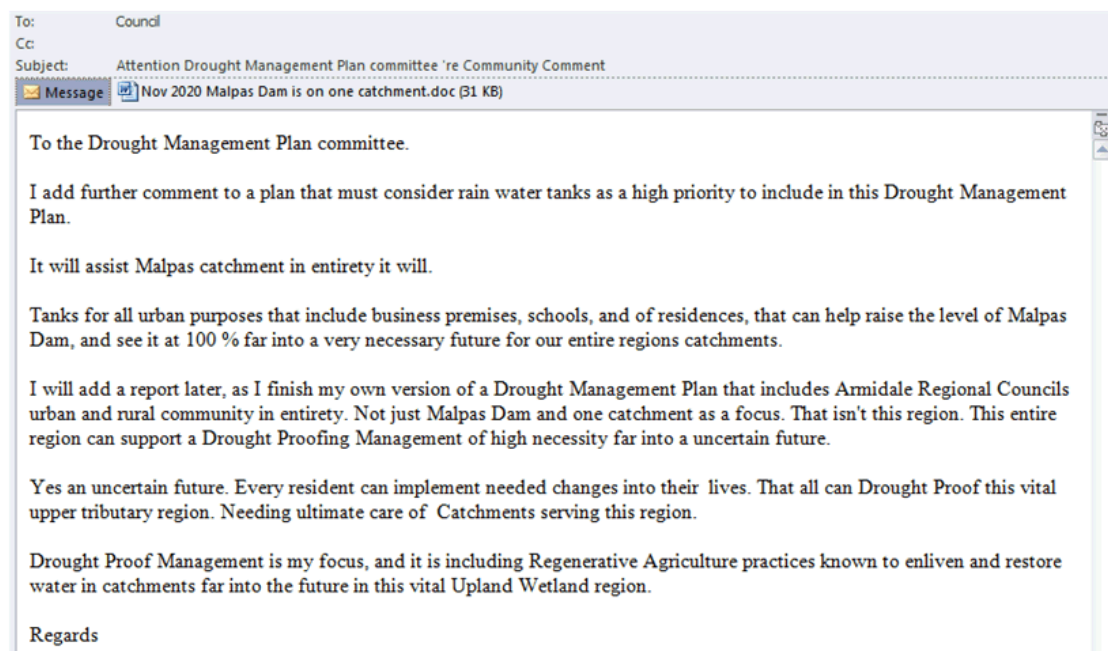
future under current govt refusal to make vital changes to		cool time of day	cool time of day	cool time of day	cool time of day	cool time of day	cool time of day	
policy regarding govt supplied water to urban towns , cities. Tanks can serve lawn lovers needs. View Richmond Council region use tanks for toilets and gardens supplied by residents accepting this need in this region from now until 3 years, every home has a tank serving toilet and garden entirely supplied by tanks. Tanks do all outside needs in Richmond council region incl. vehicles MULCH 30 cm H X 60 cm W min.	Sprinkler, fixed hose	1 hour, 3 X week	1 hour, 2 X week	1 hour, 2 X week	1 hour, 2 X week	1 hour, 2 X week	zero access this way	zero access this way
	Watering new lawn	This is the sprinkler fixed hose routine only as described above. Autumn only the time for this. Never Summer - Sept 15th - April 1st.						
	turf	Never during the day. Before 7:30 am , after 5:30 pm. Seed preferred because you take better care of seed cfed to turf to get deeper root systems in place before Summer						

Public Parks, gardens, MULCH 30 cm H X 60 cm W min.	Watering plants	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted	Banned
		Cool time of Day - night into early morning time for gardens of plants . No lawn watered in parks please. Plant more evergreen trees for shade all year. Drip irrigation method preferred. Otherwise a shuttle and an operator during Level 4 to 5A						
Vehicle Washing	Bucket	Bucket only ever for a not needed vital river water use. Use your tank water to hose your vehicle from the carport tank available close by Vehicle washing is not a need. Plants are far more vital for future Land Care than washing a Vehicle with river sourced water.						
		Tank	Tank	Tank	Tank	Tank	Rinse water / tank	Rinse water / tank
	Hose only if from a tank	Banned	Banned	Banned	Banned	Banned	Banned	Banned
Washing down hard surfaces	High pressure hose	15 min. max./ Use tanks over stained areas when required. NB when needed not daily, or sweep and use	as for C column Use tanks	as for C column Use tanks	Banned Use tanks	Banned Use tanks	Banned Bucket	Banned Bucket

[illegible]

Comments :

Malpas Dam is on one catchment. The Ryanda Creek, Gara River Catchment. A need to recognise by those who allowed a vital and rare Upland Wetland, a part Nature Reserve, and a rare example of an original land feature, unique to this entire New England Tablelands Bioregion. Still under threat from the same water managers in a far away council, unaware of this rare Wetland, held away since the late 80's from previous council efforts to drain this extremely rare Lagoon, once a permanent lake, until 1902, due to bores in Moree beginning to impact upper level catchments into this high altitude, top of the range region. In the 40's and the 60's this lake extended into the current golf course area, and was seen lapping the Lagoon Road area, opposite the Guyra Railway Station. By locals still living in Guyra. And to think a council would ever ever ever drain such a magnificent and rare example of a Upland Wetland as a permanent lake, so called Mother of Ducks when initially seen, covered in birdlife. Now another council adds the Izzear Park bore site i will fight to have capped under a forever forever legislation, and a plaque to say, that a council removed a aquifer threat to this rare Lagoon, and honoured a Bicentennial promise, that this Lagoon was to be preserved for the future habitat needs of rare and endangered migratory birds. The plaque will describe the apology from the Armidale Regional Council for not recognising a rare and part protected Upland Wetland, a recognised Endangered Ecological community, as a GROUNDWATER DEPENDENT ECOSYSTEM. The bore in Guyra being all, are finally capped, and not used at all, due to the new Restrictions that are held in place all the time, regardless of rainfall, due to the new legislation written into to 2020 Drought Management Plan, for all residences in urban Armidale and Guyra, to have in place a 25,000 L tank minimum, MINIMUM, to take care of the toilet and ALL outside watering needs. This legislation will take a time frame of 3 years to implement, thereby allowing all residents in urban towns and cities across Drought stricken NSW, to begin the recognition that our river systems are unable to sustain urban populations. And all residents now honour new legislation that enforces the 25,000L minimum tank for outside purposes to be in place by the 2023 September time frame. A vital need for all urban towns and cities to begin water management by residents to teach water management, water sustainable practice, and full awareness of water as a very high priority, to serve wildlife and habitat, such as vital and rare and threatened Wetlands in NSW, under far too many pressures. That include Gas Fracking of very unresearched impact kind. The gas Fracking in the Pilliga will impact as far as the bottom of the range to the west of the Pilliga area, and so impact all upper layer, upper level catchments, all the way to the top of the range east of the Pilliga. Yes. The unrecognised Land feature is subsurface aquifers that are very much interconnected to each other, and will always need to respond to any change in one area, expanding out into outer areas, The example is the one offered above which showed Mother of Ducks Lagoon dry for the first time in her history, in 1902, when bore activity began in the Moree plains, adjacent to the once vast low lying Wetland system the Gwydir Wetland system, consisting of Ramsar Sites under threat into the future due to the complete lack of research around excess Groundwater extraction, and the impact on surrounding aquifers, connected all the way up, down, near, and far from any excess extraction site of Groundwater extraction.



Malpas Dam is on one catchment. The Ryanda Creek, Gara River Catchment. A need to recognise by those who allowed a vital and rare Upland Wetland, a part Nature Reserve, and a rare example of an original land feature, unique to this entire New England Tablelands Bioregion. Still under threat from the same water managers in a far away council, unaware of this rare Wetland, held away since the late 80's from previous council efforts to drain this extremely rare Lagoon, once a permanent lake, until 1902, due to bores in Moree beginning to impact upper level catchments into this high altitude, top of the range region. In the 40's and the 60's this lake extended into

the current golf course area, and was seen lapping the Lagoon Road area, opposite the Guyra Railway Station. By locals still living in Guyra. And to think a council would ever ever ever drain such a magnificent and rare example of a Upland Wetland as a permanent lake, so called Mother of Ducks when initially seen, covered in birdlife. Now another council adds the Izzear Park bore site i will fight to have capped under a forever forever legislation, and a plaque to say, that a council removed a aquifer threat to this rare Lagoon, and honoured a Bicentennial promise, that this Lagoon was to be preserved for the future habitat needs of rare and endangered migratory birds. The plaque will describe the apology from the Armidale Regional Council for not recognising a rare and part protected Upland Wetland, a recognised Endangered Ecological community, as a GROUNDWATER DEPENDENT ECOSYSTEM. The bore in Guyra being all, are finally capped, and not used at all, due to the new Restrictions that are held in place all the time, regardless of rainfall, due to the new legislation written into to 2020 Drought Management Plan, for all residences in urban Armidale and Guyra, to have in place a 25,000 L tank minimum, MINIMUM, to take care of the toilet and ALL outside watering needs. This legislation will take a time frame of 3 years to implement, thereby allowing all residents in urban towns and cities across Drought stricken NSW, to begin the recognition that our river systems are unable to sustain urban populations. And all residents now honour new legislation that enforces the 25,000L minimum tank for outside purposes to be in place by the 2023 September time frame. A vital need for all urban towns and cities to begin water management by residents to teach water management, water sustainable practice, and full awareness of water as a very high priority, to serve wildlife and habitat, such as vital and rare and threatened Wetlands in NSW, under far too many pressures. That include Gas Fracking of very unresearched impact kind. The gas Fracking in the Pilliga will impact as far as the bottom of the range to the west of the Pilliga area, and so impact all upper layer, upper level catchments, all the way to the top of the range east of the Pilliga. Yes. The unrecognised Land feature is subsurface aquifers that are very much interconnected to each other, and will always need to respond to any change in one area, expanding out into outer areas, The example is the one offered above which showed Mother of Ducks Lagoon dry for the first time in her history, in 1902, when bore activity began in the Moree plains, adjacent to the once vast low lying Wetland system the Gwydir Wetland system, consisting of Ramsar Sites under threat into the future due to the complete lack of research around excess Groundwater extraction, and the impact on surrounding aquifers, connected all the way up, down, near, and far from any excess extraction site of Groundwater extraction.

The Malpas Dam area is one Catchment of many. It is the only one featured in a Drought Management Plan. Why.

The region of Armidale includes Ebor to The Gwydir. Saumarez Arding area to Ben Lomond into Maybole. Yes. The upper tributary region from Black Mountain to Ben Lomond is vital for the entire Malpas Catchment. As well as this adjoining Catchment, the Aberfoyle, which is under threat from the Ryanda Creek into Gara River system already. And it was once always a flowing river it was. A local farmer at Bald Blair, a generational farmer on this Aberfoyle land that has a very large Upland Wetland on it, has had this Lagoon go dry twice in the last 5 years. 2017. And 2019 into 2020. this year.

It seems as if the office working staff are completely unaware of the severity of the worst drought in history in this entire region they manage.

I must add this. I am not needing the same personnel making a Drought Management Plan for this entire region, when one meeting made it clear, that Malpas Dam, Armidale as a urban city, and Costa eastern tomato farm, and Guyra, are the only considerations for a Drought Management Plan for the future.

I insist that tanks are the necessity in new legislation coming into this current Drought Management Plan. This current Drought Management Plan.

Richmond Council can be the need to contact regarding their urban residence policy of a tank to serve the toilet and all outside water needs. I feel it must be in this Plan for the future. And in place by 2021. The legislation to include the urban tank for toilet and all other outside needs. Which will need at least a 25,000 L tank in the garden of any arrangement. And if possible to increase over time, to a 50,000 L minimum please. To assist the downstream Catchments serving a World Heritage Listed National Park region in this region, that begins to revere and honour the Waterfall Way, by all residents in this entire region being served by rainwater tanks, as do those living in Ben Lomond, Black Mountain, Ebor, and every out of town person living on rainwater tanks to serve all their needs. A vital inclusion to see this area have the minimum 25,000L tank in place or in progress into 2023, as a part payment plan they save for. Local council can assist via Drought Funding Grants from Government to decrease the high cost of water supply, if the rain water tank can be seen as an excellent solution well into the future. The tank idea will serve our catchments needing to flow well beyond this entire region. To the sea east and south.

All schools use large reservoir tanks for toilets, and garden watering. Why not.

Add the University doing the same.

Add all urban business premises using tank water for day to day needs.

Add the refusal of the 40 ML dam for Costa Group please. The catchment they may extract from is the upper Gara River Catchment. Correct. Any Groundwater extraction from this aquifer serving Malpas catchment into Malpas Dam water supply, will impact flow into that water supply dam.

Add the Guyra bores. Same issue. All the Guyra bores will extract from the interconnected aquifers high placed in Guyra. They will take valuable aquifer water from near the base of Urundangie and Gara catchments from Guyra itself. It isn't a plan to extract from any bore north of Malpas for township water supply

From: [REDACTED] [mailto:](#)
Sent: Tuesday, 1 December 2020 3:50 PM
To: Viv May
Subject: Accessibility to personnel and domestic water use

Dear Mr May,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Several weeks ago, I wished to communicate with someone who makes decisions about domestic water use in gardens. This is because I am a keen gardener and grow my own food, particularly during warmer times of the year. Aha! water...

My suggestion/enquiry is this - can Council please consider re-scheduling our watering times. In hot weather, it is far more efficient to water in the morning, albeit the early morning. This being the case, a watering time from 6-8AM would still allow people who work and/or need to ready families for the day to water before the busiest part of their day. Early morning watering is preferable because:

- plants are able to use water most efficiently to protect themselves against heat of the day
- plants get water at a time of day when they can access sunlight for photosynthesis
- plants are hydrated when most needed
- plants are watered prior to the worst hours for evaporation
- plants are additionally protected from the harm caused by winds - especially during high temperatures
- watering at night in hot weather means that the above does not happen
- watering at night is actually harmful for plants inclined to various pests and diseases - in particular roses, Cucurbitaceae (cucumber, pumpkin, zucchini etc) become very subject to mould, black spot and fungi
- watering at night is far more attractive for many pests such as slugs and snails which attack plants at night, at the very time plants are trying to rejuvenate themselves from heat and dryness
- 6-8pm watering transverses dinner times, bath times, evening sports and other activities, etc

Late watering is also unwise because, in a town with insufficient water, people will not be gaining optimum benefit from their watering and may use more water than they would in the morning because plants will still suffer during the day.

One watering period of 2 hours makes sense as it allows people to give their plants a deep water from week to week. However, to hope that plants smaller than bushes and trees will survive high temperatures with only two waterings a week is not realistic. It would be better to stagger times to one 2-hourly and two 1-hourly slots so that owners can choose which plants they give preference to for the 1-hourly periods as some plants will cope better than others.

I hope you will give consideration to this suggestion, speak with reliable sources and make adaptations to current policy for domestic water use.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I am aware you have many things to address at this time and appreciate the size of your task. Having not long ago seen our local a council put under administration, re-grouping and imploding once again, I wonder if there are local peculiarities that set this community upon itself to the detriment of all. I am annoyed by ongoing the fiscal mismanagement and the cost to individual people and families, question the recruitment processes used by staff and Councillors, question ministerial oversight of local government and worry about the likelihood of ever living in an LGA with a competent council.

I will share this correspondence with Adam Marshall for his information and look forward to you reply.

Many thanks,

[REDACTED]








**Resilience
NSW**

DOC054891

NOTICE OF NATURAL DISASTER DECLARATION

Notification Type	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Initial Notification <input type="checkbox"/> Updated
Name of disaster event	NSW Storms and Floods from 20 October 2020 onwards
Australian Government Registration Number (AGRN)	AGRN 936
Combat Agency event reference numbers	NSW SES Events 54/2021 and 56/2021
Date event started	20 October 2020
Local Government Areas included (full list)	Armidale Regional Bega Valley Shire Central Coast Eurobodalla Shire Mid Coast Shoalhaven Snowy Valleys Tamworth Regional
Date of Media Release for this event	18 November 2020
Media Release Attached	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
Additional Information	Nil
Prepared by	Jillian Suggate, Senior Project Officer
Authorised by (signed and dated)	 Adam Tran Senior Policy Manager 20 November 2020



The Hon. David Littleproud MP
Minister for Agriculture, Drought and
Emergency Management
Deputy Leader of the Nationals

The Hon. David Elliott MP
New South Wales Minister for Police and Emergency
Services

J O I N T M E D I A R E L E A S E

Wednesday 18th November 2020

DISASTER ASSISTANCE FOLLOWING STORMS AND FLOODS IN NSW

Disaster assistance is now available in the local government areas of Armidale, Bega Valley, Central Coast, Eurobodalla, Mid Coast, Shoalhaven, Snowy Valleys and Tamworth in response to storms and flooding that occurred from 20 October 2020 onwards.

Assistance is being provided through the jointly funded Commonwealth-State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA).

Minister for Emergency Management David Littleproud said the severe thunderstorms, heavy rainfall and damaging winds caused widespread damage across the impacted councils.

"This was a series of serious storms which caused significant damage to local roads, businesses and residential properties, resulting in localised flooding and storms," Minister Littleproud said.

"Through the DRFA, a range of practical assistance measures are now available to help individuals get back on their feet and help councils with ongoing clean-up and repairs to infrastructure."

New South Wales Minister for Police and Emergency Services David Elliott said these funds are there to help communities recover from significant damage.

"Communities experienced significant losses and disruption due to flash flooding and severe weather, including road closures, landslips, temporary power, water and telecommunication outages."

"The assistance being announced today will help cover the costs associated with the operational response and repairing damaged essential public assets, such as roads."

Assistance available under the DRFA may include:

- help for eligible people whose homes or belongings have been damaged

JOINT MEDIA RELEASE

JOINT MEDIA RELEASE

- support for affected local councils to help with the costs of cleaning up and restoring damaged essential public assets
- concessional interest rate loans for small businesses, primary producers and non-profit organisations
- freight subsidies for primary producers, and
- grants to eligible non-profit organisations

For information on personal hardship and distress assistance, contact the Disaster Welfare Assistance Line on 1800 018 444. To apply for a concessional loan or grant, contact the NSW Rural Assistance Authority on 1800 678 593 or visit www.raa.nsw.gov.au

Further information on disaster assistance is available on the Australian Government's Disaster Assist website at www.disasterassist.gov.au and the NSW emergency information and response website at www.emergency.nsw.gov.au

MEDIA CONTACTS:

Douglas Ferguson 0455 448 985 (Minister Littleproud)

Vanessa Till 0419 603 586 (Minister Elliott)

JOINT MEDIA RELEASE

1
2
3]

Applies to:	Development and Regulatory Services
Responsible Stream:	Service Delivery
Responsible Officers:	Manager Development & Regulatory Services, Planning & Environment
Legislation	Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 Local Government Act 1993
Adoption Date/History:	Version I – January 2005 Version II – July 2009 Version III – xx October 2020
CEO Approval Date	XX Month Year
TRIM File Number:	TBA
Review Date:	October 2022

4 PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to protect public infrastructure by requiring developers to lodge a bond or security to cover the cost of some activities related to their developments.

5 APPLICATION

This Policy applies to certain developments that have the potential to impact on public infrastructure and provides a financial guarantee that where certain works are not carried out or are deficient, Council could rectify the problem using the bond monies.

6 POLICY

In certain cases Council requires developers to lodge a bond or security to cover the cost of some activities related to their developments. These bonds provide a financial guarantee where certain works are not carried out or are deficient and Council can rectify the problem using the bond. The legal basis for requiring development-related security is provided within the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act* and *Local Government Act*.

The use of bonds is especially important to protect public infrastructure and the interests of persons purchasing property in new developments where services may not be fully completed.

Council may require such security for works of a "public" nature, such as but not limited to:

- (a) Provision of concrete footpath crossings (larger developments only);
- (b) Public road works;
- (c) Extensions to water and sewer mains;
- (d) Other Civil Engineering works.

Security may also be accepted where a developer wishes to defer payment of contributions for public infrastructure, to allow income to be obtained from a development before payment is made. For further details, please refer to the relevant developer contributions plans as applicable at the time of determination of an application.

7 HOW DOES COUNCIL DETERMINE THE AMOUNT OF SECURITY

As well as the cost of the activities to be secured (this can be established from contract documents where available) Council will consider protection against inflation over 2 years, and Council's potential on-costs if the work has to be rectified or carried out later.

8 EXEMPTION FROM PAYMENT OF SECURITY

Council will only require the payment of a security bond where the bond is calculated in excess of \$1500.

9 WHAT FORM OF SECURITY IS REQUIRED

Bonds may take the form of cash; or a written guarantee from a reputable financial institution, or a reputable insurance company with no expiry date. All bonds lodged with Council for physical works should be accompanied by a written deed signed by the applicant, developer or owner of the land agreeing to the terms of the bond lodgement. Council normally provides a proforma "Agreement to Meet Costs" form for this purpose with development consent documents.

Council may also charge an administration and inspection fees associated with the lodgement and return of bonds and guarantees. Charges are identified in Council's Fees and Charges Schedule.

10 WHEN SHOULD THE BOND BE LODGED

Bonds are required before or with the submission of a construction certificate or subdivision title plan for approval. In cases where neither of these approvals is required, bonds should be lodged before the use of a property commences.

11 IS INTEREST PAYABLE ON BOND MONIES

Council prefers that security should be in the form of a bank guarantee, in which case no interest is foregone. Where cash is lodged with Council, arrangements will be made for interest-bearing investment of the bond money, in accordance with section 97 of the *Local Government Act 1993*. Any enquiries should be directed to Council's Finance Section.

12 EXPENDITURE OR REDUCTION/REFUND OF BOND MONIES

In all cases where Council may be considering the expenditure of bond monies, developers will first be given the opportunity to rectify any deficiency themselves.

90% of bond monies can be refunded on satisfactory completion of the works, with 10% to be retained after an agreed maintenance period, (usually 1 year) and refunded following the satisfactory outcome of a site inspection by our staff. In the circumstances, developers lodging bank guarantees may elect to split these into two guarantees for 90% and 10% of the total bond required.



PARK FURNITURE STYLE AND DESIGN GUIDE

Public and Town Spaces



Unleash the opportunities

www.armidaleregional.nsw.gov.au

TRIM:

Prologue

The following guidelines have been written and coordinated by the Armidale Regional Council Public and Town Spaces team.

The guidelines are essentially a 'live' technical working document for the everyday use of Council staff that can be added to and updated as new standard furniture items are developed, existing ones are modified, or other details pertaining to the use of park furniture are altered.

Enquiries about the use, interpretation or updates of the guidelines should be directed to the Armidale Regional Council Public and Town Spaces team.

APPROVAL AND REVIEW		
Responsible Business Unit	Local Services	
Responsible Officer	Richard Morsley	
Date/s adopted	<i>Executive Management Committee</i> [updated by policy owner]	<i>Council</i> [DD Mmmm YYYY]
Date/s of previous adoptions	Nil	
Date of next review	[Two years from last adoption]	
TRIM Reference		

TRIM:

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TRIM:

1. Introduction

Overview

The Park Furniture Style and Design Guide is intended as a primary reference document to establish a general design direction for the upgrading of park furniture throughout the Armidale Regional Council local government area. The style guide focuses on the most common furniture in parks (e.g. toilet blocks, picnic tables, picnic shelters and bins), and provides guidance the selection of outdoor furniture across all parks and public spaces. The identification of preferred furniture design will assist with creating a level of uniformity across furniture in parks however it is important to note that some urban public spaces may require different styling and design elements that relate to existing site-specific treatments and design themes.

While consideration is given to the existing character and types of parks, the guide aims to unify park furniture design styles as far as possible across all parks, reserves and sportsfields across the local government area. Consideration must be given to the provision of site specific furniture in heritage listed areas and sites and the preservation of original heritage furniture in parks of high heritage significance such as Central Park in Armidale City. It is intended that the style guide be developed or modified to suit acceptable aesthetic trends, advancements in technology or materials and the availability of park furniture supplies.

The need for a style guide

The Armidale region has a vast and rich culturally built history from mining settlement cottages to stately residences and cathedrals which are showcased in our towns and villages. While the preservation of the history and heritage of the Armidale region is vitally important; a lack of prescribed guidelines for park furniture over the years has resulted in the installation of furniture on a needs basis resulting in a lack of consideration for conformity or suitability. This has resulted in a styling clashes and miss-matching often detracting from the overall presentation and image of the region.

2. Aims and Objectives

The major aim of developing the Parks Furniture Style Guide is to:

- Provide an easy to use reference to assist Council in achieving a consistent approach to park furniture design planning across the Armidale Regional Council local government area.
- Establish a consistent application of design styles to suit specific locations, usage and heritage genres be they European or indigenous
- Establish a list of preferred suppliers for the selection of furniture and structures to be replaced or installed in parks

Further development of these guidelines will aim to:

- Establish a set of standards/guidelines for the selection, placement and installation of street and park furniture.

TRIM:

- Establish a suite of park furniture that is sympathetic to specific heritage genres, built landscapes and open spaces across the Armidale region.
- Assess all existing street and park furniture to determine what styles and designs should be retained, what should be replaced and what should be developed for future use.
- Establish some clear design principles to address a range of considerations including function, cost, use, safety, consistency, durability and sustainability.
- Create a body of reference material that is accessible to the public, developers, consultants and the various Council departments to assist with the design, provision and planning of new furniture in streetscapes and open spaces; particularly in new subdivisions and growth areas.
- Identify the maintenance standards and regimes applicable to all furniture items.

3. Key elements of furniture selection

Sustainability and durability

The supply of high quality park furniture is a very competitive industry and there are regular design changes and advancements in the choice of materials to maintain a competitive edge. In recent times there has been an emerging trend towards the use of recycled plastics and aluminium castings and a preference for timber furniture installations rather than heavy steel structures.

The installation of predominantly timber furniture across parks is prevalent in the Armidale region and is a theme that should be kept consistent in moving forward. With appropriate maintenance, the life cycle of the timber furniture can be extended significantly.

Maintenance

The design and material selection should consider maintenance factors including the ease of replacement of the entire unit, the replacements of parts, ease of removing graffiti and whether maintenance can be carried out in-situ. Costs and frequency of recurring maintenance should be assessed during the selection phase.

Timber furniture installed across the Armidale region is maintained by the cleaning of the furniture followed by the coating of the timber in 'Intergrain Nature's Timber oil'. The oil based timber finish is made from 95% sustainable ingredients. The penetrating formula replicates timber's natural defences against aging, saturating the cells to protect against drying out. Added ingredients give resistance to water, UV and mould. The natural ingredients in Nature's Timber Oil give a rich, natural oiled finish.

Aesthetic appeal

In creating a style guide, the aesthetic appeal of the recommended furniture must be given consideration. Furniture that not only functions effectively but looks inviting, clean and well maintained is of high importance. The selection of timber furniture in the Armidale region suits the landscape across the many parks that are adorned with trees and shrubbery.

TRIM:

Accessibility, comfort and ease of use

Ensuring that furniture is accessible to all users, comfortable and easy to use is critical in the design and selection of parks furniture. The placement of picnic tables on concrete slabs with appropriate levelling to the surrounding ground surface ensures that all members of the community are able to safely and effectively use the furniture. Slabs must be large enough to accommodate wheelchair access and movement in accordance with AS1428-2009.

Some existing bin styles have cigarette trays incorporated into the cast tops. The use of these trays reduces bins catching fire and pollution into the storm water system. Anti-skate devices are installed on all CBD furniture to prevent damage by skate board riders.

The selection of toilets and toilet blocks should ensure that accessible options are included in the design and that the access to the toilets is suitable for those with disabilities to AS1428-2009 standard.

Considerations for style and design selection

Location	Style and design considerations and selection criteria	Examples
Mall and CBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modern style to suit periodic overall redevelopment style Timber battens with hidden fixings seating and recycle bins Toilet blocks stainless steel façade and fittings Accessibility compliance AS1428-2009 Anti skate devices and cigarette trays 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moodie Restoration seat with Jarrah timber stain Town and Park Metro bin Exeloo Toilet facilities
Heritage listed parks and heritage listed sportsfields	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refurbishment of existing or compliance new items with original park fabric design considerations 	
General urban parks and reserves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strong natural timber traditional NSW National Parks style picnic table. Merbau natural oil stain. Rounded edges to reduce splintering Stainless aluminium framed robust curved top recycle bins. Twin unit, lockable 240L. Colorbond colour 'monument' with red yellow and top openings Twin stainless steel electric BBQs. Sloped skillion roof, timber post structures on concrete slab. Slab and footing specifications critical. AS1428-2009 compliance. Roof colour consistency 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Billabong or Bush designs Street Furniture Australia Grillex BBQ Town and Park, Landmark or Stoddart
Village and settlement parks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strong natural timber traditional NSW National Parks style picnic table. Merbau natural oil stain as for parks and reserves Bush fire considerations Local cultural and heritage considerations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Billabong or Bush designs

TRIM:

Playground areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brightly coloured 2-3 person aluminium bench seating to designate active supervision location Picnic and shade areas as per general urban parks and reserves 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grillex custom build Town and Park, Landmark or Stoddart
Sportsfields	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aluminium bench and tiered seating Colour options to suit club colours where appropriate Robust construction Incorporate roofing for shade. Tree shade. Separate shade structures. Portability 	
Urban streetscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contemporary styling Aluminium bus seating with arm rests to suit sign posting Accessibility compliance 	
Conservation areas and camping reserves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural timber decking, battens and surfaces Simple structure platform design Twin stainless steel electric BBQs. Picnic shelters sloped skillion roof, timber post structures on concrete slab Accessible where achievable Natural timber or stainless wire railings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grillex BBQ Town and Park, Landmark or Stoddart

TRIM:

4. Examples of style and design elements

Park Barbeques

Stainless steel barbeques have been installed throughout parks in the region with positive results and feedback. Consideration should be given to disability access where the landform permits it, warranty, ease of cleaning and maintenance must be considered. Colour choice should be in line with the relevant park's design and aim for consistency.

Examples of barbeques to be considered for replacement or installation in parks are below.



Double BBQ standard design for parks and reserves



Easy access stainless steel construction BBQ for picnic shelters

TRIM:

Playground seating

Typical “playful” style

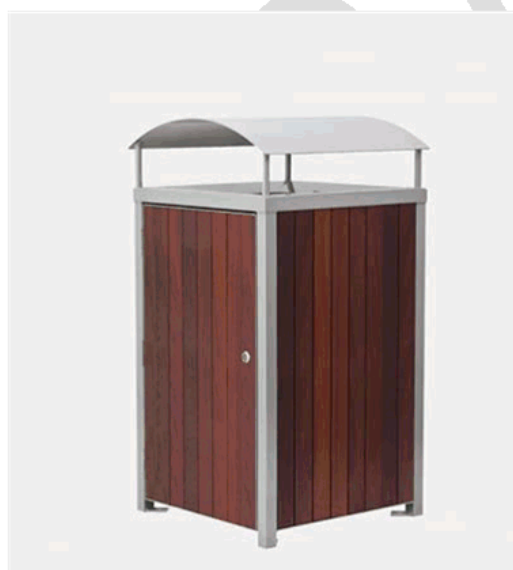


Streetscape furniture



Park Bins

Consideration should be given to the surrounding park furniture and design of the park as to whether timber clad or metal enclosures are chosen. Typically stained timber frame bin enclosures, have been installed across parks and sporting fields in the region. Timber enclosures are more suited to the Armidale City mall. Metal enclosures are recommended for sporting fields. It is recommended that dual bins are installed with rubbish and recycling options. In the case of dual bin installations, red and yellow roofs should reflect the rubbish and recycling options. Curved roof options should be selected.



Aluminium framed Bin Enclosure, 120L with vertical timber battens typical style for urban areas and Mall

TRIM:



Above: Red and yellow custom dual bin enclosure for parks and reserves

Picnic Tables

Council has moved away from heritage painted seats in parks and reserves to solid and robust oiled timber units. The range of picnic tables from both suppliers is incredibly solid, aesthetically pleasing and fit in well with the tree filled landscapes found in most parks across the Armidale region.



Typical strongly constructed national Parks style picnic table

TRIM:



Solidly built stained picnic table used in parks and reserves and conservation areas set on accessible concrete slab where landform permits

Picnic shelters

Timber style picnic shelters should be considered in the first instance. Skillion Colorbond roofs are often ideal however pitched roofs are also acceptable. Suppliers should be asked if bolt down hardwood posts are included in their design as this is an optimal securing method for picnic shelters whilst providing the timber aesthetic.

Many suppliers have a range of picnic shelters suitable for installation that would complement the above recommended picnic tables. Simple design with timber posts and skillion roof. Easily repairable and maintained.



Typical style for parks and reserves with stained timber posts & skillion roofed shelter set on accessible concrete slab

TRIM:



Another example of a typical BBQ shelter design

Toilet Blocks

Toilet block installation in general parks should match the chosen (where recently installed) picnic shelter and picnic table design (timber).

Typical style should aim for skillion roof and timber posts. Colorbond internal and external wall sheeting and roofing, polycarbonate roof sheeting (natural lighting) with timber ventilation screening and steel clad doors. A variety of finishes and fixings can be customised to suit the individual project.

Urban and mall styling will match overall redesign requirements as determined.



TRIM:



Typical simple design style for parks and reserves and conservation areas

Mall and CBD



Public toilet with style elements that would be suitable for the Mall and CBD areas. Clean, modern lines with dominant stainless steel paneling

TRIM:

Mall and CBD seating



Style typical for use in current mall and CBD 2004 refurbishment

Urban Streetscape



Current metro design style for urban bus stops. Aluminium slats are generally preferable for reduced maintenance, although natural or built shade should always be considered as surfaces can be hot to touch

Summary of community submission – Draft Park Furniture Style and Design Guide

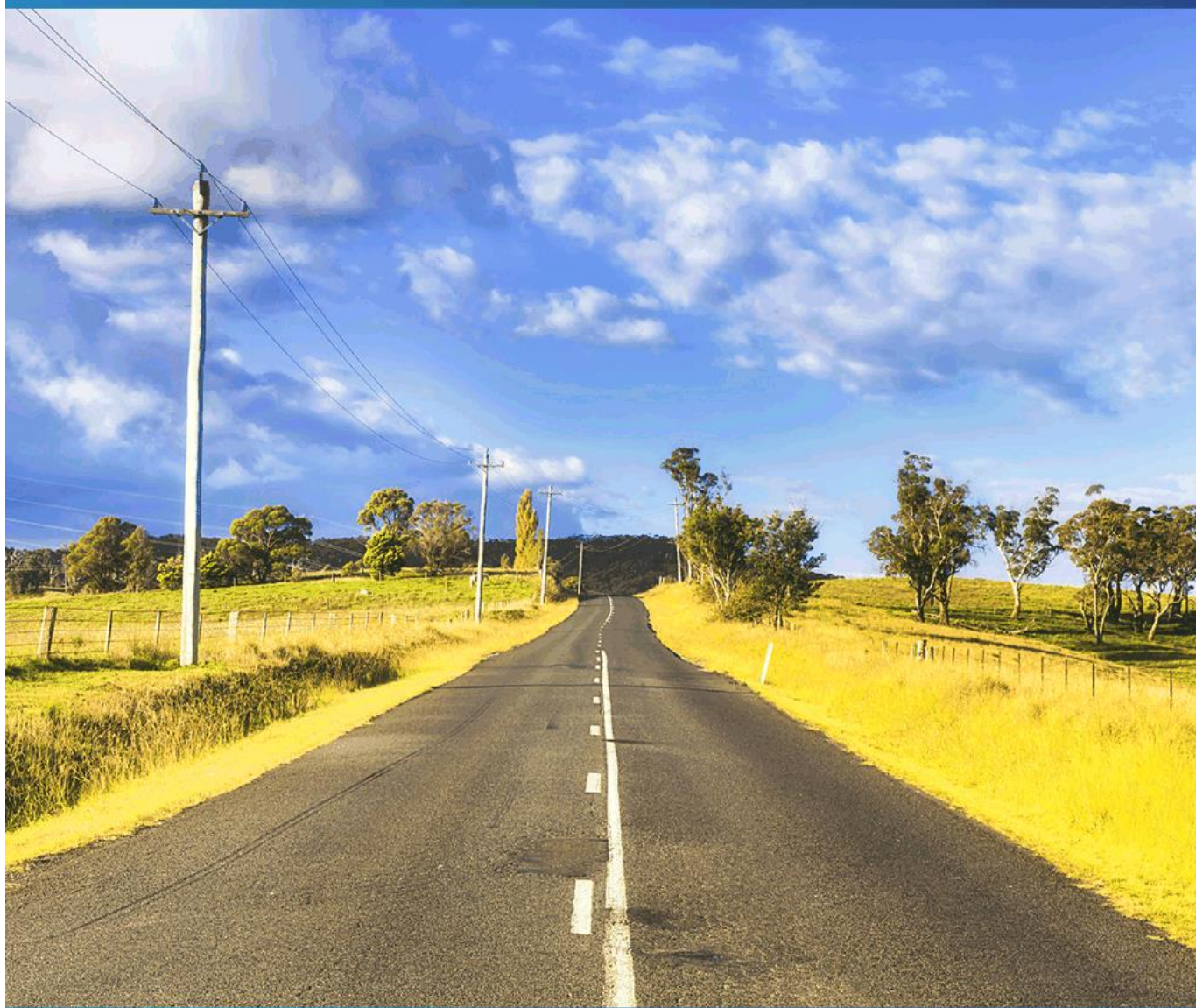
No.	Submitter/ Date	Submission summary	Key points	Council staff recommendation in response to submission
1	Kathy Clare 19 & 20/11/2020	Submitter is chair of the Neighbourhood Watch Group. West Armidale area needs a small shaded play area with seating and aluminium bins to reduce the risk of vandalism. Parry Parade Park needs more shaded/covered seating, and the timber posts on the shade structure could be replaced with steel to reduce risk of arson. Aluminium bins also needed. Youth involvement in planning recommended. Revamp the skate park with shaded seating and colour.	Bins to be aluminium where risk of arson and vandalism is high. West Armidale needs a play space. More covered/shaded seating required across town. Skate park needs a revamp.	Staff recommend no changes to style guide. Comments noted and passed on to officers for information for future planning and consideration.



Transport for NSW | November 2020

Fixing Local Roads

Program Guidelines



Transport for NSW

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Message from the Minister

The NSW Government understands that many rural and regional councils in NSW are struggling to cope with the financial burden of maintaining local roads. We recognise that this task is even tougher during economic challenges and times of drought.

Fixing Local Roads is a game-changer for regional and rural councils in NSW. This five-year \$500 million program is specifically designed to help regional and rural councils carry out vital maintenance and repair work on local roads. It is an investment in the road network that our families use every day that underpin our regional economies and that drive growth.

Delivering better roads mean safer, faster and more reliable trips enabling our communities to grow, businesses can thrive and local motorists can get home sooner and safer.



Paul Toole
Minister for Regional Transport and Roads

The Fixing Local Roads Program will be delivered in multiple rounds and is available to 93 regional councils, Unincorporated Far West and Lord Howe Island which will be able to apply for grants to repair priority local roads.

In 2020, the Australian Government committed an additional \$191 million to the Fixing Local Roads program to support economic activity in regional NSW. This increased the total funding for the Fixing Local Roads program to \$691 million.

Round 1 of the Fixing Local Roads Program has seen funding of over \$243 million provided to 84 councils to deliver 253 projects.

Through Fixing Local Roads, the NSW Government is supporting regional and rural NSW to be a great place to live and work.

I look forward to seeing the impact this program has in our communities.

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Introduction

The NSW Government has committed \$500 million to a Fixing Local Roads program to improve council roads across rural and regional NSW. This investment will help reduce the maintenance backlog for councils, targeting roads that do not meet the freight significance or benefit to cost ratio (BCR) requirements of the current Fixing Country Roads (FCR) program. Fixing Local Roads aims to fund improvements to local roads that will deliver smoother, safer and more reliable journeys.

Councils are now invited to submit applications for the next round of the program to further support investment in road improvements.

These guidelines provide an overview of the Fixing Local Roads Program, the eligibility criteria, and details about the application and assessment process which have been refined for Fixing Local Roads Round 2.

Overview

Fixing Local Roads will provide funding to councils to repair, maintain or seal priority or important local roads.

In recognition of the changing economic environment and need to stimulate regional economies, we have refined the outcomes for the Fixing Local Roads program to ensure applications for the best-suited projects are submitted.

Projects will be selected for funding based on the ability to deliver against the following:

- Promotes regional economic activity
- Enhances regional connectivity and sustainability
- Enables a safer regional road network.

Accordingly, it is important for applications to include relevant evidence and information which demonstrates how the projects can deliver the outcomes of the program.

These Guidelines will support councils in preparing applications by having a strong understanding of the types of projects which will deliver the best community and value for money outcomes and the way in which the applications are evaluated.

To inform project selection, Transport for NSW will be considering the following attributes specific to the road, or the project outcomes:

- Projects which are able to commence in 20/21 financial year
- Projects which create jobs and economic growth
- Current road condition
- Local road function and importance
- The infrastructure risk rating of the road
- Frequency of lane/road closures due to weather or heavy haulage.

We will also give consideration to councils which may be experiencing hardship or choose to nominate projects which connect indigenous communities.

Demonstration of co-contribution, or leveraging other grant programs to optimise outcomes, will also be considered in the evaluation process.

Alignment with Future Transport Strategy 2056

Transport for NSW's Future Transport Strategy 2056, through its Regional Services and Infrastructure Plan, identified the need to continue to build and improve local infrastructure such as roads, rail and bridges in regional and rural NSW. This is being done through a combination of initiatives including Fixing Country Roads, Bridges for the Bush, Fixing Country Bridges, Walking and Cycling programs, Targeted Road Safety Works as well as Fixing Local Roads.

Future Transport Strategy 2056 also recognises the need for a more integrated local and state road network to provide seamless and safe journeys for all customers. Fixing Local Roads will support councils to repair and maintain those important local roads that will improve road safety and support freight, regional travel and connectivity.

Program objectives

Well-maintained roads play a vital role in our regions, supporting growth and development, as well as providing safe and reliable access to critical services, such as hospitals and schools. The objectives of the Fixing Local Roads Program are aligned with the Regional NSW transport customer outcomes of the Future Transport Strategy 2056 Regional NSW Services and Infrastructure Plan including:

- Safely, efficiently and reliably moving people and goods
- Sustaining and enhancing the liveability of our places
- Accessible for all customers
- Makes the best use of available resources and assets.

Table 1 Fixing Local Roads Program outcomes and objectives

Future Transport 2056		
Regional NSW Services and Infrastructure Plan Customer Outcomes	Fixing Local Roads Program Outcomes	Fixing Local Roads Program Objectives
Safely, efficiently and reliably moving people and goods Sustaining and enhancing the liveability of our places Accessible for all customers Makes the best use of available resources and assets	The program promotes regional economic activity	Promotes regional development in rural communities Supports families in rural and remote communities
	The program enhances regional connectivity and sustainability	Improves the reliability of the local road network
		Assists councils to sustainably manage their assets
		Improves the resilience of the local road network
	The program enables a safer regional road network	Improves local road safety

Eligibility

Who can apply?

The Fixing Local Roads Program is available to the 93 regional councils listed in Appendix 1, as well as the Unincorporated Far West and Lord Howe Island.

Councils are encouraged to work with their neighbouring councils to put forward nominations that address regional priorities. Councils are also encouraged to work with their Joint Organisation of Councils (JOs) to identify these regional priorities.

Councils and Joint Organisations should contact Transport for NSW via **fixinglocalroads@transport.nsw.gov.au** to seek advice on potential projects and for information on preparing applications.



Eligible projects

Councils will be able to apply for grants to repair priority local roads. Projects should meet the following requirements to be eligible for consideration. The project must be:

- located on a Local Road managed by council (note: Regional and Crown roads are not eligible)
- identifiable as a priority or important local road for the local government area or region
- deliverable within 24 months of notification from Transport for NSW
- maintenance-driven such as repairing, patching, maintaining or sealing existing roads.

Examples of eligible projects are:

- repairing potholes on a key local road
- sealing an unsealed road that will improve safety or improve access to services or industry
- patching or repairing cracking on a key local road.

Examples of ineligible projects are:

- widening shoulders or building new roads
- any project on private roads
- any project on the State or Regional road network.

Funding is specific to projects and not transferable.



Application and evaluation process

Multi-criteria analysis

Transport for NSW has refined the application, evaluation and prioritisation process since Round 1 was launched in 2019.

A multi-criteria assessment process will be used to assess council applications and is consistent with the Transport for NSW Principles and Guidelines for Economic Appraisal of Transport Investments and Initiatives.

Each project will be subject to a comparative assessment of both merit and prioritisation attributes to enable selection of projects which meet the program objectives (refer page 8), and contain particular attributes which may warrant higher consideration (refer page 9).

For all proposals, applications will be lodged via the SmartyGrants system and respond to all questions included on the **application form**.

Merit assessment

The application will seek detailed responses from council to questions which will enable the evaluation panel to make a determination of the following:

- Does the project meet the objectives of the program?
- Has the application provided measurable justification and/or evidence to demonstrate alignment to the program objectives?
- Are the cost, schedule, risk and assumptions of the project delivery well documented?
- Are there special considerations e.g. drought hardship, connecting Indigenous Communities?
- Is there a co-contribution funding source to optimise community outcomes?

Some documentation may be required in support of the applications, including photographic evidence, detailed project development information and asset management plans.

Merit-based questions will be assessed on a score of 1 (poor) to 3 (very good). The scores will be combined into a single multi-criteria score based on a weighting for each criteria.

The criteria and weighting is shown in Table 2.

Prioritisation assessment

To support Transport for NSW to distinguish and prioritise the applications, the application form includes a number of questions to enable a better understanding of which projects may warrant higher consideration.

Application questions require applicants to provide specific information and/or select from a range of attributes specific to the road and/or the project.

Attributes informing prioritisation include:

- Job creation and local investment
- Road condition and function
- Road Infrastructure Risk Rating
- Frequency of closures due to weather/heavy haulage damage.

Responses to prioritisation questions will generate a score between 1-3 and will contribute to the overall evaluation score.

Councils may choose to resubmit unsuccessful projects from round one if they are able to start projects in the 2020/21 financial year.

Table 2 Merit assessment evaluation criteria and weightings

Program Outcomes	Program Objectives	Criteria Weighting	Evaluation Criteria
Outcome 1: The program promotes regional economic activity	Promotes regional development in rural communities	15%	The project is shovel ready commencing in FY20/21 The project will generate local jobs for regional and rural communities and supports community connections which further enable job generation and economic growth, eg freight, tourism, industry.
	Supports families in rural and remote areas	15%	The project enables improved access to one or more of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • health care • education • access to social and community benefits
Outcome 2: The program enhances regional connectivity and sustainability	Improves the reliability of the local road network.	15%	The project will significantly improve the current local road condition
	Assists councils to sustainably manage their assets	10%	The project forms part of an existing strategic asset management strategy and will directly minimises ongoing reactive maintenance costs The project supports maintenance of roads impacted by harvesting of State Forests.
	Improves the resilience of the local road network	15%	The project will improve the productivity of the local road network by reducing frequency of road closures, speed restrictions building resilience to natural disasters / weather events / heavy vehicle damage.
Outcome 3: The program enables a safer regional road network	Improves local road safety	15%	The project / proposed solution contributes to a safer road network
Reasonableness & Deliverability	Credibility and integrity of the project application.	5%	Application has sufficient detail to support the credibility and integrity of the project costs, schedule, risks and assumptions.
Special Considerations	Hardship Connects indigenous communities	5%	Yes / No
Co-contribution / other funding source	Contribution from Council or other party	5%	The amount of co-contribution council or a party other than council make to the project



Benefit to Cost Ratio (BCR)

Fixing Local Roads will not require projects to meet a threshold BCR for applications to be considered. This is consistent with the program objectives of delivering funding support to councils for projects that may have an economic, social or safety benefit and to enable rapid mobilisation of regional economic activity. Projects will still be assessed on a value-for-money basis.

Other supporting information

Applicants are encouraged to provide documentation in support of their application. This documentation may include photographs, engineering reports, road priority hierarchy and reports, maintenance reports, recent weather events not previously captured by a Natural Disaster Declaration.

Assessment panel

An assessment panel will be established by Transport for NSW and consist of relevant technical and policy subject matter experts. Members of the assessment panel will review and conduct scoring for each application and make a recommendation to government on those projects that best meet the program objectives.

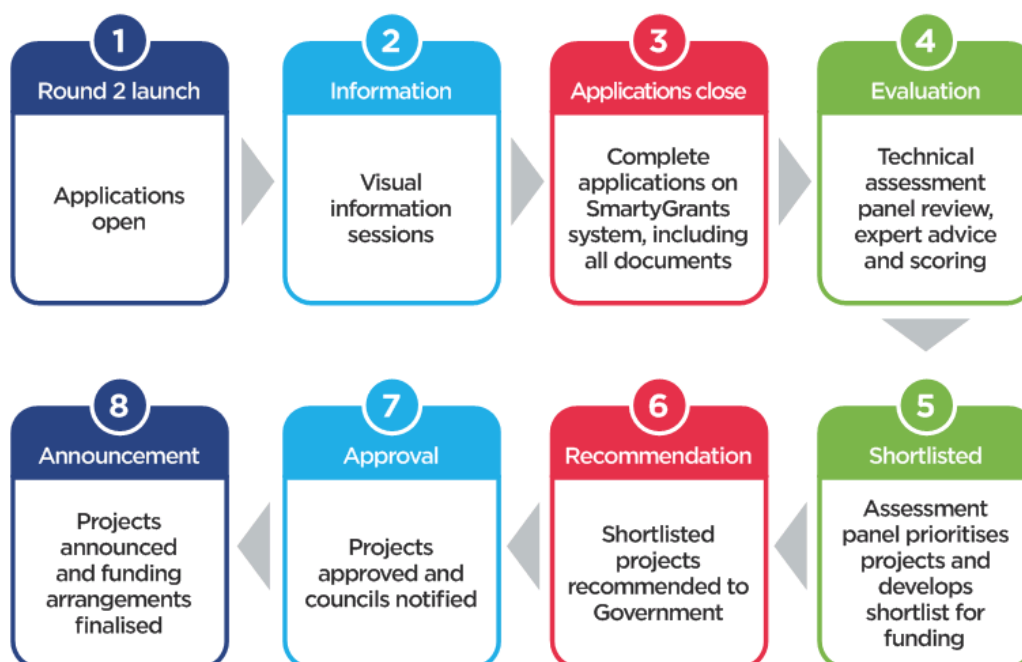
The government will then announce those projects that have been deemed successful and are to receive the funding.

The decision of government will be final. The government may also, in its absolute discretion, choose not to award funding to projects that may have met the criteria.

How to apply

Application and assessment process

An overview of the stages of the application and assessment process is shown below.



Key dates

Round	Applications open	Applications close	Successful projects Announced	Project complete
Round 2 – 2020	2 November 2020	11 December 2020	January 2021	24 months from notification

Information related to potential future rounds may be advised at a later date.

Funding limits and co-contributions

There is a maximum funding limit of \$5 million of state contribution per council per application. Applicants can apply for up to 100 per cent of the value of the project, but co-contributions from council are strongly encouraged and will be considered relevant to council's funding position. A general rule of thumb is a minimum co-contribution of 25 per cent. Non-compliant proposals may be considered.

Councils are strongly encouraged to source additional investment to support their applications and enhance their local road maintenance projects. This might include, for example, working with mining and forestry industries to gain co-contributions or applying for Australian Government funding. Councils are also encouraged to leverage funding from other NSW Government programs to maximise community benefits from the project.

There is no limit to how many applications each applicant can submit; however applicants are advised to prioritise and put forward their most strategically important projects.

Forestry roads

The NSW Government is aware of the concerns of a number of councils regarding the unique challenges maintaining roads in LGAs with large areas of State Forest. In response to these concerns, a proportion of funding from the total allocation will be allocated specifically for roads in forestry areas.

Payment and reporting milestones

Payments will be made to councils at the start and end of the project to support councils to deliver the project, on time and within budget. Councils will be required to report on the planning, progress and completion of projects and provide supporting information.

Final payment will be made upon satisfactory project completion and receipt by Transport for NSW of a final project report. Unless otherwise agreed, payments to councils will be in accordance with the two milestones below:

- reach agreement with Transport for NSW regarding the funding arrangements (start of project) – 70 per cent
- certification and final report that the project has been completed and an audit by Transport for NSW (end of project) – balance of project costs (up to 30 per cent).

Final payment will be made upon satisfactory project completion and receipt by Transport for NSW of a final project report which requires actual expenditure information.

How to apply

The Fixing Local Roads online form can be accessed by logging into SmartyGrants via the **Fixing Local Roads website nswroads.work/fixinglocalroads**

Applicants must provide all of the information required in the application form including the mandatory fields and are encouraged to provide additional materials to support their case in relation to the assessment criteria.

Supporting documents will be required to assist in the evaluation process and must be submitted with the application form via the SmartyGrants system.

Councils located in areas which have been drought declared and/or provide drought hardship relief provisions to their communities, should detail this to support their application and provide examples of those provisions.

Only completed applications received by midnight on the closing day will be accepted and assessed. Late submissions will not be accepted, unless Transport for NSW considers exceptional circumstances beyond the applicants' control.

Applicants may withdraw an application at any time, with written advice of the withdrawal to be provided to Transport for NSW via email to **fixinglocalroads@transport.nsw.gov.au**

Requirements of the application form are outlined on the program website.

Confidentiality and disclosure

All information submitted by the applicant may be provided to other organisations for the purposes of eligibility, project proposal appraisal or deed preparation.

Applicants should notify Transport for NSW when including any information of a confidential nature in their application. Summary information about the project will be posted on Transport for NSW's website unless the applicant advises that they do not agree to its publication.

Information provided may be subject to future project audits and must be correct, including factual information about the road particulars (e.g. road traffic volume),

Further information

Transport for NSW will conduct virtual information sessions with interested applicants early in the application period.

Invitations will be distributed directly to local governments via a local Transport for NSW representative.

If you do not receive an invitation and believe you should attend please contact **fixinglocalroads@transport.nsw.gov.au**

There will be multiple sessions held to accommodate availability.

A program fact sheet is available on the program website **nswroads.work/fixinglocalroads**

Contact details

Questions about Fixing Local Roads, including eligibility and the application process, can be emailed to **fixinglocalroads@transport.nsw.gov.au**

Appendix 1 - Eligible local government bodies

Albury City Council	Forbes Shire Council	Orange City Council
Armidale Regional Council	Gilgandra Shire Council	Parkes Shire Council
Ballina Shire Council	Glen Innes Severn Council	Port Macquarie-Hastings Council
Balranald Shire Council	Goulburn Mulwaree Greater Hume Shire	Port Stephens Council
Bathurst Regional Council	Griffith City Council	Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council
Bega Valley Shire Council	Gunnedah Shire Council	Richmond Valley Council
Bellingen Shire Council	Gwydir Shire Council	Shellharbour City Council
Berrigan Shire Council	Hay Shire Council Hilltops Council	Shoalhaven City Council
Bland Shire Council	Inverell Shire Council Junee Shire Council	Singleton Council
Blayney Shire Council	Kempsey Shire Council	Snowy Monaro Regional Council
Bogan Shire Council	Kiama Municipal Council	Snowy Valleys Council
Bourke Shire Council	Kyogle Council	Tamworth Regional Council
Brewarrina Shire Council	Lachlan Shire Council	Temora Shire Council
Broken Hill City Council	Lake Macquarie City Council	Tenterfield Shire Council
Byron Shire Council	Leeton Shire Council	Tweed Shire Council
Cabonne Council	Lismore City Council	Upper Hunter Shire
Carrathool Shire Council	Lithgow City Council	Upper Lachlan Shire
Central Coast Council	Liverpool Plains Shire Council	Uralla Shire Council
Central Darling Shire Council	Lockhart Shire Council	Wagga Wagga City Council
Cessnock City Council	Maitland City Council	Walcha Council
Clarence Valley Council	MidCoast Council	Walgett Shire Council
Cobar Shire Council	Mid-Western Regional Moree Plains Shire	Warren Shire Council
Coffs Harbour City Council	Murray River Council	Warrumbungle Shire
Coolamon Shire Council	Murrumbidgee Council	Council Weddin Shire Council
Coonamble Shire Council	Muswellbrook Shire Council	Wentworth Shire Council
Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council	Nambucca Shire Council	Wingecarribee Shire Council
Cowra Council	Narrabri Shire Council	Yass Valley Council
Dubbo Regional Council	Narrandera Shire Council	Unincorporated Far West
Dungog Shire Council	Narromine Shire Council	
Edward River Council	Oberon Council	
Eurobodalla Shire Council		
Federation Council		

Appendix 2 - IPWEA (NSW) Local Government Functional Road Classification

Functional Category	Sealed Network	Unsealed Network	Typical Daily Traffic AADT	Heavy vehicles	Bus Route (including school)	Linked communities population	Connectivity
Arterial	Carry traffic to, from and across council areas. They carry traffic between industrial, commercial and residential areas and carry the highest volumes of traffic. Provide for traffic movements between regions. Provide access to major industrial activities and may provide for public transport.	Carry traffic to, from and across council areas. They carry traffic between industrial, commercial and residential areas and carry the highest volumes of traffic. May include heavy vehicle access routes between regional centres.	U: > 15,000 R: > 2,000	> 300	Public Transport Bus Route & School Bus Route	> 10,000	Critical connectivity (there may be no alternative routes)
Primary Collector	Provide the connections between arterial parts of the network and the Local Collector network. May also service industrial areas and local facilities such as shopping centres and freight terminals.	Provide the connections between the arterial network and the Local Collector network. May also service industrial facilities and grain / freight terminals. May also provide school bus routes in many areas.	U: > 5,000 R: > 1,000	> 150	Public Transport Bus Route & School Bus Route	> 5,000	Provides connection between local population and the State road network
Local Collector	Provides access to the Primary Collector network from local access roads. May provide access to individual industrial facilities and links to local shopping centres.	Provides access to the Primary Collector network from local access roads. May provide access to individual larger facilities such as feedlots and local grain silos. May also provide some school bus links.	U: > 1,000 R: > 200	> 25	Local Bus Route & School Bus Route	> 2,000	Provides connectivity within the local community
Local Access	Major function is to provide access to individual properties. May also provide access to local tourist sites.	Major function is to provide access to individual farms and properties. May also provide access to local tourist sites and recreation facilities.	U: < 1,000 R: < 200	< 25	May include local bus routes	< 250	Provides the link for properties and businesses and the local community

Notes:

1. State Roads are not included in this classification as the trafficked lanes are under the care control and management of RMS. Associated facilities (e.g. kerb & gutter, footpath, street furniture etc. which are owned and managed by councils will be included in other asset classes).
2. Classification of a road is based on its function. Absolute assessment against any one of the above criteria alone is to be avoided.
3. The assessment parameters in the above table are to provide guidance only. Assessment of a road should take a holistic view of its function and importance to the local community.
4. Levels of service are not intrinsically linked to the road hierarchy. Levels of service are determined by council following consultation with the local community and may vary across categories.



Adam Marshall MP is 🤔 feeling determined in Guyra, New South Wales.

4 d · 🌐



ROCKVALE ROAD BITUMEN SEALING UNDERWAY



I was very pleased last week to work finally get underway on sealing another 1.4km section of Rockvale Road, between Armidale and Guyra Road.

This important freight link has been a burr under the saddle of many motorists for years now and this latest work, supported by the State Government, will leave just 7.5km unsealed.


I'll continue to work with **Armidale Regional Council** to help secure funds to finish the job and ensure there is no more gravel on this road.

Guyra Gazette 2AD Armidale Express Paul Toole MP NSW Roads Transport for NSW John Barilaro ABC New England North West PRIME7 News North West NSW Farmers Livestock, Bulk and Rural Carriers Association Guyra & District Chamber of Commerce





Armidale Regional Council Libraries
**Draft Strategic Plan
2020-2027**



We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this
land and pay our respects to the elders past,
present and emerging.

Let us walk together in the footsteps of love
and understanding, valuing diversity & working
towards a better future for our community.

Armidale War Memorial Library

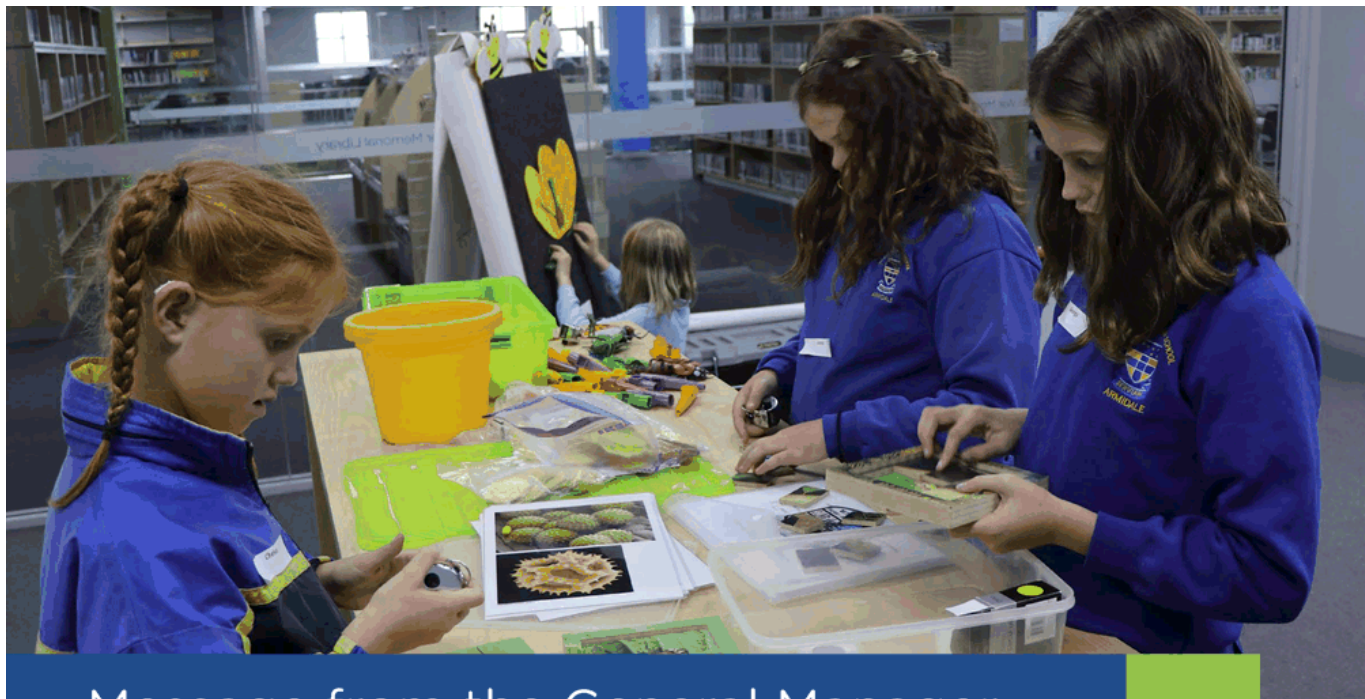
1/182 Rusden Street
Armidale NSW 2350
02 6770 3636
library@armidale.nsw.gov.au

LT Starr Memorial Library

158 Bradley Street
Guyra NSW 2365
02 6770 7123
gsclibrary@armidale.nsw.gov.au



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Message from the General Manager

Armidale Regional Council values the role of our libraries in our community. They provide a safe and supportive place where people can connect, be inspired and learn. We are in challenging times following recent bushfires, drought and the Covid-19 pandemic, and it is in these times in particular that our libraries provide a key community service. They have delivered support, information and a sanctuary for those in need, fostering resilience during our recovery.

The Armidale Regional Council Libraries Strategic Plan 2020-2027 sets a vision for our libraries for the next 7 years.

This strategy has been developed through extensive community consultation and in conjunction with our library team, and demonstrates how our libraries will support our community, and continue to grow and adapt to meet our needs now and into the future.

It is important that as a Council we align the strategies for our services, such as the libraries, with the goals and aspirations of our community. This document has been aligned to our Community Strategic Plan 2027 and it's supporting strategy to 'Provide a network of modern library and learning centre's across the region, including a library service in the Guyra and Armidale town centres which cater for the needs of the community including meeting spaces, accessible internet services and up to date resources'.

Through this strategic plan we set out the actions we will deliver to create a library service that meets the needs of our community, can adapt to changes in our environment and remains relevant for years to come.

John Rayner
Acting General Manager



Introduction

It is a pleasure to deliver this Strategic Plan to our community which will guide our library service for the next seven years.

Our libraries are not just repositories for books; they are a resource that can be used by our community for education, personal wellbeing, and inspiration. Through this strategy we intend to develop the skills of our library professionals and equip them with the resources they need to allow them to introduce interesting, dynamic and engaging programs across our entire community and develop our collections according to community needs. We aim to link with other community groups within our region to enhance library programs or offer assistance to develop their services. We will also seek to meet and exceed the expectations of our rich and diverse community so our libraries continue to be an integral and valuable part of everyday life.

Based on feedback we received during our community consultation period we will continue to improve our physical library spaces, creating a welcoming and vibrant community living

room with spaces for people of all ages and backgrounds. Outreach services will be expanded, so in instances where distance is a barrier to enjoying library services, we will come to you. Our library service will be inclusive and freely available to everyone in our region. The actions in this strategy will ensure our library buildings continue to be a place that feels like home to more people each year - a place where you can connect with others and a place you can seek assistance and support. We will also look for opportunities to celebrate and promote what makes our region special and unique.

To remain current and ensure people living within our region are benefiting from high quality services, we will continue to innovate, adapt and think creatively about our service and how we can benefit and support our community. While honoring the past, new ideas will be welcomed and we will explore emerging technologies to improve our library programs and services.

Our overall aim with this Strategic Plan is to firmly establish our libraries as vital community hubs for connection and collaboration, and to position our service at the heart of our community.



Strategic Alignment

This Library Strategic Plan aligns with Armidale Regional Council's broader strategic plans which are part of the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework.

The key Plans within the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework include:

A Community Strategic Plan 2017-2027 that reflects the input of our community and their aspirations for how we can best continue to grow and prosper. It also demonstrates how we can effectively balance our economic, environmental and social aspirations in a way that fosters creativity and innovation, builds communities, and creates opportunities.

A Delivery Plan 2018-2022 that outlines the principal activities that will be delivered during the term of the Council that achieve the goals and strategies of the Community Strategic Plan.

An Operational Plan that outlines the activities of the Council within the Financial Year, which will contribute to achieving the principal activities of the Delivery Program, and in turn, the goals of the Community Strategic Plan.

The Library Strategic Plan sits within the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework as one of a group of tailored strategic plans that align with the Community Strategic Plan goals and aspirations and help to inform the Delivery Program and Operational Plan.



Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

The development of the Library Strategic Plan is outlined as an action of the Operational Plan 2019-2020, which states:

“Implement Library Strategic Plan, including new technology and programs at the Armidale and Guyra libraries, to further strengthen their role as a hub for knowledge and learning and a nucleus for social connectivity and inclusiveness.”

This action is part of the Community Strategic Plan goal to provide:

“Community programs, services and facilities meet the needs of the community and provide a safe place to live”.

And the Delivery Program principal activity to:

“Provide a network of a modern library and learning centres across the region, including a designated library service in Guyra and Armidale town centres which cater for the needs of the community including meeting spaces, accessible internet services and up to date resources”.



Our Community

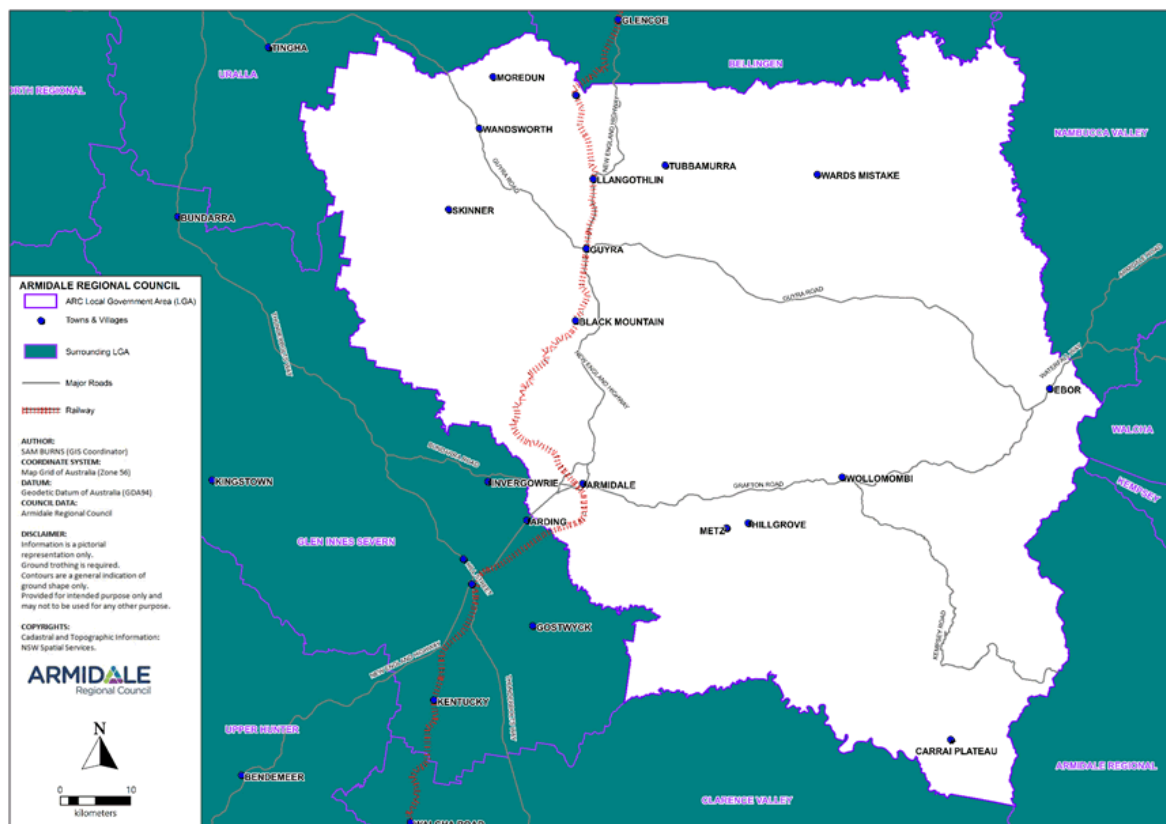
Population Snapshot (as per 2016 census)

Place of usual residence	Number	%	Regional NSW %
Total population	29,449	100.0	100.0
- Males	14,227	48.3	49.2
- Females	15,220	51.7	50.8
Total dwellings	12,739	100.0	100.0
Indigenous population	2,171	7.4	5.5
Australian citizens	25,226	85.7	88.7
Eligible voters (citizens 18+)	19,294	65.5	68.3
Australian-born	23,396	79.4	80.9
Speaks language other than English at home	2,322	7.9	5.7
Overseas-born	3,618	12.3	11.2
Needs assistance due to age or disability	1,525	5.2	6.3

Source: profile.id.com.au

Geographical area

The Armidale Regional Council Local Government area covers an area of 780,700ha. We have two libraries. One located in Armidale and the other in Guyra.



Our Libraries

LIBRARY SNAPSHOT

AS AT DECEMBER 2019

11,062 members 

This means 36% of people in the region are library members



120,000 visitors

We welcome approximately 120,00 visitors between Guyra and Armidale annually.

200,000 loans

Over 200,000 physical items are loaned across both libraries annually.



15,485 online loans



The number of online loans continues to grow each year.



Community Consultation

How we consulted

From July to December 2019, Armidale Regional Council actively engaged with our community for feedback on the development of our Library Strategic Plan. Council recognises that people living within the region are important stakeholders in development of our community services.

Our Community Consultation objectives were to:

- Confirm the community's vision for the future of our libraries
- Provide opportunities for the community to participate in our decision making process
- Inform an Action Plan to be included in the Library Strategic Plan
- Evaluate community perception of our current levels of service

To attract feedback from a variety of community members, those that do and do not use our libraries, we engaged with the community in a number of different ways.



Survey

Both paper-based and online surveys were distributed at Council events, online via our website and social media, and also in our libraries.

926 survey responses were received for our general survey and a further 44 responses were received for our dedicated Youth Survey.



Focus Groups

Throughout July and August 2019, we also hosted the following community forums:

- General Community Consultation (Armidale) 20 July 2019: 14 attendees
- General Community Consultation (Guyra) 30 July 2019: 7 attendees
- Aboriginal Community Forum (Armidale) 30 July 2019: 6 attendees
- Youth Forum (Armidale), 31 July 2019: 14 attendees
- General Community Consultation (Armidale) 21 August 2019: 40 attendees



Social Media

All social media feedback and suggestions received between the consultation period were also included in the results.

What did our Community Consultation tell us?

SURVEY RESULTS

GENERAL COMMUNITY SURVEY &
YOUTH SURVEY 2019



78%

of all people surveyed
gave our libraries an
above average or
higher grading



86%

of all people surveyed
said staff were **effective**
in resolving their
problems or questions



95%

of all people
surveyed said staff
were **friendly and**
approachable



35%

of our visitors would like to see more **adaptable spaces**,
new furniture or a change to the library layout



25%

of people surveyed would like to see
us add more **library programs**

**IN THE FUTURE
OUR LIBRARY
PATRONS WOULD
LIKE TO SEE:**

- > Increased parking
- > SMS reminders for overdue & upcoming events
- > Opportunities to try emerging technology
- > A regular library newsletter

What else would people like to
see in our libraries?

More Children's Activities

More Adult Programs

Café Services

More Promotion of the Library

Longer Opening Hours

Smart Furniture

Virtual Tours

Book Clubs

59% of the youth
surveyed are currently
library members

61% of youth still
borrow our physical
resources

For the full survey results please visit
[www.armidaleregional.nsw.gov.au/
community/arts-and-culture/libraries](http://www.armidaleregional.nsw.gov.au/community/arts-and-culture/libraries)



What did our Community Consultation tell us?

At each of our community focus groups, we asked the same questions. This is what the community told us.

What are your top 3 ideas for the library?

More community programs

Develop our collections – add to and diversify what we already have

Improve accessibility inside and outside of our libraries

Improve our library spaces

Review our opening hours

What do you love about your library?

The library spaces and atmosphere

Our collections

The location of the libraries

Library programs and events

Our staff

Services we provide to the community

Never use the library? Why?

Barriers such as parking, not enough study space or relaxing areas, looking for better programs and services

Opening hours aren't convenient

Cultural issues such as foreign languages not catered for, language barriers, would like to see more culturally diverse programming

Personal reasons such as time constraints, low literacy levels or don't like reading

Accessibility issues such as it's hard to see from the road, better signage throughout town is needed and no bus stop

Cheaper books can be purchased from department stores, books can be purchased online and there is better technology and wi-fi at home

What does a 21st Century library look like to you?

More technology available to use in the library and to loan and take home

Good collection of physical books retained

Programs and library spaces for all ages

Library services remain free

Partnerships with local community groups and connectivity to global libraries

Volunteer programs and internet buddies or help with the use of technology



Our Priorities

The following themes have been developed to shape the future direction for our libraries. They intend to celebrate the role of a public library within a community and support existing and potential partnerships between our libraries and the community. They also aim to provide clear goals that will strengthen the services we provide, keep our libraries relevant into the future, and ensure we continue to adapt to the changing needs of our region.



PEOPLE – Everyone, every time:

Increase community connection to our libraries and deliver a service which engages, educates and welcomes a diverse community.



PLACE – A safe and welcoming space for all:

Provide library spaces which are inclusive, collaborative, adaptive and dynamic and cater to the varying needs of individuals of all ages, as well as our local community groups.



INNOVATION – Honour the past, serve the present, and embrace the future:

Include adaptive technologies in the delivery of our services and include new technology in the development of physical and digital spaces which continue to exceed the expectations of our community.



PEOPLE:

Everyone, every time

Increase community connection to our libraries and deliver a service which engages, educates and welcomes a diverse community.

Action No.	Action	Timeframe	Key Stakeholders
A1	Launch a volunteering program	Year 1	ARC & Community Members
A2	Build a Higher School Certificate study program for young people in our community	Year 1	ARC & School Students
A3	Develop and maintain an engaging and dynamic library web page	Year 1+	ARC
A4	Develop an online newsletter to promote library programs, events and services	Year 1+	ARC
A5	Foster a collaborative and supportive relationship with Friends of the Library groups supporting our libraries	Year 1+	ARC & community members
A6	Maintain and expand a program of engaging and dynamic community programs for people of all ages with a focus on learning and personal development	Year 1+	ARC & community members
A7	Develop relationships with all local educational facilities. Explore partnerships which can enhance or expand the services provided to our library members	Year 1+	ARC & local educational institutions
A8	Regular professional development and networking opportunities will be sought for staff to keep their skills current and in line with new and emerging library trends	Year 1+	ARC
A9	Collaborations with other areas of Council such as Museums, Visitor Information Centre, Customer Service and Community Services will be strengthened to deliver high quality and relevant up to date local information to our library users	Year 1+	ARC



A10	Library users will be given regular opportunities to provide feedback and suggestions to encourage continual improvement of our library service and our collection	Year 2	ARC & community members
A11	Promote individual library staff as key information resources in our community and showcase their unique skills, encouraging direct community engagement.	Year 2	ARC
A12	Expand Readers Advisory services. Use skilled staff to promote and match digital and physical resources to all library users.	Year 2+	ARC & community members
A13	Deliver regular outreach programs to isolated schools and community groups within our region	Year 2+	ARC & community members
A14	Develop a strong social media presence to actively encourage engagement with libraries	Year 2+	ARC
A15	Develop a program of sustainability themed workshops and programs aimed at educating the community about protecting and caring for the environment	Year 2+	ARC
A16	Review opening hours across both libraries, ensure hours reflect the needs of the community	Year 2+	ARC & community members
A17	Actively engage with the local Aboriginal community to assist in the development of Aboriginal resources and collections which showcase the unique story of our area	Year 3+	ARC & Community Members
A18	Actively engage with the local multicultural groups to assist in the development of our collection. Expand our collection of resources in languages other than English	Year 3+	ARC & Community Members
A19	Seek out and appoint ARC library ambassadors to promote our libraries to the wider community	Year 3+	ARC & Community Members



PLACE:

A safe and welcoming space for all

Provide library spaces which are inclusive, collaborative, adaptive and dynamic and cater to the varying needs of individuals of all ages, as well as our local community groups.

Action No.	Action	Timeframe	Key Stakeholders
B1	Enhance the physical environment through the introduction of more comfortable, attractive and vibrant furnishings	Year 1+	ARC & community members
B2	Maintain a relevant collection in line with emerging trends that is responsive to our community's needs and wants.	Year 1+	ARC & community members
B3	Develop spaces within the libraries that are dedicated to direct community engagement and promotion	Year 1+	ARC & community members
B4	Continually improve staff customer service skills to achieve and maintain a high level of customer satisfaction	Year 1+	ARC & community members
B5	Review the Northern Tablelands Cooperative Library Service relationship and seek additional benefits for our community from this relationship such as joint grant applications and cost sharing arrangements	Year 1+	ARC, NTCLS & community members.
B6	Continue to streamline and improve processes between our library branches to ensure the community receives an effective and efficient service at all times	Year 1+	ARC & community members.
B7	Improve the street presence of our libraries to ensure they are easy to find and inviting	Year 1+	ARC & community members.
B8	Remodel our circulation desks to create warm and welcoming entrances that celebrate the resources and facilities the libraries have available	Year 2	ARC & community members
B9	Introduce café services in the libraries	Year 2+	ARC & community members
B10	Encourage a more diverse use of our libraries by developing new spaces built for purpose.	Year 2+	ARC & community members
B11	Incorporate technology into furnishings to provide increased accessibility and connectivity to patrons, i.e. connected study pods and 'smart' furniture	Year 2+	ARC & community members



B12	Install modern, purpose built library shelving in both libraries that is modular and adaptive to enable more comfortable and dynamic use of the library space	Year 2+	ARC & community members
B13	Create more individual and small group reflection and study areas	Year 2+	ARC & community members
B14	Provide infrastructure for the safe display and celebration of artistic and historical materials and objects	Year 2+	ARC & local Arts and Culture groups
B15	Review the physical layout of the libraries with a view to creating engaging and adaptable multipurpose areas	Year 2+	ARC
B16	Provide display space in each library primarily aimed at promoting and welcoming our multicultural and diverse community	Year 2+	ARC & community members
B17	Provide multilingual signage and instructions	Year 2+	ARC & community members
B18	Conduct a review of the library stack storage area and create guidelines for how this space is best used into the future	Year 2+	ARC & community members.
B19	Review internal operations and develop a new library policies and procedures manual to improve workflows and assist in the development and training of staff	Year 2+	ARC
B20	Review parking facilities at the Armidale Library; explore possibilities to make parking easier and more accessible	Year 3+	ARC & community members
B21	Develop local history collections in both libraries, both physical & digital, aimed at preserving and protecting significant and unique local information	Year 3+	ARC & community members
B22	Seek grant funding for a dedicated library van which can be used to deliver library outreach programs and services to all areas of our region	Year 4+	ARC & community members

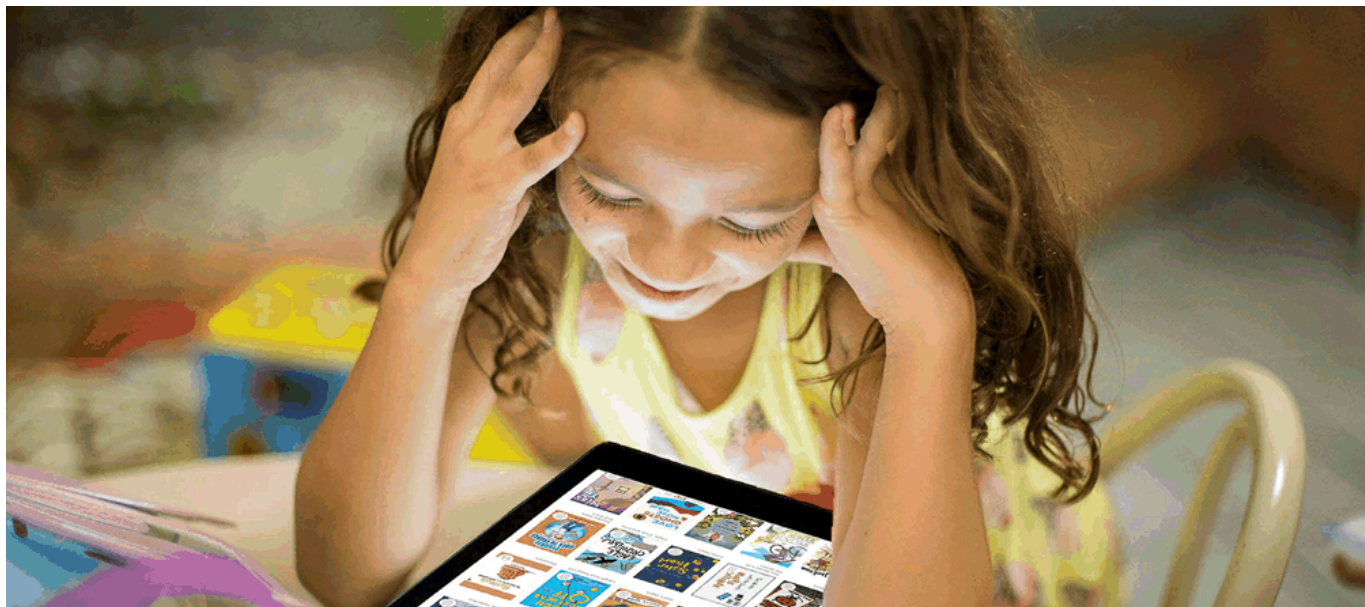


INNOVATION:

Honour the past, serve the present, and embrace the future

Include adaptive technologies and seek innovative ideas to use in the delivery of our services and include new technology in the development of physical and digital spaces which will continue to exceed the expectations of our community and keep our Libraries relevant to future generations.

Action No.	Action	Timeframe	Key Stakeholders
C1	Implement PC Booking Software across both libraries	Year 1	ARC & community members
C2	Implement a Library App which provides 24/7 connectivity with our library services	Year 1	ARC & community members
C3	Facilitate the licensing of community published material and make it available within our collection in a digital format	Year 1+	ARC & community members
C4	Review our online resources to meet community needs and expectations within budget limitations	Year 1+	ARC & community members
C5	Diversify the collection to include other resources of value to our community	Year 1+	ARC & community members
C6	Explore the use of technology to improve our internal processes and improve our level of service to the community	Year 1+	ARC & community members
C7	Be proactive in seeking out and inviting new experiences and interesting programs to our libraries for the education and enjoyment of our community	Year 2	ARC & community members
C8	Provide convenient and modern technology charging and connectivity stations for community use	Year 2+	ARC & community members
C9	Fit out the Armidale Maker Space as a multi-purpose area which encourages the use of technology for education, creativity and recreation activities	Year 2+	ARC & community members



C10	Provide technology that facilitates easy use of our resources and materials to all members of the public. This may include adapting the delivery and format of these items to persons with special needs	Year 2+	ARC & community members.
C11	Develop a new collection development policy to reflect modern standards and community needs	Year 2+	ARC & community members
C12	Provide accessible multilingual online & virtual materials to meet community need	Year 3+	ARC & community members
C13	Investigate the potential for the installation of sound proof pods in the libraries for community use, for projects such as oral histories and pod casting	Year 3+	ARC & community members
C14	Facilitate the provision of culturally and linguistically diverse training to community groups to encourage confident engagement with technology	Year 3+	ARC & community members
C15	Evaluate the provision of electronic equipment to home library users	Year 3+	ARC & Community Members
C16	Make available, electronic devices to allow more comprehensive engagement of people with disabilities	Year 4+	ARC & community members



Armidale Regional Sports Council

Discussion paper

Unleash the opportunities

www.armidaleregional.nsw.gov.au

TRIM:

Armidale Regional Sports Council - Discussion paper

Background

In September 2020 representatives from the Armidale Regional Sports Council Committee met with Council's Interim Administrator to discuss the role of the Sports Council Committee. The representatives also raised the importance of funding for sport capital improvements and the retention of the Sports Development Levy (SDL) and its role in assisting the development of sports infrastructure. Concern was specifically raised about the reallocation within Council's general fund of the remaining SDL funds invoiced toward the end of the 2019-20 financial year. The minutes of the July OCM addresses these concerns, see below.

The Minutes of the July OCM – 171/20 Page 6

"g) Quarantine player levies of approximately \$40,000 held by it and a discussion paper be prepared for both Council and the Sports Council to better understand and define roles to ensure a cooperative and productive relationship going forward for the benefit of community sport."

1 Overview of Council's sports infrastructure

Armidale Regional Council manages 21 Sportsfields covering 102ha within the LGA. The quality of these venues varies from undeveloped grounds to regional level facilities. Five of the twenty one sportsgrounds have the potential to attract regional and potentially state level training and games. These facilities generally receive a higher level of service and funding.

1.2 Strategic direction

Council's Community Strategic Plan 2017-2027 goal with respect to infrastructure is to:

Regularly review open space asset management plans to ensure parks, sportsgrounds, water recreation facilities and other open space meets community needs and is provided to an acceptable level of service and accessibility standards.

Council's Recreation and Open Space Asset Management Plan 2014-2024 lists asset replacement and renewal priorities for various sports venues. Reference is also made to the Armidale Dumaresq Recreation Plan 2011-2021 for overall direction with regard to current impediments and opportunities of community recreation more broadly. The asset Management Plan and Recreation Plan inform the developing Forward Works Program and once projects have been approved they are presented in the annual Operational Plan.

One of the key roles of the Sports Council Committee is to receive and assess Sports Council Development Fund applications from its members. The members provide the grass roots perspective on sports infrastructure development. Applications received must address a set of criteria that includes the degree to which a project aligns with Council's strategic direction. The Sports Council Committee then adopts a Development Fund Project Priority List that is put to Council's OCM for adoption.

TRIM:

1.3 Sportsfield use and current issues

Council's sports facilities are largely used by local sports clubs including cricket, athletics, soccer, rugby union, touch football and netball etc. Cricket is the dominant summer sport with Soccer the most popular winter sport.

While Armidale has a considerable number of sportsfields, it is not currently possible to accommodate the desire for home grounds, therefore most venues are considered multi-use where different sports share the use of the facilities. Multiple user groups and the practice of booking both training and competition fixtures at each venue adds considerably to the wear and tear on the playing surfaces and to corresponding maintenance costs. Training on regional level grounds reduces quality and availability for higher level competition events.

Disabled access to sportsfields is poor as are compliant toilet and change room facilities. With female participation in sport increasing dedicated female toilets and change room facilities need to be made available at all facilities.

Sport participation relies heavily upon active role models instilling motivation within the young. The effectiveness of this is enhanced immeasurably when state or national professional sports people visit the regional communities. This works best if the sports venues are at a standard to facilitate visiting teams and players. Playing surface and facility standards required for elite level sports have improved enormously over the past 20-30 years and while the standard of Councils fields has also improved, even our premier field The Armidale Sportsground would not now come up to scratch for premier level demonstration games or clinics such as visiting state soccer, NRL or cricket teams who have visited Tamworth and Coffs harbour in recent years.

Discussion points

- The maintenance of sportsfields assets and capital improvements largely follows Council's strategic direction for sport and recreation development
- Participant numbers for each sport may vary; therefore we need sufficient venues to cater for shifts in sport preferences and for both training and competition.
- Elevating the standard of local level sports fields will enable training across more venues, will reduce wear and tear on regional level fields purposes and provide more opportunities to allow for some venues to cater for specific sports
- Council does not currently allocate a sufficient budget to elevate 'Regional Level' venues to a standard that will attract elite level players. The Sports Council has listed the construction of a Premier standard field on its Priority List for many years.
- The Sports Council in collaboration with Council and the community should consider what is required to attract state level demonstration training events or games to Armidale.

TRIM:

2 Sports clubs

Local sports clubs play a vital role in regional communities and are the life blood of continued participation in sport. Clubs survive due to the efforts of their volunteer base. Most local clubs levy an annual fee on player members, but increasing insurance costs and membership fees collected by sports governing bodies place considerable pressure on the future of sports clubs.

Office bearers are often parents that are prepared to take an active role in the club, and these volunteers relinquish their role as young players mature and move on. Most clubs give little thought to succession planning. Clubs obtain funds through memberships; volunteer organised events and canteen takings where possible. The Sports Council could play a role in facilitating opportunities for clubs to learn how to effectively fund raise.

Local soccer clubs dissatisfaction with the Northern Inland Football (NIF) governing body recently led to clubs leaving NIF and approaching Sport UNE and successfully arranging for Sport UNE to administer their local competition for the 2020 season.

2.1 Sports clubs grant funding

Clubs have historically sought grant funding for capital improvements to Council's sportsfields. The Armidale District Cricket Club has been successful in obtaining grants in recent times that has seen excellent capital improvements to the Armidale Sportsground. One of the issues with grant funding is that most funding often requires a co-contribution, usually matching funds. Because clubs are run by volunteers on a shoe string, there is little scope for saving. The Armidale District Netball Association is an exception where they have saved considerable sums to enable co-contributions for capital works up to \$600,000.

The timing of funding opportunities doesn't always align with Council's capital board submissions and approvals process. This has led to clubs obtaining funding expecting that Council will approve a co-contribution in time to initiate the project. Improved management of the SDL (see below) may allow for the provision of co-contributions when funding opportunities arise.

Discussion points:

- Increasing costs of operating clubs, governing body registration and insurance
- Increase volunteer skill base and improve succession and strategic planning
- Improve ability of clubs to generate funds for project contributions
- Sports Council needs to ensure there is a range of "shovel ready" projects available when funding becomes available.
- The SDL must be managed in such a way that funds can accumulate and be available for large projects and project co-contributions for external funding.

TRIM:

3.0 Cost of sportsfield maintenance

The cost of maintaining sportsfields is borne by Council; see table 1. Income is derived from leased premises and field lighting charges that covers electricity use and includes a lighting maintenance contribution. A fee for schools use of sportsfields was introduced due to increasing reliance on Council venues for school sport. This was partly brought about due to the construction of the Armidale Secondary College where school fields were unavailable, but also due to the desire to use better quality grounds than schools generally provide. This combined income is available for operational costs only. Note that this table does not include capital project expenditure.

Council has attracted sponsorship arrangements for a number of years where income from the sponsorship deal goes toward both maintenance and capital improvements of sponsored grounds. The Sports Council Development Fund provides around \$40,000/year toward capital improvements.

The Sports Council player levy is well accepted because it is equitable and affordable. A player based levy is equitable as it does not discriminate between small and large clubs. Clubs are aware that this income goes toward infrastructure improvements and is not spent on operational maintenance. COVID-19 has reduced player levies this financial year by around 30%.

Table 1 Sportsfields maintenance costs and income

Maintenance of sportsfields	2018/19	2019/20	2020-21
Expenditure	\$660,500	\$705,000	\$700,500
Income (contributions, field lighting charges, lease rentals)	\$25,000	\$27,391	\$18,000 exp.
Schools use of sportsfields fee \$35 (introduced in 2019)		\$1,815	\$2,120 exp.
Non-Sports Council use of sportsfields \$45 (introduced in 2019)	N/A	< 1,000	<\$1,000 exp.
Operational income maintenance contribution	\$25,000	\$29,306	\$21,120 exp.
Sports Council Development Fund player levies	\$31,769 (2950 registrations)	\$39,452 (3584 registrations)	Est. \$29,200 Reduced due to COVID
Sponsorships	\$5,000	\$5,000	TBC
Total income (available for capex)	\$36,769	\$44,452	TBC

3.1 User pays

Council has often considered applying fees for the use of its sportsfields to pay for the maintenance of the facilities. A 100% offset of costs has been considered unacceptable in the past and would likely result in the loss of most sports clubs and user groups. Even a modest fee may result in inequities where only those who could afford the fees would be able to use the facilities. This would do little to encourage community participation in sport and recreational activities and may impact significantly on mental health and well being across all ages.

TRIM:

Discussion points

- Income available for sports infrastructure improvements is insufficient to address community needs
- A full user pays system would likely be viewed by the community as unacceptable. Even a modest fee may see clubs unable to survive, reduce participation in sport and result in the provision of an inequitable service that may restrict participation to only those who can afford it. What level of fee would be acceptable?

4.0 Armidale Regional Sports Council

The Armidale Sports Council currently operates as a Section 355 Committee of Armidale Dumaresq Council under the local Government Act 1993.

4.1 Current Terms of Reference:**Committee Purpose**

The core responsibilities of the committee are to:

- Provide advice on the strategic direction of the Armidale Regional Council;
- Provide advice on the Delivery Program Strategies (4 Year) and Operational Plan Actions (annual) aligned with the committee;
- Consider the potential social, economic, environmental and financial impacts (sustainability) of the committee recommendations;
- Engage the community and stakeholders on matters being considered by the committee;
- Provide advice to the Council on any matter referred to the committee.

The primary responsibilities of the committee are to:

- Make recommendations to Council in respect to Capital Works Program and in the selection of projects for the expenditure of Development Fund Levy;
- Administer the Small Grants Program in accordance with the application criteria;
- Act as a central point of communication between Council and the Sporting Clubs

4.2 Sports Council Development Program

The Sports Council proposes an annual program for capital improvements to sports infrastructure and development. Funding for the Sports Development Program is currently sourced entirely from the player levies. The player levy is applied to all players from registered sports clubs and from the membership base for 'Affiliated Sports Council members' for both individuals and groups.

TRIM:

The current annual SDL (2020-21 Fees and Charges) is set at junior player: \$10, senior player: \$15, Affiliated member individual: \$17 and Affiliated group: \$60.

The fees are collected by Council staff and reside in the General Fund within the Parks budget.

Under the sports Development Program, Sports Council members are able to submit an application for a project to access the funds to improve a Council owned asset. Each application is assessed with reference to a set of criteria, see below.

Sports Council Development Fund - Project Proposal Assessment				
	Initial criteria	Membership	Outcome/Score	
1	Sports council member	proceed to assessment		
	Sports Council affiliate or community member	project proposed for council owned asset	proceed to assessment	
		project proposed not for council owned asset	will not proceed/letter of support	
	Additional Criteria	Supporting evidence	Score (1-5)	Comments
2	Project supports existing project on current Sports Council Priority list			1 low, 5 high
3	Project funded without Council contribution (CAPEX)			
4	Project affordable within Development Levy Fund			
5	Project aligns with sporting body strategic plan			
6	Project aligns with Council's asset management plans			staff to answer
7	Project impact upon current maintenance service levels			staff to answer
8	Project aligns with New England North-west Sport and Active Recreation Plan 2018-23			
9	Project aligns with Council's Recreation Plan			
10	Project aligns with the goals of Council's Community Strategic Plan 2017-27			
11	Project improves environmental sustainability or addresses climate change			
12	Project improves safety outcomes			
13	Project improves economic efficiency			
14	Project addresses emerging issues			
15	value for money			
16	X-factor (despite score committee agree the project is worthwhile)			
Total score				

TRIM:

4.3 How are the funds spent?

Approved projects are ranked on a Priority List in order of determination by the Sports Council Committee and grouped into major (>\$50,000), medium (Under \$50,000) and minor projects (<\$20,000). The Priority List is adopted by the committee and the meeting minutes subsequently endorsed by an ordinary meeting of Council. Council retains the funds within the General Fund and releases the funds as identified projects are undertaken in accordance with Council's Procurement Policy. Critically, if there are "left over funds" at the end of the financial year, those funds are not necessarily retained and made available for sports council projects for the following financial year.

4.4 Delegation of Authority

Armidale Regional Council has delegated certain functions to the Armidale Sports Council under Section 377 of the Local Government Act 1993.

Council resolution 13.057/98 on 25.05.1998 has delegated authority to Armidale Sports Council to:

- (i) Collect fees for the Sports development Levy and recommend to Council how these funds should be disbursed.
- (ii) Authorise the allocation of Council's sporting facilities for a winter and summer allocation period.
- (iii) Advise Council on the care, control and maintenance of Council's Sports Facilities
- (iv) Generally promote and support active sport activities in Armidale Dumaresq Council

Explanation of the above points:

- (i) **The Council resolution of 25 May 1998 (i) *Collect fees for the Sports development Levy and recommend to Council how these funds should be disbursed.***

The fees referred to are the player levies. For many years Council has been collecting player levy fees directly from sports clubs and it appears that the Council staff have held the view that the player levies are a Council fee and as such are subject to Council's financial decisions while acknowledging that they be used for the capital development of Council sports facilities. The Sports Council has continued to recommend to Council how the Development Funds are to be spent.

- (ii) ***Authorise the allocation of Council's sporting facilities for a winter and summer allocation period.***

Council has always taken on this role and since 2008 falls within the responsibility of the Council's Sports Coordinator, now in an expanded role referred to as Council's Sport and Recreation Development Officer. The Sports Council does not have the capacity to undertake this role.

- (iii) ***Advise Council on the care, control and maintenance of Council's Sports Facilities***

This role has never been referred to the Sports Council. Council should continue to remain responsible for the control and maintenance of its assets.

TRIM:

(iv) Generally promote and support active sport activities in Armidale Dumaresq Council

This remains a core responsibility of the Sports Council.

Discussion points:

- The leveraging of player levies to contribute to the Sports Development Fund is an effective means of raising funds for sports infrastructure and well received by the sports community
- Is there a way to retain left over player levy funds from one financial year to another or is there an alternative model for the management of the Development Fund?
- Should Council continue to collect the SDL levies if the fund cannot be held over, or should the Sports Council itself manage the fund?

In 2016 Council adopted the recommendation below.

7.2.2 Armidale Regional Sports Council Funding

Ref: INT/2016/06745

1/16

a) That the new annual Sports Council funding provided by Armidale Regional Council be fixed at \$65,000 for 2016/17 and that this amount is indexed with CPI for subsequent years.

b) That the merged Sports Council develop a single sports infrastructure priority list.

c) That Armidale Regional Council funding be applied each year to such priorities.

d) That all sporting bodies will be members of the Sports Council to be able to secure project funding.

The recommendation was ADOPTED.

The 2016 resolution provided additional funds for Sports Council projects under the Development Fund and was well supported. This resolution was an extension of a previous agreement (resolution or executive agreement unconfirmed) where Council would provide a budget to match the player levies each year, effectively doubling the Development fund.

The former Armidale Dumaresq council Sports Council Committee was formed in the early 1990's and following the amalgamation, the Sports council then established 2 sub-committees, one for Guyra and one for Armidale, which were disbanded and reformed the Armidale Regional Sports Council in 2018. The Guyra Sports Council was merged with the Armidale Sports Council to become the Armidale Regional Sports Council.

In December 2018 Council resolved to remove the commitment to provide a recurrent \$65,000 toward the Development Fund, see below. Instead, future ongoing funding proposals are to be considered as part of the budget process. This effectively removed the recurrent \$65,000 funding

TRIM:

and in addition, any project proposal including the use of the Sports Council Development Fund (player levies) would be subject to Council budgetary approval.

Item: 16.5 **Ref:** AINT/2018/26186
Title: FOR DECISION: Minutes - Sports Council Advisory Committee - 3 December 2018
Container: ARC16/0330
Author: Alex Piddington, Sports Coordinator
Attachments: 1. Minutes - Sports Council - 03 December 2018

RECOMMENDATION:

- a) That the Minutes of the Sports Council Advisory Committee meeting held on 03 December 2018 be noted; and
 b) That the following recommendation from the Sports Council Advisory Committee meeting be adopted:

(i) That the projects listed below be allocated funding from the Sports Council's Sports Development 2018/19 budget:

- Sportsground New Cricket Nets Toilet Block - \$25,000
- Wicklow Fields (Southern Side – Installation of an irrigation system - \$25,000
- Guyra Recreation Ground – Canteen Refurbishment Stage 1 – B - \$7,000 (Additional allocation, previously allocated \$20,000)
- Guyra Recreation Ground – Concrete for cricket nets & new stumps - \$3,500
- Active Park Seating – 4xNewling, 2xElizabeth Park 1 - \$4,000

Total allocation from the Sports Council Sports Development Fund for the financial year 2018/19 - \$64,500.00

- c) That the following recommendation from the Sports Council Advisory Committee meeting not be adopted and that the future ongoing funding towards the Sports Development Fund be considered as part of the budget process for 2019/20:

(ii) The Sports Council Executive request Council's ongoing commitment of \$65,000 towards the Sports Development Fund continued in future years. This fund is vital to ensure sporting facilities in Armidale continue to be improved and updated.

The next priority that the funds are requested to support is the installation of field lighting at Harris Park Armidale at an expected total cost of \$260,000.

Discussion points:

- The merging of both Sports Council's and the use of a single Development Fund Priority List appears is well accepted and has been demonstrated to work effectively
- Should Council re-adopt a recurrent budget to match the annual player levies?
- Should Sports Council Development Fund projects still require capital board approval if a Council co-contribution is not required?
- If the Development Fund was collected and held by the Sports Council, it would not be subject to the budget approval process.

TRIM:

Overall discussion summary

- The Sports Council Development Fund is a well accepted and effective means of raising funds for sports Council infrastructure projects. The collection of the Sports Development Fund Player Levies by Council means that the fees reside within Council's general fund and are subject to Council's financial decisions.
- The SDL must be managed in such a way that funds can accumulate and be available for large projects and project co-contributions for external funding.
- Sports Council needs to ensure they have a range of shovel ready projects based upon multi level strategic plans before funding is sought
- Additional funding is required to improve Regional level sports fields to a standard acceptable to state or national level visitations and/or events
- The Sports Council in collaboration with Council's Sport and Recreation Development Officer could provide assistance to sports clubs with strategic planning, fund raising and improving management skills
- Consideration to be given to the introduction of an affordable and equitable fee structure for the use of Regional level Council sports fields to improve the quality of these venues and reduce the impact of training.

Overall recommendations

It is recommended that:

1. The Sports Development fund be quarantined such that it can accumulate across financial years if required. Access to the fund would be subject to Sports Council Committee decision to utilise a proportion or the entire fund for identified capital project(s) with Council approval.

Alternatively, that Council staff continue to administer the collection of player levies; however the Development Fund is held in a bank account operated by the Armidale Regional Sports Council.
2. Council return to the provision of matching the levies to effectively double sports infrastructure funding or a return to a fixed sum annual contribution at Council's discretion.
3. Council approve the introduction of user fee structure for 3 Regional level sports fields (The Armidale Sportsground, Rologas Sports fields and Harris Park) and that the fees are added to the Sports Development fund and used exclusively for capital improvements to Regional level sports fields
4. **There may be other recommendations put forward by key stakeholders**



Community Leasing Policy

December 2020

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FIGURES & TABLES:

Figure 1 - Lease/Licence Approval Process

Figure 2 - Subsidy Assessment Process

Table 1 - Subsidy Criteria

POLICY ADMINISTRATION

Dates	Policy approved XXXXX This policy is effective upon its approval. Policy is due for review December 2022
Approved by	Council Meeting XXXX Council Resolution Minute No.: XXXX
Exhibition Period	XX January 2021 to XX February 2021
Policy Owner	XXXX
Related Documents	Supporting documents, procedures & forms for this policy: Policy Framework Policy Procurement Policy Community Engagement Policy Options Report - Leased Portfolio (October 2020)
References & Legislation	Crown Lands Management Act 2016 Crown Land Management Regulation 2018 Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991 Local Government Act 1993 Native Title Act 1993 Property Acquisition Standards Real Property Act 1900 Roads Act 1993
Document Identifier	Policy #: XXXX Doc #: XXXX
Breaches of Policy	Breaches of any policy will be dealt with and responded to in accordance with adopted codes and/or relevant legislation.
Record Keeping	All documents and information obtained in relation to the implementation of this policy will be kept in accordance with the NSW State Records Act 1998, Armidale Regional Council's Corporate Records Policy and adopted internal procedures.
Acknowledgement	Armidale Regional Council acknowledges that the Community Leasing Policy developed by Georges River Council (June 2020) has been used as a basis for the development of this Policy.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide a framework through which Council can determine the eligibility of community groups to occupy Council owned and managed land and buildings (such as community centres, scout and guide halls) in an equitable and transparent manner and in accordance with relevant legislative requirements.

It is noted that all commercial lease or licences owned and managed by Council outside of the scope of this Policy will be assessed and determined based on the probity principles of value for money, fairness, transparency, equity and accountability.

The policy also includes Council owned sporting and recreational facilities, such as sporting amenities blocks and playing fields.

Council owned commercial or retail properties (including Armidale Regional Airport, Car Parking Licences and Outdoor Dining Approvals) are excluded from consideration under this Policy.

SCOPE

Armidale Regional Council's community land and facilities must be managed in accordance with the provisions of the Crown Lands Management Act 2016, the community provisions of the Local Government Act 1993 and associated Regulations.

This policy aims to ensure that a wide range of community groups and individuals are given equal opportunity to occupy community land and buildings while alleviating some of the financial burden on Council.

The policy also aims to ensure that the best operator (and where possible, the best financial return on commercially operated facilities) is obtained and that the required level of service is provided to the community.

The primary issues addressed under this policy:

1. Ensuring that occupants have the capacity to meet lease or licence obligations;
2. Set clear criteria for subsidised rents for community facilities by community groups;
3. Provides a standardised approach to agreement terms;
4. Encourages multiple uses of land and buildings, rationalising exclusive occupancies when current occupants are not appropriately using or utilising premises; and,
5. Ensuring a competitive and transparent process is undertaken at all stages of the process.

DEFINITION OF TERMS

Term	Meaning
<i>Community groups</i>	Community, sporting and other organisations which are <u>incorporated</u> as not for profit organisations which prohibit private gain
<i>Community land</i>	Means Community land under the Local Government Act 1993 and Crown Lands Management Act 2016
<i>Community facility</i>	Council asset or facility on community land administered under the Local Government Act 1993 and land under Crown Lands Management Act 2016
<i>Council Manager</i>	Means any local council that is a Crown land manager of dedicated or reserved Crown land
<i>Crown land</i>	<p>Land that was Crown land as defined in the Crown Lands Act 1989 immediately before the Acts repeal.</p> <p>Land that becomes Crown land because of the operation of a provision of the Crown Lands Management Act 2016.</p> <p>Land vested, on and from the repeal of the Crown Lands Act 1989, in the Crown.</p>
<i>Crown Land Manager</i>	In relation to Crown Land, means a person appointed as a Crown land manager under Division 3.2 of the Crown Lands Management Act 2016
<i>Ground Lease</i>	Means a lease over land where a tenant has constructed, at its own cost, a building on Council owned or managed land and has fully maintained that building (including structural and capital maintenance) throughout the term of the lease
<i>Lease</i>	Includes leases for exclusive use
<i>Licence</i>	Includes licence for non-exclusive use
<i>Sporting and Recreational facility</i>	Council asset or facility used primarily for sporting and recreational purposes (which may or may not be capable of supporting a commercial return)

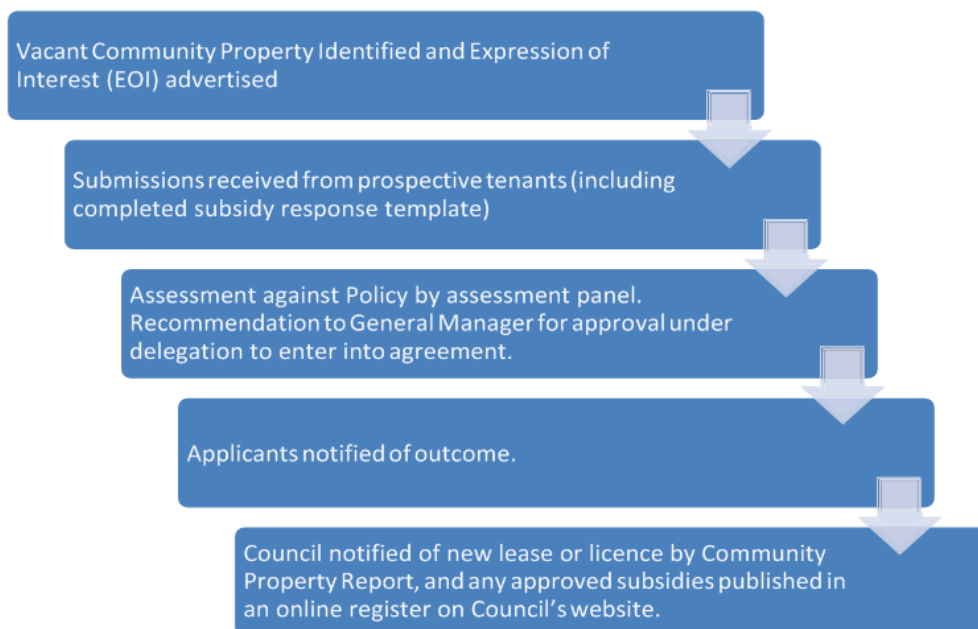
POLICY STATEMENT

The Community Lease Policy enables Council to clearly communicate its intentions in relation to the following:

1. Approvals

- 1.1 Any approvals to grant occupation agreements of Council owned or managed land and buildings up to and exceeding 21 years are subject to a resolution of Council (and approval of the Crown if appropriate).
- 1.2 Council may choose to delegate authority to the General Manager under Section 377 of the Local Government Act 1993 to negotiate and execute lease and licence agreements for periods not exceeding 21 years. Clauses 1.1 and 1.2 will be superseded by any subsequent Council decision to this effect and can only be amended with the approval of the General Manager.

Figure 1 - Lease/Licence Approval Process



2. Capacity

- 2.1 Ensures that all tenants, prior to entering any agreement, have the authority to enter into a lease or licence by confirming their status as an incorporated entity, and have the capacity to meet financial obligations under each occupation agreement, or lease/licence.

3. Leases and Licences (General)

3.1 Assessing Lease Term

The term of all community leases and licences will be assessed on an individual case basis having regard to the facts provided by the prospective tenant and information obtained by Council through public registers and on request to the

prospective tenant. The criteria for assessment of each tenancy will include assessment of facts and evidence provided by the potential tenant and also obtained by Council through public register searches or by request of information to the prospective tenant. Information to consider in the assessment of a prospective tenant will include;

- 3.1.1 the nature of the proposed use of the facility,
- 3.1.2 the need for security of tenure (eg: to secure grant funding),
- 3.1.3 Council's longer term plans, including any Plan of Management or Council Strategy for the facility and the benefit to the community that would occur as a result of the occupation of a facility by a particular group.
- 3.1.4 value of monetary return to Council,
- 3.1.5 feasibility of the prospective tenants' financial position in relation to the premises to ensure payment of rent and maintenance of the premises is feasible for the duration of the lease or licence,
- 3.1.6 consideration to past tenancy performance (where applicable).

3.2 Short Term Leases and Licences

- 3.2.1. Short term leases and licences of up to 5 years inclusive of any options for extension may be preferable in circumstances where Council is reviewing the longer term use of a facility or where surrounding land uses are likely to change in the short-medium term or where the life expectancy of a facility is ending. Shorter term leases or licences can allow better asset management and community services planning.
- 3.2.2 Subject to the Local Government Act 1993 and in specific consideration of leases/licences on community land for a period less than 5 years, Council must give public notice of the proposal in accordance with the requirements of Clause 47A of the Act. Council must consider any objections to the lease and if requested by the Minister, refer the matter to the Minister for approval.

3.3 Long Term Leases and Licences

- 3.3.1. Long term leases or licences, of periods greater than five years inclusive of any options for extension, should be considered where a community group is offering significant capital investment in a facility, and where the community service or benefit provided by the group cannot be provided by Council.
- 3.3.2. Caution should be exercised in the granting of long term leases or licences to ensure that Council and the wider community are not excluded from gaining access to a range of community buildings/facilities.
- 3.3.3. Subject to the Local Government Act, 1993 lease or licence terms of greater than five years inclusive of any options for extension should only be offered where tenants can prove to Council's satisfaction, that they intend to spend at least \$100,000 in new capital works approved by Council as landlord, or where a five year term is insufficient to write off the capital cost or secure finance for the proposed works.

- 3.3.4. Subject to the Local Government Act, 1993 Council must not grant a lease or licence for a period (including any period for which the lease or licence could be renewed by the exercise of an option) exceeding 30 years.
- 3.3.5. Subject to the Local Government Act, 1993 and in specific consideration of leases/licences on community land exceeding 5 years, Council must give public notice of the proposal in accordance with the requirements of Section 47 of the Act. Council must formally consider any objections to the lease and then prepare a submission to the Minister for their approval prior to granting the lease/licence. Council must also seek Minister's consent to the granting of a lease/licence on community land that exceeds 21 years. The details of how that submission is to be made to the Minister is specified within Section 47 of the Act.

3.4 Multiple Uses of Buildings

- 3.4.1. Where possible, Council encourages multiple uses of all community facilities. Therefore, compatible users should be accommodated together, in order for Council to effectively manage asset costs and expenses.
- 3.4.2. Council needs to determine, before granting a lease or licence, whether other community groups can share the facility, or if the existing tenant can share another facility. Council should ensure that suitable community groups have equal opportunities to occupy community facilities under lease or licence. Low-use facilities are to be reviewed as historically, poorly maintained buildings have been returned to Council when leases or licences are terminated eg: scout halls.
- 3.4.3. Council is committed to supporting community organisations in delivering services to our local community through the provision of community facilities, as such, subleasing of community facilities may be allowed, subject to Council approval in writing, to be given at its sole discretion.
- 3.4.4. Future community facilities should be of designs suitable for use by more than one user group and should be offered to community groups through an advertised public tender or expression of interest process.

4. **Leases or licences on Crown Land**

- 4.1 Where Council is the Crown Land Manager for facilities located on Crown Land, lease or licences will be administered in accordance with the Crown Lands Management Act 2016, the Crown Lands Management Regulations 2018, the Local Government Act 1993, and with reference to the Native Title Act 1993.
- 4.2 Leases or licences of Crown reserves granted in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, must be consistent with the dedicated purpose of the reserve, and be allowed under the approved Plan of Management. All proposed leases or licences must be advertised for a period of at least 28 days, giving the public an opportunity to comment via lodgement of a submission.
- 4.3 When negotiating leases or licences for commercial activities on Crown land, Council will invite competitive tenders or proposals to attract the best

operator and financial return for the property. On reserves designated for public recreation purposes, commercial uses should not result in exclusivity for individuals or groups or clubs.

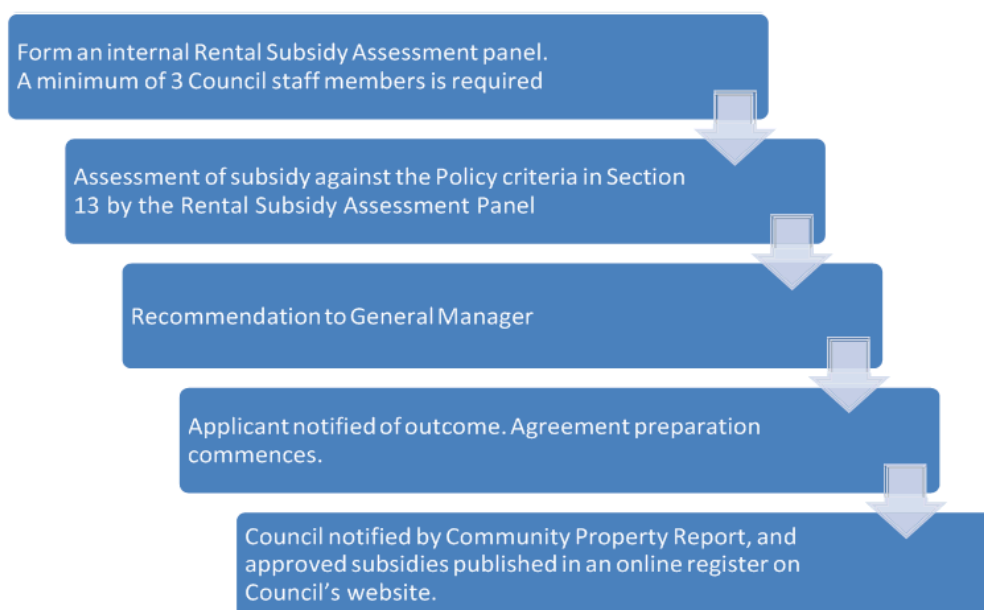
- 4.4 Prior to any lease or licence being entered into, Council must be satisfied that the core use in relation to the lease or licence is consistent with the current Plan of Management associated with a park, sportsground or other designated area in accordance with the community provisions of the Local Government Act 1993.

5. Subsidised Rentals

- 5.1 Subsidised rents are an indirect form of financial support to community groups and should be considered in circumstances where a community group can demonstrate a special benefit or service provision to the greater community. Notwithstanding existing lease or licence agreements, all future subsidised rentals will be calculated and the revised annual rental (inclusive of the subsidy) will be written into lease or licence agreements and will be subject to annual review by the Council.
- 5.2 Applications for subsidised rentals by community organisations must answer each criterion, providing as much information as possible to allow Council to accurately assess the application. Responses should be submitted using the subsidy response template provided by Council.
- 5.3 The criteria for determining subsidised rents are set out in Table 1 (Subsidy Criteria) below.
- 5.4 Rental Subsidy Assessment Process
- 5.4.1 Applications for rental subsidies will be assessed by an internal panel in accordance with this Policy to determine the relevant subsidy amount.
- 5.5 Form a Rental Subsidy Assessment Panel
- 5.5.1 The panel will consist of a minimum 3 Council staff members.
- 5.5.2 Panel members may be chosen across any of Council's business units.
- 5.5.3 All panel members will be required to declare any conflict of interest prior to the assessment of the rental subsidy. Where a panel member declares a conflict of interest, the panel member will step down from that assessment panel and will be replaced by another Council staff with no conflict of interest in the assessment.
- 5.6 Rental Subsidy Assessment
- 5.6.1 The formed panel will meet and review the information supplied for the rental subsidy assessment. If required, subsequent meetings will be held to assess any further information supplied after the first assessment meeting if the initial information supplied is insufficient to make an assessment and recommendation based on the criteria in section 13 of this Policy.
- 5.6.2 Assessment of the rental subsidy request will be made using the response provided by the prospective tenant and the criteria guidelines in section 13 of this Policy.
- 5.6.3 Further information, including audited financial statements, may be requested by the panel if insufficient information is supplied by the prospective tenant in the Rental Subsidy Assessment template form.

- 5.6.4. Upon finalisation of the subsidy assessment by the panel, a recommendation will be made to the General Manager/Council, seeking approval to enter into the agreement. Subject to formal delegations under Section 377 of the Local Government Act, the General Manager/Council will have delegation to negotiate and approve lease/licence agreements with a term not exceeding 21 years.
- 5.6.5. The tenant will be notified of the outcome, and agreement preparation will commence.
- 5.6.6. The approval will be reported to Council in a quarterly Community Property Report.
- 5.6.7. Approved subsidies will be published in an online register on Council's website.

Figure 2 - Subsidy Assessment Process



6. Sporting and Recreational Facilities

- 6.1 All commercial lease or licences (and other types of commercial agreements) of sporting and recreational facilities will be subject to an open and competitive public process such as tender or expression of interest at the expiration of each lease or licence period. This is as per legislative requirements of the Local Government Act 1993.

7. Community Facilities (Ground leases or licences)

- 7.1 Where a community group owns a building or facility located upon Council owned land or Crown land, the relevant community group that occupies the building shall be entitled to automatic renewal of the ground lease or licence for a period not exceeding 5 years, on terms and conditions to the satisfaction of the General Manager/Council (subject to delegations under Section 377 of the Act).
- 7.2 The minimum rental for a ground lease or licence to a community group shall be

no less than the 'Minimum Annual Rent – Ground Leases or licences as determined in Council's annual fees and charges, and may be subject to an annual review.

- 7.3 Should a community group not require renewal of a ground lease or licence, the community facility will be subject to an open and competitive public process for future leases or licences.

8. Community Facilities (Council/Crown owned buildings and land)

- 8.1 All leases or licences (and other types of agreements) of Council/Crown owned community facilities (buildings and land) will be subject to an open and competitive process such as tender or expression of interest in cases where, in Council's view, a facility has been under-utilised or becomes vacant.
- 8.2 The minimum rental for a building lease or licence to a community group shall be no less than the 'Minimum Annual Rent – Community Building' as determined in Council's annual fees and charges, and may be subject to an annual review.

9. Negotiation Protocols

- 9.1 When negotiating leases and licence agreements, Council staff will adhere to the following protocols to ensure probity, integrity and confidentiality in the process:
- Ensure confidentiality is adhered to for the information supplied from the prospective tenant;
 - Declare any conflict of interest using Council's internal processes to declare any interest prior to commencement of negotiations, or alternatively removal of the staff member from the negotiation process to ensure probity;
 - Adhere to the Community Lease Policy and other related policies and procedures.

10. Policy Exclusions

- 10.1 This policy does not apply to the following:
- Council community facilities that are managed by Council staff for short term hiring purposes
 - Sport and recreational facilities that are subject to Armidale Regional Council's seasonal ground allocation process (not leased or licenced) and associated adopted fees and charges;
 - Council owned commercial or retail properties

11. General Conditions of Agreement

- 11.1 The minimum rental for a ground lease or licence to a community group (including after the application of any subsidies) shall not be less than the 'Minimum Annual Rent – Ground Lease or licence as determined in Council's annual fees and charges, and may be subject to an annual review.
- 11.2 The minimum rental for a building lease or licence to a community group (including after the application of any subsidies) shall not be less than the 'Minimum Annual Rent – Community Building' as determined in Council's annual fees and charges, and may be subject to an annual review.
- 11.3 Unless exempt by legislation or Council resolution, applicants/tenants shall be

responsible for the payment of the relevant Administration Fee listed under the Council's adopted Fees and Charges as well as the payment of Council's legal costs associated with the preparation of lease or licence documentation, capped at \$2,000+GST.

- 11.4 Tenants may be expected to pay a Key bond, 3 months rental bond and will be charged for any lost keys as per Council's adopted Fees & Charges.
- 11.5 Tenants must indemnify Council from any liability arising from their use of the premises. All tenants shall hold public liability insurance to the value of \$20 million and note Council as an interested party. Tenants may also be required to hold appropriate contents, building and plate glass insurance.
- 11.6 Statutory Costs: Section 47 and 47A of The Local Government Act 1993 requires lease or licences on community land to be advertised. Advertising costs are included in the administration fee.
- 11.7 Tenants are liable for outgoings and day to day operational costs including (but not limited to) cleaning, electricity, telephone, data, washroom, water usage, commercial waste, pest control, security, garden maintenance, and be responsible for routine maintenance resulting from ordinary use of the premises and generally in accordance with their lease or licence.
- 11.8 Where a "ground lease or licence" has been entered into, the tenant is responsible for all upkeep and maintenance costs associated with the building in addition to normal operational costs. (Major structural repairs are generally excluded from this provision unless specified within the lease or licence). Council at its discretion may direct a tenant to perform any maintenance works it sees fit especially in the interests of safety. All buildings are expected to be kept in good order and must not be left in a state of disrepair. Failure to maintain upkeep of buildings could result in termination of the lease or licence.
- 11.9 Any alterations made to Council's asset by a tenant must be approved by Council in writing, and are the sole responsibility of the tenant to maintain (eg. installation of air conditioning, kitchens/appliances, lifts, internal walls, etc).
- 11.10 At the end of the tenancy, Council may direct the tenant to remove any alterations and 'make good' the property. Council may conduct these works, especially where electrical or water services are affected, and charge the costs back to the tenant.
- 11.11 Any fees, charges or obligations incurred in complying with approved development conditions (including the creation of land title or other property restrictions) will be the responsibility of the applicant, irrespective of whether those conditions are levied against Council's land.
- 11.12 Should community facilities become available for lease or licence, Council in general terms will seek new tenants through a competitive and transparent public process such as an expression of interest or tender process.
- 11.13 Calculation of rental will be based on independent valuation advice taking into consideration all operational costs of the facility.
- 11.14 Upon application by any community group for rental subsidy, Council at its sole discretion will determine the level of subsidy applicable in accordance with the criteria set out below. Note that community groups will be expected to pay the minimum rental as described in the general conditions, section 11.1 or 11.2, as well as the application fee described in section 11.3.

- 11.15 Council will conduct ingoing and outgoing condition reports at the commencement and finalisation of each tenancy, as well as conducting annual property inspections as required.

12.Managing unsolicited proposals

- 12.1 Where an unsolicited proposal for the lease or licence of community land or property is received, Council staff must ensure the guidelines for leasing or licencing a property is adhered to under this Policy by way of a public EOI and the guidelines in this policy.
- 12.2 Unsolicited proposals may be placed in an interest register where, if a future vacancy is available through an EOI process, applicants may be contacted to apply for the tenancy through the Policy's EOI process.

13.Criteria for Determining Subsidies To Community Groups

- 13.1 The criteria set out in Table 1 will be used as the assessment criteria for all rental subsidy assessments by the Rental Subsidy Assessment Panel.
- 13.2 Note: Information supplied by the prospective tenant to Council for the rental subsidy assessment will be kept confidential by Council.

Table 1 - Subsidy Criteria

Criteria	Each Answer Worth 4 Points	Each Answer Worth 3 Points	Each Answer Worth 2 Points	Each Answer Worth 1 Point	Each Answer Worth 0 Points
Social and community benefit	Service is unique and meets high level of need or service meets identified social or community needs, with most service users from low socio-economic background	Service meets identified social or community needs, with most service users from a range of socio-economic backgrounds	Service meets broad social or community need	Service is valued by community but is not focused on meeting an identified social or community need	Does not meet criterion
Extent of service provided by organisation	Broad community is a beneficiary of service provided	Service is significantly used by a number of specific sections of the local community	While the organisation provides a direct service to only a small number in the local community, it forms part of a larger service provision	Service only used by a small number of the local community	Does not meet criterion
Extent of accessibility of facility to community	Facilities are accessible to many in ARC community	Facilities are generally accessible to ARC community	Facilities have limited access to local community	Facilities have access to organisation only	Does not meet criterion

Criteria	Each Answer Worth 4 Points	Each Answer Worth 3 Points	Each Answer Worth 2 Points	Each Answer Worth 1 Point	Each Answer Worth 0 Points
Number/type of service provided	A unique kind of service	One of a number of service providers of a community service	One of a number of providers of less critical community needs	Provider meets social or recreational needs only	Does not meet criterion
Capacity to pay rent	Limited or no ability to raise revenue and/or pay rent	Some ability to raise revenue and charge fees which may be varied to reflect ability of clients to pay	Has ability to charge fees and raise revenue	Has capacity to pay market rent	Does not meet criterion
Access to funding sources	No access to other funding sources	Limited access to other sources of funding (no more than 5%)	Access to other sources of funding - state, federal and local which provides between 5-30% of total funding	Access to other sources of funding - state, federal and local which provides more than 30% of total funding	Does not meet criterion
Do they provide direct competition to commercial ventures	No, main activity is not commercial	While main business is not commercial, some aspects of the business are in direct competition	In direct competition with commercial providers but provide additional or differentiated service to users	In direct competition with commercial providers	Does not meet criterion

Criteria	Each Answer Worth 4 Points	Each Answer Worth 3 Points	Each Answer Worth 2 Points	Each Answer Worth 1 Point	Each Answer Worth 0 Points
Does their service impact on Council's need to provide a similar service	Without this service provision, Council would be required to provide additional service	Lack of service would have some impact on Council provision	Service is not core responsibility of Council but could be provided	Service is responsibility of Council	Does not meet criterion
Organisation status and structure	The organisation is locally based, stand alone and not for profit. It has a voluntary management committee made up of local area representatives	The organisation is locally based, has a regional focus, is stand alone and not for profit. It has a voluntary management committee partly made up of local area representatives	The organisation is locally based service, outlet or project that is part of a larger not for profit organisation. It has a voluntary advisory committee comprised partly of local area representatives	The organisation is locally based service, outlet or project that is part of a larger not for profit organisation. There is limited or no local area representation on the advisory committee or similar	Does not meet criterion

Criteria	Each Answer Worth 4 Points	Each Answer Worth 3 Points	Each Answer Worth 2 Points	Each Answer Worth 1 Point	Each Answer Worth 0 Points
Capacity to undertake a range of administrative and management responsibilities	Dependent on assistance from volunteers for all administrative and management functions	Paid staff undertake some of the administrative and management functions and volunteers assist with other tasks	Staff undertake the majority of administrative and management functions with assistance provided by umbrella organisation	Umbrella organisation carries out the majority of administrative and management functions.	Does not meet criterion
Contribution to structural maintenance of building	Assumes full responsibility for long term maintenance (structural integrity) of building	Makes some contribution to long term maintenance (structural integrity) of building	Makes minimal contribution to long term maintenance (structural integrity) of building	Council responsible for long term maintenance (structural integrity) of building	Does not meet criterion
Reactive, routine & ongoing maintenance	Takes responsibility for internal & external reactive, routine and ongoing maintenance as per agreement	Takes responsibility for almost all of internal & external reactive, routine and ongoing maintenance as per agreement	Takes responsibility for some of internal & external reactive, routine and ongoing maintenance as per agreement	Does not take responsibility for internal & external reactive, routine and ongoing maintenance as per agreement	Does not meet criterion

14. Calculating the level of Subsidy:

Category	A	B	C	D
Score	48 - 37	36 – 25	24 – 13	12 - 0
Level of Subsidy	100%	75%	50%	No Subsidy

RESPONSIBILITIES

Position	Responsibility
<i>Councillors</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To endorse by resolution this policy. To promote this policy when dealing with community organisations.
<i>General Manager</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subject to Section 377 of the LGA, approve and execute leases and licences not exceeding a period of 21 years, or alternatively, refer the matters to Council for approval
<i>Director responsible for Property Function</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review recommendations of new agreements. Report to Council via a quarterly Community Property Report. Provide point of contact for Councillor enquiries.
<i>Manager responsible for Community Services</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide a point of contact about the meaning and application of the policy. Update the policy when necessary.
<i>Property Coordinator</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide a point of contact about the meaning and application of the policy. Ensure compliance with the policy. Review and update the policy when required. Develop and adhere to related procedures. Prepare Quarterly Report on new community leases/licences to Council.
<i>Staff</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To adhere to this policy. To file related documentation into Council's Electronic Document and Records Management System.

VERSION CONTROL AND CHANGE HISTORY

Version	Amendment Details	Policy Owner	Period Active
1.0	Preparation of Draft Community Leasing Policy by Acting General Manager, Armidale Regional Council	Acting General Manager	01/12/2021-31/12/2021



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is made between Armidale Regional Council (ARC) and the New England Conservatorium of Music (NECOM) in accordance with the Details and Terms.

DETAILS		
ARC	Name	Armidale Regional Council
	Address	135 Rusden Street, Armidale NSW 2350
	Contact Person	Ms Susan Law
	Telephone	(02) 6770 3600
	Email	Council@armidale.nsw.gov.au
NECOM	Name	New England Conservatorium of Music
	Address	CB Newling Building Cnr Mossman & Faulkner Sts Armidale NSW 2350
	Contact Person	CEO Susanne James
	Telephone	(02) 6788 2140
	Email	ceo@necom.org.au
Introduction	The parties agree to work together to improve the existing relationships and to identify mutual goals and strategic directions for an MOU from 2020 to 2022.	

TERMS

Council will provide sponsorship to NECOM in the following areas:

1. Music Therapy Program

This program provides:

- Early intervention Music
- Transition to school
- Side-by Side Choir
- Individual and Group activities for Adults

Armidale Regional Council commits to funding \$5,000 per year to NECOM for the provision of early intervention music therapy.

2. Concerts in the Armidale Town Hall

Armidale Regional Council will waive Town Hall hire fees for up to four (4) concerts per year to a maximum total value of \$2,000.

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P 1300 136 833
 E council@armidale.nsw.gov.au
 W armidaleregional.nsw.gov.au
 135 Rusden Street PO Box 75A Armidale NSW 2350

ABN 39 642 954 203



3. Bursary Support for Young Musicians

As part of its Youth Strategic Plan 2016-2020, Armidale Regional Council will allocate \$2,500 annually to provide support to NECOM for scholarships for young musicians. The parties will develop a protocol for classification of scholarships.

4. NECOM Community Concerts

In consideration for the foregoing commitments by Council, NECOM will present free community performances in public places and venues in the Armidale LGA.

5. Sponsorship of New England Sings 2020

ARC will provide sponsorship of \$1000 toward the New England Sings 2020 festival.

6. Provision of 24 seat bus

ARC will provide the use of its Home Support Services bus two times per year at a mutually convenient time to provide music programs to remote schools. NECOM will provide its own driver with LR license and return the bus clean and refueled.

7. Street signage

That ARC provides and installs five (5) directional fingerboard signs to the total value of \$2000.

This Memorandum of Understanding is supported by an ARC and NECOM Sponsorship Agreement.

ARC & NECOM SPONSORSHIP AGREEMENT

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ABN 39 642 954 203



THIS AGREEMENT is set out in Schedule 1 and Schedule 2 between the **ARMIDALE REGIONAL COUNCIL** and **NEW ENGLAND CONSERVATORIUM OF MUSIC**.

Payment of the annual cash Sponsorship of \$8500 will be made on presentation by NECOM of a:

1. Signed copy of this Agreement
2. Tax invoice
3. Current copy of NECOM's public liability insurance certificate and NECOM's certificate of currency.

SCHEDULE 1: Sponsorship

Item	Name	Description
Item 1	Date of Agreement	2020
Item 2(a)	Commencement Date	July 2019
Item 2(b)	Expiry Date	June 2022
Item 3	Annual Sponsorship Fee	1. Music Therapy Program: \$5,000 Annual 2. Bursary Program: \$2,500 Annual 3. New England Sings: \$1000 Annual
Item 4	Annual Value in Kind	1. Up to \$2,000 in total free Town Hall hire for maximum of four concerts. 2. Use of Home Support Services bus twice per year. 3. Five (5) NECOM directional fingerboard signs to be installed in 2020. Total value of \$2000.
Item 5	Sponsorship Benefits	1. Acknowledgement of ARC as the Programs/Events sponsor in all media releases and marketing, including use of the ARC logo, banners, links to the ARC website where appropriate. 2. Two complimentary seats to each of the Armidale Town Hall concerts. 3. Annual concert in a public venue within the LGA. 4. NECOM will take full responsibility for the organisation and funding of the concert.
Item 8	Public Liability Insurance	\$30 million



SCHEDULE 2: Performance Criteria

The following Performance Criteria will apply to evaluate the success of the sponsorship in 2020 to determine payment of the Sponsorship Fee in January 2021:

1. NECOM will meet all specific requirements for the delivery of this Agreement.
2. NECOM will use all reasonable endeavours to ensure that ARC receives positive media coverage and acknowledgement
3. NECOM agrees to meet the following targets:

Activity	Key Performance Indicators	Targets
To plan, organize and conduct the Programs/Events	Professionally organized and managed Programs/Events Produced on time and on budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programs/Events to occur without controversy surrounding the management of the Project • Financial breakeven outcome at the completion of the Programs/Events • Positive media and audience feedback received
Provide annual Music Therapy Program for residents in the ARC region.	Deliver following programs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early intervention Music • Transition to school • Side-by Side Choir • Individual and Group activities for Adults 	Participation of at least 40 children, teenagers and adults, along with carers and family members in programs annually.
Bursary Program for outstanding student musicians	Students will receive financial support to cover costs of lessons, travel and fees for workshops, courses, music camps.	Up to 10 students annually will participate in extension activities that assist them to achieve their personal best.
Armidale Town Hall Concert Series	3-4 concerts with high-calibre musicians presented annually.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discount group ticket prices for schools and students • Increased audiences • One Internationally renowned musician will perform annually
Free Community Concerts	Free performances presented by NECOM students and musicians to the ARC community in a public venue eg. Central Park and Armidale Mall.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance of 750+ community members and families • Positive feedback from audience members and councillors



NECOM will provide an annual report at the completion of the Programs/Events in December 2020, 2021 and 2022, covering activities, media reviews, promotional activities and feedback from audiences and participants.

Executed as an Agreement by:

Name: Ms Susan Law

Title: CEO

Armidale Regional Council

Signature

SUSAN LAW

Name (printed)

Date: 12/02/2020

Name: Ms Susanne James

Title: Director

New England Conservatorium of Music

Director

SUSANNE JAMES

Name (printed)

Date: 12/2/2020

Signed for and on behalf of the **ARMIDALE REGIONAL COUNCIL** by its duly authorised officer in the presence of:

Witness

HAYLEY WARD

Name (printed)

Date: 12/02/2020

Signed by **New England Conservatorium of Music**
ABN 161 04 329 446

Witness

HAYLEY WARD

Name (printed)

Date: 12/02/2020



NECOM & ARC SPONSORSHIP AGREEMENT Project Report – Year 1

Organisation: New England Conservatorium of Music **Date:** 12/11/2020
Contact Name for Report: Susanne James **Telephone:** 6788 2140
Email: ceo@necom.org.au
Grant Program: ARC Community Programs 2019-2020
Project Start Date: July 2019 **Project Finish Date:** June 2020
Grant Received: \$8,500 Year 1

1 Please give brief description of NECOM deliverables

Community Performances delivered by NECOM July 2019 – June 2020

NB: All performance cancelled from March 2020 onwards due to covid.

2 x ASO Concerts	04/08/2019
Care for Seniors Concert	05/09/2019
String Concert at Autumn Lodge	11/09/2019
3 x Concerts at Dementia Respite Unit	Sept/Oct/Nov
Acacia Quartet Concert	29/11/2019
ACO Collective Serenades of String & Student String Workshop	29/10/2019 + 30/10/2019
2 x ASO & ACS Concert	01/12/2019
AYO Gala Concert	18/08/2019
AYO Winds/AVWE Concert	03/11/2019
AYO/AYSO String Concert	24/09/2019
AYSO Day Trip: Public Schools: Ben Lomond/Black Mountain	19/11/2019
Con Brío Concert	27/08/2019
Foundation Ensembles Christmas Concert	19/11/2019
Foundation Music Program Solo Concert	03/09/2019
Glen Innes Festival of the Winds	01/09/2019
NE Big Band	16/11/2019
NECOM Fnd Xmas Concert	19/11/2019
NECOM Winter Choral Concert	28/08/2019
Big Band at Xmas Lights	04/12/2019
NE Singers at Carols in Central Park	11/12/2019
Thunderbolt Trio at Autumn Lodge	11/12/2019
Thunderbolt Trio at Legacy	07/12/2019
Big Band at Xmas Markets	21/11/2019
St Peters Garden Weekend	2/11/2019
Choral Prog Xmas concert	25/11/2019
International Women's Day Breakfast	06/03/2020
Australia Day Ceremony National Anthem	27/01/2020

Ticketed Events delivered by NECOM @ Armidale Town Hall

MusicaViva <i>Bright Star</i> Concert	31/08/2019
MusicaViva Flinders Quartet Concert	25/07/2019
Australian Chamber Orchestra Collective	29/10/2019
New England Ensemble Concert	24/11/2019

Music Therapy Program for ARC region (allocation of \$5,000/year) Registered Music Therapist (Fumie Takahashi) delivering Music Therapy program to diverse group of Armidale residents including Guyra residents.

- Weekly Side by Side Choir @ Armidale Secondary College Support Unit
- 20 weekly Individual and Group Therapy sessions
- Programs at Home Nursing Group, Rotary Ukulele Group

Bursary Program for student musicians (allocation of \$2,500/year)

Fee relief support of \$250/year for ten NECOM students who would not otherwise be able to cover expenses in tuition or extension activities - \$2,500 / year allocated to this program.

2. What did you achieve with the project? i.e. impact of the project, effects on participants from their involvement).
- From July 2019 to February 2020 NECOM performed to an estimate of 5,500 audiences and the general public in 62 free and ticketed events. The community enjoyed a very wide range of music experiences from Big Bands, Xmas carol singers, ukulele groups and ensembles in venues as diverse as Senior Care facilities, Council public events and programs, community school halls, gardens and the Armidale Town Hall. Our free public performances receive overwhelming support and bring live music to hundreds of audiences who may never attend a ticketed music event. NECOM continues to provide a significant contribution to Armidale's reputation as a vibrant cultural hub in regional NSW.
 - The Music Therapy funding assists NECOM to employ Armidale's only registered Music Therapist to deliver a wide range of activities to 57 clients with disabilities weekly. The funding allows us to give free services to teenagers with disabilities at Armidale Secondary College and to seniors and residents in aged care facilities. Without the ARC funding the Armidale community would not have a music therapist providing these invaluable services.
 - The in-kind sponsorship of free Armidale Town Hall hire provided significant assistance in reducing costs associated with the presentation of 4 concerts featuring Australia's leading professional musicians (and actor John Bell) – 900 + Armidale audiences attended the four concerts at the Town Hall. Bringing Australia's leading creative artists and musicians to Armidale's regional adult and school communities is essential for our audiences to stay connected - they would have to travel to Sydney or Brisbane otherwise and this is financially and physically impossible for the majority of community members.
 - Bursary support was provided to 1 student with a disability to learn his favourite instrument, 4 school students to enrol in a NECOM choir, and 4 students to learn cello, recorder, sax and trombone.

Due to the impact of covid many 2020 planned activities were cancelled and will resume in 2021, depending on the further easing of restrictions. These include our flagship school choral project *New England Sings!* to October 2021, and early intervention music programs in early learning centres. NECOM plans to present additional public concerts in 2021 to make up for the loss of live music performances in 2020.

ARMIDALE REGIONAL COUNCIL

Signed:

Dated:

Print Name:
NECOM

Signed:

Dated:

1. Print Name:



TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Held on

Tuesday, 1 December 2020
10am

at

Committee room

Committee Members:

Mr Hans Hietbrink (Rep. Member for Northern Tablelands)
Snr Sgt Paul Caldwell (NSW Police)
Mr Stefan Wielebinski (TfNSW)

Council Staff:

Mr Ambrose Hallman (Manager Development and Regulatory Services)
Mr Graham Earl (ARC Technical Officer)
Ms Belinda Ackling (Minute Taker)
Mr Ian Chetcuti (Ranger)

Others:

Nil

1. Apologies / Leave Of Absence

MINUTES

Mr Stefan Wielebinski (TfNSW)

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes -

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 10 NOVEMBER 2020

The Traffic Advisory Committee Recommends:

That the minutes be taken as read and be accepted as a true record of the Meeting.

The Motion on being put to the vote was UNANIMOUSLY.

3. Declarations of Interest

Nil

4. Business Arising

4.1 Update on Kempsey Road

Ref: ARC16/0168

The Kempsey road widening has occurred on curve 3 the hairpin corner that had previously shown passenger vehicles of 5.2 m can negotiate the road without any issues, service vehicles of 8.8m encroach into the table drainage system section of the road.

Council are now waiting on the Geotechnical reports to provide advise that the slope and stability assessment.

The Committee agreed that once this information is forth coming an extra-ordinary Traffic Advisory Committee can be held electronically to make a determination on the provided information and potentially lighten the restrictions on the Kempsey Road to vehicles up to 8.8m and 12t gvm, as previously discussed with the residents.

The Committee are also aware of the limited Council meetings between now and Christmas and agreed that a report be presented to the Council meeting on the 9th December to request that the General Manager be given authority to lighten the restrictions on the advice of the Geotechnical report and its endorsement by the Traffic Advisory Committee.

The Traffic Advisory Committee Recommends:

That Council be requested to provide the General Manager with the delegation to authorisation the easing of the restrictions on the Kempsey Road to vehicles up to 8.8m and 12t gvm, on the advice of the Geotechnical report and its endorsement by the Traffic Advisory Committee.

The Motion on being put to the vote was UNANIMOUSLY.

5. Special Events

5.1 Special Event Transport Management Plan - Armidale Campdraft 2021*Ref: AINT/2020/422*

The Annual Armidale Campdraft 2021 will be slightly different in 2021, generally the closure is opened of an evening and closed during the hours of 7.30am until 6pm.

This year the road closure will remain closed for the duration of the event from 7.30am 22nd remaining closed through to the 24th January 2021.

The Traffic Advisory Committee Recommends:

That Council endorse the road closure of Canambe Street between Dumaesq and Kirkwood Street from 6.30am 22nd to the 24th January 2021, for the Annual Armidale Campdraft 2021.

The Motion on being put to the vote was CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. Correspondence

6.1 Request for disability parking - Nicholii House 162 Bradley Street Guyra*Ref: AINT/2020/41*

The coordinator for the Home Support Service in Guyra contacted Council and advised that the centre will soon be recommencing there weekly day-centre activities where clients and volunteer/carers will be visiting the building. Most of their clients or visitors to the building are elderly, over 75 year olds and often require assistance.

The Traffic Advisory Committee Recommends:

That Council approve the installation of 2 parking spaces be marked for disabilities adjacent to Nicholii House at 162 Bradley Street Guyra.

The Motion on being put to the vote was CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6.2 Pedestrian safety concerns for Armidale Secondary College.*Ref: AINT/2020/42077 (ARC16,*

Mr Partridge addressed the Committee advising that the pedestrian facilities for Armidale do not comply with legislation and has a main concern for the Armidale Secondary College but also others including the Markham Street mid block crossing the Ben Venue School crossing and mid block crossing.

The committee was presented with and discussed the *Roads and Maritime Supplement to AS1742.10-2009: Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices – Part 10: Pedestrian control and protection – Version 3*: and agree that the Armidale Secondary College crossing does comply with the regulations as provided, a copy of the standards will be provided to Mr Partridge.

The eastern side of the pedestrian crossing will not allow for blisters as requested however, the committee agreed that Council will monitor the Armidale Secondary College pedestrian and vehicle movements for first term of 2021 and the school and bus company will be requested they provide feedback to the committee as well. The committee will consider all comments and issues experiences during the first term prior to making any permanent change requests to the contractors.

The Committee agreed that the added locations mentioned during the presentation will be inspected to make sure they also conform to the TfNSW direction.

Action:

That a letter be sent to Mr Partridge containing the recommendation that will be made to

Council and the *Roads and Maritime Supplement to AS1742.10-2009: Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices – Part 10: Pedestrian control and protection – Version 3:*

Mr Partridge will also be advised of how to make further representation to the Council if not satisfied with the recommendation that has been made by the Committee.

The Traffic Advisory Committee Recommends:

That Council monitor the Armidale Secondary College pedestrian and vehicle movements for first term of 2021 prior to making any permeant change requests to the contractors.

The Motion on being put to the vote was CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6.3 Request for Traffic Calming - Lynches Road Netball courts area*Ref: AINT/2020/42096 (ARC.*

Due to previous correspondence Council has made improvements to the area by installing central median strips to help lower speed and make sure cars are not cutting the bend or the cutting corner when turning into Judith Street. This treatment as well as Police monitoring has lower speeds. Speeds counters show the 85% is between 49km/h and 51.5 km/h and shows no speeding issue. Council will continue to monitor the area.

The Traffic Advisory Committee Recommends:

That Council deny the request to install speed humps on either side of the pedestrian crossing and around the netball court entryways (ie Perrot Street, Lynches Road, Judith Street) but continue to monitor the speeds annually.

The Motion on being put to the vote was CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6.4 West Avenue parking

Ref: AINT/2020/42285 (ARC16/0168-5)

During inspections of Council assets it was discovered that vehicles parking with one wheel on the verge was causing damage to the infrastructure. In a separate incident a letter from the owner of 4 West Avenue who's driveway is beside the median island on the western side has requested that council consider removing or relocating the island so he is able to get his caravan in and out of the property.

Council staff considered both issues in conjunctions with each other at an onsite meeting.

The Traffic Advisory Committee Recommends:

That Council deny the request to install speed humps on either side of the pedestrian crossing and around the netball court entryways (ie Perrot Street, Lynches Road, Judith Street) but continue to monitor the speeds annually.

The Motion on being put to the vote was CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. General Business

7.1 Traffic Advisory Committee meeting dates for 2021*Ref: AINT/2020/42104 (ARC16/0168-5)*

The dates for the meeting will be: 2nd February 2021, 2nd March 2021, 6th April 2021, 4th May 2021, 1st June 2021, 6th July 2021, 3rd August 2021, 7th September 2021, 5th October 2021, 9th

November 2021 and 7th December 2021.

The Traffic Advisory Committee Recommends:

That the meeting dates for the Traffic Advisory Committee for 2021 be noted.

The Motion on being put to the vote was CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 11.20am.