

GENERAL MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA

TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS – CIVIC CENTRE 101 GOONDOON STREET, GLADSTONE

On Tuesday 20 December 2022

Commencing at 9.00am

Leisa Dowling CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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G/1. MAYORAL STATEMENT OF CURRENT ISSUES

G/2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

G/2.1. CONFIRMATION OF GENERAL MEETING MINUTES FOR 6 DECEMBER 2022

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer Council Meeting Date: 20 December 2022

File Ref: CM7.2

Purpose:

Confirmation of the minutes of the General Meeting held on 6 December 2022.

Officer's Recommendation:

That the minutes of the General Meeting of Council held on 6 December 2022 be confirmed.

Attachments:

1. Minutes of the General Meeting of Council held on 6 December 2022

Tabled Items:

Nil

Report Prepared by: Executive Secretary

G/3. OFFICERS' REPORTS G/3.1. PUBLIC ART PROPOSAL - GLADSTONE AQUATIC CENTRE

Responsible Officer: General Manager Community Development and Events

Council Meeting Date: 20 December 2022

File Ref: CC2.1

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to present Council with a Public Art design by local First Nations artist, Jarrod Beezley for use at the Gladstone Aquatic Centre.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council approve the public artwork design received by local First Nations artist, Jarrod Beezley for use at the Gladstone Aquatic Centre.

Background:

In September 2022, Council distributed an Expression of Interest calling for local First Nations artists to create a distinct piece of public art and/or graphic design to feature at the Gladstone Aquatic Centre as part of its 25m pool and building renewal project.

The project aims to:

- Provide collaborative opportunities to enhance Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participation in activities that promote active and healthy lifestyles; and
- Involve the community to express ideas and storytelling through a creative process.
- Strengthen the sense of local pride in our region and bring energy and colour to our facilities;
- Create cultural tourism assets for our community and visitors to enjoy.

Two responses were received and assessed by 6 officers, against set criteria:

Criteria	Description
1. Artist Statement	Demonstration of artist experience, suitability to project and ability to connect with
	regional communities through visual storytelling.
2. Design	Draft design for project or Portfolio of Designs
3. Safety	Confirmed compliance with safety requirements
4. Environmental	Confirmed compliance with environmental requirements
5. Availability	Artist availability to complete project within specified project dates
6. Fees	Total price of quote, including design consultation, artist fees, travel costs.
7. Insurances	Confirmed compliance with insurance requirements

The selected artist was chosen as they are an established, local First Nations Artist whose concept successfully addressed the criteria and project aims.

The digital work has been designed and will be printed on vinyl for use at the GAC. Given the nature of the work, being digital and able to be re-printed as required, maintenance is not a significant consideration.

The work will be approximately 20m wide and 1.2m high and will be installed on the Northern windows of the 25m pool. The vinyl will be installed on the lower third of the window, to allow natural light into the facility.

The artist provided a supporting statement for the work:

This art piece is a depiction for the Gladstone Aquatic Centre. The story begins with a representation of the original "Baths" that started at the bottom of Goondoon Street, including the picturesque Lady Nelson Park and Gladstone Harbour Board fountain on the corner of Lord and Goondoon Streets. This was previously the site of the Gladstone Municipal baths, built in 1936 and was saltwater baths then eventually turned to freshwater baths. From there many other "Baths" were constructed around Gladstone region, Toolooa Street baths in 1864, and the Auckland baths near Friends Victoria Store in 1870's.

Today the Gladstone town pool, built in 1936 has become what it is today; ``The Gladstone Aquatic Centre". The timeline acknowledges some of the different community Aquatic centre activities that are available to the Gladstone community:

a. Aquatic fitness activities b. Learn to swim classes c. Outdoor water park d. Heated Pool e. Sunset- closing time, a time when families return to their homes with new memories and stories of Gladstone Aquatic Centre offered.

I chose to use bright colours to reflect the environment and community feeling of the Aquatic Centre, as a family-oriented community place, where people can have fun and enjoy family time together. I used green as a backdrop so people looking out from the heated pool get the sense of feeling that they're not enclosed but feel like they're looking onto the grass area outside, to give it an open feeling.

Options, Risk and Opportunity Analysis:

Expressions of Interest were distributed through an open market approach and the assessment criteria were used to fairly assess responses.

Communication and Consultation:

Feedback on the Public Art design was sought from the Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) Committee. Specifically, the committee were asked to consider the suitability of the Public Artwork considering the rationale for the work, sense of place, placemaking, collaboration, creating opportunities and fostering arts awareness.

Feedback from the RADF Committee was overwhelmingly positive, noting the below:

- 'So Fantastic Beautiful work'
- 'Loved the bright happy colours that make you want to smile and brightens your day.
 I also love that he picked green as the backdrop it gives you a sense of being outside and a lovely sense of freedom'
- 'I agree the installation is most suitable and as a member of the RADF committee it has my nod'

Internal consultation was undertaken by the First Nations Liaison Officer with:

- General Manager Community Development and Events
- Manager Brand
- Project Manager GAC
- Manager Contracts and Procurement

Legal Strategy and Policy Implications:

Nil

The Public Art Policy requires Council endorsement for Public Art applications/designs.

Financial and Resource Implications:

Nil

The public artwork is part of the project budget. The project was funded by the QLD State Government and Federal Government.

Summary:

A fair and equitable process was undertaken to seek community involvement in the project.

The proposed work celebrates First Nations arts in a space that promotes and encourages healthy lifestyles. The design and accompanying artist statement share the story of the space and the Region.

The medium lends itself to the environment by being digital and able to be cost-effectively re-created as required. As such, maintenance required will be minimal and resources will not be impacted.

Anticipated Resolution Completion Date:

Installation completed by 31 January 2023

Attachments:

- 1. Artwork Design
- 2. Image of the Northern Windows of the 25m pool

Tabled Items:

Nil

Report Prepared by: Manager Arts and Entertainment

G/3.2. FIRST NATIONS CULTURAL BURN SERVICES - SPECIALISED SUPPLIERS

Responsible Officer: General Manager Finance Governance and Risk

Council Meeting Date: 20 December 2022

File Ref: PE1.1

Purpose:

This report seeks resolution from Council to make use of the provisions in s235 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, that allows for the exceptions to the requirement for written quotes or tenders. The use of this provision is sought in relation to First Nations Cultural Burning Services.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council resolves, in accordance with Section 235(b) of the Local Government Regulation 2012, that it is satisfied due to the specialised nature of the services it would be impractical to invite quotes or tenders for the provision of First Nations Cultural Burning Services from:

- Gibee Goonyim Land Management Pty Ltd;
- Gidarjil Development Corporation;
- Bailai Corporation Pty Ltd; and
- PCCC Trust.

Background:

Council have received funding from the Australian Government's Black Summer Bushfire Recovery Grants Program to engage a First Nations Fire Officer and deliver a cultural burn program. This is a First Nations led program to plan and manage Council controlled land utilising First Nations knowledge and traditional land management practices. The funding includes support for local First Nations corporations to assist in the delivery of the program.

The Gladstone Region has four Traditional Owner groups (Bailai, Gooreng Gooreng, Gurang and Taribelang Bunda) with overlapping areas of responsibility.

The Port Curtis Coral Coast Trust (PCCC) were consulted to assist in identifying traditional owner groups that may be capable of providing cultural burn services within our region. These being:

- Gibee Goonyim Land Management Pty Ltd;
- Gidarjil Development Corporation;
- Bailai Corporation Pty Ltd; and
- PCCC Trust.

The delivery of cultural burns is a specialised service and having the ability to engage these businesses and any new emerging suppliers would be beneficial.

Options, Risk and Opportunity Analysis:

The First Nations Fire Officer and cultural burn program has allocated approximately \$60,000 over two years for support in delivering burns and there is an opportunity to distribute this work amongst the identified businesses, and emerging businesses based on availability and area of responsibility. These areas of responsibility are going to be explored with further engagement between the First Nations Fire Officer and the PCCC and Traditional Owner groups. This will help to establish some rules around which businesses

can be engaged depending on locality. It is hoped that this approach would contribute to knowledge sharing and support Traditional Owner cultural practices within the community and contribute to the Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) actions.

The specialised supplier resolution in accordance with the Officer's Recommendation, will remain current until such time as Council no longer requires the services, new businesses enter the market or there are changes to any one of the entities.

Communication and Consultation:

Port Curtis Coral Coast Trust (PCCC).

Legal Strategy and Policy Implications:

It is a requirement of s225 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 ("the Regulation") to invite written quotation or tenders where the supply of goods or services costs greater than \$15,000 ex GST. Section 235 of the Regulation provides several exceptions to the requirement and relevant to this request is clause b) which states:

The local government resolves that, because of the specialised or confidential nature of the services that are sought, it would be impractical or disadvantageous for the local government to invite quotes or tenders.

Financial and Resource Implications:

Approximately \$60,000 over 2 years has been allocated in the current budget.

Summary:

Nil

Anticipated Resolution Completion Date:

These businesses will be added to Council's Long-Term Contracts Register in December 2022.

Attachments:

Nil

Tabled Items:

Nil

Report Prepared by: Manager Contracts and Procurement

G/3.3. PORT CURTIS CORAL COAST LIMITED AS TRUSTEE FOR THE PORT CURTIS CORAL COAST ABORIGINAL PEOPLES CHARITABLE TRUST SOLE SUPPLIER

Responsible Officer: General Manager Finance Governance and Risk

Council Meeting Date: 20 December 2022

File Ref: PE1.1

Purpose:

This report seeks resolution from Council to make use of the provisions in s235 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, that allows for the exceptions to the requirement for written quotes or tenders. The use of this provision is sought in relation to cultural heritage services necessary to meet Council's obligations under the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003.

Officer's Recommendation:

That:

- 1. Gidarjil Cultural Heritage Corporation Ltd is no longer the only supplier available to Council to provide cultural heritage services.
- Council resolves, in accordance with Section 235(a) of the Local Government Regulation 2012, that it is satisfied that Port Curtis Coral Coast Limited as Trustee for the Port Curtis Coral Coast Aboriginal Peoples Charitable Trust is the only supplier available to Council to provide cultural heritage services in accordance with the Cultural Heritage Clearance Procedure within the Port Curtis Coral Coast People and Local Government Indigenous Land Use Agreement ("the ILUA);
- 3. Council authorises the Chief Executive Officer to undertake sole supplier purchases with Port Curtis Coral Coast Limited as Trustee for the provision of cultural heritage services in accordance with the ILUA.

Background:

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage is protected by the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003 (Qld) ("the Cultural Heritage Act"). The Cultural Heritage Act seeks to recognise, protect and conserve Aboriginal Cultural Heritage and imposes a Cultural Heritage Duty of Care.

Council is a party to the Port Curtis Coral Coast People and Local Government Indigenous Land Use Agreement dated 30 August 2019 ("the ILUA"). The ILUA contains agreed protocols and procedures to assist Council to meet their Cultural Heritage Duty of Care to complement the requirements of the Cultural Heritage Act.

Schedule 13 of the ILUA provides a Cultural Heritage Clearance Procedure that must be followed by Council in both its operational and capital programs of work. The Cultural Heritage Clearance Procedure sets out a number of steps in which Council identifies if a proposed activity will impact cultural heritage and how potential impacts can be managed or mitigated. The clearance procedure includes works such as site inspections, cultural heritage surveys, monitoring and coordination work.

Options, Risk and Opportunity Analysis:

In December 2022, Council was advised that the Registered Native Title Body Corporate is now First Nations Bailai, Gurang, Gooreng Gooreng, Taribelang Bunda People Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC ("the RNTBC"). As a registered native title body corporate, the RNTBC is the first point of contact for native title and cultural heritage activities and is the legal entity through which Council conducts business with the traditional owners for the Port Curtis Coral Coast determination area, including activities undertaken in accordance with the ILUA.

Council have also been advised by written correspondence that the RNTBC engages the Port Curtis Coral Coast Limited as Trustee for the Port Curtis Coral Coast Aboriginal Peoples Charitable Trust ("the PCCC Trust") to provide cultural heritage services for the RNTBC.

Under the provisions of the ILUA, Council is required to pay remuneration for the cultural heritage clearance procedure and will be required to engage the PCCC Trust.

It is impractical to obtain sole supplier approvals for each individual cultural heritage engagement required by Council, which is why sole supplier approval is being sought for the PCCC Trust, for the term of the ILUA.

Communication and Consultation:

This request has been formulated in consultation with Strategic Property Management and Environment and Conservation teams as well as the PCCC.

Legal Strategy and Policy Implications:

It is a requirement of the Local Government Regulation 2012 section 225 to invite written quotations or tenders where the supply of goods or services with a cost greater than \$15,000.

Section 235 of the Regulation provides several exceptions to the requirement and relevant to this request is clause a) which states:

"The Council resolves that it is satisfied that there is only 1 supplier who is reasonably available."

According to the State of Queensland (Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships) Registered Cultural Heritage Bodies in Qld (attached), and in accordance with Schedule 14 of the ILUA, the PCCC Trust on behalf of the RNTBC are the only cultural heritage body available to undertake activities in accordance with the cultural heritage clearance procedure in the Gladstone Regional Council Area as outlined in ILUA.

Financial and Resource Implications:

Schedule 14 of the ILUA includes a schedule of rates for the work and Council must also meet the service provider's expenses associated with the works including but not limited to accommodation, car hire and associated travel expenses.

Annual cultural heritage expenses across Council are estimated to be \$50,000 per annum, however this is entirely dependent on the nature of Council's capital projects and operational works, and the degree of cultural heritage impacts.

Summary:

Nil

Anticipated Resolution Completion Date:

Upon Council endorsement.

Attachments:

Nil

Tabled Items:

Nil

Report Prepared by: Manager Contracts and Procurement

G/3.4. REPEAL OF PLAYGROUND POLICY

Responsible Officer: General Manager Finance Governance and Risk

Council Meeting Date: 20 December 2022

File Ref: CM28.2

Purpose:

This report recommends the repeal of Council's Playground Policy.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council repeal P-2014/30 Playground Policy.

Background:

The Governance Team is working through Council's existing policies and corporate standards and progressively bringing the policies to Council for review, amendment or removal as required.

Council's Playground Policy was first adopted in 2014 and is very operational in its content. It has been the subject of consultation with Council Officers who are involved in the establishment, operation, maintenance and replacement of playgrounds. The consultation assessment suggests that the Policy can be repealed without any risk to how playgrounds are currently established, operated, maintained and replaced.

The procedures, standards and legislative instruments applied in establishing and managing playgrounds is summarized below:

- 1. Establishment of new playgrounds in new residential developments:
 - a. The Planning Scheme via the Reconfiguring a Lot Code requires the dedication of useable space for the purpose of parks and open space where it meets the criteria.
 - b. Asset Planning conducts an assessment against Council's Parks Hierarchy to determine the hierarchy category to apply to land set aside for this purpose (ie. Regional, District, Local, Environmental Reserve or Open Space).
 - c. The Parks Embellishment Schedule then determines what infrastructure needs to be provided based on its category (ie. seating, shelters, playground equipment, etc). Regional, District and Local parks will generally all have playground equipment at the values set in the Parks Embellishment Schedule.
 - d. In assessing whether the elements and features of playgrounds will be accepted by Council, Officers require equipment to meet Australian Standards and consider a range of other factors such as safety, quality, life of the asset, likely ongoing maintenance costs.

2. Siting and Design of Parks/Open Space Infrastructure:

The State Government's Street Design Manual 'Walkable Neighbourhoods' is considered current best practice in Queensland for the design and development of Queensland residential neighbourhoods including the placement of parks and open space and associated infrastructure - <u>https://planning.statedevelopment.qld.gov.au/planning-issues-and-interests/healthy-and-active-communities</u>. The development industry generally applies this guide when designing new residential developments as local government town planning is guided by State Government standards.

3. Maintenance, Operation and Replacement:

The maintenance, operation and replacement of playground equipment is managed using Council's Parks and Open Space Hierarchy, Level of Service documents, Asset Management Plans and an Inspection Program based on the relevant Industry and Australian Standards, with maintenance scheduled based on condition assessments from regular inspection.

Given the operational nature of the existing Policy and the other documents / legislative instruments available to establish and manage playgrounds to best practice standards, it is suggested that there is no significant benefit in retaining the current Policy.

Options, Risk and Opportunity Analysis:

Option 1 – Recommendation

The advantages of repealing the policy are:

- There is already a comprehensive framework of documents that govern best practice in relation to playground equipment
- The repeal of the policy will reduce the need for ongoing resources to review Council Policies and Corporate Standards.

There are no risks identified with removing the policy.

Option 2 – Retain the Policy

There are no identified opportunities in retaining the policy in its current form, however, Council may wish to provide some direction on the adoption of an alternative policy.

The risks associated with retaining a policy are:

- There will need to be ongoing resources committed to its periodic review
- A policy may restrict Council's ability to efficiently take up new State Government adopted standards and industry best practice.

Communication and Consultation:

Consultation sessions were held with Council Officers who are involved in determining where playgrounds are required and how playgrounds are managed and maintained. The CEO and Executive Team have considered the matter as part of the agenda review process.

Legal Strategy and Policy Implications:

There is no legislative or legal requirement for Council to have a playground policy.

Financial and Resource Implications:

There are no financial or resource implications in repealing this policy.

Summary:

The repeal of this policy removes an unnecessary policy and allows Council Officers to defer to the Parks and Open Space Hierarchy, Levels of Service, Australian Standards, Asset Management Plans and State Government standards in the establishment, maintenance and replacement of playground equipment.

Anticipated Resolution Completion Date:

23 December 2022

Attachments:

1. Existing P-2014/30 Playground Policy.

Tabled Items:

Nil

Report Prepared by: Governance Business Partner

G/3.5. MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 30 NOVEMBER 2022

Responsible Officer: General Manager Finance Governance and Risk

Council Meeting Date: 20 December 2022

File Ref: FM15.1

Purpose:

This report seeks Council adoption of the Monthly Financial Statements for the 2022-23 year to date, for the period ended 30 November 2022.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council adopt the Monthly Financial Statements attached to the officer's report for the 2022-23 year to date, for the period ended 30 November 2022 as required under Section 204 Local Government Regulation 2012.

Background:

The 2022-23 budget was adopted on 25 July 2022, with an operating surplus of \$0.5m.

To allow for greater transparency and scrutiny of Councils operating position throughout the year, annual rating revenue and service charges have been applied across the year rather than in the period of the rates generation. This represents a significant change to the way that these reports have previously been presented but will allow for more meaningful analysis.

The business is currently undertaking a forecasting process. It is anticipated that forecast figures will be included for the December report.

The percentage of year passed (pro-rata rate) as at 30 November 2022 is 41.92%.

Major movements and variances from budget are as follows:

Statement of Income and Expenditure

Income

Recurrent Revenue

Total recurrent revenue	2022-23	Actual as %
Actual	\$69.8m	
Budget	\$210.9m	33.08%
Forecast	\$210.9m	33.08%

Of note:

Net rates and utility charges	2022-23	Actual as %
Actual	\$54.7m	
Budget	\$170.5m	32.05%
Forecast	\$170.5m	32.05%

Council's primary source of recurrent revenue is the generation of annual rates, along with access charges for water, sewerage and waste. This generation was completed in July, with notices to be issued to ratepayers in August and a payment due date of 26 October 2022. These charges have been split across the course of the year, to align with the delivery of these services.

Discounts of \$13.8m have been applied for payments received by the due date.

Water consumption revenue for 2022-23 will be raised upon completion of the water meter reading cycles during the year. The budget for water consumption is \$21.8m.

Total interest revenue	2022-23	Actual as %
Actual	\$1.5m	
Budget	\$1.3m	118.82%
Forecast	\$1.3m	118.82%

Interest revenue at a rate of 3.73% has been received from Queensland Treasury Corporation for the month of November, current term deposit rates are yielding a 4.2% return to Council. The budget for interest revenue was prepared with conservative estimates, due to ongoing economic uncertainty. The revised forecast income will be just over double the original budget in this space.

Sales revenue	2022-23	Actual as %
Actual	\$2.5m	
Budget	\$3.4m	72.04%
Forecast	\$3.4m	72.04%

Claims for \$0.5m were made for Dawson Highway Drynan Drive Water Main Relocation in November. This project was not included in the adopted budget and will reflect additional contractor and material expenses below.

Income tax equivalents	2022-23	Actual as %
Actual	\$0.1m	
Budget	\$5.2m	1.15%
Forecast	\$5.2m	1.15%

The budget for 2022-23 includes \$5.0m from the Gladstone Area Water Board, which is generally confirmed and paid in the final quarter of the year.

The remaining budget relates to income tax equivalents from the Gladstone Airport Corporation, which are received and recognised after the end of each quarter, with the payment for Q2 to be received in January 2023.

General purpose grants	2022-23	Actual as %
Actual	\$1.1m	
Budget	\$8.2m	13.33%
Forecast	\$8.2m	13.33%

Council has received confirmation of the Financial Assistance Grant allocations for the 2022-23 year.

The budget was prepared based on advice received in December 2021 that Council should expect a 4% decrease in its allocation from the State Government. A further assumption has been made that Council will receive 75% of the 2023-24 allocation in the final quarter of 2022-23.

The actual allocation for 2022-23 has increased by \$0.4m on the 2021-22 allocation. This will be adjusted in the next forecast.

The second quarterly payment of \$0.5m was received in November.

Capital Revenue

Capital grants revenue	2022-23	Actual as %
Actual	\$3.4m	
Budget	\$12.4m	27.33%
Forecast	\$12.4m	27.33%

Capital grants revenue is recognised as project milestones are met. Therefore, the revenue recognised on the Statement of Income and Expenditure does not necessarily reflect the funding received during the year. Where milestones are still to be achieved, revenue is recognised as a contract liability on the Statement of Financial Position.

Capital revenue recognised for significant projects is detailed below:

Project	Budget	Forecast	Actual
State Government Grants & Subsidies			
Gladstone Aquatic Centre Upgrade-Stage 3	\$1.0m	\$1.0m	\$0.8m
Bindaree Road, Miriam Vale	\$1.6m	\$1.6m	-
Murphy Road, Captain Creek	\$0.8m	\$0.8m	-
Langmorn Road- Gravel Re-sheets	\$0.6m	\$0.6m	-
Toolooa St Gladstone – Pavement Renewal	\$0.5m	\$0.5m	\$0.1m
Gladstone Sewer Mains Renewals	-	-	\$0.8m
Other State Government Funding	\$1.1m	\$1.1m	\$0.3m

Project	Budget	Forecast	Actual
Federal Government Grants & Subsidies			
Round Hill Road – Pavement Renewal	\$1.6m	\$1.6m	\$0.0m
Benaraby Landfill – Capping of Cell 2	\$1.0m	\$1.0m	\$0.0m
Gorge Road, Lowmead (Baffle Creek Crossing)	\$0.6m	\$0.6m	\$0.3m
Stockbridge Road – Bridge Renewal	\$1.3m	\$1.3m	\$0.1m
Langmorn Road – Gravel Resheeting	-	-	\$0.5m
Other Federal Government Funding	\$2.4m	\$2.4m	\$0.5m

Expenditure

Recurrent expenditure

Total recurrent expenditure	2022-23	Actual as %
Actual	\$87.6m	
Budget	\$210.5m	41.64%
Forecast	\$210.5m	41.64%

Of note:

Employee benefits	2022-23	Actual as %
Actual	\$28.1m	
Budget	\$67.4m	41.73%
Forecast	\$67.4m	41.73%

Employee benefits are the largest component of Councils recurrent expenditure. A vacancy rate of 7.5% has been factored into the 2022-23 budget. The average vacancy rate year to date is 9.8%.

Overtime expenses year to date are \$0.7m, compared to a full year budget of \$0.9m. Overtime expenses will need to be increased in the next forecast.

Contractors and consultants	2022-23	Actual as %
Actual	\$10.3m	
Budget	\$26.9m	38.21%
Forecast	\$26.9m	38.21%

Spending on contractors and consultants typically lags throughout the year. Due to the variety of areas in Council that utilise these services, only major invoices are accrued at month end. This results in a timing difference during the year that generally corrects when year-end accruals are undertaken.

Fuel	2022-23	Actual as %
Actual	\$1.1m	
Budget	\$1.7m	61.39%
Forecast	\$1.7m	61.39%

Fuel usage across Council is similar to the same period last year, however fuel prices remain volatile. Adjustments will be made in the next forecast.

Motor vehicle expenses	2022-23	Actual as %
Actual	\$0.9m	
Budget	\$1.4m	63.12%
Forecast	\$1.4m	63.12%

The cost of repairs and maintenance is still exceeding the pro-rata budget due to logistical issues with the replacement of an aging fleet. As items are replaced, these maintenance costs should reduce.

Staff & Council associated Expenses	2022-23	Actual as %
Actual	\$0.8m	
Budget	\$2.3m	32.78%
Forecast	\$2.3m	32.78%

Recruitment and onboarding costs are also expected to rise as the year progresses, with the high vacancy rate and tight labor market.

Finance Costs –Queensland Treasury Corporation	2022-23	Actual as %
Actual	\$0.9m	
Budget	\$1.6m	58.82%
Forecast	\$1.6m	58.82%

A portion of the finance costs charged by Queensland Treasury corporation relate to the Gladstone Airport Corporation (GAC) runway loan. This is covered by a quarterly contribution by GAC and will align with budgeted spend at the end of Q2.

Statement of Financial Position

	Current Value	Budget	Variance (Actual to Budget)	Forecast	Variance (Actual to Forecast)
Year-to-date Assets	\$2.7b	\$2.6b	6.38%	\$2.6b	6.38%
Year-to-date Liabilities	\$288.2m	\$143.1m	101.43%	\$143.1m	101.43%
Year-to-date Liabilities (excl. unearned rates revenue)	\$192.0m	\$143.1m	34.18%	\$143.1m	34.18%

The forecast for assets and liabilities reflect the expected positions at 30 June 2023.

Due to the change in reporting for unearned rates revenue, liabilities have been presented both including and excluding this line item. The two will converge and be the same by June 2023, as all rates revenue is recognised on the profit and loss.

During the preparation of the 2021/22 financial statements, a liability was recognised relating to a financial guarantee with Council's bulk water provider for \$34.3m. This liability was not recognised at the time of budget preparation and will be accounted for in the next forecast.

Significant balance sheet movement is still expected to occur throughout the year:

- Cash to decrease as expenses are incurred and loan repayments are made
- Property, plant and equipment to increase as the capital program is delivered, and decrease through depreciation
- Unearned rates revenue to decrease as recognised on the profit and loss each month
- Borrowings to decrease as loan repayments are made

Capital Expenditure

	Actual	Budget	Actual as % of Budget	Forecast	Actual as % of Forecast
Year to date capital expenditure	\$16.8m		32.72%		32.72%
Commitments (open purchase orders)	\$12.3m	\$51.4m		\$51.4m	
Total	\$29.1m		56.60%		56.60%

Of the \$12.3m in commitments, \$3.2m relates to Stockbridge Road bridge renewal, \$2.0m relates to Gladstone WWTP Distribution tower, \$1.8m relates to fleet replacement and \$1.5m relates to Bindaree Road investigation and design work.

Accrual estimates of \$2.0m have been included in the actuals, to account for major claims relating to November work.

Capital expenditure against groups with significant capital expenditure budgets are shown in the table below:

Group	YTD Actual	Commitments	Budget	Actual as % of Budget	Forecast	Actual as % of Forecast
Road Assets	\$6.8m	\$6.8m	\$21.4m	32%	\$21.4m	32%
Sewerage Assets	\$3.7m	\$2.4m	\$9.9m	38%	\$9.9m	38%
Delivery Support and Performance	\$0.6m	\$1.8m	\$6.0m	11%	\$6.0m	11%
Property Assets	\$1.9m	\$0.1m	\$4.1m	46%	\$4.1m	46%
Asset Governance			\$1.0m		\$1.0m	
Waste Assets	\$2.1m		\$2.1m	101%	\$2.1m	101%
Parks & Environment Assets	\$0.1m	\$0.5m	\$1.7m	7%	\$1.7m	7%
Property Services	\$0.6m	\$0.0m	\$1.4m	40%	\$1.4m	40%
Community Development & Events			\$1.1m		\$1.1m	
Water Assets	\$0.4m	\$0.2m	\$1.0m	40%	\$1.0m	40%
Strategic Projects			\$0.9m		\$0.9m	
Other	\$0.5m	\$0.4m	\$0.7m	73%	\$0.7m	73%
Total	\$16.8m	\$12.3m	\$51.4m	33%	\$51.4m	33%



The Works Planning and Scheduling team continue to monitor changes to the expected capital position for 2022-23. An updated financial forecast will be included in the quarter 2 review, however the most current information indicates that the capital spend will be \$58.6m.

Outstanding Rates

Outstanding rates, as a percentage of gross rates levied 2022-23, and collectible, is at 8.48% at the end of November 2022, compared to 9.37% for the same period last year 2021-22.

Of the \$15.9m of outstanding rates 18.41% relates to commercial / industrial assessments and 81.59% represents residential assessments.

These figures include \$4.9m of rates that are currently being repaid under an authorised payment plan, for which there were 38 commercial/industrial assessments and 1,457 residential assessments. A total of 1,495 assessments, which is an increase from 1,188 assessments in October 2022 (this movement is a result of a new arrangements entered into since rates notices issued).



*2019-20 discount date extended by 60 days





Sustainability Ratios

Financial ratios provide a useful snapshot of Council's financial status and emerging trends. Individual ratios do not provide enough information to form a comprehensive opinion of Council's financial position and performance, but when the right mix of ratios are considered together, they become a valuable tool in analysing Council's overall financial performance.

Asset Sustainability Ratio

This ratio compares Council's expenditure on capital renewal assets with the rate at which our assets are depreciating. As Council invests in the renewal of its asset base on a rolling cycle, the expected results can vary from year to year. The results for a single year are dependent on the delivery of renewal projects in the capital program.



Infrastructure renewals have accounted for 73.28% of capital expenditure with the balance on new and upgrade projects.

Interest Coverage Ratio

This ratio indicates the percentage of operating revenue required to cover net interest costs. The results of this ratio indicate that Councils interest revenue is now exceeding its interest costs.



Operating Surplus Ratio

A positive result for this ratio indicates that operating revenue can be used to fund capital expenditure, on top of the operational costs of Council. The results are negative due to the year-to-date operating deficit.



Working Capital Ratio

The working capital ratio shows the ability of Councils current assets, to cover the commitments of its current liabilities. Following the rates generation, Council has a significant balance of cash, causing this ratio to reflect favorably.

To account for the change in reporting of rates revenue, the ratio has also been presented excluding the liability for unearned rates revenue, as this does not recognise an obligation to pay, simply an accounting adjustment for reporting. The two will converge and be the same by June 2023, as all rates revenue is recognised on the Statement of Comprehensive Income.



Net Financial Liabilities Ratio

The ratio shows the extent to which operating revenue covers net financial liabilities.

To account for the change in reporting of rates revenue, the ratio has also been presented excluding the liability for unearned rates revenue, as this does not recognise an obligation to pay, simply an accounting adjustment for reporting. The two will converge and be the same by June 2023, as all rates revenue is recognised on the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

Excluding unearned rates revenue provides a clearer picture, showing that the target ratio has been well exceeded. This is to be expected at this time of year, when Council holds a large cash balance following the rates generation.

Net Financial Liabilities Ratio					
CURRENT YTD BUDGET FORECAST TARGET					
130.39%	15.58%	15.58%	< 60%		
Net Financial Liabilities Ratio (excl. unearned rates revenue)					
(3.15%)					



Cash Expenses Cover Ratio

This ratio indicates the number of months that Councils cash balance could cover its monthly cash expenses. The current result reflects a continuing strong cash position proportional to operating costs.



Options, Risk and Opportunity Analysis: Nil

Communication and Consultation:

The report seeks specialist input from the following internal sources:

Investing activity – Team Leader Financial Operations Procurement and supply – Manager Contracts and Procurement Vacancies – Recruitment, Remuneration and Benefits Business Partner Capital expenditure – Manager Works Planning and Scheduling Outstanding rates and prepaid rates – Manager Revenue Services

Legal Strategy and Policy Implications:

Council is required to receive an update at least monthly relative to its financial position, Section 204 Local Government Regulation 2012.

Financial and Resource Implications:

Nil

Summary: Nil

Anticipated Resolution Completion Date:

20 December 2022

Attachments:

- 1. Monthly Financial Statements for the period ending 30 November 2022
- 2. Operating Statements for the month end November 2022

Tabled Items:

Nil

Report Prepared by: Cost Analyst

G/4. DEPUTATIONS

G/5. COUNCILLORS REPORT

G/5.1. PARKS AND LEISURE AUSTRALIA NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer

Council Meeting Date: 20 December 2022

File Ref: CM6.1 or CM7.1

Purpose:

For Councillor Desley O'Grady to submit a report on attendance at the Parks and Leisure Australia National Conference, Melbourne on 16 – 19 October 2022.

Councillor's Recommendation:

That Council receive the report from Councillor Desley O'Grady.

Conference Summary:

Grassroots, Where it starts!

Parks & Leisure Australia National Conference, Melbourne 16-19 October

Kurt Fearnley is a three time Paralympic gold medallist and two time Commonwealth Games gold medallist. He has won over 40 marathons, including New York, Chicago and London in a career spanning more than 20 years.

In 2009 Kurt crawled the Kokoda track, in Papua New Guinea, to raise awareness of men's health. Kurt was also a member of the winning Sydney to Hobart yacht crew, Investec Loyal, in 2012.

He was New South Wales Australian of the Year for 2019. Kurt's keynote address was inspiring, one of the takeaway out of his address was, Why do we put chip bark in a playgrounds where people with disabilities cannot access playground to swing their own children?

Tasneem Chopra grew up experiencing life as the proverbial brown pea in a white pod having been born in Kenya, as the fifth generation of East African birthright with Indian origins, but raised in country Victoria. Fascinated with the world and its people from her early years, this country schoolgirl followed her calling and today is a seasoned Cross-Cultural Consultant. Current Work: In her work, Tasneem addresses issues of diversity, equity and inclusion across organisational leadership, including intersectionality within government, corporate, arts and community sectors. For her efforts, she was recently appointed the inaugural Ambassador for Women of Colour, Australia - and in 2020, awarded an OAM Tasneem has been named an 'Anti-Racism Champion' by the Australian Human Rights Commission and holds a Distinguished Alumni Award from La Trobe University in recognition of her impact in the diversity sector. She is a Board Director for The Australian Centre for the Moving Image (ACMI), as well as a Strategic Advisor for Fire Rescue Victoria and the Collingwood Football Expert Panel on Anti-Racism Tasneem, has also enjoyed governance affiliations with Ambulance Victoria, the In-Touch Multicultural Centre Against Family Violence, the Luke Batty Foundation, NOW Australia, and Board Chairing roles for the Australian Muslim Women's Centre for Human Rights and Lentil As Anything. A TEDxMelbourne presenter and writer, Tasneem has featured in SBS Life, The Guardian, The SMH and appeared on BBC's IQ2 Debates, Q&A is a regular panellist on The Drum and host of the podcast series, 'Strengths Untold'.

Mitchell is a principal with McAdams, a land planning and design company. He is responsible for providing advisory services in urban planning, parks and public space planning. He is an award-winning planner with more than 35 years of experience and is internationally recognized for his leadership and contributions to contemporary planning issues. He specialises in comprehensive planning, placemaking and implementation strategies. Prior to joining McAdams, Mitchell served as the commissioner for the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation; Chief Planning Officer in Raleigh, NC and served as president of the American Planning Association. He is currently president of the American Institute of Certified Planning.

Mitchell lectures extensively throughout the United States and abroad on a variety of planning topics. He is a contributing author and editor of International City/County Management Association's (ICMA) latest edition of "Local Planning: Contemporary Principles and Practice," which is a resource for local governments engaged in planning. Known by his colleagues as a passionate communicator, creative thinker, problem-solver and visionary leader, Mitchell Silver has been at the centre of many cutting-edge trends, innovative solutions and visionary plans.

One of the nation's most celebrated urban thinkers, Mitchell has been elected to Planetizen's list of the 100 Most Influential Urbanists (2017), and named an honorary member of the American Society of Landscape Architects (2017), a fellow of the Academy of the Social Sciences (2016), an honorary fellow of the Planning Institute of Australia (2015), a fellow of the American Planning Association (2014), and an honorary lifetime member of the Royal Town Planning Institute (2014). In addition, he has been honoured as one of the top 100 City Innovators in the world by UBM Future Cities, and in 2012 the Urban Times named him one of the top international thought leaders of the built environment. In 2020, selected by Avenue Magazine as one of five Urbanists on New York City's Power List. In 2021, was honoured by ASLA-NY with the President's Award for Design Excellence in the Public Realm.

Tobias Volbert is a Registered Landscape Architect educated in Hanover, Germany. Prior to his move to Australia in 2006, Tobias was involved in community consultation, landscape architecture projects in Germany, NZ and Australia. Passionate about sustainability, permaculture and inclusive design. Tobias has been publicly speaking about the merits of 7 senses design around Australia for over 7 years. He is involved in two research projects with QUT 1. Arc Linkage Project: Intergenerational Park design for active and engaged communities and 2. 2018 Engagement Innovation Grant: Gamification – Game on for environmental learning. He is Co-Founder of the 7 Senses Foundation. In this ever-changing world, it is becoming increasingly important to design spaces that not only encourage people to live healthy lifestyles, but spaces that engage all generations within a community and encourage them to connect & interact in their surrounding environment.

By 2030, people aged over 65 years will outnumber teenagers and urban design will play a significant role in their quality of life. At the same time, 60% of urban dwellers will be under the age of 18. Therefore, for cities to flourish and generations to flourish, we need to embrace the concept of salutogenic design and intergenerational design principles.

Originally coined as a health term, salutogenesis can be defined as focusing on factors that support wellbeing. By designing with salutogenesis in mind and focusing on the interaction between the individual, community and the environment, our spaces will become truly inclusive and encourage everyone, no matter your age, to live playful, happy & healthy lives. This presentation will discuss the importance of intergenerational and salutogenic design along with using design theory-storming to create playful urban environments for all.

Bishop Ngobeli works for Johannesburg City Parks and Zoo as a Conservation Manager responsible for managing biodiversity and conservation in the City of Johannesburg in South Africa. He is the current President: Institute of Environment and Recreation Management South Africa (IERM).

Parkour is a training discipline born in France in 1988 to facilitate fun, safe and efficient movement through an urban environment. From these humble beginnings, the discipline has developed into a recognised sport and spread across the world.

The Australian Parkour Association works for its members to facilitate teaching through affiliates, and advocate for the development of Parkour. Thus, when the European Parkour Equipment Standard was adopted in Australia in late 2020, the APA saw this as an opportunity to reach out locally and nationally to encourage development of Parkour facilities with the added confidence of knowing that there is now a recognised standard providing coverage from a liability perspective.

With new facilities, Parkour stands to reconnect youth with the world around them, reconnect all participants with a new sporting activity promoting health and wellbeing, and reconnecting ourselves with our community as we share in our passion for movement. Mitch is a Perth based Parkour Practitioner and Coach at Perth Parkour. Over his four years in the Parkour landscape he has been involved with international qualification programs, state Parkour governance and now national Parkour governance with the Australian Parkour Association. His focus within these bodies has been to support the affiliate and local communities to up-skill instructors and facilitate classes for youth and adults that are interested in exploring their urban landscape in a unique, safe and fun way. Mitch teaches to share his passion for movement and hopes to give you some insight into this love for movement. Liam has been on the jump train for about a decade and it's showing no sign of stopping. His focus is on building strong and inclusive communities and believes that Parkour is absolutely for everyone. Outside of Parkour, Liam is an entrepreneur and engineer and hopes to leverage that experience to deliver some great outcomes for the communities.

Simon Harrison is the Manager Parks and Recreation at Wollondilly Shire Council

One of New South Wales quickest growing local government authorities. Simon has worked in local and state government authorities and within the private sector across Australia and has extensive experience in the strategic and operational management of parks, open space, infrastructure and recreational services. "With Blacktown City Council being one of Australia's largest local government authorities and growing at a rapid rate, Council's Open Space Maintenance Unit was faced with the challenge of delivering high quality services to the local community. With the Covid-19 pandemic, the unit faced many challenges including how leaders continued to work closely together as a team, led by example and provided surety, continuity and security to a large diverse team whilst working in an uncertain environment.

Our presentation will focus on how the Open Space Maintenance Unit worked (specifically the leadership team) closely together to continue to provide services to the community during a period when usage of parks and reserves soared to heights never seen before and successfully dealt with many challenges (both work related and personal), whilst maintaining positive relationships and having a supportive and inclusive work environment during a difficult and uncertain time."

Simon also has significant knowledge, experience and expertise in the areas of leadership, development, communication and creating work environments that are positive, inclusive and high performing.



The aquatic industry is a key contributor to the economic, social and health outcomes of the community. Supported by lifeguards, public aquatic facilities provide a safe environment for people to familiarise themselves with water enabling visitors to develop important aquatic survival skills in a low risk environment. These centres require government funding and support in order to continue to operate and to continue providing benefits to Australians.

The local pool has always been highly valued by Australian communities, but it's contribution to the economic, social and health outcomes of Australians has become critical in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

COVID-19 has:

- increased the number of drownings,
- slowed economic growth,
- increased sedentary behaviour, and
- taken a toll on Australian's mental health.

The aquatics industry will be a key pillar in rebuilding local communities and improving health outcomes, all while contributing to Australia's economic recovery.

This presentation covered the findings of a research / thought leadership piece underway with Royal Life Saving Australia and Price Waterhouse Coopers. RJ Houston is the National Manager - Aquatics at Royal Life Saving Australia and has worked in various roles in aquatic facility operations and management in both regional and metropolitan settings and across both management and government organisations. RJ's areas of interest have revolved around aquatic risk and safety having experience in occupational health and safety management systems, quality assurance management systems and risk management policy, implementation, and consulting. RJ currently oversees the development of the Royal Life Saving Guidelines for Safe Pool Operations and convenes the National Aquatic Industry Committee. RJ is currently undertaking an MBA.

https://www.royallifesaving.com.au/educate-participate

Lesley Humphreys Director, Paws4Play/LMHConsulting

"DOG OFF-LEASH AREAS – THE POLICY AND PLANNING IMPERATIVE

A lack of a comprehensive dog off-leash policy and strategic plan means many councils are investing in dog parks without an understanding of:

- risk management implications, particularly as they relate to poorly controlled dogs, dog bites, unattended dogs, children
- relevant human and dog behaviour
- the management and maintenance implications
- how to appropriately respond to community demand.

There is currently a rush into building these facilities often on political and emotive grounds, and because some councils have a fear of lagging behind what are thought to be successful and current trends. As a result, we are experiencing ad hoc decision-making that is not grounded in an understanding of the wider policy and operational context. In some cases, decision-making is being driven by internal stakeholders who do not have the required understanding of human and dog behaviour in different environments. This presentation will draw on research undertaken over the last 8 years."

Lesley is a strategic planner and policy writer who specialises in animal management, open space and recreation service planning. Lesley now works primarily with councils:

- writing dog off-leash provision and service plans
- writing dog off-leash policy
- assessing/reviewing off-leash areas
- reviewing off-leash local laws
- writing Management Plans for fenced off-leash areas
- writing Domestic Animal Management Plans
- designing fenced off-leash areas (dog parks)

Stuart Hughes Director Parks Planning and Policy, Parks Victoria

The management of parks and reserves in Victoria is an evolving landscape and one on a path to selfdetermination by Traditional Owners. Legislation provides the current frameworks to operate, but the responsibility is on land managers to explore new ways of thinking and working when undertaking planning, based on partnerships.

The recent development of a management plan for the Greater Gariwerd landscape, featuring the Grampians National Park in western Victoria, has now become leading practice in partnership governance and the inclusion of Traditional Owner knowledge. This process was founded on 3 Traditional Owners communities and Parks Victoria collaborating in a true partnership, planning the future together, co-designing how to bring varied intangible values together, leading challenging conversations with the community, and preparing a plan that is framed around the cultural landscape.

Planning is based on describing change. The changes in the Gariwerd landscape involved responding to the growth of rock climbing, protecting rock art, how a new transformational long-distance walk is integrated into the park, and the reintroduction of apex predators to the ecosystem. Through the lens of the Gariwerd landscape planning, there is an opportunity to consider approaches to partnership governance and knowledge that can be applied at any scale and situation. This extends to people learning from each other, reflecting on harm caused, cultural safety, and leading on challenging issues with the community on a diversity of concepts.

Stuart Hughes is the Director Park Planning and Policy with Parks Victoria. Stuart has 25 years of experience in operational and planning roles in metropolitan and rural settings and brings this outlook to shaping the strategic directions and policy development for the Victorian parks estate.

COMMONWEALTH GAMES 2026 PANEL SESSION

Representative from local government and sporting bodies will discuss ambitions and legacy aspects relating to community involvement, facilities and motivation for future sport participation. Craig Phillips (CEO Commonwealth Games Australia), Andrew Cooney (Director Commonwealth Games, Greater Bendigo City Council), Jason Hellwig, (CEO Swimming Victoria), Mark Patterson (Executive Manager Recreation Services, Ballarat City Council), Anthony McIntosh (EO Little Athletics Victoria) and Meaghan Mayman (GM Regional Sport Victoria.

Awards of Excellence Gala Dinner

Philip Street Precinct was a finalist after winning the Queensland Award earlier in the year.

Hosted by the fantastic Costa Georgiadis



Attachments:

Nil

Tabled Items:

Nil

Report Prepared by: Cr Desley O'Grady

Gladstone Regional Council



QLD

The Philip Street Precinct strengthens the Gladstone's community and social service system by the clustering of community facilities and collaboration of services to enhance and improve community outcomes and to foster inclusion and connectedness. This is Gladstone, a melting pot of culture and this is our Home!

G/6. URGENT BUSINESS

G/7. NOTICE OF MOTION

G/7.1. NOTICE OF MOTION - CR CHURCHILL - APPLICATION OR DISPOSAL OF LOTS 206 - 214 ON CP U7251

Notice of Motion - Council Meeting Date: 20 December 2022

Purpose:

To allow Council to consider a Notice of Motion in relation to nine parcels of land in the Boyne Valley.

Councillor's Recommendation:

That by the 30 June 2023, a report be compiled and provided back to Gladstone Regional Council considering how Lots 206-214 on CPU 7251, situated in the Boyne Valley, can be applied or disposed of for the benefit of the whole community.

Background:

On 13 December 2022, a notice was given to the Chief Executive Officer of Cr Churchill's intention to move a motion at the 20 December 2022 General Meeting.

Council owns nine freehold parcels of land in the township of Ubobo ("the Ubobo Land"). The characteristics of these parcels of land are summarised in the below table:

RPD	Address	Size	Land Tenure
206 on U7251	27 Railway Terrace, Boyne Valley	911m2	Fee Simple
207 on U7251	29 Railway Terrace, Boyne Valley	911m2	Fee Simple
208 on U7251	31 Railway Terrace, Boyne Valley	911m2	Fee Simple
209 on U7251	35 Railway Terrace, Boyne Valley	898m2	Fee Simple
210 on U7251	20 McDonald Street, Boyne Valley	898m2	Fee Simple
211 on U7251	18 McDonald Street, Boyne Valley	911m2	Fee Simple
212 on U7251	16 McDonald Street, Boyne Valley	911m2	Fee Simple
213 on U7251	14 McDonald Street, Boyne Valley	911m2	Fee Simple
214 on U7251	12 McDonald Street, Boyne Valley	911m2	Fee Simple

Freehold title to the Ubobo Land was acquired by Council from the State of Queensland and was subsequently offered for sale by auction. After the land did not sell at auction it was listed for sale with a real estate agent but did not sell.

The land is currently vacant and is illustrated below in Image 1.



Image 1 – Lots 206 to 214 on U7251

Consideration:

There is an opportunity for Council to apply or dispose of the land for the benefit of the community, in particular, the Boyne Valley community.

Attachments:

Nil

Tabled Items:

Nil

Notice of Motion Prepared by: Councillor Churchill

G/8. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS