



GLADSTONE
REGIONAL COUNCIL

**GENERAL MEETING NOTICE
AND AGENDA**

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

On Tuesday 2 July 2024

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 18 JUNE 2024

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer

Prepared By: Executive Secretary

Council Meeting Date: 2 July 2024

File Ref: CM7.2

Purpose:

Confirmation of the minutes of the General Meeting held on 18 June 2024.

Officer's Recommendation:

That the minutes of the General Meeting of Council held on 18 June 2024 be confirmed.

Attachments:

1. Minutes of the General Meeting of Council held on 18 June 2024.

G/3. DEPUTATIONS

G/3.1. HEART OF AGNES COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION INC.

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer

Prepared By: Executive Secretary

Council Meeting Date: 2 July 2024

File Ref: CM7.6

Purpose:

For the Heart of Agnes Community Association Inc to present the outcomes of their community consultation for input into Council’s Planning Scheme Review.

Officer's Recommendation:

That the deputation from the Heart of Agnes Community Association Inc be received.

Background:

Deputation details are as follows:

| | |
|--|---|
| Time of Presentation | 9:10am |
| Duration of Presentation plus question time | 15 mins |
| Speakers to present | Byron Mulligan, President Michael Dietrich, Agnes Water Resident |

Attachments:

1. Heart of Agnes Community Association Inc Presentation

G/4. OFFICERS' REPORTS

G/4.1. APPLICATION FOR PERMANENT ROAD CLOSURE - CORNER OF BLAIN DRIVE AND HANSON ROAD, CALLEMONDAH

Responsible Officer: General Manager Assets and Environment

Prepared By: Land Management Officer

Council Meeting Date: 2 July 2024

File Ref: CP2.5 RD7.3

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to allow Council to consider supporting an application for permanent road closure of an area of land within the road reserve of Blain Drive and Hanson Road, Callemondah. Council's consideration is of the proposed section of land and the current and future use as a road and whether the construction of such a facility would inhibit future development of the intersection of Blain Drive and Hanson Road.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council support the application for permanent closure of an area of land within the road reserve of Blain Drive and Hanson Road, Callemondah, to form an unallocated State land parcel so the Applicant may enter into an agreement to purchase or lease the land parcel from the Department of Resources for the installation of Gladstone City Gate Station.

Summary:

APT AM Holdings Pty Ltd, a member of the APA Group, is the appointed Operator and Manager of the gas network owned by Australian Gas Networks ("AGN") ("the Applicant"). The Applicant intends to submit an application for the permanent closure of part of Blain Drive and Hanson Road, Callemondah, to the Department of Resources and is seeking Council's support for the application. This application, if approved, will support the applicant in constructing Gladstone City Gate Station. Officers have assessed the application and are seeking feedback from Council as to whether any further information is required to enable Council to consider the matter.

Link to Corporate Plan:

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Background:

The Application

APT AM Holdings Pty Ltd, a member of the APA Group (APA), is the appointed Operator and Manager of the gas network owned by Australian Gas Networks (“AGN”) (“the Applicant”). AGN is a public utility provider under schedule 6 of the *Land Act 1994*. APA intends to submit an application (“the Application”) for the permanent closure of approximately 88.3m² of part of Blain Drive and Hanson Road, Callemondah (“the Land”), to the Department of Resources (“the Department”) and is seeking Council’s support for the application. A copy of the Application map and plan of the intersection of Blain Drive and Hanson Road is attached (Attachment Four) for reference.

The Applicant is in advanced negotiations with the Department and Council to secure tenure over the Land. If the Application is approved, the Land will become a standalone parcel of either freehold land or a State Term Lease. The Applicant intends to construct Gladstone City Gate Station on the Land which will be injecting 10% hydrogen into the underground network that supplies gas to Gladstone. The Applicant advises that the project will benefit Gladstone by becoming the first city in Australia where the entire gas distribution network will supply customers with a blend of up to 10% (by volume) of renewable gas. There are about 700 customers connected to this network.

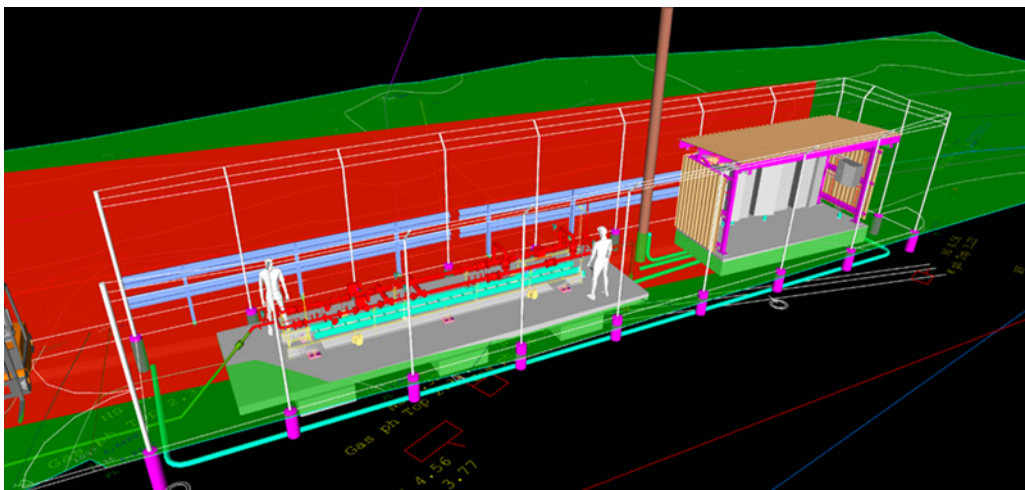
The Land is owned by the State and managed by Council as Road Manager in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009*. Applications for road closures are assessed and decided by the Department of Resources in accordance with the *Land Act 1994*.

Council must consider whether the parcel of land the Applicant is looking to secure is required as a public road. Council’s role in this process is as a road manager and planning authority only. Section 68 of the *Local Government Act 2009* requires the Department to provide Council with notice of a proposed road closure and affords Council the ability to object to the closure. In making their decision the Department must have regard to any objections raised by Council.

Considerations

The Land is beside a State controlled road and local government road and the injection point will be near existing utility underground and overhead infrastructure, including overhead power lines, underground critical gas pipelines or infrastructure, assets, redundant and major water, sewer and recycled water pipelines.

The Applicant has advised that when constructed, the Gate Station will be fully fenced and protected with safety barriers.



Risk Management Summary:

Council has a minimal risk appetite for Reputational risks and a moderate risk appetite for Financial and Service Delivery risks. The Officer’s Recommendation is considered to pose low risk to Council given that road reserve is a public space and contains existing services including Council’s infrastructure which may require relocation at the expense of the Applicant. There may be a reputational risk regardless of supporting or not supporting the application given the public and/or community safety concerns, and the applicants outcomes.

Options and Opportunity Analysis:

Officers have assessed the application and considered a number of options including:

1. Council Supports the Application

If the Application is approved by the Department, the Land will be permanently closed and become unallocated State land whereby the Applicant can purchase or lease the parcel from the Department to install the infrastructure. The permanent road closure should not affect the usage of either Hanson Road or Blain Drive.

The key opportunities and risks associated with Option 1 are summarised in the table below:

| Opportunities | Risk |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The infrastructure will not be on Council’s land and Council will not bear any liability in relation to the site. • It enhances the Applicant’s ability to construct the infrastructure as an injection point to existing gas services. • A road closure would create revenue for the Department. • A road closure may create additional ratable land and revenue for Council. • It will support the creation of demand for hydrogen which is an important part of our transition to renewables in the Gladstone Region. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The public may not be supportive of the road closure and there could be negative sentiment around hydrogen outside of designated industrial areas. • Visual amenity may be impacted by a structure in a prominent site. • Potential for concerns with the fire/explosion risk at the site. • Potential risk for traffic to impact the infrastructure. |

2. Council does not support the Application

Council may elect not to support the permanent road closure. Notwithstanding Council’s objection, the Applicant can submit the Application to the Department. Section 99(7) of the *Land Act 1994* provides that the Department can refuse an application where the Department is satisfied that the road is, or may be, used regularly by the public as a road.

| Opportunities | Risk |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are no risks of negative sentiment from the Public. • The road will be available for future development. • The public and existing utility providers will have continued access to the entire road reserve. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicant is unsatisfied with the decision and will have to identify a suitable site for proposed facility. • Reputational risk of not supporting the hydrogen industry in the Gladstone Region. |

Stakeholder Engagement:

Internal stakeholders have advised that Council has significant water, sewer and recycled water infrastructure within the road and that the road closure area should allow for a 5 m buffer (3 m minimum) around our infrastructure so that works on the infrastructure can be conducted without disturbing the Applicant's site.

The Applicant has advised that they have engaged with adjoining landholders who we believe to be supportive of the proposal pending their own negotiations. The Applicant has further advised that the Jemena gas line and town water were two utilities in proximity to the proposed structure. They have incorporated their design to exceed the separation requirements from the utilities. APA have advised that both utilities have been consulted and a pre-start has been conducted with them.

Stakeholder consultation, where required, is generally undertaken by the Department and Council has not undertaken any community consultation with respect to the Application. The Department's assessment of applications for road closures typically includes consideration of the impact to the public and adjoining landowners. If any objections are received as part of the Department's process, they will be considered by the Department providing that they are valid with respect to the road closure and genuinely about the need for the land as a road to continue.

Legal and Regulatory Implications:

Road closure applications are assessed by the Department of Resources in accordance with the provisions of the *Land Act 1994*. The land beneath a road is owned by the State and managed by Council in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009*. As road manager Council is liable for the gazetted road area.

Council has reserved the delegation to decide whether council supports a permanent road closure and a resolution is required to allow officers to provide the requisite advice to the Applicant and the Department. Council's *Land Transaction Policy* provides that Council will manage its land assets smartly, effectively, and efficiently and does not currently have a specific position on road closures, therefore each application is considered on a case-by-case basis.

Financial and Resource Implications:

There are no notable financial implications associated with the road closure.

Anticipated Resolution Completion Date:

A response will be provided to the Applicant and Department of Resources by 31 July 2024.

Attachments:

1. CONFIDENTIAL- Road Closure Application Form LA30 Corner Blain Drive and Hanson Road Callemondah
2. CONFIDENTIAL - Application Form 18e Corner Blain Drive and Hanson Road Callemondah Road Closure
3. CONFIDENTIAL - Application Form Part A L00 Corner Blain Drive and Hanson Road Callemondah Road Closure
4. Map of Blain Drive and Hanson Road, Callemondah

G/4.2. PROPOSED TRANSFER OF LAND TO GLADSTONE AIRPORT CORPORATION

Responsible Officer: General Manager Assets and Environment

Prepared By: General Manager Assets and Environment and Land Management Officer

Council Meeting Date: 2 July 2024

File Ref: CP2.5

Purpose:

To allow Council to consider the disposal of land adjacent to Gladstone Airport, to be transferred to Gladstone Airport Corporation.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council:

1. Transfers freehold title in land described as Lot 1 on SP271689 and Lot 1 on RP617719 for the sum of \$1.00 to Gladstone Airport Corporation; and
2. Resolves that the exception to valuable non-current asset contracts in s236(1)(b)(i) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* applies to the disposal to Gladstone Airport Corporation.

Summary:

Gladstone Airport Corporation (GAC) has requested that Council transfer ownership of two (2) land parcels adjacent to their runway.

Link to Corporate Plan:

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Background:

Following Corporatisation in 2012, all parcels of land relating to the airport transferred ownership from Council to GAC with the exception of Lots 1 and 2 on RP 617719. Lot 2 contains Port Curtis Cemetery.

Given the proximity to the cemetery and the configuration of the lots, there was initial uncertainty between Council and GAC about how these should be managed, and the problem was left to be outworked at later date.

The configuration and location of the original lots is shown in red Figure 1.



Figure 1:

2016 Configuration of lots 1 and 2 on RP617719

In 2015 GAC approached Council with the aim of securing tenure over the land to facilitate an extension of Runway End Safety Areas (RESA) to the north-west of the runway, initially by means of a lease. Advice was given to GAC that the most appropriate course was to apply to reconfigure the lot which was originally intended to extend lot 1 on RP617719, but which instead created a third lot illustrated in blue in Figure 2.



Figure 2:

Creation of lot 1 on SP271689

While the Decision Notice conditioned the transfer of the lots to GAC, after the necessary surveys and registrations were completed, the Transfer of the title to GAC was never formalised. The last record between GAC and Council on the matter is 2017 when Council received the survey plans from GAC.

Since then, the lots have remained under Council control. In 2023 GAC Chief Executive Officer Mark Cachia advised work was underway to finalise outstanding transfers and road closures which formed part of the original land strategy for the airport.

Risk Management Summary:

The transfer of the land in question has a negligible risk profile, with no identifiable alternative use. Given its proximity to the runway it has functioned as part of the airport land.

Options and Opportunity Analysis:

Option 2 – Transfer the Land (recommended)

Provides clarity of ownership and purpose to land for which there is no other practical use.

Option 2 – Retain control of the land (not recommended)

Resolving not to transfer control of the lots would continue an awkward arrangement that has existed in conflict to the historically settled position of both GAC and Council and would frustrate GAC in its ambitions to amalgamate the airport land, tidying up the historical patchwork of lots the airport was made up of.

Stakeholder Engagement:

Consultation with GAC, external legal advisors, Council's General Counsel and Manager Governance and Risk has been undertaken in preparation of this report.

Legal and Regulatory Implications:

Council can decide to transfer Lot 1 on SP271689 and Lot 1 on RP617719 to GAC without tender or auction, below market value by way of resolution under s236(1)(b) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* as GAC is a government agency as defined in Schedule 8 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* (being a corporatised business entity of Gladstone Regional Council).

Financial and Resource Implications:

The land proposed to transfer has no assessed commercial or strategic value to Council or the Community.

Anticipated Resolution Completion Date:

Transfer of land will be completed within six (6) months of the resolution date.

Attachments:

Nil

G/4.3. COUNCILLOR ATTENDANCE AT THE NATIONAL RURAL HEALTH CONFERENCE

Responsible Officer: General Manager People and Strategy

Prepared By: Manager Strategy and Improvement

Council Meeting Date: 2 July 2024

File Ref: CM6.1

Purpose:

To seek approval for Councillor representation at the 2024 National Rural Health Conference.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council approve Councillor Natalia Muszkat to attend and represent Gladstone Regional Council at the 2024 National Rural Health Conference on 16-18 September 2024, located in Perth, Western Australia.

Summary:

The 17th National Rural Health Conference focuses on building healthy, sustainable rural communities and offers Council the chance to gather information and expand networks to enhance advocacy for the region's health system. Health is a strategic priority for Council, which seeks equitable, fit-for-purpose, affordable healthcare solutions for the Gladstone Region.

Link to Corporate Plan:

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Background:

The conference

The 17th National Rural Health Conference focusses on building healthy, sustainable and resilient rural communities. Topics that will be discussed are rural health workforce capacity and training, determinants of health, mental health, the effects of climate change on health, Indigenous health, cultural safety, arts and health, as well as healthcare research and innovation.

The conference will offer attendees opportunities to enhance knowledge, learn about new practices, network with regional, interstate and global colleagues, and to represent the interests of and seek opportunities for the Gladstone Region. Attendees are often health professionals, researchers, and policymakers, and therefore gives an opportunity to broaden our network.

Rural Health challenge at Gladstone Region

As stated in our Strategic Priorities 2024/25, Council faces health challenges including workforce shortages, long wait times, limited provider access, inadequate infrastructure, and financial incentives.

Council takes our role in the health landscape seriously and continues to advocate for improved provision of, and access to, health care services in the Gladstone Region. Council are committed to working with various agencies and stakeholders locally and across the state, to advocate for an equitable model of fit for purpose health care for all Australians.

Risk Management Summary:

Attendance at this conference aligns with Council's strategic priorities and Health Advocacy Plan. The conference presents no reputational risks outside of the Council's current risk appetite.

Options and Opportunity Analysis:

The conference will provide for important sector networking, and the opportunity to gather information and identify opportunities to improve our Health system.

Option 1 – Approve attendance Councillor Muszkat (Recommended)

It is the officer's recommendation that Council approve Councillor Muszkat's attendance at the 2024 National Rural Health Conference.

Option 2 – Additional Councillor

Council may choose to nominate an alternative or additional Councillor to attend the conference, however the officer's recommendation is consistent with the 2024/25 Operating Budget as forecast by Council.

Option 3 – Do not attend

Council may decide not to have representation at the 2024 National Rural Health Conference.

Legal and Regulatory Implications:

Nil

Financial and Resource Implications:

The table below is a summary of the estimated cost associated with the proposed attendance. There are sufficient funds available within the Elected Members 2024/2025 draft Operating Budget for a Councillor's attendance.

| | |
|---------------|----------------|
| Registration | \$1,450 |
| Flights | \$1,700 |
| Accommodation | \$900 |
| Meals | \$500 |
| Incidentals | \$100 |
| TOTAL | \$4,650 |

Anticipated Resolution Completion Date:

27 July 2024

Attachments:

Nil

G/4.4. TENDER 72-24 GLADSTONE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT INLET DISTRIBUTION STRUCTURE UPGRADE

Responsible Officer: General Manager Finance Governance and Risk

Prepared By: Manager Contracts and Procurement (Acting)

Council Meeting Date: 2 July 2024

File Ref: FM21.1

Purpose:

This report seeks resolution from Council to enter into a contract with Silverstrand Developments Pty Ltd for both portions of the Gladstone Wastewater Treatment Plant Inlet Distribution Structure Upgrade.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council:

1. Endorse the Tender Evaluation Team's recommendation to enter into a contract for the Gladstone Wastewater Treatment Plant Inlet Distribution Structure Upgrade with Silverstrand Developments Pty Ltd.
2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate, finalise and execute any and all matters associated with or in relation to the contract.

Summary:

A tender process has been undertaken for two separable portions of work identified in the Gladstone Wastewater Treatment Plant Inlet Distribution Structure Upgrade.

Link to Corporate Plan:

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Background:

Following an asset condition assessment undertaken in 2011 Council identified that the existing process reservoir tower above the influent sewage distribution chamber at the Gladstone WWTP has severe corrosion and is nearing the end of life. Council's intention was that the process water reservoir will remain operational until a new process water system with its own pressure pump system has been constructed.

The implementation phase for this new process water system is nearing completion with in-service commissioning having commenced in November 2023.

The condemned process reservoir tower is part of the structure for the inlet distribution chamber and is located directly above the chamber. The inlet distribution chamber receives flows from individual pressure mains from several sewage pumping stations (SPS) including SPS A01, SPS S01, the combined flows from SPS D01 and SPS D02, the SPS on Curtis Island and the privately owned NRG Power Station SPS.

GLADSTONE REGIONAL COUNCIL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA - 2 JULY 2024

In 2022, Council engaged Water Service Engineering (WSE) to complete the Detailed Design for the new Inlet Distribution Structure (IDS) that will replace the operational functions of the existing inlet distribution chamber and allow for population growth. The design for the new IDS has reached "Issue for Tender" (IFT) stage in October 2023 with the aim to commence construction early in FY24/25 (or sooner).

Council requires the construction of five (5) new valved pipe connections to enable the future connection between existing rising mains and the new Inlet Distribution Structure.

An Invitation to Tender (ITT) was released to the open market on 25 February 2024 and the project was separated into two (2) separable portions:

- Separable Portion A: Early Works

Construction of five (5) new valved pipe connections to enable the future connection between existing rising mains and the new Inlet Distribution Structure.

- Separable Portion B: Principal Contract

Construction of the new Inlet Distribution Structure (IDS) and associated pipework to replace the operational functions of the existing inlet distribution chamber.

Tenderers were welcomed to submit proposals for either or both sections of the project, with Council reserving the right to independently assign each section to different Tenderers or allocate both sections to a single Tenderer, at its sole discretion.

Risk Management Summary:

Sewerage is pumped to the Gladstone Wastewater Treatment Plant (GWWTP) via five separate sewer mains. These mains feed into a central location known as the Inlet Distribution Structure (IDS) which is located beneath the redundant Service Water Reservoir Tower* and distributes the incoming sewerage to the two separate processing streams within the treatment plant. The existing IDS does not have the capacity to distribute all incoming sewerage during some wet weather events, resulting in recordable environmental incidents of sewerage spilling out of the IDS and into the adjacent carpark in front of the onsite office/admin building. Further, the existing IDS does not have a primary screening capability to remove debris from the incoming sewerage. This results in additional loads being put on the secondary screens downstream of the IDS which have seen increased repairs and maintenance requirements as a result.

The new IDS will provide the following benefits:

- Ability to manage all sewerage entering the GWWTP up to 2074 based on projected population growth rates.
- Control the flow of sewerage into downstream processes (resulting in higher quality treated effluent) and bypass any additional flows to a storage dam for future processing.
- Primary screening of sewerage entering the GWWTP.

**The Service Water Reservoir Tower is at risk of catastrophic failure with the potential to damage the existing IDS. The existing IDS cannot be bypassed; therefore, failure of the inlet works may result in reportable environmental harm. Due to its poor condition, the Service Water Reservoir Tower has been made redundant with service water tanks being recently installed at ground level at another location onsite.*

Options and Opportunity Analysis:

The tender closed 2pm, Tuesday 21 March 2024 with four (4) offers received.

The technical evaluations were carried out against the weighted evaluation criteria as specified in the Invitation to Tender:

| Objective Evaluation Criteria | Weighting |
|--|------------------|
| Proposed Program/Schedule meets GRC timing requirements and includes all key milestones/tasks | 10% |
| Offer demonstrates understanding of the scope and GRC’s requirements and includes a Resourcing Plan which addresses all aspects of the scope and GRC’s requirements. | 40% |
| Nominated past projects performed meet GRC’s experience requirements | 25% |
| Proposed Key Personnel have the qualifications and experience required by GRC | 25% |

The proposal submitted by Silverstrand Developments Pty Ltd achieved the highest ranking for both portions of work following thorough technical and commercial evaluations. Silverstrand Developments Pty Ltd demonstrated a clear understanding for executing the construction and commissioning of the new Inlet Distribution Structure and its associated works. Their proposed timeline was aligned with the project's schedule and included all the crucial components essential for the successful completion of the project.

Silverstrand Developments Pty Ltd offer was also within budget.

Stakeholder Engagement:

Technical evaluation of the confirming offers was completed by subject matter experts from the Engineering Asset Solutions and Capital Program teams.

Legal and Regulatory Implications:

This procurement has been undertaken in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 2009 and Local Government Regulation 2012.

Financial and Resource Implications:

The approved budget for these works is \$11,672,000 ex GST.

The value of this contract is \$8,773,429 ex GST.

Anticipated Resolution Completion Date:

The contracts will be awarded in July 2024.

Attachments:

1. CONFIDENTIAL – Tender 72-24 Evaluation Report

G/4.5. ENDORSEMENT OF UPDATED LOCAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT PLAN

Responsible Officer: General Manager Finance Governance and Risk

Prepared By: Disaster Response Specialist

Council Meeting Date: 2 July 2024

File Ref: ES2.2

Purpose:

This report seeks endorsement of the updated 2024 Local Disaster Management Plan.

Officer's Recommendation:

That the Local Disaster Management Plan be endorsed by Council.

Summary:

The Local Disaster Management Plan has been significantly updated. Given the number of changes endorsement is required from Council prior to the plan being updated in relevant systems and on the website.

Link to Corporate Plan:

Connecting Communities - We work with you and for you, supporting the success of our communities.

Background:

As per the Queensland Disaster Management Arrangements, disaster events are locally led in Queensland. The Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG) is made up of key agencies and advisors, who work collaboratively to plan, prepare, respond and assist the community to recover from disaster events. The Local Disaster Management Plan is the plan utilised by members and advisors of the LDMG to ensure there are collaborative and effective responses to disaster events.

The previous Local Disaster Management Plan was dated 2013 and had not been thoroughly reviewed in several years. Following the restructure in 2018, the Disaster Response Specialist commenced a project of thoroughly reviewing each individual component that makes up the plan. Following significant consultation with LDMG members, advisors and other relevant individuals the plan has now been reviewed and updated and ready for endorsement by Council.

Due to the confidential and specific nature of several sections, a public-facing, more succinct version has also been developed to enable access to the plan for the community without breaching confidentiality. This will also ensure that the public version will require less frequent updates moving forward regardless of amendments made to the support plans and annexures included in the complete version.

Risk Management Summary:

It is imperative that the Local Disaster Management Plan be up to date and accurate to ensure the most effective and efficient response to and recovery from disaster events.

Options and Opportunity Analysis:

Option 1- The Local Disaster Management Plan is endorsed and updated on systems accordingly.

Option 2- The Local Disaster Management Plan is not endorsed by Council and referred to Local Disaster Management agencies for amendments.

Stakeholder Engagement:

There has been significant consultation with all LDMG members and advisors since the commencement of the review. This has included in-person discussions at LDMG meetings and email circulation of the individual sections of the Local Disaster Management Plan.

Legal and Regulatory Implications:

The Disaster Management Act 2003 (the Act) requires that Local Governments establish Local Disaster Management Groups. The Act also requires LDMG's to have disaster management plans that are effective and align with State policy frameworks for Disaster Management. Ensuring the Local Disaster Management Plan is up to date and has been developed through collaboration with LDMG members ensures these requirements are met.

Financial and Resource Implications:

Nil

Anticipated Resolution Completion Date:

16 July 2024 – Once endorsed, the highlighted sections A.4 and A.5 can be updated and then the Local Disaster Management Plan can be distributed to all members and the public version be uploaded to Council's website.

Attachments:

1. Local Disaster Management Plan

G/4.6. SHOW HOLIDAY 2025, 2026, 2027 AND 2028

Responsible Officer: General Manager Finance Governance and Risk

Prepared By: Governance Business Partner (Acting)

Council Meeting Date: 2 July 2024

File Ref: CM23.1

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to provide options for consideration and for Council to nominate a preferred show holiday for the Gladstone Region for the 2025, 2026, 2027 and 2028 calendar years.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council:

1. Nominate the following dates as the show holiday for the Gladstone Regional Council local government area in 2025, 2026, 2027 and 2028:
 - Monday 11 August 2025;
 - Monday 10 August 2026;
 - Monday 9 August 2027; and
 - Monday 14 August 2028.
2. Advocate for relevant state and federal agencies to recognise the show holiday to apply across the whole Gladstone Region.

Summary:

Council may nominate an appropriate date as a show holiday for Ministerial approval.

Link to Corporate Plan:

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Background:

Correspondence has been received from the Office of Industrial Relations inviting nomination by Council of a special holiday/s to be observed for the 2025 calendar year. There are two (2) types of special holidays that can be nominated by Council:

1. Show Holiday – a special holiday that is a public holiday only if it is in respect of an agricultural, horticultural, or industrial show; or
2. Bank Holiday – a special holiday only for banks and insurance officers in accordance with the *Trading (Allowable Hours) Act 1990*.

As a bank holiday is not a public holiday, nomination of a bank holiday has not been explored further.

In 2024, Council nominated Monday 12 August 2024 as the show holiday which aligns with the Queensland Royal Show (Ekka).

GLADSTONE REGIONAL COUNCIL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA - 2 JULY 2024

It was observed in 2024, some of the schools in our Southern Region align with the Bundaberg show holiday. Department of Education regional structure lists Angas Water State School, Lowmead State School, Wartburg State School and Rosedale State School in the North Coast Region (Bundaberg show holiday). All other state schools in our region are included in the Central Queensland Region (Gladstone show holiday).

Risk Management Summary:

Council takes a cautious approach towards taking risk when it has potential reputational consequences. Options 1, 2 and 4 seek to control the risk whilst Option 3 is likely to be misaligned with Council's risk appetite.

Options and Opportunity Analysis:

Option 1 – Nominate 2025, 2026, 2027 and 2028 Dates

It is the officer's recommendation that the following dates are nominated as the show holiday for the Gladstone Region in 2025, 2026, 2027 and 2028:

- Monday 11 August 2025;
- Monday 10 August 2026;
- Monday 9 August 2027; and
- Monday 14 August 2028.

Option 2 – Nominate 2025 Date Only

The Queensland Royal Show (Ekka) is being held from Saturday 9 August 2025 to Sunday 17 August 2025. Nominate Monday 11 August 2025 as the show holiday for the Gladstone Region in 2025.

Option 3 – No Nomination of Date

There is no requirement for Council to nominate a show holiday; however, it is anticipated this would not be a favourable option for the community.

Option 4 – Nominate Another Date

Council may nominate an alternative date that aligns with another agricultural, horticultural, or industrial show and meets the requirements of the *Holidays Act 1983*.

Stakeholder Engagement:

No consultation was undertaken in preparation for this report.

In 2018, a phone poll was conducted to obtain community feedback into the proposed show holiday. 75% of participants indicated that they would like a show holiday that aligns with a weekend.

Legal and Regulatory Implications:

Section 4 of the *Holidays Act 1983* outlines the requirements by the Minister for approval of a special holiday which includes the requirement that a show holiday must only be nominated for a date on which an agricultural, horticultural, or industrial show is being held.

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Whilst there is no definition for such events (agricultural, horticultural, or industrial) within the *Holidays Act 1983*, general practice has been to align the nominated date with a declared agricultural show as published by the Queensland Chamber of Agricultural Shows (known as Queensland Ag Shows).

A show holiday will only be approved by the Minister for a date on which a show is being held. It should be noted that both local shows are being held on a weekend during 2024:

- Mount Larcom Show – Saturday 22 June 2024 and Sunday 23 June 2024; and
- Gladstone Show – Saturday 6 July 2024

Local events such as the Gladstone Harbour Festival, Boyne Tannum Hook Up, 1770 Festival, and so on are not eligible for nomination, as they do not meet the requirements as a show holiday.

Financial and Resource Implications:

Under the National Employment Standards, employees are to be without loss of ordinary pay and are entitled to be absent from work or refuse to work in reasonable circumstances on a public holiday. Further, employees who work on a public holiday are entitled to penalty rates in accordance with their award or agreement.

Anticipated Resolution Completion Date:

Within two (2) weeks of Council resolution.

Attachments:

Nil.

G/5. COUNCILLORS REPORT

G/6. URGENT BUSINESS

G/7. NOTICE OF MOTION

G/8. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS