



Notice is hereby given, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993 that a **Meeting of Maitland City Council** will be held in the **Council Chambers, Town Hall, High Street, Maitland**, commencing at **5.30pm**.

ORDINARY MEETING AGENDA

23 APRIL 2019

**DAVID EVANS
GENERAL MANAGER**

Please note:

In accordance with the NSW Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act, you are advised that all discussion held during the Open Council meeting is recorded for the purpose of verifying the minutes. This will include any discussion involving a Councillor, Staff member or a member of the public.



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PRESENT

1 INVOCATION

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

- *Cr Henry Meskauskas - Leave of Absence from 23 April 2019 to 23 April 2019*

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

- *The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held 9 April 2019 be confirmed.*

6 BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

7 MAYORAL MINUTE

8 WITHDRAWAL OF ITEMS AND ACCEPTANCE OF LATE ITEMS OF BUSINESS

9 PUBLIC ACCESS

10 OFFICERS REPORTS

10.1 2019 NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

FILE NO:	35/48
ATTACHMENTS:	1. National General Assembly 2019 Program
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	David Evans - General Manager
AUTHOR:	Jacqui Fitzsimmons - Executive Assistant
MAITLAND +10	Outcome 15. Diverse, identified and connected leaders
COUNCIL OBJECTIVE:	15.3.1 To identify new methods and opportunities for talking to the community, building on the existing profile and methods used by the elected Council

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2019 National General Assembly of Local Government will be held from Sunday 16 to Wednesday 19 June 2019 at the National Convention Centre in Canberra. This is an opportunity for councils to identify and discuss national issues of priority for the sector and to agree on possible steps which might be taken to address these issues.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

THAT

- 1. Council nominate interested Councillor/s to attend.**

REPORT

The 2019 National General Assembly of Local Government (NGA), to be held at the National Convention Centre in Canberra between 16 and 19 June 2019, is an opportunity for local government representatives to debate issues of national significance, hear from political and academic speakers and develop policies and strategies for the coming year.

Local government plays a significant role in the national economy and councils play critical roles in their local economies. The National General Assembly provides an opportunity for the local government sector to unite and build on the work of the Australian Local Government Association Board and State and Territory Local Government Associations. Attached is the conference program and further information can be found at alga.asn.au.

2019 NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT (Cont.)

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Attendance at the National General Assembly will be funded from the individual Councillor's professional development account.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This matter has no specific policy implications for Council.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

There are no statutory implications under the Local Government Act 1993 with this matter.

Officers Reports

2019 NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

National General Assembly 2019 Program

Meeting Date: 23 April 2019

Attachment No: 1

Number of Pages: 6

2019 NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT (Cont.)

GENERAL ASSEMBLY REGISTRATION FEES

Registration Fees –Early bird (payment received by Friday 10 May 2019)	\$989.00
Registration Fees – Standard (payment received on or before Friday 7 June 2019)	\$1099.00
Registration Fees – Late (payment received on or after Friday 7 June 2019)	\$1199.00

General Assembly Registration Includes

- Attendance at all General Assembly sessions
- Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea as per the General Assembly program
- One ticket to the Welcome Drinks, Sunday
- General Assembly satchel and materials

SOCIAL FUNCTIONS AND VENUE INFORMATION

Exhibition Opening and Welcome Reception

Sunday 16 June 2019

Venue: National Convention Centre, Constitution Ave, Canberra City

5:00–7:00 pm

\$50 per person for day delegates and guests

No charge for full registered delegates

No charge for registered accompanying partners

Dress Code: Smart casual

General Assembly Business Sessions

Monday 17 – Wednesday 19 June 2019

Venue: National Convention Centre, Constitution Ave, Canberra City

All Plenary sessions will be held in the Royal Theatre at the National Convention Centre.

Dress code: Smart casual

Exhibition

Sunday 16 – Wednesday 19 June 2019

Venue: National Convention Centre, Constitution Ave, Canberra City

The exhibition is being held in the Exhibition Hall of the National Convention Centre.

Dress code: Smart casual

Networking Dinner

Monday 17 June 2019

Venue: Australian War Memorial

The dinner is being held in Anzac Hall

7:00–11:00 pm

\$110 per person

Dress code: Smart casual

2019 NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT (Cont.)

To showcase another spectacular venue at our Nations Capital we are taking the Networking dinner to the Australian War Memorial, where we will dine amongst large war relics including the massive Lancaster bomber, "G for George", midget submarine, and a rare First World War aircraft.

General Assembly Dinner

Tuesday 18 June 2019

Venue: To be announced

7:00–11:00 pm

\$140 per person

Dress code: Lounge suit/collar and tie for men and cocktail style for women.

Tickets to the General Assembly Annual Dinner are always highly sought after. Places are limited and therefore booking early is highly recommended to ensure your place.

NGA19 DAY ONE

8.00AM

REGISTRATION

» Registration Opens

9.00AM

OPENING SESSION

» Opening Ceremony
» Welcome to Country, Wally Bell

9.20AM

ALGA President Opens NGA19

9.30AM

Prime Minister Address

10.00AM

ALGA President Address

10.30AM

MORNING TEA

11.00AM

KEYNOTE ADDRESS:**KAREN MIDDLETON, POLITICAL COMMENTATOR**

» How did Local Government Fair Post Election

11.45AM

PLENARY PANEL:

» Opportunities for Local Government Post Election

12.30PM

LUNCH

1.30PM

KEYNOTE ADDRESS:**STEVE SAMMARTINO, AUSTRALIAN FUTURIST, AUTHOR, TECHNOLOGIST AND SPEAKER**

» Crowd Powered Communities

Exploring a future where the way forward is about handing over the technology tools of design and production to those who populate our communities.

2019 NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT (Cont.)

- 2.15PM** **COUNCILS USING TECHNOLOGY TO EXCEL:**
- » **Ben Artup**, Executive Director – Strategic Projects and Economic Development
 - » Bundaberg Regional Council
 - » Wujal Wujal
 - » City of Melbourne
- 3.00PM AFTERNOON TEA
- 3.30PM** **DEBATE ON MOTIONS**
- 4.30PM** **CLOSING SESSION**
- » First Languages Australia
- 4.55PM ALGA President Close
- 5.00PM Close Day 1
- 7.00PM** NETWORKING DINNER, Australian War Memorial

NGA19 DAY TWO

-
- 8.00AM** **REGISTRATION**
-
- 9.00AM** **PANEL SESSION: HOUSING, INFRASTRUCTURE AND POPULATION**
- » **SESSION PANELISTS**
-
- ROMILY MADEW, CEO INFRASTRUCTURE AUSTRALIA**
- » Australia's future Infrastructure Challenges: The 2019 Australian Infrastructure Audit and What it Means for Local Government
-
- ANDREW BEER, DEAN OF RESEARCH AND INNOVATION UNISA**
- » The Role of Local Government in Housing Australians in the 21st Century
-
- ROBERT PRADOLIN AND GARY SPIVAK: TBA**
- » Why and how local government and the private sector should work together to increase affordable housing
-
- 10.30AM MORNING TEA

11.00AM

KEYNOTE ADDRESS:**KYLIE COCHRANE, GLOBAL LEADER IN COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

» Engaging with your Community into the Future

11.30AM

DEBATE ON MOTIONS

12.30PM

LUNCH

1.30PM

CONCURRENT SESSIONS:**HOUSING YOUR COMMUNITY**» **SESSION PRESENTERS****ALAN MORRIS, RESEARCH PROFESSOR IN THE INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC POLICY AND GOVERNANCE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY SYDNEY**

» An Impossible Task? The City of Sydney's Endeavours to Address Affordable Housing Crisis

LAURA HODGSON, PHD STUDENT, THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

» The Impact of AirBnB on Housing Markets?

LENKA THOMPSON, PHD SCHOLAR, UTS**REDUCING COMMUNITY HARM**» **SESSION PRESENTERS****DR JÓN SIGFÚSSON, DRUG PREVENTION IN ICELAND**

» Working with local government in alcohol and drug misuse in youth - a preventative approach from Iceland

DR ERIN LALOR, CEO - ALCOHOL AND DRUG FOUNDATION

» Local Drug Action Teams - An Australian community led approach to alcohol and drug misuse

» **Mayor Mark Greenhill OAM**, Blue Mountains Local Drug Action Team, Lead organisation: Blue Mountains City Council, Representative:» **Mayor Brenton Lewis**, Murray Bridge Safe Drug Action Team, Lead organisation: Rural City of Murray Bridge

2019 NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT (Cont.)

BUILT ENVIRONMENT IN YOUR COMMUNITY

YOUR COMMUNITY, YOUR ENVIRONMENT
» SESSION PRESENTERS

- » **Brooke Donnelly**, CEO, Australian Packaging Covenant Organisation
- » **Rose Read**, CEO, National Waste Recycling Industry Association
- » **Bernie Cotter**, Executive Director, ICLEI Local Government for Sustainability

3.00PM AFTERNOON TEA

3.30PM GOVERNMENT ADDRESS
Leader of the Opposition Address

4.00PM DEBATE ON MOTIONS

5.00PM Close of Day Two

7.00PM NGA Dinner

NGA19 DAY THREE

9.00AM SECURING OUR FUTURE: COUNTER TERRORISM AND SOCIAL COHESION

10.00AM MORNING TEA

10.30AM PLENARY ADDRESS
DAVID PICH, CEO, INSTITUTE OF MANAGERS AND LEADERS - LEADERSHIP MATTERS
» The Role of Local Government in Housing Australians in the 21st Century

11.00AM GOVERNMENT ADDRESS

11.30AM KEYNOTE ADDRESS
KURT FEARNLEY
» Overcoming the Odds

2019 NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT (Cont.)

12.15PM **ALGA PRESIDENT CLOSE**
» ALGA National Lobbying Priorities

12.30PM LUNCH

10.2 OUTCOME OF THE EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR THE ABORIGINAL REFERENCE GROUP

FILE NO:	29/22
ATTACHMENTS:	Nil
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	Bernie Mortomore - Group Manager Planning, Environment & Lifestyle Laurie D'Angelo - Manager Community and Recreation Emily Livens - Coordinator Recreation & Community Planning
AUTHOR:	April Phillips - Community Planner
MAITLAND +10	Outcome 1. Sense of place and pride
COUNCIL OBJECTIVE:	1.3.1 To develop and support cultural identity, pride, self esteem and participation for our local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

An expression of interest process to establish the Aboriginal Reference Group of five to seven members was undertaken from 14 November 2018 until 30 January 2019.

A total of 13 applications were received including four individual applications, seven stakeholder applications and two dual individual/stakeholder applications.

An assessment panel of two Council Officers and the two nominated Councillors assessed the applications based on the selection criteria matrix tool which ensured diverse representation for the group.

The assessment panel recommends that the seven people detailed in this report are recruited for representation on the Aboriginal Reference Group.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

THAT

- 1. Council adopts the recommendations for individual and stakeholder representatives on the Aboriginal Reference Group detailed in this report.**

REPORT

The Action item 1.3.1 of the Delivery Program 2018 - 2021 requires Council to 'Implement the recommendations from the adopted Aboriginal and Torres Strait

OUTCOME OF THE EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR THE ABORIGINAL REFERENCE GROUP (Cont.)

Islander Framework to raise awareness and celebrate local Indigenous heritage including the establishment of a reference group.' In a report on 23 October 2018, Council resolved to commence an Expression of Interest process to establish the Aboriginal Reference Group.

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) PROCESS

An EOI process to establish the Aboriginal Reference Group of five to seven members was undertaken from 14 November 2018 until Wednesday 30 January 2019. This timeframe included a two week extension period agreed to by the assessing panel, which was applied based on feedback that the months of December and early January posed some challenges for applicants on leave or away from home during the holiday season.

Applicants were required to address the following seven listed selection criteria, demonstrating how they meet the requirements;

- Aboriginality
- Current involvement in and knowledge of the local Aboriginal community and cultural heritage
- Have strong community networks and linkages in the local Aboriginal community
- Demonstrated ability to be constructive and objective
- Have a willingness to make active contribution to discussion
- Have capacity to commit to the Aboriginal Reference Group for the required duration
- Reside (individual representatives) or work (stakeholder representatives) in Maitland

The EOI was promoted through Council's networks and contacts of local Aboriginal organisations and broader community groups, the distribution of a media release, Council's website and social media pages. Information sessions were conducted at Council's Commonwealth Home Support Program Elders Art Group at Rutherford Community Centre on Tuesday 20 November and Mindaribba Local Aboriginal Land Council meeting on Monday 3 December 2018. Hard copies of the EOI were distributed across all of Council's touch point facilities including Citizen Services, the libraries, pools, Visitor Information Centre, Maitland Regional Art Gallery and Maitland Gaol.

Council received a total of 13 applications including four individual, seven stakeholder and two dual individual/stakeholder submissions. All 13 applicants presented a diverse range of valuable personal and professional knowledge, skills, and experience.

After making individual assessments, the two Council Officers and two nominated Councillors met on Monday 11 March 2019 for an assessment panel meeting.

 OUTCOME OF THE EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR THE ABORIGINAL REFERENCE GROUP (Cont.)

Collectively the panel determined the outcome of each application and the recommendations to be put forward for the membership of the group.

A matrix assessment tool was used to determine the outcome of the individual and collective panel assessments. The panel also ensured that the recommended applicants represent a broad cross-section of diverse skills, knowledge and experience.

RECOMMENDED REPRESENTATIVES

Based on the assessment of applications, the assessment panel recommends that the below listed applicants be recruited within the roles of the nominated representation type, due to the diverse and respective experience they will bring to the group.

In addition to the below application summary's, all applicants demonstrated a strong connection to, and understanding of the local Aboriginal community, and voiced a strong connection to their cultural identity. Listed in alphabetical order according to surname:

Name/ Organisation	Representation Type	Application Summary
Barwick, Deb - NSW Indigenous Chamber of Commerce (ICC)	Stakeholder Representative	Governed by a board of 13 Aboriginal Business Owners, and works closely with Aboriginal communities to support entrepreneurship, business innovation and enterprise development.
Callaghan, Rhys	Individual Representative	Has both formal and informal connections throughout the local Aboriginal community, and represents strong leadership in the area of young people and the youth sector.
Cliff, Phil – Maitland Aboriginal Education Consultative Group	Stakeholder Representative	Works closely with the education sector to provide schools with cultural advice, cultural awareness training and a voice for families and the community.
Dever, Tara – Mindaribba Local Aboriginal Land Council	Stakeholder Representative	An autonomous body which is governed by a Board of 10 Aboriginal People elected by the local Aboriginal community. The functions of the organisation include but are not limited to; land matters, culture and heritage matters and community supports and services to the local Aboriginal community.
Fernando, Andrew	Individual Representative	Represents strong leadership, advocacy and understanding of the local Aboriginal disability sector.

 OUTCOME OF THE EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR THE ABORIGINAL REFERENCE GROUP (Cont.)

Molina, Stevie-Lee- Aboriginal Domestic Violence Court Advocacy, Carrie's Place	Stakeholder Representative	Provides linkages between local domestic violence service provision and responses, and the local Aboriginal community to ensure culturally appropriate supports and services are available.
Kitchener, Cheryl - Aboriginal Affairs NSW	Stakeholder Representative	Works alongside Aboriginal people and communities to empower them, and ensure their voices and interests are represented at a State Government level.

CONCLUSION

Establishment of the Aboriginal Reference Group and appointment of members will ensure Council meets the 2018/2019 Delivery Program action item 1.3.1 'Implement the recommendations from the adopted Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Framework to raise awareness and celebrate local Indigenous heritage including the establishment of a reference group.'

Having an established Aboriginal Reference Group will provide a structure which will enable effective and sustainable communication between Council and the local Aboriginal community, and provide a platform to strengthen these relationships.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This matter has no direct financial impact upon Council's adopted budget or forward estimates.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This matter has no specific policy implications for Council.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

There are no statutory implications under the Local Government Act 1993 with this matter.

10.3 NATIONAL DISABILITY INSURANCE SCHEME (NDIS) SUPPORT COORDINATION

FILE NO:	29/26
ATTACHMENTS:	Nil
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	Bernie Mortomore - Group Manager Planning, Environment & Lifestyle Laurie D'Angelo - Manager Community and Recreation
AUTHOR:	Emily Livens - Coordinator Recreation & Community Planning
MAITLAND +10	Outcome 2. Community and recreation services and facilities
COUNCIL OBJECTIVE:	2.5.1 To deliver quality community development, social planning and community services

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has been providing complex case coordination through the Maitland Community Options Project for the past 20 years. During this time there has been significant change in how support services are funded and managed by the State and Commonwealth governments including the introduction of NDIS. An independent review of Council's Community Options Project recommended the separation of the service delivery and financial management of the now two programs being the Commonwealth Home Support Programme and NDIS Support Coordination.

Although the Commonwealth Home Support Programme is progressing well under the new management structure, many difficulties are being experienced in the NDIS Support Coordination. These include inadequate self-funding of the program and unexpected Council funding allocation requirements, recruitment difficulties due to skill shortages in the market and reductions in the allocated support coordination hours in client NDIS plans. These challenges have impacted on client satisfaction with the service. In addition, the introduction of NDIS Quality and Safeguarding Commission will require the program to undertake an independent audit. In its current state, the program is not resourced to ensure compliance.

Considering these challenges with the ongoing management of the NDIS Support Coordination program, it is recommended that Council transition out of NDIS Support Coordination and provide an interim resource to assist clients transition to an alternative service provider during this period.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION**THAT**

- 1. Council transitions out of its voluntary involvement of the NDIS Support Coordination program**
- 2. Council provides existing clients with a support resource for up to three months to assist clients to transition to an alternative service provider during this period.**

REPORT

Council has been providing complex case coordination through the Maitland Community Options Project for the past 20 years. During this time there has been significant change in how support services are funded and managed by the State and Commonwealth governments including the introduction of NDIS. The services provided by Council have included complex case management and coordination for the frail and aged, and for people with a disability aged under 65 (or 50 for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people).

Maitland Community Options Project

The COP originated from the Home and Community Care services, which began in 1995. Council entered into a number of funding and service agreements across a range of State and Commonwealth government funded programs over time in order to continue to provide these services to the community including:

- Home and Community Care (HACC)
- ComPacks
- Community Options Project (COP)
- Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP)
- National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)

In 2015, the aged care and disability sectors began an important transformation. Block program approaches to funding began to be replaced by individualised funding and supports. As a result, Council's Community Options Project split to what is now known as the Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP) and National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). While these funding reforms took place, Council continued to deliver the service under the banner of the Community Options Project.

Service Review

In September 2018, Council engaged Disability Services Consulting (DSC) to conduct an independent review of the Community Options Project. The review identified overlaps in Council's management of the NDIS and CHSP programs and recommended separation in the operational management of the two in order to

NATIONAL DISABILITY INSURANCE SCHEME (NDIS) SUPPORT COORDINATION (Cont.)

clearly define between the service delivery and financial management of the programs. As a result, Council is now delivering these programs under two separate positions:

- Commonwealth Home Support Programme Administrator
- NDIS Support Officer.

Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP)

The Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP) continues to operate under a Case Management Framework to improve health and wellbeing of clients and help them to live longer in their own homes. Aimed at frail and aged persons over 65 years (and over 50 years for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island people), the program is block funded to June 2020. Currently Council has 17 participants across the three programs of the CHSP being Social Support Group, Individual Social Support and Domestic Assistance.

The Australian Aged Care Quality Safety Commission undertook audits of all Commonwealth Home Support Program providers over recent months to assess their compliance with the new practice standards. Councils audit was undertaken on 16 January 2019 and a number of improvements were identified. As a result of these identified improvements, a Continuous Improvement Plan has been developed and the Recreation and Community Planning section along with the newly appointed Commonwealth Home Support Program Administrator are on target to achieve the improvements by the required deadline set by the Commission. It is expected that once systems and processes have been reviewed and improvements are in place, the program will be further developed and opened up to new clients.

National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)

NDIS Support Coordination links clients to services and helps build the capacity of clients to understand and implement the funded supports in their plan.

In contrast to the CHSP Administrator role where case management is at play, NDIS Support Coordination is more of a phone based role, with some face to face required, particularly at NDIS plan review. The hours worked as an NDIS Support Coordinator are billable hours up to the total support coordination hours allocated in the clients NDIS plan and manually claimed via the NDIS portal. Hours spent with clients above the total allocated hours are not billable to NDIS and incurred at Councils cost.

Since January 2019 an interim arrangement with Kurri Kurri Community Services has been in place to provide third party support coordination to support Councils clients during the period of recruitment for the NDIS Support Officer. The vacant role was advertised and an appointment made in March 2019. Unfortunately, the applicant withdrew from the position prior to commencement. There were no other applicants within the recruitment pool that had the skills or experience relevant to the position.

NATIONAL DISABILITY INSURANCE SCHEME (NDIS) SUPPORT COORDINATION (Cont.)

The recruitment process identified that there is a shortage for this specialised skillset within the employment market, with suitable applicants opting to remain with organisations that offer other core NDIS services in addition to support coordination. Council is only registered as an NDIS provider for Support Coordination, restricting the opportunity for skills applicants.

Council's NDIS client portfolio has significantly decreased in recent months from 21 to 10 clients due to a number of factors including:

- client frustration with recruitment timeframes and changes in interim service delivery
- reduction in NDIS Plan funded hours at each plan review to transition them to support via a Local Area Coordinator (LAC), depending on the client's needs and capacity
- the passing of two clients.

The billable hours from the plans of the remaining 10 clients funds an employee for an average of only 12.5 hours per week making it difficult to recruit and sustain the program within Council. To ensure a viable role is available for potential applicants, the additional hours would need to be funded by Council.

The introduction of NDIS Quality and Safeguarding Commission will require all NDIS service providers to undertake an independent audit. Council undertook a self-assessment of service delivery in October 2018 as required by the Commission with an independent audit to be completed by 30 July 2019. The audit has been scheduled for the 9 May 2019 (Stage 1) and 16-17 July 2019 (Stage 2). In its current state with the NDIS Support Officer position vacant, lack of information in Councils database and NDIS Portal and limited resources or skillset to address information gaps prior to the audit, it is likely the audit outcome will be unfavourable. Given the timeframes set by the Commission, it is not possible to delay the audit dates. In the event that the audit outcome is unfavourable, Council may be deregistered as an NDIS service provider leaving the remaining clients displaced without a transition process causing greater dissatisfaction and disruption in the management of their NDIS plan.

Considering these concerns, it is recommended that Council transition out of NDIS Support Coordination program. In this instance, Council will no longer offer support coordination services to people living with a disability under the age of 65 (or 50 for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people). To assist clients transition to an alternative service provider during this period, it is recommended that an interim resource be allocated for a three month period to assist clients during the transition period.

CONCLUSION

As the result of an independent review, Council has separated the two programs previously operating under the banner of Maitland Community Options Project to the relevant programs being the Commonwealth Home Support Programme and

NATIONAL DISABILITY INSURANCE SCHEME (NDIS) SUPPORT COORDINATION (Cont.)

NDIS Support Coordination. Although the Commonwealth Home Support Programme is progressing well under the new management structure, many difficulties are being experienced in the NDIS Support Coordination. These include inadequate self-funding of the program and unexpected Council funding allocation requirements, recruitment difficulties due to skill shortages in the market and reductions in the allocated support coordination hours in client NDIS plans. These challenges have impacted on client satisfaction with the service. In addition, the introduction of NDIS Quality and Safeguarding Commission will require the program to undertake an independent audit. In its current state, the program is not resourced to ensure compliance. With these in mind it is recommended that Council transition out of NDIS Support Coordination.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Use of existing salary vote to provide a resource for a maximum of three months to assist clients during the transition

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This matter has no specific policy implications for Council.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

There are no statutory implications under the Local Government Act 1993 with this matter.

10.4 BUILDING FIRE SAFETY

FILE NO:	20/21, Parcel No's 38994, 39103, 17480, 17321, 14682, 13177 & 17310
ATTACHMENTS:	Nil
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	Bernie Mortomore - Group Manager Planning, Environment & Lifestyle David Simm - Manager Development & Environment
AUTHOR:	Ian Cunningham - Team Leader, Regulatory Compliance
MAITLAND +10	Outcome 11. Our villages, suburbs, towns and City
COUNCIL OBJECTIVE:	11.1.2 To strengthen activity centres as vibrant areas for residents, workers and visitors

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council is in receipt of reports from Fire & Rescue NSW (FRNSW) in respect of inspections performed by FRNSW on various buildings within the Maitland Local Government Area. The reports have revealed building fire safety issues within those buildings.

In accordance with the provisions of Schedule 5, Part 8, Section 17(2) of the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979, ('the Act'), the reports received by Council from FRNSW must be tabled at a Council meeting for the Council to determine whether it will exercise its powers to give a fire safety order under the provisions of the Act.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

THAT

- 1. The Council exercise its powers under the provisions of Schedule 5, Part 2 (1) of the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979 and serve orders on the owners of the buildings identified in the body of this report (numbered 2-7) to facilitate fire safety audits of those buildings, and that,**
- 2. On receipt and analysis of the fire safety audits, a further report be submitted to the Council recommending further actions as deemed necessary to ensure adequate fire safety measures are implemented in the identified buildings, and that,**
- 3. Council write to FRNSW and request that any future inspections of buildings conducted by FRNSW within the Maitland local government area be in the company of an appropriate Council officer.**

BUILDING FIRE SAFETY (Cont.)

REPORT

Council has received reports from Fire & Rescue NSW (FRNSW) detailing the results of random inspections performed by FRNSW on various buildings within the Maitland local government area. The buildings are all occupied and of commercial use. Some of the subject buildings provide residential accommodation.

In accordance with the provisions of Schedule 5, Part 8, section 17(1) of the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979, ('the Act') FRNSW must furnish to the Council of the area in which the building is located:

- A report of the inspection, and
- If of the opinion that adequate provision for fire safety has not been made concerning the building, such recommendations as to the carrying out of work or the provision of fire safety and fire-fighting equipment as the Commissioner considers appropriate.

The buildings inspected by FRNSW, and short summary of issues and recommendations, are as follows:

1. Stocklands retail complex, Mitchell Drive, Greenhills.

Inspection carried out in May 2018 by FRNSW which identified various fire safety non-compliances relating to fire sprinklers and smoke detection. An order was served on the premises owner by FRNSW under section 9.34 of the Act which was subsequently complied with. Further matters were identified by FRNSW and satisfactorily followed up by Council. No further actions are recommended at this stage.

2. Remondis Material Recycling, 31 Waterloo Avenue, Thornton.

Inspection carried out in February 2018 by FRNSW which identified various fire safety non-compliances relating to hydrants, fire extinguishers, exit signage, egress and compartmentation. Council has been pursuing matters without satisfaction up until the date of this report. It is recommended an order be served on the building owner to perform a full fire safety audit of the premises by a suitably qualified person/organisation.

3. Imperial Hotel, 458 High Street, Maitland.

Inspection carried out in April 2018 by FRNSW which identified various fire safety non-compliances relating to emergency exits, escape routes and sundry major fire safety issues. Council has been pursuing matters without satisfaction up until the date of this report. It is recommended an order be served on the building owner to perform a full fire safety audit of the premises by a suitably qualified person/organisation.

BUILDING FIRE SAFETY (Cont.)

4. Queens Arms Hotel, 243 High Street, Maitland.

Inspection carried out in March 2019 by FRNSW which identified various fire safety non-compliances relating to automatic fire detection/alarm system fire hose reels, exit signage, emergency lighting, fire extinguishers, egress and compartmentation, bounding construction and exits. It is recommended an order be served on the building owner to perform a full fire safety audit of the premises by a suitably qualified person/organisation.

5. Maitland Supa Save, 24 Bulwer Street, Maitland.

Inspection carried out in January 2019 by FRNSW which identified various fire safety non-compliances relating to fire hydrants, fire sprinklers & egress. It is recommended an order be served on the building owner to perform a full fire safety audit of the premises by a suitably qualified person/organisation.

6. Grand Junction Hotel, 88 Church Street, Maitland.

Inspection carried out in March 2019 by FRNSW which identified various fire safety non-compliances relating to exits, egress, compartmentation & smoke detection. It is recommended an order be served on the building owner to perform a full fire safety audit of the premises by a suitably qualified person/organisation.

7. Metropolitan Hotel, 289 High Street, Maitland.

Inspection carried out in March 2019 by FRNSW which identified various fire safety non-compliances relating to smoke detection and alarm system, fire hydrants, exit signage, emergency lighting, hose reels, fire extinguishers, egress, escape paths & compartmentation. It is recommended an order be served on the building owner to perform a full fire safety audit of the premises by a suitably qualified person/organisation.

CONCLUSION

Several buildings within the Maitland local government area have been identified as having minor to major fire safety issues. It is considered to be crucial to accurately identify the specific (fire safety) defects within each building and implement adequate compliance measures in the interest of the safety of the general public and the occupants of the buildings. It is acknowledged that in some cases, particularly older buildings constructed well before current essential fire safety measures were mandatory, that full statutory compliance may not be achievable.

It is intended to review each audit report with the age of the building and any physical constraints of the building to be considered prior to enforcing any fire safety upgrade/s.

BUILDING FIRE SAFETY (Cont.)

In addition to the matters to above, it is of the opinion of Council that Council write to FRNSW and request that any further random (or otherwise) fire safety inspections of buildings within the Maitland local government area be conducted in the presence of appropriate officer/s of Council to enable improved participation/response by Council in executing fire safety compliance.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This matter has no direct financial impact upon Council's adopted budget or forward estimates.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This matter has no specific policy implications for Council.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

There are no statutory implications under the Local Government Act 1993 with this matter.

11 POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

11.1 STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS AS AT 31 MARCH 2019

FILE NO:	82/2
ATTACHMENTS:	Nil
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	Leah Flint - Group Manager Strategy Performance and Business Systems
AUTHOR:	Emily Lasky - Compliance Accountant Dinesh Pillay - Senior Reporting, Risk & Insurance Accountant
MAITLAND +10	Outcome 18. A Council for now and future generations
COUNCIL OBJECTIVE:	18.1.1 To ensure the principles of sustainability underpin Council's financial, economic, social, governance and environmental decision-making

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 requires Council to report on all its investments.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

THAT

1. The report indicating Council's Funds Management position as at 31 March 2019 be received and noted.
2. The certification of the Responsible Accounting Officer be noted and the report adopted.

REPORT

Council's investment portfolio posted a return of 3.58%p.a. for the month of March versus the bank bill index benchmark return of 1.96%p.a. For the financial year to date, the investment portfolio returned 2.95%p.a., exceeding the bank bill index benchmark's 2.03%p.a. by 0.92%p.a.

The sharp drop in interest rates has resulted in solid marked-to-market gains in Council's long term bond portfolio, particularly the fixed rate holdings. As these gains eventually go back to par value by maturity, opportunities to lock in the gains

STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS AS AT 31 MARCH 2019 (Cont.)

by selling before maturity will continue to be considered providing equal or better outcomes can be achieved with the proceeds.

Without marked-to-market influences, Council's investment portfolio yielded 2.91%p.a. for the month. This is based on the actual interest rates being received on existing investments and excludes the underlying changes to the market value of the securities/deposits.

During March, Council's investment portfolio had \$8m in term deposits mature with a weighted average rate of approximately 2.72%p.a. One new \$5m term deposit was invested for 12 months at a rate of 2.70%p.a.

Council has a well-diversified portfolio with 89% of its portfolio spread among the top three credit rating categories (A long term/A2 short term and higher) and NSW T-Corp managed cash funds. It is expected that Council can continue to achieve above benchmark returns with prudent investment selection for its short and long term holdings.

Global issues:

- Continued progress in the US/China trade talks and central banks' statements confirming no rate increases are on the horizon helped share markets record a strong March quarter. Global and US shares recorded gains of 11% and 12%, respectively while the Australian market gained 10%. Despite the gains, there is growing concern that the US is showing early signs of a possible recession.
- In the US, long term bond yields have dropped below short term rates creating an inverted yield curve. While this can be a sign of an impending recession, economists are calling for calm as recent data releases have been sound and many of the factors leading to past recessions have not been present.

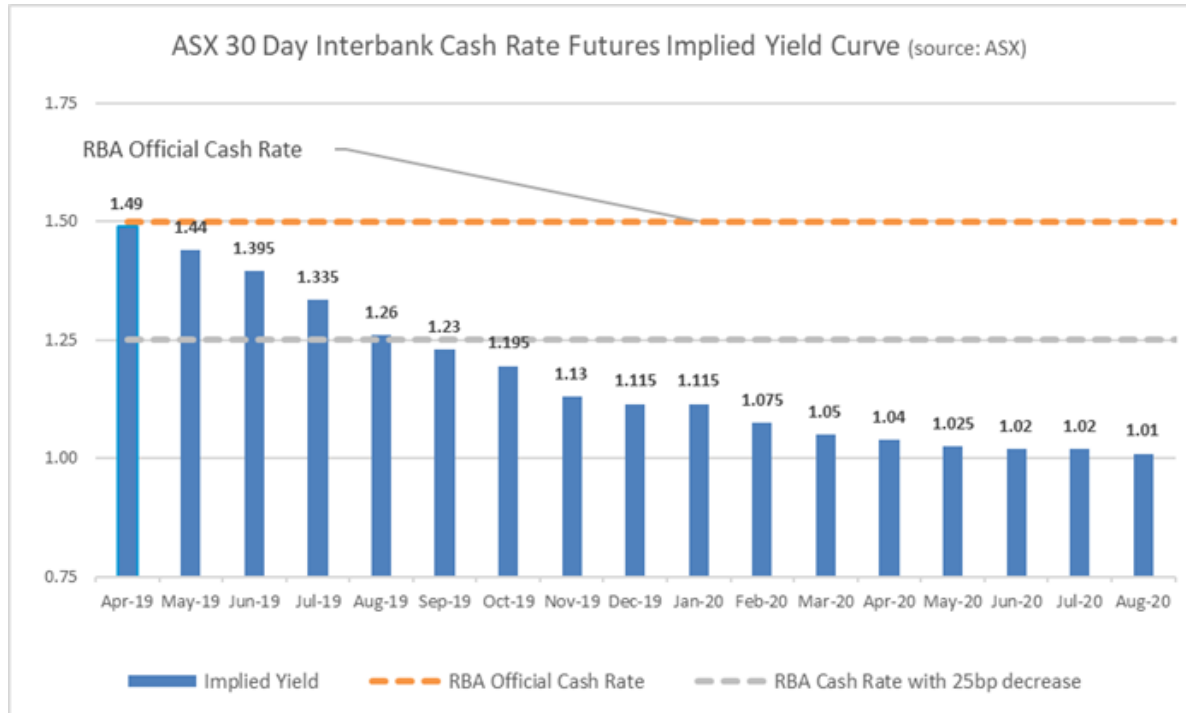
Domestic issues:

- In Australia, the latest GDP data revealed the economy had only grown by 2.3% for the year ending December with most of the slowdown occurring over the most recent quarters. Australia's GDP on a per person basis has now declined for two consecutive quarters, the first 'per capita' recession since 2016.
- The poor housing market, particularly in Sydney and Melbourne, continues to be a key factor in the economic slowdown. Banks tightening their lending criteria; a record supply of apartments; a sharp collapse in foreign demand; and fears that a change in government could bring in policies that hamper negative gearing and capital gains tax arrangements have all contributed to the decline in housing prices.

Interest rates:

- The RBA shifted its interest rate sentiment from a bias for an increase to a neutral stance. The market reacted with further declines in the Cash Rate Futures, which is now pricing in a full 25bp rate cut by February 2020:

STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS AS AT 31 MARCH 2019 (Cont.)



- Term deposit rates followed the market lower with sharp declines across all maturities. The best indicative 3-month TD from an Australian major at month end was 2.45%, down over 10bps from February and over 20bps since January. Likewise, the major banks' best 12 month rate was at 2.48%, down from 2.65% the month prior. The best rates among the lower rated banks were largely in the 2.55%-2.70% area across 3-12 months range.

The following attachments are provided as part of the Report.

- Council's holdings as at 31 March 2019 (Attachment A)
- Investment Portfolio at a glance (Attachment B)

CONCLUSION

Certification of Responsible Accounting Officer

The Responsible Accounting Officer certifies that the investments listed in the attached report have been made in accordance with Section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993, clause 212 of the Local Government General Regulation 2005 and Council's Investment Policy.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The actual interest income received during March 2019 was \$293,353.20.

STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS AS AT 31 MARCH 2019 (Cont.)

Interest income comprises interest generated from investments in term deposits, floating rate notes, NSW T-Corp managed funds, cash at bank, floating rate term deposits and fixed rate bonds.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Council's investments are made in accordance with Council's Investment Policy.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

The above amounts have been invested and reported in accordance with:

- Section 625 of the Local Government Act, 1993
- Clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005

12 NOTICES OF MOTION/RESCISSION

13 QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

13.1 FUNDING FOR MAITLAND LIBRARY FLOORSPACE

SUBMITTED BY CR MITCHELL GRIFFIN

FILE NO: 35/7/4
ATTACHMENTS: Nil
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER: David Evans - General Manager
Bernie Mortomore - Group Manager Planning,
Environment & Lifestyle

Cr Mitchell Griffin has asked the following Question With Notice for the Council Meeting being held on Tuesday 23 April 2019:

Can Council advise how much funding is currently accrued towards city wide library floor space from contributions made as part of Section 7.11 contributions.

RESPONSE BY GROUP MANAGER PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT & LIFESTYLE

Both the 2006 (repealed) and the 2016 City Wide Section 94 Plans collect funds for the provision of library floor space across the LGA. Following is a breakdown of the funds collected and available in each of the plans:

- 2006 City Wide Section 94 Contributions Plan (Repealed) - \$1,254,519
- 2016 City Wide Section 94 Contributions Plan - \$683,231

In accordance with the 2006 City Wide Plan – the funds collected are to be used for a mixture of upgrades and augmentation of the existing branch libraries and through a new and expanded central library facility in the CBD.

In accordance with the 2016 City Wide Plan – the funds collected are to be used to increase floor space at Maitland, Rutherford and Thornton Branch Libraries.

14 URGENT BUSINESS

15 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

16 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RECOMMENDATIONS

17 CLOSURE