



BUSINESS PAPER
ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

To be held on

Wednesday, 30 October 2019

Commencing at

2:00pm

at

Walcha Council Chambers

Members:

Mayor – Councillor Eric Noakes
Deputy Mayor – Councillor Clint Lyon
Councillor Peter Blomfield
Councillor Kevin Ferrier
Councillor William Heazlett
Councillor Jennifer Kealey
Councillor Scott Kermode
Councillor Rachael Wellings

Quorum – 5 Members to be Present

AGENDA

Submitted to Council: 30 October 2019

..... General Manager Mayor



Dear Mayor & Councillors

You are requested to attend the Ordinary Meeting of the Walcha Council to be held at Walcha Council Chambers, 2W Hamilton Street, Walcha on **Wednesday, 30 October 2019** commencing at **2:00pm**.

Yours sincerely

Jack O'Hara
GENERAL MANAGER

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1.	Leave of Absences	
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2.	Confirmation of Previous Minutes	
2.1	Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday, 25 September 2019 at Walcha Council Chambers, Hamilton Street, Walcha.	WO/2019/02508
3.	Business Arising	
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6.5	Review of Public Gates (Ramps)	WO/2019/02676
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6.7	Committee of the Whole Referral – Private Hire of Council Plant Request	WO/2019/02659
6.8	Committee of the Whole Referral – Tender for Specialist Consulting Services Walcha Off Stream Storage Dam	WO/2019/02670
6.9	Committee of the Whole Referral – Walcha Council Plant Committee Meeting Minutes	WO/2019/02669
7.	Committee of the Whole	
	Resolution to adjourn the Ordinary Meeting and to move into Committee of the Whole and to exclude the Press and the Public from the entire proceedings of the Committee Meeting.	

Submitted to Council: 30 October 2019

..... General Manager Mayor



- | | | |
|-----|--|-----------------|
| 7.1 | Private Hire of Council Plant Request | WINT/2019/06120 |
| 7.2 | Tender for Specialist Consulting Services – Walcha Off Stream Storage Dam | WINT/2019/06122 |
| 7.3 | Walcha Council Plant Committee Meeting Minutes held at Hamilton Street, Walcha on Monday, 21 October 2019. | WINT/2019/06126 |

Resolution to move into Open Council.

Resolution to adopt Committee of the Whole Report and Recommendations.

8. Notices of Motion

8.1

9. Matters of Urgency

(Resolution to admit matters of urgency before being further considered by Council).

10. Management Review Report

WO/2019/02616

11. Committee Reports

- | | | |
|------|--|-----------------|
| 11.1 | Minutes of the Walcha Council Tourism Advisory Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, 10 September 2019. | WO/2019/02354 |
| 11.2 | Minutes of the Walcha Council Preschool Advisory Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, 17 September 2019. | WO/2019/02473 |
| 11.3 | Minutes of the Walcha Council Youth Advisory Committee Meeting held on Thursday, 26 September 2019. | WINT/2019/05828 |
| 11.4 | Minutes of the Walcha Council Community Care Meeting held on Monday, 14 October 2019. | WO/2019/02643 |

12. Delegate Reports

12.1

Submitted to Council: 30 October 2019

..... General Manager Mayor



Present:

Apologies:

**Confirmation of the Ordinary Meeting Minutes held on Wednesday,
25 September 2019:**

**Matters arising from the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday,
25 September 2019:**

Submitted to Council: 30 October 2019

..... General Manager Mayor



ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

held on

Wednesday, 25 September 2019

at

2:01pm

at

Walcha Council Chambers

PRESENT: Clr EH Noakes (Chairman) Mayor together with Councillors PR Blomfield, JM Kealey, SJ Kermode, CM Lyon and RL Wellings.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr JG O'Hara, General Manager, Mr DJM Reeves, Director – Engineering Services, and Mrs LJ Latham, Environmental Services Manager.

1. LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

38 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Lyon and Wellings that Councillor Ferrier's Leave of Absence, due to being overseas on holiday, and Councillor Heazlett's Leave of Absence, due to a medical procedure, be **ACCEPTED**.

MINUTES



2. CONFIRMATION OF THE ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 28 AUGUST 2019:

39 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kealey and Kermode that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday, 28 August 2019, copies of which have been distributed to all members, be taken as read and confirmed a **TRUE** record with the amendment of Minute 37 to read as follows:

37 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kealey and Wellings that future Draft Minutes of the Walcha Community Consultative Committee Meetings be presented to the Sergeant for approval to be included in the Business Paper.

3. BUSINESS ARISING

Nil.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil.

5. MAYORAL MINUTE

Nil.

6. SENIOR OFFICERS REPORT

40 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kealey and Lyon that the Senior Officers' Reports be **RECEIVED** for further consideration.

6.1 Refer Amended 2018 2019 Financial Statements to Audit

WO/2019/02387

41 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kealey and Kermode that the amended 2018 – 2019 Financial Reports be referred for Audit **FURTHER THAT** a Statement in accordance with Section 413(2)(c) of the Local Government Act, 1993, be completed and signed by the appropriate signatories.

6.2 Grants for Junior Sporting / Coaching Clinics

WO/2019/02297

42 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Wellings and Lyon that Council allocate the following funds to each applicant:

1. Walcha Flippers Swimming Club - \$1,800.
2. Walcha & District Tennis Association - \$800.

6.3 Part Day Public Holiday Walcha Races 2020 & 2021

WO/2019/02364

43 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Lyon and Kealey that Council endorse a Survey of the businesses and community to gauge if the community are in favour of the Part Day Public Holiday in February 2020 and 2021 for the running of the Walcha Races.



6.4 Interim Audit Management Letter Year Ending June 2019

WO/2019/02388

44 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kermode and Kealey that the Report was **NOTED**.

6.5 Change of Meeting Date for December 2019 & January & February 2020

WO/2019/02432

45 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Lyon and Kermode that the December 2019 Ordinary Council Meeting be held on Wednesday, 18 December 2019 **FURTHER THAT** the January 2020 Ordinary Council Meeting be cancelled and the February 2020 Ordinary Council Meeting be held on Wednesday, 19 February 2020.

6.6 Classification of Land Acquired – 54N Thee Street Walcha

WO/2019/02429

46 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kermode and Kealey that as per the Local Government Act, 1993, Section 2 Council classify Lot 12 DP 800309 situated at 54N Thee Street, Walcha, as Operational Land.

6.7 Pecuniary Interest Annual Returns for the Period 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019

WO/2019/02264

47 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Wellings and Lyon that Council formally records that the Ordinary Returns of Pecuniary Interest required to be submitted by Councillors, the General Manager and Designated Staff, for the period 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019 have been submitted as required and have been tabled in accordance with the provisions of Section 450A of the Local Government Act, 1993.

12. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

12. Committee of the Whole Referral – Compulsory Land Acquisition

48 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Lyon and Kealey that, in accordance with the provisions of Section 10A(2)(c) of the Local Government Act, 1993, the matter of Compulsory Land Acquisition be referred to be discussed in Committee of the Whole for the reason that the report relates to commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed, prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

49 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kealey and Blomfield that Council resolve into Committee of the Whole and that the press and public be excluded from the entire proceedings of the Meeting of the Committee of the Whole for the reason that the report relates to commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed, prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.



50 The Meeting resumed in **OPEN** Council on the Motion of Councillors Lyon and Kermode.

The Mayor reported whilst in Committee of the Whole the following matters were discussed.

PRESENT: Present and IN Attendance were the same as listed in the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting with the exception of the press and the public.

12.1 Compulsory Land Acquisition – 44N Derby Street, Walcha

WO/2019/02401

The Committee **RECOMMENDED** on the Motion of Kealey and Wellings that Council appoint Local Government Legal for the purposes of compulsorily acquiring the land Lot 42 DP 557564 situated at 44N Derby Street, Walcha for the purpose of expanding Council’s Library and Offices.

ADOPTION OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

51 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Kealey and Blomfield that the Report and Recommendations of the Meeting of the Walcha Council Committee of the Whole held on Wednesday, 25 September 2019 be **ADOPTED** by Council.

The Chairman publicly declared the recommendations passed by the Committee whilst in Committee of the Whole.

7. NOTICE OF MOTION

Nil.

8. MATTERS OF URGENCY

Clr Lyon raised the matter of Commercial Kangaroo Management Zones as a matter of urgency.

It was ruled as a matter of urgency by the Chairperson.

52 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Lyon and Blomfield that the matter of Commercial Kangaroo Management Zones be considered by Council.

53 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Lyon and Blomfield that Council write to Local Member Kevin Anderson MP and relative authorities requesting that the whole of Walcha Council’s area zoned Rural be included in the Commercial Kangaroo Management Zone.



9. MANAGEMENT REVIEW REPORTS

WO/2019/02379

54 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Lyon and Wellings that items included in the Management Review Report, numbered 9.1 to 9.16 inclusive, be **NOTED** by Council.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nil.

11. DELEGATE REPORTS

11.1 **Minutes of the Walcha & District Historical Society Inc Annual General Meeting held on Saturday, 27 July 2019 at the Walcha Council Chambers, Hamilton Street, Walcha.** **WI/2019/10304**

11.2 **Minutes of the Country Mayors Association of NSW Meeting held at Parliament House Sydney on Friday, 2 August 2019.** **WI/2019/10016**

11.3 **Minutes of the New England Bush Fire Management Committee Meeting held at the Rural Fire Control Centre Armidale on Tuesday, 20 August 2019.** **WI/2019/11264**

11.4 **Minutes of the Central Norther Regional Libraries Committee Meeting held at Ray Walsh House Tamworth on Wednesday, 4 September 2019.** **WI/2019/11825**

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 3:10PM.



Item 6:

Senior Officers'
Reports

Submitted to Council: 30 October 2019

..... General Manager Mayor



Item: 6.1 **Ref:** WO/2019/02627
Title: Working Funds 2018-19 Annual Financial Statements
Author: General Manager
Previous Items: Not Applicable
Attachment: Yes – Auditors Report – WI/2019/13537

CSP Ref: 8.2.1 – Maintain a stable and secure financial structure for Council.

Working Funds:

General Funds:

General Fund has a net current asset figure as at 30 June 2019 of \$8,982,000. This is an artificially high figure and the following adjustments have to be taken into account to give a true indication of the financial position of the fund.

Restricted Assets	
Internally Restricted Assets	4,999,765
Externally Restricted Assets	949,165
FAGs received in advance	1,231,148
Total Restricted Assets	7,180,078

Unfunded Carry Overs from 2018-19	
Operational	
Administration – internal audit	68,785
Administration – IT software upgrade	122,710
GM Recruitments Costs	10,465
Total Operational Carry Over	201,960
Capital	
Streetscape works Fitzroy Street	9,342
Monument Park – install plaques	2,500
Public Art	18,620
Kerb & Gutter Extensions	2,636
Rural Roads Dust Suppression	39,111
Depot Improvements	157,074
Truck Wash Bay (Council contribution)	38,750
Total Capital Carry Over	268,033
Net Carry Over Works	469,993

Adjusted Working Funds:

Net Current Assets	8,982,000
Restrictions	7,180,078
Net Carry Over Works	469,993
Working Funds	1,331,929

Submitted to Council: 30 October 2019

..... General Manager Mayor



Carry Overs from 2018-19 from External Restrictions	
Operating	
LGS financial control centre, OLG funding	8,000
Work Health & Safety, StateCover incentive	16,485
Crown Lands management plan, OLG funding	37,284
Rural Women's Gathering	38,132
Capital	
Walcha Swimming Pool upgrade	114,639
Community Service Clubs Storage	35,909
Community Gym upgrade	270,925
Black Spot TBW, Baringa Road	9,952
Saving Lives on Country Roads, TBW – Nowendoc	11,332
Drought Relief Heavy Vehicle Access	103,870
Net Carry Overs from External Restrictions	646,528

Carry Overs from 2018-19 from Internal Restrictions	
Capital	
Landfills Upgrade - Woolbrook WTS Conversion	11,452
Net Carry Overs from Internal Restrictions	11,452

Water Services:

The Net Current Assets for the Water Services is \$351,000. The Water Fund has an external restriction of \$42,537 and net carry overs of \$25,723. The adjusted net working fund is \$282,741. This amount is relatively low and will need to be carefully managed.

Adjusted Working Funds:

Net Current Assets	351,000
Restrictions	42,537
Water Fund contribution to Macdonald River feasibility study	25,723
Working Funds	282,741

Submitted to Council: 30 October 2019

..... General Manager Mayor



Sewer Fund:

The Net Current Asset level of the Sewerage Services is \$645,000 as at 30 June 2019. The Fund has an external restriction of \$42,537 and net carry overs of \$179,880. The adjusted net working fund is \$422,880. This is considered adequate given the size of the fund.

Adjusted Working Funds:

Net Current Assets	351,000
Restrictions	42,537
Sewer Fund contribution to sewer treatment plant upgrade	179,880
Working Funds	422,584

Internal Restricted Assets

Below is a summary of Council’s internally restricted assets at 30 June 2019

	Balance after carry overs applied
Plant Replacement	1,453,146
Infrastructure Replacement	1,893,085
Employee Leave Entitlement	757,000
Preschool	59,883
Tip Site Remediation	161,602
Quarries Remediation	312,922
Woolbrook Landfill	0
Housing Investment	250,675
Project Development	100,000
Total	4,676,824

Auditors Report

A copy of the Auditors Report is attached to this report.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Report be NOTED by Council

Submitted to Council: 30 October 2019

..... General Manager Mayor



Cr Eric Noakes
Mayor
Walcha Council
PO BOX 2
WALCHA NSW 2354

Contact: Chris Harper
Phone no: 02 9275 7374
Our ref: D1924603/1800

21 October 2019

Dear Mayor Noakes

**Report on the Conduct of the Audit
for the year ended 30 June 2019
Walcha Council**

I have audited the general purpose financial statements (GPFS) of Walcha Council (the Council) for the year ended 30 June 2019 as required by section 415 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act).

I expressed an unmodified opinion on the Council's GPFS.

This Report on the Conduct of the Audit (the Report) for the Council for the year ended 30 June 2019 is issued in accordance with section 417 of the Act. This Report should be read in conjunction with my audit opinion on the GPFS issued under section 417(2) of the Act.

SIGNIFICANT AUDIT ISSUES AND OBSERVATIONS

I identified the following significant audit issues and observations during my audit of the Council's financial statements. These issues and observations were addressed as part of my audit.

During the 2018–19 asset revaluation process Council identified \$10 million of culverts not previously capitalised. Given the significant value of the assets it was decided to restate the prior period results and provide disclosure of the correction in accordance with AASB 108 'Accounting policies, changes in accounting estimates and errors'.

Submitted to Council: 30 October 2019

..... General Manager Mayor



INCOME STATEMENT

Operating result

	2019	2018	Variance
	\$m	\$m	%
Rates and annual charges revenue	4.7	4.5	↑ 4.4
Grants and contributions revenue	8.5	6.5	↑ 30.8
Operating result for the year	1.3	1.7	↓ 23.5
Net operating result before capital grants and contributions	(1.1)	0.5	↓ 320

Council's operating result of \$1.3 million was \$400,000 lower than 2017–18. This was mainly due to increases in grants and contribution income and rate peg increases being more than offset by increases in employee benefits and on-costs and materials and contracts expenses.

Grants and contribution income increased due to extra funding for non-capital drought and building better communities projects along with \$1.3 million additional capital grants in the current year for roadworks, a new preschool building and capital projects funded by the building better communities grants.

Employee costs increased due to Council employing additional staff to meet operational needs. Materials and contract costs increased due to higher expenditure on infrastructure maintenance and expenses associated with higher levels of operational grants including drought and building better communities projects.

The net operating result before capital grants and contributions deficit of \$1.1 million was \$1.6 million lower than 2017–18. This is mainly due to the reasons above excluding the increase in capital grants income.

Rates and annual charges revenue of \$4.7 million increased by \$200,000 or 4.4 per cent in 2018–2019. This was due to rate peg increases along with higher annual charges to cover a rise in underlying costs for water, sewer and domestic waste operations.

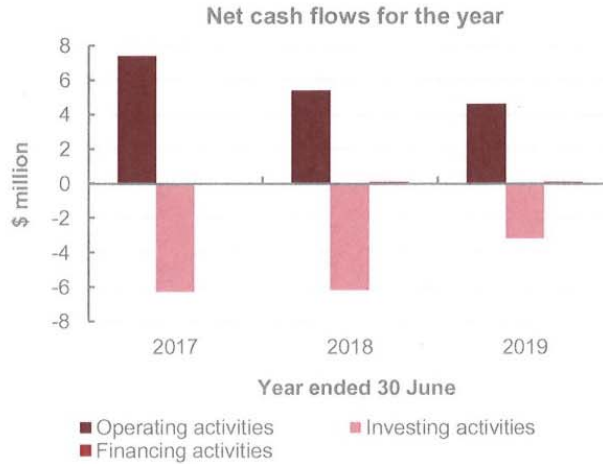
Grants and contributions revenue of \$8.5 million increased by \$2.0 million or 30.8 per cent in 2018–2019 mainly due to:

- capital grant for new preschool building of \$239,000
- increases in recreation and culture grants of \$1.5 million for capital and operational projects, arising from drought incentives and building better community grant opportunities
- increased grants for roadworks of \$577,000
- increases in RMS funded contract roadworks on regional roads of \$225,000
- lower roads to recovery funding of \$589,000 due to Council reaching the end of the three yearly cycle in funding and Council having spent higher levels in previous years.



STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

Cash from operations reduced by \$876,000 due to increases in operational expenditure exceeding increases in grants. Cash outflows for investing activities decreased by \$3.0 million due to the transfer of investments into cash to fund capital expenditure and increases in operational activities.



FINANCIAL POSITION

Cash and investments

Cash and investments	2019	2018	Commentary
	\$m	\$m	
External restrictions	2.0	1.8	• External cash restrictions include water and sewer reserves along with specific purpose grants.
Internal restrictions	4.6	3.4	• Internal restrictions increased by \$1.2 million as Council continues put aside funding for future capital works, plant replacements, quarry remediation and employee leave entitlements.
Unrestricted	1.3	4.0	• Unrestricted cash and investments decreased by \$2.7 million due to monies being earmarked for internal restrictions and cash being utilised for projects and IPPE expenditure.
Cash and investments	7.9	9.2	

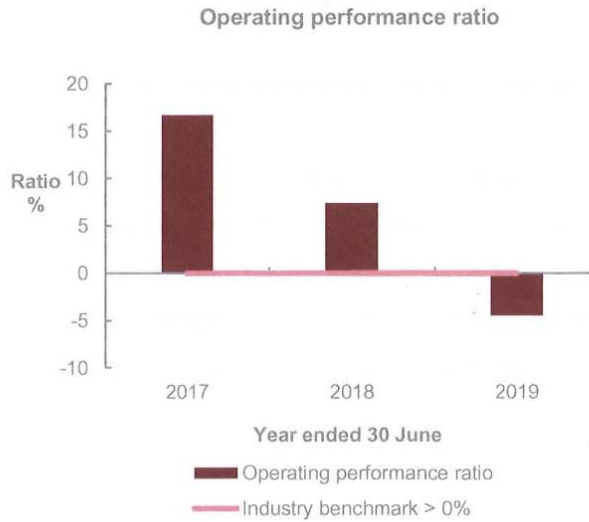


PERFORMANCE

Operating performance ratio

The operating performance ratio declined and was negative for 2018–19 due to increases in operating costs and the impact of higher capital grant income which is excluded from the ratio.

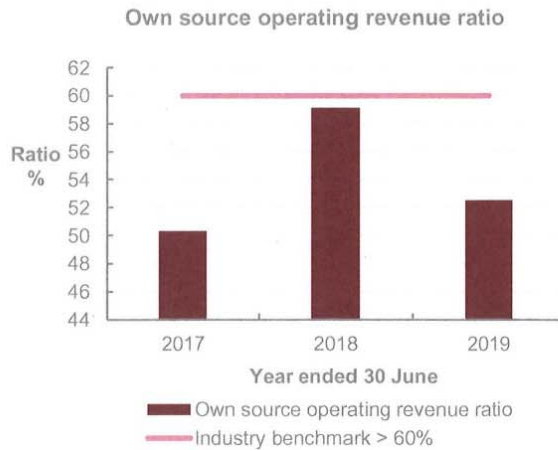
The 'operating performance ratio' measures how well council contained operating expenditure within operating revenue (excluding capital grants and contributions, fair value adjustments, and reversal of revaluation decrements). The benchmark set by the former Office of Local Government (OLG) is greater than zero per cent.



Own source operating revenue ratio

The own source operating revenue ratio decreased compared to 2017–18. Council utilised cash reserves to fund operations and capital expenditure related to capital grant income received in 2018–19.

The 'own source operating revenue ratio' measures council's fiscal flexibility and the degree to which it relies on external funding sources such as operating grants and contributions. The benchmark set by the former OLG is greater than 60 per cent.

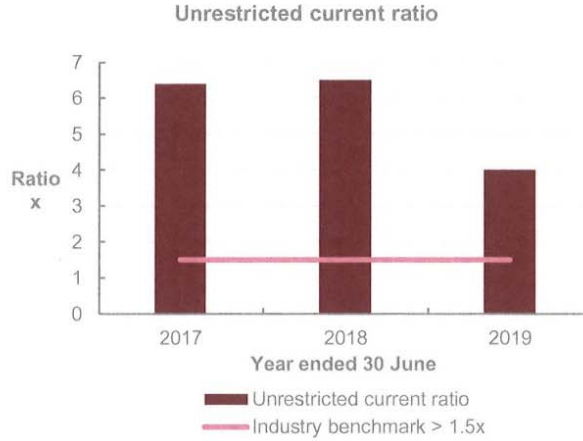




Unrestricted current ratio

Council remains well above the former OLG benchmark. The reduction in the unrestricted current ratio is due to Council utilising cash reserves for operations and capital works in 2018–19.

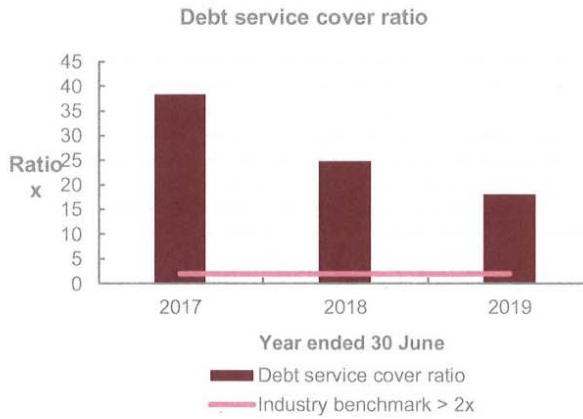
The 'unrestricted current ratio' is specific to local government and represents council's ability to meet its short-term obligations as they fall due. The benchmark set by the former OLG is greater than 1.5 times.



Debt service cover ratio

Council's debt service cover ratio remains above the former OLG benchmark but decreased due to lower operating results for 2018–19.

The 'debt service cover ratio' measures the operating cash to service debt including interest, principal and lease payments. The benchmark set by the former OLG is greater than two times.

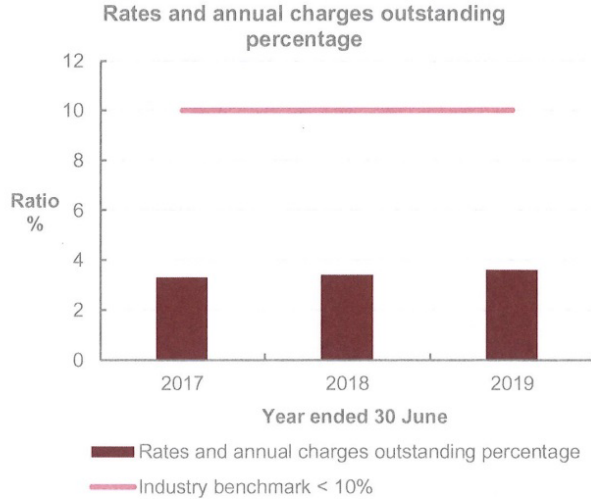




Rates and annual charges outstanding percentage

Council's rates and annual charges outstanding ratio has remained stable compared to the past two years and remains well within the former OLG benchmark.

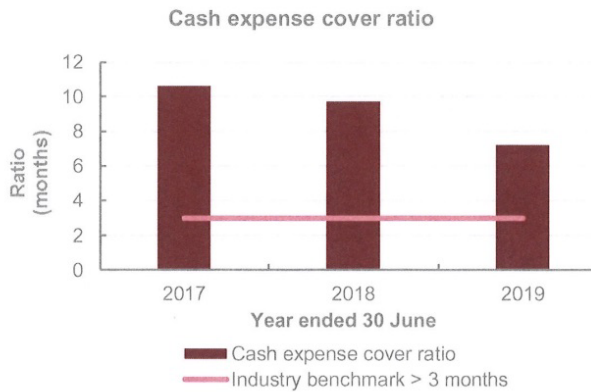
The 'rates and annual charges outstanding percentage' assesses the impact of uncollected rates and annual charges on council's liquidity and the adequacy of debt recovery efforts. The benchmark set by the former OLG is less than 10 per cent for regional and rural councils.



Cash expense cover ratio

The 2018–19 cash expense cover ratio has reduced compared to prior year due to Council utilising cash reserves for operations and capital expenditure but remains well above the former OLG benchmark.

This liquidity ratio indicates the number of months the council can continue paying for its immediate expenses without additional cash inflow. The benchmark set by the former OLG is greater than three months.



Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment renewals

Council's Infrastructure, Property, Plant and Equipment (IPPE) renewal expenditure in 2018–19 was \$2.9 million and comparable to the prior year. Renewal expenditure was similar to the level of depreciation for 2018–19. Major renewal works included various roadworks and heavy plant replacements.



OTHER MATTERS

New accounting standards implemented

Application period	Overview
AASB 9 'Financial Instruments' and revised AASB 7 'Financial Instruments: Disclosures'	
For the year ended 30 June 2019	<p>AASB 9 replaces AASB 139 'Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement' changes the way financial instruments are treated for financial reporting.</p> <p>Key changes include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a simplified model for classifying and measuring financial assets • a new method for calculating impairment • a new type of hedge accounting that more closely aligns with risk management. <p>The revised AASB 7 includes new disclosures as a result of AASB 9.</p> <p>Council's disclosure of the impact of adopting AASB 9 is disclosed in Notes 6 and 7.</p>

Legislative compliance

My audit procedures did not identify any instances of non-compliance with legislative requirements or a material deficiency in the Council's accounting records or financial statements. The Council's:

- accounting records were maintained in a manner and form to allow the GPFS to be prepared and effectively audited
- staff provided all accounting records and information relevant to the audit.

Chris Harper
Director, Financial Audit Services
Delegate of the Auditor-General for New South Wales

cc: Mr Jack O'Hara, General Manager
Ms Rose Strobel, Chief Financial Officer
Mr Mike O'Connor, Chair of Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee
Mr Jim Betts, Secretary of the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment



Item: 6.2 **Ref:** WO/2019/02677
Title: Local Strategic Planning Statement
Author: Contract Town Planner
Previous Items: 31 July 2019 & 22 May 2019
Attachment: Under Separate Cover - Final Walcha Local Strategic Planning Statement & Submissions Received

Community Strategic Plan Reference:

Goal 6.1 – Walcha’s distinct and diverse natural and built environment will be protected and enhanced.
Goal 6.6 – The character of Walcha and its surrounding villages will be maintained while protecting the productivity of our rural land.

Introduction:

The purpose of this report is to adopt the Walcha Local Strategic Planning Statement.

A LSPS will in effect bridge the gap between higher level strategic planning documents such as Regional Plans, the Community Strategic Plan and the local planning controls which are set out in the *Walcha Local Environmental Plan 2012* (LEP) and Walcha Development Control Plan (DCP).

Report:

Further to the Council Report on 22 May 2019 and 31 July 2019, the Walcha Local Strategic Planning Statement (WLSPS) has been prepared and exhibited and now finalised incorporating the submission makers comments.

All councils are required to prepare a Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS). The LSPS is to implement actions in the Regional and District Plans and set out the 20-year vision for land use in the local area, the special character and values that are to be preserved and how change will be managed into the future. These statements should be a succinct and easy to understand document that will allow community members to contribute to and understand the future direction of land use in the area.

The DWLSPS identifies the planning priorities for the Walcha local government area and explains how these are to be delivered. Importantly, the statement integrates with council’s Community Strategic Plan (CSP).

The process that was required to be undertaken to complete the WLSPS includes the following steps:

1. Complete draft LSPS
2. Council accept the draft LSPS
3. The draft is sent to NSW Planning, Industry & Environment for concurrence to enable public exhibition.
4. Public Exhibition for 28 days
5. Consideration of Submissions and adoption by Council
6. Acceptance of LSPS by NSW Planning, Industry & Environment.

Submitted to Council: 30 October 2019

..... General Manager Mayor



Item: 6.3 **Ref:** WO/2019/02652
Title: Part Day Public Holiday 2020 & 2021 Survey Results
Author: General Manager
Previous Items: Not Applicable
Attachment:

Introduction:

This Report is to review the Part Day Public Holiday Survey which closed on Monday, 21 October 2019, and to endorse the application for the Part Day Public Holiday 2020 & 2021.

Report:

The Act permits the Minister for Industrial Relations to declare a local public holiday or a local event day for the whole or part of the Council’s local government area. This may be limited to a particular location in the Council’s area, such as the boundaries of a particular town or a police district in an area nominated by the Council.

As in the previous few years, Council must carry out public consultation before applying. Council must consider and be aware of the potential impact the application will have upon businesses and communities located within the designated public holiday areas. This means that all employees whose place of work is within a local public holiday area will be entitled to be absent from work on the day or half day or part day that is the local public holiday or half holiday or part holiday. In addition, employees who work on the day or part day may then have an entitlement to penalty rates.

The NSW Industrial Relations expects Council to consider the impact on local schools and on the transport of school students who attend school on this day. In this regard it is expected that the consultation process with local schools will take account of the transportation arrangements for students who attend school on the day.

Council ran a survey this month, both on Survey Monkey and a hard copy which was dropped into the schools and businesses within the CBD.

The results were:

Q1: In favour of Part Day Public Holiday or not?

For:	82	90%
Against:	9	10%

Q2: Advise how the Part Day Public Holiday affect your business in 2019.

We received 49 comments. Most comments were positive.

Q3: Positive experience?

Yes:	65	90%
No:	7	10%

Submitted to Council: 30 October 2019

..... General Manager Mayor



Council have consulted extensively over the last few years with the majority of business houses fully supporting the part day public holiday.

It is noted that the Walcha Central School replied via email:

"While organising systems and procedures for the half day public holiday is complex, parents and the bus company are becoming used to the arrangement. Therefore, Walcha Central School has no objection to Council considering the half day holiday for 2020 & 2021."

St Patrick's School reply stated:

"The school does not have any problems or issues with the part day public holiday. I see the benefits of the day reason to support the Part Day Public Holiday, especially in the current hardship of the drought. The only planning we need to ensure is the bus companies and schools work together on pick up/home times on these dates".

The following extract is from a letter sent to Council explaining the process and matters to be considered.

Declaration of a Local Public Holiday

In circumstances where a local public holiday is declared by the Minister, a bank located in the designated holiday area will be required to close during the declared public holiday hours unless the bank is exempted from the requirement to close under Part 3A of the *Retail Trading Act 2008*. Shops located within the designated holiday area are free to open without restriction.

Where it is proposed to request a half-day public holiday, consideration should be given to the effect that the half day holiday will have on local schools and on the transport of students who attend school on the day. **In this regard, it is expected that the consultation process with local schools will take account of the transport arrangements for students on the half day.**

Implications for Employers

The public holiday provisions contained in the National Employment Standards of the *Fair Work Act 2009* (Cth) apply to local public holidays declared under the *Public Holidays Act 2010*. This means that all employees irrespective of their former entitlements and whose place of work is within a local public holiday area will be entitled to be absent from work for the day or part day declared to be a public holiday. In addition, employees who work on the day or part day may have an entitlement to penalty rates under a relevant award or enterprise agreement.

In considering an application to the Minister for a public holiday or part-day holiday, it is expected that the Council will consult with the affected community and other relevant stakeholders as to the impact of a local public holiday or part-holiday on businesses located in the local government area.

Submitted to Council: 30 October 2019

..... General Manager Mayor



Declaration of a Local Event Day

The Minister may declare a local event day or part day at the request of a council under section 8 of the *Public Holidays Act 2010*. However, the Minister must be satisfied from the information provided by the Council that the day or part day is, and will be observed as, a day of special significance in the area concerned.

The declaration of a local event day or part day does **not preclude banks or shops located within the designated holiday area from opening or trading on the day.**
Implications for Employers

A declared local event day does not automatically mean that employers in the particular locality are compelled to treat the day as a public holiday. Entitlements to paid leave or penalty rates on a local event day will only arise where agreed to at the workplace level, usually in the form of an enterprise agreement or by contract. This goes some way to restoring the industrial arrangements that existed prior to changes in the Commonwealth workplace laws.

The application process

An application for the declaration of a local public holiday or local event day (including a part-day holiday or event day) must be made in writing to the Executive Director, NSW Industrial Relations, and contain the following information:

1. a statement regarding the history of the event and whether the event day has traditionally been observed as a full or half-day public holiday.
2. the date, the designated area and, if relevant, the hours during which the public holiday or local event day is to be observed;
3. the extent of community consultation undertaken in respect of the proposal;
4. copies of advertisements seeking public comment and a summary of the responses from the local community;
5. a summary of correspondence to, and responses from, relevant stakeholders, including bank managers; school principals; and chambers of commerce regarding the Council's proposal.
6. internal reports or information prepared for consideration by the Council and a copy of the Council's resolution authorising the making of the application;
7. where an application is made for a public holiday or part-day holiday, details of:
 - alternatives considered by the Council including the declaration a local event day; and
 - transport arrangements for school students.

In 2015 legislation changed so that applications could be made for local public holiday and local event days over a consecutive two year period for the holding or celebration of annual events, such as a local show day, race day or carnival. It is now expected that Council provide additional information focused on the economic and social importance of the event for the designated holiday area. Council must conduct a consultation process as to the proposed application and provide information indicating:

Submitted to Council: 30 October 2019

..... General Manager Mayor



- ◆ The level of support for and against the application from local businesses and stakeholders
- ◆ The economic benefits to the local community in terms of employment, business activity, tourism and industry promotion of the region
- ◆ The importance of the event from a social and community prospective.

The Survey that was conducted this year shows that the community is 90% in favour of having the Part Day Public Holiday. It is therefore recommend that Council apply for a Part Day Public Holiday from 12 noon to 6pm on Friday, 7 February 2020 and Friday, 5 February 2021.

Each application to the Minister must state if the request was approved by Council resolution, if other options were considered, e.g. local event day, and to what extent the community consultation was taken in respect of the request.

As per previous years, Council would apply for a part day public holiday from 12 noon to 6pm which would assist the hospitality employers in not paying penalty rates after 6pm.

RECOMMENDATION: That Council ENDORSE the application for a Part Day Public Holiday for the Walcha Council Local Government Area from 12 noon until 6pm on Friday, 7 February 2020 and Friday, 5 February 2021 for the Walcha Races FURTHER THAT Council survey the community and key stakeholders directly after the 2020 & 2021 Part Day Public Holiday to ensure that Council receive a true and fresh account of the positives and/or negatives of holding the Part Day Public Holiday.

Submitted to Council: 30 October 2019

..... General Manager Mayor



Item: 6.4 **Ref:** WO/2019/02640
Title: Annual Meetings with Residents – Proposed Schedule for 2019
Author: General Manager
Previous Items: Not Applicable
Attachment: No

CSP Ref: 8.1 – Walcha Council will exemplify good leadership, mutual respect and trust by being inclusive, ensuring open information and communication and encouraging active participation at all levels..

Introduction

This report is submitted to enable Council to finalise arrangements for this year’s series of meetings with residents around the Walcha Local Government Area.

Report

The following draft itinerary has been prepared for this year’s series of meetings with residents around the region.

Monday, 18 November 2019

11.30pm Moona/Winterbourne – Europambela Shearers’ Quarters
2.30pm Ingleba Hall
6.00pm Walcha Council Chambers

Wednesday, 20 November 2019

9.00am Yarrowitch Hall
11.30am Brackendale – “Brockley Park” Woolshed
2.30pm Nowendoc Hall
6:00pm Woolbrook School Library

RECOMMENDATION: For Council consideration.

Submitted to Council: 30 October 2019

..... General Manager Mayor



Item:	6.5	Ref: WO/2019/02676
Title:	Public Gates (Ramps) Update	
Author:	Director – Engineering Services	
Previous Items:	Nil	
Attachment:	No	

Community Strategic Plan Reference:

CSP 8.1 Walcha Council will exemplify good leadership, mutual respect and trust by being inclusive, ensuring open information and communication and encouraging active participation at all levels.

Introduction:

The enforcement of Councils Ramp Policy commenced in August 2018. The response to the enforcement was mixed, however most ramp owners understood the associated liability and their responsibility to replace ramps in poor condition. Letters have been sent to ramp owners as a result of a broad inspection of ramps across the Local Government Area. In Total, 110 letters have been sent to ramp owners detailing their requirement to remove, replace or fix defects with their ramp.

Report:

When the initial enforcement of the ramps policy occurred in August 2018, ramp owners where given an initial response period of 3 months. Within these three months, some took action by implementing replacement plans, purchasing ramps or replacing their ramps. Council received a large amount of feedback during this time, which was promising. In addition, Council also received numerous extension requests. Unfortunately, during the elapsed time, the farming community of Walcha has suffered through a long lasting drought that has had a widespread financial impact. As a result of the conditions, a decision was made to place the enforcement of ramps that don't fall into the highest priority on hold.

To date, Council has been notified of the replacement or removal of eleven (11) ramps, many of those where a high priority for replacement. Currently, there are three (3) ramps that remain a high priority for Council and the community, in which these ramps have been followed up on by the Engineering Department. Further ramp replacement, defect or removal notices will be sent at an appropriate time for the remaining ramps.

RECCOMENDATION:

For Councils Information

Submitted to Council: 30 October 2019

..... General Manager Mayor



Item: 6.6 **Ref:** WO/2019/02683
Title: 2018 – 2019 Annual Report for Notation
Author: General Manager
Previous Items: Not Applicable
Attachment: No

CSP Ref: 8.1.2 – Provide a framework for the efficient and effective administration of Council.

Report:

Under Section 428 of the Local Government Act, 1993 a Council must produce an Annual Report within five months after the end of each year. Each Annual Report must contain certain information which includes a copy of Council’s audited financial reports and other information as the regulations or the guidelines under Section 406 may require.

Walcha Council’s 2018 – 2019 Annual Report is available for viewing on Council’s website: www.walcha.nsw.gov.au . A hard copy will be available at the Meeting.

RECOMMENDATION: **For Council’s Notation.**

Submitted to Council: 30 October 2019

..... General Manager Mayor



Item: 6.7 **Ref:** WO/2019/02659
Title: Referral to Committee of the Whole – Private Hire of Council Plant
Author: General Manager
Previous Items: Nil.
Attachment: Nil.

Introduction:

Council approval is sought for matters to be discussed in Committee of the Whole.

Report:

Council approval is requested to refer matters for discussion in Committee of the Whole and close the Meeting to the public in accordance with the provisions of Section 10 of the Local Government Act, 1993.

Approval to refer the matters to Committee of the Whole is sought because the reports relate to information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

RECOMMENDATION: That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 10 of the Local Government Act, 1993, the matter of Private Hire of Council Plant be referred to be discussed in Committee of the Whole and close the meeting to the public for the reasons that the reports relate to information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

Submitted to Council: 30 October 2019

..... General Manager Mayor



Item: 6.8 **Ref:** WO/2019/02670
Title: Referral to Committee of the Whole – Tender for Specialist Consulting Services – Walcha Off Stream Storage Dam
Author: Director – Engineering Services
Previous Items: Nil.
Attachment: Nil.

Introduction:

Council approval is sought for matters to be discussed in Committee of the Whole.

Report:

Council approval is requested to refer matters for discussion in Committee of the Whole and close the Meeting to the public in accordance with the provisions of Section 10 of the Local Government Act, 1993.

Approval to refer the matters to Committee of the Whole is sought because the reports relate to information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

RECOMMENDATION: That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 10 of the Local Government Act, 1993, the matter of Tender for Specialist Consulting Services – Walcha Off Stream Storage Dam be referred to be discussed in Committee of the Whole and close the meeting to the public for the reasons that the reports relate to information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

Submitted to Council: 30 October 2019

..... General Manager Mayor



Item: 6.9 **Ref:** WO/2019/02669
Title: Referral to Committee of the Whole – Walcha Council Plant Committee Minutes
Author: Director – Engineering Services
Previous Items: Nil.
Attachment: Nil.

Introduction:

Council approval is sought for matters to be discussed in Committee of the Whole.

Report:

Council approval is requested to refer matters for discussion in Committee of the Whole and close the Meeting to the public in accordance with the provisions of Section 10 of the Local Government Act, 1993.

Approval to refer the matters to Committee of the Whole is sought because the reports relate to information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

RECOMMENDATION: That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 10 of the Local Government Act, 1993, the matter of Walcha Council Plant Committee Minutes be referred to be discussed in Committee of the Whole and close the meeting to the public for the reasons that the reports relate to information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

Submitted to Council: 30 October 2019

..... General Manager Mayor



Ref: WO/2019/02616

Title: Management Review Report
Author: General Manager
Previous Items: Not Applicable
Attachment: No

Community Strategic Plan Reference:

Goal 8.1 – Walcha Council will exemplify good leadership, mutual respect and trust by being inclusive, ensuring open information and communication and encouraging active participation at all levels.

Item 10:

Management
Review Reports

Submitted to Council: 30 October 2019

..... General Manager Mayor



FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

9.1 Listing of Bank Balances for the Month of September 2019

The Cash Book for each Fund has been reconciled with the appropriate Bank Pass sheets for the month of September 2019 and the Reconciliations have been entered in the Cash Book.

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
General	\$1,852,310.78	\$1,648,102.85

The current Interest Rate on the General Fund held with the National Australia Bank is 1.25%.

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
Interest Earned (YTD)	\$3,771.73	\$5,170.89

9.2 Investments Local Government (Financial Management) Regulation 1993, Clause 19 (3) (A) for September 2019

Please see the following Report for the investments placed in September 2019.

Overdraft Limit

An Overdraft Limit of \$200,000 has been arranged with the National Australia Bank. When utilised an Overdraft Interest Rate of 8.77% applies.

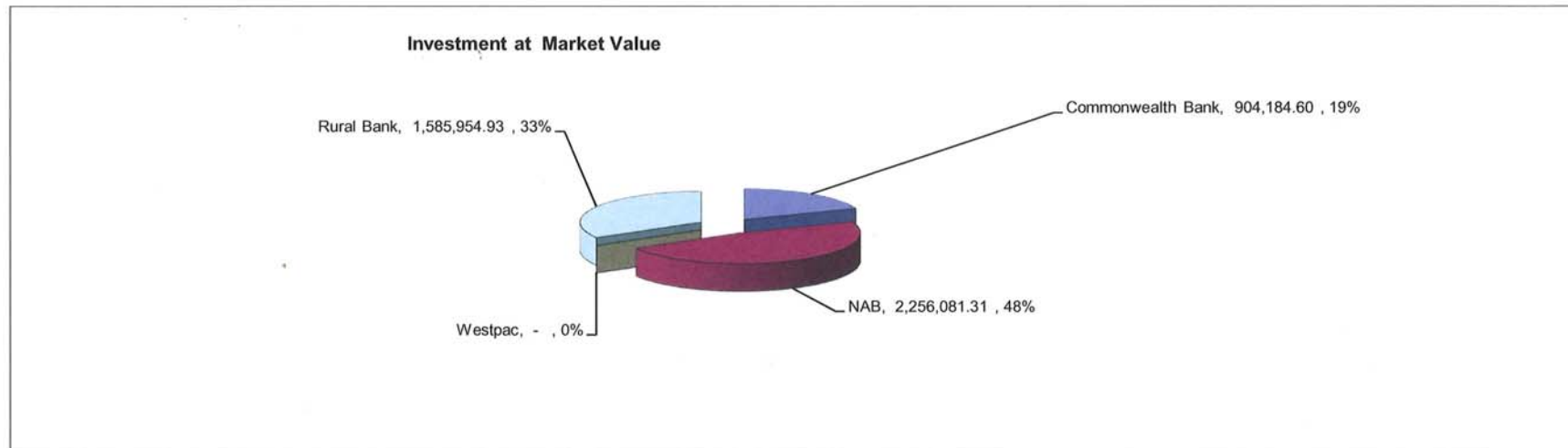
Jack O'Hara
GENERAL MANAGER



REGISTER OF INVESTMENTS TO 30/09/2019

Institution	Type	Placement Date	Term (Days)	Maturity Date	Rate	Est. Interest	YTD Interest	Amount Invested	YTD Redemption	Est. Market Value At 30/09/19	MV % of Portfolio		
National Australia Bank	Term Deposit	28/01/2019	365	28-Jan-20	2.75%	16660.33	0.00	605,830.03	-	605,830.03	12.76%		
National Australia Bank	Term Deposit	15/02/2019	367	17-Feb-20	2.65%	13589.57	0.00	510,019.18	-	510,019.18	10.75%		
National Australia Bank	Term Deposit	11/03/2019	365	10-Mar-20	2.58%	15480.00	0.00	600,000.00	-	600,000.00	12.64%		
Elders Rural Bank	Term Deposit	28/03/2019	366	28-Mar-20	2.55%	24610.59	0.00	962,484.04	-	962,484.04	20.28%		
National Australia Bank	Term Deposit	28/07/2019	180	24-Jan-20	1.85%	4928.69	10305.27	540,232.10	-	540,232.10	11.38%		
Elders Rural Bank	Term Deposit	15/08/2019	90	15-Nov-19	1.70%	2613.45	0.00	623,470.89	-	623,470.89	13.14%		
Commonwealth Bank	Term Deposit	22/10/2018	365	22-Oct-19	2.71%	24503.40	0.00	904,184.60	-	904,184.60	19.05%		
								102,386.03	10,305.27	4,746,220.84	-	4,746,220.84	100.00%

Capital Value of Portfolio	4,746,220.84
Redeemed Value of Portfolio	-
Market Value of Portfolio 30/09/19	4,746,220.84
Estimated Profit/(Loss) 30/09/19	<u>4,746,220.84</u>



Responsible accounting Officers Certification Local Government (General) Regulation 2005- Paragraph 212
 The investments have been made in accordance with the Act, Regulations and Walcha Council's Investment Policy.

Signed Rosemary Strobel (Responsible Accounting Officer)

Submitted to Council: 30 October 2019

..... General Manager Mayor



9.3 Tourism Report

September 2019

Number of visitors to VIC

SEPTEMBER	2019	2018	2017	2016
Walk in's	331	484	488	565
Phone enquiries	45	67	22	36
Email enquiries	2	7	0	5

WEBSITE	August	July	June
Unique Visits	2,735	3,046	2,967
Visits	3,987	4,186	4,555
No of Hits	156,146	192,008	129,464

Comments from the Visitors Book – SEPTEMBER

Very Pleasant and helpful / lovely help – much appreciated / most helpful / above and beyond helpful, many thanks / cute little town / very cold / nice clean toilets – flowers lovely / nice area, plenty to do / very helpful, great place / great advice, Walcha is beautiful / a credit to Council for the toilets / great town – need rain! / great information / great spot / helpful – thanks / super helpful and a wonderful smile.

AMSAG Rally

We have had an enquiry from AMSAG (The Australian Motor Sport Action Group) to hold a rally in Walcha in 2020. They generally have 45-50 cars enter which would bring 200-300 visitors to the town. They are still doing the groundwork and gathering information but this would be a huge coup for Walcha if they decided to have their rally here.

Freak Show Festival of Motorcycles

Channel 7's *Sydney Weekender* aired the Walcha & Freak Show feature on Sunday 20 October. Council was informed by the event organisers that the Freak Show was cancelled a few days after this was aired. This is a huge disappointment for the town and community. However a small win was the great feature on *Sydney Weekender*.

Soundtrails Project

Walcha's Soundtrail will focus on stories surrounding the *Open Air Gallery*. We have had in depth conversations with key people who have been instrumental in creating the *Open Air Gallery* and we have recognised the important stories to tell and have given Hamish Sewell (Soundtrails) a draft map of ideas. This is still a work in progress. Hamish is due to attend Walcha in October to start the process of story building.

Walcha Mountain Festival

The Festival was deemed a great success with happy stallholders & patrons alike. We had a few hiccups such as the magician not turning up along with 2 other stallholders. This was disappointing however didn't seem to ruin the day. Quilt Exhibition was well attended as well. Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service raised \$1,831.70 in raffle tickets and \$157.60 in donations.

The PKF Road Ride had 43 in attendance and is reported to be an enjoyable ride to attend, with many clubs having it on their calendars annually. The Billy Cart Derby has

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..... General Manager Mayor



also proven to be a more successful event possibly due to the Billy cart workshop held earlier in the year and having three meets at each of the spring Walcha Farmers Market.

Susie Crawford
 Tourism Manager

9.4 Grant Information

9.4.1 Grants Currently Applied for:

Name of Grant:	Purpose of Grant:	Amount Requested:	Council Contribution:	Date Outcome Announced:	Outcome
Tech Savvy Seniors	To run a Tech Savvy Seniors program	\$1,518			Application in review by State Library
Youth Opportunities Program	A year long program of structured and non-structured activities, trips, sporting development and leadership building opportunities.	\$47,500	Staff wages for some coordination	Unsure of timeline.	
Stronger Country Communities Fund Round 3	Levee Bank Walk Lighting	\$270,438	\$9,473	Jan 2020	TBA
Stronger Country Communities Fund Round 3	Community Hall Renovations	\$63,560	Nil	Jan 2020	TBA
Stronger Country Communities Fund Round 3	Walcha Mens Shed Relocation	\$429,700	Nil. Mens Shed: \$34,700	Jan 2020	TBA

9.4.2 Grants Currently Being Investigated:

Name of Grant:	Purpose of Grant:	Closing Date:
Arts Projects – Organisations Community Building Partnership Youth Opportunities Funding Regional Arts NSW website:		Various times

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Website Links:

- <https://www.liquorandgaming.justice.nsw.gov.au/Pages/about-us/our-initiatives/infrastructure-grants/arts-and-cultural-funding-round.aspx>
- <http://www.lgnsw.org.au/files/imce-uploads/127/cremf-introduction-1.pdf>
- <http://www.communitybuildingpartnership.nsw.gov.au/>
- <http://investment.infrastructure.gov.au/funding/blackspots/>
- <https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/projects/programs/fixing-country-roads>
- https://infrastructure.gov.au/infrastructure/pab/active_transport/
- <https://education.nsw.gov.au/early-childhood-education/operating-an-early-childhood-education-service/grants-and-funded-programs/quality-learning-environments>
- http://investment.infrastructure.gov.au/infrastructure_investment/heavy_vehicle_safety_and_productivity.aspx
- <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/coasts/floodplain-management-grants-2017-18.htm>
- <http://youth.nsw.gov.au/youth-opportunities/>
- <https://www.create.nsw.gov.au/funding-and-support/regional-cultural-fund/regional-cultural-fund-2/>
- https://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/tss_201920_grant_guidelines_1.pdf

9.4.3 Status of Grant Projects Report:

Grant Fund	Grant Description	Update
RESTART NSW	Walcha Sewerage Treatment Plant Augmentation	Walcha Council have had the additional funds approved, however we are awaiting official direction to spend the remaining funds. The remaining works are scoped and ready to proceed.
	Walcha Truck Wash Bay Upgrade	The Truck Wash Bay Upgrade commenced during the week of 12 August. Preliminary works are progressing well, with the existing pond being removed and replaced with gravel, concrete work has commenced as shown within the Engineering Report.
	Thunderbolts Way Corridor Strategy 2018-23	The Thunderbolts Way Corridor Strategy is progressing well; works within town are progressing as are the rural works. There are further details within the Engineering Report.
	Niangala Road Bridge Replacement	This project located at the Aberbaldie Woolshed is now progressing with concrete deck units nearly ready for delivery to Walcha. Abutment works are progressing well and are nearing finalisation. Once finalised the deck units will be installed.
	Wollun Road Bridge Replacement (50%)	The Wollun Road Bridge is now installed, including the approach works, and opened to traffic including heavy vehicles.
	Walcha Water Security – Emergency Drought Funding	Council was recently awarded \$1,500,000 in emergency drought funding, enabling Council to continue with the Walcha Off Creek Storage

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..... General Manager Mayor



		Project. The grant funding deeds are currently being established and consultants procured to commence the next phase.
	Lakes Road Bridge Replacement	Lakes Road Bridge replacement is a newly awarded project which will commence in the later part of the 2019-20 financial year.
	Old Brookmount Bridge Replacement	Old Brookmount Road Bridge replacement is a newly awarded project which will commence in the later part of the 2019-20 financial year. This project will be one of four within an upcoming bridge replacement tender alongside the BRP projects listed below).
	Nowendoc, Tops & Brackendale Road Intersection Upgrade	The Nowendoc Intersection Upgrade is a newly awarded project which will commence in the later part of the 2019-20 financial year.
Bridge Renewal Program	Wollun Road Bridge Replacement (50%)	See Above – 50/50 funded.
	Moona Plains Road (Moona Plains Station)	Council was awarded three bridges under the Bridge Renewal Program (BRP) These three bridges, along with the Old Brookmount Road bridge will be replaced together under a single bridge replacement tender.
	Englefield Road Bridge Replacement	
	Glen Morrison Road Bridge Replacement (Stephens)	
Black Spot Program	Baringa Road Intersection Upgrade	The Baringa Road Intersection project is now completed, only follow up works including linemarking is now required.
	Topdale Road Intersection Upgrade	This project is the same as presented above for Baringa Road.
	Cobrabald River Rest Area	The Cobrabald River Rest area is a project aimed to be delivered in the later portion of the 2019-20 program and includes shoulder widening and pavement upgrade works.
	Smiths Creek Upgrade	Smiths Creek Upgrade on Thunderbolts way is aimed to commence as above in the later portion of the 2019-20 financial year. The project includes pavement works and improved guardrail.
Stronger Country Communities Fund	Walcha Community Gym Upgrade	The design has been received for the Walcha Community Gym, alongside specification documentation. The Tender will be reviewed by Staff and a report lodged to Council at the December Meeting.
	Walcha Pool Upgrade	The Walcha Pool Upgrade has a completed Expression of Interest. 2 Organisations lodged an interest in tendering for which they will be invited to tender on an upper limit budget. The organisations are both committed for this calendar year to December, so the majority of this project will be completed next off season to avoid any unwarranted pool closures.
	Walcha Preschool	The preschool is almost complete. We are

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..... General Manager Mayor



		awaiting the installation of an extension to the balustrade that was requested by the Dept of Education following their licencing inspection. Once this is complete we expect the licence to be issued very quickly.
	Walcha Community Storage	The Walcha Community Storage is currently within the DA preparation phase. Onsite meeting with contractor Tuesday, 22 October to arrange construction dates.
Roads and Maritime Services	Yalgoo Rest Area – Heavy Vehicle Rest Area.	The Yalgoo Rest area is planned for construction during the financial year 2020-2021, although it was awarded last year it was applied for in advance.
Multi Purpose Centre	New kitchen	Project complete. Underbench hot water system does not work and the manufacturer is investigating. Small opening to be arranged and the project can then be acquitted.

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..... General Manager Mayor



ENGINEERING SERVICES

9.5 Wages & Overtime Summary

Pay Period	Week Ending	Overtime Hours	Amount (\$)
4	21/07/2019	42.00	2,174.62
5	28/07/2019	62.00	3,006.85
6	04/08/2019	125.00	6,595.65
7	11/08/2019	109.75	5,921.42
TOTAL		338.75	\$17,698.54

9.6 Shire Roads Maintenance

Local Roads Maintenance:

Wollun Road Bridge Replacement:



The Wollun Road Bridge Replacement is now complete, with the bridge now open to traffic, including heavy vehicles.

Niangala Road Bridge Replacement:



The Niangala Road Bridge Replacement is progressing well. The pre-cast decks are now complete and ready for delivery. The decks will be installed by Council staff, as will the abutment and centre pier work that is currently underway and nearing completion. Once this preparation work is complete, the pre-cast decks will be installed.

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..... General Manager Mayor



Brackendale Road – Edge Repair Program:

The Brackendale Road Edge Program has been delivered in order to address failed edges along the seal where gravel has been lost over time. The eroded edges were posing a safety concern and were a priority for repair. This project will form part of a greater program, to take place as funds are available.



State and Regional Roads Maintenance:

Thunderbolts Way Corridor Strategy Update:

Council has been successful in gaining funding through Fixing Country Roads for the Thunderbolts Way Corridor Strategy.

Thunderbolts Way Corridor Strategy
Stage 1
2018-2023

Major road upgrade project in conjunction with The Bucketts Way Route Development Strategy 2015

Work has commenced on the following projects:

- Legge Street to Aberbaldie Road Reconstruction
- Hamilton Street to Jamieson Street Reconstruction
- Segment 4600 (Glen Morrison Rd Intersection)
- Segment 4590 (Walcha Dairy)
- Segment 4580 (Walcha Dairy)
- Segment 4570 (Lakes Road Intersection)

The work within town has a finalised design. A large asphalt tender will be released to the market to ensure economies of scale shortly. Segment 4590 and 4600 have completed pavement designs and detailed designs. Segments 4580 and 4570 are currently in the finalisation of the detailed design phase. Segments 4600 and 4590 will commence immediately

after construction water becomes available.

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..... General Manager Mayor



SH11 Boree Rehabilitation:

The RMS has engaged Council to complete the Boree Rehabilitation on the Oxley Highway. The rehabilitation is full segment rehabilitation, selected by the RMS asset management team. The project has been completed on time and budget. The project included a project audit and review by Roads and Maritime Staff. The audit found some areas for improvement; however the result was very complimentary of the project team.



Urban Works:



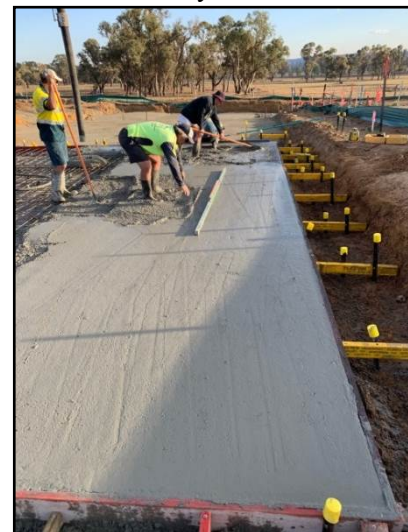
Walcha Hospital Wall Beautification:

The Walcha Hospital Wall Beautification is an initiative launched by the Beautification Committee. An increased budget has allowed stone work to take place, in which is proving to be a very attractive feature of the project. The project will be finalised by the installation of a footpath to run the length of the wall, joining the wall to

the existing footpath. This design reduces future water consumption and maintenance costs.

Walcha Truck Wash Bay:

The Walcha Truck Wash Bay is well underway with the removal of the existing sludge lagoon, which required extensive excavation to achieve. Backfilling of the excavated lagoon is now complete, and concrete pours have commenced for the treatment system slab.



Submitted to Council: 30 October 2019

..... General Manager Mayor



Completed Maintenance Snapshot:

Local Roads	
Maintenance Grading:	Roads:
	Kangaroo Flat
	Brackendale (Part)
Spraying	Roads:
	Extensive program - All Sealed and Unsealed Roads
Pothole Patching	Roads:
	All Sealed Local Roads
State & Regional Roads	
Oxley Highway Maintenance:	Tasks:
	Drainage
	Servicing Rest Areas
	Reseal Preparation – Crack Sealing
Regional Roads:	Tasks:
	“Ezy Street” Pothole Patching
	Service Rest Areas
	Guidepost Maintenance
Urban Roads	
Urban Maintenance:	Tasks:
	Town Street Cleaning
	Street Tree Maintenance
	Parks and Garden Maintenance
	Pool Preparation Works

Proposed Works for the Coming Period:

Shire Roads:

- Gravel re-sheeting on Brackendale Rd
- Brackendale Rd shoulder repairs
- Further spraying
- Completion of the Niangala Road Bridge.

State & Regional Roads:

- Maintenance:
 - Pothole Patching.
 - Vegetation Maintenance.
 - Drainage Works.
 - Reseal preparation (shoulder grading).
- Continue to prepare Thunderbolts Way Upgrade.

Works In Town:

- Streetscape maintenance.
- Sporting grounds maintenance.
- Town Mowing - parks, gardens and cemeteries.
- Town garden maintenance.

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..... General Manager Mayor



- Continue streetscape installation.
- Complete kerb and gutter works on Hill Street.
- Continue to prepare the pool for the upcoming season.

Dylan Reeves
Director – Engineering Services

9.7. Water

Water Restrictions have been at Level 4 since 14 February 2019. Average usage for last month was 247L/person/day in August, still above the 200L/person/day Level 4 Target.

Recent rainfall events have seen a small flow return to the Macdonald River. Current pumping operations are therefore topping up the emergency dam at Muluerindie.

Macdonald River Feasibility Study

Due to numerous requests from potential tenders the RFQ for consulting services for the ‘Design and Preliminary Investigation - Walcha Off Creek Storage’ was extended from 11 October to 18 October 2019. At the time of writing a preliminary review of submissions appears disappointing due to only a small number being received.

9.8 Sewer

Sewer Treatment Plant (STP) Upgrade

As previously reported Stage 1 of the upgrade project is complete. Council sought a variation approval from Infrastructure NSW (INSW) to spend the remaining funds (approximately \$400k) on upgrade works to the treatment plant infrastructure.

It has been a few months since there have been any updates from INSW but communication was recently received on 16 October 2019 stating ‘INSW met with DPIE Water to follow up your change request, and we hope to have their consultation feedback shortly which will allow us to respond to your request.’

Council awaits INSW’s approval for the scope variation.



9.9 Waste

Walcha Waste Depot



Photo: Staff supervision of all loads entering the Waste Depot.

Gate fees at the Waste Depot were introduced on Monday 30 September, the scheduled opening date. Overall the transition has been smooth and generally accepted by the public. The new operations shall be reviewed by the Waste Change Committee at the next meeting (to be scheduled).

Tess Dawson
Senior Manager - Water, Sewer & Waste

Submitted to Council: 30 October 2019

..... General Manager Mayor



ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

The purpose of this report is to provide statistical information in relation to activities of the Environmental Services Department. This Department is responsible for the following key functions:

- ◆ Development
- ◆ Town Planning & Strategic Planning
- ◆ Construction compliance
- ◆ Environmental management
- ◆ Regulatory services
- ◆ Animal control
- ◆ Building and amenity maintenance

The statistical information contained within this report demonstrates the work carried out to achieve the strategic objectives and delivery actions as outlined in Council’s Community Strategic Plan 2027, Delivery Program 2017-2021 and Operational Plan 2019-2020. This report is presented for the month of August 2019 for information and comparative purposes only.

9.10 Development & Construction

Development Data 2019/2020 YTD	DAs	CDCs
Total Number Determined	6	3
Number Outstanding	10	0
Average Determination Time (days)	48	9
Value	\$671,650.00	\$140,000.00
Number of Single New Dwellings	1	0
Residential	1	-
Village / Large Lot Residential	-	-
Rural	-	-
Number of Multi Unit Dwellings	0	0
Number of Commercial Developments	2	0
Number of Industrial Developments	1	0
Withdrawn / Cancelled	4	0
Refused	0	0

DA and CDC Determinations Issued

Consents are available for public inspection, free of charge, during ordinary office hours at Council’s Hamilton Street office. The *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (the Act), as amended, precludes a challenge to the validity of consent more than three (3) months after the date of public notification of the consent within a local newspaper. In accordance with the Section 4.59 of the Act and Clause 124 and 137 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000*, the following determinations will be publicly notified:

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..... General Manager Mayor



September 2019		
DA Number	Description	Address
10.2019.46	Dwelling second occupancy	28N Towers Street, Walcha
10.2019.51	Single new dwelling	168W Evans Street, Walcha
10.2019.53	Erect new three bay shed	107E North Street, Walcha
10.2019.63	Install a dirt track for Freak Show Festival of Motorcycles	Racecourse Reserve, 140 Darjeeling Road, Walcha
CDC Number	Description	Address
18.2019.9	Erect a shed	59W North Street, Walcha
18.2019.11	Erect a new three car garage	'Arallik' 161 Oxley Drive, Walcha

Complying Development Certificates	2018/2019	2019/2020 YTD	This Period
Number Issued (Private Certifier)	3	1	-

Register of disclosure statements of reportable political donations and gifts in relation to planning applications or submissions

Under section 10.4 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* a person who makes a planning application to council is required to disclose the following reportable political donations and gifts (if any) made by any person with a financial interest in the application within the period commencing 2 years before the application is made and ending when the application is determined:

- a) all reportable political donations made to any local councillor of that council
- b) all gifts made to any local councillor or employee of that council.
- c) The legislation also imposes similar disclosure obligations on persons who make written submissions objecting to or supporting relevant planning applications.

Disclosures of reportable political donations and gifts are to be made available to the public on, or in accordance with arrangements notified on a website maintained by Council. The disclosures are to be made available within 14 days after the disclosures are made.

Nature of Interest	Number Received 2018/2019	Number Received 2019/2020YTD	Number Received this period
Political Gifts and Donations	-	-	-
Applicant or owner is an employee of Walcha Council or a Councillor	-	-	-
Applicant with any relationship to staff or Councillor	-	-	-

Construction Certificates

Section 6.3 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* requires that a person must not carry out building work without a certificate. Section 6.7 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* states that a construction certificate is required for the erection of a building in accordance with development consent. The construction certificate is a certificate to the effect that building work completed in accordance with specified plans and specifications or standards will comply with the requirements of the regulations.

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..... General Manager Mayor



Construction Certificates	2018/2019	2019/2020 YTD	This Period
Number Issued Council	11	6	3
Number Issued (Private Certifier)	3	-	-

Occupation Certificates

Section 6.3 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* requires that a person must not commence the occupation or use of a building (including a change of use) without a certificate. Section 6.9 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* states that an occupation certificate is required for the commencement of the occupation or use of the whole or any part of a new building, or the commencement of a change of building use for the whole or any part of an existing building. The occupation certificate is a certificate that authorises the occupation and use of a new building in accordance with development consent, or a change of building use for an existing building in accordance with development consent.

Occupation Certificates	2018/2019	2019/2020 YTD	This Period
Number Issued (Council)	9	3	1
Number Issued (Private Certifier)	3	2	-

Subdivision Certificates

Section 6.3 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* requires that a person must not carry out the subdivision of land without a certificate. The subdivision certificate authorises the registration of a plan of subdivision under Part 23 of the *Conveyancing Act 1919*.

Subdivision Certificates	2018/2019	2019/2020 YTD	This Period
Number Issued	7	1	1

Planning Certificates

Section 10.7 Certificates are issued under the provisions of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*; it provides information on the relevant planning regulations which apply to any particular piece of land. It is compulsory for every property sold to be accompanied by a s10.7 Planning Certificate.

Planning Certificates	2019/2020 YTD	This Period
Number Issued	15	1

Building Information Certificates

Sections 6.24 – 6.26 Building Information Certificates are issued under the provisions of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, it is a certificate that states that the Council will not make an order or take proceedings referred to below:

- 1) A building information certificate operates to prevent the council:
 - a) from making an order (or taking proceedings for the making of an order or injunction) under this Act or the *Local Government Act 1993* requiring the building to be repaired, demolished, altered, added to or rebuilt, and

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- b) from taking civil proceedings in relation to any encroachment by the building onto land vested in or under the control of the council, in relation to matters existing or occurring before the date of issue of the certificate.
- 2) A building information certificate operates to prevent the council, for a period of 7 years from the date of issue of the certificate:
 - a) from making an order (or taking proceedings for the making of an order or injunction) under this Act or the *Local Government Act 1993* requiring the building to be repaired, demolished, altered, added to or rebuilt, and
 - b) from taking civil proceedings in relation to any encroachment by the building onto land vested in or under the control of the council, in relation to matters arising only from the deterioration of the building as a result solely of fair wear and tear.

Building Information Certificates	2018/2019	2019/2020 YTD	This Period
Number Issued	1	1	-

Outstanding Notices and Orders Certificates

Certificates as to whether there are any outstanding notices issued by the Council under the *Local Government Act 1993*, or any outstanding notices or orders in force under Schedule 5 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

Outstanding Notices & Orders Certificates	2018/2019	2019/2020 YTD	This Period
Number Issued	10	3	-

Critical Stage Inspections for DAs, CCs and CDCs

Section 6.5 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* requires the carrying out of inspections of building work for certifiers appointed as the principal certifying authority. Cl.143B and Cl.162A of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000* denotes the critical stage inspections (the occasions on which building work must be inspected), specified below:

Compliance Inspections	2019/2020 YTD	This Period
Site inspections	6	6
Footings & slab inspections	2	-
Framework inspections	-	-
Waterproofing inspections	-	-
Stormwater inspections	-	-
Final inspections	3	2
Food premises fitout inspections	1	1
Complaints	-	-

Annual Fire Safety Statements

Clause 177 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000* requires the owner of a building to which an essential (statutory) fire safety measure is applicable to provide Council with an annual fire safety statement for the building within 12 months after the date

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on which an annual fire safety statement was previously given. As described in clause 175 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000*, an annual fire safety statement is a statement to the effect that:

- 1) each essential fire safety measure specified in the statement has been assessed by a competent fire safety practitioner and was found, when it was assessed, to be capable of performing:
 - a) in the case of an essential fire safety measure applicable by virtue of a fire safety schedule, to a standard no less than that specified in the schedule, or
 - b) in the case of an essential fire safety measure applicable otherwise than by virtue of a fire safety schedule, to a standard no less than that to which the measure was originally designed and implemented, and
- 2) the building has been inspected by a competent fire safety practitioner and was found, when it was inspected, to be in a condition that did not disclose any grounds for a prosecution under Division 7.

Annual Fire Safety Statements	2018/2019	2019/2020 YTD	This Period
Number received	14	2	-
Number of relevant premises		26	

Bushfire Attack Level Certificates

Clause 130A of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000* requires a bushfire attack level assessment and determination to be issued for complying development on bushfire prone land.

BAL Certificates	2019/2020	2020/2021 YTD	This Period
Number Issued	1	-	-

Dwelling Entitlement Information Advice

Information to applicants under clause 4.2A of the *Walcha Local Environmental Plan 2012* as to whether a dwelling may be permitted to be erected with development consent on subject land.

Dwelling Entitlement Advice	2018/2019	2019/2020 YTD	This Period
Number Issued	-	2	-

9.11 Environment & Regulatory

Section 68 Activities

Section 68 of the Local Government Act requires the approval from Council for undertaking certain activities.

Section 68 Activity Data		
	2018/2019	2019/2020 YTD
Total Number of S68s Determined	12	1

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S68 Compliance Inspections	2019/2020 YTD	This Period
Site inspections	1	-
Internal drainage inspections	-	-
External drainage inspections	-	-
Water supply work inspections	-	-
Final inspections	-	-

Food Premises Surveillance

Under the Food Regulation Partnership Council is appointed as an enforcement agency under the *Food Act 2003*. As an enforcement agency Council is responsible for food surveillance within the Walcha LGA and Council is required to report our food surveillance activity to the NSW Food Authority annually.

Food Premises Surveillance 2019/2020						
	Fixed premises High Risk Fixed*	Fixed Premises Medium Risk Fixed*	Fixed Premises Low Risk Fixed*	Mobile*	Temporary*	TOTAL
Total No.	21	4	6	2	4	37
No. Primary Inspections	-	-	-	-	-	-
No. Re-inspections	-	-	-	-	-	-
No. additional Re-inspections	-	-	-	-	-	-
No. FSS Required	21					21
No. FSS Current	19					19

Footpath Usage Applications

Section 125 and 126 of the *Roads Act 1993*, and section 46 of the *Local Government Act 1993* requires approval from Council for carrying out an activity or placing an item within the road reserve.

Footpath Usage Approvals	2018/2019	2019/2020 YTD	This Period
Number Issued	1	-	-

Swimming Pool Inspection and Compliance

Section 22 of the *Swimming Pools Act 1992* requires Council to develop and adopt a mandatory pool inspection program; Council must then inspect the swimming pools in accordance with the program and check the pool barriers comply with the requirements of the *Swimming Pools Act 1992*.

Properties to be sold with a pool must have:

- a) A certificate of compliance, or
- b) A relevant occupation certificate and a certificate of registration, or
- c) A certificate of non-compliance

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Properties to be leased with a pool must have:

- a) A certificate of compliance, or
- b) A relevant occupation certificate and a certificate of registration

Swimming Pool Compliance	2018/2019	2019/2020 YTD	This Period
Certificates of Compliance Issued	-	-	-
Certificates of Non-Compliance Issues	-	-	-
Inspections Conducted	-	-	-

Regulatory Control

Council performs a number of regulatory functions to control and manage matters of public health and environmental concern to the community, some of these include:

- *Local Government Act 1993* e.g. overgrown land and accumulation of waste
- *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* e.g. environmental pollution and noise abatement
- *NSW Road Rules 2014* e.g. vehicles and traffic on nature strip
- *Road Transport (Vehicle and Driver Management) Act 2005* e.g. abandoned vehicles
- *Impounding Act 1993* e.g. abandoned vehicles and roaming stock

Regulatory Service	Action	2019/2020 YTD	This Period
Overgrown allotment	Warning	2	1
	Intention	-	-
	Order	-	-
	Penalty Notice	-	-
Accumulation of waste	Warning	4	-
	Intention	-	-
	Order	-	-
	Penalty Notice	-	-
Keeping of animals	Warning	11	5
	Intention	-	-
	Order	-	-
	Penalty Notice	-	-
Vehicles and traffic on nature strip	Warning	3	-
	Intention	-	-
	Order	-	-
	Penalty Notice	-	-
Abandoned vehicle	Warning	4	2
	Intention	-	-
	Order	-	-
	Penalty Notice	-	-
Noise abatement	Warning	-	-
	Intention	-	-
	Order	-	-
	Penalty Notice	-	-
Environmental pollution	Warning	1	-
	Intention	-	-
	Order	-	-
	Penalty Notice	-	-

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9.12 Animal Control

Council encourages responsible pet ownership in the community, as well as at home. Pet owners should make sure their animals don't disturb their neighbourhood and threaten or harm any other person, pets or wildlife.

Council is required to enforce the registration laws, and the other areas of pet ownership covered by the *Companion Animals Act 1998*.

Companion Animal Registrations 2019/2020								
	Desexed	Non desexed	Pensioner (desexed)	Pound Purchase (desexed)	Recognised breeder	Under 6 Months	Working	Value \$
July	5	3	-	-	2	-	-	\$1,036.00
August	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	\$83.00
Sept	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	\$25.00

Companion Animal Seizures 2019/2020						
	Seized	Surrendered	Released	Rehomed	Euthanased	Stolen/Escaped
Jul	6	1	4	-	3	-
Aug	1	-	-	-	1	-
Sep	1	-	-	-	-	1

Companion Animal Ranger Services 2019/2020				
	Dog attack investigation	Roaming dogs	Roaming cats	Barking dogs
Jul	1	2	1	4
Aug	-	2	2	2
Sep	1	3	3	3

	Caution	Dangerous Dog		Nuisance Dog		Menacing Dog		Penalty Notice
		Notice	Order	Notice	Order	Notice	Order	
Jul	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Aug	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sep	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

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9.13 Building and Amenity Maintenance

Project work at Council facilities September 2019	
Project	Total
Captain Cook Sportsground Amenities	7

Routine cleaning hours at Council facilities	
Building / Amenity	Hours (per fortnight)
Council Chambers	20
Library	5
Visitor Information Centre	5
Amenities	21
Streets	12
Depot	10
Preschool (incl. Early Intervention)	32
Landfill	3
Water Treatment Plant	2
Sewerage Treatment Plant	1.25
Aerodrome (incl. Lions Park)	2
John Oxley Sportsground	1.75
Walcha Oval	2
Squash Courts	2.5
Van	0.5
Swimming Pool (during season)	7

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COMMUNITY SERVICES

9.14 Walcha Council Community Care

Due to Annual Leave there is no Report this month.

Cathy Noon
Community Care Coordinator

9.15 Library

September 2019

Monthly Statistics:

- Loans: 650
- Returns: 628
- Reservations placed: 49
- New members: 6
- Door count: 511
- Wi-fi use: -
- Computer use: 79

Other statistics:

- Eaudio: 155 downloads
- Ebooks: 65 downloads

This month we had two staff members come from Tamworth library to show Cassie how they structure their story time sessions. We were very lucky to be left with some resources and ideas for future planning of our sessions. They also offered to come back and demonstrate how they run their “Baby Booktime” sessions, this will most likely happen in November. The information that the Tamworth ladies were able to offer was really helpful and gave Cassie some structure and direction for her next sessions.



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This month I attended the North East Zone Public Libraries meeting in South West Rocks. There was quite a lot on the agenda for this meeting, including some very beneficial discussions in relation to difficult customers and overdue fines. Other libraries within our zone have been experiencing an influx of difficult customers, therefore were able to offer

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advice as to how they have handled these situations. A lot of conversation was also had on the recent influx of libraries choosing to abolish overdue fines. It was noted that the people in our communities that mostly use the library, are often the most vulnerable and in some cases were scared to come back into the library if they knew they were going to be charged for overdue items. I was very proud to be able to say that our library has never (for as long as I have known) charged our members for overdue fines. Ultimately, our goal is to get people into our library, not turn them away because they are a couple of days late returning their books.

This month we have also been very busy planning the October school holiday program, here is a list of the activities offered:

- Robotics Workshop
- Kids Games
- Skateboarding Workshop
- Sand Art Workshop
- Cupcake Decorating Techniques Workshop
- Games and Lego

I look forward to report on the school holiday program next month!

Madison Garrad
Library Assistant

9.16 Preschool

September 2019

Book week

This year for book week the families were invited to come and share morning tea with the children on Monday and Wednesday. Monday it was really windy so the morning tea was held inside however Wednesday was a beautiful day so the morning tea was able to be held outside as originally planned. The activities set up included a photo booth, a ‘Rainbow Fish’ craft activity and bubble blowing this also gave the families a chance to look at and purchase the books for book week and spend time with their child at preschool. Lots of families came over the two days, it was great to see the number of families participating.



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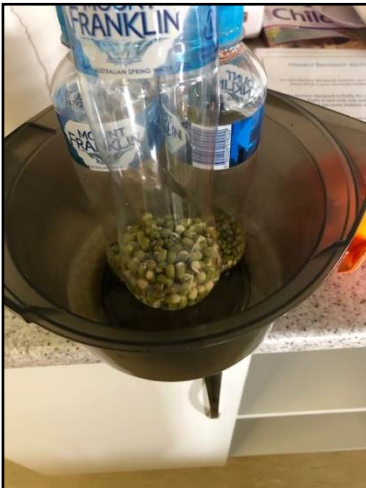


Building Opening

On the last day of term 3 Kevin Anderson came to see the new preschool building. This was a photo and story opportunity for the media. Mr Anderson got the children to open the building by pulling the crepe paper ribbon off the door. The children were all very excited.

Growing Seeds

Last term the children were showing a lot of interest and curiosity in seeds, different types of trees, how things grow and where things grow. To continue with their interests in this the children have been experimenting with different seeds and different ways to grow them. Currently there are onions growing in water seeds growing in cotton wool, seeds growing in soil, seeds growing in the dark and a capsicum growing in soil.



Zoe Herbert
Preschool Nominated Supervisor

RECOMMENDATION: That items included in the Management Review Report, numbered 9.1 to 9.16 inclusive, be NOTED by Council.

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..... General Manager Mayor



Item 11:

Committee
Reports

Submitted to Council: 30 October 2019

..... General Manager Mayor



Walcha Council Tourism Advisory Committee Meeting

held on

Tuesday, 10 September 2019

at

9:30am

at

Walcha Council Chambers

PRESENT:

Clr Jennifer Kealey (Chairperson), Casper Ozinga, Lisa Kirton (Tourism Officer) and Susie Crawford (Tourism Manager) Neil Smith, Louise Clarke

1. APOLOGIES:

Jane Morrison, Aaron Simmon (NPWS), Vanessa Arundale

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19 MARCH 2019:

The Committee **RESOLVED** on the motion of Clarke and Kirton that the minutes of the meeting of the Walcha Council Tourism Advisory Committee held at Walcha Council Chambers, Tuesday 19 March 2019, copies of which were distributed to all members, be taken as read and confirmed a **TRUE** record.

3. BUSINESS ARISING:

3.1 Heritage Near Me - update

The Heritage Strategy Plan was tabled at the meeting. **ACTION: All committee members to read the Heritage Strategy document, assess and report back with feedback on how they feel it may be best used for tourism.**

Committee Minutes



ACTION: Clr Kealey to share Heritage Near Me videos via email with Tourism Advisory Committee (four short films promoting Heritage of Walcha from Perception Planning)

Perception Planning also have a Facebook page.

3.2 Apsley Falls Entrance and Signage Upgrade – Update

Below - Minutes from previous meeting, ITEM TO REMAIN ON AGENDA

Boundary clarification required for area outside the Apsley Falls Arch between RMS and Walcha Council. (inside the arch is the responsibility of NPWS).

RMS interested in being involved in upgrade of Apsley Falls verge by developing and improving site. Matched funding with Walcha Council.

NPWS has limited capital works funding but are able to offer in-kind support.

Lower Apsley Landcare Group will also be approached to engage in the project.

ACTION: Aaron Simmon (NPWS) and Dylan Reeves (Director – Engineering Services) to have a conversation about where the APSLEY FALLS ENTRANCE and SIGNAGE project planning is up to and report back.

Table official commitments from all parties (RMS, NPWS, Council & Landcare) to progress to design phase at next meeting.

3.3 Freak Show Festival of Motorcycles – Business Information Session - Update

The information night for business houses and the community in regard to the Freak Show Festival of Motorcycles event in November of this year was held to enable a forum for any questions to be answered with an aim to best prepare the town for the inflated population expected for the event. The session was well received and attended.

3.4 Irish Town – update

RECOMMENDATION to Council to give an update on erecting stock exclusion fencing around Irish Town.

ACTION: Kirton and Crawford (Walcha Tourism) to converse with the Walcha District Historical Society on investigating options for the preservation for Irish Town.

3.5 Mooraback Hut - update

REMAIN ON AGENDA – NPWS representative was an apology.

3.6 Cells River signage - update

REMAIN ON AGENDA – NPWS representative was an apology.

4. GENERAL BUSINESS

4.1 Autumn Tree Signage / Brochure

Draft copy of Autumn Tree Brochure was presented at the meeting. Crawford has liaised with Steph Sweeney to confirm more species of tree. It was suggested and agreed to relabel the brochure 'Walcha Streetscape Tree Species' so it wasn't season specific.

ACTION: The Tourism staff, Lisa Kirton and Susie Crawford, to liaise with Steph Sweeney (Parks and Gardens Manager) to further identify and map tree species in popular Autumnal streets.

4.2 Soundtrails - Update

Walcha Soundtrails project is going ahead with a focus on Walcha's Art.



Walcha Quota Club were successful applicants of a \$20,000 grant and raised \$6,000 themselves. Walcha Council are matching funds raised by Quota's which has enabled this project to commence.

Lisa Kirton and Susie Crawford from Walcha Tourism, accompanied by three Walcha Quota members are taking a familiarity tour to Bingara to experience their Soundtrail on Monday, 16 September 2019.

Clr Kealey, Kirton and Crawford, along with Walcha Quota members are having a teleconference with Soundtrails director Hamish Sewell on Thursday, 12 September 2019.

4.3 Mobile Billboard proposal

In 2018 Rob Dale of 6D Designs (Walcha) offered Walcha Tourism the use of his Pantex truck sides to print a Walcha promotional billboard onto.

This proposal was up for consideration in the 2019-2020 budget however Rod Dale and his family are moving away from Walcha.

ACTION: Kirton and Crawford, Tourism, to have a conversation with Betts Transport to see if they would be interested in allowing Walcha promotional sides to be printed on their logistics trucks.

This would need to be re-quoted (due to larger trailers).

A conversation also needs to be had with the Dales to thank them and conclude that action and offer.

4.4 RV Friendly

Crawford, Tourism looked into Walcha becoming an '*RV Friendly*' town. Tabled a report on which stated we met most of the criteria if we wanted to become '*RV Friendly*'. Appendix A

Crawford asked Smith, previous owner of the Walcha Caravan Park, for to report his knowledge and opinion in Walcha becoming '*RV Friendly*'. Smith tabled a report at the meeting. Appendix B

4.5 National Parks – new staff.

4.5.1 Walcha office. ACTION: invite Leah Pippas and Katie Robertson to the next Tourism Advisory Committee meeting.

5. NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 26 November 2019 – 9:30am (after Rural Women's Gathering & Freak Show Festival of Motorcycles) at Walcha Council Chambers

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 10:55am



Appendix A

RV Friendly town REPORT – August 2019

A summation in the opinion of the Tourism Manager:

Walcha ticks most boxes to become an RV Friendly town (**see below assessment**) and I believe would have a good chance at passing the overall assessment.

- RV Friendly ONLY promote free or appropriately priced camping, and not privately owned campsites.
 - The Walcha Caravan Park does not meet this criteria
- I believe it has been discouraged in the past, as the Caravan Park provides a service and cleans up after their customers, while free camps would be under the responsibility of Council.
 - I would like to seek further opinion from committee member and previous owner of the Walcha Caravan Park, Neil Smith about his thoughts.
- I believe it would not take substantial business away from the Walcha Caravan Park, but encourage more people to come to town, boosting the general economy of Walcha through numerous businesses and services.

Item to be for discussion at the next Tourism Advisory Committee meeting on Tuesday 10 September 2019, 9:30am at Walcha Council Chambers.

Susie Crawford
Tourism Manager



The basic requirements of being an RV Friendly town are

Service	Walcha meets Criteria	Notes	Issues / potential issues
RV parking	Yes – McHattan Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This does NOT need to be designated parking (ie like disabled) Needs to be close to town (so shopping can be carried) 	None
Dump Point	Yes – Council Depot Carpark	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Free Accessible 24/7 	None
Potable Water	Yes – at dump point / Council Depot Carpark	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This has to be available Not necessarily free 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presuming Dump Point Water is potable? We have had some comments from travellers about the hygiene issue of the potable water being so close to the dump point and people using the same tap to wash out grey water tanks as they do to fill drinking water <ul style="list-style-type: none"> People should have their own hoses though and most do.
Low Cost Camping	??	<p>Can not be a privately owned caravan park</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>I questioned this, stating that our caravan park was very reasonably priced</i> Has to be below \$15 for an unpowered site <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walcha Caravan Park is \$25 for an unpowered site <p>Has to be close to town</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I asked about the free-camp / rest area at Ohio North Road/Thunderbolts Way <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can't be too close to the road OK that there aren't facilities and amenities there. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ohio North site – not walking distance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> but may pass distance test – they would have to assess Ohio North site – may be too close to a main road, would have to be assessed If Ohio North site was acceptable 'RV Friendly' would only advertise that camp site, not the caravan park <p>QUESTIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are we taking business away from a local business Is it a cost to Council with extra clean up etc. Consideration to be given in decision making; while this may guide business away from the Walcha Caravan Park it will boost economy with other businesses by attracting more traffic. Walcha Caravan Park to be consulted before any action taken.
Cost		FREE which includes 2 signs for main entrances to town. You would have to pay for additional signage (Walcha x2 Additional)	



Appendix B

Information only RE: R.V. Friendly Town. Report compiled by Neil Smith

RV Friendly Towns

This is an initiative of The C.M.C.A. (Campervan & Motorhome Club of Australia) with 70,000 members Australia wide. An interesting point about this club is they do not allow full membership to people who have a caravan, although most of the free camps can be accessed by caravans. The C.M.C.A. are now starting their own low cost camps with some camps available only to members. Indeed there is a friendly rivalry between motorhomes & caravans. This can be seen by one promoting UHF20 & the other UHF18. Tamworth, Armidale & Uralla are all RV friendly towns along with many others, the results of being RV friendly are unknown. The extra costs to Council are also unknown. Walcha would meet the criteria required to become an RV friendly town with maybe a little tinkering here & there.

Free Camping

This has been increasing in popularity for the last 10 years, along with popularity of RV's. Indeed if every free camp closed down there would not be enough room in caravan parks to accommodate the approx. 800,000 RV's. in Australia. The most successful free camps are those on the outskirts of a CBD with potable water & a dump point. Walcha may be too fractured to become a success. Walcha North Camping, Dump point 1klm away & shopping 2klm away. People pulling caravans are reluctant to unhook because of a fear that their caravan may be stolen. These people do not always do the right thing & without a dump point in the camp, many may empty their cassettes behind trees etc. at the camp site. RV people tend to blame backpackers for these camps being in a mess. If the right thing is not done – Council have to clean up.

Accommodation

Overnight stays do not go shopping – They pull in, stay hooked up, watch TV, empty their cassette in the morning, place their rubbish in the bins provided & drive away. Anyone staying for 2 days or longer always goes shopping. Most are willing to walk a moderate distance, say 1klm. The river walk from the caravan park is ideal. North Walcha would be too far to walk for shopping & an uninteresting walk.

Caravan Parks

A good caravan park operator will bring more business to town than a RV friendly sign. This can be achieved by providing a fair \$ rate, clean facilities, a friendly atmosphere & promoting the town as unique with brochures & information to bolster the attractiveness of the town. A good caravan park operator will recognize the "grapevine" as being the main form of communication between RV travellers. This same communication happens in free camps.

Other Issues

The potable water at the dump point has the potential to become a litigation issue. I believe this was placed there to rinse the dump point out after use & not to fill potable water tanks.



Summary

If one reads the reviews on Wiki Camps (used by Grey Nomads) Apsley Falls is one of the better camp sites (not free but low cost). Maybe with the help of N.P.'s one could promote Walcha Business's within the camp, in the hope they are travelling west. Imagine a giant compendium on a totem pole that one could flick thru business houses in Walcha. For those whose interest is in say motor bikes – show a picture of the one in “makers of metal” with a caption “handmade V16 engine”. It really should be unique. These same unique ideas could also be done at any free camp whether a RV friendly town or not. A new entry into Apsley Falls would be more attractive to visitors but does require better signage.

Shift the dump point & rubbish bins to Walcha North camp site, would also be a much better option, however budget constraints would prevent this.

If an RV Friendly town gets the nod from the Walcha Council, the uniqueness spoke about must also be promoted & incorporated into the free camp site, along with the promotion of extended stays. As per your notes, this should be done with Walcha Caravan Park approval or “somehow” in conjunction.

The above is my own thoughts, gained from running Walcha Caravan Park with my wife between the years, 2010 to 2017.

Neil Smith
0414 826 267

Walcha Preschool Advisory Committee Meeting

held on

Tuesday, 17 September 2019

at

5:00 pm

at

Walcha Preschool

PRESENT:

Rachael Wellings (Chairperson), Karen Kermode (Community Services Manager) Zoe Herbert (Nominated Supervisor), Meggie Davey, Bonnie Brown, and Jordy Young.

The meeting started with a tour of the new preschool building.

1. APOLOGIES: Sarah Fletcher

2. CONFIRMATION OF MEETING MINUTES HELD ON MONDAY 25 JUNE 2019:

The Minutes were agreed to be a true and accurate record of the meeting.

3. Business Arising

3.1 Garden grant – the grant application that was submitted for a new vegetable garden was unsuccessful.

4. Nominated Supervisor's Report – Term 3 2019

A written report was provided by the Nominated Supervisor to the Committee. It highlighted the following:

Bus

There have been a few more children using the bus service which has increased the numbers on Monday Tuesday and Wednesday each day has one extra child. Generally there is still more children arriving on the bus than there are children leaving on the bus in the afternoon.

Extended hours

Thursday mornings are very quiet this term with children only showing up around 8:20 however the afternoons often have one or two children until 5pm and up to 5 children between 4-4:30pm.

Staffing Arrangements

Angie was farewelled this term after 19 years of educating the children of Walcha. Angie will be missed however I have retained her services as our photographer for preschool photos each year. Angie is well known for her preschool photos.

With Angie leaving Jenn will be given her hours on the Tuesday and Chelsea will be given the breaks shift regularly on the Tuesday from now on.

This also allows more time for other educators to program

Events

This term there will be lots of events on including book week, NAIDOC week, science on the move for the penguin room and the Gigalees. Book week we are planning on having dress-ups all week for the children and morning tea and activities similar to national family's week. They will be on different days to cater for the families who couldn't make it to National family's week morning tea.

5. General Business

6. Community Services Manager Report

6.1 Building update

On Friday 30 August the Department of Education completed the pre-approval inspection of our new preschool building. The inspection involved the representatives checking that the floor plan matches the plan submitted to the Department, and that all mandatory documentation was displayed and policies were adopted.

The feedback was very positive and they were excited by a lot of what we have done. There was a small list of items that need to be in place prior to the post-approval inspection that is normally done within 3 months of a new service opening. Zoe has made a list of those minor items and we will have those finished prior to the next inspection.

Two items in the playground needed rectification prior to the space being used by the children.

One major concern was the height of the balustrade around the deck due to it's height off the ground. They felt that it wasn't high enough and instructed us to make it higher and remove any "climbing points". It is a contentious issue as we need to comply with the building code, and also the Child Care Planning Guideline. The guideline doesn't give any information for balustrades, so they have used the external fencing guideline for this decision.

I have spoken to the architects and they have come up with a solution and we hope that it will be installed shortly. It won't be visually appealing, however it will increase the children's safety in this area which is the main priority, and also comply with the building code.

The purchase of the new section of playground has been finalised and 75% of the fencing completed. The fencing can be finished once the temporary buildings are removed. We will send photo's of the completed fencing and hopefully they will approve the use of it without further inspection.

6.2 Fees for 2020

Fees proposed to be charged for 2020 are listed below:

Transition (Penguin) Room – 4 year olds

Full Fee \$15.00
ATSI \$ 5.00
HCC \$ 5.00

*Preschool (Polar Bear) Room – (3 year olds – turning 4 **after** 31st July)*

Full Fee \$23.00
ATSI \$ 5.00
HCC \$ 5.00

3rd or 4th day \$32.00 per day

Extended hours \$6.00 per half hour
Late Fee \$25.00 per occurrence
Enrolment Fee \$30.00 per year

Discussion was held on the cost of extended hours and bus hire. 2018/19 extended hours showed a shortfall of \$8,203. The bus hire (for transporting the out of town children from Central School to the preschool and return in the afternoon) cost \$13,091. We do not charge for bus usage; however it is one of the options we will be considering to help reduce the costs.

The Committee asked the Community Services Manager to prepare a report for the next meeting, showing the usage pattern for extended hours and the break even charge and other price points for a proposed bus usage fee. A recommendation to Council will be decided upon at November meeting.

RECOMMENDED: That Council **ADOPT** the proposed fees for 2020 and place the fees on public exhibition for 30 days.

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 6.10pm.

CONFIRMED _____ **(Signed)**

Date: ___ / ___ / ___ **Chairperson**

Walcha Council Youth Advisory Committee Meeting



Held on

Thursday, 26 September 2019

at

11:30am

at

Walcha Central School Library

PRESENT:

Karen Kermode (Community Services Manager) Clr Rachael Wellings – Chairperson, Madison Garrad – Youth Worker, Will Hall, Jack Healey, Ella Jenkins, Ella Lynch, Charlie Powell, Hunter Scrivener, Sophie Timbs, Tahlia Bird, Oscar Blomfield, Oliver Greig, Wyatt Haslem, Justin Hicks, Ted Kermode, Ella Luchich, Darcy Macpherson, Bateson Pittman, Abigail Van Eyk, Tayla Carter, Thomas Micallef, Annie Darcy, Ashleigh Wall, Emily Blake, Thea Dunn, Jemma Warden and Samuel Swain.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Karen Barnes (Walcha Central School Youth Worker) Belinda Burton (St Patrick's School Acting Principal).

1. APOLOGIES:

Committee Minutes



2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING HELD 14 DECEMBER 2018:

Councillor Wellings started the meeting with an introduction. She then read out the minutes of the previous Youth Advisory Committee.

It was agreed that the minutes were a true and accurate record of the meeting. Moved by Abi, seconded by Gemma.

3. BUSINESS ARISING

3.1

4. GENERAL BUSINESS

4.1 Rural and Regional Youth Participation Grant

Youth Worker talked about the grant of \$1,500. Youth Worker explained that it is a one off payment to assist with additional youth activities and events in the community. Some suggestions included:

- ◆ A basketball court closer to town – YW mentioned that it is not a lot of money and would not be a sufficient amount to put in a basketball court, however we could do something like a twilight basketball comp with barbeque.
- ◆ A camp – an overnight camp in Walcha, perhaps on a farm with a campfire, etc.
- ◆ Clr Wellings talked about a Pool Party but mentioned we would be doing it anyway in January. Some suggested a pool games day.
- ◆ Scouts evening.
- ◆ Night games.
- ◆ Mobile laser tag.
- ◆ Lolly drop (similar to Walcha show peanut drop).
- ◆ Scavenger hunt.
- ◆ Mountain bike riding at the Mountain Bike Festival, bike race suitable for everyone.

4.2 October 2019 School Holiday Program

Youth Worker spoke about the upcoming school holiday program and what activities were offered. YW gave out flyers to the students and to Karen and Belinda to display around their schools.

4.3 Youth Specific Infrastructure

Clr Wellings talks about the youth infrastructure in Walcha. Clr Wellings asked the students for their input in things they would like to see in Walcha. The students brainstormed the spaces they use in Walcha. Answers included:

- ◆ Footy oval
- ◆ MPC
- ◆ Skatepark
- ◆ McHattan Park
- ◆ Pool
- ◆ Library



- ◆ Lions Park
- ◆ Sporting fields
- ◆ Levee Banks
- ◆ The squash courts/gym.

Some suggestions to improve the youth infrastructure in Walcha included:

- ◆ More ramps at the Skatepark. Apparently the current ones have lots of cracks in them. Students suggested better lighting, more chairs, shelter and more grinding rails.
- ◆ Levee Banks. Students suggested lights, walking paths, water refill stations, flying fox, toilet signage, different play stations, ping-pong tables, all abilities roundabout, ninja warrior equipment.
- ◆ Sporting fields. Students suggested lines on the touch football fields.
- ◆ MPC – students suggested a new basketball net.
- ◆ Gym - workout guides at the gym, as well as a better sound system.
- ◆ Pool – suggestions included inflatables, more shaded places near the bbq area, shaded area out the front of pool for when kids are waiting for parents, shelter over the shallow end of the pool similar to what is over the little pool, spa, more paths to parking areas, water/splash park.
- ◆ Free wifi in public areas.
- ◆ Library – students suggested designated study areas.
- ◆ Lions Park - softball under the metal train (or a sign saying no climbing), flying fox, giant slide, rock wall, outdoor gym equipment different to the Levee Banks, jumping pillow, in ground trampoline, swing set facing each other similar to Hungry Jacks park in Armidale, water refill station, more lighting in bbq areas particularly above bbq's, musical instruments, outdoor Bluetooth speakers.
- ◆ Bike track – students suggested more bike tracks (Nivison Lookout).

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 12:31PM.



Walcha Council Community Care Advisory Committee



Minutes of meeting held on

Monday, 14 October 2019

Commencing 2.05pm

Community Care Office
11s Middle St, Walcha

Members:

Clr Kevin Ferrier

Manager Community Services – Karen Kermode

Community Care Coordinator – Cathy Noon

ATSI Community Care Coordinator – Elaine Bartholomew

Meals on Wheels Provider – Richard Williams (Apsley Riverview)

Independent Community Care Service Provider – Debra Sweeney

Community Representatives – Ron Denham, Sue Reardon, Syreene Kitchener,
Pat Laurie and Davina Young.

Quorum – 6 Members to be Present

Function of the Committee:

To advise Council on policy matters and strategic issues regarding the management of Walcha Council Community Care.

The Committee is to function under the relevant provisions of the *Local Government Act 1993* and Council's Section 355 Committees Policy.

Committee Minutes



14 October 2019

WO/2019/02463

PRESENT:

Ron Denham (Acting Chair), Pat Laurie, Syreene Kitchener, Sue Reardon, Davina Young, Richard Williams (Presbyterian Aged Care), Emma (Student Nurse – Presbyterian Aged Care), Cathy Noon (Community Care Coordinator), Elaine Bartholomew (Community Care ATSI Officer) and Karen Kermode (Community Services Manager).

1. APOLOGIES:

Kevin Ferrier.

2. CONFIRMATION OF MEETING MINUTES HELD ON MONDAY 8 APRIL 2019

RESOLVED: On the motion of Laurie and Kitchener that the Minutes of the Walcha Council Community Care Advisory Committee Meeting held on 8 April 2019 copies of which have been distributed to all members, be taken as read and confirmed a true record.

3. Business Arising

3.1 nil

4. Community Care Coordinator Report – August 2019

The Community Care Coordinator reports from July and August 2019 were presented to the Committee. (Attachment 4.1)

5. ATSI Community Care Officer Report – August 2019

The ATSI Community Care Officer reports from July and August 2019 were presented to the Committee. (Attachment 4.1)

6. Feedback and Complaints

Feedback and complaints received has been included in the Community Care Coordinator's report.

7. General Business

7.1 Community Planning Day

We had a community planning day on Wednesday 2 October 2019 focusing on wellness and reablement of older persons in the community. The New England Sector Support Team (NESST) facilitated this planning day.

Wellness and reablement is the new focus of the federal government, introducing it in the new Aged Care Quality Standards, and requiring all services to report on how they are ensuring it is a focus. Having NESST facilitate this planning day brought the collective knowledge from the region and combined it with the needs and wishes of our community.



The focus questions were:

- What does wellness mean to you?
- How can we help to build wellness in the community?

This planning day was held on a Women's Group day as to ensure input from a large number of our client base. NESST will compile a report on the planning day.

7.2 Walcha Council Disability Inclusion Action Plan DIAP Review

The Walcha Council Disability Inclusion Action Plan was adopted by Council in March 2017 after consultation with the Walcha community. This is a living document and Council would welcome any input and updates on the priorities that were identified. A copy of the summary of priorities identified in 2017 is listed below.

1. *“Ensuring that people with a disability have opportunities to contribute to their community in a variety of ways [Focus Area 1]”* It was suggested that volunteer work and positions on local committees, while unpaid, could enhance self-esteem and a sense of self-worth, help change community attitudes and behaviours, and develop skills that could be beneficial in paid employment
2. *“Ensuring that disability parking is adequate, in the right places, and appropriate for unloading wheelchairs if required [Focus Area 2].* Almost all responses suggested at least two (2) disability parks are needed to be located near the Post Office and the Pharmacy; having a safe area to down load wheelchairs from the access bus was also needed
3. *“Ensuring that local and regional transport are adequate [Focus Area 2]”.* Transport locally and to regional centres for medical appointments was seen as generally adequate, and there was a strong sense of community in that those with access to a vehicle would offer transport to social activities for those without their own transport; but there are obvious deficits in opportunities for accessing social and community activities and events, and travel to regional centres for pleasure or recreation was also limited
4. *“Having good footpaths and safe crossings throughout Walcha and the villages [Focus Area 2]”* There have been considerable improvements in the footpaths and cycle ways, but there is room for improvement;
5. *“Having good disability toilets and facilities in local clubs and sporting venues” [Focus Area 2]* Although this isn't an area of direct responsibility for Council, there are some improvements needed, and it was suggested that Council could advocate for better facilities. Consideration should also be given to providing disability toilet and changing facilities in village areas such as Yarrowitch.



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6. *“Improvements in access to some businesses” [Focus Area 2]* This is a shared responsibility with Council collaborating with businesses to provide access from footpaths into business premises
7. *“Upgrading playgrounds to meet the needs of children with a disability and their families [Focus Area 2].* As Council maintains and upgrades children’s playgrounds, there is an opportunity to consider the design of these so that they meet the needs of children with a disability.

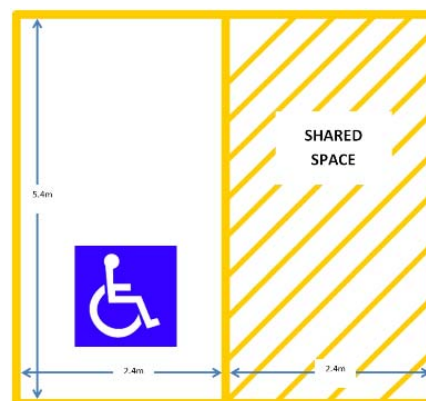
Comments from the Committee on the DIAP included:

- Readvertise for a person with a disability to join our committee
- Disabled parks provided are not big enough (discussed in full in item 7.3)
- Footpaths have improved due to the street scape program
- Toilets – write to local clubs to suggest they apply for grants to upgrade their toilet facilities to make them accessible.
- Access to business has improved due to the street scape program
- Playground upgrade (McHattan Park) has improved access

7.3 Disabled Parking in Walcha

I have been advised by the Director – Engineering Services that some members of the public have been concerned about the location and size of the disabled parking spaces that were installed earlier in the year. He has asked for the Committees input again into the re-design and location of the parking places. He explained that the parks were meant to be a temporary solution until the main reseal is undertaken in Deby Street.

The parking places have been re-designed following the Australian Standards (design below) and are able to be moved if it is required. They will be installed during October/November. A suggested design is shown below.





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After discussion the committee decided the location of the additional disabled parks is correct. The above design is an improvement, however it was felt that there should be “shared space” on both sides of the parking bay as people with disabilities are both drivers and passengers. The photo below is similar to what is meant (it is nose in parking), and it should only use 2 parking spaces as suggested by the above design.



Other comments regarding the kerb and gutter work proposed include:

- We should use the Community Transport bus to test if the wheelchair lift can be used – currently it is unable to be used in the normal parks (needs to be flat)
- Be careful of water running onto the footpath– these areas are prone to flooding in heavy rain.

7.4 Walcha Council Community Care and Walcha Council Early Intervention Policy Manual Review

The Community Services Manager and the Community Care Coordinator have updated the Policy Manual. This has been made necessary due to the changed Aged Care Common Standards that govern our operations. A copy was provided to all members for their review. Due to the size of the document the Committee asked for additional time to review it. It will be brought back to the December 2019 meeting.

7.5 Quality Review Notification

We have been notified that we will be having a Quality Review within the next 6-12 months. We will keep the Committee informed of any part of the process that they need to be involved in.



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7.6 Business without notice

- Discussion was held around the possibility of introducing shared groups of volunteers to visit people in their homes, residents of Riverview and the Elizabeth Cross wing.
- Richard has agreed to speak with our Groups regarding the requirements and rules around entering residential aged care and the costs involved. This will be incorporated into the Agequip style day that is being planned.
- Davina mentioned people are parking in the bus zone adjacent to the Fruit Shop coffee window. She asked that the police be informed and suggested that they patrol this park on Thursday mornings when it is needed by the community transport bus. Ron suggested that the issue should be taken to the Traffic Committee.

8. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday 16 December at 12.00pm at the Royal Café. There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 3.50pm.

CONFIRMED _____ **(Signed)**

Date: ___ / ___ / ___ **Chairperson**



Attachment 4.1

Item 4 – Community Care Coordinator Report August 2019

July / August 2019

Women’s Group and Wanderer’s Group

3 July 2019 – 17 clients from the Women’s Group and the Wanderer’s Group attended morning tea at the Community Day Centre Rooms.

17 July 2019 – 19 ladies attended the live healthy cooking presentation held in the Community Day Centre Rooms. A fantastic day was had with Mary and Michael from “The Wholesome Collective” and sponsored by the Hunter New England and Central Coast Primary Health Network. The Women’s Group enjoyed learning some new cooking skills and tasting the produce created from the cooking demonstration. The ladies were thrilled with the cook book gift, with Pat Laurie and Ethel Henry particularly happy about winning the prizes on the day sponsored by Sunbeam.

7 August 2019 – 20 clients from the Women’s Group and the Wanderer’s Group attended morning tea at the Community Day Centre Rooms.

21 August 2019 – 21 clients attended the themed day “A Day in Italy” held in the Community Day Centre Rooms. The ladies had a wonderful day learning about the Italian culture including the experience of Italian food served for lunch. The group enjoyed the movie “Under the Tuscan Sun” to finish off the day.

Men’s Group

9 July 2019 – 10 gentlemen attended morning tea held in the Community Day Centre Rooms.

29 July 2019 – 10 gentlemen attended the trip in the Walcha Community Bus to visit Barraba. The Silo Art painted by International artist Fintan Magee with the Barraba artwork based on the theme of water divining. A process Mr Magee witnessed at a local farm during one of his research visits to Barraba and set the creative juices flowing. The attraction was well worth the visit and both the scale and detail to the artwork is amazing.

13 August 2019 – 10 gentlemen attended morning tea held in the Community Day Centre Rooms.

27 August 2019 – 10 gentlemen attended lunch held at the café in Fenwick House in Walcha.

Craft Group

10 July 2019 – 5 clients attended the morning tea and craft day held in the Community Day Centre Rooms. The group bought along projects that they are working on individually as well as continuing with the quilt that is the ongoing group project.

14 August 2019 – 5 clients attended the morning tea and craft day held in the Community Day Centre Rooms. The group bought along projects that they are working on individually as well as continuing with the quilt that is the ongoing group project.

Exercise Group



14 October 2019

WO/2019/02463

As part of the wellness and reablement program WCCC now offer our clients the opportunity to come along to a weekly exercise class. The program is designed to keep people active and improve their balance and mobility, physical fitness, cognitive capacity and overall general health and wellbeing. Kellie Makeham is the instructor and clients are enjoying the program.

Creative Art Class

26 July 2019 – 5 clients attended the morning art class with the guest workshop artist Susan Douds.

16 August 2019 – 4 clients attended the morning art class with the guest workshop artist Susan Douds.

Susan Douds.

Card Group

A small group of card players have been meeting in the Community Day Centre Rooms each Tuesday to play 500's. The group enjoy the social get together as well as playing cards.

Transport – July 2019

Medical drives – 23 trips.

Access bus – 5 clients used the service making 26 trips.

Bus to Tamworth – 4 client used the service on 26 July 2019.

Bus to Armidale numbers for July were as follows:

- ◆ 2 July 2019 – 4 clients
- ◆ 9 July 2019 – 7 clients
- ◆ 16 July 2019 – 6 clients
- ◆ 23 July 2019 – 4 clients
- ◆ 30 July 2019 – 5 clients

Taxi Vouchers – 23 clients used the Taxi Vouchers with Walcha Taxi Service and Walcha Community Transport in July with a total of 216 Taxi Vouchers returned.

Transport – August 2019

Medical drives – 30 trips.

Access bus – 7 clients used the service making 51 trips.

Bus to Tamworth – 6 client used the service on 30 August 2019.

Bus to Armidale numbers for August were as follows:

- ◆ 6 August 2019 – 8 clients
- ◆ 13 August 2019 – 4 clients
- ◆ 20 August 2019 – 8 clients
- ◆ 27 August 2019 – 6 clients

Taxi Vouchers – 24 clients used the Taxi Vouchers with Walcha Taxi Service and Walcha Community Transport in August with a total of 212 Taxi Vouchers returned.

Uralla Food Pantry – A fortnightly trip to transport disadvantaged people in the community to access low cost pantry food, bread, fruit and vegetables made available from Foodbank NSW. People must pass the eligibility criteria for the transport and the Food Pantry.

Meals on Wheels



14 October 2019

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For the July there were 11 clients who received hot main meals with 3 of those clients also receiving frozen meals for the weekend. There were 5 clients who received frozen meals. The total number of meals for the month was:

- ◆ 197 Hot meals,
- ◆ 123 frozen meals and
- ◆ 140 desserts

For the August, there were 12 clients who received hot main meals with 3 of those clients also receiving frozen meals for the weekend. There were 3 clients who received frozen meals. The total number of meals for the month was:

- ◆ 190 Hot meals,
- ◆ 90 frozen meals and
- ◆ 132 desserts

Feedback, Suggestions and Complaints

Nil feedback to report for July and August 2019

Meetings and Training / Community Rooms

11 July 2019 – Dementia Support Group meeting held at the Community Day Centre Rooms.

18 July 2019 – Walcha Hospital Auxillary meeting held in the Community Day Centre Rooms

19 July – “Cuppa on Council” morning tea held in the Community Day Centre Rooms. People have attended the Friday afternoon get togethers with the aim of supporting others emotional and socially that are affected by the ongoing drought. Debby Maddocks from the Rural Assitance Authority in Armidale has been very well utilised assisting with paper work for those applying for the subsidies.

25 July 2019 – Walcha Support Group meeting held in the Community Day Centre Rooms

July/August 2019 – All staff Walcha Council Policies and Procedures internal training held in the Council Chambers

6 August 2019 – Social Support Forum at at The Pavillion in Tamworth

7 August 2019 – Karen and Alice attended training for the New Standards in Tamworth

8 August 2019 – Dementia Support Group meeting held at the Community Day Centre Rooms.

12 August 2019 – Denise and Cathy attended training for the New Standards in Uralla

13 and 14 August 2019 – Cathy attended the combined Western and New England Regions Transport Forum held at the crossing Theatre in Narrabri.

15 August 2019 – Walcha Hospital Auxillary meeting held in the Community Day Centre Rooms

29 August 2019 – Walcha Support Group meeting held in the Community Day Centre Rooms



14 October 2019

WO/2019/02463

Cathy Noon
Community Care Coordinator

Item 5–ATSI Community Care Officer Report March 2019 to August 2019

Wanderer’s Group

24 July 2019 – The Wanderer’s Group travelled to Uralla for the morning where the group visited McCrossin’s Mill Museum and the Uralla Community Gardens. Lunch was held at the Bottom Pub and everyone enjoyed the day out together.

28 August 2019 – The Wanderers group outing was again spent in the town of Uralla where the The Wanderers group had a very enjoyable day out. Lunch was at The Bottom Pub in Uralla.