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LEAVE OF ABSENCE/APOLOGIES

At the time of preparation of the business paper no apologies have been received.

ATTENDANCE OF COUNCILLORS BY AUDIO-VISUAL LINK

Councils Code of Meeting Practice permits Councillors to attend and participate in meetings of the council with the approval of the council or relevant committee.

Clauses 5.19 - 5.30 of the Code of Meeting Practice provides the parameters for eligibility and requirements for remote attendance.

Council has received requests from Cr McAlister and Cr Sinclair to attend the meeting via Audio-Visual link.

WEBCASTING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

Attendees of this meeting are reminded that:

- a) The meeting is being recorded and made publicly available on Council's website, and
- b) Persons attending the meeting should refrain from making any defamatory statements.

STATEMENT OF ETHICAL OBLIGATIONS

Councillors are reminded of the oath or affirmation of office they have taken under section 233A of the Act.

The governing body of a county council is responsible for managing the affairs of the county council. Each Councillor as a member of the governing body has a responsibility to make considered and well-informed decisions to ensure that the exercise of the functions of Goldenfields Water are performed to benefit the whole of the area of operations of Goldenfields Water.

In addition Councillors are reminded of their obligations under council's code of conduct to disclose and appropriately manage conflicts of interest.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

I would like to acknowledge the Wiradjuri people who are the Traditional Custodians of the Land. I would also like to pay respect to their people both past and present and extend that respect to other Aboriginal Australians who are present.

PRESENTATIONS

No presentations are scheduled for this meeting.

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Declaration of Interest

Councillors and senior staff are reminded of their obligation to declare their pecuniary interest in any matters listed before them.

Councillors may declare an interest at the commencement of the meeting, or alternatively at any time during the meeting should any issue progress or arise that would warrant a declaration.

Councillors must state their reasons in declaring any type of interest.

DECLARATION OF NON PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Declaration of non Pecuniary Interest

Councillors and senior staff are reminded of their obligation to declare their interest in any matters listed before them.

In considering your interest you are reminded to include non-pecuniary and conflicts of interest as well as any other interest you perceive or may be perceived of you.

Councillors may declare an interest at the commencement of the meeting, or alternatively at any time during the meeting should any issue progress or arise that would warrant a declaration.

Councillors must state their reasons in declaring any type of interest.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

It is recommended that the minutes of the meeting held 22 June 2023 having been circulated to members be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

At the time of preparation of the business paper no business was arising from minutes.

CORRESPONDENCE

At the time of preparation of the business paper no relevant correspondence had been received for inclusion.

MATTERS OF URGENCY

In accordance with clause 9.3 of Councils Code of Meeting Practice, business may be transacted at a meeting without due notice only if:

- a) A motion is passed to have the business transacted at the meeting, and
- b) The business to be considered is ruled by the chairperson to be of great urgency on the grounds that it requires a decision by the council before the next scheduled ordinary meeting of the council.

NOTICES OF MOTION/RESCISSION MOTIONS

At the time of preparation of the Business Paper no Notices of Motion or Rescission Motions have been received.

CHAIRPERSONS MINUTE

At the time of preparation of the Business Paper the Chairperson had not issued a report for publication.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 and the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021, in the opinion of the General Manager the following business is of a kind as referred to in section 10A(2) of the Act and should be dealt with in part of the meeting closed to the media and public.

It is recommended that Council move into CONFIDENTIAL SESSION.

TENDER 02/2022 - DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF TWO RESERVOIRS AND MULTI-TRAY AERATOR

*This report is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with Section 10A(2)(d)(i) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following:*

- d) Commercial information of a confidential matter that would, if disclosed:*
 - (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it,*

TEYS JINDALEE PAYMENT PLAN REQUEST

*This report is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with Section 10A(2)(d)(i) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following:*

- d) Commercial information of a confidential matter that would, if disclosed:*
 - (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it,*

ROSEHILL PUMP STATION BYPASS PIPELINE EASMENTS

*This report is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with Section 10A(2)(d)(i) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following:*

- d) Commercial information of a confidential matter that would, if disclosed:*
 - (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it,*

EXITING CONFIDENTIAL

There being no further confidential items it is recommended that Council revert back to Open Session and that the resolutions made in Confidential Session be made public.

The General Manager is to read out any resolutions made in Confidential Session.

GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 2023

COUNCIL CASH AND INVESTMENTS

Report prepared by Corporate Services Manager

COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the report detailing Council Cash and Investments as at 31st August 2023 be received and noted.

ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN

09 Financially Sustainable

BACKGROUND

A report on Council's Investments is required to be presented for Council's consideration in accordance with Clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.

REPORT

Council's cash and investment portfolio decreased by \$1,114,729.17 from \$33,223,700.40 as at 30th June 2023 to \$32,108,971.23 as at 31st August 2023.

Cash and Investment Portfolio

Type	Rating	CQ RATING	Issuer	Frequency	Purchase	Maturity	Days	Rate	Benchmark*	Principal
TD	BBB	A2	AMP Bank	At Maturity	1/06/2023	1/09/2023	92	4.85	3.37	\$2,000,000
TD	BBB-	A2	Judo Bank	At Maturity	5/07/2023	4/10/2023	91	5.40	3.37	\$2,000,000
TD	AA-	A1+	NT Treasury	Annual	10/09/2020	15/12/2023	1191	1.00	3.37	\$2,000,000
TD	BBB	A2	Defence Bank	At Maturity	16/02/2023	16/02/2024	365	5.00	3.37	\$3,000,000
TD	AA-	A1+	NAB	At Maturity	24/02/2023	26/02/2024	367	4.98	3.37	\$1,000,000
TD	A+	A1	Macquarie Bank	At Maturity	5/04/2023	3/04/2024	364	4.55	3.37	\$1,500,000
TD	BBB+	A2	Credit Union of Aust	At Maturity	31/01/2023	17/04/2024	442	4.67	3.37	\$1,000,000
TD	BBB+	A2	Australian Unity	At Maturity	9/02/2023	9/05/2024	455	4.80	3.37	\$1,000,000
TD	AA-	A1+	NAB	At Maturity	26/06/2023	25/06/2024	365	5.48	3.37	\$1,000,000
TD	BBB-	A2	Judo Bank	At Maturity	23/01/2023	24/07/2024	548	4.45	3.37	\$1,000,000
TD	AA-	A1+	NAB	At Maturity	24/02/2023	16/08/2024	539	4.95	3.37	\$2,000,000
TD	BBB	A1	AMP Bank	At Maturity	2/08/2023	4/09/2024	399	5.45	3.37	\$2,000,000
TD	BBB	A2	AMP Bank	At Maturity	15/03/2023	19/09/2024	554	4.80	3.37	\$1,000,000
TD	AA-	A1+	NT Treasury	Annual	28/09/2020	15/12/2024	1539	1.10	3.37	\$1,000,000
TD	BBB	A2	AMP Bank	At Maturity	12/01/2023	13/01/2025	732	4.55	3.37	\$2,000,000
TD	AA-	A1+	NAB	At Maturity	24/02/2023	24/02/2025	731	4.93	3.37	\$1,000,000
TD	BBB	A2	Police Financial Services	At Maturity	1/03/2023	13/03/2025	743	5.15	3.37	\$1,000,000
TD	BBB	A2	Defence Bank	At Maturity	8/03/2023	27/03/2025	750	4.90	3.37	\$1,000,000
TD	NR	NR	Summerland Credit Union	At Maturity	22/03/2023	8/05/2025	778	4.80	3.37	\$1,000,000
CASH	AA-	A1+	CBA	Monthly				1.35	2.89	\$3,727,550
CASH	AA-	A1+	CBA	Monthly				0.20	2.89	\$10,208
CASH	AA-	A1+	CBA	N/A				0.00	2.89	\$871,213
TOTAL:										\$32,108,971

GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 2023

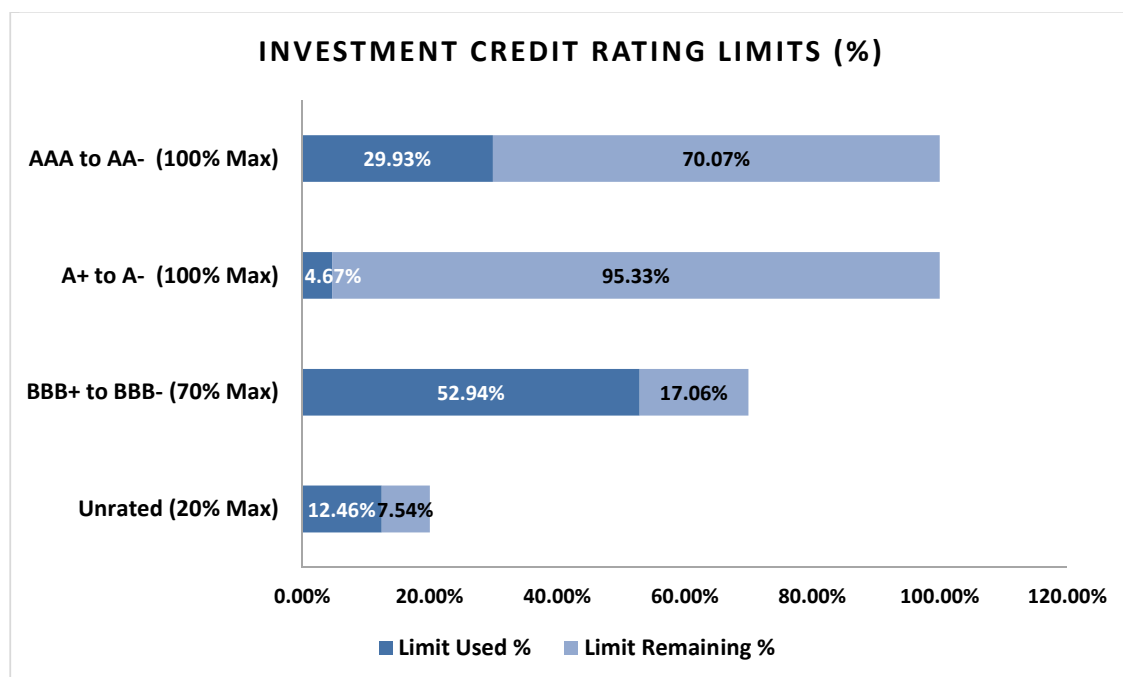
Portfolio Performance

Goldenfields Water County Council's investment portfolio outperformed by 1.85% in comparison to the relevant BBSW Index benchmark. The average weighted yield for August was 4.23%.

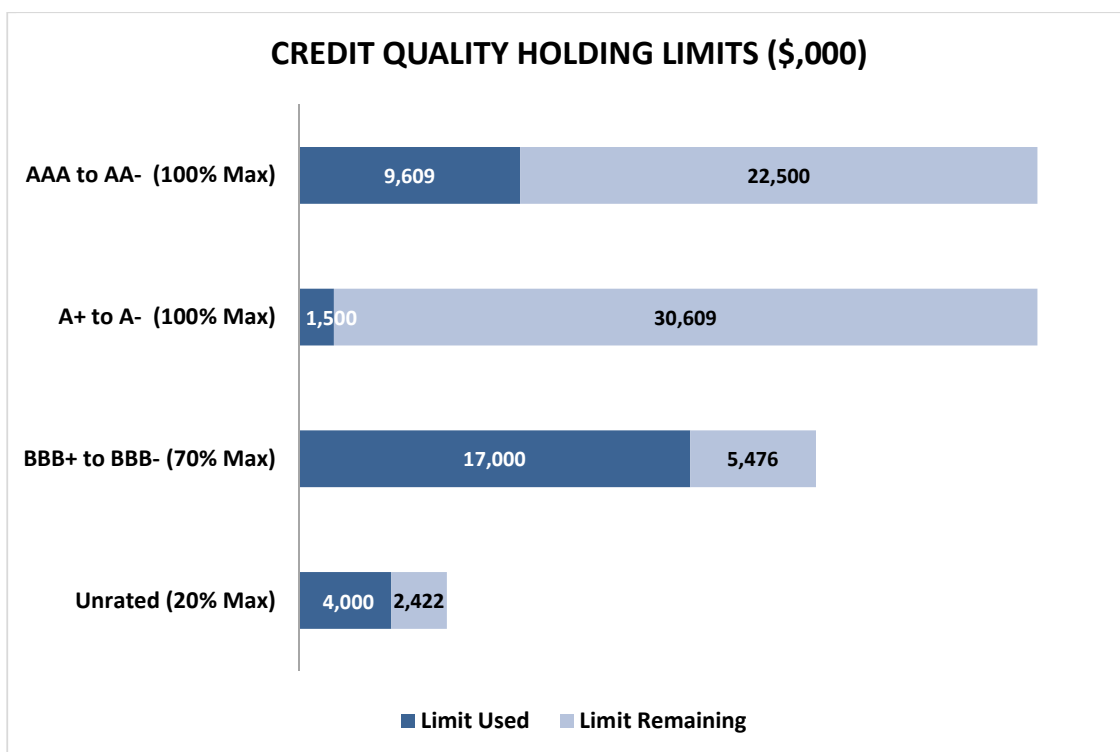
Total Cost	Yearly Interest Received	Weighted Average Term
32,108,971	92,649	265 days
Total Portfolio Value	Monthly Interest Received	Weighted Average Yield
32,611,191	22,688	4.23%

Credit Quality Compliance

Council's investment portfolio was compliant with policy in terms of S&P long term rating credit quality limits, as displayed below.



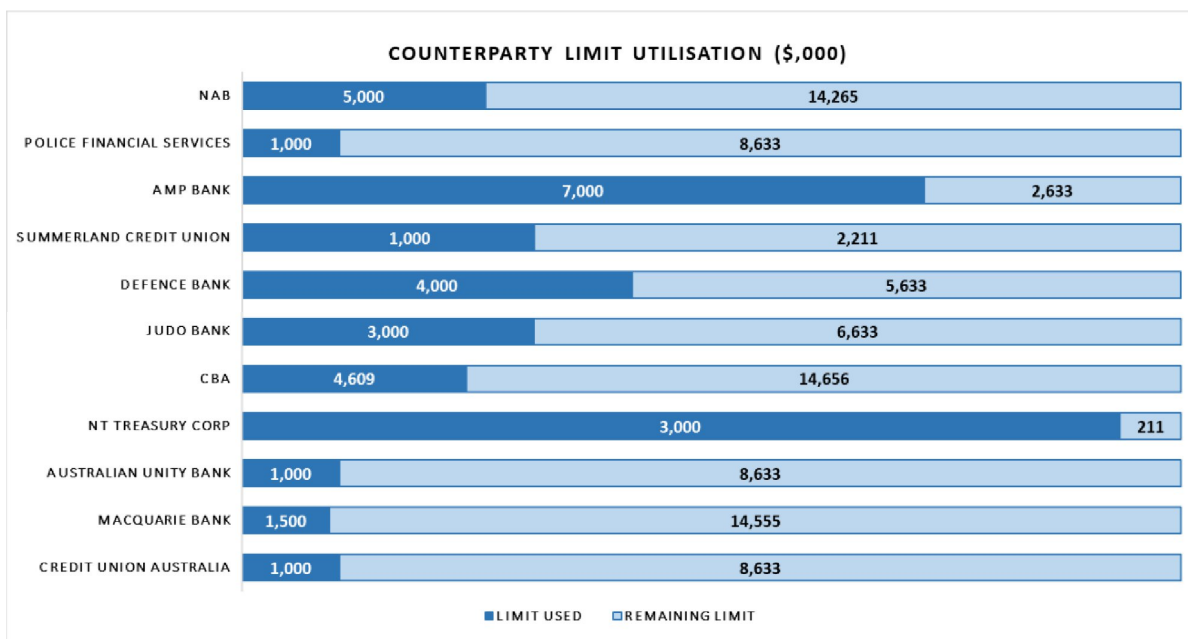
GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 2023



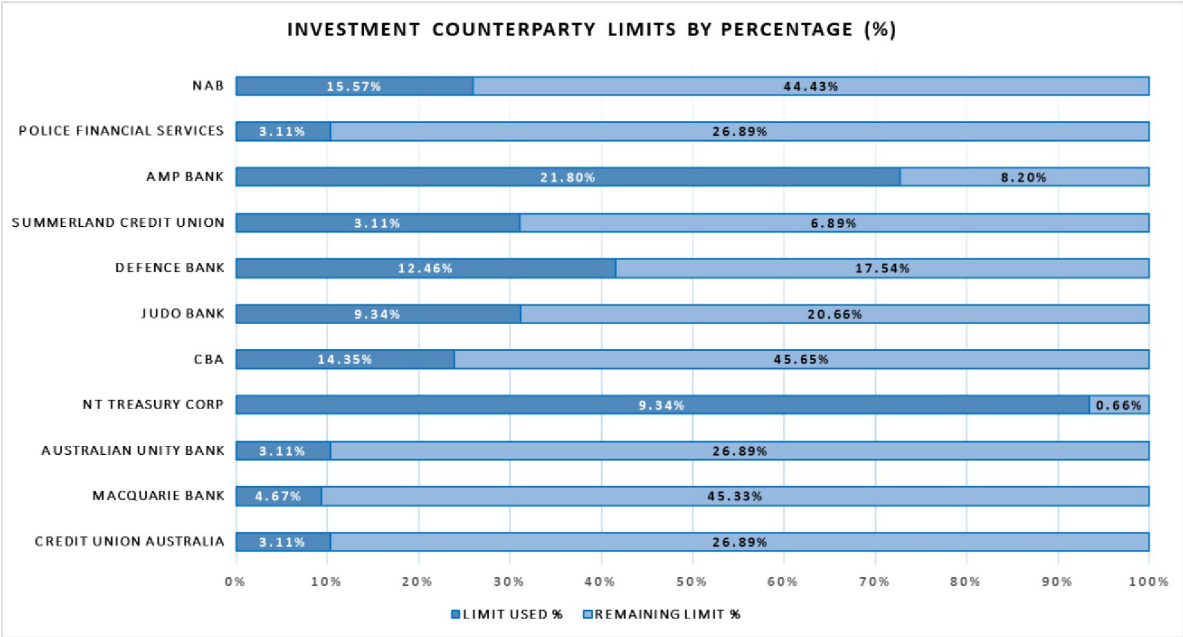
Counter Party Compliance

As at the end of August, Council was compliant with policy in terms of individual financial institution capacity limits. It is worth noting that capacity limits are affected by changes in the on-call account balance compared to the total portfolio balance.

Overall, the portfolio is diversified across a variety of credit ratings, including some exposure to unrated ADIs.

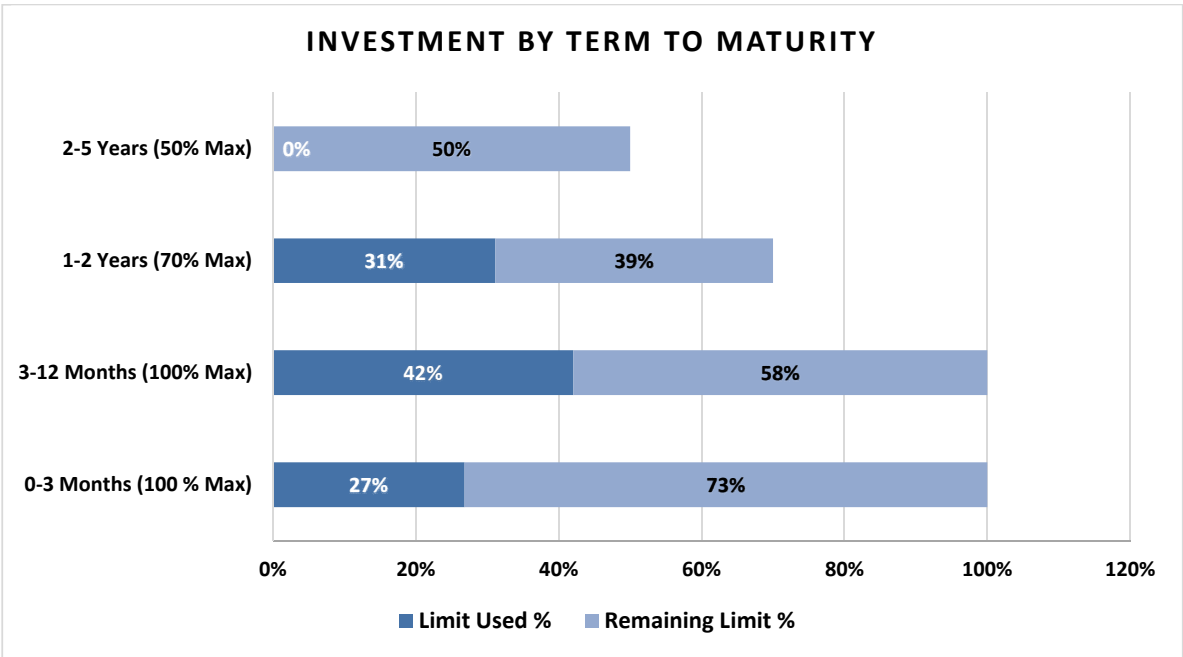


GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 2023



Term to Maturity

Council’s investment portfolio maturities shown graphically below were also compliant with policy requirements.



GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 2023

Application of Investment Funds

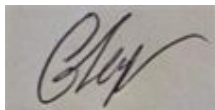
The table below details the allocation of cash balances in terms of restricted funds, noting restrictions are all internal rather than external.

Restricted Funds:	
Employee Leave Entitlement	2,492,494
Plant & Vehicle Replacement	2,830,127
Infrastructure Replacement	16,363,217
Unrestricted Funds	10,423,133
TOTAL	32,108,971

Declaration

I hereby certify that investments listed in the report have been made in accordance with Section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993, Clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 and Council's Investment Policy PP004.

Signed



Responsible Accounting Officer

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Council's cash and investment portfolio decreased by \$1,114,729.17 from \$33,223,700.40 as at 30th June 2023 to \$32,108,971.23 as at 31st August 2023.

ATTACHMENTS: Nil.

TABLED ITEMS: Nil.

GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 2023

PROGRESS REPORT - CAPITAL WORKS EXPENDITURE

Report prepared by Acting Corporate Services Manager

COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the Capital Works Progress Report as at 30th June 2023 be received and noted.

ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN

09 Financially Sustainable

BACKGROUND

Capital Works represents an important part of Council's activities and expenditure. This report details expenditure and progress for the year to date on programmed and emergent capital works.

REPORT

This report is presented for information on the expenditure and progress of Council's Capital Works Program as at 30th June 2023.

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The recommendation does not impact on Council's financial position.

ATTACHMENTS: Capital Works Progress Report as at 30th June 2023.

TABLED ITEMS: Nil.

Goldenfields Water County Council CAPITAL WORKS PROGRESS											
AS AT 30 June 2023	Original Budget	2021-22 Carryovers	QBR Sep 2022	QBR Dec 2022	QBR Mar 2023	Revised Budget 2022/23	Actual YTD	Committed YTD	Actual & Committed YTD	Variance YTD	% Actual & Committed to Rev Budget
CAPITAL INCOME											
Asset Sales	(738,000)	0	0	0	0	(738,000)	(641,763)	0	(641,763)	(96,237)	87%
Capital Contributions	(6,225,000)	0	0	0	0	(6,225,000)	(4,627,204)	0	(4,627,204)	(1,597,796)	74%
TOTAL CAPITAL INCOME	(6,963,000)	0	0	0	0	(6,963,000)	(5,268,967)	0	(5,268,967)	(1,694,033)	76%
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE											
NEW SYSTEM ASSETS											
Plant & Equipment	1,585,000	0	0	0	0	1,585,000	1,225,948	170,490	1,396,438	188,562	88%
Land & Buildings	0	100,000	0	0	0	100,000	50,215	65,588	115,803	(15,803)	116%
Mains - Developer Paid	40,000	60,000	0	0	87,000	187,000	175,494	6,670	182,164	4,836	97%
Mains - Reticulation	0	5,000	0	0	36,700	41,700	62,510	909	63,420	(21,720)	152%
Mains - Trunk	0	66,000	0	0	0	66,000	0	0	0	66,000	0%
Mains - Rural	17,000	0	0	0	17,000	34,000	13,359	0	13,359	20,641	39%
Pump Stations	0	0	400,000	0	140,000	540,000	461,380	290,578	751,958	(211,958)	139%
Scada	250,000	430,000	0	0	430,000	1,110,000	241,784	446,927	688,711	421,289	62%
Reservoirs	1,560,000	0	2,920,750	60,000	(600,000)	3,940,750	3,764,672	776,832	4,541,504	(600,754)	115%
TOTALS NEW SYSTEM ASSETS	3,452,000	661,000	3,320,750	60,000	110,700	7,604,450	5,995,363	1,757,994	7,753,357	(148,907)	102%
RENEWALS											
Plant & Equipment	30,000	0	0	0	(15,000)	15,000	4,505	0	4,505	10,495	30%
Furniture and Office Equipment	5,000	0	0	0	0	5,000	0	0	0	5,000	0%
Land & Buildings	50,000	0	0	0	22,000	72,000	0	5,100	5,100	66,900	7%
Mains - Reticulation	5,200,000	0	0	0	2,000,000	7,200,000	5,885,182	1,293,414	7,178,596	21,404	100%
Mains - Trunk	3,330,000	0	0	0	(1,300,000)	2,030,000	941,508	106,462	1,047,971	982,030	52%
Mains - Rural	1,415,000	180,000	0	0	0	1,595,000	460,068	208,206	668,274	265,826	42%
Pump Stations	1,342,000	269,000	0	63,000	(343,000)	1,331,000	902,994	1,851,999	2,754,993	(1,423,993)	207%
Bores	0	250,000	0	0	146,825	396,825	396,825	0	396,825	(0)	100%
Reservoirs	4,225,000	563,000	0	0	(3,100,000)	1,688,000	1,021,042	94,079	1,115,121	572,879	66%
Information Technology	60,000	0	0	0	0	60,000	8,596	17,999	26,595	33,405	44%
Treatment Plant	4,192,000	980,000	0	0	(1,368,000)	3,804,000	4,665,752	1,019,861	5,685,613	(1,881,613)	149%
TOTALS RENEWAL ASSETS	8,477,000	1,793,000	-	-	(4,321,175)	5,948,825	6,092,215	1,131,939	7,224,154	(1,275,329)	121%
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	23,301,000	2,903,000	3,320,750	123,000	(3,846,475)	25,801,275	20,281,836	6,355,114	26,636,949	(1,499,373)	103%

GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 2023

AUDIT RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

Report prepared by Corporate Services Manager

COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the Board receives and notes the minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held on 2 August 2023.

ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN

Priority 2 Customer Service Focus

BACKGROUND

Goldenfields Water County Council Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee is an advisory committee in accordance with section 355 of the Local Government Act 1993, and the Local Government Regulations 2012.

The Committee was established by Council Res 17/008 on 23 February 2017. In accordance with the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Charter, the Committee will report regularly to Council.

REPORT

The Goldenfields Water County Council Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee met on 2 August 2023. Minutes of the meeting are attached for the information of the Board.

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The recommendation does not impact on Council's financial position.

ATTACHMENTS: Minutes of ARIC Meeting 2 August 2023.

TABLED ITEMS: Nil.



ARIC Meeting Minutes

Meeting Ref. ARIC		Minute taker: Ashleigh Burnett
Date: 2 August 2023	Time: 10:09 am	Location: 84 Parkes Street, Temora (Board Room)
Attendees: Peter McLean (Chairperson), Geoff Twomey, Cr Bob Callow (via Zoom), Terri Bilske, Aaron Drenovski, Phil Swaffield (National Audits Group), Ashleigh Burnett.		
Apologies: NIL		

1. Welcome and Apologies

The meeting was opened at 10:09 am. No apologies were received.

The Chairman acknowledged the Traditional Custodians of the land, and paid respects to their Elders past and present.

2. Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

No pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests were declared.

3. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

RECOMMENDATION on the motion of Geoff Twomey and Peter McLean that the minutes of the meeting held 25 May 2023 having been circulated to members be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

4. Business Arising from Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

5. Chairperson Report

RECOMMENDATION on the motion of Geoff Twomey and Cr Bob Callow that the Committee received and noted the Chairperson's verbal report.

- **OLG Performance Report** – With the amalgamation of 3 consecutive Council's to create MidCoast Council, audits have found gaps in finance processes and data quality.
- **ICAC Investigation** – Investigations have been made into Canada Bay Council, Hurstville City Council and Georges River Council. There have been allegations made relating to the code of conduct, conflicts of interest and secondary employment about Councillors and Staff.
- **IBAC** – IBAC have provided a Fraud and Corruption Prevention Checklist.



- **NAAC Canberra** – There have been a total of 800 referrals since opening, 437 of those were in the first 2 weeks. 12% of matters are already in the public eye.
- **Consultants** – There have been inconsistencies with consultants and the reports created. In a lot of cases there are no agreements in place.
- **Auditors Zoom** – A lot is not being disclosed. The level of detail of revalue and what's being accepted.

6. General Manager Report

RECOMMENDATION on the motion of Geoff Twomey and Cr Bob Callow that the Committee received and noted the General Manager's verbal report.

- **Budget** – The Draft Budget with the increase of fees by 5% was adopted.
- **Exposed Pipe Jugiong** – A short/medium term fix has been completed. We are currently working with Fisheries to finalise a long-term option.
- **Resourcing** – We have a shortage of ICT staff. Temporary measures have been put in place. The ICT Coordinator Position advertising closes next week with interviews to follow. Terri Bilske has replaced John Chapman as Interim CS Manager. There have been some CS structure changes.
- **Auditors** – Auditors are due on 8th September. We should be on track for their arrival. The Interim Audit was completed in June with minimal issues raised.

7. Debt Recovery and Hardship Policy & Debt Recovery Procedure

RECOMMENDATION on the motion of Geoff Twomey and Cr Bob Callow that the Committee received and noted the Debt Recovery and Hardship Policy and the Debt Recovery Procedure.

REPORT

The current Debt Recovery Policy has been reviewed prior to the next scheduled review time as it has been necessary to change the method of delivery of 'Pending Flow Restrictor/Disconnection Notices' and the limit to determine referral to a debt collection agency.

The current Policy requires two Council officers to hand deliver the Notices to each property with significant outstanding water invoices. Employees are not always available, and the current process is not cost effective or efficient. The Policy has been changed to allow the 'Pending Flow Restrictor/Disconnection Notices' to be delivered through Registered Mail.

The existing Policy states that the limit for outstanding debt is \$2,000 before referral to debt collectors can be made. It is proposed to reduce the limit to \$500 after every other method of debt recovery has been exhausted.

ATTACHMENTS: Debt Recovery and Hardship Policy and Debt Recovery Policy

8. Review of Internal Audits

RECOMMENDATION on the motion of Geoff Twomey and Cr Bob Callow that the Committee:

- Receive and note the status of the 2022/23 Internal Audit Annual Work Program; and
- Discuss the priorities for the 2023/24 Internal Audit Work Program; and
- Management to review Council's 2023/24 priorities at the next MANEX Meeting to then be tabled at the September ARIC Meeting.



REPORT

The table below summarises the status of the 2022/23 Internal Audit Annual Work Program.

Internal Audit Area	Status
WHS Management	Completed
New Connections	Report in Draft stage and will be tabled at the next meeting
Water Supply and Demand Monitoring	Report in Draft stage and will be tabled at the next meeting

At the May 2020 meeting, a Strategic Internal Audit Plan was received and endorsed by the Committee that included an Internal Audit Universe which summarises the activities of Council within the potential scope of internal audit.

Unfortunately, due to recent changes within Council, there has not been an opportunity for Management to review and reassess these areas and consider any new and emerging risks for Council.

The Internal Audit Universe is attached for the information of the Committee, and it is proposed to discuss the priorities during the meeting.

ATTACHMENTS: Internal Audit Universe

9. ARIC Meeting Dates 2023

RECOMMENDATION on the motion of Geoff Twomey and Cr Bob Callow that the committee note the scheduled ARIC Committee meeting date for the remainder of 2023 as follows:

- 10am Thursday 28 September 2023 – 2022/23 Financial Statements (tentative)

10. Review of Action Items Progress Report

RECOMMENDATION on the motion of Peter McLean and Geoff Twomey that the committee receive and note the progress made with the Action Items.

NEXT MEETING: 10am Thursday 28 September 2023

There being no further matters requiring the attention of the committee the meeting was declared closed at 11:35am.

GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 2023

2022/23 DRAFT FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Report prepared by Acting Corporate Services Manager

COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

1. The Financial Statements for the year ended 30th June 2023 be referred to Council's Auditor, Audit Office of New South Wales,
2. Council make a resolution in accordance with Section 413(2)(c) that the Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with:
 - i. the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) (as amended) and the Regulations made there under
 - ii. the Australian Accounting Standards and professional pronouncements
 - iii. the *Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting*
 - iv. presents fairly the Council's operating results and financial position for the year
 - v. accords with Council's accounting and other records
 - vi. that Council is not aware of any matter that would render these statements false or misleading in any way
3. That Council adopt the abovementioned Statement and that the Chairperson, Councillor, General Manager and Responsible Accounting Officer be authorised to sign the 'Statement by Councillors and Management' in relation to Council's 2022/23 Financial Statements and Special Purpose Financial Reports and be attached thereto.
4. The General Manager be delegated the authority to issue the audited Financial Statements immediately upon receipt of the Auditor's Reports, subject to their being no material changes or audit issues.
5. Council present the final audited Financial Statements and Auditor's Report to the public at its ordinary meeting to be held on 26th October 2023.

ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN

09 Financially Sustainable

BACKGROUND

Under Section 413(1) of the Local Government Act 1993, Council is required to prepare financial reports and must refer them for audit.

REPORT

Council's draft Financial Statements for the year ended 30th June 2023 are in draft form and are ready to be forwarded to Council's Auditors.

Under the provisions of Section 413(2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1993, the Financial Statements and Special Purpose Financial Statements shall be accompanied by a statement made in accordance with a resolution by Council, signed by two Councillors, General Manager and Responsible Accounting Officer.

Following receipt of the Auditor's Report, it will be necessary to give public notice for a period of at least seven (7) days prior to the adoption of the Financial Statements.

It is anticipated that the complete set of Financial Statements, including the Auditor's Report will be submitted to Council's Ordinary Meeting on 26th October 2023.

GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 2023

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The recommendation does not impact on Council's financial position.

ATTACHMENTS:

The following attachments will be provided at the meeting:

2022/23 Draft Primary Financial Statements; GPFS Statement by Councillors and Management; SPFS Statement by Councillors and Management.

TABLED ITEMS: Nil.

GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 2023

PENSIONER CONCESSIONS POLICY

Report prepared by Acting Corporate Services Manager

COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the Board adopts PP002 Pensioner Concessions Policy

ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN

Priority 2 Customer Service Focus

BACKGROUND

Council adopted PP002, the Pensioner Concessions Policy in 2009 in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 No. 30 – NSW Legislation - Section 575 – Reductions for eligible pensioners. The Policy has been reviewed with no changes required to be made.

REPORT

PP002 Pensioner Concessions Policy has been reviewed and no changes are required for this Policy.

Section 575 – Reductions for eligible pensioners (3) (b) specifies that ‘The total amount by which - all water supply special rates or charges so levied are reduced is not to exceed \$87.50.’

Council currently has 1,686 Pensioner Concessions with a total value of \$141,708.52 for 2023/24. The Office of Local Government contributes 55% of the Pensioner Concession Subsidy and application has been made for payment of \$77,939.69 for the 2023/24 financial year. The balance of \$63,768.83 is a reduction in Council's water billing revenue.

The Policy also allows for an eligible pensioner who was not aware for some years that they were entitled to a pensioner concession, to make a claim and request that the concession be backdated for a maximum of two prior years.

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The recommendation does not impact on Council's financial position. This Policy is a legislative requirement and has been included in the budget process.

ATTACHMENTS:

PP002 Pensioner Concessions Policy



Policy No. PP002

Pensioner Concessions Policy



Policy No .PP002

Pensioner Concessions

1 INFORMATION ABOUT THIS POLICY

POLICY INFORMATION

Date Adopted by Board 2004	Board Resolution No. 09/012
Policy Responsibility Administrator Coordinator	
Review Timeframe 3 yearly	
Last Review 2009	Next Scheduled Review 2012

DOCUMENT HISTORY

DOCUMENT NO.	DATE AMENDED	SUMMARY OF CHANGES
	DD/MM/YYYY	
	DD/MM/YYYY	
	DD/MM/YYYY	
	DD/MM/YYYY	
	DD/MM/YYYY	
	DD/MM/YYYY	
	DD/MM/YYYY	

FURTHER DOCUMENT INFORMATION AND RELATIONSHIPS

Related Legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Government Act 1993, Section 575 Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 Local Government (General) Regulations 2005
Related Policies	
Related Procedures, Protocols, Statements and Documents	



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Pensioner Concessions

3 PURPOSE

From time to time Council receives applications from pensioners for a rebate on their water accounts. The concessions are provided under Division 1 of Part 8 of Chapter 15 (s.575) of the Local Government Act 1993.

In some instances pensioners have not been aware for some years that they were eligible for a concession and request that the concession be backdated accordingly. Difficulties may arise in verification of their pension entitlement and substantiating that they were indeed eligible pensioners in their particular residence or living arrangements.

This policy is designed to encourage pensioners to seek out their entitlements at the time charges are levied and to ensure that applications are bona- fide.

4 SCOPE

N/A

5 DEFINITIONS

N/A

6 POLICY

Where an eligible pensioner is entitled to a rebate under the Local Government Act, Council will limit backdating of such concessions to the year in which the application is made and the two financial years prior to the year in which the application is first made.

6.1 Action/Compliance

Customers seeking the pensioner concession rebate must complete Council's Pensioner Concession Application Form.

Signed: _____

General Manager

Date: ____/____/____

Signed: _____

Chairperson

Date: ____/____/____

GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 2023

DEBT RECOVERY & HARDSHIP POLICY

Report prepared by Acting Corporate Services Mana

COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the Board adopts the revised PP016 Debt Recovery & Hardship Policy.

ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN

Priority 2 Customer Service Focus

BACKGROUND

Council adopted PP016 Debt Recovery & Hardship Policy in February 2017. The policy's purpose being to enable Council to operate a consistent and fair process when recovering outstanding debts and providing assistance to customers suffering genuine financial hardship, ensuring that revenue is managed so that Council continues to be financially sustainable.

REPORT

PP016 Debt Recovery & Hardship Policy has been reviewed to allow for a proposed change in the method of delivery of 'Pending Flow Restrictor/Disconnection Notices'.

This Policy has been reviewed prior to the next scheduled date of February 2024 due to the need for change to the method of issuing 'Pending Flow Restrictor/Disconnection Notices'. Previously, these Notices required hand delivery by two Goldenfields Water Officers. The proposed change will allow the Notices to be sent via registered mail and is considered to be a more cost-effective method of delivery.

Internal procedures will also be altered to allow for postage delays, whereby the Flow Restrictor or Disconnection will not be actioned for 7 days after the Notices have been posted. The previous timeframe was 48 hours. Proposed procedural changes will also include debt collection to commence on outstanding debt of \$500 or more, previously on debt of \$2,000 or more. This will allow for the process of debt recovery, either by payment plans, flow restrictors or disconnection, or via external debt collection agencies, to be commenced before the debt becomes overwhelming. It should be noted that every endeavour is made to recover outstanding debt before external debt collection agencies are engaged.

The policy encourages owners to contact Council and make payment arrangements where they would otherwise have difficulty meeting their commitments. Debt recovery action is taken as a last resort, where accounts remain outstanding for an extended period of time, no contact has been made to make a payment arrangement or the customer continues to default on payment arrangements.

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The recommendation does not impact on Council's financial position.

ATTACHMENTS: Debt Recovery & Hardship Policy

TABLED ITEMS: Nil



Policy No. PP016

Debt Recovery & Hardship Policy



Debt Recovery & Hardship Policy

1 INFORMATION ABOUT THIS POLICY

POLICY INFORMATION

Date Adopted by Board 23 February 2017	Resolution No. 20/012
Policy Responsibility Corporate Services Manager	
Review Timeframe 4 yearly	
Last Review 21/02/2020	Next Scheduled Review 21/02/2024

DOCUMENT HISTORY

DOCUMENT NO.	DATE AMENDED	SUMMARY OF CHANGES
	02/08/2017	Updated to include the debt recovery process of debt collection through an external party.
	21/02/2020	Re-write of debt recovery portion of policy to clarify policy requirements
	27/07/2023	Re-write of debt recovery portion of policy to change method of delivery of Pending Flow Restrictor/Disconnection Notice
	DD/MM/YYYY	
	DD/MM/YYYY	
	DD/MM/YYYY	
	DD/MM/YYYY	

FURTHER DOCUMENT INFORMATION AND RELATIONSHIPS

Related Legislation	NSW Local Government Act 1993, NSW Local Government General Regulation 2005
Related Policies	
Related Procedures, Protocols, Statements and Documents	Debt Recovery Procedure

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Debt Recovery & Hardship Policy

3 PURPOSE

To enable Council to operate a consistent and fair process when recovering outstanding debts and providing assistance to customer suffering genuine financial hardship, ensuring that revenue is managed so that Council continues to be financially sustainable.

4 SCOPE

This Policy applies to all customers of Council.

5 WATER ACCOUNTS

Goldenfields Water issues water accounts to property owners, unless previously arranged by the owner that the accounts should be issued to a property manager or tenants.

Payment of the water accounts is due twentyone (21) days from the date of issue.

5.1 Overdue Water Accounts

Goldenfields Water follows a process when water accounts are overdue and the property owner either has not made contact or has defaulted on a payment arrangement:

1. If a water account has not been paid by the due date, a **Final Notice** will be sent.
2. If the water account remains unpaid, Council will issue a **Pending Flow Restrictor/Disconnection Notice to be sent by Registered Mail**.
3. Water supply will be restricted or disconnected by Goldenfields Water staff, and a **Notice of Restriction or Disconnection** card will be left at the property.
 - *Vacant properties will be disconnected and left a Disconnection Notice.
 - *Disconnection is at Goldenfields discretion and may be used in situations including but limited to meter tampering, unauthorised removal or damage to a restrictor.
4. If the water accounts remain unpaid, details of the outstanding debt will be provided to Goldenfields Water's external debt collection agency whereby the commencement of legal action may result in further charges being added to the customer's account.

5.2 Interest Charged on Overdue Water Accounts

Interest accrues on a daily basis in accordance with Section 566 of the Local Government Act 1993 on rates and charges that remain unpaid after they become due and payable. The maximum rate of interest is that set by the NSW Office of Local Government.

5.3 Intention to Restrict / Disconnect Supply

Council reserves the right to instigate restriction / disconnection of water supply at any stage of the debt recovery process.

Council will only restrict or disconnect the water supply to a property as a last resort when water accounts are outstanding for an extended period of time, the customer continues to default on payment arrangements, or no contact has been made to organise a payment arrangement.

Council will give reasonable warning prior to restriction or disconnection, and will leave a Notice of Restriction or Disconnection card at the property when the restriction or disconnection has taken place.

Debt Recovery & Hardship Policy

Restriction/Disconnection will be undertaken Monday to Thursday, and devices will not be removed outside of business hours.

5.4 Avoiding Restriction / Disconnection of Supply

Council will not restrict or disconnect under the following circumstances:

- If the property is known to be tenanted
- If the Customer agrees to a payment plan, and meets the commitments of that plan when they are due
- The customer is arranging payment for overdue bills in conjunction with Council staff
- The customer has an existing or outstanding billing complaint with Council

5.5 Restoring Water Supply

Council will restore the water supply when:

- The outstanding debt is paid in full, including reconnection fees as outlined in the current Schedule of Fees and Charges
- A decision is made to restore the water supply on compassionate or other reasons, or at Councils discretion

5.6 Legal Action

Where outstanding accounts are not paid, Council may initiate legal action against the property owner with an external debt recovery agency, the cost of which will be added to the customer's water account in accordance with the appropriate legislation.

6 FINANCIAL HARDSHIP

6.1 Conditions

The following conditions apply to all applications under this policy:

- That the property for which the hardship application applies is the principal place of residence or occupancy of the applicant.
- That the actual hardship exists (examples are provided below).
- That water charges payable must be more than 10% of the gross income (net of pensioner concession) of the property owner for requests to waive interest.
- That a mutually accepted repayment schedule is entered into, which takes into account future charges levied against the property, and is for a period not exceeding two years, to be reviewed after 12 months. Where a customer defaults on an approved arrangement, recovery action will recommence.
- In special circumstances, interest charges may be suspended until overdue amounts are repaid.
- If a property has already been restricted prior to Hardship Application, a larger sized flow restriction device may be installed until the account has been paid in full.

Examples

Following are examples, provided as a non-exhaustive guide of what may be considered genuine financial hardship under this policy:

- Loss of employment: resulting in a loss of income.
- Death, terminal illness or injury: resulting in a loss of income. Evidenced by medical certificate and proof of loss of income are required.



Debt Recovery & Hardship Policy

- Natural disaster: causing loss of income.

6.2 Review Procedures

All applicants must complete the attached “Application for Financial Hardship” form. All applications are reviewed by the Administration Coordinator and approved by the Corporate Services Manager.

DRAFT



Debt Recovery & Hardship Policy

7 ANNEXURE 1 – APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL HARDSHIP

I, of

Apply for hardship relief on the following grounds:

1. Cause of financial hardship:

.....

.....

.....

.....

2. How long have you been in hardship:

3. Do you receive any pensions or benefits: ☐ Yes ☐ No

4. Is this property your principal place of residence? ☐ Yes ☐ No

5. Do you rent the property? ☐ Yes ☐ No

6. How many people live at the property?

☐ Self ☐ Spouse / Defacto ☐ Others (Specify)

☐ Relatives ☐ Children (please note ages):

7. Do you own or have an interest in any other land or buildings? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If "Yes", state address:

8. Proposed Payment Arrangement:

Amount: \$..... ☐ Weekly ☐ Fortnightly ☐ Monthly

I declare that the information provided in this application is true and correct:

Signature: Date:

PRIVACY:

Information contained in this application will be treated as private and confidential, used only for the purpose of assessing eligibility under the Hardship Policy.

GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 2023

WATER PRODUCTION REPORT

Report prepared by Production and Services Manager

COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the Water Production Report be received and noted.

ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN

Priority 3 A Healthy Natural Environment

BACKGROUND

Goldenfields Water provides the essential water requirements of about 40,000 people spread over an area in excess of 20,000 square kilometres between the Lachlan & Murrumbidgee Rivers in the South West of NSW.

Goldenfields Waters' supply system consists of five separate water schemes, Jugiong, Oura, Mt Arthur, Mt Daylight and Hylands Bridge. Goldenfields Water carries out water supply functions within the Local Government areas of Bland, Coolamon, Cootamundra, Hilltops, Junee, Temora, and parts of Narrandera and Wagga Wagga.

Hilltops Shire Council, Cootamundra Gundagai Shire Council and Riverina Water County Council are retailers, who purchase bulk water from Goldenfields and supply the water to retail customers in their respective local government areas.

REPORT

Jugiong drinking Water Scheme

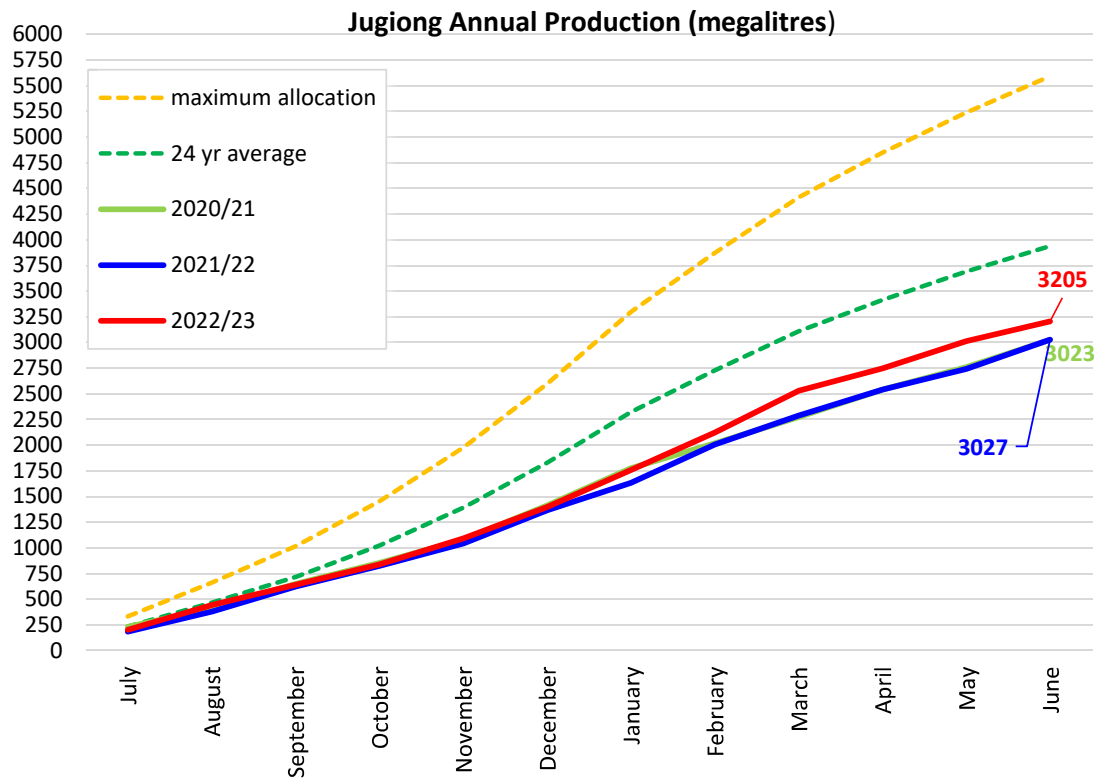
The Jugiong drinking water scheme sources water from the Murrumbidgee River and has an extraction licence entitlement of 5590ML per annum. Water from the Murrumbidgee River is treated through a 40ML/day, conventional Water Treatment Plant that consists of: Coagulation, Flocculation, Clarification, Filtration, Disinfection and Fluoridation.

The Jugiong Scheme has 14 sets of reservoirs and 8 pumping stations. The Jugiong Scheme supplies bulk water to the Hilltops and Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Councils for supply to the townships of Cootamundra, Harden and Young with a population of approximately 6800, 2200 and 8000 respectively.

Goldenfields Water also provides additional retail supply to approximately 600 customers in the villages of Stockinbingal, Wallendbeen and Springdale.

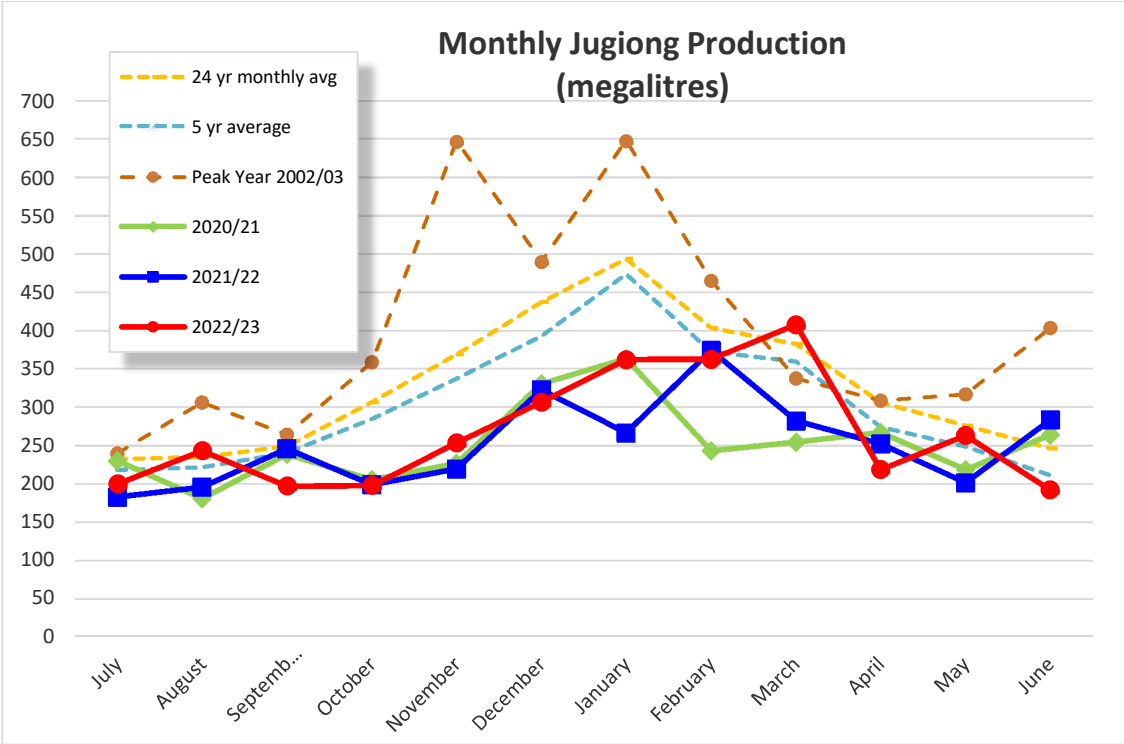
GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 2023

For the 2022/23 financial year, 3205ML of water had been extracted from the Murrumbidgee River and processed at the Jugiong Water Treatment plant. This is slightly higher than for the 2021/22 FY where 3027ML was extracted. An increase of 178ML. This is illustrated in the graph below.



GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 2023

Jugiong monthly production started slightly higher in July with 199ML extracted and treated for the month. August saw a further increase in production with 243ML extracted and treated before a decrease in production for September where only 197ML was extracted and treated. October saw an extraction of 198ML. November through to January saw a gradual increase in production as we moved into the warmer months. November (254ML), December (307ML) and January (362ML). February had a similar production to January (362ML) before a slight increase in March (408ML) extracted. With the onset of cooler months production in April reduced to (219ML) before a slight increase for May (263ML) and June indicates another reduction in production (192ML).



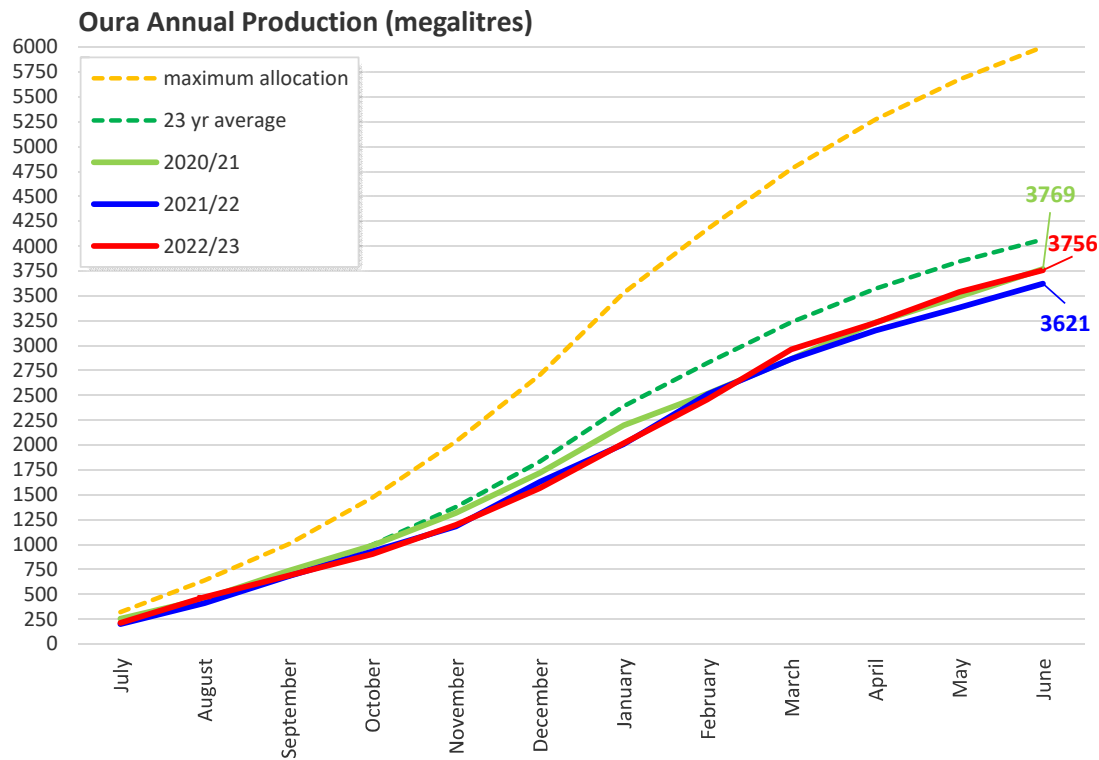
GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 2023

Oura Drinking Water Scheme

The water source at Oura is the Murrumbidgee inland alluvial aquifer, this water is extracted from 4 bores namely: Bores 2, 3, 4 and 6. The raw water then goes through a treatment process at the Oura Water Treatment Plant that includes Aeration, Disinfection and Fluoridation.

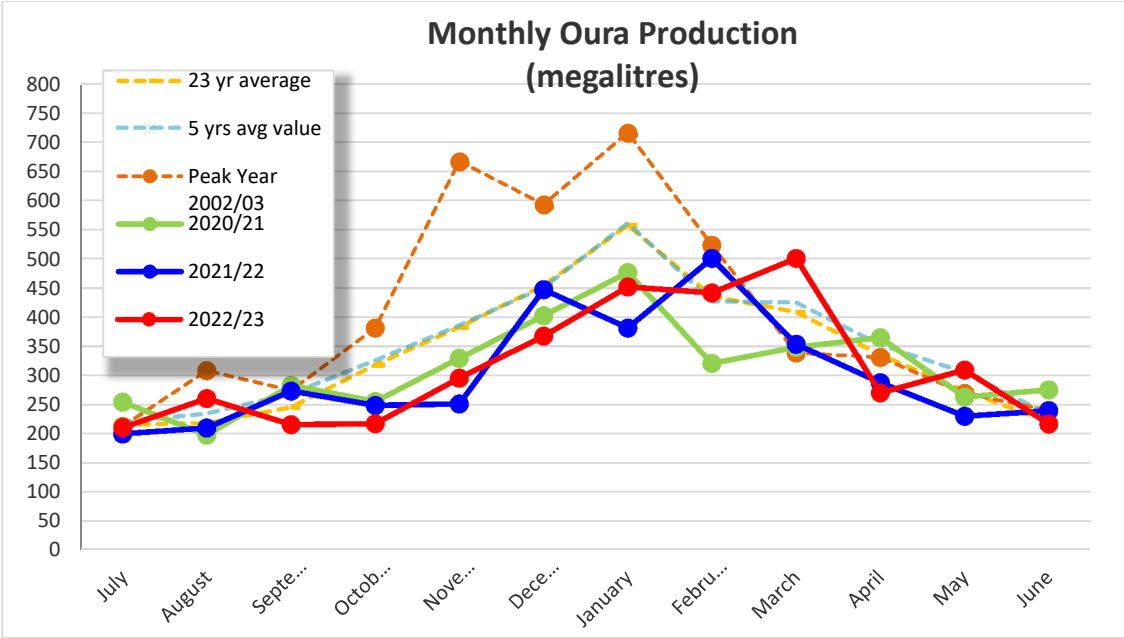
The Oura scheme has 33 sets of reservoirs and 19 pumping stations, produces drinking water for approximately 14,600 people in the Bland, Coolamon, Junee, Narrandera and Temora Shires. The Oura scheme can also supply water to the Northern side of the rural area of Wagga Wagga City when required.

For the 2022/23 financial year, 3756ML of water has been extracted from the Oura Borefield and processed at the Oura Water Treatment Plant. This is a slight increase in production compared to 2021/22 FY where 3621ML of water was extracted for the same period. An increase in production of 135ML. This is depicted in the graph below.



GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 2023

Oura monthly water production has started slightly higher in July where 200ML was extracted from the Oura bores. August saw an increase in production where 260ML was extracted before a decrease in production for September saw only 215ML extracted. October saw a further decrease where only 217ML was extracted. November through to January saw further production increases as we move into the warmer months. November (295ML), December (367ML) and January (452ML). February was slightly lower in production with (441ML) extracted before an increase in March saw (501ML) extracted from the Oura Bores. There was a large decrease in production for April (270ML) before a slight increase in Production in May (309ML) and June indicates a further reduction in production (217ML).

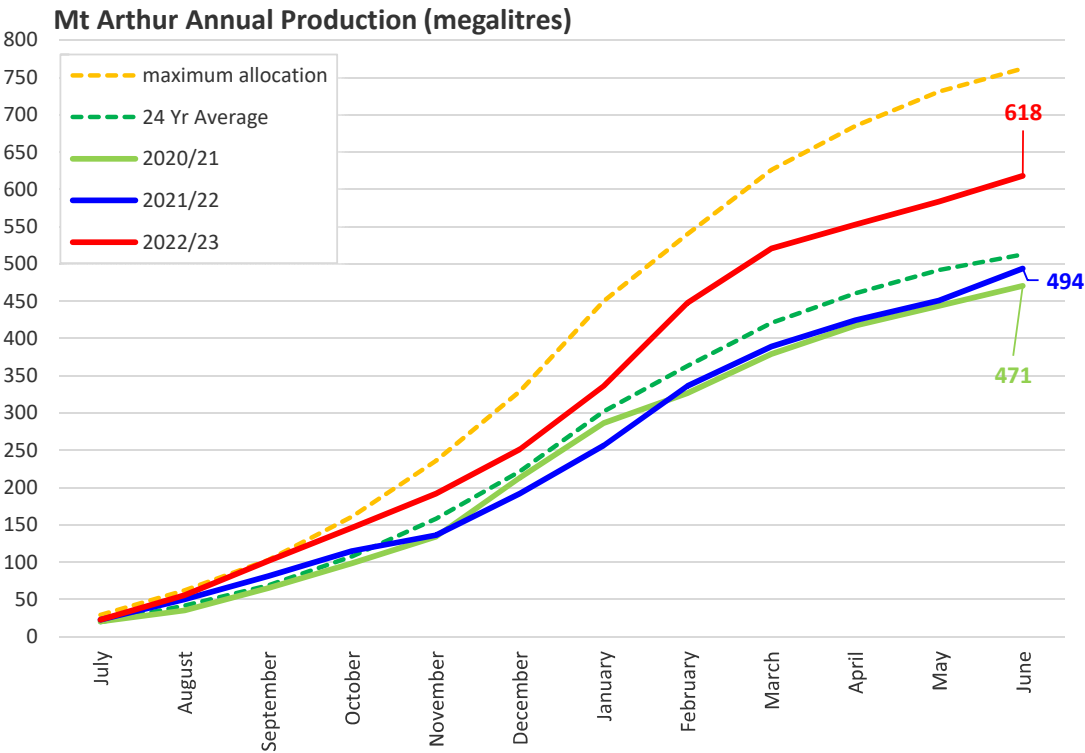


GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 2023

Mount Arthur Drinking Water Scheme

The Mount Arthur Water Source is from the Lachlan Fold belt Aquifer System. The water is extracted via two bores, bores 1 and 2 located in the Wagga Wagga City Council area South of Matong. The water is disinfected before distribution through 9 sets of reservoirs supplying approximately 2400 people with water in the Coolamon shire.

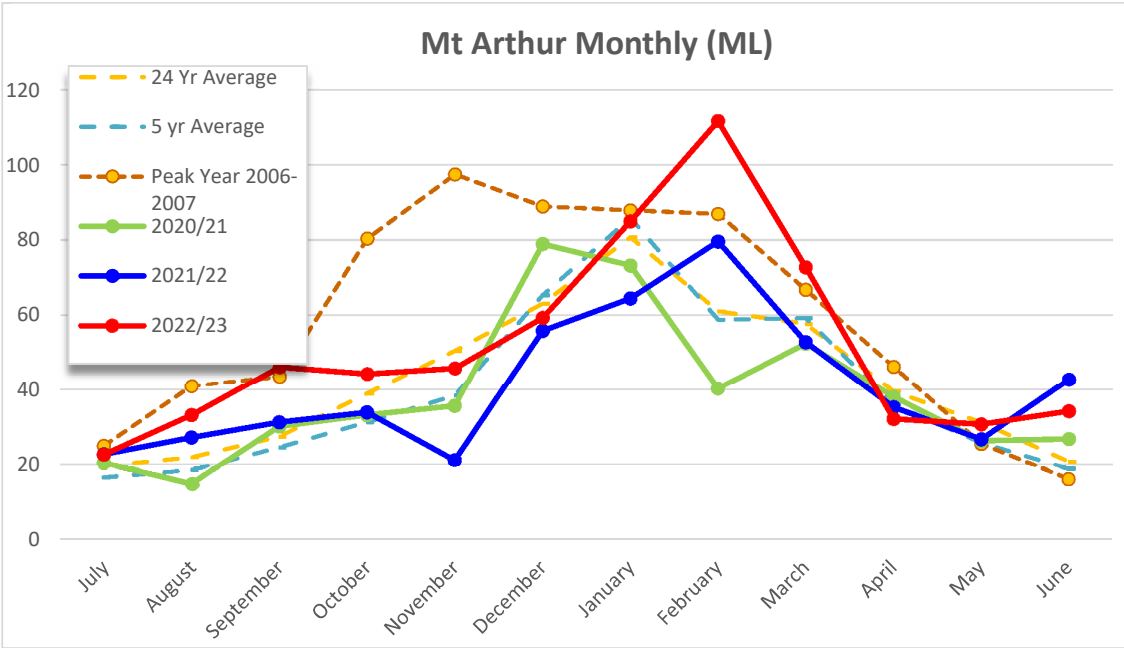
For the 2022/23 financial year, 618ML of water has been extracted from the Mt Arthur Borefield. This is an increase compared to the 2021/22 FY where 494ML was extracted from the Mt Arthur bores for the same period. An increase of 124ML. This increase in Production over the year can attributed to a burst in Matong and a burst in Coolamon between the September to February periods at an estimated loss of 45ML. As can be seen in the graph below, production is trending slightly higher to previous years.



GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 2023

Mt Arthur monthly water production started very consistently to previous years with 23ML of water extracted from the bores in July before a significant increase in the following 2 months, August saw 33ML extracted and September a further increase to 46ML. This increase indicated a leak within the system; however, finding was difficult with the wet catchment and flooding during these periods.

October saw a slight decrease with 44ML extracted from the Mt Arthur Bores. November through to January saw a steady increase every month as we move into the warmer months. November (46ML), December (59ML) and January (85ML) extracted. February data indicates a large spike in production where (112ML) was extracted before a reduction in Production for March (73ML). April saw a further reduction in Production to (32ML) before a further slight reduction in May where (31ML) was extracted from the Mt Arthur bores. June indicates a slight increase in production from average years (34ML).



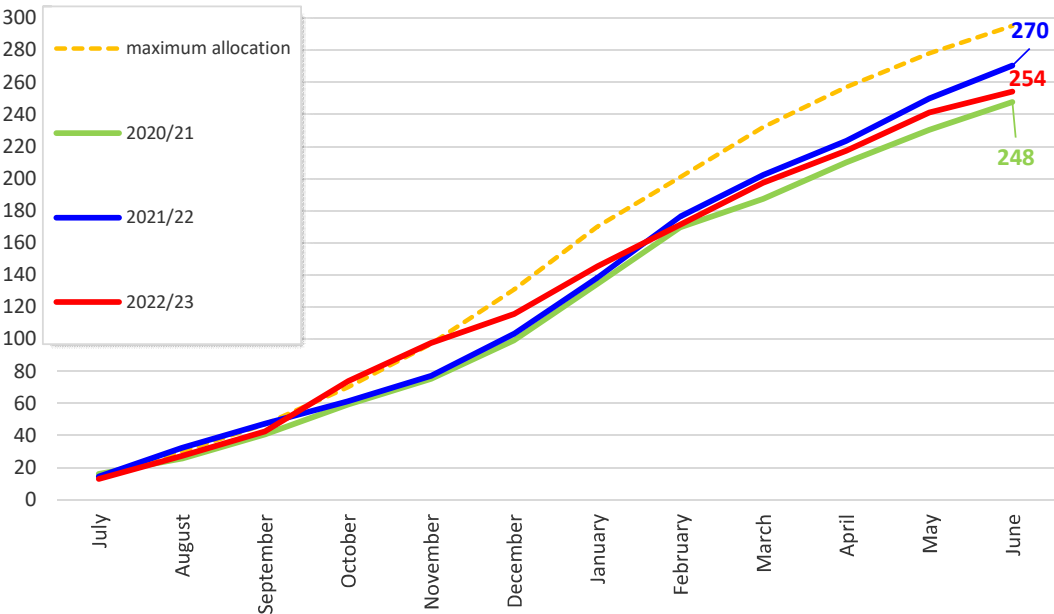
GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 2023

Mount Daylight Drinking Water Scheme

The Mount Daylight water source is from the Lower Lachlan alluvium aquifer. The Mount Daylight bores are jointly operated with Carathool Shire Council. Carathool Shire Council is responsible for bore management. There are 7 sets of reservoirs in the Mt Daylight scheme. Mt Daylight supplies water to approximately 125 people in the villages of Naradhan, Weethalle and Tallimba which is located within the Bland Shire.

For the 2022/23 financial year, 254ML of water has been extracted from the Mt Daylight Borefield. This is a decrease in volume of 16ML compared to the 2021/22 FY where 270ML was produced over the same period. The steep increase in September/October indicates that a burst was evident in the scheme, interrogation of ClearSCADA pump run times indicated a pump had run for a long period of time also indicating a burst within the scheme. The burst was located on Harts Lane within the Mt Daylight scheme, again prolonged wet weather made it difficult to access and locate the burst.

Daylight Annual Volume (megalitres)

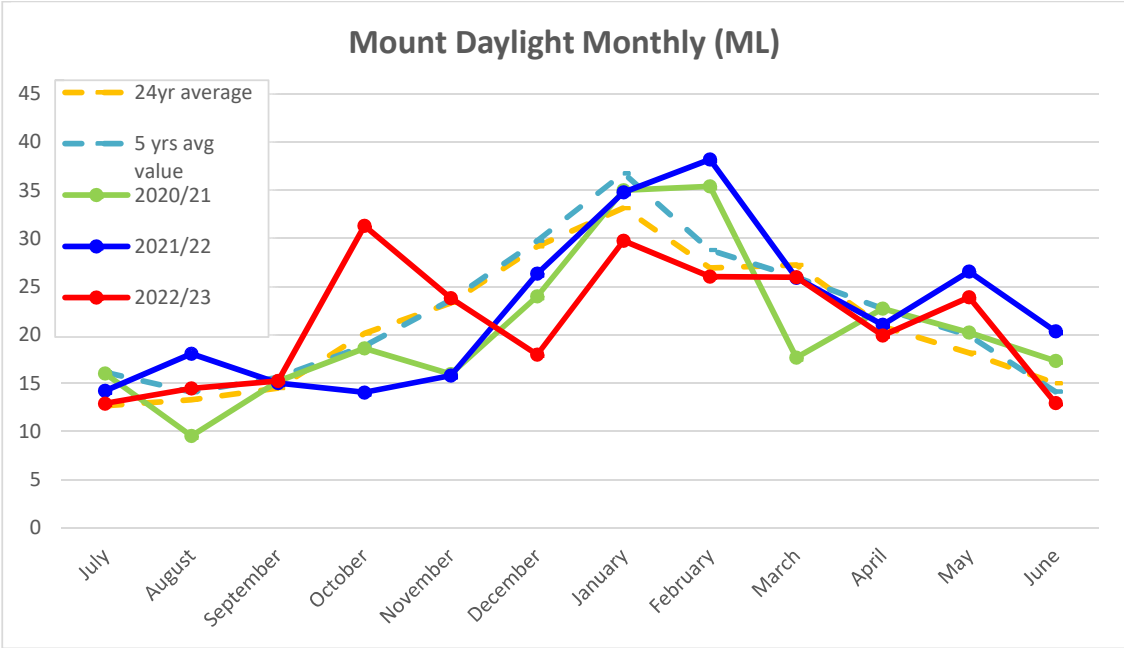


GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 2023

The monthly extraction totals for the Mt Daylight bores started very consistently with July seeing 13ML extracted with slight increases in August 14ML, September was steady with 15ML extracted before a dramatic increase for October where 31ML was extracted, as indicated this increases correlates to a burst in the system which has been located and fixed.

November through to January had seen some inconsistencies with production. These inconsistencies correlate to the prolonged period of flooding experienced at the bores where we operated for around 10 days without any production.

The period November and December saw a decrease in monthly extractions as both bores were under floodwater for up to 4-6 weeks. November saw 24ML produced with a further decrease in December where 18ML was produced. January saw an increase in production (30ML) as both bores were once again available for production as flood waters receded. February and March have been very consistent with (26ML) extracted for each of these months. April saw a decrease in Production (20ML) before a slight increase is evident in May (24ML). June (13ML) indicates a further reduction in production mainly due to the cooler wet weather.

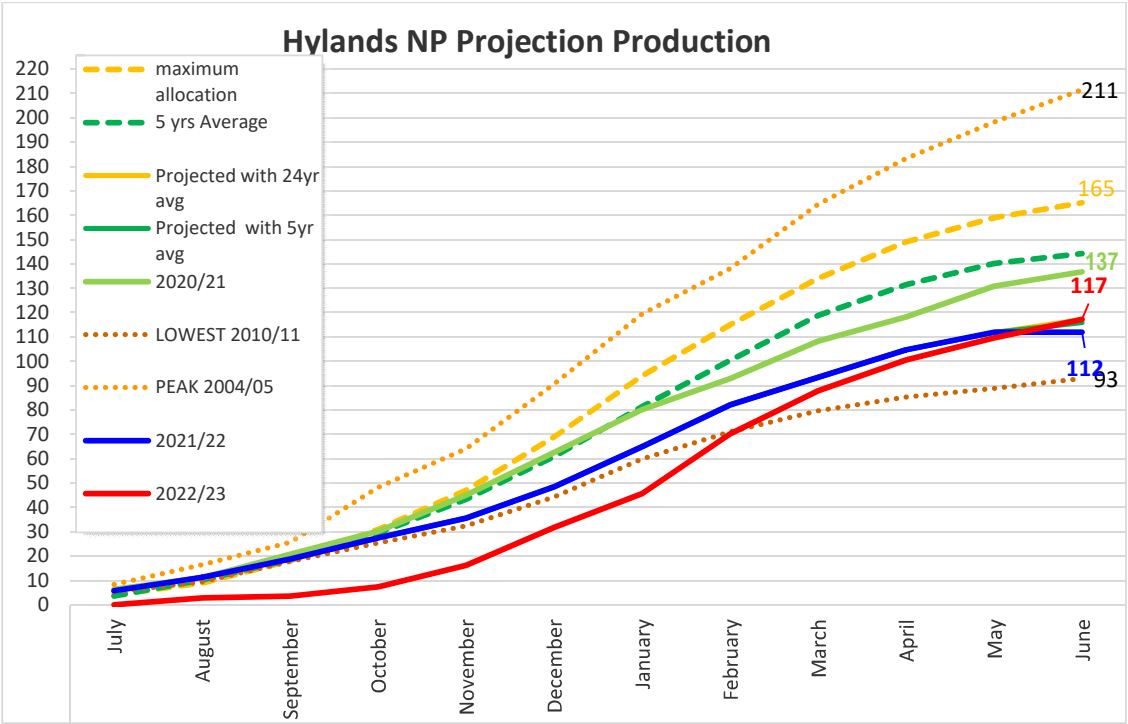


GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 2023

Hylands Bridge - Non-Potable

Hylands Bridge supplies Non-Potable water to Barellan and Binya. The water is sourced through the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area where Goldenfields Water holds 165ML shareholding for water entitlement.

For the 2022/23 financial year only 117ML of water has been extracted from the Hylands Bridge Raw Water scheme. The reduction in production from Hylands Bridge may be attributed to Murrumbidgee Irrigation channel maintenance and pump issues during August/September. The Hylands Bridge Scheme has the ability for cross connection of supply from the Oura scheme at Barellan. When maintenance is undertaken on the channels supply for Barellan is cut over to the Oura scheme to maintain supply.



FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The recommendation does not impact on Council's financial position.

LOCAL PREFERENCE

N/A

ATTACHMENTS: Nil

TABLED ITEMS: Nil

GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 2023

BUDGET REVISION FOR THE OURA PUMP STATION AND DOSING PROJECT**Report prepared by Manager Production & Services****COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

That the Board:

- a. Note the information detailed within this report.
- b. Approve the budget revision for the Oura pump station and dosing renewal project

ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN

Priority 1 High Quality, Secure and Efficient Water Supplies

BACKGROUND

The Oura pump station project has previously been planned for with a budget allocation of \$3,075,000 over three financial years. The initial project was specifically based upon the delivery of three new pumps and a new building to house these units. The project commenced in 2022 via a tendering process in order to assess new pump options suitable to the significant pressure and flows required as part of the Oura scheme.

At the December 2022 Council meeting, it was resolved that:

22/113 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Callow and Piper that the Board;

- 1. Note the information provided within this report*
- 2. In accordance with Reg 178 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, decline to accept any of the tenders.*
- 3. In accordance with Reg 178, of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, section (3), (e), enter into negotiations with FITT Resources with a view to entering into a contract in relation to the supply of pumps for the Oura Water Treatment Plant.*
- 4. Note that FITT Resources has been selected for negotiations as they were the preferred applicant as a result of panel evaluation process.*
- 5. Approve the General Manager and/or his delegate to negotiate, undertake any additional request for quotations and enter any agreement necessary to complete the supply of pumps and associated equipment for the Oura Pump Station*

The Supply of Pumps – Oura Pump Station contract was accepted for a total of \$1,721,573 ex. GST in March 2023. These pumps and motors are currently under construction and are expected to be available for Factory Assessment Testing (FAT) in Melbourne late 2023.

REPORT

Since the inception of the project, a significant amount of strategic planning work has been undertaken across all of our water supply schemes, this includes but is not limited to the catchment risk assessment of the source water, development of a new hydraulic model including options for growth and the sizing of the Oura to Junee trunk main. In addition to this, a significant decrease in asset reliability has been seen with current treatment processes. As such, this report is provided to the Board, in order to update them on the new requirements of the project, including an updated budget request.

GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 2023

As it stands, Council have completed scoping the works to determine the total project requirements, which will include a new pump station building to house the new pumps, new chlorine and fluoride dosing building and associated equipment to manage the rising number of non-conformances/failures being experienced from current aging assets, a new building for the dosing equipment, upsized pipeline and associated valves to meet future requirements and the demolition of existing dosing buildings and reservoir/aerator to allow for effective future use and safe traffic flow across the site.

It is Council's intention to tender the entire project as a single tender request for the design and construction of all elements of the project, with advertising to occur later this year and the project executed over the next two calendar years. This timeline is noted to align favourably with the construction of the Oura reservoirs and aerator which was awarded earlier this year.

The intent and drivers for this project are:

- New pumps are required as existing pumps are approaching end of useful life and demand is anticipated to exceed the existing pump capacities by 2024. Any delay in upgrading this system will pose a constant threat of triggering restrictions during peak demand periods. (New pumps have been ordered and currently under construction)
- New pumps will incorporate variable speed drives which will provide greater operational control, reduced energy costs and manage surge issues which can cause premature failure of our pipeline assets. (VSD work has been completed as part of the HV upgrade project)
- A new pump station building is required to house the new pumps and motors to eliminate the risk of flooding which the existing station is vulnerable to and has occurred in the past from a pipe break, and reduce an excessive shutdown period for cutting over from existing pumps to new pumps.
- The chlorine dosing system is currently limited to only dosing prior to aeration (whereby iron and manganese can result in excessive chlorine being required) and the existing system is undersized for the target chlorine concentration and limited in its dosing capacity. The new system will incorporate a 'pre' and 'post' dosing arrangement for the treatment process in order to reduce failures of Critical Control Point breaches and outages.
- The fluoride system has recorded a number of reportable exceedances over the past years, with the number of exceedances increasing each year indicating equipment failure (from 5 in the 2019/20 FY, to 30 in the 2021/22 FY).
- The existing fluoride system has a number of safety concerns associated with fluoride dust which require addressing and pose significant costs in refurbishing and retrofitting the existing system.
- A new dosing building is required for the upsized chlorine system which will require increased space and a gantry crane for the 920kg chlorine drums (existing system relies on 70kg cylinders)
- Demolition of the existing dosing buildings and reservoir will allow for a new access track to be constructed which will improve safety of traffic flow, particularly with chemical deliveries. The removal of these assets will also allow for areas of future asset locations.
- The existing trunk main between Oura and Junea will require an upsize in future years. The inclusion of around 500m of 750mm DICL pipeline and associated valves will be included to cover the site operations for future operation.

GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 2023

To not proceed with the renewal of any component of the project would introduce a large risk to Council in maintaining a reliable water supply which meets Australian Drinking Water Guidelines to 50% of Council's customer base. A review of the cost to complete all works within the scope is summarised below, having sourced and compared costs from reference rates provided by the Department of Planning and Environment, similar works recently completed and quantity surveys completed as part of the Oura Strategic Asset Plan.

#	Item	Qty	Unit	Cost (ex GST)
1	Pump station building	1	Reference rates (civil only, design included)	\$765,000
2	Suction and Discharge Piping and Valves	1	Cardno SAP Estimate, 4/4/19	\$180,000
3	Chlorine Dosing	1	Cardno SAP Estimate, 4/4/19	\$630,000
4	Fluoridation Plant	1	Reference rates (up to 40ML/day), SID included	\$301,080
5	Rising Main Pipework	500m	Pipe supply quote on 11/4/23 + 20% for install	\$582,000
6	HV and LV Installation	90m each	Cost estimate using \$5,000/m for HV and \$800/m for LV from previous Oura works	\$500,000
7	Roads and Drainage	1	Tender submissions average for Oura reservoirs and aerators (RFT 02/2023)	\$200,000
8	Demolition of Existing Reservoir and Dosing Buildings	1	Jugiong Old Water Treatment Plant Demolition contract (RFT 07/2020) and indexed	\$420,000
9	Pumps and motors	3	Tender submission for pump supply – RFT 05/2022	\$1,721,573
10	Recommended pump spares	1	Tender submission for pump supply – RFT 05/2022	\$215,000
11	Internal Expenses (GWCC time etc)	2.5 days per week, 7.75 hr/day, 24 months	\$50/hr + 100% oncost	\$201,500
12	Contingency	50%	Excludes pumps, motors and spares only (lines 9 and 10)	\$1,889,790
	Total – Overheads and Others			\$7,605,943

It is noted that line items 9 and 10 are fixed costs that were provided in the accepted tender submission for RFT 05/2022, however the contract only incorporated the supply of the pumps and motors. It is Council's intention to proceed with the recommended spares after the pumps and motors are installed and commissioned due to long lead times in their supply and the criticality of the Oura pump station.

Council officers understand that the original budget for these works was \$3,075,000 and this report is requesting an additional \$4,525,000 (totalling to \$7,600,000 for the entire project) to cover the inclusion of all the additional necessary items that will be required for future operation.

GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 2023

Removing the pump and motor items which have already commenced and under contract, this budget revision also incorporates a 50% contingency on all other items for which no preliminary designs are available in line with Council's Project Investment Framework. The Framework recommends that we apply a 50% contingency measure until such time detailed designs have been completed.

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

In light of cost increases that have been experienced across the construction industry, particularly with recent tender submissions exceeding the allocated project budgets, a review of the project budget and scope for the Oura pump station and dosing renewal was conducted. The renewal of the pump station and dosing building was planned for completion across the 2022/23, 23/24 and 24/25 financial years, whereby \$75,000 was allocated to 22/23 FY for designs to be completed, with construction to follow over the 23/24 and 24/25 financial years with \$1.5mil allocated to each FY.

This report will impact Council's financial position by increasing the project budget allocation by a total of \$4,525,000 over the next two financial years. The cashflow originally budgeted compared to the anticipated cashflow from the revised proposal in this report can be viewed below:

<u>Financial Year</u>	<u>Original Budget</u>	<u>Proposed Budget</u>
2022/23	\$75,000	
2023/24	\$1,500,000	\$3,200,000
2024/25	\$1,500,000	\$4,400,000
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$3,075,000</i>	<i>\$7,600,000</i>

ATTACHMENTS: Nil

TABLED ITEMS: Nil

GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL – SEPTEMBER 2023

LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Report prepared by General Manager

COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the Board:

1. Endorse the Chairperson as Goldenfields Water's voting delegate for the LGNSW Annual Conference
2. Approve the attendance of the General Manager and the Chairperson

ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN

Priority 1 High Quality, Secure and Efficient Water Supplies

BACKGROUND

The Local Government NSW Annual Conference is the annual policy making event for NSW Councils and where councillors come together to share ideas and debate issues that shape the way their councils are governed.

REPORT

The LGNSW Annual Conference will be held at the Grand Pavilion, Rosehill Gardens Racecourse from Sunday 12 November to Tuesday 14 November 2023.

Council is required to resolve upon the voting delegation being assigned to one of its members for the Annual Conference, and to endorse the attendance of that delegate and the General Manager.

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The recommendation does not impact on Council's financial position.

ATTACHMENTS: LGNSW Annual Conference Draft Program

TABLED ITEMS: Nil

12 NOVEMBER	13 NOVEMBER	14 NOVEMBER	SOCIAL EVENTS	OPTIONAL	SITE VISIT
12.30pm–5.00pm	Registration Operational Exhibition open from 1pm Optional off-site visit to PHIVE at Parramatta Square, hosted by City of Parramatta Council (Limited spaces. Book when registering for conference).				
2.30pm– 3.00pm	Afternoon Tea in exhibition area				
3.00pm–5.00pm	Plenary Room 3pm to 3.30pm - Official welcomes (LGNSW President and Mayor) 3.30pm to 3.55pm – AR Bluett Memorial Awards presentation 3.55pm to 4.55pm – Housing Crisis and affordability Forum 4.55pm to 5.00pm – President's Welcome Reception Partner Landcom address				
5.15pm–7.30pm	President's Welcome Reception, exhibition area, Rosehill Gardens 7.30pm: Bus transfers to Rosehill and Parramatta CBD hotels. Delegates make own arrangements for dinner.				
12 NOVEMBER	13 NOVEMBER	14 NOVEMBER	SOCIAL EVENTS	OPTIONAL	SITE VISIT
From 7.45am	Doors open – Registration opens. Light refreshments in exhibition area.				
8.00am–8.50am	Ground floor Voting for LGNSW Board President, Vice-Presidents, Treasurer and Directors (voting for all positions at the one time)				
8.50am–9.00am	Distribution of electronic voting handsets and delegates are seated in the Grand Pavilion plenary room				
9.00am–9.10am	Conference Welcome – Chief Executive LGNSW Welcome to Country				
9.10am–9.20am	Ministerial address				
9.10am–9.20am	CE LGNSW thanks Minister and explains voting on motions procedure and housekeeping				
9.30am–10.45am	From 9.30am to 10am: Opening of the Federal and State Conferences, adoption of standing orders, business sessions and consideration of motions and conference business. Opening Address by Cr Darriea Turley AM President, LGNSW Presentation of financial reports Start of consideration of motions and conference business				

10.45am-11.45am	Morning refreshments AEC Voting for LGNSW Board President, Vice-Presidents, Treasurer and Directors
11.45am-11.50am	Address by Elite partner Statewide Mutual
11.50am-1.00pm	Consideration of Conference Business (continued)
1.00pm-2.15pm	Delegate lunch in Exhibition area sponsored by Distinguished Partner Active Super AEC Voting for LGNSW Board President, Vice-Presidents, Treasurer and Directors (until 2.10pm)
1.05pm - 2.15pm	Premier Partner - StateCover Mutual Members' Lunch GMs and CEOs join StateCover Mutual for member networking and lunch (level 1)
2.20pm-3.30pm	Consideration of Conference Business (continued)
3.30pm-4.30pm	Afternoon Refreshments in trade exhibition (ground level) AEC Voting for LGNSW Board President, Vice-Presidents, Treasurer and Directors during afternoon tea,
4.30-4.40pm	ALGA update. Cr Linda Scott, President ALGA
4.40pm-5.40pm	Consideration of Conference Business continued
5.40pm-8.30pm	Networking in Trade Exhibition
7.00pm-10.30pm	LGNSW Conference Dinner and entertainment, Elite Partner - Statewide Mutual . Presentation LG Service Awards
<div> <div>12 NOVEMBER</div> <div>13 NOVEMBER</div> <div>14 NOVEMBER</div> <div>SOCIAL EVENTS</div> <div>OPTIONAL</div> <div>SITE VISIT</div> </div>	
7.30am-8.45am	ALGWA Breakfast Sponsored by ALGWA Breakfast Partner Maddocks, MC Steph Brantz,
From 7.30am	LGNSW Information Desk and Exhibition and light refreshments - Exhibition Centre
9.00am-10.05am	Plenary Room MC Steph Brantz Keynote address and panel session followed by Q&A
10.05am- 10.15am	Speaker (to be announced)

10.15am-10.45am	Refreshment break in trade exhibition, ground floor
10.45am-10.55am	To be announced
10.55am-11.45am	Plenary Room Panel session followed by Q&A
11.45am-12.45pm	Plenary Room Keynote address followed by Q&A
12.45pm-1.45pm	Lunch in trade exhibition
1.45pm-2.45pm	Presentation and Q&A: Department of Home Affairs Presentation and Q&A: ICAC
2.45pm-3.00pm	Final remarks from President LGNSW , including announcement of location for Annual Conference 2024
<div>12 NOVEMBER13 NOVEMBER14 NOVEMBERSOCIAL EVENTSOPTIONALSITE VISIT</div>	
President's Welcome Reception	12 November, 5.15pm to 7.30pm. President's Welcome Reception in exhibition area, Rosehill Gardens The President's Welcome Reception is included in your registration. Tickets for partners and extra guests of members can be purchased at time of registration.
Conference Dinner	13 November, 7pm to 10.30pm. LGNSW Conference Dinner and entertainment. Sponsored by Elite Partner - Statewide Mutual. Presentation of Local Government Service Awards will be made during the Conference Dinner.

NEXT MEETING

The next ordinary meeting of Council is scheduled to be held on Thursday 26 October 2023 at 10.00am

CLOSE OF BUSINESS

There being no further business requiring the attention of Council the meeting may be declared closed.

**Minutes of the Meeting of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL held at
TEMORA OFFICE on 22 June 2023**

The meeting commenced at 10:00am

PRESENT

Cr A McAlister, Cr L McGlynn, Cr J Piper, Cr G Sinclair, Cr M Stadtmiller, Cr A White.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Mr A Drenovski (General Manager), Mr G Veneris (Production and Services Manager), Mr T Goodyer (Operations Manager), Ms M Curran (Corporate Services Manager) Miss S Jung (Engineering Manager), Miss A Burnett (Administration Officer).

1. LEAVE OF ABSENCE/APOLOGIES

BOARD RESOLUTION

23/029 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs McGlynn and Sinclair that a leave of absence be granted for Crs R Callow and K Morris.

2. ATTENDANCE OF COUNCILLORS BY AUDIO VISUAL LINK

Nil

3. WEBCASTING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

Attendees of this meeting are reminded that:

- a) The meeting is being recorded and made publicly available on Council's website, and
- b) Persons attending the meeting should refrain from making any defamatory statements.

4. STATEMENT OF ETHICAL OBLIGATIONS

Councillors are reminded of the oath or affirmation of office they have taken under section 233A of the Act.

The governing body of a county council is responsible for managing the affairs of the county council. Each Councillor as a member of the governing body has a responsibility to make considered and well-informed decisions to ensure that the exercise of the functions of Goldenfields Water are performed to benefit the whole of the area of operations of Goldenfields Water.

In addition Councillors are reminded of their obligations under council's code of conduct to disclose and appropriately manage conflicts of interest.

5. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

I would like to acknowledge the Wiradjuri people who are the Traditional Custodians of the Land. I would also like to pay respect to their people both past and present and extend that respect to other Aboriginal Australians who are present.

**Minutes of the Meeting of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL held at
TEMORA OFFICE on 22 June 2023**

6. PRESENTATIONS

Nil

7. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Nil

8. DECLARATION OF NON PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Nil

9. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD ON 27 APRIL 2023,

BOARD RESOLUTION

23/030 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Piper and McGlynn that the minutes of the meetings held on the 27 April 2023, having been circulated and read by members be confirmed.

10. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Nil

11. CORRESPONDENCE

Nil

12. MATTERS OF URGENCY

Nil

13. NOTICES OF MOTION / RESCISSION MOTIONS

Nil

14. CHAIRPERSON'S MINUTE

Nil

Unconfirmed

**Minutes of the Meeting of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL held at
TEMORA OFFICE on 22 June 2023**

15. MATTERS TO BE SUBMITTED TO OPEN COUNCIL

15.1. MATTERS SUBMITTED BY CORPORATE SERVICES MANAGER

15.1.1. COUNCIL CASH AND INVESTMENTS

BOARD RESOLUTION

23/031 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Sinclair and McAlister that the report detailing Council Cash and Investments as at 31st May 2023 be received and noted.

COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the Capital Works Progress Report as at 31st May 2023 be received and noted.

ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN

09 Financially Sustainable

BACKGROUND

A report on Council's Investments is required to be presented for Council's consideration in accordance with Clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.

REPORT

Council's cash and investment portfolio decreased by \$3,945,406.07 from \$36,943,264.52 as at 31st March 2023 to \$32,997,858.45 as at 31st May 2023.

Cash and Investment Portfolio

Type	Rating	CQ RATING	Issuer	Frequency	Purchase	Maturity	Days	Rate	Benchmark*	Principal
TD	BBB+	A2	ME Bank	At Maturity	27/05/2022	1/06/2023	370	3.18	3.37	\$4,000,000
TD	NR	NR	Southern Cross Credit Union	At Maturity	8/03/2023	26/06/2023	110	4.30	3.37	\$1,000,000
TD	BBB+	A2	BOQ	Annual	1/06/2022	5/07/2023	399	3.20	3.37	\$2,000,000
TD	BBB	A2	AMP Bank	At Maturity	3/05/2023	2/08/2023	91	4.55	3.37	\$2,000,000
TD	AA-	A1+	NT Treasury	Annual	10/09/2020	15/12/2023	1191	1.00	3.37	\$2,000,000
TD	BBB	A2	Defence Bank	At Maturity	16/02/2023	16/02/2024	365	5.00	3.37	\$3,000,000
TD	AA-	A1+	NAB	At Maturity	24/02/2023	26/02/2024	367	4.98	3.37	\$1,000,000
TD	A+	A1	Macquarie Bank	At Maturity	5/04/2023	3/04/2024	364	4.55	3.37	\$1,500,000
TD	BBB+	A2	Credit Union of Aust	At Maturity	31/01/2023	17/04/2024	442	4.67	3.37	\$1,000,000
TD	BBB+	A2	Australian Unity	At Maturity	9/02/2023	9/05/2024	455	4.80	3.37	\$1,000,000
TD	BBB-	A2	Judo Bank	At Maturity	23/01/2023	24/07/2024	548	4.45	3.37	\$1,000,000
TD	AA-	A1+	NAB	At Maturity	24/02/2023	16/08/2024	539	4.95	3.37	\$2,000,000
TD	BBB	A2	AMP Bank	At Maturity	15/03/2023	19/09/2024	554	4.80	3.37	\$1,000,000
TD	AA-	A1+	NT Treasury	Annual	28/09/2020	15/12/2024	1539	1.10	3.37	\$1,000,000
TD	BBB	A2	AMP Bank	At Maturity	12/01/2023	13/01/2025	732	4.55	3.37	\$2,000,000
TD	AA-	A1+	NAB	At Maturity	24/02/2023	24/02/2025	731	4.93	3.37	\$1,000,000
TD	BBB	A2	Police Financial Services	At Maturity	1/03/2023	13/03/2025	743	5.15	3.37	\$1,000,000
TD	BBB	A2	Defence Bank	At Maturity	8/03/2023	27/03/2025	750	4.90	3.37	\$1,000,000
TD	NR	NR	Summerland Credit Union	At Maturity	22/03/2023	8/05/2025	778	4.80	3.37	\$1,000,000
CASH	AA-	A1+	CBA	Monthly				1.35	2.89	\$1,700,000
CASH	AA-	A1+	CBA	Monthly				0.20	2.89	\$10,208
CASH	AA-	A1+	CBA	N/A				0.00	2.89	\$1,787,650
TOTAL:										\$32,997,858

**Minutes of the Meeting of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL held at
TEMORA OFFICE on 22 June 2023**

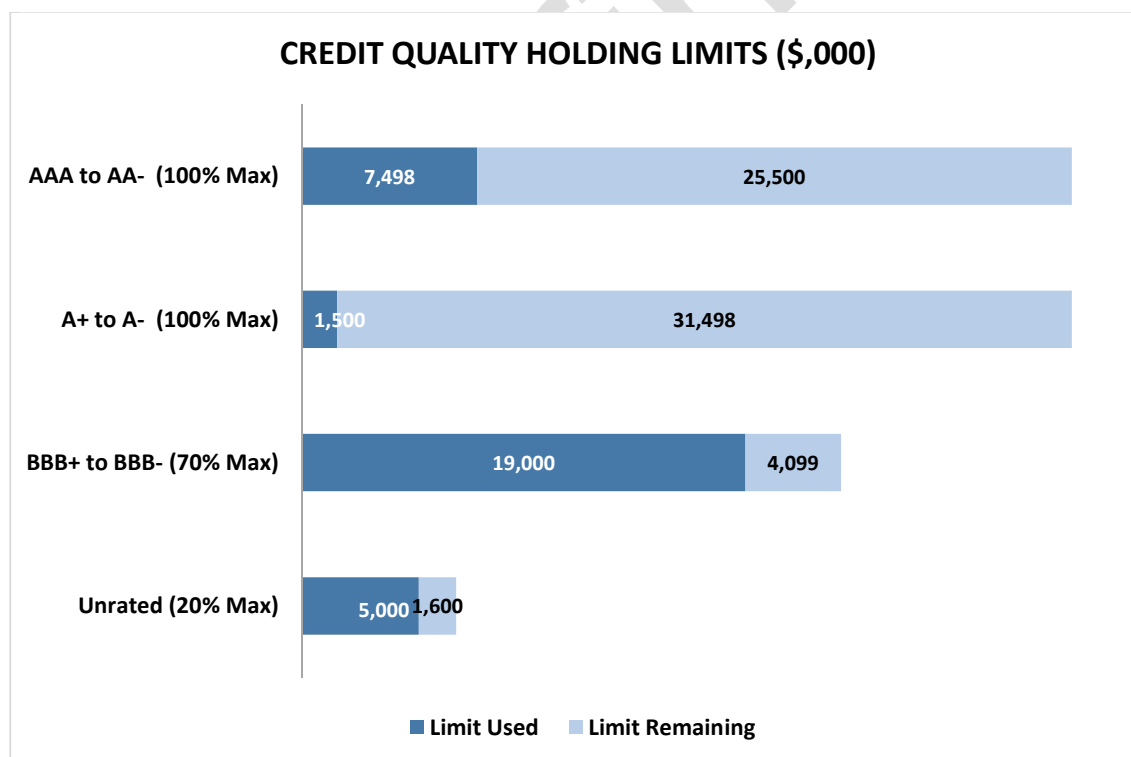
Portfolio Performance

Goldenfields Water County Council's investment portfolio underperformed by 0.17% in comparison to the relevant BBSW Index benchmark. The average weighted yield for May was 3.79%.

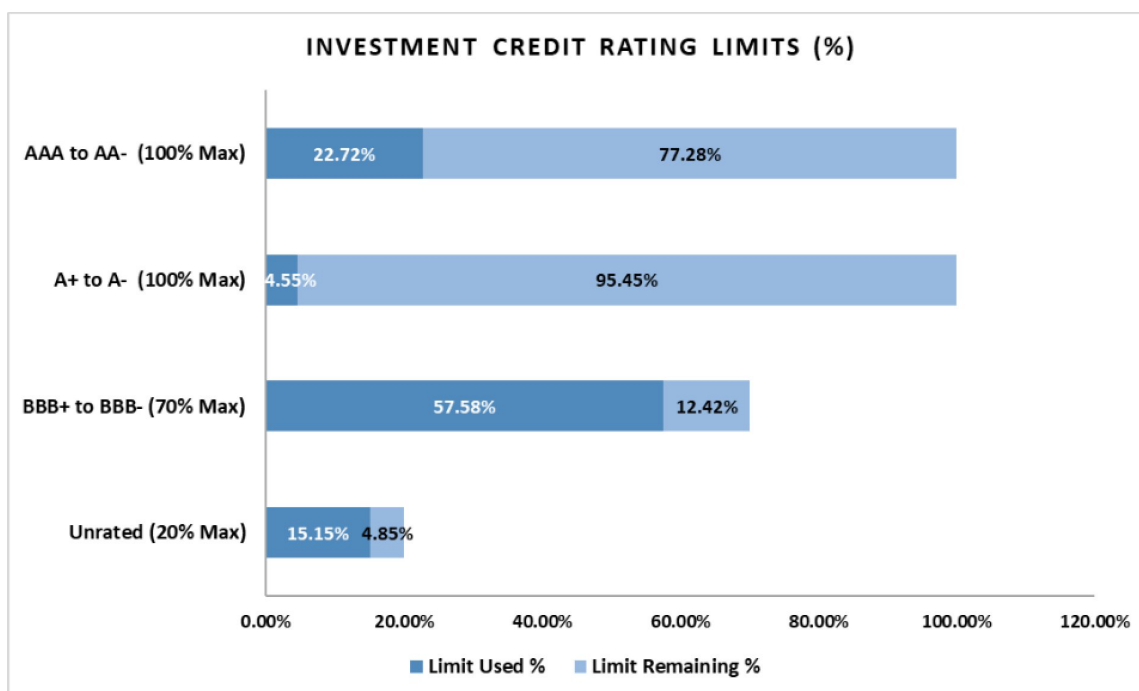
Total Cost	Yearly Interest Received	Weighted Average Term
32,997,858	704,337	290 days
Total Portfolio Value	Monthly Interest Received	Weighted Average Yield
33,324,809	149,488	3.79%

Credit Quality Compliance

Council's investment portfolio was compliant with policy in terms of S&P long term rating credit quality limits, as displayed below.



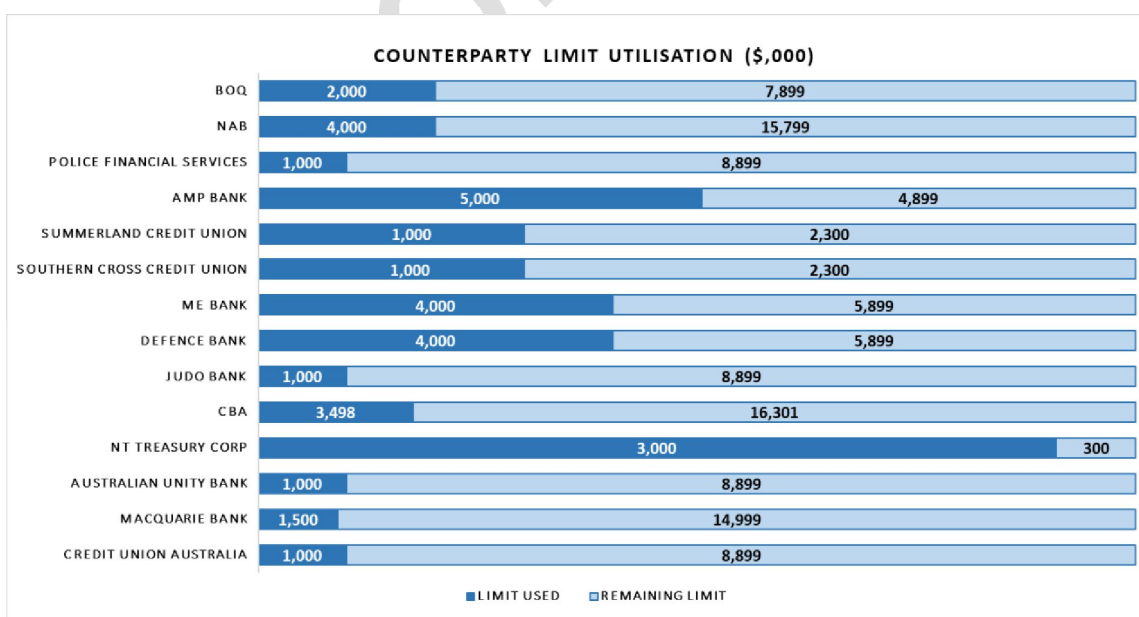
**Minutes of the Meeting of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL held at
TEMORA OFFICE on 22 June 2023**



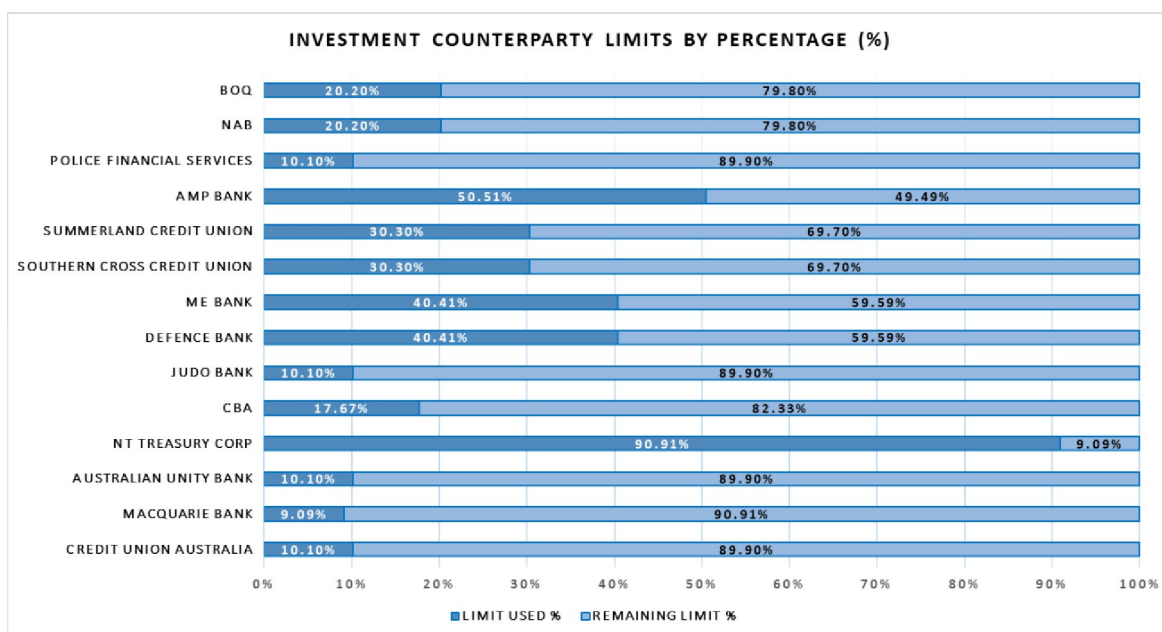
Counter Party Compliance

As at the end of May, Council was compliant with policy in terms of individual financial institution capacity limits. It is worth noting that capacity limits are affected by changes in the on-call account balance compared to the total portfolio balance.

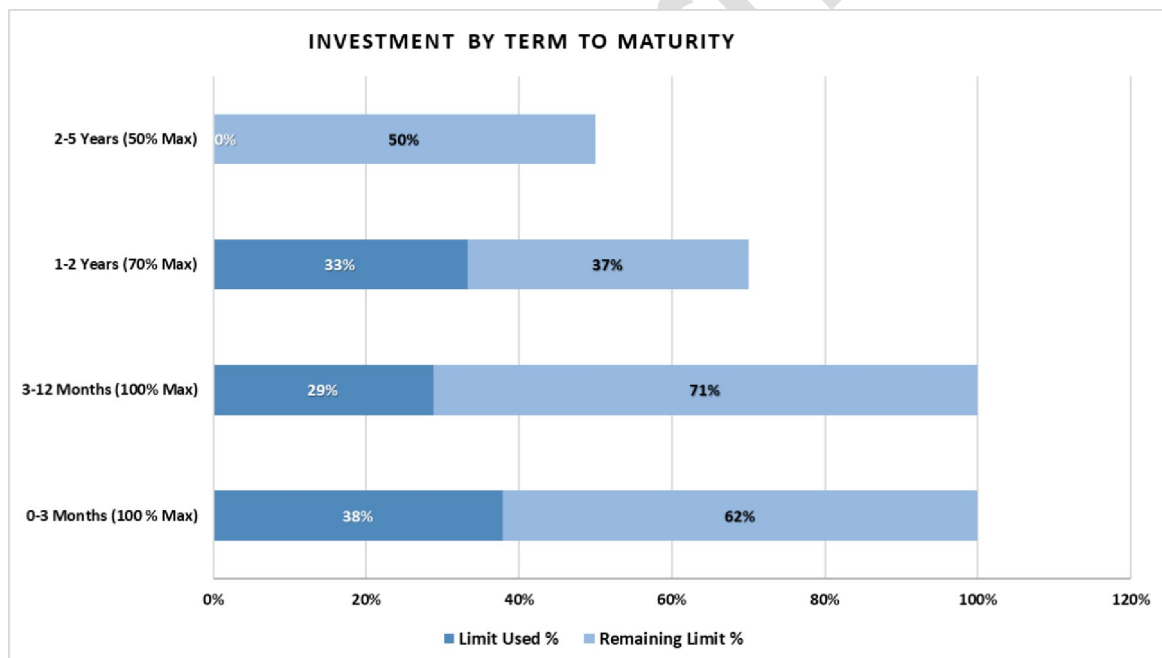
Overall, the portfolio is diversified across a variety of credit ratings, including some exposure to unrated ADIs.



Minutes of the Meeting of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL held at TEMORA OFFICE on 22 June 2023



Term to Maturity



Council's investment portfolio maturities shown graphically below were also compliant with policy requirements.

**Minutes of the Meeting of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL held at
TEMORA OFFICE on 22 June 2023**

Application of Investment Funds

The table below details the allocation of cash balances in terms of restricted funds, noting restrictions are all internal rather than external.

Restricted Funds:	
Employee Leave Entitlement	2,492,494
Plant & Vehicle Replacement	2,830,127
Infrastructure Replacement	16,363,217
Unrestricted Funds	11,312,021
TOTAL	32,997,858

Declaration

I hereby certify that investments listed in the report have been made in accordance with Section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993, Clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 and Council's Investment Policy PP004.

Signed



John Chapman
Responsible Accounting Officer

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Council's cash and investment portfolio decreased by \$3,945,406.07 from \$36,943,264.52 as at 31st March 2023 to \$32,997,858.45 as at 31st May 2023.

ATTACHMENTS: Nil.

TABLED ITEMS: Nil.

**Minutes of the Meeting of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL held at
TEMORA OFFICE on 22 June 2023**

15.1.2. PROGRESS REPORT - CAPITAL WORKS EXPENDITURE

BOARD RESOLUTION

23/032 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs White and McGlynn that the Capital Works Progress Report as at 31st May 2023 be received and noted.

Report prepared by Corporate Services Manager

COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the Capital Works Progress Report as at 31st May 2023 be received and noted.

ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN

09 Financially Sustainable

BACKGROUND

Capital Works represents an important part of Councils activities and expenditure. This report details expenditure and progress for the year to date on programmed and emergent capital works.

REPORT

This report is presented for information on the expenditure and progress of Council's Capital Works Program as at 31st May 2023.

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The recommendation does not impact on Council's financial position.

ATTACHMENTS: Capital Works Progress Report as at 31st May 2023.

TABLED ITEMS: Nil.

Unconfirmed

Minutes of the Meeting of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL held at TEMORA OFFICE on 22 June 2023

Goldenfields Water County Council CAPITAL WORKS PROGRESS											
AS AT 31 May 2023	AS AT 31 May 2023	2021-22 Carryovers	QBR Sep 2022	QBR Dec 2022	QBR Mar 2023	Revised Budget 2022/23	Actual YTD	Committed YTD	Actual & Committed YTD	Variance YTD	% Actual & Committed to Rev Budget
CAPITAL INCOME											
Asset Sales	(738,000)	0	0	0	0	(738,000)	(431,290)	0	(431,290)	(306,710)	58%
Capital Contributions	(6,225,000)	0	0	0	0	(6,225,000)	(4,599,616)	0	(4,599,616)	(1,625,384)	74%
TOTAL CAPITAL INCOME	(6,963,000)	0	0	0	0	(6,963,000)	(5,030,906)	0	(5,030,906)	(1,932,094)	72%
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE											
NEW SYSTEM ASSETS											
Plant & Equipment	1,585,000	0	0	0	0	1,585,000	1,162,531	232,694	1,395,225	189,775	88%
Land & Buildings	0	100,000	0	0	0	100,000	49,715	0	49,715	50,285	50%
Mains - Developer Paid	40,000	60,000	0	0	87,000	187,000	170,755	6,943	177,698	9,302	95%
Mains - Reticulation	0	5,000	0	0	36,700	41,700	57,008	5,335	62,343	(20,643)	150%
Mains - Trunk	0	66,000	0	0	0	66,000	0	65,540	65,540	460	99%
Mains - Rural	17,000	0	0	0	17,000	34,000	13,359	3,398	16,757	17,243	49%
Pump Stations	0	0	400,000	0	140,000	540,000	274,402	392,657	667,058	(127,058)	124%
Scada	250,000	430,000	0	0	430,000	1,110,000	227,474	528,834	756,309	353,691	68%
Reservoirs	1,560,000	0	2,920,750	60,000	(600,000)	3,940,750	3,624,182	255,050	3,879,233	61,517	98%
TOTALS NEW SYSTEM ASSETS	3,452,000	661,000	3,320,750	60,000	110,700	7,604,450	5,579,427	1,490,451	7,069,878	534,572	93%
RENEWALS											
Plant & Equipment	30,000	0	0	0	(15,000)	15,000	4,505	0	4,505	10,495	30%
Furniture and Office Equipment	5,000	0	0	0	0	5,000	0	0	0	5,000	0%
Land & Buildings	50,000	0	0	0	22,000	72,000	0	5,100	5,100	66,900	7%
Mains - Reticulation	5,200,000	0	0	0	2,000,000	7,200,000	5,416,356	1,554,253	6,970,609	229,391	97%
Mains - Trunk	3,330,000	0	0	0	(1,300,000)	2,030,000	781,939	103,820	885,759	1,144,241	44%
Mains - Rural	1,415,000	180,000	0	0	0	1,595,000	412,788	241,721	654,509	940,491	41%
Pump Stations	1,342,000	269,000	0	63,000	(343,000)	1,331,000	826,391	1,889,789	2,716,179	(1,385,179)	204%
Bores	0	250,000	0	0	146,825	396,825	396,825	0	396,825	(0)	100%
Reservoirs	4,225,000	563,000	0	0	(3,100,000)	1,688,000	930,504	82,927	1,013,431	674,569	60%
Information Technology	60,000	0	0	0	0	60,000	8,596	0	8,596	51,404	14%
Treatment Plant	4,192,000	980,000	0	0	(1,368,000)	3,804,000	4,542,779	(600,094)	3,942,685	(138,685)	104%
TOTALS RENEWAL ASSETS	8,477,000	1,793,000	-	-	(4,321,175)	5,948,825	5,878,705	(517,167)	5,361,538	587,287	90%
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	23,301,000	2,903,000	3,320,750	123,000	(3,846,475)	25,801,275	18,900,110	4,767,968	23,668,078	2,133,197	92%

Minutes of the Meeting of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL held at TEMORA OFFICE on 22 June 2023

**Goldenfields Water County Council
Major Project Commentary
AS AT 31 May 2023**

Project Ref	Project and description	Total project budget/ Start date	Total spent to Date/ Due date	Progress Comments
1232	Thanowring Road Pipeline Construction of 40km of trunk pipeline	\$7,000,000 Jan-22	\$1,763,319 Jun-24	Project tracking on budget. The first 10kms of 40km total has been completed and commissioned.
3137	Jugiong High Voltage Detailed designs for works, new HV building, purchase of HV equipment and electrical equipment install	\$6,500,000 Jan-21	\$5,038,731 Jun-23	Approx 6 months behind schedule. Currently tracking on budget.
3183	Oura Reservoirs and aerator Construction of 2 x 4ML reservoirs and aeration tower at Oura WTP plus ancilliary pipework and electricals	\$12,643,703 May-23	\$547,773 Dec-24	Contract awarded to Quay Civil. Kick off meeting with contractor is scheduled for 8 June 2023.
3226	Wyalong Standpipe Res Construction of 24m high 2.4ML concrete reservoir	\$4,420,728 Jun-23	\$3,576,411 Aug-23	Project is running on time and tracking under budget. The reservoir walls have been completed. Construction of the roof is due to start soon.
3241	Wyalong Reliability Project Pipeline Construction Cosntruction of 8km DN300 bypass trunk main and 7km DN200 retic main	\$7,357,394 Jun-23	\$4,756,701 Aug-23	Reticulation main approx 4.8km of 7km completed. Bypass main approx 7.8km of 8km completed. Project is tracking slightly ahead of schedule and under budget
3203	Wombat Reservoir Construction of 3ML reinforced Concrete reservoir	\$2,300,000 May-23	\$53,727 TBA	The proposal for contract has been cancelled. Council staff will progress with works to simplify the project with the intention to tender the contract again in a few years time
3218	Oura pump station and dosing rooms Construction of new pump station including 3 high voltage pumps and additional dosing systems	\$5,630,000 Oct-23	\$14,511 Oct-24	Pump investigations completed and new pumps ordered. Currently in scoping phase to release design and construct RFT for pump station building and dosing rooms. Currently progressing on track for time and budget
3242	Kingsvale to Young pipeline Upgrade of approx 12km of pipeline	\$8,300,000 Dec-22	\$69,627 Aug-26	Detailed design contract awarded to DGP Water in Dec 2022 and expected completion date is Sept 2023. Design timeframe and budget are on track. Approximate start of construction tentatively scheduled for beginning of calendar year 2025.

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15.1.3. AUDIT RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

BOARD RESOLUTION

23/033 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs White and Sinclair that the Board receives and notes the minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held on 25 May 2023.

Report prepared by Corporate Services Manager

COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the Board receives and notes the minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held on 25 May 2023.

ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN

Priority 2 Customer Service Focus

BACKGROUND

Goldenfields Water County Council Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee is an advisory committee in accordance with section 355 of the Local Government Act 1993, and the Local Government Regulations 2012.

The Committee was established by Council Res 17/008 on 23 February 2017. In accordance with the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Charter, the Committee will report regularly to Council.

REPORT

The Goldenfields Water County Council Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee met on 25 May 2023. Minutes of the meeting are attached for the information of the Board.

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The recommendation does not impact on Council's financial position.

ATTACHMENTS: Minutes of ARIC Meeting 25 May 2023.

TABLED ITEMS: Nil

15.1.4. COUNCILLORS AND CHAIRPERSON FEES FOR 2023/2024

BOARD RESOLUTION

23/034 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs McGlynn and McAlister that:

- 1. Councillors and Chairpersons Fees be increased by 3% for the 2023/2024 financial year as per the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal Determination dated 27 April 2023.**
- 2. The annual remuneration for 2023/2024 is: Councillor \$10,599.50 and Chairperson \$17,409.91.**

Cr Sinclair voted against.

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Report prepared by Corporate Services Manager

COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. Councillors and Chairpersons Fees be increased by 3% for the 2023/2024 financial year as per the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal Determination dated 27 April 2023.
2. The annual remuneration for 2023/2024 is: Councillor \$10,599.50 and Chairperson \$17,409.91

ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN

Priority 2 Customer Service Focus

BACKGROUND

Section 241 of the Local Government Act 1993 states that annual fees are to be paid to councillors and chairpersons in accordance with categories determined by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal (the Tribunal), while the setting of the fees is contained within sections 248 and 249 of the Local Government Act 1993.

REPORT

The Local Government Remuneration Tribunal Annual Report and Determination dated 27 April 2023 determined an increase of 3% to mayoral and councillor fees for the 2023/2024 financial year, with effect from 1 July 2023.

For **Table 4: County Councils – Water** the fees are as follows:

	Minimum	Maximum
Councillor	\$1,960	\$10,870
Chairperson – additional	\$4,200	\$17,850

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The recommendation does not impact on Council's financial position.

ATTACHMENTS: Nil

TABLED ITEMS: Nil

15.1.5. DEBT RECOVERY

BOARD RESOLUTION

23/035 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Sinclair and Piper that the Board receives and notes the update on Debt Recovery.

Report prepared by Corporate Services Manager

COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the Board receives and notes the update on Debt Recovery.

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ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN

09 Financially Sustainable

BACKGROUND

From March 2021, Goldenfields Water recommenced debt recovery processes to collect overdue monies owed for water accounts. Debt recovery processes include the restriction / disconnection of properties and referral to external debt recovery agents.

REPORT

Outstanding water debtors as at 8 June 2023:

	Arrears	Interest	Current	Total
Water Billing Debtors	\$1,167,986.03	\$71,885.92	\$866,497.14	\$2,106,369.09
Less:				
Bulk Councils				\$738,658.62
Developer Charges				\$342,607.00
Total Retail Customers				\$1,025,103.47

Debt recovery action figures for the period June 2022 to early June 2023:

NOTICES ISSUED	No. Customers	Outstanding Account (\$)
Final Notice (Bill period 2023 Q3)	2048	1,388,344.84
Debt Recovery Action:		
Pending Restriction Notice	96	\$198,946.59
Restriction Warning Card	22	\$59,263.25
Physical Restriction / Disconnection	21	\$26,196.14
Total Payments Received (Following Debt Recovery Action)		\$114,015.30
RESTRICTION DETAILS		
Properties paid prior to restriction	45	\$61,742.58
Properties Unrestricted	11	\$18,410.56
Properties Remaining Restricted	10	\$22,607.78
Properties Referred to Debt Recovery Agent	30	\$139,569.07

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The recommendation does not impact on Council's financial position.

ATTACHMENTS: Nil

TABLED ITEMS: Nil

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15.2. MATTERS SUBMITTED BY OPERATIONS MANAGER

15.2.1. THANOWRING RD PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION - UPDATE

BOARD RESOLUTION

23/036 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs McGlynn and White that the report be received and noted.

Report prepared by Operations Manager

COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the report be received and noted.

ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN

02 Maximising Regional Water Supply
07 Efficient Operations

BACKGROUND

Council is renewing its pipeline operating from Temora to Arian Park, known as the Thanowring rd trunk main pipe. This pipeline is a critical bulk water supply asset of the Oura Water Supply Scheme. The pipeline currently supplies potable water to the towns of Ardlethan, Arian Park, Mirrool, Beckom, Kamarah, Moombooldool and Barellan with the possible future extension of the supply area to the Hylands Bridge Scheme (West of Barellan).

The pipeline is at the end of its usable life and requires an estimated 40km of renewal which has been earmarked as a high priority. Renewal of this trunk main will require sections of the existing main to remain in service during construction.

REPORT

Construction commenced in January of 2022 and had to cease from March through to November of 2022 due to heavy rainfall and flooding which restricted access to the pipeline route.

Construction re-commenced in November of 2022 and is currently at the 18-kilometer marker and within budget. The month of April has been slow going due to rainfall, mechanical breakdowns, and liaising with landowners.

Photos depict different stages of construction.

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The recommendation does not impact on Councils financial position.

ATTACHMENTS: Nil

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TABLES ITEMS: Nil

(1)



(2)



(3)



(4)



(5)



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(6)



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(10)



(11)



(12)



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(14)



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15.2.2. WATER MAINS FLUSHING

BOARD RESOLUTION

23/037 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs White and McGlynn that the report be received and noted.

Report prepared by Operations Manager

COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the report be received and noted.

ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN

07 Efficient Operations

REPORT

Water Mains flushing – as per 2022 / 2023 operational plan 1.4.3.1.

The water mains flushing is undertaken in the months of April, July, and October

<u>Coolamon Township</u>	
<u>Location</u>	<u>Distance</u>
<i>Campbells Lane</i>	<i>1.8 klms</i>
<i>Moses Road</i>	<i>1.9 klms</i>
<i>Wallace Street</i>	<i>1 klm</i>
<i>Moses Road</i>	<i>1.9 klms</i>
<i>Mann Street, Kingdon drive and Iverach Streets</i>	<i>1 klm</i>
<i>Loughnan Street</i>	<i>200 mtrs</i>
<i>Methul Street</i>	<i>500 mtrs</i>
<i>Jacaranda and Waratah Streets</i>	<i>600 mtrs</i>
<i>Learys Lane</i>	<i>1.3 klms</i>
<i>Mc Craigs Lane</i>	<i>1.1 klm</i>
<i>Wattle Lane</i>	<i>1.6 klm</i>
<i>Coolamon Road</i>	<i>800 mtrs</i>
<i>Dyces Lane</i>	<i>1 klm</i>
<i>Millwood Road to Garland Street and new subdivision</i>	<i>2.4 klm</i>
<i>Angel Street to Maloneys Lane</i>	<i>2 klm</i>
<i>Iverach Street to Canola Way</i>	<i>700 mtrs</i>
<i>Cowabbie Street</i>	<i>2 klms</i>
<i>Kindra Crescent</i>	<i>600 mtrs</i>
<i>Bruce Street</i>	<i>400 mtrs</i>
Total	22.8 klms

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Ganmain Township

<i>Ashbridge Road</i>	<i>600 mtrs</i>
<i>Cave Street</i>	<i>400 mtrs</i>
<i>Moore Street</i>	<i>400 mtrs</i>
<i>Grant Street, Last Street and Waterview Streets</i>	<i>500 mtrs</i>
<i>Waterview Street</i>	<i>700 mtrs</i>
<i>Short Street</i>	<i>400 mtrs</i>
<i>Hall Street</i>	<i>500 mtrs</i>
<i>Rocks Road</i>	<i>500 mtrs</i>
<i>Ford Street</i>	<i>600 mtrs</i>
<i>Campbell Street</i>	<i>500 mtrs</i>
<i>Grave Street, Park Street and Grant Street</i>	<i>1 klm</i>
<i>Loch Street</i>	<i>500 mtrs</i>
Total	6.6 klms

June Township

<i>Regent Street to Cable Street</i>	<i>800 mtrs</i>
<i>Loughnan Road</i>	<i>1 klm</i>
<i>DeSallis Drive</i>	<i>200 mtrs</i>
<i>Taylor Street</i>	<i>200 mtrs</i>
<i>Walster Street to Smythe Road</i>	<i>700 mtrs</i>
<i>Olympic Way</i>	<i>1.2 klm</i>
<i>Percy Street to Arnold Street</i>	<i>1 klm</i>
<i>Beach Street to Clarence Street</i>	<i>400 mtrs</i>
<i>Cuttle Street</i>	<i>200 mtrs</i>
<i>Ducker Street</i>	<i>600 mtrs</i>
<i>Ducker Street to Fitzroy Street</i>	<i>500 mtrs</i>
<i>Ducker Street to Crown Street</i>	<i>400 mtrs</i>
<i>William Street</i>	<i>300 mtrs</i>
<i>George Street</i>	<i>800 mtrs</i>
<i>McAllister Lane</i>	<i>600 mtrs</i>
<i>Gundagai Road to Kahmoo Lane</i>	<i>600 mtrs</i>
<i>Kahmoo Lane to Pitt Street</i>	<i>1.6 klm</i>
<i>Cedric Street</i>	<i>600 mtrs</i>
Total	11.6 klms

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FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The recommendation does not impact on Councils financial position

ATTACHMENTS: Nil

TABLES ITEMS: Nil

15.3. MATTERS SUBMITTED BY PRODUCTION AND SERVICES MANAGER

15.3.1. WATER PRODUCTION REPORT

BOARD RESOLUTION

23/038 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs McGlynn and White that the Water Production Report be received and noted.

Report prepared by Production and Services Manager

COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the Water Production Report be received and noted.

ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN

Priority 3 A Healthy Natural Environment

BACKGROUND

Goldenfields Water provides the essential water requirements of about 40,000 people spread over an area in excess of 20,000 square kilometres between the Lachlan & Murrumbidgee Rivers in the South West of NSW.

Goldenfields Waters' supply system consists of five separate water schemes, Jugiong, Oura, Mt Arthur, Mt Daylight and Hylands Bridge. Goldenfields Water carries out water supply functions within the Local Government areas of Bland, Coolamon, Cootamundra, Hilltops, Junee, Temora, and parts of Narrandera and Wagga Wagga.

Hilltops Shire Council, Cootamundra Gundagai Shire Council and Riverina Water County Council are retailers, who purchase bulk water from Goldenfields and supply the water to retail customers in their respective local government areas.

REPORT

Jugiong drinking Water Scheme

The Jugiong drinking water scheme sources water from the Murrumbidgee River and has an extraction licence entitlement of 5590ML per annum. Water from the Murrumbidgee River is treated through a 40ML/day, conventional Water Treatment Plant that consists of: Coagulation, Flocculation, Clarification, Filtration, Disinfection and Fluoridation.

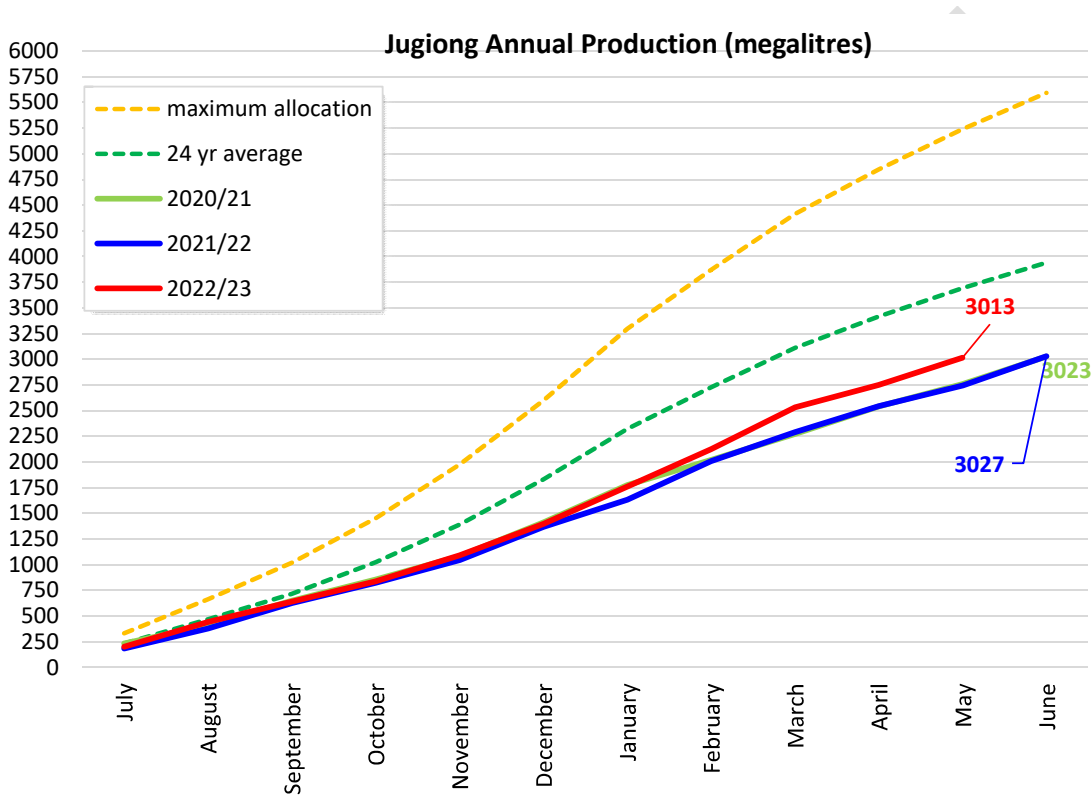
The Jugiong Scheme has 14 sets of reservoirs and 8 pumping stations. The Jugiong Scheme supplies bulk water to the Hilltops and Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Councils for supply to

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the townships of Cootamundra, Harden and Young with a population of approximately 6800, 2200 and 8000 respectively.

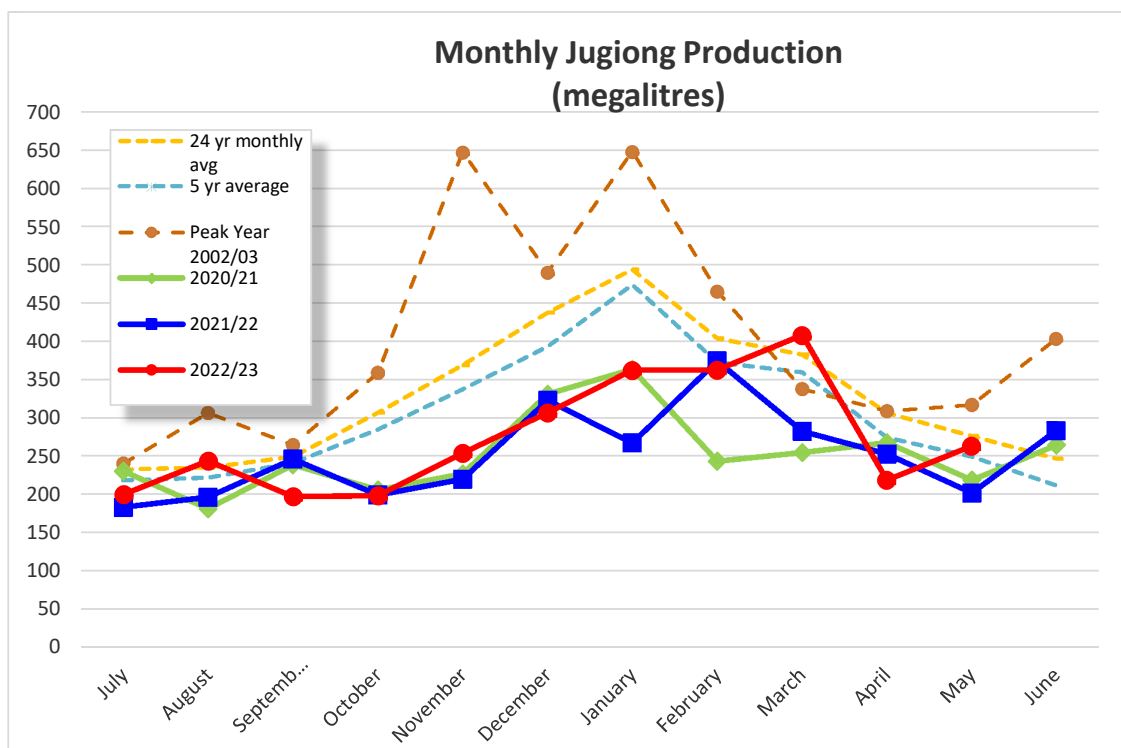
Goldenfields Water also provides additional retail supply to approximately 600 customers in the villages of Stockinbingal, Wallendbeen and Springdale.

Eleven months into the 2022/23 financial year, 3013ML of water had been extracted from the Murrumbidgee River and processed at the Jugiong Water Treatment plant. This is slightly higher than the same period in the 2021/22 FY where 2743ML was extracted. An increase of 270ML. This is illustrated in the graph below.



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Jugiong monthly production started slightly higher in July with 199ML extracted and treated for the month. August saw a further increase in production with 243ML extracted and treated before a decrease in production for September, where only 197ML was extracted and treated. October saw an extraction of 198ML. November through to January saw a gradual increase in production as we moved into the warmer months. November (254ML), December (307ML) and January (362ML). February had a similar production to January (362ML) before a slight increase in March (408ML) extracted. With the onset of cooler months production in April reduced to (219ML) and before a slight increase for May (263ML).



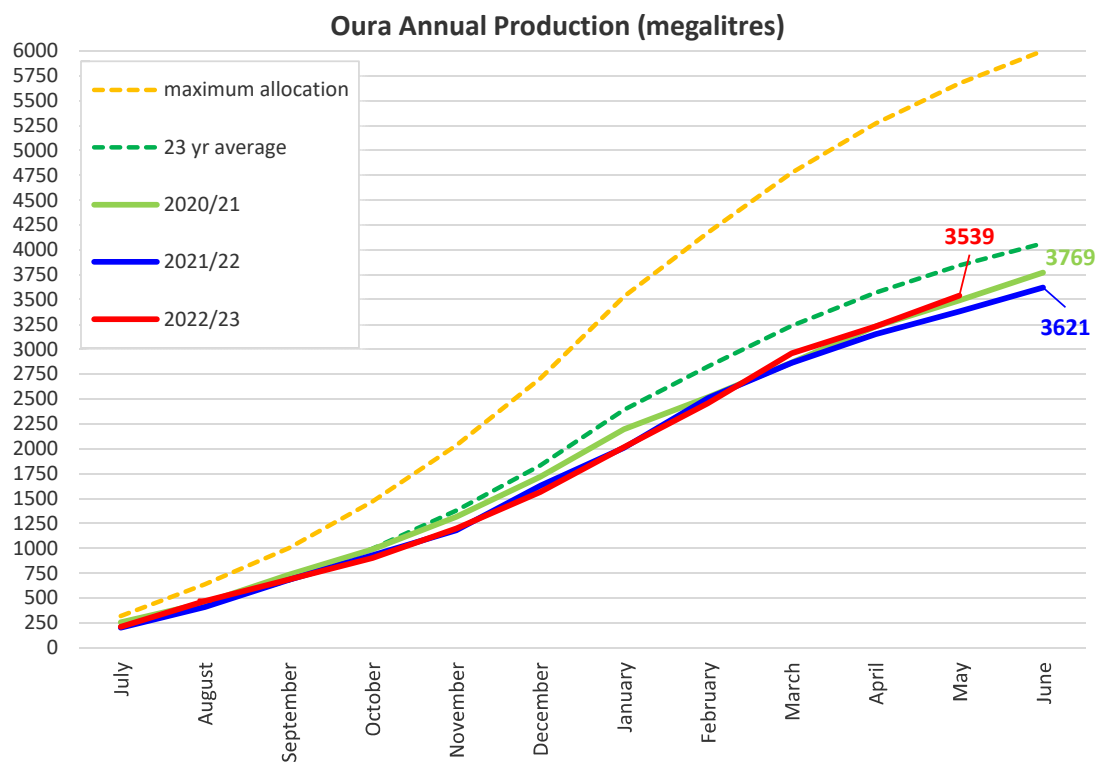
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Oura Drinking Water Scheme

The water source at Oura is the Murrumbidgee inland alluvial aquifer, this water is extracted from 4 bores namely: Bores 2, 3, 4 and 6. The raw water then goes through a treatment process at the Oura Water Treatment Plant that includes Aeration, Disinfection and Fluoridation.

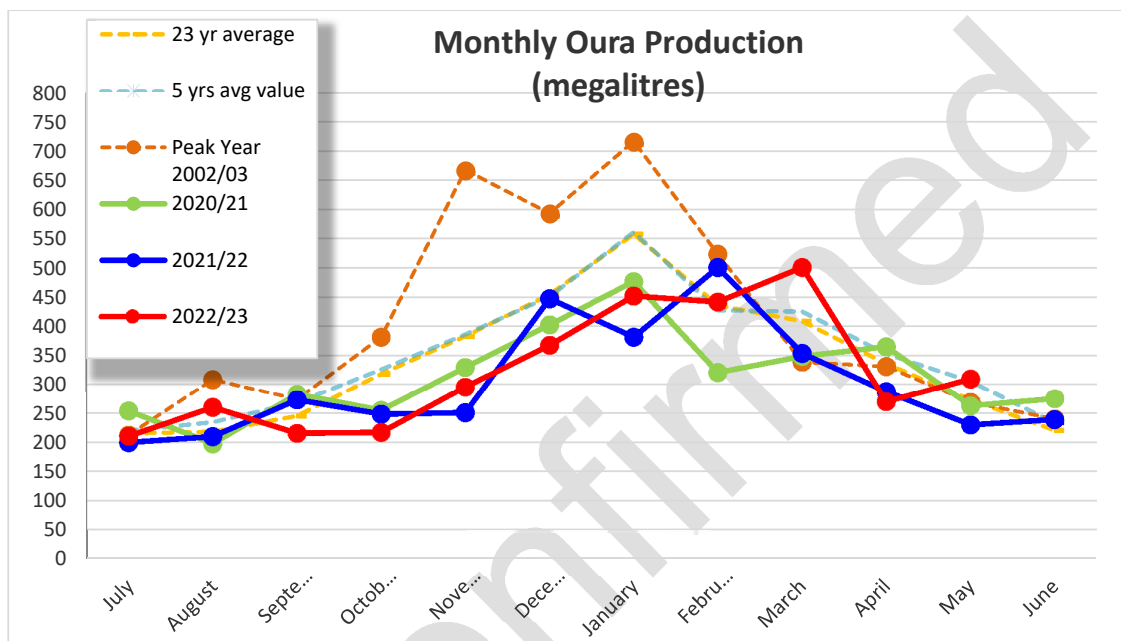
The Oura scheme has 33 sets of reservoirs and 19 pumping stations, produces drinking water for approximately 14,600 people in the Bland, Coolamon, Junee, Narrandera and Temora Shires. The Oura scheme can also supply water to the Northern side of the rural area of Wagga Wagga City when required.

Eleven months into the 2022/23 financial year, 3539ML of water has been extracted from the Oura Borefield and processed at the Oura Water Treatment Plant. This is a slight increase in production compared to last FY where 3382ML of water was extracted for the same period. An increase in production of 157ML. This is depicted in the graph below.



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Oura monthly water production has started slightly higher in July where 200ML was extracted from the Oura bores. August saw an increase in production where 260ML was extracted before a decrease in production for September saw only 215ML extracted. October saw a further decrease where only 217ML was extracted. November through to January saw further production increases as we move into the warmer months. November (295ML), December (367ML) and January (452ML). February was slightly lower in production with (441ML) extracted before an increase in March saw (501ML) extracted from the Oura Bores. There was a large decrease in production for April (270ML) before a slight increase in Production in May (309ML).

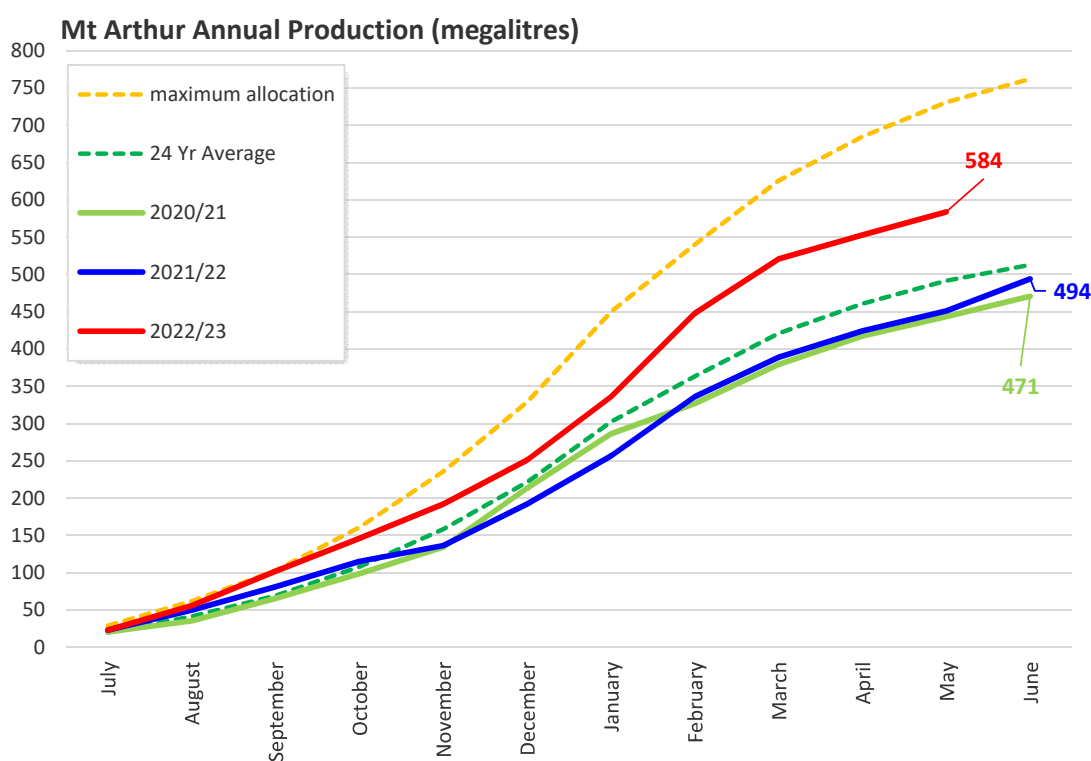


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Mount Arthur Drinking Water Scheme

The Mount Arthur Water Source is from the Lachlan Fold belt Aquifer System. The water is extracted via two bores, bores 1 and 2 located in the Wagga Wagga City Council area South of Matong. The water is disinfected before distribution through 9 sets of reservoirs supplying approximately 2400 people with water in the Coolamon shire.

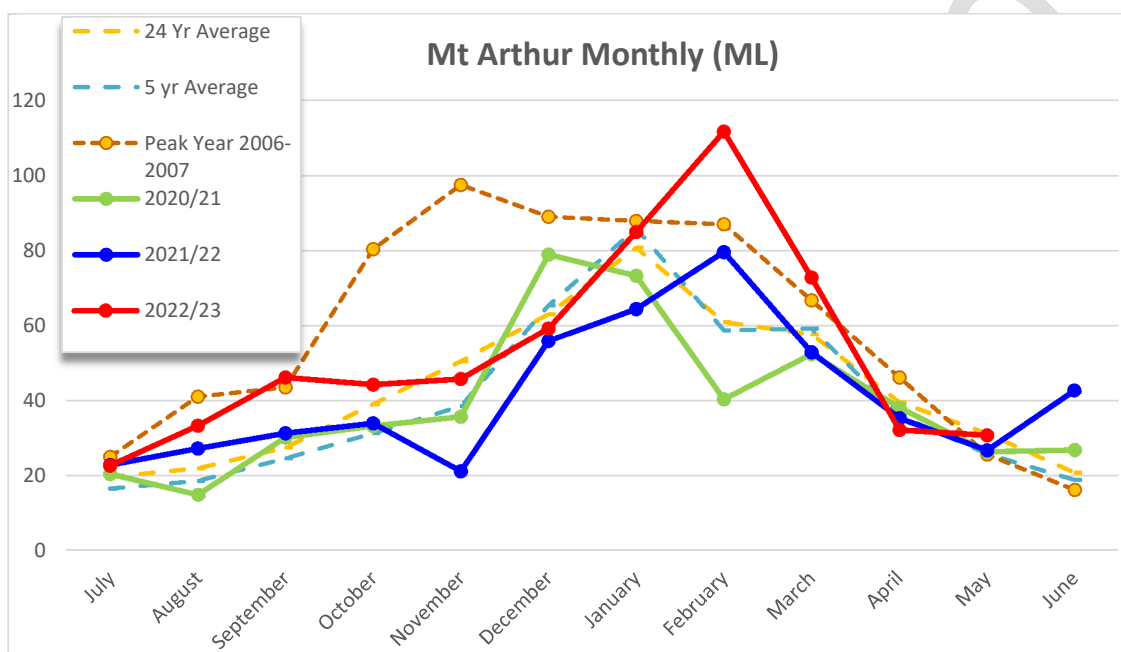
Eleven months into the 2022/23 financial year, 584ML of water has been extracted from the Mt Arthur Borefield. This is an increase compared to last FY where 451ML was extracted from the Mt Arthur bores for the same period. An increase of 133ML. This increase in Production over the year can be attributed to several bursts in Coolamon throughout the year, with a significant burst in February providing a significant loss of around 30ML. As can be seen in the graph below trending slightly higher to previous years. Whilst bursts have provided a loss of around 45ML for the year, production still appears to be above average, which indicates that either growth or non-residential usage is increasing.



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Mt Arthur monthly water production started very consistently to previous years with 23ML of water extracted from the bores in July before a significant increase in the following 2 months, August saw 33ML extracted and September a further increase to 46ML. This increase indicated a leak within the system, however finding was difficult with the wet catchment at the time.

October saw a slight decrease with 44ML extracted from the Mt Arthur Bores. November through to January saw a steady increase every month as we move into the warmer months. November (46ML), December (59ML) and January (85ML) extracted. February data indicates a large spike in production where (112ML) was extracted before a reduction in Production for March (73ML). This was a significant leak identified within the town retic, discharging within the rail corridor. April saw a further reduction in Production to (32ML) before a further slight reduction in May where (31ML) was extracted from the Mt Arthur bores.

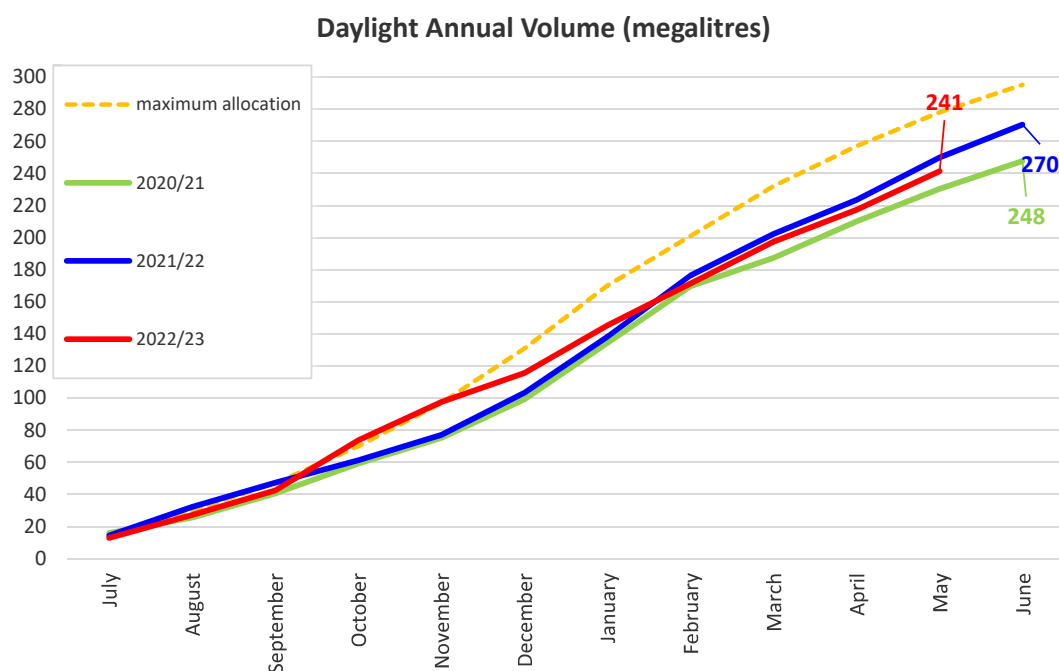


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Mount Daylight Drinking Water Scheme

The Mount Daylight water source is from the Lower Lachlan alluvium aquifer. The Mount Daylight bores are jointly operated with Carathool Shire Council. Carathool Shire Council is responsible for bore management. There are 7 sets of reservoirs in the Mt Daylight scheme. Mt Daylight supplies water to approximately 125 people in the villages of Naradhan, Weethalle and Tallimba which is located within the Bland Shire.

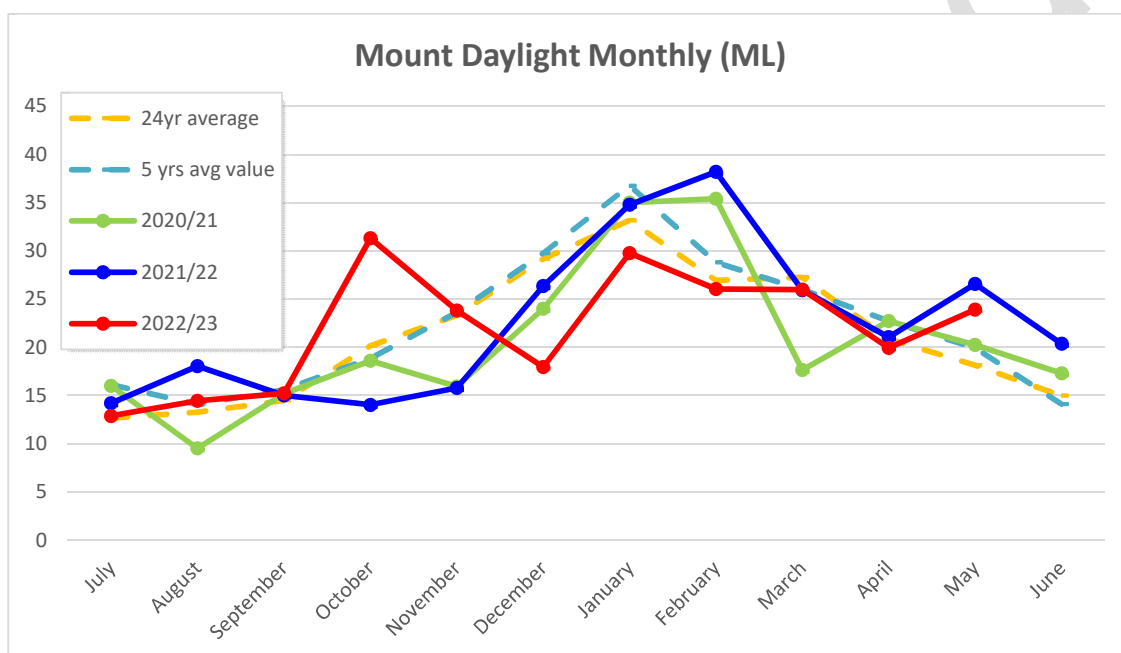
Eleven months into the 2022/23 financial year, 241ML of water has been extracted from the Mt Daylight Borefield. This is a decrease in volume of 9ML compared to the 2021/22 FY where 250ML was produced over the same period. The steep increase in September/October indicates that a burst was evident in the scheme, interrogation of ClearSCADA pump run times indicates a pump had run for a long period of time also indicating a burst in the scheme. The burst was located on Harts Lane within the Mt Daylight scheme, again prolonged wet weather made it difficult to access and locate the burst.



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The monthly extraction totals for the Mt Daylight bores have started very consistently with July seeing 13ML extracted with slight increases in August 14ML, September was steady with 15ML extracted before a dramatic increase for October where 31ML was extracted. As indicated this increase correlates to a burst in the system which has been located and fixed.

November through to January has seen some inconsistencies with production. These inconsistencies correlate to the prolonged period of flooding experienced at the bores. The period November and December saw a decrease in monthly extractions as both bores were under floodwater for up to 4-6 weeks. November saw 24ML produced with a further decrease in December where 18ML was produced. January saw an increase in production (30ML) as both bores were once again available for production as flood waters receded. February and March have been very consistent with (26ML) extracted for each of these months. April saw a decrease in Production (20ML) before a slight increase is evident in May (24ML).

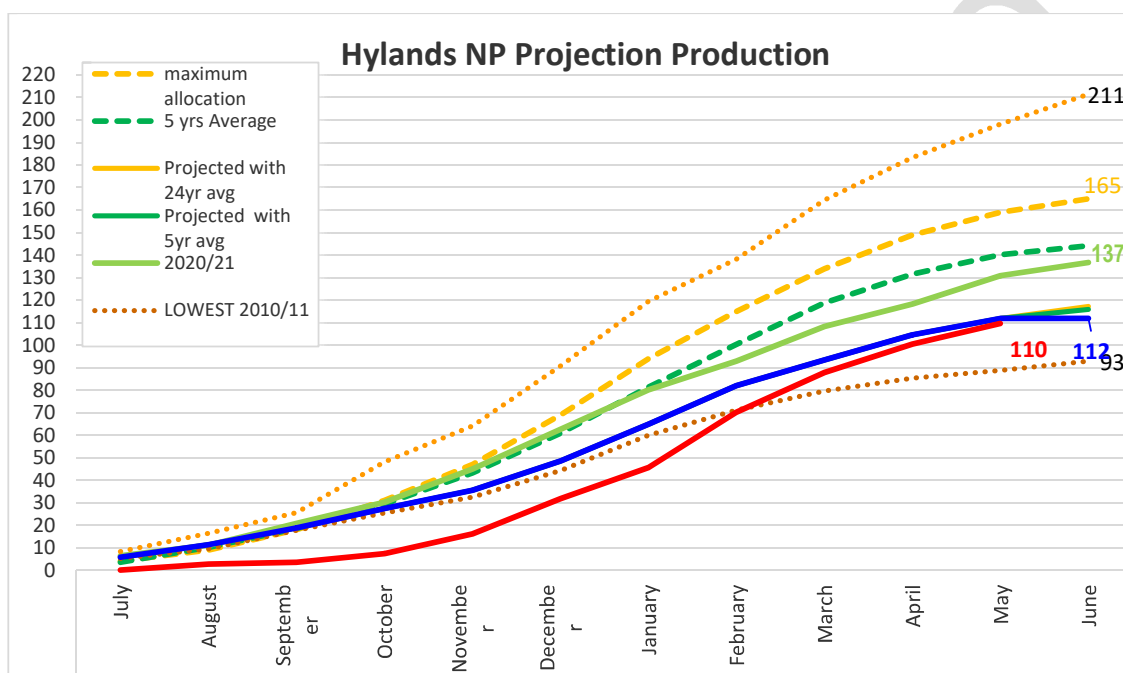


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Hylands Bridge - Non-Potable

Hylands Bridge supplies Non-Potable water to Barellan and Binya. The water is sourced through the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area where Goldenfields Water holds 165ML shareholding for water entitlement.

Eleven months into the 2022/23 financial year only 110ML of water has been extracted from the Hylands Bridge Raw Water scheme. The reduction in production from Hylands Bridge may be attributed to Murrumbidgee Irrigation channel maintenance and pump issues during August/September. The Hylands Bridge Scheme has the ability for cross connection of supply from the Oura scheme at Barellan. When maintenance is undertaken on the channels supply for Barellan is cut over to the Oura scheme to maintain supply.



FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The recommendation does not impact on Council's financial position.

LOCAL PREFERENCE

N/A

ATTACHMENTS: Nil

TABLED ITEMS: Nil

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15.4. MATTERS SUBMITTED BY ENGINEERING MANAGER

15.4.1. UPDATE ON ROSEHILL TO HARDEN PIPELINE EASEMENT

BOARD RESOLUTION

23/039 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Piper and Sinclair that the Board resolves to:

- 1. Note the updated information within the report**
- 2. Authorise the General Manager or his delegate to endorse the easement acquisitions and instruct surveyor to finalise and lodge the plans and documentation with NSW Land Registry Services.**

Report prepared by Engineering Manager

COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. Note the updated information within the report.
2. Authorise the General Manager or his delegate to endorse the easement acquisitions and instruct surveyor to finalise and lodge the plans and documentation with NSW Land Registry Services.

ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN

02 Maximising Regional Water Supply

BACKGROUND

In accordance with Policy NO. PP032, Goldenfields Water requires creation of easements for subsurface infrastructure such as pipelines, so they can easily access the relevant lands for construction, operation, maintenance and replacement of infrastructure. The easement gives Goldenfields Water an on-going legal right to have its infrastructure located on a property and to enter the property to maintain it even when that property changes ownership.

While there may exist statutory powers of entry under legislation such as the Local Government Act 1993 and Water Management Act 2000, these statutory rights are not always sufficient for Goldenfields Water activities and purposes relating to infrastructure, and in these circumstances, easements will provide secure property rights to an Authority.

It is important to note that Goldenfields Water are not seeking to prohibit access or use of the land by creating an easement. Activities are still permitted within the easement area provided that they do not interfere with the rights and terms granted under the easement such as maintenance, replacement, repair or safe operation of the infrastructure.

REPORT

The Rosehill to Harden new pipeline construction has now been finalised, with the certificates of final completion shortly being released for both DN450 and DN500 sections. The new pipeline is running through a total of twenty-three (23) privately owned farming land parcels, which requires the creation of easements for water supply purpose.

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Prior to construction commencing, each property owners were contacted with an offer based on a valuation report and deed of agreement for the acquisition of an easement over their land under the Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991 (NSW).

After negotiation process, all registered proprietors of the lands have signed the relevant deed and agreed to the creation of the easement and its terms, with the exception of one (1) owner of six (6) land parcels who were being leased and subsequently got sold after construction had been completed in those parcels. The new owners who purchased the six (6) affected lots were not made aware of the proposed easements over their land during the purchase process. Goldenfields Water are still in the process of seeking agreement for the lots listed as “pending” in the table below. The pipeline was constructed with the appropriate approvals in place and have the rights afforded to them through Local Government Act 1993 and Water Management Act 2000 to access, operate and maintain the pipeline.

A registered surveyor has now finalised the preparation of deposited plan of proposed easement over the following affected privately owned land parcels:

Parcels with signed deed of agreement for acquisition of easement	Parcels with pending agreement for easement
Lot 1 DP121873	Lot 132 DP1089613
Lot 1 DP356768	Lot 135 DP753590
Lot 133 DP455123	Lot 1 DP722205
Lot 1 DP652888	Lot 221 DP753610 (need to be added in easement plan)
Lots 137, 188 & 262 DP753590	Lot 222 DP753610
Lot 65 DP753610	Lot 6 DP798666
Lots 347 & 545 DP753624	
Lots 1, 5 & 6 DP1085624	
Lots 1, 2 & 3 DP1079104	
Lot 1 DP340355	

Goldenfields Water’s staff and its solicitor are now reviewing the plan of proposed easement prior to the surveyor lodging the plan with NSW Land Registry Services (LRS) electronically.

Once the plan of proposed easement has been lodged with the LRS, a solicitor will organise for both parties to execute the Transfer Granting Easement documentation by both parties. Agreed compensation will then be paid to the affected proprietors of the land in accordance with agreed negotiated amount.

Goldenfields Water have two upcoming pipeline renewals projects in the area that will have subsequent landholder easement negotiations:

- Approximately 800m on DN500 pipeline between the Jugiong to Cowangs trunk main and the Rosehill pump station. This project has designs completed and are currently seeking easement agreements with the two affected landowners who have engaged a land valuation
- Kingsvale to Young pipeline upgrade approximately 12km of DN300 currently in design phase

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FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

Easement costs were allowed for in project costs.

ATTACHMENTS: Nil

TABLED ITEMS: Nil

15.5. MATTERS SUBMITTED BY THE GENERAL MANAGER

15.5.1. ADOPTION OF 2023/2024 OPERATIONAL PLAN

BOARD RESOLUTION

23/040 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs McAlister and McGlynn that:

- 1. Council adopts the 2023-2024 Operational Plan, as exhibited on public display with the amendment to the Overdue Fees and Charges to 9% as detailed in the report.**
- 2. The fees and charges be made for the 2023-2024 year, as detailed in the adopted 2023-2024 Operational Plan Fees and Charges Schedule.**

Report prepared by General Manager

COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. Council adopts the 2023-2024 Operational Plan, as exhibited on public display with the amendment to the Overdue Fees and Charges to 9% as detailed in the report.
2. The fees and charges be made for the 2023-2024 year, as detailed in the adopted 2023-2024 Operational Plan Fees and Charges Schedule.

ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN

Priority 1 High Quality, Secure & Efficient Water Supplies

BACKGROUND

The 2022-2026 Delivery Program was adopted by Council in June 2022 in accordance with Chapter 13, part 2 of the Local Government Act 1993, and Section 196A of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021.

Section 405 of the Local Government Act 1993 requires an Operational Plan including an annual budget and annual fees and charges to be adopted before the beginning of each financial year and for the draft documents to be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days.

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REPORT

In accordance with legislative requirements the Draft 2023/2024 Operational Plan incorporating the 2023/2024 budget and annual fees and charges has been on public exhibition for 28 days. No submissions have been received.

The Draft 2023-2024 Operational Plan, incorporating 2023-2024 Fees and Charges and 2023-2024 Budget Summaries is now re-presented to Council for adoption.

Adjustment of the Overdue Rates and Charges on page 87 has been increased from 6% to 9% in accordance with the OLG Circular 23-02 which was released on 8th May 2023.

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The recommendation does not impact on Council's financial position.

ATTACHMENTS: Draft 2023/2024 Operational Plan.

TABLED ITEMS: Nil

16. NEXT MEETING

The next ordinary meeting of Council is scheduled to be held on Thursday 24 August 2023 at 10.00am.

17. CLOSE OF BUSINESS

There being no further business requiring the attention of Council the meeting was declared closed at 10:36am