

The meeting commenced at 10:11am

PRESENT

Cr B Callow, Cr A McAlister (via Zoom link), Cr L McGlynn, Cr K Morris (via Zoom link), Cr J Piper, Cr G Sinclair (via Zoom link), 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), Mrs T Bilske (Corporate Services Manager), Miss S Jung (Engineering Manager), Miss A Burnett (Executive Assistant).

1. LEAVE OF ABSENCE/APOLOGIES

Nil

2. ATTENDANCE OF COUNCILLORS BY AUDIO VISUAL LINK

BOARD RESOLUTION

23/041 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Collow and White that requests from Cr McAlister, Cr Sinclair and Cr Morris to attend the meeting via Audi-Visual link be approved.

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.

6. PRESENTATIONS

Nil

7. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Nil

8. DECLARATION OF NON PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Nil

9. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD ON 22 JUNE 2023,

BOARD RESOLUTION

23/042 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Piper and Callow that the minutes of the meetings held on the 22 June 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

15. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – CONFIDENTIAL SESSION – 10:13AM

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 media and public.

BOARD RESOLUTION

23/043 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs White and McGlynn that Council move into **CONFIDENTIAL SESSION.**

16. MATTERS TO BE SUBMITTED TO CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

16.1. MATTERS SUBMITTED BY PRODUCTION AND SERVICES MANAGER

**16.1.1. 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:*

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

BOARD RESOLUTION

23/044 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs McGlynn and Callow that Council:

- 1. Note the information detailed within this report;**
- 2. Approve the withholding of retentions in lieu of one bank guarantee for 3.5% of the project total**

16.2. MATTERS SUBMITTED BY ENGINEERING MANAGER

16.2.1. 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:*

- c) Information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business*

BOARD RESOLUTION

23/045 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs McGlynn and Piper that Council:

- 1. Note the information detailed within this report;**
- 2. Decline to provide the Developer with an offer for a payment plan**

16.2.2. ROSEHILL PUMP STATION BYPASS PIPELINE EASEMENT

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:

- c) Information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business

BOARD RESOLUTION

23/046 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Callow and White that Council:

1. Note the information detailed within this report;
2. Approve the General Manager or his delegate to commence negotiations as detailed within this report;
3. Approve Council to proceed with seeking legal advice regarding replacement under our statutory powers

BOARD RESOLUTION

23/047 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs White and Callow that there being no further confidential items that the Board revert back to Open Session, and that the resolutions made in Confidential Session be made public.

TIME: 10:35am

The General Manager read out the resolutions made in Confidential Session.

17. MATTERS SUBMITTED TO OPEN COUNCIL

17.1. MATTERS SUBMITTED BY CORPORATE SERVICES MANAGER

17.1.1. COUNCIL CASH AND INVESTMENTS

BOARD RESOLUTION

23/048 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Piper and Callow that the report detailing Council Cash and Investments as at 31st August 2023 be received and noted.

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

**Minutes of the Meeting of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL held at
TEMORA OFFICE on 7 September 2023**

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

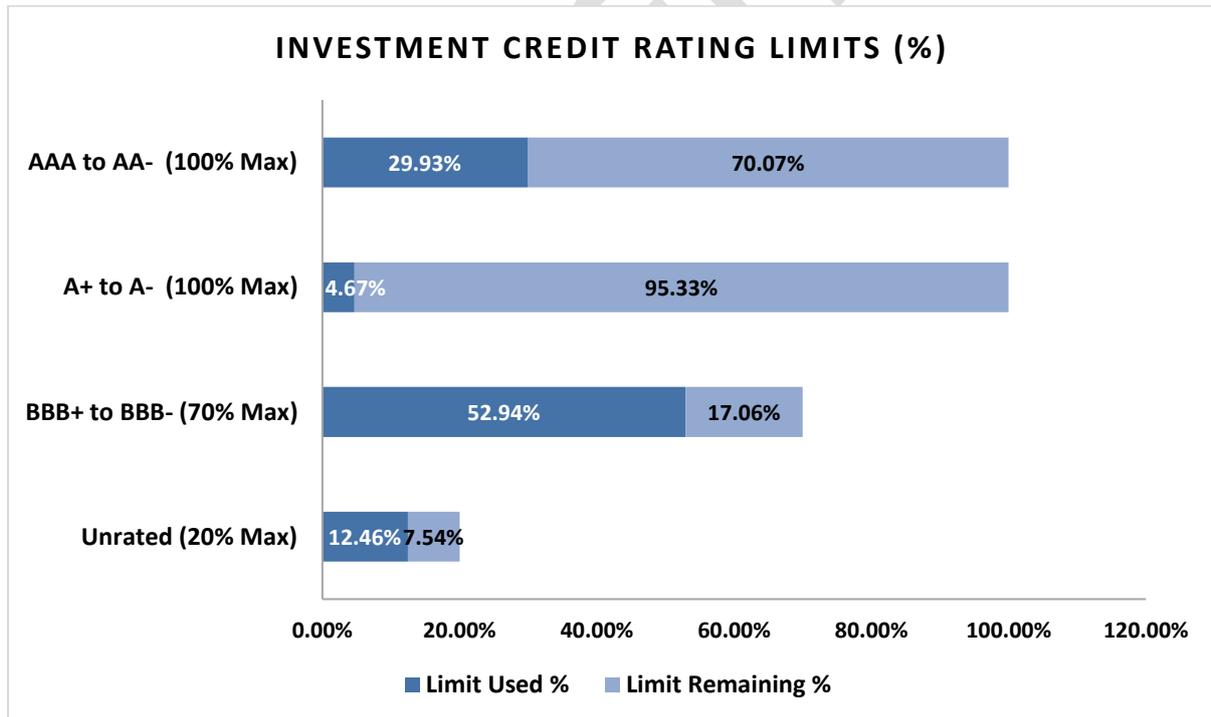
Portfolio Performance

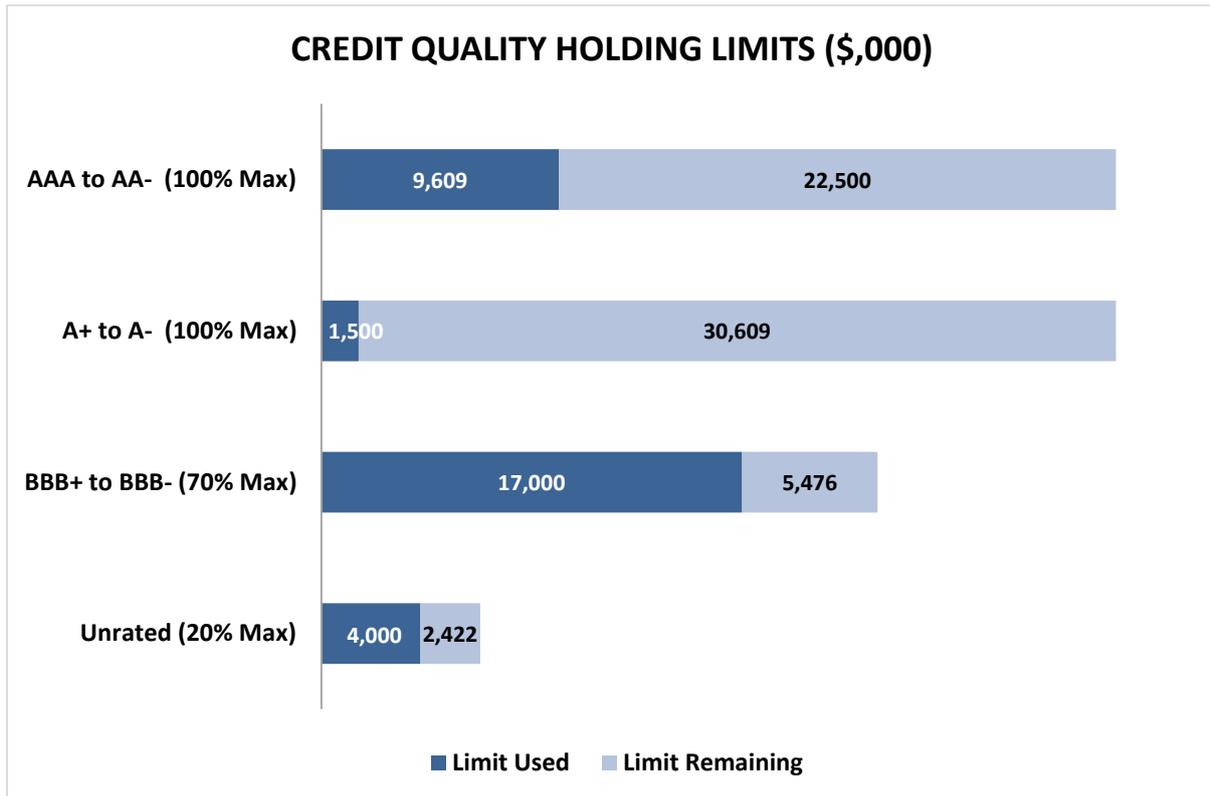
Goldenfields Water County Council’s investment portfolio outperformed by 1.85% in comparison to the relevant BBSW Index benchmark. The average weighted yield for August was 4.23%.

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

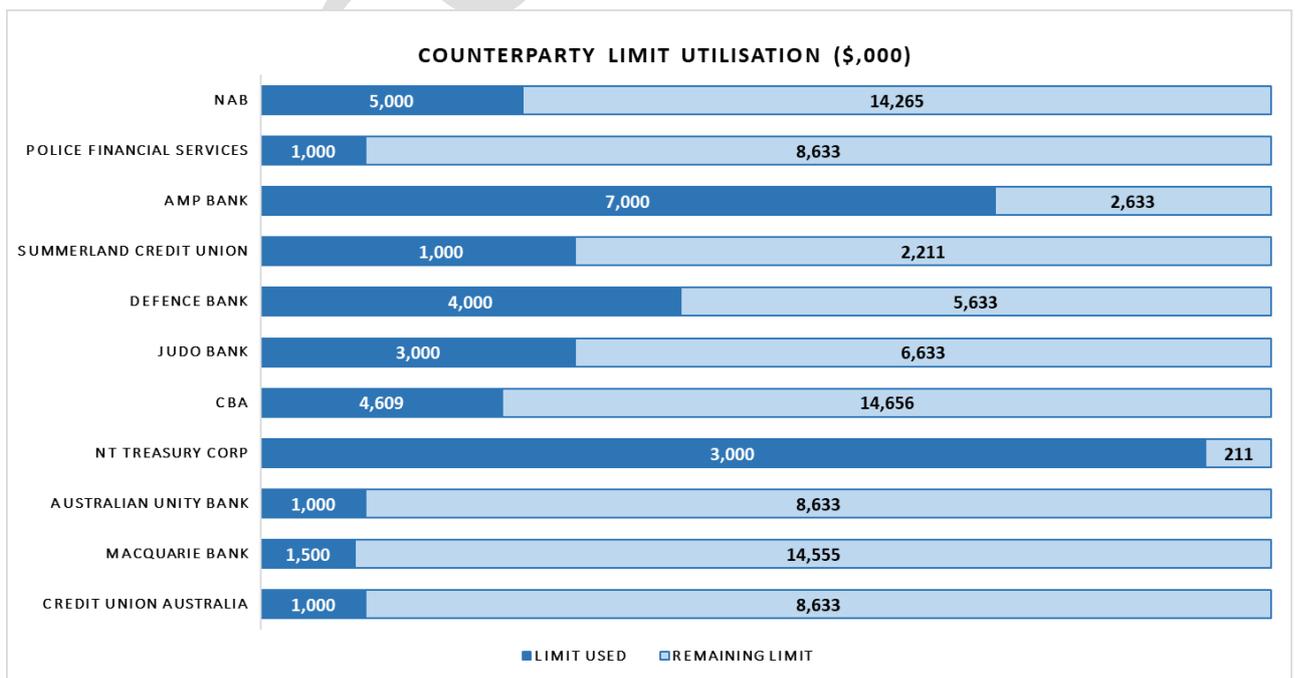




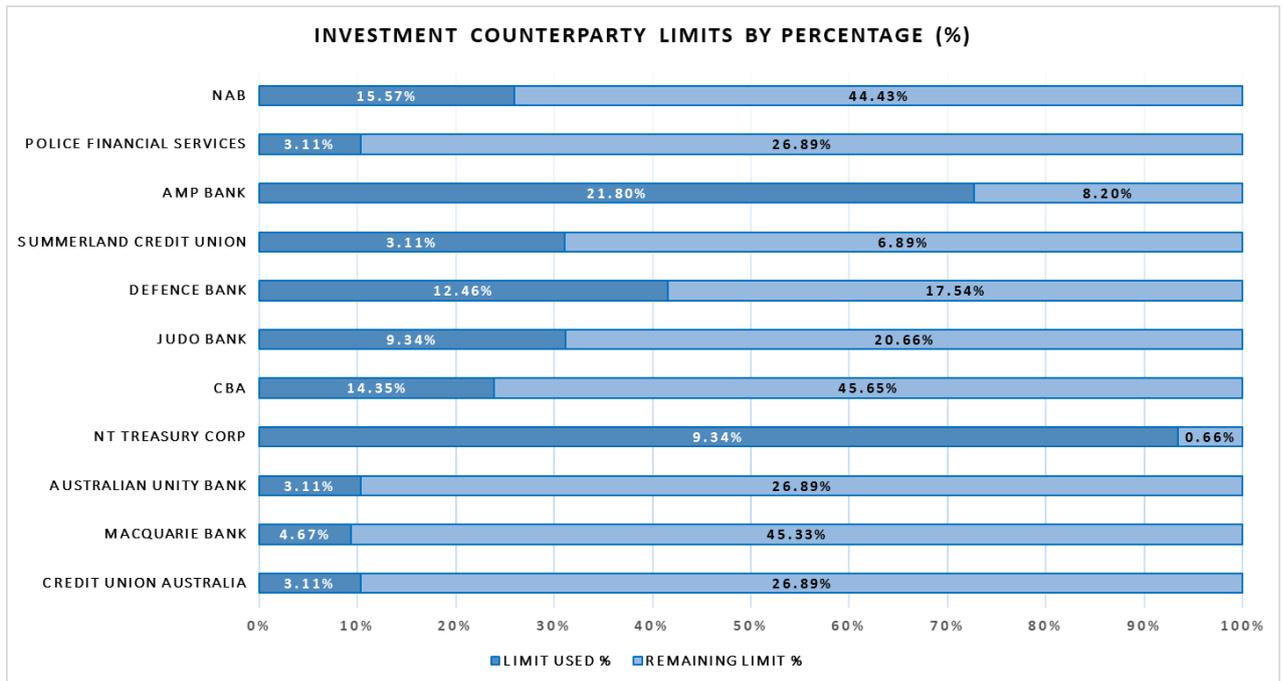
Counter Party Compliance

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.

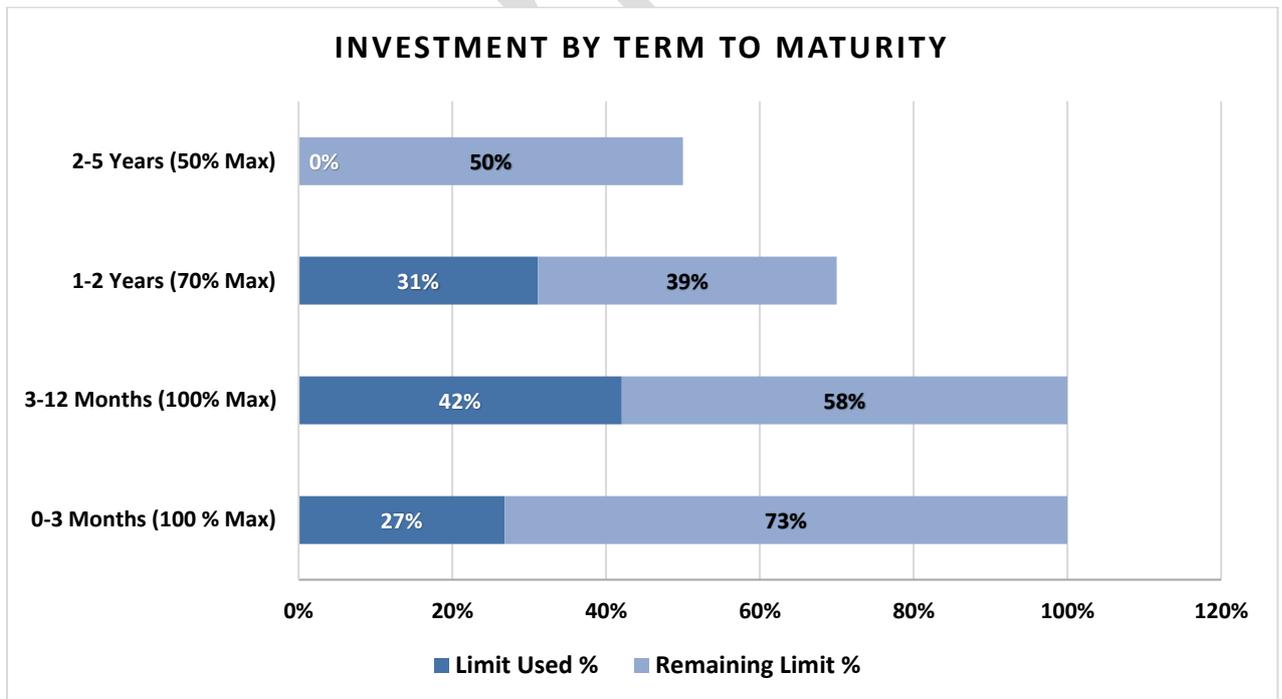


Minutes of the Meeting of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL held at TEMORA OFFICE on 7 September 2023



Term to Maturity

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



Application of Investment Funds

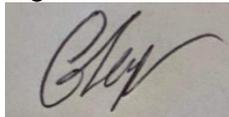
The table below details the allocation of cash balances in terms of restricted funds, noting restrictions are all internal rather than external.

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.

17.1.2. PROGRESS REPORT - CAPITAL WORKS EXPENDITURE

BOARD RESOLUTION

23/049 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs White and McGlynn that the Capital Works Progress Report as at 30th June 2023 be received and noted

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 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 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.

Minutes of the Meeting of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL held at TEMORA OFFICE on 7 September 2023

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 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	(1,498,575)	103%

17.1.3. AUDIT RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

BOARD RESOLUTION

23/050 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Callow and White that the Board receives and notes the minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held on 2 August 2023

Report prepared by Acting 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.

17.1.4. 2022/23 DRAFT FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

BOARD RESOLUTION

23/051 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs White and Piper that:

- 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

Cr Abb McAlister left the meeting at 10.50am

Report prepared by Acting Corporate Services Manager

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.

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.

17.1.5. PENSIONER CONCESSIONS POLICY

BOARD RESOLUTION

23/052 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Callow and Piper that the Board adopts PP002 Pensioner Concession Policy

Report prepared by Acting Corporate Services Manager

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

17.1.6. DEBT RECOVERY & HARDSHIP POLICY

BOARD RESOLUTION

23/053 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs McGlynn and Piper that the Board adopts the revised PP016 Debt Recovery & Hardship Policy

Report prepared by Acting Corporate Services Manager

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

17.2. MATTERS SUBMITTED BY PRODUCTION AND SERVICES MANAGER

17.2.1. WATER PRODUCTION REPORT

BOARD RESOLUTION

23/054 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Callow and White that the Water Production Report be received and noted.

Report prepared by Production and Services Manager

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

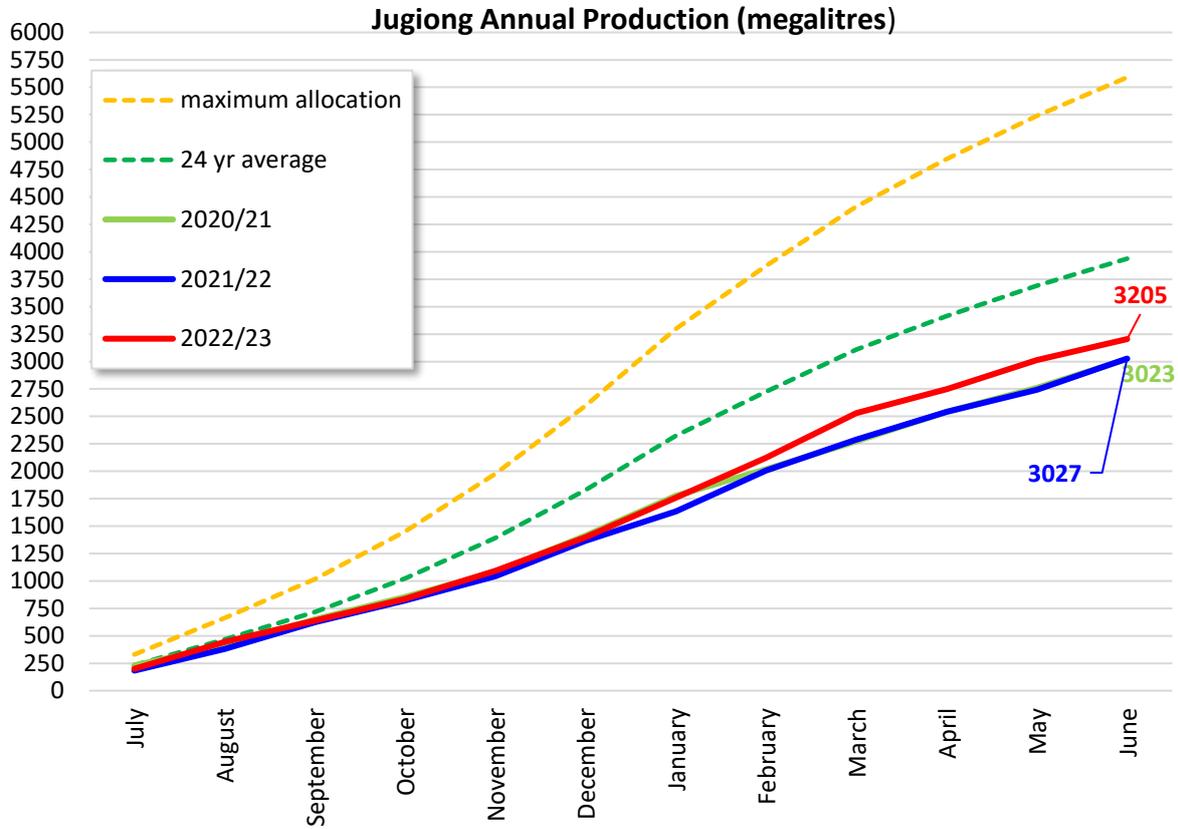
Jugiong drinking Water Scheme

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.

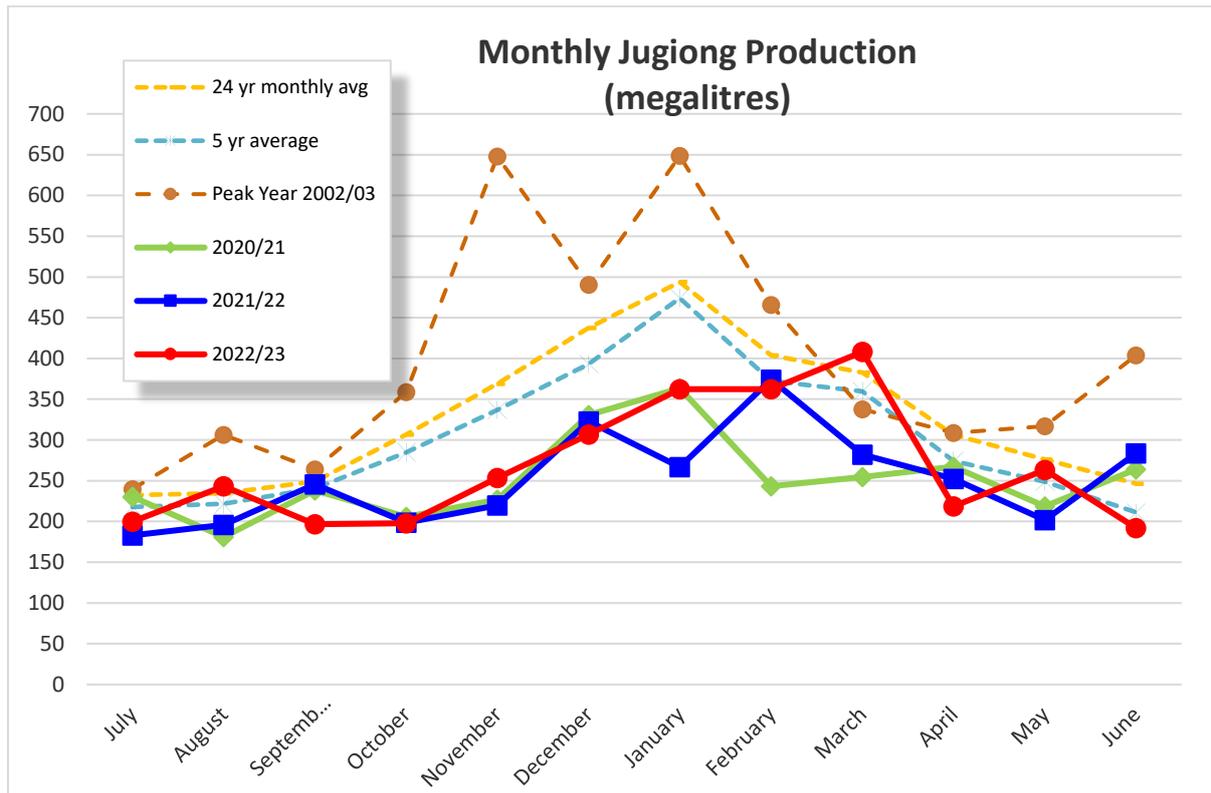
Minutes of the Meeting of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL held at TEMORA OFFICE on 7 September 2023

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.



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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) before a slight increase for May (263ML) and June indicates another reduction in production (192ML).

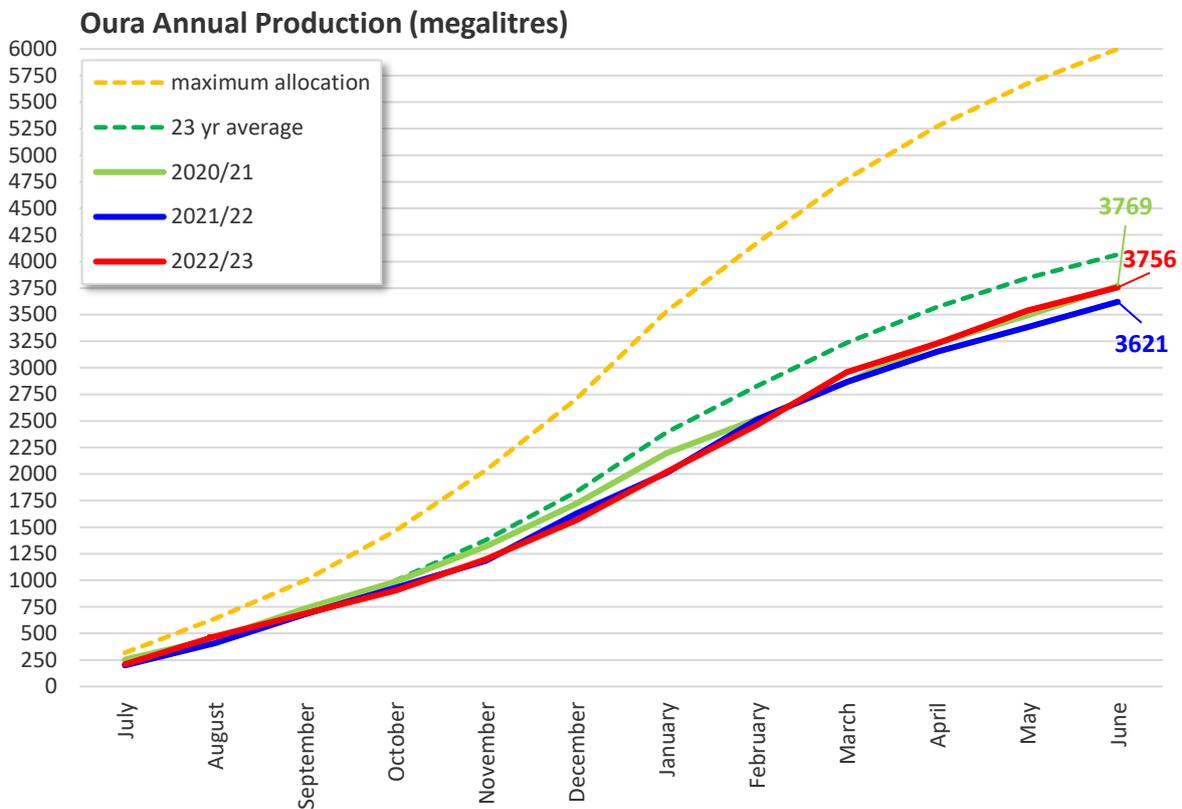


Oura Drinking Water Scheme

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.

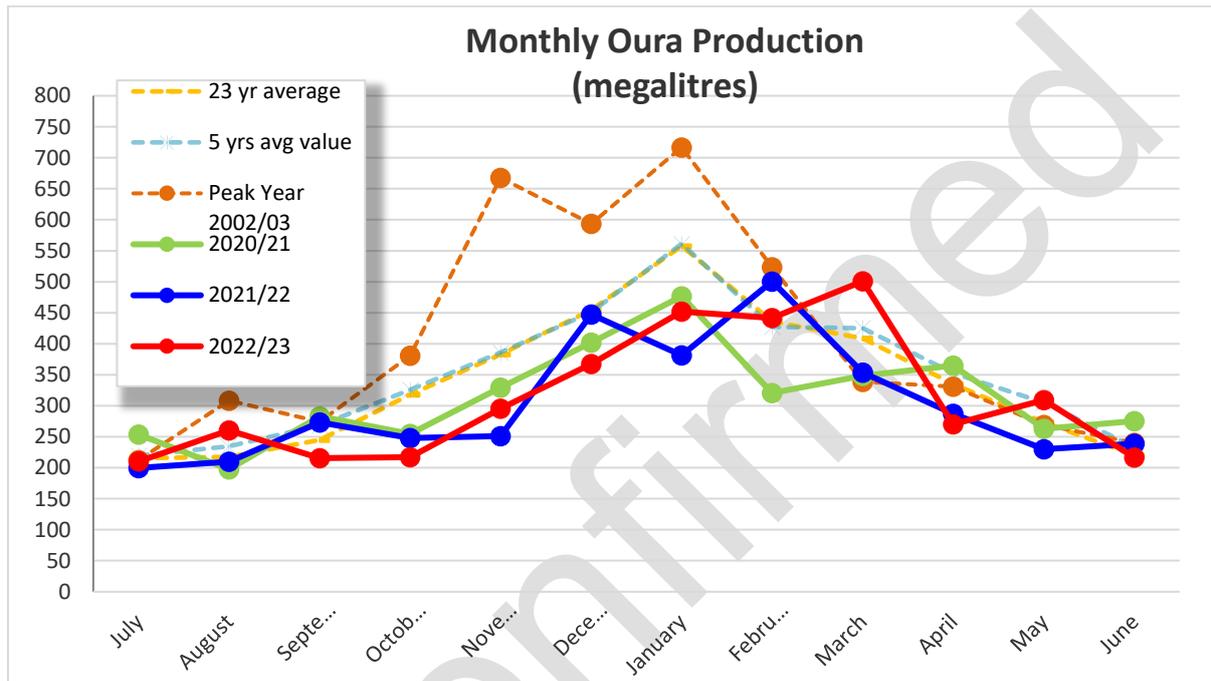
The Oura scheme has 33 sets of reservoirs and 19 pumping stations, produces drinking water for approximately 14,600 people in the Bland, Coolamon, Junee, Narrandera and Temora Shires. The Oura scheme can also supply water to the Northern side of the rural area of Wagga Wagga City when required.

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.



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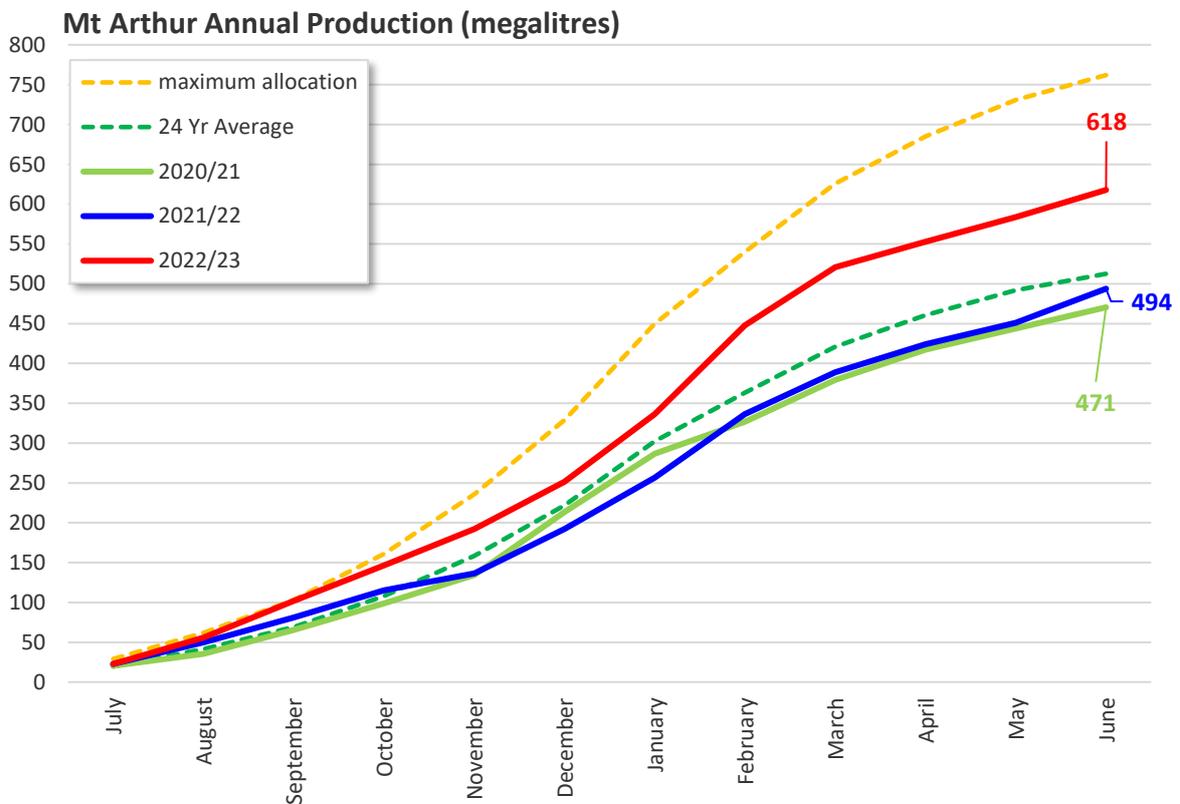
Oura monthly water production has started slightly higher in July where 200ML was extracted from the Oura bores. August saw an increase in production where 260ML was extracted before a decrease in production for September saw only 215ML extracted. October saw a further decrease where only 217ML was extracted. 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) and June indicates a further reduction in production (217ML).



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.

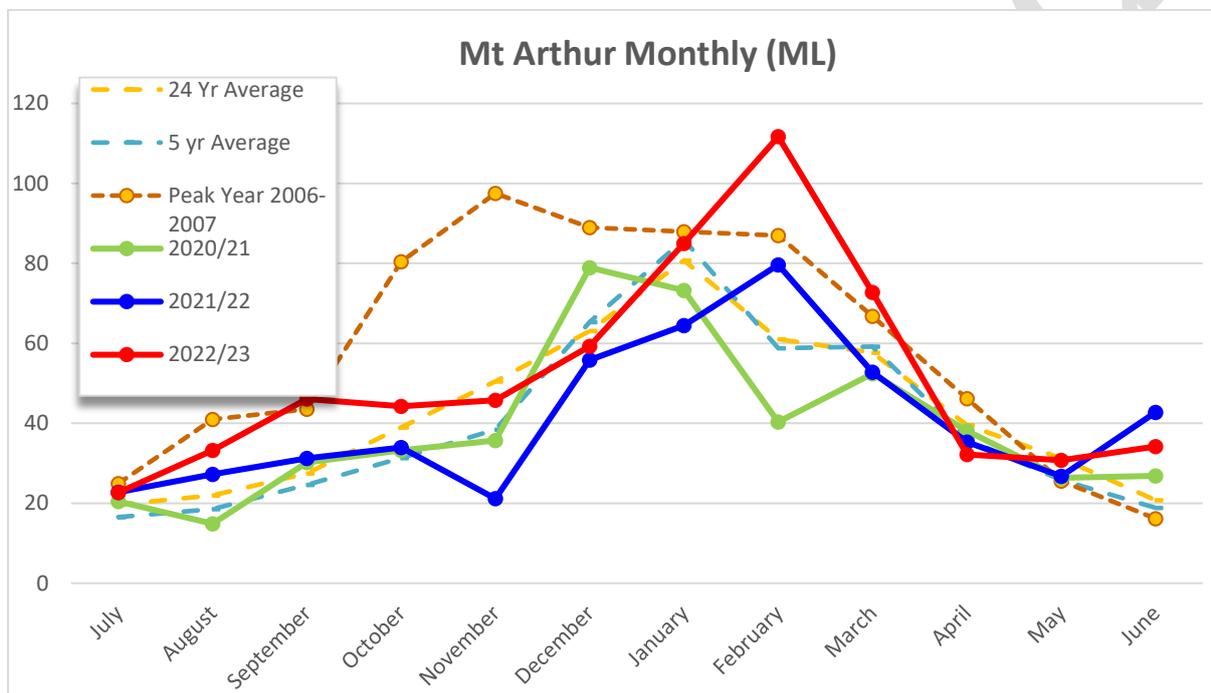
For the 2022/23 financial year, 618ML of water has been extracted from the Mt Arthur Borefield. This is an increase compared to the 2021/22 FY where 494ML was extracted from the Mt Arthur bores for the same period. An increase of 124ML. This increase in Production over the year can attributed to a burst 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.



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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 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).

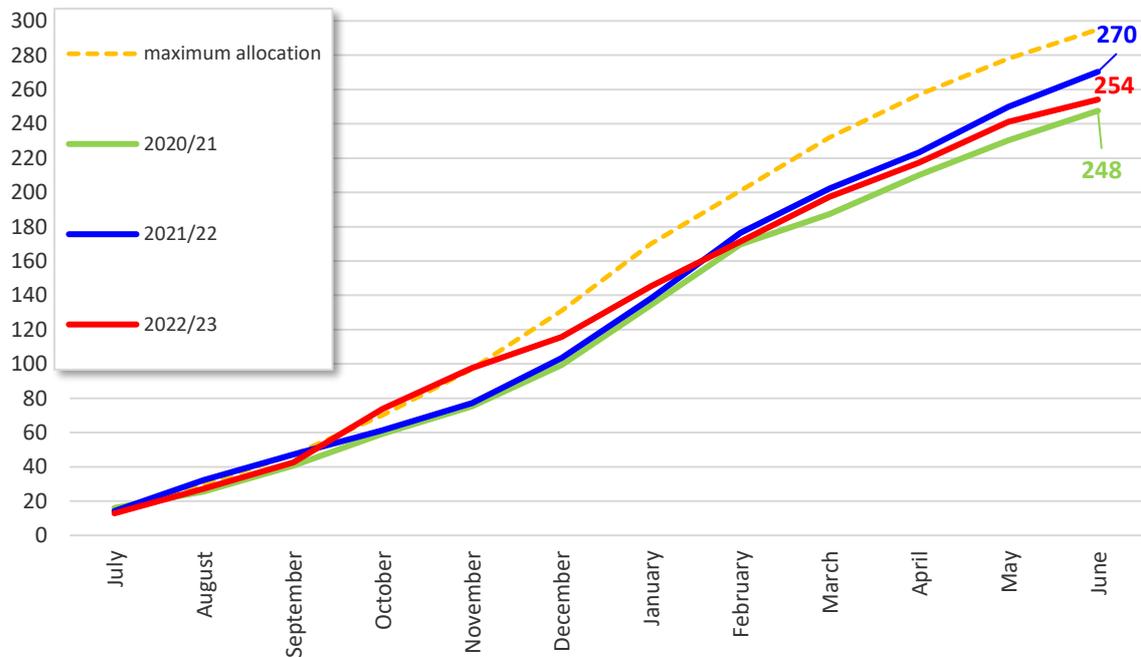


Mount Daylight Drinking Water Scheme

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)

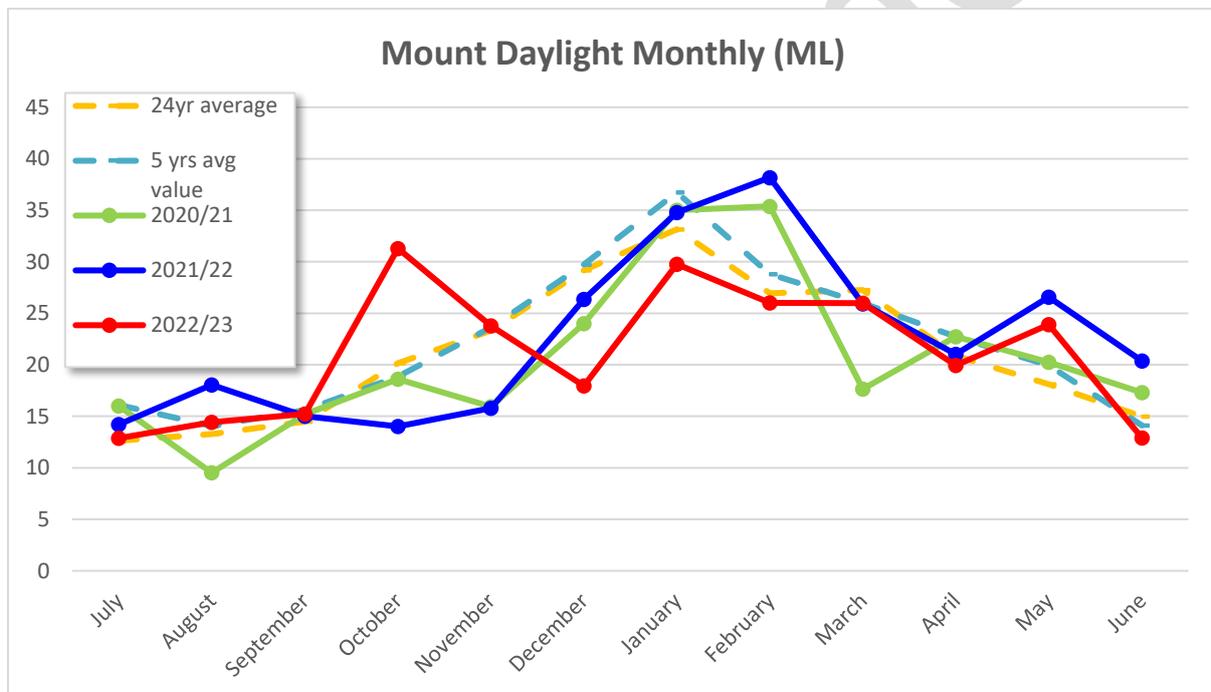


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The monthly extraction totals for the Mt Daylight bores started very consistently with July seeing 13ML extracted with slight increases in August 14ML, September was steady with 15ML extracted before a dramatic increase for October where 31ML was extracted, as indicated this increase 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.

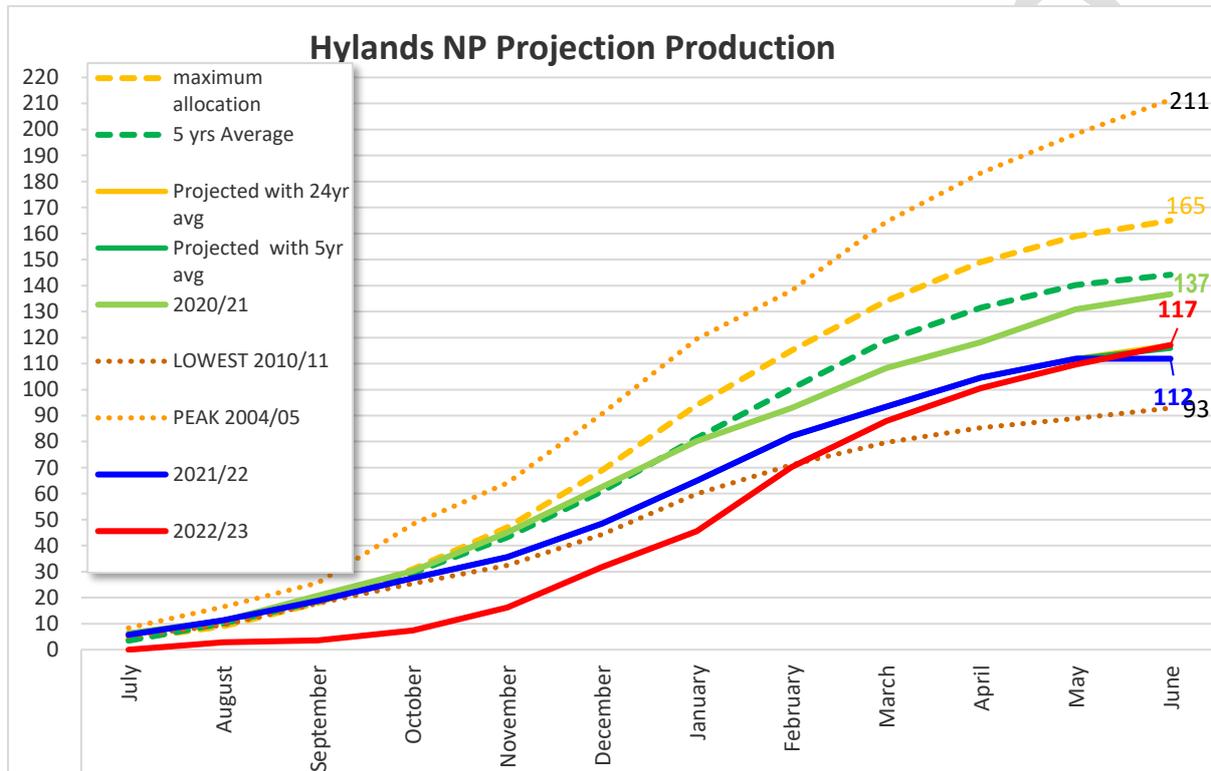
The period November and December saw a decrease in monthly extractions as both bores were under floodwater for up to 4-6 weeks. November saw 24ML produced with a further decrease in December where 18ML was produced. January saw an increase in production (30ML) as both bores were once again available 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.



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

17.2.2. BUDGET REVISION FOR THE OURA PUMP STATION AND DOSING PROJECT

BOARD RESOLUTION

23/055 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs White and McGlynn that the Board:

1. Note the information detailed within this report;
2. Approve the budget revision for the Oura Pump Station and Dosing Renewal Project.

Report prepared by Production and Services Manager

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

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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.

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.

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- The existing trunk main between Oura and Junee 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.

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.

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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.

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:

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

ATTACHMENTS: Nil

TABLED ITEMS: Nil

17.3. MATTERS SUBMITTED BY GENERAL MANAGER

17.3.1. LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW ANNUAL CONFERENCE

BOARD RESOLUTION

23/056 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Callow and McGlynn that the Board:

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

Report prepared by General Manager

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

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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-9.50am

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

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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-6.30pm	Networking in Trade Exhibition
7.00pm-10.30pm	LGNSW Conference Dinner and entertainment, Elite Partner - Statewide Mutual. Presentation LG Service Awards
	
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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)

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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-12.45am	Plenary Room Keynote address followed by Q&A
12.45am-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

- 
- 12 NOVEMBER
13 NOVEMBER
14 NOVEMBER
SOCIAL EVENTS
OPTIONAL
SITE VISIT

President's Welcome Reception	<p>12 November, 5.15pm to 7.30pm.</p> <p>President's Welcome Reception in exhibition area, Rosehill Gardens</p> <p>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.</p>
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Conference Dinner	<p>13 November, 7pm to 10.30pm.</p> <p>LGNSW Conference Dinner and entertainment, Sponsored by Elite Partner - Statewide Mutual. Presentation of Local Government Service Awards will be made during the Conference Dinner.</p>
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BOARD RESOLUTION

23/057 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs McGlynn and Piper that the Board accept to receive the late report.

17.3.2. MOTION FOR LGNSW ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2023

BOARD RESOLUTION

23/058 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Callow and White that the Board support and put forward the following motion to the Local Government NSW Annual Conference 2023:

- 1. A new Clause be inserted within the ISEPP recognising County Councils as a concurrent 'Approval Agency' with reference to their functions as a Proclaimed Authority under the Local Government Act and in accordance with the relevant provisions regarding consultation and concurrence within the EP&A Act;**
- 2. County Councils be recognised as a Public Authority in reference to developments not requiring consent, via the following amendments to the ISEPP;**
 - a. amend clause 13 within the ISEPP to provide that a reference to a council is a reference to a County Council, where a County Council exercises the relevant functions of the council in respect of the impacts of the proposed development, and**
 - b. amend clause 16(2) to include County Councils as a public authority that is required to be notified and consulted with in respect of certain development**
- 3. County Councils to be included within the State Planning Portal as a concurrent 'Approval Agency' in relation to all responsibilities/services/obligations detailed within their individual Proclamations.**

Report prepared by Production and Services Manager

ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN

Priority 1 High Quality, Secure and Efficient Water Supplies

BACKGROUND

Through an historic approach of seeking efficiencies within amending state planning legislation, County Councils have been neglected and unacknowledged as a Public Authority to be consulted with. As such, there is currently no mechanism in the development assessment process that mandates the referral of development applications to NSW County Councils for consultation and concurrence where the proposed development may impact on the functions of a County Council.

The effect of this, is that development applications, and/or developments not requiring consent are referred to County Councils on a discretionary basis. This has and continues to result in sub-optimal outcomes and undermining the ability of the County Councils to carry out their functions efficiently and effectively.

REPORT

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County Councils were only made aware in January 2021 through discussions with General Purpose Councils, that a new NSW Planning Portal was to be introduced and made mandatory for Local Government Councils by July 2021. Relevant State planning agencies failed to recognise and consult with County Councils as a relevant Public Authority to be included within the development assessment process.

The County's contacted NSW Planning for discussion around the functions of the portal and how County Council's will be included into the system for referral and concurrent approvals of developments through their obligations under the Water Management and Local Government Acts and associated regulations.

An 'onboarding' workshop was hosted by Planning on the 10 August 2021 with all four County Councils represented. These discussions provided a significant amount of frustration for the County's, noting that there is no mechanism for them to enact their Authority and that we were never considered as a stakeholder group in its initial development and roll out.

This initiated a full review of County Council's current legislative requirements under the Local Government Act, EP& A Act, and the Water Management Act. Results have provided a very clear view, that there currently exists an inadequate framework for County Councils to be recognised and to manage the functions of water and sewer to ensure short, medium and long-term planning provisions.

County Council staff have been liaising and working with relevant State Planning Authorities such as DPIE through the Town Water Risk Reduction Program (TWRRP) to include provisions within the relevant legislation and have us included within the Planning Portal as a concurrent approval agency; however, no progress has been made.

This report is to request that the Board resolve to support and put forward a motion at the Local Government NSW Annual Conference 2023 for LGNSW to advocate on behalf of the County Councils in ensuring appropriate and timely amendments to the relevant Acts and Planning processes are undertaken.

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

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

ATTACHMENTS: Nil

TABLED ITEMS: Nil

18. NEXT MEETING

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

19. CLOSE OF BUSINESS

There being no further business requiring the attention of Council the meeting was declared closed at 11:07am