

**Minutes of the Meeting of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL held at
TEMORA OFFICE on 24 February 2022**

The meeting commenced at 10.00am

PRESENT

Cr M Stadtmiller, Cr B Callow, Cr A McAlister, Cr L McGlynn, Cr J Piper, Cr G Sinclair, 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), Mrs C Roberts (Administration Officer).

1. LEAVE OF ABSENCE/APOLOGIES

BOARD RESOLUTION

22/009 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Callow and White that a leave of absence be granted to Cr K Morris.

2. 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.

3. 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.

4. 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.

5. PRESENTATIONS

Nil

6. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Nil

7. DECLARATION OF NON PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Nil

8. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD ON 27/01/2022,

BOARD RESOLUTION

22/010 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs McAlister and Sinclair that the minutes of the meetings held on the 27 January 2022, having been circulated and read by members be confirmed.

9. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Nil

10. CORRESPONDENCE

Nil

11. MATTERS OF URGENCY

BOARD RESOLUTION

22/011 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs McGlynn and Callow that the late report of WEST WYALONG WATER RELIABILITY PROJECT be accepted for consideration.

11.1. WEST WYALONG WATER RELIABILITY PROJECT

Report prepared by Engineering Manager

BOARD RESOLUTION

22/012 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs McGlynn and Piper that the Board:

- Note the information within the report
- Enter into a deed of agreement with the NSW Government to accept grant funding in the amount of \$4.5m excl GST and delegate the signing, administration and acquittal of the deed to the General Manager
- Enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Bland Shire Council regarding the funding they receive under the Resource for Regions Fund
- Approve an Extraordinary Council Meeting in May to award the construction tenders

COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the Board:

- Note the information within the report
- Enter into a deed of agreement with the NSW Government to accept grant funding in the amount of \$4.5m excl GST and delegate the signing, administration and acquittal of the deed to the General Manager
- Enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Bland Shire Council regarding the funding they receive under the Resource for Regions Fund
- Approve an Extraordinary Council Meeting in May to award the construction tenders

ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN

02 Maximising Regional Water Supply

BACKGROUND

In 2019 Goldenfields Water undertook a pressure improvement study to address concerns raised by Bland Shire Council that low pressure issues were impacting regional economic development within the townships of Wyalong and West Wyalong. The study provided a variety of options and associated cost estimates for improving the pressure within the townships. The preferred solution (refer to the map attached) will provide consistent pressure improvement throughout the full extent of the reticulation through the construction of:

- A new dedicated supply trunk main from Goldfields Way to Temora terminal reservoir
- A transfer pump station from Wyalong terminal reservoir to a new standpipe reservoir
- A new standpipe reservoir
- The renewal of the existing central reticulation main.

The works were estimated to cost \$8.9m

Due to the cost of providing the improved pressure and the impacts on Goldenfields Water's financial position, the project was not included in the capital works program. However, Goldenfields Water agreed to proceed with undertaking detailed design to enable the project to proceed should funding or other means make the project viable.

In 2021 both Bland Shire Council and Goldenfields Water were successful in securing funding for the project. Bland Shire Council secured funding of \$2.65m under the Resources for Regions Fund (state funding) and Goldenfields Water secured funding of \$4.5m under the National Water Grid Fund (federal funding).

To enable the project to proceed, The Board resolved at the October 2021 Council meeting to "endorse the contribution of \$2,250,000 by Goldenfields Water towards the West Wyalong Water Security project" (noting that this contribution is in addition to the funding mentioned above).

At the time it was anticipated that the funding deeds would provide a required completion date of December 2023 with tenders for the construction issued in early 2022 and construction commencing in May/June 2022.

REPORT

Subsequent correspondence with state and federal funding departments have indicated that the deeds would require the completion date for the project to be August 2023. Please note this is a very constrained timeframe to undertake the required works and poses a financial risk

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to Goldenfields Water that tender prices may be higher than previously anticipated due to the need for contractors to run additional staff in order to meet the required deadlines.

Despite both Goldenfields Water and Bland Shire Council having remained in close and consistent correspondence with the relevant departments, neither of the Deeds have been received. The absence of the deeds is a concern to Goldenfields Water staff as it poses a financial risk to the organisation to proceed without signed confirmation of the funding.

There is some assurance regarding the federal funding by way of a Letter of Comfort provided by DPIE in November 2021 to confirm the federal funding in lieu of the funding deeds. The federal funding is first provided by agreement to the state government who is then responsible for providing the funding to the grantee. Recent correspondence advises that a signed funding agreement exists between the federal and state government for this project protecting it from any impacts of the federal election process.

The most recent correspondence with the Department of Planning and Environment (the agency managing the federal funding component) indicates their intent to release the deeds as soon as possible with milestone funding received prior to the end of this financial year. However, despite previous correspondence indicating otherwise, it does not appear that the completion timeframe will be extended to reflect the delays incurred in providing the Deeds, with discussion being that an extension of time would possibly be granted at a later date.

Goldenfields Water requests the Board resolves to enter into a deed of agreement with the NSW Government to accept the grant funding in the amount of \$4.5m excl GST and to delegate the signing, administration and acquittal of the deed to the General Manager.

It is also requested that the Board resolve to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Bland Shire Council regarding the state funding to articulate the roles, responsibilities and formal funding arrangements between the two Councils.

To avoid further delays Goldenfields Water staff propose to continue with the tender process of the construction tenders (one being for the pipelines construction and another for the reservoir and pump station construction) with a required completion date prior to August 2023, noting that the contracts will not be signed until after the deeds have been executed. It is no longer possible to meet our planned project timeframe of completing the tender processes in time for board resolution to award the contracts at the subsequent April Council Meeting. Goldenfields Water are requesting the Board resolve to hold an Extraordinary Council meeting in May to enable the contract to be awarded and construction to commence as soon as possible to provide Council with the best opportunity for meeting the funding deadlines.

Please note that a material supply tender business paper will be raised at this (February) Council meeting. Previously it was intended for Goldenfields Water construction crew to undertake the construction of the dedicated supply main with the materials required being above the tender threshold. Due to the volume of work our internal crews currently have on, it was decided to combine this dedicated supply main with the reticulation renewal contract. Due to potential delays in receiving pipeline deliveries as a result of Covid-19 it was decided to proceed with the materials tender to enable pipeline materials to be purchased as soon as possible and be delivered to site for the successful Contractor to use. It is recommended that the board resolve to award the tender to the successful supplier upon the execution of either of the deeds.

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

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

ATTACHMENTS: Map of the infrastructure to be delivered under the West Wyalong Water Reliability Project

TABLED ITEMS: Nil

12. NOTICES OF MOTION / RESCISSION MOTIONS

Nil

13. CHAIRPERSON'S MINUTE

Nil

14. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 and the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005, 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 the public.

BOARD RESOLUTION

22/013 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs McAlister and Sinclair that Council move into CONFIDENTIAL SESSION.

15. MATTERS TO BE SUBMITTED TO CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

15.1. MATTERS SUBMITTED BY ENGINEERING MANAGER

15.1.1. MATERIALS SUPPLY – WEST WYALONG DN300 TRUNK MAIN – CONTRACT

07/2021

*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,*

BOARD RESOLUTION

22/014 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs McGlynn and Callow that the Board:

1. Accept the offer conditional to the signed Deed of Funding from Department of Planning and Environment for Contract 07/2021 for the Material Supply West Wyalong DN300 Trunk Main to Vinidex Pty Ltd for the Sum of \$609,449.01 (excl. GST) for the offer of supply of pipe and fittings.

2. Approve the General Manager or his delegate to enter a contract with Vinidex Pty Ltd for the Material Supply West Wyalong DN300 Trunk Main

15.1.2. COOLAMON NORTH HIGH LEVEL RESERVOIR RECOATING TENDER 06/2021

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,

BOARD RESOLUTION

22/015 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs White and McGlynn that the Board approve to award the contract (Tender 06/2021) for the internal recoating and roof replacement of Coolamon North high level reservoir to RMP Abrasive Blasting for \$671,043 excl GST

15.2. MATTERS SUBMITTED BY PRODUCTION AND SERVICES MANAGER

15.2.1. METER RENEWAL PROGRAM

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,

BOARD RESOLUTION

22/016 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Callow and Piper that the Board note the information within this report and approve the budgetary allocation of \$365,000 into the current financial year for the purchase of new series 2 MRC smart metering devices.

15.2.2. ELECTRICAL DESIGN TENDER 05/2021 – JUGIONG WTP

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:

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

BOARD RESOLUTION

22/017 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Sinclair and McAlister

That the Board:

1. award Tender 05/2021 to GHD Pty Ltd for the lump sum price of \$233,334 (GST Incl).
2. approve a nominal project budget of \$295,000
3. approve the General Manager or their delegate to enter into a contractual agreement with GHD for the works detailed within Tender 05/2021.

BOARD RESOLUTION

22/018 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs McAlister and Sinclair 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.

16. MATTERS TO BE SUBMITTED TO OPEN COUNCIL

16.1. MATTERS SUBMITTED BY CORPORATE SERVICES MANAGER

16.1.1. PROGRESS REPORT – CAPITAL WORKS EXPENDITURE

BOARD RESOLUTION

22/019 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs McGlynn and White that the report detailing Council's Capital Works Program as at 31 January 2022 be received and noted.

Report prepared by Corporate Services Manager

COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the report detailing Council's Capital Works Program as at 31 January 2022 be received and noted.

ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN

09 Financially Sustainable

BACKGROUND

Capital Works represents a significant part of Councils activities and expenditure. This report details progress year to date on programmed and emergent capital works.

REPORT

This report is presented for information on the Capital Works Program year to date progress as at 31 January 2022.

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

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

ATTACHMENTS: Capital Works Progress Report as at 31 January 2022

TABLED ITEMS: Nil.

16.1.2 QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW 31 DECEMBER 2021

BOARD RESOLUTION

22/020 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Callow and McAlister that the Board receives and adopts the Quarterly Budget Review for the period ended 31 December 2021.

Report prepared by Corporate Services Manager

COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the Board receives and adopts the Quarterly Budget Review for the period ended 31 December 2021.

ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN

09 Financially Sustainable

BACKGROUND

The Quarterly Budget Review Statement is presented to Council in accordance with Clause 203(2) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, for the purpose of periodically reviewing and revising estimates of income and expenditure.

REPORT

The Quarterly Review of Council's Budget for the period ended 31 December 2021 is submitted for examination by Council.

The anticipated Operating Result for 2021/22 is a deficit of \$1,823,000. The anticipated Operating Result as originally adopted was a surplus of \$392,000. Proposed adjustments to operating income or expenditure are detailed below.

The Capital Works expenditure is not included in the Operating Result and is an additional outlay. Further detail about capital works can be found in the Capital Works Progress Report item of the business paper.

Proposed December 2021 quarterly review adjustments:

Operational Income

- (\$2,403,000) decrease in Water Sales
- \$450,000 increase in Developer Contributions
- (\$120,000) decrease in Interest Income

Operational Expenditure

- (\$250,000) decrease in Electricity

Capital Expenditure

- (\$470,000) Mandamah Stage 2 - 4
- \$280,000 West Wyalong Pressure Improvement
- \$165,000 Bulk Customer Water Quality Panels
- \$310,000 Containerised Filter Plant
- (\$600,000) Reticulation Renewals
- (\$33,000) Cox St Intersection
- (\$56,000) Junee 50mm Gal Replacement
- \$91,000 Pump Station Renewals
- \$50,000 Critical Valve Renewal
- \$80,000 Temora WPS Upgrade

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- \$24,000 North Weethalle Upgrade
- \$20,000 Oura Pump 1 Overhaul
- \$59,000 Lonsdale Pump Overhaul
- \$57,000 Jugiong CWPS1 Pump Overhaul
- \$35,000 Rosehill Pump Overhaul
- \$28,000 Jugiong WPS2 Overhaul
- \$24,000 Weethalle Upgrade
- \$192,000 Oura Bore 4
- \$45,000 Matong Bore 1
- \$95,000 Oura Bore 4 Reline
- \$640,000 Reservoir Renewals
- (\$330,000) Reservoir Full Renewal
- (\$680,000) Oura Reservoir & Aerator
- (\$50,000) Treatment Plant Renewals
- \$50,000 Treatment Plant Pneumatic Upgrade

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The recommendation reduces Council's Operating Result by \$1,823,000 and increases capital works expenditure by \$26,000.

ATTACHMENTS: Quarterly Budget Review 31-12-21.

TABLED ITEMS: Nil.

16.1.3 COUNCIL CASH AND INVESTMENTS

BOARD RESOLUTION

22/021 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs McGlynn and Sinclair that the report detailing Council Cash and Investments as at 31st January 2022 be received and noted.

Report prepared by Corporate Services Manager

COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the report detailing Council Cash and Investments as at 31st January 2022 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 2021.

REPORT

Council's cash and investment portfolio decreased by \$992,678 from \$46,432,472 as at 30th November 2021 to \$45,439,794 as at 31st January 2022.

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Cash and Investment Portfolio

Type	Rating	SP Rating	Issuer	Frequency	Purchase	Maturity	Days	Rate	Benchmark*	Principal
TD	NR	NR	Coastline	At Maturity	9/12/2021	10/03/2022	91	0.90	0.08	\$2,000,000
TD	BBB-	A3	Judo Bank	Annual	30/03/2021	28/04/2022	394	0.87	0.08	\$4,000,000
TD	BBB+	A2	ME Bank	At Maturity	27/05/2021	27/05/2022	365	0.48	0.08	\$4,000,000
TD	NR	NR	Illawarra Credit U	At Maturity	9/06/2021	9/06/2022	365	0.55	0.08	\$1,000,000
TD	BBB+	A2	BOQ	Annual	12/07/2018	12/07/2022	1461	3.50	0.08	\$1,000,000
TD	AA-	A1+	Westpac	Quarterly	13/07/2020	13/07/2022	730	0.96	0.08	\$3,000,000
TD	BBB+	A2	BOQ	Annual	23/06/2020	20/07/2022	757	1.23	0.08	\$1,000,000
TD	AA-	A1+	Westpac	Quarterly	5/08/2020	7/09/2022	763	0.90	0.08	\$3,000,000
TD	BBB+	A2	ME Bank	At Maturity	9/06/2021	12/10/2022	490	0.48	0.08	\$1,000,000
TD	BBB	A2	AMP Bank	At Maturity	29/07/2021	1/11/2022	460	0.55	0.08	\$1,000,000
TD	BBB-	A3	Judo Bank	At Maturity	29/10/2021	2/11/2022	369	1.01	0.08	\$2,000,000
TD	A+	A1	Macquarie Bank	At Maturity	29/10/2021	2/11/2022	369	0.55	0.08	\$1,000,000
TD	BBB	A2	AMP Bank	Annual	17/11/2021	17/11/2022	365	1.00	0.08	\$3,000,000
TD	BBB	A2	AMP Bank	At Maturity	12/01/2021	11/12/2022	698	1.00	0.08	\$2,000,000
TD	BBB	A2	AMP Bank	At Maturity	12/01/2021	11/01/2023	729	1.00	0.08	\$2,050,000
TD	BBB	A2	AMP Bank	At Maturity	16/02/2021	7/02/2023	721	1.00	0.08	\$2,000,000
TD	AA-	NR	NT Treasury	Annual	10/09/2020	15/12/2023	1191	1.00	0.08	\$2,000,000
TD	AA-	NR	NT Treasury	Annual	28/09/2020	15/12/2024	1539	1.10	0.08	\$1,000,000
CASH	A+	A1	Macquarie Bank	Monthly				0.35	0.10	\$5,757,150
CASH	AA-	A1+	CBA	Monthly				0.10	0.10	\$3,000,000
CASH	AA-	A1+	CBA	N/A				0.00	0.10	\$632,644
TOTAL:										\$45,439,794.00

*Benchmarks

On Call - RBA Cash

Floating Rate Deposit - 3m BBSW

Term Deposit - BBSW

Performance

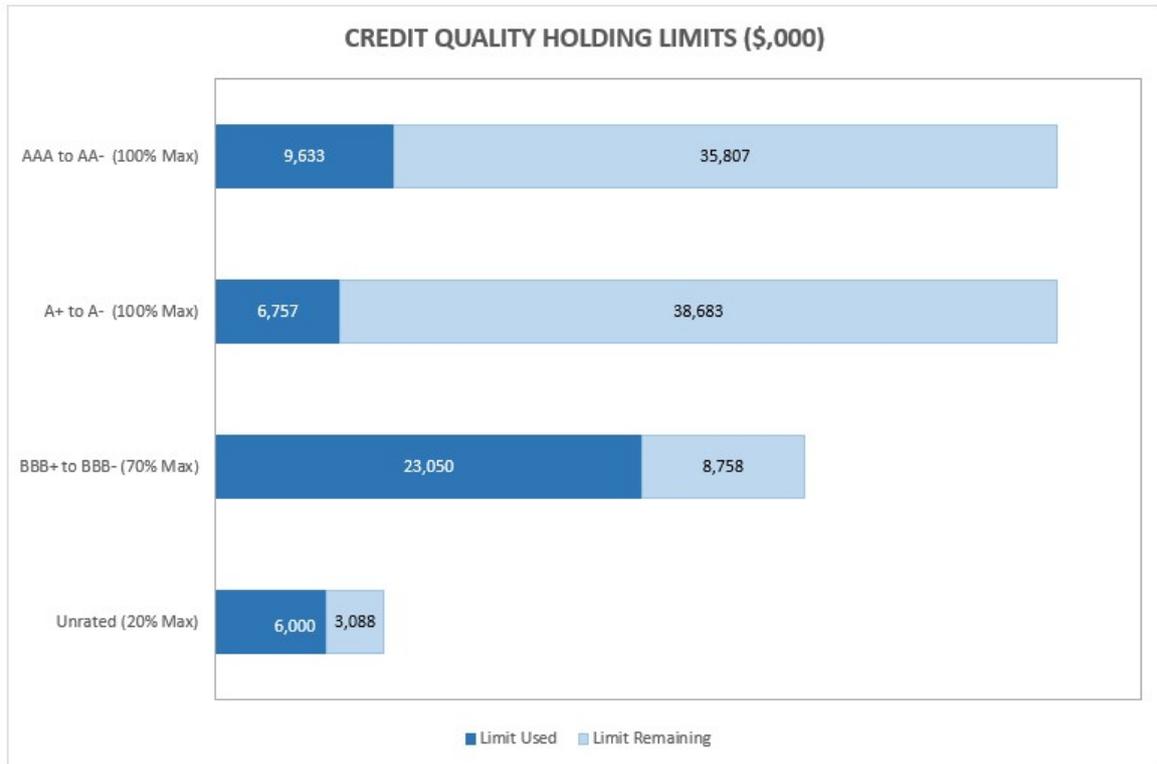
Goldenfields Water County Council's investment portfolio outperformed the relevant BBSW Index benchmark by 859%. The average weighted yield for January was 0.80%, over an average weighted term of 150 days, with a benchmark of 0.08%.

Total Cost	Yearly Interest Received	Weighted Average Term
45,439,794	141,212	150 Days
Total Value	Monthly Interest Received	Weighted Average Yield
45,439,794	12,014	0.80%

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.

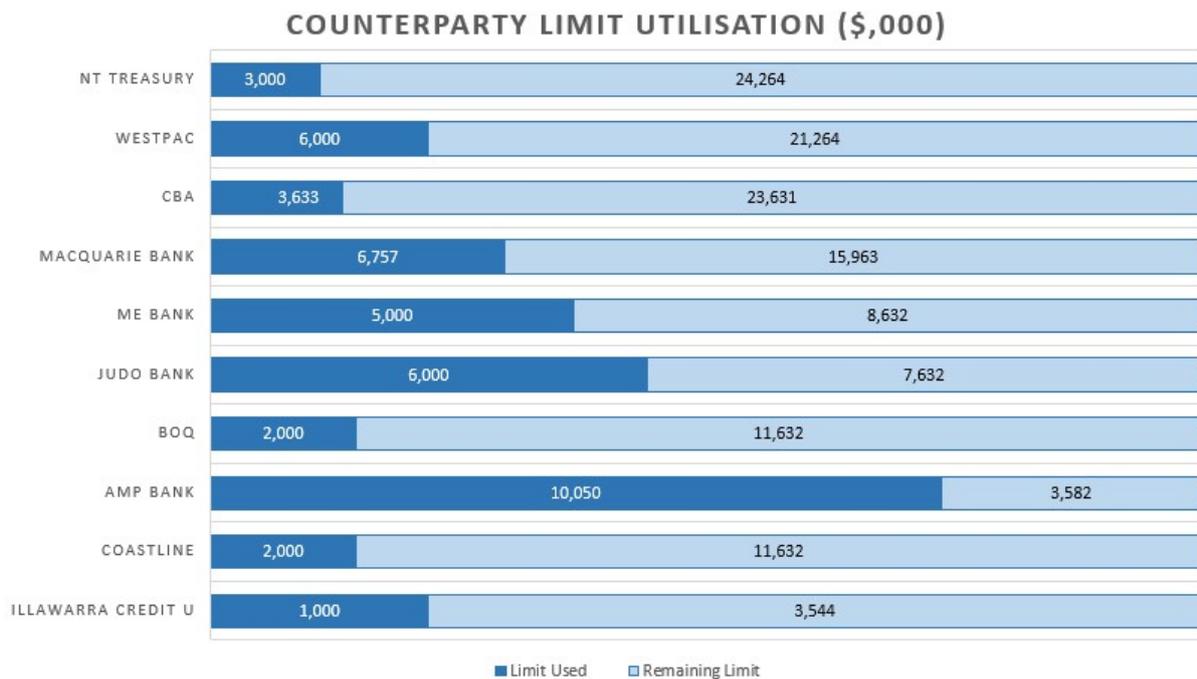
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Counter Party Compliance

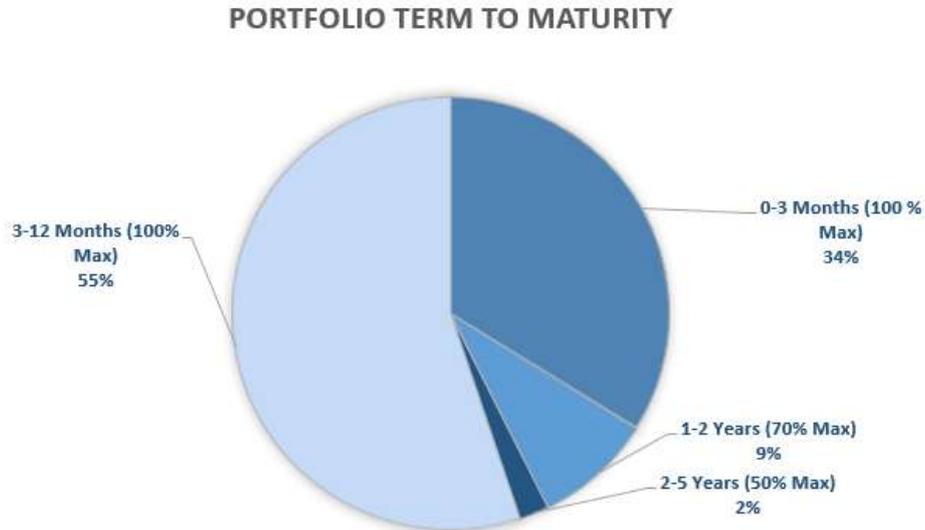
As at the end of January, Council was compliant with policy in terms of individual financial institution capacity limits. It is worth noting that capacity limits are affected by changes in the on-call account balance compared to the total portfolio balance.

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



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:	
Plant & Vehicle Replacement	2,107,175
Infrastructure Replacement	16,691,101
Employee Leave Entitlement	2,248,385
Sales Fluctuation Reserve	0
Property Reserve	0
Unrestricted Funds:	24,393,133
TOTAL	45,439,794

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 2021 and Council’s Investment Policy PP004.

Signed 

Michele Curran
Responsible Accounting Officer

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Council's cash and investment portfolio decreased by \$992,678 from \$46,432,472 as at 30th November 2021 to \$45,439,794 as at 31st January 2022.

ATTACHMENTS: Nil.

TABLED ITEMS: Nil.

16.1.4 AUDIT RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

BOARD RESOLUTION

22/022 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Callow and McGlynn that the Board receives and notes the minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held on 10 February 2022.

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 10 February 2022.

ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN

09 Financially Sustainable

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 (General) Regulation 2021. 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 10 February 2022. 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 10-2-22.

TABLED ITEMS: Nil

16.2. MATTERS SUBMITTED BY PRODUCTION AND SERVICES MANAGER

16.2.1 WATER PRODUCTION REPORT

BOARD RESOLUTION

22/023 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs McAlister 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

03 Strategic Water Management

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 Southwest 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

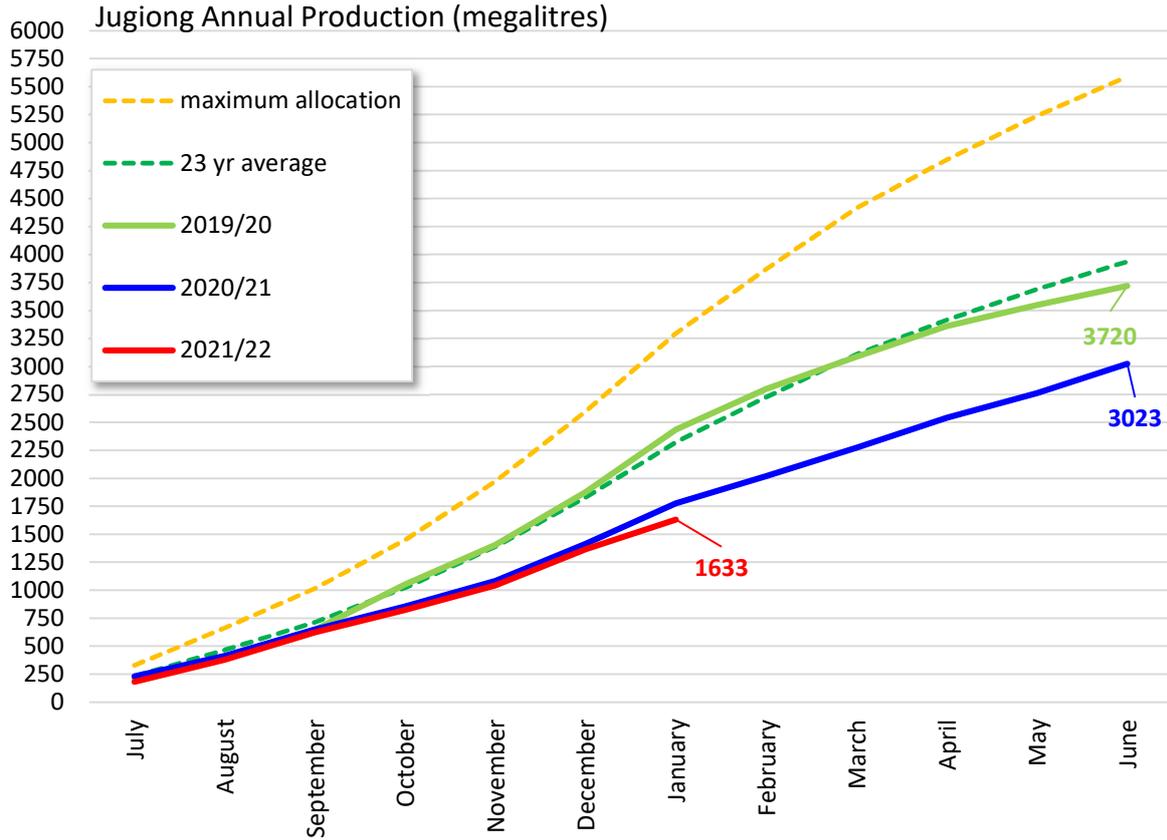
The Jugiong drinking water scheme sources water from the Murrumbidgee River and has an extraction licence entitlement of 5590ML per annum. Water from the Murrumbidgee River is treated through a 40ML/day, conventional Water Treatment Plant that consists of: Coagulation, Flocculation, Clarification, Filtration,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

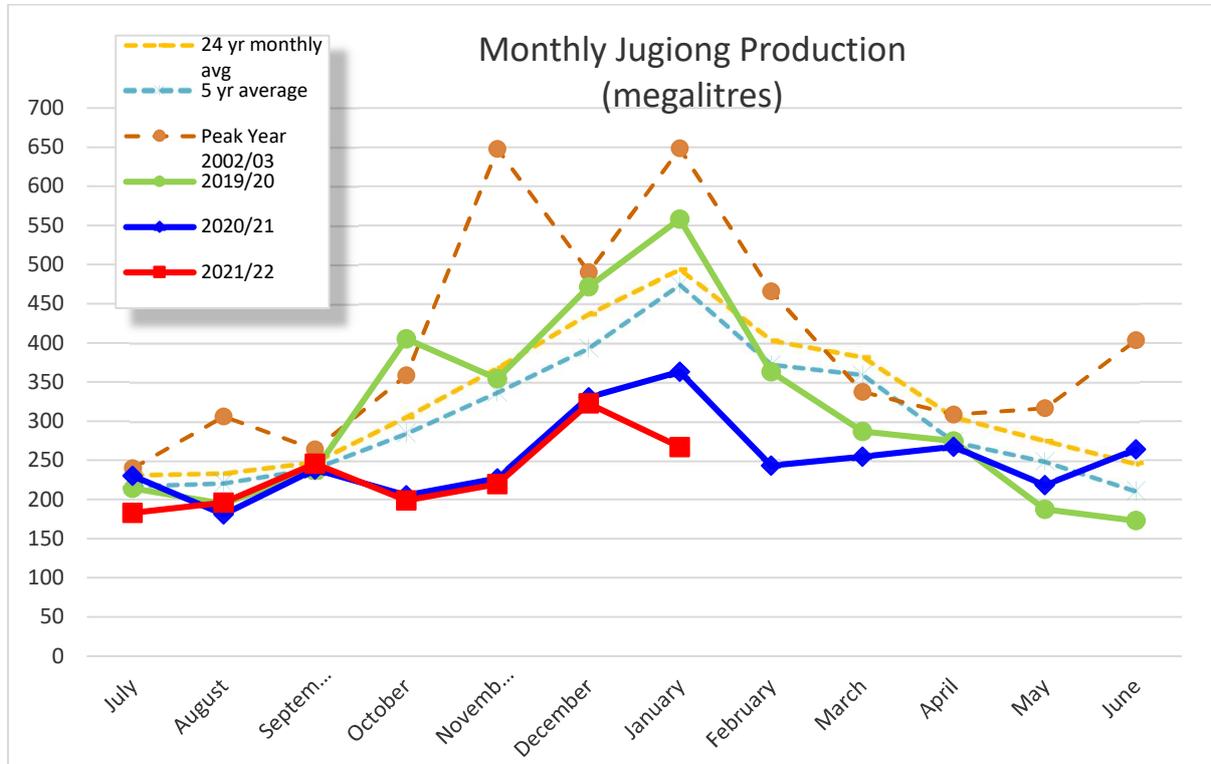
For the first 7 months of the 2021/22 financial year, 1633ML of water had been extracted from the Murrumbidgee River and processed at the Jugiong Water Treatment plant. This is slightly lower than for the same period last FY where 1776ML was extracted. This is illustrated in the graph below.

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Jugiong monthly production started slowly in July with only 183ML extracted from the Murrumbidgee River for the month. Production is very similar to the last FY following a similar trend except for January where a decrease of approx. 93ML was recorded. This decrease is a result of the number of wet weather days.

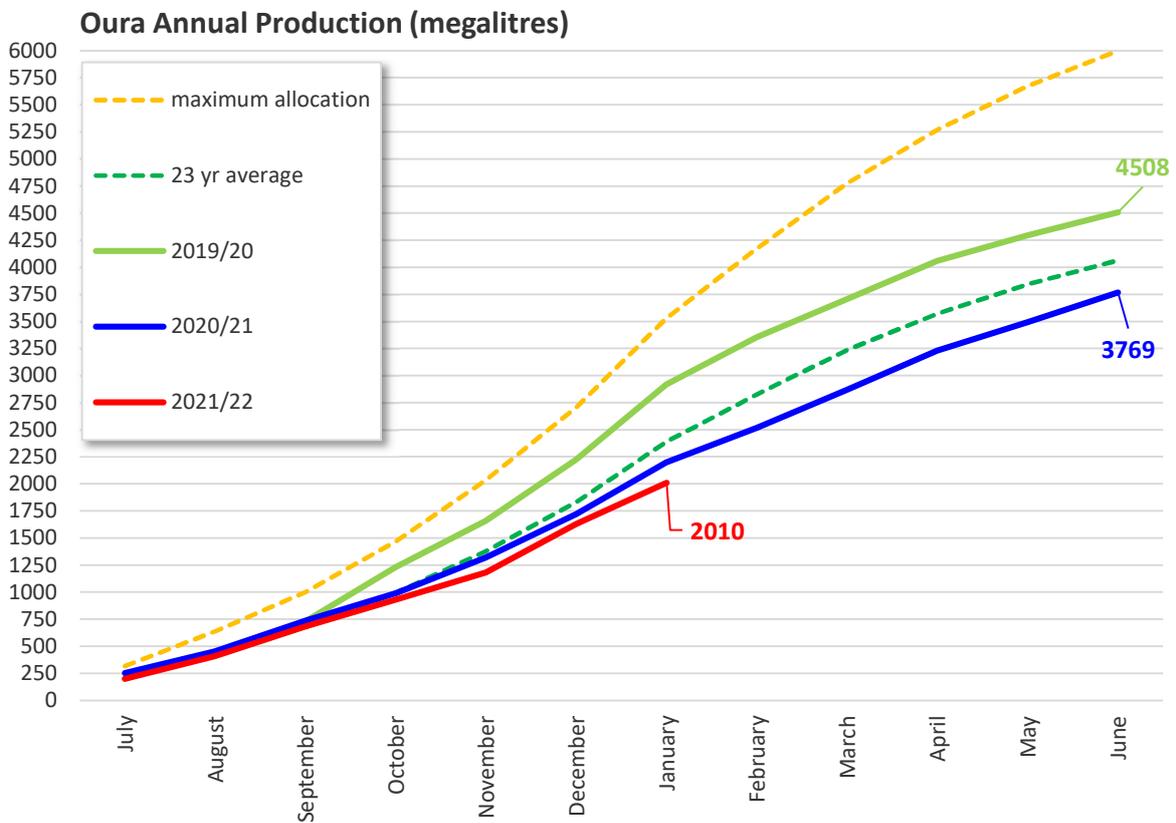


Oura Drinking Water Scheme

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.

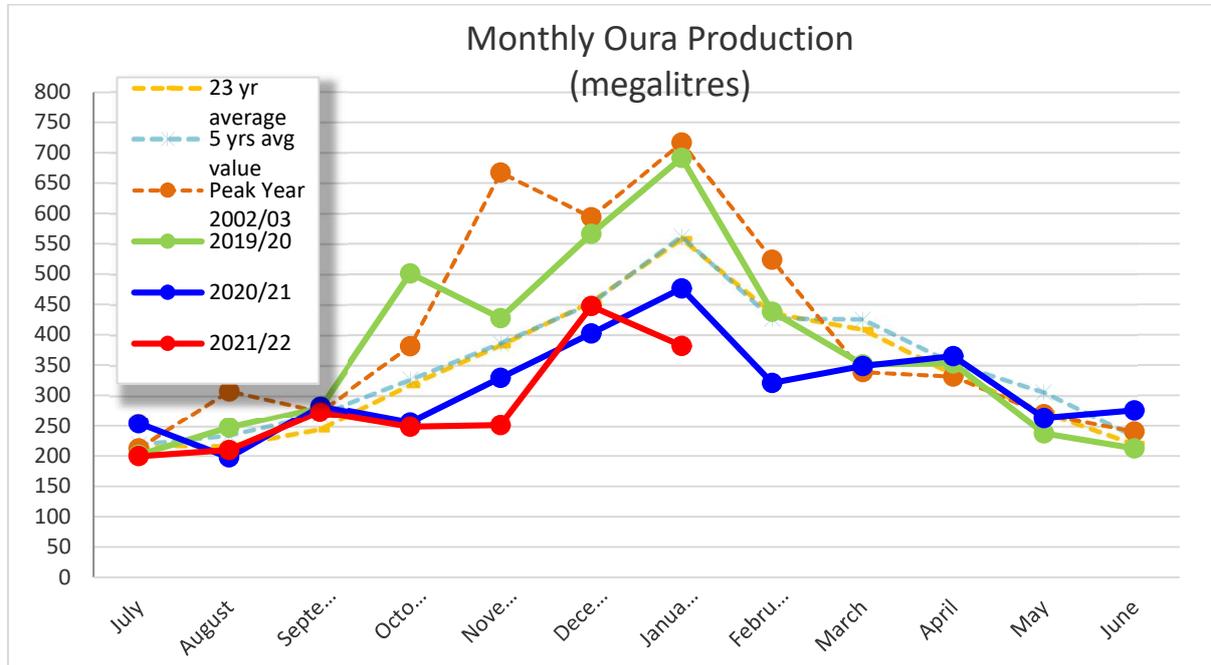
The Oura scheme has 33 sets of reservoirs, 19 pumping stations, and produces drinking water for approximately 14,600 people in the Bland, Coolamon, Junee, Narrandera and Temora Shires. The Oura scheme also supplies bulk water to the Northern catchment of the rural area of Wagga Wagga to Riverina Water County Council.

For the first 7 months of the 2021/22 financial year, 2010ML of water has been extracted from the Oura Borefield and processed at the Oura Water Treatment Plant. This is lower production than for the same period last FY where 2197ML was extracted. This trend is depicted in the graph below.



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Oura monthly water production has started slowly due to the wet weather. For July 200ML was extracted from the Oura bores. Production trend has followed a similar trend to last FY with a decrease in production for November 251ML and January 381ML with a slight increase in production in December 447ML compared to last FY.

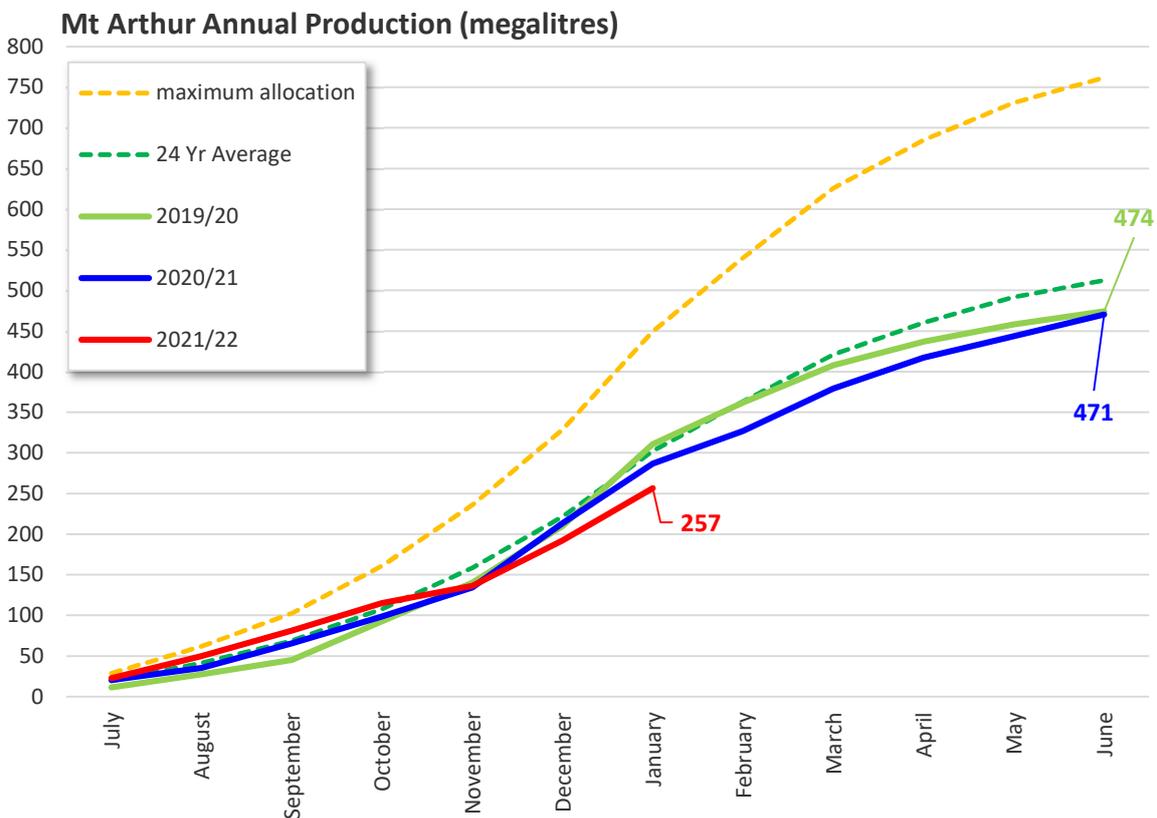


Mount Arthur Drinking Water Scheme

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.

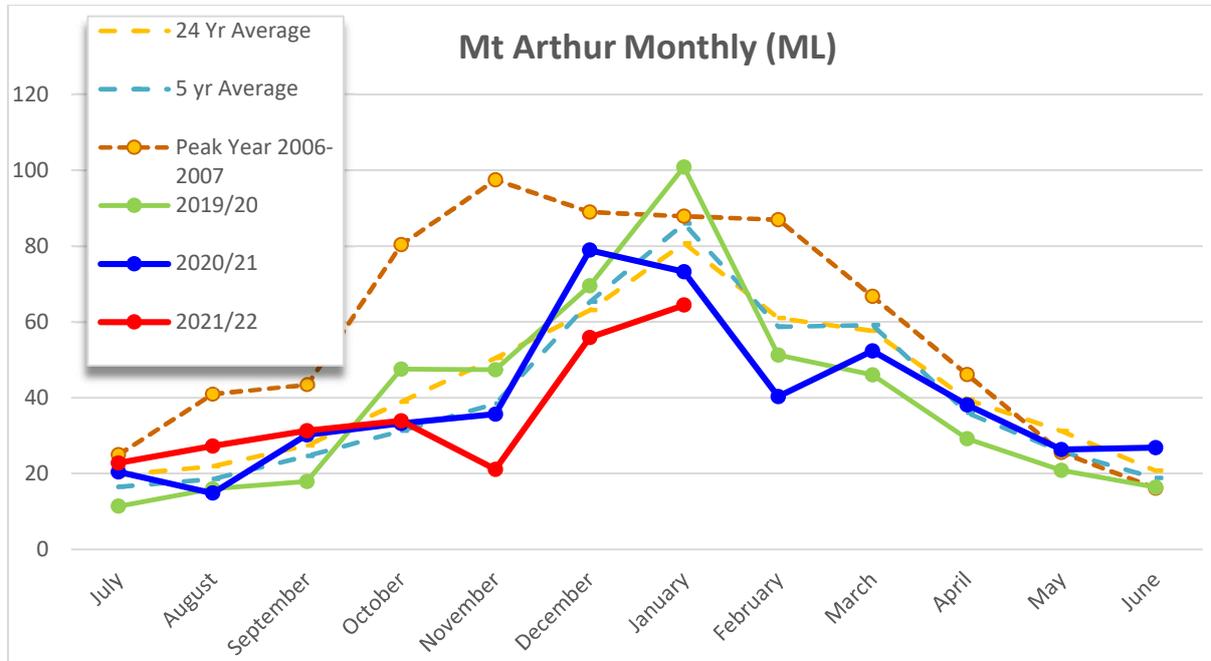
It should be noted that a new Bore 1 has been constructed and is currently being developed to replace the existing Bore site and associated assets. Water quality and hydraulic capacity requirements appear to be positive at this stage; however actual confirmation of this cannot be known until full commissioning and long-term trends of the bore occurs.

For the first 7 months of the 2021/22 financial year, 257ML of water has been extracted from the Mt Arthur Borefield. This is a decrease compared to the same period last year where 287ML was extracted from the Mt Arthur bores. As can be seen in the graph below trending in a similar fashion to historical years, however, demands remain low due to the number of wet days and cooler temperatures.



Minutes of the Meeting of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL held at TEMORA OFFICE on 24 February 2022

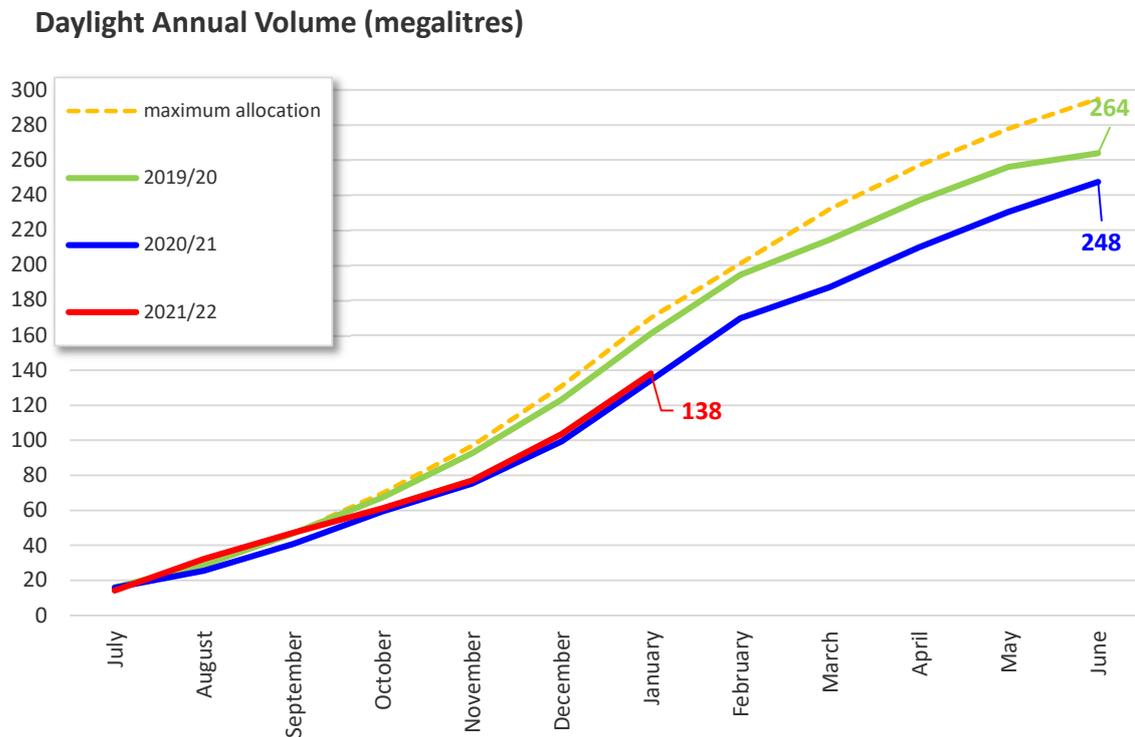
Mt Arthur monthly water production for the 2021/22 financial year has been consistent with a gradual increase from month to month for the first 4 months as the weather warms up. For July 23ML has been extracted, August seen a slight increase to 27ML and September also seen a slight increase with 31ML and October 34ML being extracted from the Mt Arthur bores. As the graph below illustrates the very wet November seen a decrease in production where only 21ML was extracted. A continued low demand period has followed throughout the summer months.



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.

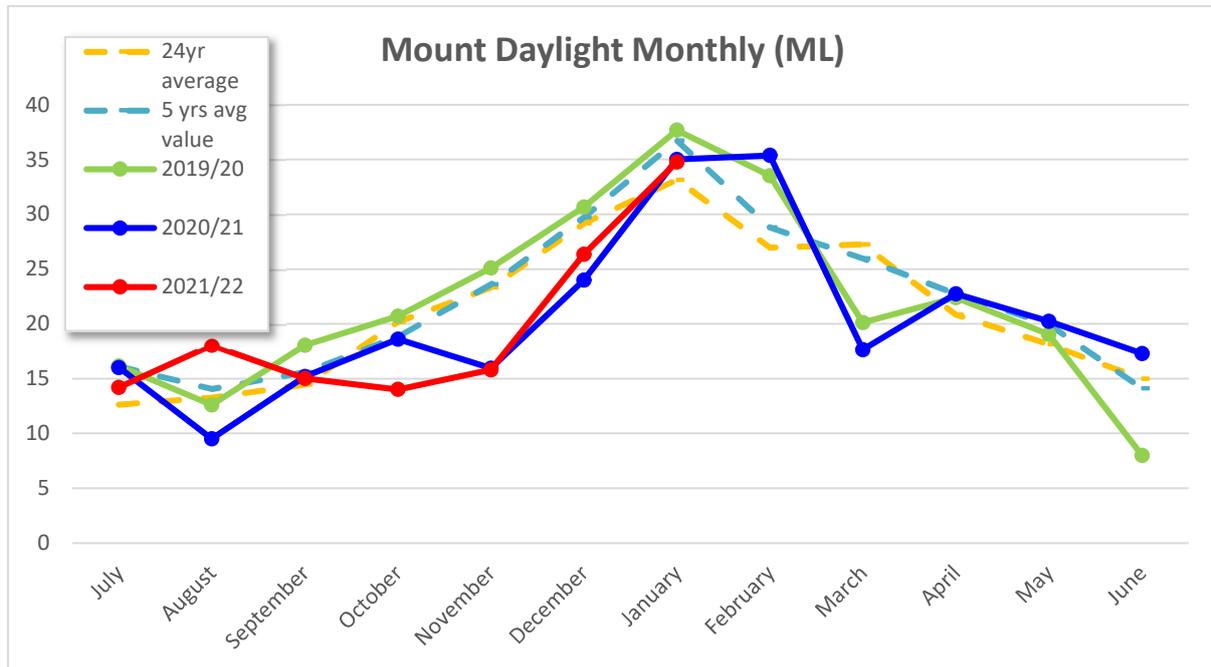
For the first 7 months of the 2021/22 financial year, 138ML of water has been extracted from the Mt Daylight Borefield. This is an increase in volume of 4ML compared to the same period for 2020/21 where 134ML was produced. As can be seen in the graph below trending in a similar fashion to historical years.



Minutes of the Meeting of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL held at TEMORA OFFICE on 24 February 2022

The monthly extraction totals for the Mt Daylight bores are not consistent to previous years, this can be seen from the graph below, July was a slow month with only 14ML extracted from the Mt Daylight Bores before a slight increase in August where 18ML was extracted before again reducing production for September to 15ML. This decrease in production continued in October with 14ML extracted, before a slight increase in November 16ML extracted, production then increased as the weather became warmer in December 26ML and January 35ML. This decrease in production continued in October with 14ML extracted, before a slight increase in November 16ML extracted, production then increased as the weather became warmer in December 26ML and January 35ML.

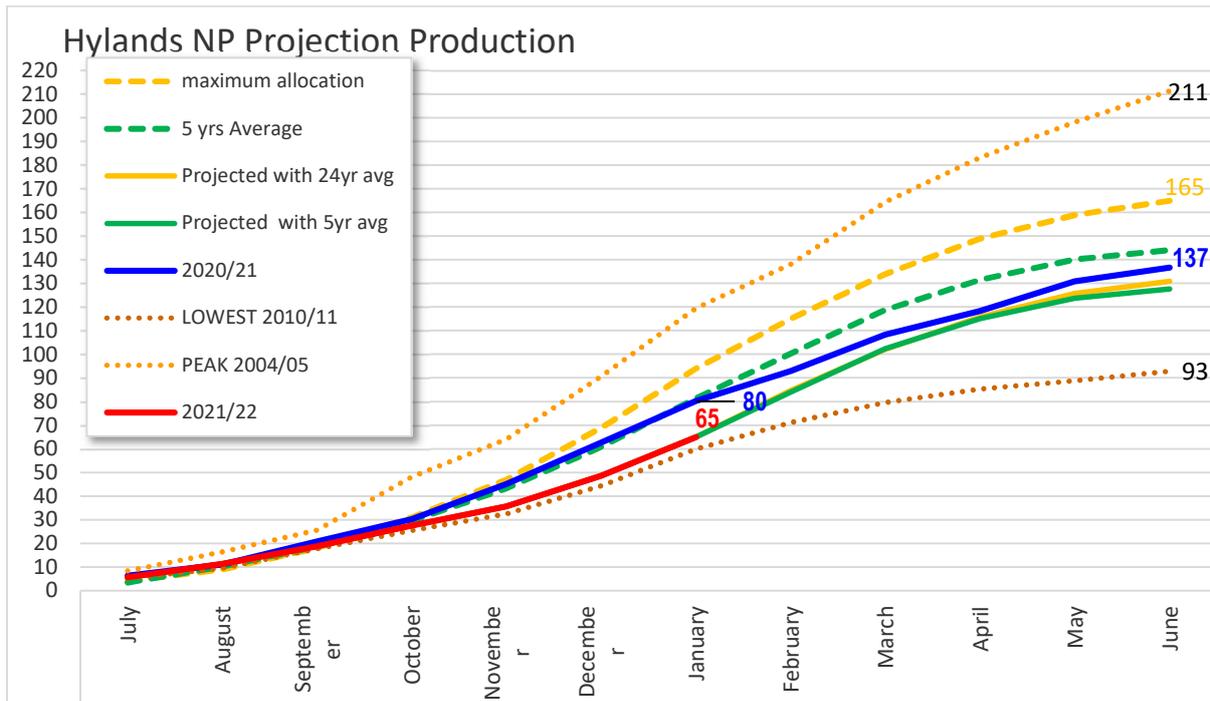
The increased usage during August correlates with some Bore yield studies being undertaken by Carrathool Shire which may have been the cause for this increased usage compared to previous years. It was also determined that a break in the line during this time added to the increase in production in August



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 first 7 months of the 2021/22 financial year, 65ML of water has been extracted from the Hylands Bridge Raw Water scheme. As can be seen in the graph below trending in a similar fashion to historical years.



FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

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

ATTACHMENTS: Nil

TABLED ITEMS: Nil

16.2.2 RELATIVE EFFICIENCIES AND ECONOMIES OF THE RETICULATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF WATER

BOARD RESOLUTION

22/024 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs McGlynn and McAlister the Board approve the submission to the Minister on the review of “the relative efficiencies and economies of the reticulation and distribution of water of the towns of Cootamundra, Harden and Young compared with reticulation and distribution of water within such areas by the County Council”

Report prepared by Production & Services Manager

COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

The Board approve the submission to the Minister on the review of “the relative efficiencies and economies of the reticulation and distribution of water of the towns of Cootamundra, Harden and Young compared with reticulation and distribution of water within such areas by the County Council”

ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN

03 Strategic Water Management

BACKGROUND

In accordance with the Ministerial Proclamation establishing Goldenfields Water, we are required to undertake a review of “the relative efficiencies and economies of the reticulation and distribution of water”. The Proclamation requires Goldenfields Water (GWCC) to undertake a review of the towns of Cootamundra, Harden and Young “compared with reticulation and distribution of water within such areas by the County Council” and report the findings to the Minister.

REPORT

Goldenfields Water engaged Atom Consulting to undertake the review to ensure a level of independence in the review findings. Atom Consulting has previously consulted to all the Councils involved in the review and have an excellent reputation within the Water Industry. Atom Consulting also completed the previous review in 2018.

This efficiency review considered financial aspects, corporate activities and scheme specific activities. In undertaking the review, Atom Consulting met with representatives of Goldenfields Water, Hilltops and Cootamundra-Gundagai Councils. In addition, data was requested to enable comparisons to be undertaken. Gaps in available data or assumptions made during the analysis are noted where relevant in the report. Where data was either insufficient or not provided, no analysis was been presented in this report. Hilltops Council was unavailable for interview dur; publicly available information was instead utilised.

Some of the key findings within the 2021 review, provided an analysis of the pricing structure across the organisations. This showed that GWCC has the lowest typical annual residential bill (usage and access charges combined) and Hilltops Council the highest. In 2019/20, GWCC and Hilltops Council had similar net operating results. It was noted that GWCC has seen a decline in its net operating result due to reduced water demand. This is a significant impact on the operation, with the lowest demand periods for production on record.

In 2018/19 and 2019/20 Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council had a negative net operating result, Council advised that this was as a result of mains renewal works.

Issues were noted with minor consumers and island assets associated with backflow risk, ownership and maintenance responsibilities are planned to be addressed in the proposed new service level agreements that are currently being finalised.

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

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

ATTACHMENTS: Efficiency Review December 2021

TABLED ITEMS: Efficiency Review December 2021 – Draft Submission Letter to The Minister

16.3. MATTERS SUBMITTED BY THE GENERAL MANAGER

16.3.1 DISCLOSURES BY COUNCILLORS AND DESIGNATED PERSONS RETURN

BOARD RESOLUTION

22/025 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs White and Sinclair that Council note the tabling of the Disclosures by Councillors and Designated Persons' Return described within the report.

Report prepared by General Manager

COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council note the tabling of the Disclosures by Councillors and Designated Persons' Return described within the report.

ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN

07 Efficient Operations

BACKGROUND

Under section 6.21 of Goldenfields' Code of Conduct, councillors and designated persons must make and lodge with the general manager a return disclosing the councillor's or designated person's interests as specified in schedule 1 of the code within 3 months of the following:

- a) becoming a councillor or designated person, and*
- b) 30 June of each year, and*
- c) the councillor or designated person becoming aware of an interest they are required to disclose under schedule 1 that has not been previously disclosed in a return lodged under paragraphs (a) or (b).*

REPORT

All Councillors have now lodged a Disclosure Return with the General Manager under paragraph (a).

The returns are now tabled as per item 6.26 of Goldenfields' Code of Conduct.

Information contained in returns made and lodged under clause 6.21 is to be made publicly available in accordance with the requirements of the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009, the Government Information (Public Access) Regulation 2009 and any guidelines issued by the Information Commissioner.

Councillors and staff are reminded that it is imperative their honesty and transparency is maintained at all times. A pecuniary interest return may be lodged at any time during the year should circumstances deem it necessary.

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

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

ATTACHMENTS: Nil

TABLED ITEMS: Councillors Disclosure of Interest Returns

16.3.2 DELIVERY PROGRAM PROGRESS REPORT – JULY TO DECEMBER 2021

BOARD RESOLUTION

22/026 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs McGlynn and Piper that Council's July to December 2021 Delivery Program Progress Report be received and noted.

Report prepared by General Manager

COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council's July to December 2021 Delivery Program Progress Report be received and noted.

ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN

07 Efficient Operations

BACKGROUND

Section 404 of the Local Government Act 1993 - *Delivery Program*, stipulates that regular progress reports (at least 6 monthly) be provided to Council to report on progress toward the principal activities detailed in the Delivery Program.

REPORT

Council's July to December 2021 Delivery Program Progress Report has been created, measuring the organisations progress toward the Delivery Program. The report is attached for Council's information.

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

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

ATTACHMENTS: Delivery Program Progress Report July to December 2021

TABLED ITEMS: Nil

16.3.3. BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN

BOARD RESOLUTION

22/027 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Callow and Sinclair

- 1. That Council endorses the Business Activity Strategic Plan and place the plan on public exhibition for 28 days.**
- 2. That Council endorse the Community Engagement Strategy as tabled.**

Report prepared by interim Engineering Projects Officer

COUNCIL OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council endorses the Business Activity Strategic Plan and place the plan on public exhibition for 28 days.
2. That Council endorse the Community Engagement Strategy as tabled.

ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN

01 Excellence in Service Provision

BACKGROUND

In accordance with Section 402 of the Local Government Act 1993 and Section 219 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, Goldenfields Water County Council is required to have a Business Activity Strategic Plan (BASP) that identifies the main priorities for the Council for a period of at least 10 years from endorsement.

REPORT

In accordance with the legislative requirements the Business Activity Strategic Plan 2022 to 2032 is presented for Council's consideration.

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

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

ATTACHMENTS: Nil

TABLED ITEMS: Draft - 2022 – 2032 Business Activity Strategic Plan.

17. NEXT MEETING

The next ordinary meeting of Council will be held on Thursday 28 April 2022 at 10.00am.

18. CLOSE OF BUSINESS

There being no further business requiring the attention of Council the meeting was closed at 11.05am.