## COBAR SHIRE COUNCIL



# FINANCE & POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

THURSDAY 13 NOVEMBER 2014

### ~ ORDER OF BUSINESS ~

Business for the meeting will be as follows:

- 1. Apologies
- 2. Declaration of Interests
- 3. Notice of Motion
- 4. General Manager's Report Part A (Action)
- 5. General Manager's Report Part B (Information)
- 6. Matters of Urgency

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### NOTICE OF MOTION – INVESTIGATION OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR FUNDING TO ATTRACT GAS FIRED POWER STATIONS

FILE: G1-2, D2-1 AOP REFERENCE: 4.2.1.2 ATTACHMENT: NO

AUTHOR: Councillor, Peter Yench

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council and also its Economic Taskforce investigate opportunities for funding and viability to attract gas fired power stations using 80% gas and 20% invasive scrub within the Cobar Shire.

#### **Explanation**

With the required 5% reduction in carbon emissions by 2020, Council could apply to the Commonwealth Government to seek opportunities funding to help reduce carbon emissions.

This would be greatly beneficial with the gas pipeline running through our area, plus millions of acres of invasive scrub in our Shire it is possible to come up with an alternative source of energy to drive these generators and we could end up with 2-3 pellet driving plants for the farmers to sell their invasive scrub to be used as fuel/ 20% and 80% gas which would give our farmers additional income plus hopefully another industry for Cobar and further employment creation may occur.

#### <u>REPORT 1A – RESOLUTIONS 2016 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS</u> BY NSW ELECTORAL COMMISSION

FILE: E2.3.4 AOP REFERENCE: 3.3.4 ATTACHMENT: NO

AUTHOR: General Manager, Gary Woodman

#### **Purpose**

For Council to make a further decision on who should conduct relevant future Elections of Cobar Shire Council (not including elections for the Mayor and/or Deputy Mayor by Councillors).

#### **Background**

Last year's amendment to section 296 of the Local Government Act 1993 now requires Councils who want the NSW Electoral Commission to conduct their 2016 elections to pass a resolution at least 18 months before those elections. The 18 month deadline will be reached on 10 March 2015. If the appropriate resolution is not passed by the deadline the Electoral Commission will not be able to administer Cobar Shire Council's elections and Council will be responsible for conducting its own elections.

#### Issues

It is considered appropriate that Council continues to engage the NSW Electoral Commissioner to administer all elections, polls and referenda except the election of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor by Councillors.

Council would not be in a position to properly administer an election.

#### Legal Situation

Section 296 Local Government Act, 1993.

#### **Policy Implications**

Nil.

#### Financial Implications

Nil. Appropriate funding will be allocated for elections costs. If Council was to undertake the administration of its own elections it would be expected to be much dearer than the Electoral Commission undertaking the work.

#### Risk Implication

Nil.

#### **Options**

It is believed that the only suitable option is to engage the NSW Electoral Commission for Elections, Polls and Referenda.

#### RECOMMENDATION

That Cobar Shire Council ("The Council") resolves:

- 1. Pursuant to s. 296(2) and (3) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) ("the Act") that an election arrangement be entered into by contract for the NSW Electoral Commissioner to administer all elections of the Council.
- 2. Pursuant to s. 296(2) and (3) of the Act, as applied and modified by s. 18, that a council poll arrangement be entered into by contract for the NSW Electoral Commissioner to administer all council polls of the Council.
- 3. Pursuant to s. 296(2) and (3) of the Act, as applied and modified by s. 18, that a constitutional referendum arrangement be entered into by contract for the NSW Electoral Commissioner to administer all council polls of the Council.

#### <u>REPORT 2A – PUBLIC INTEREST DISCLOSURES INTERNAL REPORTING</u> POLICY

FILE: P5-24 AOP REFERENCE: 3.1.5 ATTACHMENT: YES (PAGE 22-37) AUTHOR: General Manager, Gary Woodman

#### **Purpose**

For review and readoption of the Cobar Shire Council Public Interest Disclosures Internal Reporting Policy.

#### **Background**

Cobar Shire Council's Public Interest Disclosures Internal Reporting Policy which was adopted by Council on 22 September 2011 is due for review and readoption.

Manex has reviewed the current Policy and made only minor/ superficial amendments and the new draft is presented (attached) for adoption.

#### <u>Issues</u>

Nil.

#### **Legal Situation**

Public Interest Disclosures Act, 1994;

Government Information (Public Access) Act, 2009;

ICAC Act 1988;

Ombudsman Public Interest Disclosures Guidelines (Practice Notes).

#### **Policy Implications**

Cobar Shire Council Code of Conduct Policy;

Fraud Control Policy;

Internal Reporting Policy – Protected Disclosure, adopted 22 September 2011 would be automatically revoked.

#### **Financial Implications**

Nil.

#### **Risk Implication**

Policy helps to reduce the risk of inappropriate conduct, wrongdoing, action, etc.

#### **Options**

Appropriate to adopt the slightly amended new draft Policy.

#### RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the attached amended Public Interest Disclosures Internal Reporting Policy.

#### REPORT 3A - SUPPORT OF MAJOR EVENTS POLICY

FILE: P5-69 AOP REFERENCE: 2.2.2.2 ATTACHMENT: YES (PAGE 38-42)

AUTHOR: General Manager, Gary Woodman

#### **Purpose**

For review and readoption of the Cobar Shire Council Support of Major Events Policy.

#### **Background**

Cobar Shire Council's Support of Major Events Policy which was adopted by Council on 22 October 2009 is due for review and readoption.

Manex has reviewed the current Policy and made only minor/ superficial amendments and the new draft is presented (attached) for adoption.

#### **Issues**

Nil.

#### **Legal Situation**

Local Government Act, 1993.

#### **Policy Implications**

Nil.

#### Financial Implications

Continued use of the Policy may mean a reduction in revenue Council receives for the hire of relevant facilities.

#### **Risk Implication**

Nil.

#### **Options**

Appropriate to adopt the slightly amended new draft Policy.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council adopt the attached amended Support of Major Events Policy.

## REPORT 4A – PAYMENT OF EXPENSES AND PROVISION OF FACILITIES TO THE MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS POLICY

FILE: C12-2, P5-4 AOP REFERENCE: 3.1.5.2 ATTACHMENT: YES

(PAGE 43-57)

AUTHOR: General Manager, Gary Woodman

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of this Report is to provide Council with the information it requires to adopt the Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities to the Mayor and Councillors Policy.

#### **Background**

Council resolved at the September 2014 Ordinary Meeting of Council to place the draft Policy on public exhibition, and further, that the Council consider the draft Policy along with any submissions received following the expiration of the public exhibition period.

#### **Issues**

This Policy was placed on public exhibition on 1 October 2014 for 28 days, and submissions were invited from the general public. No submissions have been received and no amendments have been made to the attached draft Policy.

#### Legal Situation

The attached draft Policy complies with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1993 and it is required to be lodged with the Office of Local Government by 30 November 2014 after adoption by Council.

#### **Policy Implications**

Once adopted by Council, the attached Policy will replace the former existing Policy.

#### Financial Implications

Any financial implications have been considered in the preparation of the 2014/2015 Budget.

#### **Options**

Nil.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

- 1. That the attached draft Payment and Expenses and Provision of Facilities to the Mayor and Councillors Policy be adopted by Council.
- 2. That a copy of the adopted Policy be submitted to the Office of Local Government.

#### REPORT 5A – LILLIANE BRADY VILLAGE, COBAR HOSPITAL, MULTI-PURPOSE HEALTH SERVICE MEETING WITH WESTERN NSW LOCAL AREA HEALTH DISTRICT – STATUS AND DIRECTION

FILE: A10-14, C8-3, C8-4, H1-1 AOP REFERENCE: 1.5.1 ATTACHMENT: NO AUTHOR: General Manager, Gary Woodman

#### **Purpose**

To consider relevant information that will be provided at a Confidential Councillor Workshop concerning a Meeting held with Local Member Hon. Kevin Humphries MP, Chief Executive Scott McLachlan, Western NSW Local Health District and relevant Staff, Cobar Primary Health Care Centre Manager, Bernie Martin, Chair Cobar Health Council Gordon Hill, Mayor Lilliane Brady OAM, Lilliane Brady Village Director of Nursing Sharon Huon and General Manager Gary Woodman and determination of an appropriate direction for Council particularly in relation to the Lilliane Brady Village and its relationship in any proposed Multi-purpose Health Service.

#### **Background**

Council at its Meeting on 28 February 2013 resolved as follows in relation to this matter:

That Council request the Western Local Area Health District to undertake an investigation into the feasibility of a multi-purpose health service being established in Cobar that would incorporate the Cobar District Hospital and Lilliane Brady Village.

Appropriate advice was given to the Western NSW Local Area Health District (WLAHD) together with the Commonwealth Government both at Ministerial Level and Staff on how Lilliane Brady Village could be helped financially for the operational costs and required capital upgrade works.

WLAHD have undertaken a form of investigation as requested however Council is yet to be provided any report on the matter.

Various meetings have been held including the last meeting on Tuesday 28 October 2014 that was attended by Local member Hon. Kevin Humphries MP and Chief Executive Scott McLachlan, Western NSW Local Health District and relevant Staff, Cobar Primary Health Care Centre Manager, Bernie Martin, Chair Cobar Health Council Gordon Hill, Mayor Lilliane Brady OAM, Lilliane Brady Village Director of Nursing Sharon Huon and General Manager Gary Woodman.

Discussions held at this particular meeting will be subject of a **Confidential Councillor Workshop** on the issue that will be held at **4:00pm Thursday 13**November 2014 in the Council Chambers just before the Committee Meetings.

The purpose of the Confidential Councillor Workshop is to help determine an appropriate direction on the issue.

It should be noted that if discussions on this particular matter in Open Committee start to centre around the following areas, that the matter should be considered in Committee of the Whole, Closed Council in accordance with Section 10A (2) of the Local Government Act 1993:

- a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than Councillors);
- c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct business).

It would be hoped that an appropriate draft resolution providing direction on the matter will be determined at the Confidential Councillor Workshop.

#### Issues

It is expected that all concerns of any future direction for the Lilliane Brady Village will have been discussed at the Confidential Councillor Workshop.

#### **Policy Implications**

At present it is Council's Policy to only request the WLAHD to undertake an investigation into the feasibility of a multi-purpose health service being established in Cobar that would incorporate the Cobar District Hospital and the Lilliane Brady Village.

#### **Financial Implications**

Council's Policy centred on the concerns that Lilliane Brady Village sometimes is both a financial and resource strain on Cobar Shire Council and that this particular asset was not sustainable.

There has been some financial improvement lately.

#### Risk Implications

There is a serious risk of loss of reputation on this issue.

#### **Options**

Hopefully will have been fully discussed at the Confidential Councillor Workshop on the issue.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

For the Committees consideration and decision.

#### REPORT 6A -FIRST QUARTER BUDGET REVIEW OF 2014/2015

FILE: F2-3-21 AOP REFERENCE: 3.3 ATTACHMENT: YES

(UNDER SEPARATE COVER)

AUTHOR: Director of Corporate and Community Services, Kym Miller

#### **Purpose**

To present to Council the budget review for the first quarter of the 2014/2015 financial year and to recommend changes to the 2014/2015 Budget.

#### **Background**

Council is required to receive a budget review statement at the end of each quarter of the first three quarters of each financial year that shows the estimate of income and expenditure as set out in its Annual Operational Plan and a revised estimate of the income and expenditure for that year.

Appearing as attachments to this Report are:

- 1. Detailed Income and Expenditure analysis;
- 2. Section 94 Contribution Details;
- 3. A Report from the Director of Corporate and Community Services indicating that he believes the financial position is satisfactory having regard to the adopted estimates for the 2014/2015 year;
- 4. Details of capital expenditure adjustments.

#### **Executive Summary**

A number of marginal adjustments have been undertaken. This is accounting bookkeeping and has neutral impact on the budget.

#### **Capital**

- 1. Council has previously resolved not to rebirth a grader and apply the unused funds to the short fall in the estimate to change over the 'Paveliner'. This is income neutral and does not require an adjustment to the budget.
- 2. Introduce the Skate Park at \$330k which is offset by income of \$200k by way of a grant. This was in the adopted budget at the net position only a further \$95k was included in the restricted funds carried over.
- 3. Introduce an over run on the bore projects of \$12k.
- 4. Introduce capital works at Morelli Park of \$9k which is offset by grant income.
- 5. Introduce fencing materials for the Dalton Park complex (\$8k). Restricted cash was held as at 30 June 2014 for this project.
- 6. Introduce a payment on the RMS shed equivalent to the retention held (\$17k). This was not recorded at time of construction and was not known of at time of budget preparation. Strong negotiations were undertaken when the account was received but upon consideration the account was paid.

#### **Operating**

- 1. Introduce capital income of \$200k for the Skate Park as per 2 above.
- 2. Introduce an additional \$181k for grants income which has now been confirmed. Council should note that there is no immediate indexation expected.
- 3. Reduce Section 94A income by \$100k as the expected project which was going to generate this is now not expected to proceed this financial year.
- 4. Introduce grant income of \$9k for Morelli Park as per 4 above.
- 5. Introduce \$220k into the Water Fund as the end of year adjustment from the Cobar Water Board. This is calculated when actual kilolitres are compared to budgeted kilolitres. The figure was not available at budget preparation time.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

- 1. That the First Quarter Budget Review of 2014/2015 be received and noted.
- 2. That the revised estimates for capital and operating items contained in the attachment to the First Quarter Budget Review of 2014/2015 Report be adopted as the revised forecast for 2014/2015 financial year.

#### REPORT 1B - 2013/2014 ANNUAL REPORT

FILE: A2-2 AOP REFERENCE: 3.3.3 ATTACHMENT: YES

(UNDER SEPARATE COVER)

AUTHOR: General Manager, Gary Woodman

#### **Purpose**

To provide Council with the information contained in the 2013/2014 Annual Report.

#### **Background**

Council is required, under the Local Government Act 1993, to prepare an Annual Report in which details its achievements with respect to the objectives and performance targets set out in its Annual Operational Plan for that year.

The 2013/2014 Annual Report has now been prepared and has been provided to Councillors under separate cover for their perusal and information.

The document also contains the Audited Financial Reports and Auditors Report and should be brought to the Ordinary Council Meeting of 27 November 2014 for reference during the Auditors Presentation.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the information contained in the 2013/2014 Annual Report be received and noted.

### REPORT 2B - BANK RECONCILIATION, CASH FLOW & LOAN FACILITY SUMMARIES AS AT 31 OCTOBER 2014

FILE: B2-7 AOP REFERENCE: 3.1.1.5 ATTACHMENT: NO

AUTHOR: Manager Finance & Administration, Neil Mitchell

#### **Purpose**

Council has requested that the following financial information be presented to each meeting of Council: reconciled bank balance, cash flow statement, and loan facility.

#### **Bank Reconciliation**

Balance as per Bank Statement – 31 October 2014 \$43,496

Add: Outstanding deposits \$8,548

Deduct: Unpresented Cheques -

#### BALANCE AS PER CASH BOOK 31 October 2014 \$ 52,044

In accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act, 1993, I hereby certify that the Cash Book has been reconciled with the appropriate Bank Statements on a daily basis, during the month of October 2014 and that the reconciliations have been recorded.

Manager Finance & Administration

#### Summary of Total Funds Available at Month End, 31 October 2014

Month	Investment Balances	Operating Account	Total Available Funds
Nov-13	6,291,092	288,661	6,579,753
Dec-13	6,145,504	68,771	6,214,275
Jan-14	5,891,331	48,275	5,939,606
Feb-14	6,992,546	277,181	7,269,727
Mar-14	6,256,687	246,954	6,503,641
Apr-14	5,774,883	190,801	5,965 684
May-14	6,912,388	290,951	7,203,339
Jun-14	6,333,238	78,599	6,411,837
Jul-14	6,093,147	229,986	6,323,133
Aug-14	8,314,265	156,366	8,497,631
Sept-14	8,198,204	57,627	8,255,831
Oct-14	8,199,632	52,044	8,251,676

The amount restricted in the Financial Accounts for Employee Leave Entitlements is \$313,647.

#### **Cash Flow**

Forecast	Actual	Description	Forecast	
Oct-14	Oct-14		Nov-14	
57,627	57,627	Bank Balance Forward	52,044	
		Financial Assistance Grant	1,217,578	
431,500	403,500	Regional Roads		
		RMS - Ordered Works	70,000	
13,200	12,271	RMS Agency	13,200	
		RMS – Routine Maintenance	203,250	
450,000	367,313	Rates /Water/User Charges	850,000	
50,000	179,775	Private Works/Debtors (\$53k RFS, \$33k WW)	50,000	
220,000	233,964	LBV – Residents Fees & Grant	220,000	
90,000	135,692	Child Care/In Home Care	90,000	
788,400	30,189	Net Transfer from/(to) 'At Call' Account		
24,731	34,231	Sundry	25,000	
20,000	37,499	Plant Sales	20,000	
	231,144	Non Private Works Debtors		
(68,500)		GST	20,000	
		Less		
(1,300,000)	(1,006,198)	Creditors (Late October payments made early November)	(1,300,000)	
(700,000)	(642,698)	Wages / Salaries (3 pays due in November)	(975,000)	
		Net Transfer from/(to) 'At Call' Account	(528,337)	
(22,265)	(22,265)	Loan Repayment	22,265	
54,693	52,044	Closing Reconciled Bank Balance Cr/(Dr)	50,000	
COUNCIL'	S LOAN FA	CILITIES as at 31 October 2014		
Working Cap	oital Loan (Var	iable, 4.275%)	(\$ 600,000)	
NAB Loan (6.22%)			(\$ 1,849,910)	
Closing Bala	(\$ 2,449,910 )			

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council receive and note the Bank Reconciliation, Cash Flow and Loan Facility Summaries Report as at 31 October 2014.

#### REPORT 3B - RATES RECONCILIATION REPORT AS AT 31 OCTOBER 2014

FILE: R2-1 AOP REFERENCE: 3.1.1.6 ATTACHMENT: NO

AUTHOR: Rates Officer, Jo-Louise Brown

#### **Purpose**

To provide Council details of the Rate Reconciliation as at 31 October 2014.

FUND	LEVY 2014-2015	Pensioner Rebates	Abandoned Levy	Additional Levies	Sub Total 2014- 2015	Arrears 30th Jun 14	Payments	Total Outstanding	Total Outstanding Previous Year	% Outstanding of Sub Total Plus Arrears
Business	361,810.49	328.33	1,313.40	500.00	360,668.76	21,537.58	190,292.55	191,913.79	169,419.65	50.21%
Farmland	618,372.00	2,750.00	1	3,201.76	618,823.76	41,751.70	274,253.29	386,322.17	374,321.61	58.48%
Mining	1,534,980.69		12,233.20	ı	1,522,747.49	129,765.55	497,426.71	1,155,086.33	1,137,299.49	69.90%
Residential	1,099,583.83	49,355.64	502.25	ı	1,049,725.94	158,054.45	455,763.58	752,016.81	698,946.80	62.26%
Overpayments					-	-95,748.40	- 54,567.05	-41,181.35	-49,866.81	43.01%
Legal Costs			ı	1,529.80	1,529.80	19,842.63	3,289.06	18,083.37	20,861.74	84.61%
Interest			ı	2,791.57	2,791.57	58,224.43	4,449.15	56,566.85	44,145.53	92.71%
General Rates	3,614,747.01	52,433.97	14,048.85	8,023.13	3,556,287.32	333,427.94	1,370,907.29	2,518,807.97	2,395,128.01	64.76%
Domestic Waste	534,703.00	18,377.53	792.09	416.00	515,949.38	24,871.02	244,755.04	296,065.36	271,501.80	54.74%
Sewerage	619,440.00	20,059.38	1,480.00	840.00	598,740.62	33,661.10	271,551.41	360,850.31	355,893.74	57.06%
Cobar Water	597,105.00	21,371.87	804.00	1,014.00	575,943.13	22,627.79	289,465.81	309,105.11	283,199.51	51.64%
Nymagee Water	25,060.00	612.50	209.91	-	24,237.59	5,203.55	13,762.04	15,679.10	15,441.01	53.26%
Euabalong Water	36,405.00	1,137.50	-	-	35,267.50	8,951.87	17,378.16	26,841.21	22,354.09	60.70%
Euab West Water	22,575.00	612.50	-	-	21,962.50	4,534.19	11,846.71	14,649.98	15,024.71	55.29%
Mt Hope Water	4,620.00	-	-	-	4,620.00	0.00	2,475.01	2,144.99	1,470.54	46.43%
Water Access	685,765.00	23,734.37	1,013.91	1,014.00	662,030.72	41,317.40	334,927.73	368,420.39	337,489.86	52.38%
Water Usage	267,286.60		3,095.15	-	264,191.45	436,760.89	578,809.90	122,142.44	115,254.48	17.43%
TOTAL	5,721,941.61	114,605.25	20,430.00	10,293.13	5,597,199.49	870,038.35	2,800,951.37	3,666,286.47	3,475,267.89	56.69%

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Rates Reconciliation Report as at the 31 October 2014 be received and noted.

#### **REPORT 4B – GRANT FUNDING**

FILE: G4-17 AOP REFERENCE: 3.1.1.4 ATTACHMENT: NO

AUTHOR: Special Projects Officer, Angela Shepherd

#### **Grant Update**

Grant and Department	Activity	Amount Applied For	Successful?	Council Funding Required	Deadline for Project
Grants Applied for		inplication		Trequired	110,000
Resources for Regions – Application made on behalf of the Cobar Water Board – full application	Replacement of the Twin Pipeline from Nyngan to Cobar.	\$5m	Pending	CWB to contribute \$1.4m, total project value \$6.4m	
NSW Sport and Rec Facility Grant	Purchase of a mobile ablutions block septic/sewer connections at three Cobar sites.	\$50,000	Pending	\$25,000 from the 'matching grants' budget	December 2015
Heavy Vehicle Safety and Productivity Program	New Truckwash	\$90K	Pending	\$90K, budgeted	
Senior Citizens Week	Funding to run the 2015 Senior Citizens Week activities.	\$1,000	Pending	\$1,000 matching	Held in March each year.
Country Arts Support Program	Submitted on behalf of the Youth Council for assistance with the Little Big Day Out in Feb 2015	\$2,000	Pending	Nil	For projects to be held in 2015.
Youth Opportunities	Range of confidence building, reliance and transition programs for 11- 14 year olds.	\$15,000	Pending	Project Administration	For projects between February and December 2015.
Environmental Trust	Erosion control, weed	\$100,000	Pending	Project	

removal and remediation	Administration	
works in one of three inlets		
to the Newey.		

Grant and Department	Activity	Amount Applied For	Successful?	Council Funding Required	Comment
<b>Grants Announced</b>		11ppiled 1 of		Required	
Fixing Country Roads	Realign corner and floodway at Kangaroo Springs, Whitbarrow Road	\$386,300	EOI Successful – full application invited	\$50,000 Council and \$63,700 VPA funds	Benefit Cost Analysis will be required.
Fixing Country Roads	2 floodways and 5kms seal between on the Wool Track	\$950,000	EOI unsuccessful	\$50,000	
Fixing Country Roads	Floodway remediation and water diversion at Acres Billabong on Tiltagoona Rd	\$320,000	EOI successful, - full application invited	\$100,000	Benefit Cost Analysis will be required.
Domestic Violence Community Action Grants	Reclaim the Night march and community event	\$1,000	Submitted on behalf of CDVAG – successful	Project management as in-kind	Successful Reclaim the Night celebrations held 31.10.14
Clubs Grants Category 3 EOI	Upgrades to the Cobar Youth and Fitness Centre	\$480,000	EOI unsuccessful	\$50,000 from \$94 Contributions	Project to be complete by April 2017

#### **Current Grant Opportunities**

- National Stronger Regions Fund Council has resolved to apply for up to \$580,000 worth of works to the Cobar Youth and Fitness Centre. Application due 28 November;
- Landfill Consolidation and Environmental Improvements grants Council will apply for funding for environmental improvements at the Cobar landfill. Applications close 8 December 2014.

#### Resources for Regions - an Update

- Water Treatment Plant The site survey has been completed and the geotechnical survey will commence shortly. Negotiations are well underway with Peak Gold Mines for the purchase of the land on the favoured site;
- Cobar Water Board The site survey has been completed and the geotechnical survey is due to commence shortly;
- Airport Upgrade Work on the cross strip will commence from 10 November. This will improve the pavement and a primer seal will be applied to allow the strip to be used by the majority of users during the works on the main runway. The Airport is likely to be unavailable for approximately 4 days in late November as these works are completed. From 1 December, works will commence on the main runway and are expected to take approximately 3 weeks to complete. The pavement will be ripped up, lime stabilised and strengthened. A bitumen seal will be applied prior to 22 December. Some basic linemarking will also take place. The main strip can then be used by Christmas. From 5 January 2015 reconstruction of both taxi ways will commence, temporary parking areas will be available. Permanent line marking will take place on completion. Also from 5 January 2015 installation of new night lighting will commence;
- Sewer Project A public consultation strategy is currently being considered for the extension part of the project. Investigations are underway to stabilise the banks of the sewerage lagoon ponds using grass. The options for the rehabilitation of the Ward Oval pump station are currently being considered. It has been confirmed that a flow control system can be used during the process. Works will progress in the new year once the airport project is completed.

#### Skatepark Project - an Update

Construction works have commenced and are expected to be completed in December. Works on the unique mining features, donated by Peak Gold Mines, are currently being completed ready for installation in early December. The bowl will be coloured red (pigment in concrete) to represent the open cut. An opening ceremony is planned for early March 2015.

#### The LBV Extensions

The Project Manager has arranged the electrical and fire safety drawings required for the project and has finalised the construction drawings. The final draft of the specification is now complete. A draft risk assessment has been completed regarding operational and patient requirements during construction. Council will continue to work with potential contractors to resolve these issues. Construction is on track to take place February – March 2015.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the information contained in the grant funding report detailing grants applied for, grants announced and grants available, as well as the updates on Council's grant capital projects, be received and noted.

# **ATTACHMENTS**



# FINANCE & POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

THURSDAY 13 NOVEMBER 2014

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