

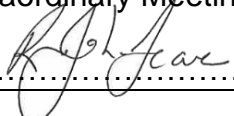
**REPORTS TO MURRUMBIDGEE COUNCIL EXTRAORDINARY MEETING  
TO BE HELD MONDAY 31 MAY 2021**

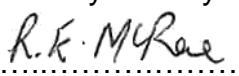
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..... General Manager

..... Mayor

## RECORDING & WEBCASTING OF MEETING

In the spirit of open, accessible and transparent Government, and to ensure this meeting is open to the public, this Council meeting is being recorded and livestreamed to the Murrumbidgee Council facebook page. A recording will also be placed on Council's website following the meeting.

Murrumbidgee Council accepts no liability for any defamatory, discriminatory or offensive remarks or gestures that are made during the course of the Council Meeting. Opinions expressed or statements made by individuals are the opinions or statements of those individuals and do not imply any form of endorsement by Murrumbidgee Council.

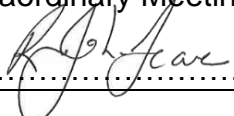
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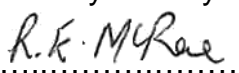
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.....General Manager

.....Mayor

# OFFICERS' REPORTS FOR CONSIDERATION

## ITEM NO. 1 - DRAFT DELIVERY PROGRAM (2021-2025) AND OPERATIONAL PLAN (2021-2022)

Council Meeting:	31 May 2021
Report Date:	28 May 2021
Author:	Finance Manager
File #:	SC241
Approval:	General Manager

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The draft Murrumbidgee Council Delivery Program (2021-2025) and Operational Plan (2021-2022), as required by the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework, are presented for endorsement and exhibition.

### RECOMMENDATION

1. **The draft Murrumbidgee Council Delivery Program and Operational Plan be endorsed;**
2. **The Plan be placed on public exhibition for the period 31 May to 28 June 2021; and**
3. **Community consultation be undertaken at Darlington Point, Coleambally and Jerilderie in order to provide further information on the draft estimates and consideration of the proposed rates harmonisation initiatives.**

### BACKGROUND

Councillors and staff have undertaken various workshops in order to provide input and future provisioning for the draft budget.

The Community Strategic Plan is the key element in preparing the Operational Plan for the coming 12 months, Delivery Programme for the ensuing 4 years and the Long Term Financial Plan for the next 10 years.

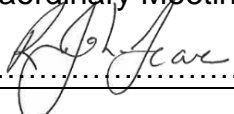
### OFFICER COMMENT


Council's draft Operational Plan allows for a General Fund rate increase of 2.0% overall as per the rate pegging allowance.

Rate harmonisation has been commenced, with the Town Improvement Levy previously included for Darlington Point and Coleambally ratepayers, now being included within the General Rate. The Stormwater Levy previously applied to Jerilderie residential ratepayers has been abolished.

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.....General Manager

.....Mayor

Rate bases have been included for all rate categories, and the minimum rate has been abandoned.

A number of assessments have been reclassified, with a new category for solar farms created.

Farmland assessments have been re-categorised, with harmonisation within a number of categories to be undertaken over 5 years.

Water access charges have been increased by 7% for Jerilderie residents. Darlington Point and Coleambally residents will see an increase of 5% for 20mm meters, with increases of between 3% and 15% for those business owners with larger capacity meters.

Sewer access charges will be increased by 5% across the area, with increase of 3% sewer discharge fees for businesses.

Water usage charges will increase by 3% for all residents.

Provision to continue to provide manned operational hours for each of the swimming pools has been made within the current document. Council has also determined that entry will remain free for the upcoming season.

Council will continue to provide for community grants in the amount of \$20,000, together with student scholarships totalling \$9,000.

Garbage and recycling fees are increased by 3% across the Council area, as are other sundry user fees and charges.

Council anticipates operational expenditure of \$13M, with a further \$6M for depreciation expenses. Operational income is anticipated as \$17M, with a further \$7M of capital grants anticipated.

A further \$17M has been budgeted for capital works, including road rehabilitation works totalling \$2M.

\$2.4M has been provided for road reseals, gravel resheeting, footpath, culvert and kerb & gutter renewals.

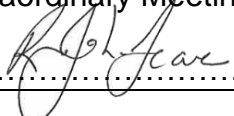
\$3.2M is anticipated for water supply upgrades and renewals, which are subject to grant funding.


\$3M has been allowed for upgrading and extension of the Darlington Point Caravan Park, subject to grant funds being received.

\$3M has been allowed for subdivision development at Darlington Point and plant replacement programmes are anticipated to consume \$1.4M

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.....Mayor

## **SUSTAINABILITY**

NIL

## **STATUTORY COMPLIANCE/POLICY**

- Sections 404 and 405 Local Government Act 1993
- Clause 201 Local Government (General) Regulation 2005

## **FINANCIAL**

The proposed 2021-2022 Statement of Financial Performance provides for a surplus from ordinary activities of \$5,069,441, being General Fund \$2,107,859, Water Fund \$3,032,119 and a Sewer Fund deficit of \$70,537.

This statement also indicates a deficit of \$2,043,000 from ordinary activities before capital grants. This is represented by General Fund \$2,106,990 deficit, Water Fund \$134,527 surplus and Sewer Fund \$70,537 deficit.

The anticipated cash flow provides for a decrease of funds of \$429,930 represented by General Fund \$589,588 decrease, Water Fund increase by \$137,957 and Sewer Fund increase of \$1,701.

## **INTEGRATED PLANS**

Community Strategic Plan – Strategy 5.1 – Transparent Leadership through Sustainability, Accountability and Community Representation.

## **RISK MANAGEMENT**

Council will be unable to meet a number of Local Government Performance Measures, the information for which is provided below:

- Council's Operating Performance Ratio is anticipated at minus 11.76% against a benchmarking figure of greater than 0. It is anticipated that the General Fund component would be minus 13.7%.
- Own Source Revenue Ratio is assumed at 38.20% against a benchmarking figure of greater than 60%. It is anticipated that the General Fund component would be 37.44%.

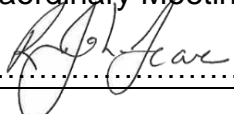
It is not anticipated that Council will be able to meet this criteria whilst we have a low population base and limited ability to generate significant other revenues.


## **CONSULTATION / ENGAGEMENT**

Management Group and Councillor workshops undertaken.

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.....General Manager

.....Mayor

## OPTIONS

The:

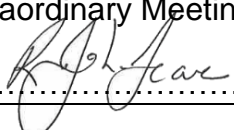
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2. Draft Murrumbidgee Council Delivery Program and Operational Plan be placed on public exhibition for the period 31 May to 28 June 2021; and
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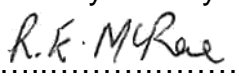
## ATTACHMENTS

To be provided under separate cover with documentation providing Delivery Program, Operational Plan and 2021-2022 Rates, Fees and Annual Charges.

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.....General Manager

.....Mayor