

#### MEMBERS OF THE FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE:

Mayor Kennedy, Councillor Algate (Chairperson), Councillor Boland, Councillor Byrne, Councillor Chandler and Councillor Turley

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1993*, that the Finance and Governance Standing Committee of the Broken Hill City Council will be held in the Council Chambers on **Wednesday**, **20 August 2025** commencing at **5:30pm** to consider the following business:

AG	ENDA
1	Opening the Meeting
2	Apologies
3	Leave of Absence Applications
4	Prayer
5	Acknowledgement of Country
6	Acknowledgement of Broken Hill's Mining History
7	Minutes for Confirmation
8	Disclosure of Interest
9	Reports
10	Confidential Matters
11	Conclusion of the Meeting

#### STATEMENT OF ETHICAL OBLIGATIONS

All Councillors undertook an Oath or Affirmation at the beginning of their term of office and declared to undertake the duties of the office of Councillor in the best interests of the people of the Broken Hill Local Government Area and the City of Broken Hill; and that they will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in them under the *Local Government Act 1993* or any other Act to the best of their ability and judgment.

# LIVE STREAMING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

This Committee Meeting is being livestreamed via YouTube and recorded and published online via Council's website. To those present in the meeting today, by attending in this public meeting you are consenting to your image, voice and comments being recorded and published.

The Chairperson and/or General Manager have the authority to pause the livestream if comments or debate are considered defamatory or otherwise inappropriate for publishing. Participants are advised that they may be subject to legal action if they engage in unlawful behaviour or commentary.

JAY NANKIVELL GENERAL MANAGER

# **MINUTES FOR CONFIRMATION**

Minutes of the Finance and Governance Committee of the City of Broken Hill held Wednesday, May 21, 2025.

# MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 2025 (5:30 PM)

**PRESENT:** Councillor T. Kennedy (Mayor), Councillor B. Algate (Chairperson),

Councillors M. Boland, A. Byrne and A. Chandler.

Councillor E. Gillett.

General Manager, Director Finance and Commercial and Executive Officer.

Media (nil), Members of the Public (nil)

**APOLOGIES:** Councillor D. Turley

**Motion** 

Moved Councillor Ashley Byrne, Seconded Mayor Tom Kennedy

That the apology submitted on behalf of Councillor Turley be accepted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

LEAVE OF ABSENCE APPLICATIONS: Nil.

#### **PRAYER**

Mayor Kennedy delivered the Prayer.

# **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

Councillor Byrne delivered the Acknowledgement of Country.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF BROKEN HILL'S MINING HISTORY

Councillor Boland delivered the Acknowledgement of Broken Hill's Mining History.

# MINUTES FOR CONFIRMATION

Recommendation

Moved Councillor Alan Chandler, Seconded Councillor Ashley Byrne

That the Minutes of the Finance and Governance Committee meeting held Wednesday April 23, 2025 be confirmed.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** 

#### DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Nil

#### **REPORTS**

 BROKEN HILL CITY COUNCIL REPORT NO. 80/25 - DATED MAY 02, 2025 -QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW STATEMENT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2025 D25/19537

#### Recommendation

Moved Councillor Michael Boland, Seconded Councillor Alan Chandler

- 1. That Broken Hill City Council Report No. 80/25 dated May 2, 2025, be received.
- 2. That the 3rd Quarterly Budget Review Statement and recommendations be adopted.
- 3. That Council note the projected 2024/25 operating surplus (before capital) of \$19,000.
- 4. That Council note the 2024/25 projected net capital budget expenditure of \$37,189,000.

# **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

The General Manager took a question on notice from the Mayor requesting that Councillors receive an explanation as to why Council was unsuccessful in being able to find a suitable candidate/consultant to carry out the Indigenous Community Oral History project which resulted in the project being cancelled and the government grant being returned.

2. <u>BROKEN HILL CITY COUNCIL REPORT NO. 82/25 - DATED MAY 08, 2025 -</u> INVESTMENT REPORT FOR APRIL 2025 D25/20458

#### Recommendation

Moved Councillor Michael Boland, Seconded Councillor Ashley Byrne

1. That Broken Hill City Council Report No. 82/25 dated May 8, 2025, be received.

#### **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

3. BROKEN HILL CITY COUNCIL REPORT NO. 81/25 - DATED MAY 09, 2025 - NOMINATION FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE TO S355 COMMITTEE D25/20738

#### Recommendation

Moved Councillor Ashley Byrne, Seconded Councillor Michael Boland

- 1. That Broken Hill City Council Report No. 81/25 dated May 9, 2025, be received.
- 2. That Council review and consider the nomination of Kevin Stacey for appointment as community representative on the Picton Sportsground Community Committee.
- 3. That the community representative nominee be advised of Council's determination.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The General Manager took a question on notice from the Mayor requesting that an Infrastructure and Environment budget be created for signs to be placed on unmarked graves at the Broken Hill Cemetery, and that the Tidy Towns Working Group makes recommendations to the Director Infrastructure and Environment regarding the wording and placement of these signs. Also, that the two ladies who regularly carryout work at the Cemetery to identify unmarked graves be invited to join the Tidy Towns Working Group to assist with this project.

#### **CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS**

Nil

## **CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING**

There being no further business	s to consider, the meeting	was declared closed	at 5:45pm.
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The foregoing minutes were read and confirmed at the Finance and Governance meeting held on 23 July 2025.	Committee
Chairperson	

# REPORTS

1.	BROKEN HILL CITY COUNCIL REPORT NO. 161/25 - DATED JUNE 24, 2025 - ELECTORAL FUNDING OBLIGATIONS OF ELECTED COUNCILLORS AND MAYORS (D25/27960)
2.	BROKEN HILL CITY COUNCIL REPORT NO. 162/25 - DATED JUNE 18, 2025 - ADOPTION OF THE DRAFT COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE GRANTS POLICY (D25/26923)
3.	BROKEN HILL CITY COUNCIL REPORT NO. 163/25 - DATED AUGUST 08, 2025 - INVESTMENT REPORT FOR JULY 2025 (D25/36067)
4.	BROKEN HILL CITY COUNCIL REPORT NO. 164/25 - DATED AUGUST 08, 2025 - MINUTES OF THE AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 4 AUGUST 2025 (D25/36182)

#### FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

June 24, 2025

# ITEM 1

#### BROKEN HILL CITY COUNCIL REPORT NO. 161/25

SUBJECT: ELECTORAL FUNDING OBLIGATIONS OF ELECTED

**COUNCILLORS AND MAYORS** 

D25/27960

## **Recommendation**

- 1. That Broken Hill City Council Report No. 161/25 dated June 24, 2025, be received.
- 2. That the Mayor and Councillors note that it is their personal responsibility to adhere to the NSW Electoral Commission's disclosure obligations as elected members of Council; and to comply with the NSW Electoral Commission's reporting requirements of political donations and electoral expenditure during their Term of Council.
- 3. That the Mayor and Councillors are required to submit their Annual Electoral Expenditure Disclosure to the NSW Electoral Commission by 22 September 2025.

#### **Executive Summary:**

Councillors and Mayors elected at the local government elections on 14 September 2024 and the countback election held on 27 March 2025 must submit political donation and electoral expenditure disclosures to the NSW Electoral Commission periodically for their Term in Office.

The Annual electoral expenditure disclosure is required to be submitted to the NSW Electoral Commission by 22 September 2025.

# Report:

Disclosures of political donations and electoral expenditure

Elected members must submit political donation and electoral expenditure disclosures to the NSW Electoral Commission during their Term in Office.

There are four (4) types of disclosures to submit each year as an elected member: two halfyearly disclosures of political donations made and received and two annual disclosures of major political donors and electoral expenditure incurred.

The relevant periods each disclosure covers and the lodgment periods for disclosures for 2024/2025 are:

Disclosure type	Disclosure period	Disclosure lodgment period	Disclosure due by
1 <sup>st</sup> half-yearly	01/07/2024 to	01/01/2025 to	11/02/2025
donation disclosure	31/12/2024	11/02/2025	
2 <sup>nd</sup> half-yearly	01/01/2025 to	01/07/2025 to	11/08/2025
donation disclosure	30/06/2025	11/08/2025	

Annual major political donor disclosure	01/07/2024 to 30/06/2025	01/07/2025 to 11/08/2025	11/08/2025
Annual electoral expenditure disclosure	01/07/2024 to 30/06/2025	01/07/2025 to 22/09/2025	22/09/2025

Elected members of Council must submit the above disclosures not only as a candidate and elected member, but also on behalf of the group if applicable.

If no political donations are made or received or no electoral expenditure is incurred, a 'Nil' disclosure forms must still be submitted.

Disclosures can be made through the Funding and Disclosure online portal for electoral participants on the NSW Electoral Commission's website.

It should be noted that Elected Members who do not comply with disclosure requirements could face a fine or prosecution by the NSW Electoral Commission; and that it is an Elected Members personal responsibility to adhere to the NSW Electoral Commission's disclosure requirements.

# Elected member contact details

Elected members who have not provided the NSW Electoral Commission with up-to-date contact details are requested to do so as soon as possible by emailing fdc@elections.nsw.gov.au.

A current email address and mobile phone number for each elected member is required so that the NSW Electoral Commission can send notifications about when and how to disclose political donations and electoral expenditure.

More information about electoral funding obligations of elected members can be found on the NSW Electoral Commission website <a href="https://elections.nsw.gov.au/Funding-and-disclosure">https://elections.nsw.gov.au/Funding-and-disclosure</a>.

The *Electoral Funding Act 2018* can be accessed on the NSW Legislation website https://legislation.nsw.gov.au/view/html/inforce/current/act-2018-020.

Elected members can call the NSW Electoral Commission on 1300 135 736 if they have any questions.

#### **Community Engagement:**

Nil

#### **Strategic Direction:**

Key Direction:	4	Our Leadership
Objective:	4.1	Openness and transparency in decision making
Strategy:	4.1.5	Support the organisation to operate its legal framework

# **Relevant Legislation:**

Electoral Funding Act 2018

#### **Financial Implications:**

Nil

# **Attachments**

There are no attachments for this report

LEISA BARTLETT
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

JAY NANKIVELL GENERAL MANAGER

#### FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

June 18, 2025

# ITEM 2

#### BROKEN HILL CITY COUNCIL REPORT NO. 162/25

SUBJECT: ADOPTION OF THE DRAFT COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE GRANTS
POLICY D25/26923

#### **Recommendation**

- 1. That Broken Hill City Council Report No. 162/25 dated June 18, 2025, be received.
- 2. That Council notes that the Draft Community Assistance Grants Policy was placed on public exhibition between 4 July 2025 and 2 August 2025 during which time Council received three (3) submissions from the public.
- 3. That Council notes that one (1) amendment has been made to the Draft Community Assistance Grants Policy as a result of the submissions received.
- 4. That Council adopts the Draft Community Assistance Grants Policy that was placed on public exhibition, with the following amendment based on Community Feedback.

The amendments placed on Public Exhibition were:

- a) cap grants to \$5,000.00 in order that Council's Community Assistance Grant funding can be allocated to more not-for-profit community organisations.
- b) limit organisations to receive a grant to once biennially in the financial year rather than every financial year, in order that the opportunity exists for more not-for-profit community organisations to benefit from receiving a Community Assistance Grant.
- c) that not-for-profit community organisations who receive regular government funding are not eligible to apply for a Community Assistance Grant.

The recommended amendment based on Community Feedback presented to Council is in regard to the above amendment b):

b) That limiting organisations to receive a grant to once biennially in the financial year be made an Assessment Criteria of the Community Assistance Grant program rather than an Eligibility Criteria.

I.e. priority will be given to applications from organisations who did not receive funding under the Community Assistance Grants in the previous financial year. Organisations who did received funding in the previous financial year will still be eligible to apply in the following financial year; however, their applications will only be considered if funding has not been fully allocated (to applications that receive a successful assessment score) following the assessment of biennial applications (applications from organisations who did not receive funding in the previous financial year).

That In One Accord be an exception to this clause, as per Minute No. 47872, in that

they can apply annually for a grant towards Carols by Candlelight and their application is assessed in the priority group each year.

#### **Executive Summary:**

Council is committed to assisting local community not-for-profit organisations in the delivery of services/activities/programs that align with the objectives of Broken Hill's Community Strategic Plan. To facilitate this Council holds two rounds of Community Assistance Grant (CAG) funding each year to provide "one-off" financial grants. The grants program complies with Section 356 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

The Community Assistance Grants Panel met on 21 May 2025 to assess and recommend the awarding of grants for Round 1 of 2025/2026 to the General Manager.

In recommending the awarding of grants, the Panel also recommended amendments to the Community Assistance Grants Policy to allow the opportunity for more local not-for-profit community organisations to acquire a grant from Council.

These recommendations were presented to the May Ordinary Council Meeting where they were adopted and Council also resolved to make further amendments.

Council considered the Draft Community Assistance Policy as its Ordinary Meeting held 30 June 2025 and endorsed the Draft Community Assistance Grants Policy for the purpose of public exhibition. The Draft Community Assistance Grants Policy was subsequently placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days during which time Council received three (3) submission from the public.

The Draft Community Assistance Policy is now presented to Council for consideration for adoption noting that there is a recommended change to one of the amendments made to the Draft Community Assistance Grants Policy as a result of the submissions received.

# Report:

Council's Community Assistance Grants Policy provides a framework for Council to provide grants for community events, projects, services or activities know as Community Assistance Grants that align with the objectives of Broken Hill's Community Strategic Plan.

The framework aims to ensure that the allocation of Council's limited resources is undertaken in a fair, transparent, accountable and ethical manner. Council recognises that there can be difficulties in meeting community expectations with the increasingly limited financial resources available. Council also recognises that it is accountable to the community for the management and disbursement of its funds and that it must be done in a manner that maximises the benefits to the community and is seen as fair and equitable.

The Community Assistance Grants Panel met on 21 May 2025 and conducted its evaluation of the applications received for Round One of 2025/2026 and presented its recommendations to the General Manager for the awarding of grants. The Panel also recommended to the General Manager a number of amendments to the Community Assistance Grants Policy to allow the opportunity for more local not-for-profit community organisations to acquire a grant from Council.

The recommended amendments were:

- a) cap grants to \$5,000.00 in order that Council's Community Assistance Grant funding can be allocated to more not-for-profit community organisations.
- b) limit organisations to receive a grant to once biennially in the financial year rather than every financial year, in order that the opportunity exists for more not-for-profit community organisations to benefit from receiving a Community Assistance Grant.
- c) that not-for-profit community organisations who receive regular government funding are not eligible to apply for a Community Assistance Grant.

These amendments were presented to the 28 May 2025 Council Meeting along with the outcome of the awarding of grants for Round 1 2025/2026.

Council added further addendums to its resolution for this item to allow In One Accord to receive an exemption to amendment a) in order that they can apply annually for a grant towards the Carols by Candlelight event; and for a MOU to be granted to the Broken Hill Repertory Society for an annual 100% rates subsidy, and Council resolved:

ITEM 17 - Broken Hill City Council Report No. 92/25 - DATED May 21, 2025 - COMMUNITY

ASSISTANCE GRANTS AWARDED IN ROUND 1 OF 2025/2026 AND RECOMMENDED

AMENDMENTS TO THE COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE GRANTS POLICY D25/22437

During the discussion of Item 17, Councillor Turley declared a non-pecuniary conflict of interest in the Broken Hill Repertory Society as she is a patron and remained in the Council Chambers and exercised her vote on the matter.

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#### **RESOLUTION**

Minute No. 47872
Councillor R Algate moved
Councillor H Jewitt seconded

#### Resolved

- 1. That Broken Hill City Council Report No. 92/25 dated May 21, 2025, be received.
- 2. That Council notes the Community
  Assistance Grants awarded for Round One
  of 2025/2026 which were recommended by
  the Panel on 21 May 2025, and approved
  by the General Manager under delegation
  on 21 May 2025.
- That Council notes that the Community
   Assistance Grants budget for Round One is
   not fully expended with \$1,307.10 remaining
   unspent which will be rolled over to Round
   Two of 2025/2026.
- 4. That as per the Grant Panel recommendations, the Community Assistance Grants Policy and associated Grants program literature be amended as follows, to give the opportunity for more local not-for-profit organisations to acquire a grant from Council:
  - include a clause to cap the amount of grants awarded to \$5,000.00 for successful organisations for each round of funding.

- 2) include a clause that limits an eligible organisation from receiving a Community Assistance Grant to once biennially in the financial year (rather than once every financial year) with the exception of In One Accord to be eligible to apply once every financial year for a grant towards the annual Carols by Candlelight event.
- include an eligibility clause that prevents organisations who receive regular government funding from applying for a Community Assistance Grant.
- 4) that Council enters a Memorandum of Understanding agreement with the Broken Hill Repertory Society (who historically receives a grant for rates relief every financial year) for an ongoing annual financial assistance grant for a 100% rates relief.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

These amendments were made to the Community Assistance Grants Policy and presented to Council for endorsement for the draft Policy to be placed on public exhibition at the Ordinary Meeting held 30 June 2025. Council resolved to place the Draft Policy on public exhibition for a 28-day period as below:

# <u>ITEM 15 - BROKEN HILL CITY COUNCIL REPORT NO. 97/25 - DATED JUNE 03, 2025 - DRAFT COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE GRANTS POLICY FOR PUBLIC EXHIBITION</u>

D25/24625

#### **RESOLUTION**

# Minute No. 47894 Councillor D Turley moved Councillor E Gillett seconded

# **Resolved**

- 1. That Broken Hill City Council Report No. 97/25 dated June 3, 2025, be received.
- That Council notes the Community
   Assistance Grants Policy has been amended
   in accordance with Council Resolution of the
   28 May 2025 Council Meeting minute no.
   47872 to allow more opportunity for
   registered not-for-profit community
   organisations to acquire a Community
   Assistance Grant from Council.
- That the draft Community Assistance Grants Policy be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days during which time Council will accept submissions from the public.
- 4. That a further report be presented to Council at the conclusion of the public exhibition

period outlining submissions received, and any resultant amendments to the Policy, with a view to adopting the draft Community Assistance Grants Policy.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** 

During the public exhibition period Council received three (3) submission from the public and these submissions are summarised below:

DATE	SUMMARY OF SUBMISSION/S RECEIVED	SUBSEQUENT AMENDMENTS MADE TO THE DRAFT COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE GRANT POLICY
10 July 2025	Email raises concerns that the Waste2Art Competition, facilitated by Broken Hill Art Exchange, will be cancelled for 2026 due to the proposed amendment to the Community Assistance Grants Policy to limit an organisation from receiving a Community Assistance Grant to once biennially in the financial year instead of once annually in the financial year; and that the competition is very well patronised in the City.	Despite the proposed amendments being made to the Community Assistance Grants Policy, the Broken Hill Art Exchange are ineligible to apply for a grant in Round 2 of 2025/2026 (for the 2026 Waste2Art Competition) as they have already received a grant in Round 1 of 2025/2026 (for printing of a brochure and map for the Big Skies Artist Trail held in August 2025) and the current eligibility criteria of the Community Assistance Grants Policy - clause 4.5.1g prevents organisations from receiving more than one grant each financial year even if the grant is for a different project/activity/event.
2 August 2025	Email raises concerns that the Waste 2 Art Program will be cancelled if amendments to the Community Assistance Grants proposal of applications being once biennially in the financial year are approved	As above - the Broken Hill Art Exchange are ineligible to apply for a grant in Round 2 of 2025/2026 (for the 2026 Waste2Art Competition) as they have already received a grant in Round 1 of 2025/2026 (for printing of a brochure and map for the Big Skies Artist Trail held in August 2025) and the current eligibility criteria of the Community Assistance Grants Policy - clause 4.5.1g prevents

		organisations from receiving more than one grant each financial year even if the grant is for a different project/activity/event.
3 August 2025	Submission received in two parts  Part 1: A letter of support from NetWaste (attached to report) of the Waste 2 Art Program held in Broken Hill and the benefits to the Community.  Part 2: Submission from Broken Hill Art Exchange objecting to proposed changes of the Community Assistance Grants Proposal of applications being once biennially in the financial year stating the Waste 2 Art Program for 2026 will be unfunded if these changes go ahead. Suggestion of an assessment Criteria being the benefit the application brings to the community as a whole.	The Community Assistance Grants Assessment Matrix currently has an assessment criteria of, 'The benefit the application has on the whole community' which carries an assessment ranking and is taken into consideration in the assessment process.

#### Proposed amendment based on all Community Feedback

Rather than the below Eligibility Criteria being included:

• limit organisations to receive a grant to once biennially in the financial year rather than every financial year, in order that the opportunity exists for more not-for-profit community organisations to benefit from receiving a Community Assistance Grant.

It is recommended that the above Eligibility Criteria be changed to an Assessment Criteria:

• Priority will be given to applications whose organisations have not received funding under the Community Assistance Grants in the previous financial year. Applications from organisations receiving funding in the previous financial year will remain eligible; however, their applications will only be considered if funding has not been fully allocated (to applications receiving a successful assessment score) following the assessment of biennial applications (applications from organisation which did not receive funding in the previous financial year). In One Accord, for the conduct of the annual Carols by Candlelight, is an exception to this clause as per Minute No. 47872.

### **Community Engagement:**

The Draft Community Assistance Grants Policy was placed on public exhibition for 28 days closing on 2 August 2025 during which time Council received three (3) submission as outlined above.

# **Strategic Direction:**

Key Direction:	4	Our Leadership
Objective:	4.1	Openness and transparency in decision making
Strategy:	4.1.5	Support the organisation to operate within its legal framework

# **Relevant Legislation:**

Local Government Act 1993, Section 356 and Section 377

Council's adopted Community Assistance Grant Policy.

# **Financial Implications:**

Nil.

# **Attachments**

- 1. U Draft Community Assistance Grants Policy
- 2. USubmission 1
- 3. USubmission 2
- 4. <a>J</a> Submission 3

LEISA BARTLETT
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

JAY NANKIVELL GENERAL MANAGER



# COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE GRANTS POLICY

QUALITY CONTROL			
TRIM REFERENCES	12/114 – D17/3599		
RESPONSIBLE POSITION	General Manager		
APPROVED BY	Council		
REVIEW DATE	April 2026	REVISION NUMBER	7
EFFECTIVE DATE	ACTION	MINUTE NUMBER	
24 February 2016	Adoption	45180	
22 February 2017	Public Exhibition	45461	
26 April 2017	Adoption	45524	
28 November 2018	Adoption	45959	
24 June 2020	Adoption	46284	
30 March 2022	Adoption	46802	
27 April 2022	Adoption	46825	
28 June 2023	Adoption	47241	
30 June 2025	Amendments and Public Exhibition	47872 and 47894	

# 1. INTRODUCTION

Council acknowledges the contribution made by our community towards the betterment of Broken Hill and the contribution of volunteers towards the objectives of Council.

This policy aims to provide support to individuals and groups through a program of Community Assistance Grants.

This policy allows for considered and transparent decisions to be made regarding the distribution of community resources.

COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE GRANTS POLICY

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#### 2. POLICY OBJECTIVE

The purpose of this policy is to provide a framework for Council to provide grants for community events, projects, services or activities, known as Community Assistance Grants that align with the objectives of Broken Hill's Community Strategic Plan.

The framework aims to ensure that the allocation of council's limited resources is undertaken in a fair, transparent, accountable and ethical manner. Council recognises that there can be difficulties in meeting community expectations with the increasingly limited financial resources available. Council also recognises that it is accountable to the community for the management and disbursement of its funds and that it must be done in a manner that maximises the benefits to the community and is seen as fair and equitable.

#### 3. POLICY SCOPE

The policy applies to all applications for Community Assistance Grants.

#### 4. POLICY STATEMENT

#### 4.1. General Principles

Council commits itself to the following principles:

- 4.1.1. Accountability, transparency and equity The policy provides a framework for the transparent and merit-based provision of support and a system of accountability for the recipient.
- 4.1.2. Alignment with Council strategies The policy aligns with Council priorities outlined in the Broken Hill Community Strategic Plan and Councils Delivery Program.
- 4.1.3. Value for money The policy ensures Council considers the value for money received in return for Councils investment.

#### 4.2. Scope of Program

- 4.2.1. The total amount available under the Community Assistance Grant Program will be determined annually by the elected Council in connection with the Operational Plan and Delivery Program.
- 4.2.2. All individual grants whether cash/and or value in kind will be capped at \$5,000.00 per grant.
- 4.2.3. Community Assistance Grants may comprise cash/and or value in kind.
- 4.2.4. Council may decide to offer to an applicant a Community Assistance Grant in an amount less, or in a combination different to, what is applied for.
- 4.2.5. A monetary figure will be allocated to all value in kind awarded under the Community Assistance Grant Program, in accordance with its true cost to Council. This amount will be included in the total amount of Community Assistance Grant allocated to any successful applicant.
- 4.2.6. Any amendments to the total budget allocated to the Community Assistance Grant program must be approved by the elected Council.
- 4.2.7. Only single year commitments may be approved under this policy.
- 4.2.8 Eligible organisations can only receive one Community Assistance Grant from Council biennially (rather than once every financial year) with the exception of In One Accord who are eligible to apply once every financial year for a grant towards the annual Carols by Candleliaht event.

COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE GRANTS POLICY

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#### 4.3. Existing Commitments

4.3.1. The following existing committed donations do not meet the requirements for inclusion in a competitive process because they are initiatives instigated by Council and also they are not auspiced by a community organisation, therefore the following annual committed donations will be made:

Name of Organisation	2015/2016 Commitment	Purpose
Local Schools	\$100 per school (\$1,000.00 total)	Donation towards presentation night
David Bowler Memorial Award	\$2,500.00	Co-contribution towards award

4.3.2. All other previously committed annual donations will not be made and these organisations must apply to one of the competitive rounds of Community Assistance funding due to their organisation meeting the eligibility criteria to apply.

#### 4.4. Program Structure

- 4.4.1. Council will hold up to two competitive rounds for Community Assistance Program each financial year.
- 4.4.2. Council will advertise the details of each round of the Community Assistance Program on Councils website and in the local media.
- 4.4.3. Council may decide to host a public information session in connection with a competitive round to provide information to prospective applicants about the program.

#### 4.5. Eligibility and Assessment

4.5.1. Eligibility Criteria

Council will not support applications that do not meet all of the following Eligibility Criteria:

- a. Applicant must be an incorporated community association/organisation, or a
  registered not-for-profit association/charitable organisation with an ABN or ACN.
  Applications will not be accepted from individuals, businesses, government agencies or
  organisations who receive regular government funding, political parties or lobby
  groups.
- Applicants must lodge a completed application using Council's standard Community Assistance Grant Program Application Form in accordance with any published Guidelines.
- c. Applications must be received on or before the advertised due date.
- d. Applicants must provide evidence that they have appropriate insurances in place.
- e. The event/project/service/activity must be scheduled to occur within the six (6) month period of the financial year the application is made and support is received.

COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE GRANTS POLICY

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- f. The funds received through Community Assistance Grants must not be used to raise funds on behalf of another group.
- g. Applicants may not have received any other sponsorship support from Council within the same financial year, regardless of whether it was for a different event/project/service/activity.
- h. Applicants must have complied with, to Council's satisfaction, the conditions of any previous grant, support or Community Assistance Grant received from Council.
- i. The event/project/service/activity must be consistent with the community values defined in the Community Strategic Plan.
- j. The event/project/service/activity must apply uniformly to all persons in the Broken Hill Local Government Area or to a significant group of persons within the area.
- k. The Applicant must be capable of obtaining all regulatory approvals for the event/project/service/activity.
- I. If a public information session is scheduled in connection with a round of Community Assistance Grant funding, a representative of the Applicant must attend, or otherwise meet with the relevant Council Officer in advance of the application deadline.

#### 4.5.2. Assessment Criteria

Applications that satisfy the Eligibility Criteria set out in clause 4.5.1 will then be assessed against the following Assessment Criteria, which will be weighted according to Councils strategies:

- a. Social benefit to the community. Considerations include: number and age of participants; skills and knowledge developed by applicants.
- b. How the project will support an identified need within or develop community strengths. Considerations include: alignment to community strategic plan and delivery program outcomes; the relevant impact on the Broken Hill community through the implementation of the initiative.
- c. That priority be given to applications from organisations who did not receive funding under Community Assistance Grants in the previous financial year. Organisations who did receive funding in the previous financial year will still be eligible to apply in the following financial year; however, their applications will only be considered if funding has not been fully allocated (to applications that receive a successful assessment score) following the assessment of biennial applications (applications from organisations who did not receive funding in the previous financial year). In One Accord for their conduct of the annual Carols by Candlelight event is an exception to clause 4.5.2c) as per Minute No. 47872.

#### 4.5.3. Assessment of Applications

The Relevant Council Officer will receive applications and undertake a preliminary assessment against the Eligibility and Assessment Criteria set out in sections 4.5.1 and 4.5.2.

It is open to the Council Officer to amend estimates and projections included in the application prior to assessment based on information available to Council or Council's past experience. Any changes should be notified to the applicant with the reasoning documented.

If the applicant does not agree with amendments suggested by the Relevant Council Officer, the application will still be presented to the Community Assistance Grant Panel for assessment

COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE GRANTS POLICY

Page 4 of 6

with information from the Relevant Council Officer as to why amendments are recommended.

The weighting allocated to each assessment criterion will be determined and approved by the Community Assistance Grant Panel prior to applications being called. These weightings must be made available to applicants upon request.

Following a preliminary assessment, the Relevant Council Officer will present all applications to the Community Assistance Grant Panel with a recommendation on eligibility.

The Community Assistance Grant Panel will be convened to assess applications. The Community Assistance Grant Panel's assessment must be recorded on an evaluation form and retained in Council's records management system. The evaluation form will be signed by the Chairperson of the Community Assistance Grant Panel.

Each member of the Community Assistance Grant Panel must comply with Councils Code of Conduct, in particular, the provisions covering Conflicts of Interest.

The Community Assistance Grant Panel will make recommendation to the General Manager.

The General Manager approves and provides Council with a report for information subsequent to the awarding of grants.

The event/project/service/activity must be suitable for Council's involvement and consistent with Council's community values defined in the Community Strategic Plan.

#### 4.5.4. Agreements, Payments and Acquittals

Successful applicants and Council must sign an Agreement, containing Council's terms and conditions for the Community Assistance Grant prior to any monies being released.

Payments will be made in accordance with the agreement following receipt of invoice.

All invoices must be received within the six (6) month period the financial year in which Community Assistance Grant was awarded and the event/project/service/activity implemented.

Council will not be liable for any amounts over and above the Community Assistance Grant amount as set out in the Agreement.

Successful applicants must provide acquittal information to Council in accordance with the terms of the Agreement.

#### 5. IMPLEMENTATION

#### 5.2. Roles and Responsibilities

The following Council Officers are responsible for the implementation and the adherence to this policy:

- · General Manager
- Executive Officer

#### 5.3. Communication

This Policy will be communicated to the community and staff in accordance with Council's Policy, Procedure and Process Framework and Council's Business Paper process. Following adoption by Council the Policy will be made available on Council's website.

COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE GRANTS POLICY

Page 5 of 6

#### 5.4. Associated Documents

The following documentation is to be read in conjunction with this policy:

- · Code of Conduct
- Statement of Business Ethics

#### 6. REVIEW

Review of this policy will incorporate relevant legislation, documentation released from relevant state agencies and best practice guidelines.

The standard review period will be within each term of Council following the Local Government Elections, or as required to ensure that it meets legislation requirements and the needs of the community and Council. The responsible Council officer will be notified of the review requirements three (3) months prior to the expiry of this policy.

The General Manager is responsible for the review of this policy.

#### 7. LEGISLATIVE AND LEGAL FRAMEWORK

This policy is to be read in conjunction with the following:

Local Government Act 1993 – Sections 377 and 356

Council employees shall refrain from personal activities that would conflict with proper execution and management of Council's Community Assistance Grants Policy. Council's Code of Conduct provides guidance for recognising and disclosing any conflicts of interest.

#### 8. DEFINITIONS

**Agreement means** the agreement entered into by Council and applicant whose application for Community Assistance Grant has been successful.

Council means Broken Hill City Council.

**Community Assistance Grant** means Financial Assistance provided by Council as a financial contribution or Value in Kind, to support an event, project, service or activity.

Community Assistance Grant Panel means the panel comprising:

- The Mayor (or nominee)
- Two Councillors
- The Broken Hill Australia Day Citizen of the Year
- A minimum of three independent persons

COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE GRANTS POLICY

Page 6 of 6

**Financial Assistance** means payments given to individuals or organisations that are not commensurate with a reciprocal benefit received by Council.

**Guidelines** means any guidelines published in connection with Council's Community Assistance Grant program in any year.

**Relevant Council Officer** means the Council employee responsible for administering the Community Assistance Grant program.

**Value in Kind** means goods or services supplied by Council in connection with a Community Assistance Grant, including the waiver or discounting of fees and charges for Council facilities.

COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE GRANTS POLICY

Page 7 of 6

 $<sup>^{</sup>m i}$  Minute No. 46356 of 30/09/2020 records Council's resolution to increase the Community Assistance Grants budget annually by \$6,000.00 to be quarantined for Golf Broken Hill Inc should they apply and meet all eligibility and assessment criteria, otherwise the funds will be included in the available budget for all applications for Round 2 each year.

#### Waste to Art Competition



To O Broken Hill City Council

#### To The Mayor.

As a participant in the W2A Competition in Broken Hill since its inception, i am concerned regarding Council's current actions...

In the country towns where I have lived and worked (14 in NSW and Victoria), the Councils have all successfully had the interests of the Community as a major priority. That is their function.

W2A definately fits into the Energy of this Art town plus, it encourages people to think about the crucial issue of waste and the environment, without having a Heavy Hand Hit them on the Head!!

WASTE TO ART is a major and very successful interest in Broken Hill and it reflects well on the Council.

Please DO NOT BREAK IT, and WASTE IT. !!!



Thu 10/07/2025 8:19 AM

Page 25

From:

Sent: Saturday, 2 August 2025 11:24 PM

**To:** Broken Hill City Council

Subject: DRAFT Community Assistance Grants Policy | Broken Hill City Council



General Manager Broken Hill City Council PO Box 448 Broken Hill NSW 2880 council@brokenhill.nsw.gov.au

Dear Sir

Submission to the DRAFT Community Assistance Grants Policy | Broken Hill City Council

We are two 'passionate community members who live in Menindee, we support and promote 'War on Waste' and 'Waste 2 Art' and love recycling (one more than the other).

We write to Council in supporting the Broken Hill Art Exchange with their submission regarding the changes to the Community Assistance Grants Policy. We feel that any change in funding would be detrimental to the Waste 2 Art program continuing, as it would other not-for-profit organisations relying on annual funding. We are aware that Council has funded the Waste 2 Art program in Broken Hill for the past 2years which has resulted in a fabulous array of artwork being produced locally, with the winning section entries going onto Regional Waste 2 Art Exhibitions across the Netwaste Council Area.

Broken Hill is renowned for its many artists and art genres, which Waste 2 Art can complement and broaden the exposure of art developed in and from Broken Hill and the Far West.

Our involvement with the Waste 2 Art program commenced in 2005 being either an artist or coordinator. In 2006 Central Darling began promoting the Waste 2 Art program to its communities. In 2010 Central Darling Shire *proudly and successfully* hosted the Regional Exhibition of 150 entries being installed in the Menindee Civic Hall. Great media coverage from the ABCs Australia All Over (Macca) resulted in some 400+ differing diagraph of visitors to our township and Shire, many of which were from Broken Hill 'out for a drive' and who were very impressed with the exhibition and still relate to it when catching up. Over 10years there were varying numbers of entries from artists across the Shire, some of whom have continued to enter in the Broken Hill W2A.

Holding the local annual exhibitions has huge benefits to:

- engage, challenge and inspire the community.
- assist individuals in addressing mental health issues.
- supports new and emerging talent to have a focal point in the artistic community.
- adds to the economy; and
- assists Council in promoting and encouraging community conversations on recycling and reducing waste to landfill.

The combined efforts of the Broken Hill Art Exchange and Lifeline (Tip Shop) in coordinating the Waste 2 Art program (on behalf of Council) and in gaining sponsorship from Broken Hill business' is to be commended. And to be honoured with hosting a Regional, the old adage of 'Broken Hill Proud' comes to the fore!!

With the success of the program at both local and regional levels, and surely with Broken Hill being a member Council of Netwaste a budget can be allocated annually for the Waste 2 Art program. Central Darling is also a member Council of Netwaste, but do not promote the W2A program. We therefore suggest that an approach be made to (CDSC) join with Broken Hill in supporting the program with annual funding. We will also make representation to Central Darling to gain support.

In being so far away from recycling centres, the need for recycling across the Far West is paramount. What better way to address this by the Waste2Art Program. Please allow for annual funding to continue for this necessary Program to continue!!

# **Emily Guerin**

From:

Sent: Sunday, 3 August 2025 11:06 AM

**To:** Broken Hill City Council

Subject:DRAFT Community Assistance Grants Policy | Broken Hill City CouncilAttachments:NetWaste Letter of Support Art Exchange Broken Hill.pdf; BHAECommunity

Assistance Grant response.docx.pdf

Please find our submission about the changes to Community Assistance Grant Funding and letters of support attached



--

Broken Hill Art Exchange @ The Grand

Winner 2024 BACC VOLUNTEER AWARUS For a Cultural Organisation
Finalist 2024 Far West NSW Excellence in Business Awards Cultural and Community
Organisation

The Broken Hill Art Exchange acknowledges the Wilyakali people as the traditional custodians of the land on which we operate. BHAE pays respect to Elders past and present and all First Nation peoples.



16 July 2025

Letter of Support from NetWaste

Dear Broken Hill City Council,

On behalf of NetWaste, I am writing to express our support for the Art Exchange's Waste 2 Art exhibition program that they currently organise each year in Broken Hill. As a long-standing regional waste group NetWaste is committed to sustainability, education, and community engagement. NetWaste has been committed to our signature education program, Waste 2 Art, across our 25 Councils for more than 20 years. The Art Exchange in Broken Hill have run a Waste 2 Art program that has been an example to the other Councils across NetWaste, we support 25 Councils in total of which around 18 take part in Waste 2 Art. Broken Hill Waste2 Art program has gained the attention of the NetWaste staff for its high level of community interaction, engagement and support and I would like to commend them to you and provide my support to them in this letter.

The Waste 2 Art program offers numerous positive impacts, including:

- Environmental Awareness, by encouraging the reduction, reuse, and recycling
  Waste 2 Art helps demonstrate how discarded materials can be transformed into
  valuable and meaningful art.
- Educational Impact, Waste 2 Art delivers hands-on learning about waste reduction and resource recovery.
- Creative Expression, by inspiring artists and community members to explore their creativity through sustainable mediums. - Celebrates diverse artistic talents and promotes cultural exchange within and beyond Broken Hill.
- **Community Engagement & Inclusion**, Waste 2 provides accessible opportunities for people of all ages and backgrounds to participate and contribute.
- Regional Development, Waste 2 Art draws attention to Broken Hill as a progressive and environmentally conscious community. Next year two EPA and NetWaste events are scheduled around Waste 2 Art events in Broken Hill.
- **Encourages tourism and economic activity**, through exhibitions and local collaborations.
- Strengthens networks, between neighbouring councils and regional artists.

Broken Hill City Council Page 29



Waste 2 Art in Broken Hill has gained the attention of the NSW EPA who will be holding their quarterly RENEW meeting in Broken Hill next year. NetWaste is holding the Regional Showcase and Final for Waste 2 Art in Broken Hill due to the popularity of the Broken Hill Waste 2 Art program.

NetWaste has been impressed with the Art Exchange's approach to running Waste 2 Art in Broken Hill. Their vision, creativity, and commitment to using Waste 2 Art as a vehicle for social and environmental engagement in Broken Hill is to be commended. NetWaste is proud to advocate for initiatives like Waste 2 Art and is committed to supporting the Art Exchange to ensure the continued success and impact of the Waste 2 Art program in Broken Hill.

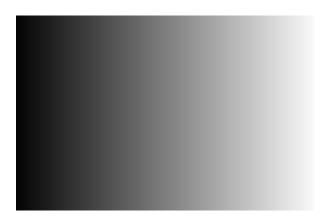
Kind regards,

Bill Tink

NetWaste's Environmental Learning Advisor

Broken Hill City Council Page 30





Saturday, 2 August 2025

# Proposed changes to the Community Assistance Grant - Submission from Broken Hill Art Exchange

The Broken Hill Art Exchange wished to express concern that reducing eligibility to Community Assistance Grants to biannually will impact annually run programs like Waste to Art and other community initiatives across the city.

Our view is rather than making it a rule organisations can only apply biannually, add that to the assessment criteria and include benefit to community. This proposal will effect many organisations.

The Broken Hill Art Exchange with Lifeline have run Waste 2 Art for three years now and the program has become a highlight of the cultural calendar.

2025 saw 72 completed artworks which speaks to the appeal of the program. Council is aware of the positive impact Waste 2 Art has for the community. Waste 2 Art Broken Hill is under threat by changes to Council's funding policies.

Council's proposed changes to the Community Assistance Grant which has funded Waste 2 Art for the past three years will mean we can only apply for funding biannually and for a smaller amount. This means the Waste 2 Art 2026 program will be unfunded.

Netwaste is bringing the 2026 regional showcase to Broken Hill with an exhibition at the Art Gallery as they have been so impressed with the community's engagement and response to Waste 2 Art. If we are unable to fund the program there will be no representation from our community.

Whilst we celebrate opportunities for different not-for-profit to secure funding, we believe grant applications can be assessed to ensure this.

One suggestion has been that Lifeline apply for grant funding and Broken Hill Art Exchange applies on alternate years. This does not address the issue that Broken Hill Art Exchange applies for Community assistance grants to support initiatives like Red Dirt Blue Skies and art workshop programs to the community and would limit our capacity to operate in Broken Hill.

As an entirely volunteer run organisation we rely heavy on grant funding to operate. By 2023/4 statistics Broken Hill Art Exchange brings approximately 52,500 annually through art tourism to the Broken Hill Community not directly to the Art Exchange.

The changes will not affect just our organisation but other not-for-profit and small organisations wishing to bring programs and add value to life in Broken Hill.

We strongly suggest Council reviews the proposal and includes within the assessment criteria of grant application the benefit an application brings to the community as a whole.

Susanne Jones

President Broken Hill Art Exchange

Broken Hill City Council Page 31

I am writing as both a teacher in Broken Hill and a parent to express my strong support for the Waste 2 Art program and to advocate for its continued annual funding.

Although I have not entered artworks with my own students, I have seen the significant value Waste 2 Art brings to our school community. Many teachers, particularly in the arts, enter their students' pieces each year, creating excitement and pride among their classes. It is a program that engages students deeply with sustainability in a way that is practical, creative, and meaningful.

As a parent, I have entered my own children's artworks in Waste 2 Art and seen firsthand how much they learn and grow from the experience. They think differently about waste, become more resourceful and environmentally aware, and feel proud to share their creations with family and friends. It builds confidence and fosters important lifelong values about looking after our planet.

Waste 2 Art is not just an art competition – it encourages creativity, critical thinking, and environmental responsibility while bringing the community together. I strongly believe it deserves to remain on the annual calendar so students, families, and the wider community can continue to benefit from its many positive impacts.

Th

ank you for considering this submission in support of Waste 2 Art.

Kind regards,

#### FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

August 8, 2025

# ITEM 3

### BROKEN HILL CITY COUNCIL REPORT NO. 163/25

SUBJECT: INVESTMENT REPORT FOR JULY 2025 D25/36067

# Recommendation

1. That Broken Hill City Council Report No. 163/25 dated August 8, 2025, be received.

#### **Executive Summary:**

The Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 (Part 9, Division 5, Clause 212), effective from 1 September 2021, requires the Responsible Accounting Officer of a Council to provide a written report setting out details of all monies that have been invested under Section 625 (2) of the Local Government Act 1993, as per the Minister's Amended Investment Order gazetted 11 March 2011. The Responsible Accounting Officer must also include in the report, a certificate as to whether the investment has been made in accordance with the Act, the Regulations and the Council's Investment Policy.

As at 31 July 2025, Council's Investment Portfolio had a current market valuation of \$19,437,992 or principal value (face value) of \$19,372,440 and was compliant with policy and legislative requirements as per the below table.

#### Report:

Council's investments as at 31 July 2025 are detailed in Attachment 1.

Portfolio Summary				
Portfolio Performance vs. RBA Cash Rate	✓	Compliant with policy		
Investment Policy Compliance				
Legislative Requirements	✓	Compliant with policy		
Portfolio Credit Rating Limit	✓	Compliant with policy		
Institutional Exposure Limits	✓	Compliant with policy		
Term to Maturity Limits	✓	Compliant with policy		

# Market Review

# **Global issues:**

- In the US, economic growth expanded at a surprising 3% annual pace from April through June, bouncing back at least temporarily from a first quarter drop that reflected disruptions from President Trump's trade wars.
- However, economists expect a deterioration in the months ahead, as tariffs work their way through supply chains, federal job cuts filter through the economy and stricter immigration policies take a toll on industries that rely on foreign-born workers. Poor US jobs data at the start of August added weight to these concerns.

- With US inflation still above the Federal Reserve's 2% target and concern that higher consumer prices stemming from tariffs will lead to a persistent inflation problem, the central bank kept interest rates unchanged in the 4.25-4.50% range at its July meeting.
- The European Central Bank also left rates on hold at 2%. Another rate cut is considered likely in the coming months with tariffs expected to be a drag on the economy.
- Latest Chinese economic data was mixed. Retail sales and investment came in weaker than expected but industrial production, credit growth and GDP at 5.2% came in better than projected helped by strong export figures. Chinese property data remains weak.
- Global shares ended the month higher with the anticipation of the chaotic US tariff messaging coming to an end with deals gradually being ironed out and interest rates continuing to trend lower. US shares were up 2.2% with China (+5%), Japan (+3%) and European markets (+1%) all recording gains as well. Australian shares had a strong month (+2.6%), led by the Healthcare and Energy sectors, keeping the 12 month return close to +12%.

# **Domestic issues**

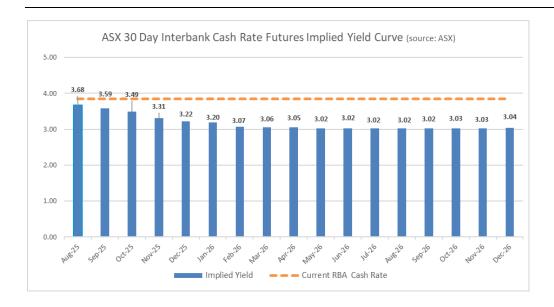
- Latest quarterly inflation data showed further easing, with headline CPI at 2.1% for the June quarter down from 2.4% in the March quarter. The trimmed mean, the RBA's preferred measure, fell to 2.7% from 2.9% last quarter.
- This represents the lowest trimmed mean inflation figure since December 2021, showing promising signs that underlying inflation is steadily approaching the central bank's midpoint inflation target of 2.5%.
- The main contributor to the slowdown in the pace of inflation was a 10% drop in automotive fuel prices compared to last year. Annual inflation for food and non-alcoholic beverages has remained around 3% for the past five guarters.
- The latest Australian jobs market data showed broad based softness with weak employment for the second month in a row, a fall in full time employment, a fall in hours worked, and a rise in unemployment to 4.3% its highest since the pandemic.

# **Interest rates**

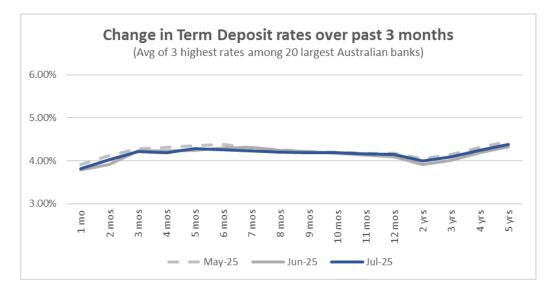
In a surprise move, the RBA held the official cash rate at 3.85% at its early-July meeting. The RBA Board noted that:

"it could wait for a little more information to confirm that inflation remains on track to reach 2.5 per cent on a sustainable basis. It noted that monetary policy is well placed to respond decisively to international developments if they were to have material implications for activity and inflation in Australia."

Economists are expecting that the inflation and jobs data released in July will be the triggers for the RBA to make an interest rate cut in August. The market is pricing in 50 basis points worth of interest rate cuts by the end of 2025 and another 25 basis point cut in the first quarter of 2026:



■ Term deposit rates across the 1 – 12 month range were little changed from last month. The 5 - 7 month area is offering the best rates in the 4.20% to 4.30% area. Long dated rates moved a bit higher over the month with 2 - 5 year rates up an average of 7 basis points and ranging from 4.00% to 4.38%:



#### **Investment Portfolio Commentary**

Council's investment portfolio returned 4.83%pa (0.40% actual) for the month on a marked-to-market basis versus the bank bill index benchmark's 3.60%pa (0.30% actual) return. Over the past 12 months, the investment portfolio has returned 4.97% versus the bank bill index benchmark's 4.31%.

The NSW TCorp Medium Term Growth Fund recorded another strong result during the month with a gain of 0.61% (actual). The return was reflective of the gains in the domestic and international share markets due to further interest rate cuts by central banks globally and some optimism that the "US vs the world" tariffs being levied on individual countries may not be as steep as originally threatened.

During July, Council's portfolio had no maturities and no new investments were made.

Council has a well-diversified portfolio invested predominantly among a range of term deposits from highly rated Australian banks. Council also has exposure to a wide range of asset classes, including senior ranked fixed and floating rate notes, listed property and international and domestic shares via the NSW TCorp Medium Term Growth Fund. It is expected that

Council's portfolio will achieve above benchmark returns over the medium/long term with prudent investment selection.

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# Council's Portfolio by Source of Funds - July 2025

As at 31 July 2025, Council's Investment Portfolio had a current market valuation of \$19,437,992 or principal value (face value) of \$19,372,440 and was compliant with policy and legislative requirements as per the table above.

	Source of Funds	Principal Amount
GENERAL	Operating Capital & Internal Restrictions	\$5,166,338
Fund	Royalties Reserve	\$617,684
	Domestic Waste Management Reserve	\$5,076,192
	Grants	\$8,512,226
	TOTAL PORTFOLIO	\$19,372,440

# Certificate by Responsible Accounting Officer

All investments have been placed in accordance with Council's Investment Policy, Section 625 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (as amended), the Revised Ministerial Investment Order gazetted 11 February 2011, Clause 212 of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2005*- and Third-Party Investment requirements of the then Department Local Government Circular 06-70. Council continues to obtain independent financial advice on its investment portfolio in accordance with the then Department of Local Government Circular of 16 September 2008.

# **Community Engagement:**

Nil

# **Strategic Direction:**

Key Direction 4: Our Leadership

Objective 4.1: Openness and Transparency in Decision Making

Action 4.1.5 Support the organisation to operate within its legal framework

#### **Relevant Legislation:**

This report is provided for Council's consideration in compliance with the requirements of *Part 9, Division 5, Clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021.* 

#### **Financial Implications:**

The recommendation has no financial impact.

# **Attachments**

1. July 2025 Investment Report

SIMON BROWN
DIRECTOR FINANCE AND COMMERCIAL

JAY NANKIVELL GENERAL MANAGER

Broken Hill City Council



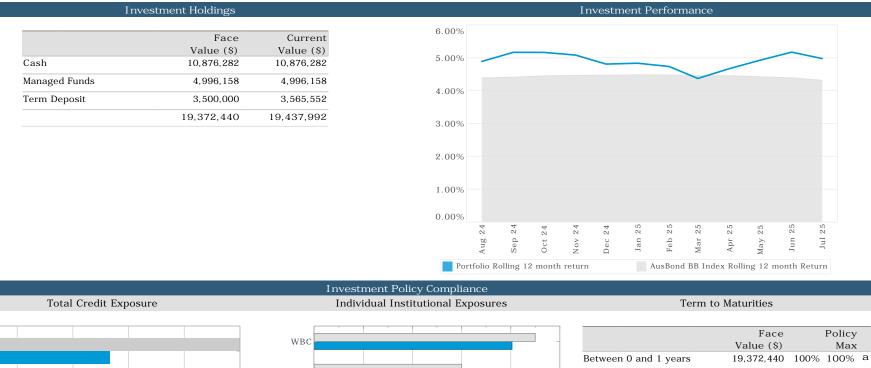
Investment Summary Report July 2025



# Executive Summary - July 2025



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Specific Sub Limits				
Between 5 and 10 year.	0	0%	30%	a

19,372,440

g Portfolio Exposure g Investment Policy Limit



# Broken Tim City Council Investment Holdings Report - July 2025



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Cash Accounts					
Face Current	Institution	Credit	Current	Deal	Reference
Value (\$) Rate (%)	Tristitution	Rating	Value (\$)	No.	
1,554,411.44 0.0000%	Westpac Group	AA-	1,554,411.44	473409	Cheque
3,078,615.00 3.8894%	Macquarie Bank	A+	3,078,615.00	540354	Accelerator
6,243,255.72 4.6000%	Westpac Group	AA-	6,243,255.72	535442	90d Notice
10,876,282.16 3.7414%			10,876,282.16		

Manage	d Funds							
	Face Value (\$)	Monthly Return (%)	Institution	Credit Rating	Funds Name	Current Value (\$)	Deal No.	Reference
	4,996,157.90	0.6125%	NSW T-Corp (MT)	TCm	Medium Term Growth Fund	4,996,157.90	536441	
	4,996,157.90	0.6125%				4,996,157.90		

Term Depo	osits									
Maturity Date	Face Curre Value (\$) Rate (	Institution	Credit Rating	Purchase P Price (\$)	urchase Date	Current Value (\$)	Deal No.	Accrued Interest (\$)	Next Interest Date	Reference
10-Sep-25	1,000,000.00 4.750	% Bank of Queensland	A-	1,000,000.00	5-Mar-25	1,019,390.41	545848	19,390.41	At Maturity	
23-Sep-25	1,000,000.00 4.750	% National Australia Bank	AA-	1,000,000.00 1	1-Mar-25	1,018,609.59	545898	18,609.59	At Maturity	
7-Oct-25	1,000,000.00 4.750	% National Australia Bank	AA-	1,000,000.00 1	1-Mar-25	1,018,609.59	545899	18,609.59	At Maturity	
21-Oct-25	500,000.00 4.800	% Suncorp Bank	AA-	500,000.00 1	8-Mar-25	508,942.47	545933	8,942.47	At Maturity	
	3,500,000.00 4.757	%		3,500,000.00		3,565,552.06		65,552.06		



Broken Hill City Council

## DIOKEILIIII CILY COULICII

# Accrued Interest Report - July 2025



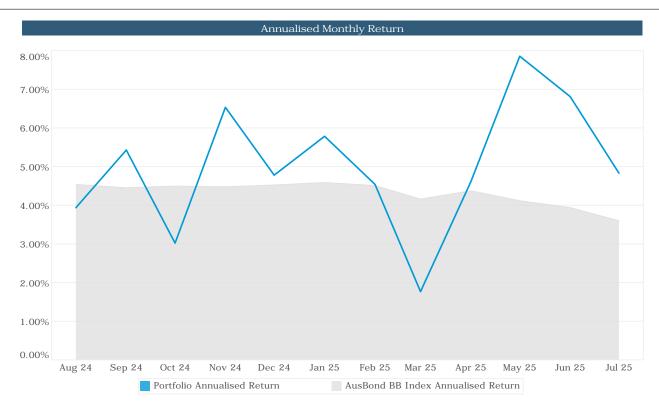
Investment	Deal No. Comments	Face Value (\$)	Settlement Date	Maturity Date	Interest Received (\$)	Days	Interest Accrued (\$)	Yield (% pa)
<u>Cash</u>								
Macquarie Bank	540354				13,800.28	0	13,800.28	3.89%
Westpac Group	473409				0.00	0	0.00	0.00%
Westpac Group	535442				15,377.22	0	15,377.22	4.60%
					29,177.50		29,177.50	3.55%
Managed Funds								
NSW T-Corp Medium Term Growth Fund	536441			4-Jun-26	0.00	0	30,415.32	7.45%
					0.00		30,415.32	7.45%
<u> Ferm Deposits</u>								
Bank of Queensland	545848	1,000,000.00	5-Mar-25	10-Sep-25	0.00	31	4,034.25	4.75%
National Australia Bank	545898	1,000,000.00	11-Mar-25	23-Sep-25	0.00	31	4,034.25	4.75%
National Australia Bank	545899	1,000,000.00	11-Mar-25	7-Oct-25	0.00	31	4,034.25	4.75%
Suncorp Bank	545933	500,000.00	18-Mar-25	21-Oct-25	0.00	31	2,038.36	4.80%
					0.00		14,141.11	4.76%
Grand Totals					29,177.50		73,733.93	4.83%



# Investment Performance Report - July 2025



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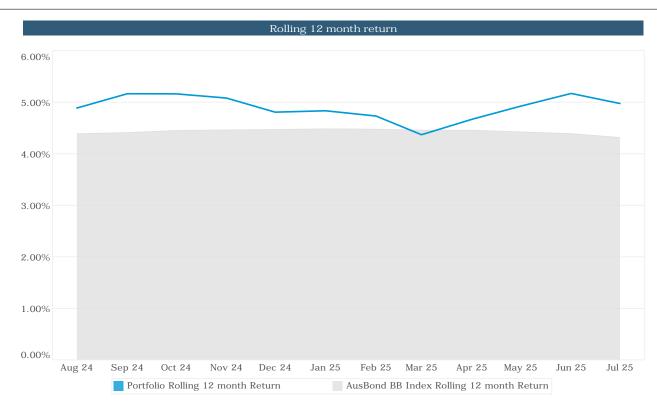
Historical Performance Summary (% pa)								
	Portfolio	Annualised BB Index	Outperformance					
Jul 2025	4.83%	3.60%	1.23%					
Last 3 months	6.49%	3.89%	2.60%					
Last 6 months	5.05%	4.11%	0.94%					
Financial Year to Date	4.83%	3.60%	1.23%					
Last 12 months	4.97%	4.31%	0.66%					



# Investment Performance Report - July 2025



Page 42



Historical Performance Summary (% actual)								
	Portfolio	Annualised BB Index	Outperformance					
Jul 2025	0.40%	0.30%	0.10%					
Last 3 months	1.60%	0.97%	0.63%					
Last 6 months	2.47%	2.02%	0.45%					
Financial Year to Date	0.40%	0.30%	0.10%					
Last 12 months	4.97%	4.31%	0.66%					



Broken Hill City Council

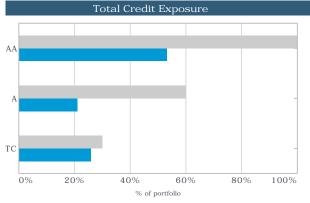
Specific Sub Limits

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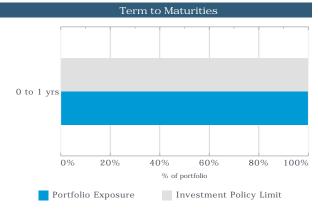
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# Investment Policy Compliance Report - July 2025









Credit Deting Creun	Face		Policy	
Credit Rating Group	Value (\$)		Max	
AA	10,297,667	53%	100%	a
A	4,078,615	21%	60%	а
TC	4,996,158	26%	30%	а
	19,372,440			

1,000,000

= compliant= non-compliant

5% 40% a

I	% of	Invest	ment
Institution	portfolio	Policy	Limit
Westpac Group (AA-)	40%	45%	а
NSW T-Corp (TCm)	26%	30%	а
Macquarie Bank (A+)	16%	30%	а
Bank of Queensland (A-)	5%	20%	а
National Australia Bank (AA-)	10%	45%	а
Suncorp Bank (AA-)	3%	45%	а

	Face		Policy	
	Value (\$)		Max	
Between 0 and 1 years	19,372,440	100%	100%	а
	19,372,440			

Specific Sub Limits				
Between 5 and 10 years	0	0%	30%	а

Condit Dating	Current Longest	Policy
Credit Rating	Maturity (years)	Max
AA+, $AA$ , $AA-$	0.22	5.00 a
A+, A, A-	0.11	3.00 a



# Individual Institutional Exposures Report - July 2025

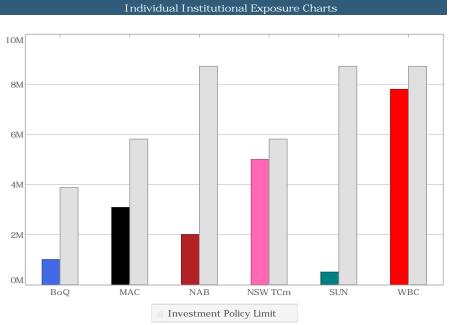


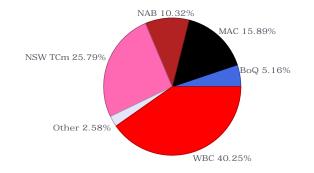
Page 44

Broken Hill City Council

muividuai mstitutionai exposures					
	Current Exposi	ıres	Policy Lim	it	Capacity
3ank of Queensland (A-)	1,000,000	5%	3,874,488	20%	2,874,488
Macquarie Bank (A+)	3,078,615	16%	5,811,732	30%	2,733,117
Vational Australia Bank (AA-)	2,000,000	10%	8,717,598	45%	6,717,598
VSW T-Corp (TCm)	4,996,158	26%	5,811,732	30%	815,574
Suncorp Bank (AA-)	500,000	3%	8,717,598	45%	8,217,598
Westpac Group (AA-)	7,797,667	40%	8,717,598	45%	919,931

19,372,440







Cashflows Report - July 2025

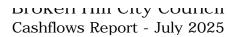


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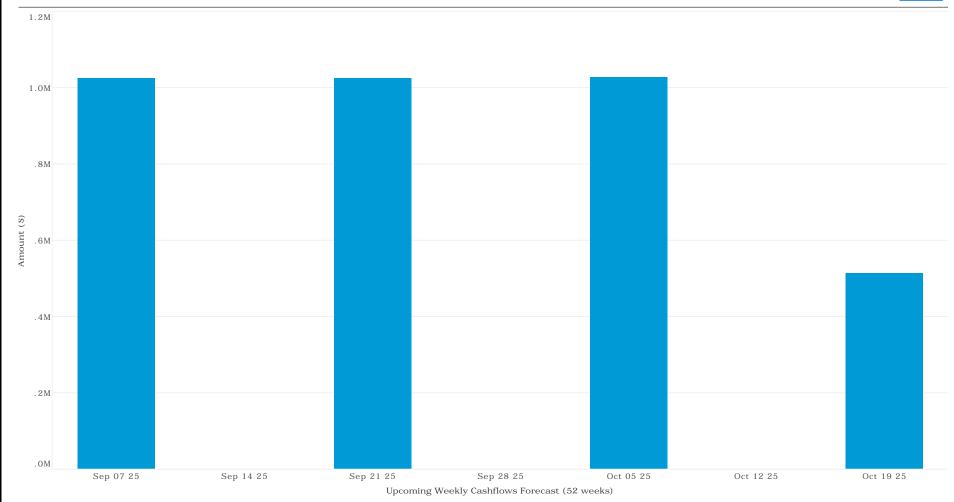
Date Deal No. Cashflow Counterparty Asset Type Cashflow Description Amo	Actual Ca	shflow	s for July 2025				
Date Dear No. Casimow Counterparty Asset Type Casimow Description Amo	Da	ate	Deal No.	Cashflow Counterparty	Asset Type	Cashflow Description	Amount

Forecast Cashflows for August 2025				
Date Deal No.	Cashflow Counterparty	Asset Type	Cashflow Description	Amount

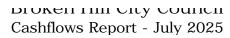




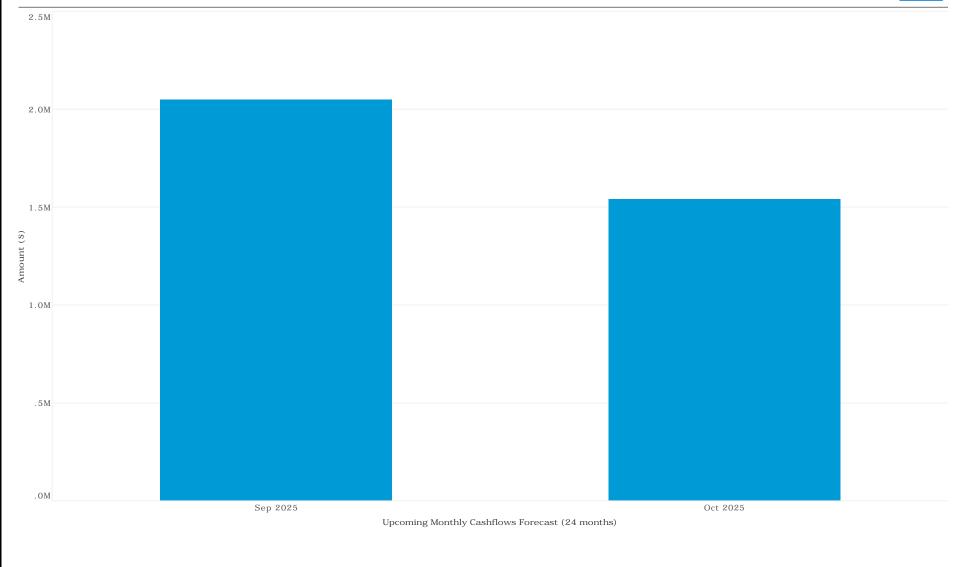














#### FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

August 8, 2025

### ITEM 4

### BROKEN HILL CITY COUNCIL REPORT NO. 164/25

<u>SUBJECT:</u> <u>MINUTES OF THE AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT</u>

COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 4 AUGUST 2025

D25/36182

### **Recommendation**

- 1. That Broken Hill City Council Report No. 164/25 dated August 8, 2025, be received.
- 2. That minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held 4 August 2025 (with redactions) be received and endorsed.

### **Executive Summary:**

The adopted Charter of the Broken Hill Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee, requires the Committee to refer the minutes and recommendations of its Committee Meetings to the next scheduled Ordinary Council Meeting.

Minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held Monday, 4 August 2025 are provided as an attachment to this report for Council's endorsement. The minutes contain redacted information as it relates to an upcoming tender process of Council.

These minutes will be adopted at the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting to be held 16 October 2025.

#### Report:

The Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held on Monday, 4 August 2025 and considered the following items of business:

- 1. Minutes for Confirmation
- 2. Matters Arising from the Minutes
- 3. General Manager's Briefing
- 4. Internal Audit Update
- 5. Service Review Update
- 6. Broken Hill Library Project Construction Update June 2025
- 7. Enterprise Risk Management Report
- 8. Action List Report
- 9. Draft ARIC Committee Strategic Plan and Annual Work Plan

Minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting held 4 August 2025 are attached for Council's endorsement.

The minutes contain redactions of confidential information relating to an upcoming tender process of Council which cannot be released in an open Council Business Paper as it would compromise the transparency of the tender process.

### **Community Engagement:**

Nil.

## **Strategic Direction:**

Key Direction:	4	Our Leadership
Objective:	4.1	Openness and transparency in decision making
Strategy:	4.1.5	Support the organisation to operate its legal framework

## **Relevant Legislation:**

Local Government Act 1993, Chapter 13, Part 3, Division 2

### **Financial Implications:**

Nil.

#### **Attachments**

Minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting held 4 August2025 (with redactions)

LEISA BARTLETT
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

JAY NANKIVELL GENERAL MANAGER

**4 AUGUST 2025** 

# MINUTES OF THE AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD MONDAY, AUGUST 04, 2025 (2:00 PM ACST)

**PRESENT:** Mr C Abouraad (Chairperson), Mr J Mathers, Mr P DeLisio,

Councillor B Algate.

Councillor A Chandler.

Ms J Malpas (OCM), Mr D Xavier (OCM) and Mr B Hanger (Nexia).

General Manager, Director Finance and Commercial, Director Infrastructure and Environment, Leader Innovation and Business Improvement, Manager Communications and Marketing, Manager Finance, Manager Enterprise Risk, and Executive Officer.

**APOLOGIES:** Mayor T Kennedy

#### **ACKOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

The Chairperson delivered the Acknowledgement of Country.

#### **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Nil

#### **MINUTES FOR CONFIRMATION**

Mr DeLisio commented on the previous minutes and referred to the Project Update Report on the Broken Hill Library Project and asked for Project Update Reports on all of Council's major capital projects to be presented to the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee.

Mr DeLisio referred to the Council Meeting following the last Audit Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting, where Councillor Algate advised Council that the Committee had commented on the number of pages of the Committee's last Business Paper, and that these comments may have presented a poor view of the Committee to other Councillors. Mr DeLisio stated that he had no issue with the Committee receiving the supporting papers to reports and that he would rather see this paperwork coming to the Committee rather than having to search for it in other papers.

The Chairperson advised that the presentation of reports and supporting papers was more than adequate and he would much rather have the supporting attachments to refer to when reading reports; and that no changes are needed to the way reports are presented to the Committee.

Mr Mathers advised that this matter is attributed to his comments at the previous Committee meeting where he was trying to convey to members that he felt that it is Council that is charged with making decisions and setting the policy direction of Council and that the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee's role is to ensure the correct processes are in place,

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**4 AUGUST 2025** 

rather than making the decisions of Council.

The Chairperson commented that he had requested the presentations made at the Gilgandra Conference be included in the last Business Paper which had contributed to its size, and that he had requested these attachments be included as both Mr DeLisio and Mr Mathers were unable to attend the Conference. The presentations contained some important information that he wanted the other independent members to read. There were also some large attachments with other reports and a large number of items on the agenda for the last meeting.

The Chairperson advised that the attachments are included for reference information should they need to be referred to after reading each report.

Mr DeLisio agreed with the Chairperson's comments and added that it is the Committee's role to review the processes and to look at whether these processes are being followed. Quarterly Review Reports are provided to Council, which should also come to this Committee, and it is up to the Committee to review these reports and to question any items that are below industry benchmarking.

Mr DeLisio referred to the draft Artificial Intelligence Policy which was presented at the last Committee Meeting and endorsed for presentation to Council and asked why, when the draft Policy was presented to Council it did not include the recommendation of this Committee for the establishment of an Artificial Intelligence Technology Reference Group.

The Director Finance and Commercial advised that action was taken on the recommendation of this Committee and that an Artificial Intelligence Technology Reference Group has been formed and is operating.

The Chairperson advised that he is referred to as Councillor Charbel Abouraad in items in the minutes that were either moved or seconded by him and also in the Action List asked for this to be corrected.

### Recommendation

Moved Mr Paul DeLisio, Seconded Mr Charbel Abouraad

That the Minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held Thursday May 15, 2025 be confirmed with amendments to the Chairperson's name prefix to be changed from Councillor to Mr.

**CARRIED** 

#### **GENERAL MANAGER'S BRIEFING**

The General Manager referred to the Long Term Financial Plan 2026-2035, the Delivery Program 2025-2029 and the Operational Plan 2025/2026 which were endorsed by the Committee in draft form at the last Committee Meeting and advised that these were adopted by Council without change at the Ordinary Council Meeting held 30 July 2025.

The General Manager advised that it was highlighted in these reports that Council's cash flow will become tight over the next 12 months with the Library Project coming to completion and projects at the Airport commencing and that Council won't meet financial benchmarking during this period, as it is forecast for a breakeven result for 2026, Council's liquidity ratios

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should still be within OLG guidelines, and following this period, Council's financial position should be back on track for 2026/2027.

Following a question regarding whether the Library Project has gone over budget which is affecting Council's financial projection for 2026, the General Manager advised:

- that the Library Project is still on track financially, although the project timeline has been delayed again by approximately three weeks due to poor weather conditions preventing the roof cladding being installed and making the soil water logged, this has not affected the project financially but has delayed the project to now have an estimated completion date of November 2025.
- The Warnock Street Yard Project is progressing on track financially and time-wise with the completion date being the end of the year.
- The EP O'Neil Netball Complex Redevelopment Project was completed within budget and time.
- Council's Strategic and Operational Risk Register and Treatment Plans are now complete and include an item regarding the tight cash-flow for the next 12 month period.

Mr DeLisio referred to Council's Operational Plan which includes \$37M as capital projects expenditure for 2025/2026 financial year and asked if the General Manager is confident that Council has a cash flow management plan for this period?

Mr Mathers asked the General Manager to run through the financial ratio point that he made earlier.

The General Manager advised that Council will be tight on its cash flow position while it expends grant funding and Council's capital on projects such as the Library Project and Warnock Street Yard Project and predicts a break-even position at the end of this financial year only, and that it should return to a surplus by the end of the 2026/2027 financial year as we meet benchmarking for unrestricted operating funds as well as our own source funds during that year. The tight cash flow for 2026 was earmarked as a red flag which will depend on the intervals in which the OLG Financial Assistance Grants are administered to Councils and when these are received by Council as well as the timing of major payments to the Library Project and Warnock Street Yard Project contractors, which may make the cash flow tight. There are no solvency issues, Council will still have more than seven (7) months of cash reserves for the payment of creditors which is above the OLG requirement of three (3) months of cash reserves.

The Chairperson referred to the Long-Term Financial Plan which the Committee endorsed at the last meeting and referred to the financial ratios and that the Office of Local Government are reviewing these ratios. The Chairperson was concerned whether Council would meet these new ratios and have enough cash reserves.

Mr DeLisio asked how you judge if you have enough cash reserves, and that these ratios are one way to judge this and asked how else Council measures its cash flow? He asked if the Library Update Report in future could include a table with the original budget, the capital expenditure, the payments made and the balance to be paid. He referred to the \$600K in variations and that the budget shows that it is currently over by \$19K and said that he would like to see a more in-depth breakdown in order that the Committee can better understand how the project is progressing.

The General Manager advised that Council has a line item budget showing every expenditure and that the budget provided in the Library Update Report is a summary of the high level items, and that future reports can show a more detailed breakdown.

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#### **REPORTS**

<u>ITEM 1 - BROKEN HILL CITY COUNCIL REPORT NO. 18/25 - DATED JUNE 30, 2025 - INTERNAL AUDIT UPDATE</u>
D25/28950

Ms Malpas spoke to the report and gave an overview of the Internal Audit Plan advising that OCM had completed the final internal audit for 2024/2025 being the Project Governance Health Check Audit of the Library Project which is included with this report. At the last Committee Meeting, the Committee had endorsed the 2025/2026 Internal Audit Plan and Mr Xavier commenced field work with Council last week on the Development Applications Process Internal Audit. The Rates Audit, Payroll Audit and Cyber Security Audit have not yet commenced, but work has commenced on the Terms of Reference of the Rates Audit.

Ms Malpas referred to the Internal Audit Report provided on the Project Governance Health Check Audit of the Library Project being an independent assessment of the management of the Library Project and OCM confirmed that Council's Project Management Framework is well structured and aligns with all legislative requirements and demonstrates robust internal audit processes including accountability to the funding body by adhering to all project reporting requirements.

The Project Management Plan complies with all prescribed governance guidelines and includes Risk Management Planning. Oversight of the project is via a Project Consultative Group who meet monthly and the Project Control Group also meet monthly to provide project progress updates and financial updates to relevant internal staff. Weekly meetings are also held with the Project Team and the contractor.

Ms Malpas commended Council on their project governance maturity and assured the Committee that the project is being well managed by Council.

The Chairperson advised that he was impressed when reading the Internal Audit Report that no issues were identified, and he also commended Council's staff for developing the Project Management Framework which aligns with legislative requirements and is underpinned by regular Project Control Group Meetings and meetings with the contractor.

Mr DeLisio also congratulated Council's staff on their management of the Library Project which demonstrates good project management, risk management and financial management and asked if the Committee can see more evidence of how well the project is being managed. For example by receiving minutes of the PCG Meetings and financial updates of the project. He stated that staff are doing a brilliant job, and that this needs to be evidenced to Council.

The Chairperson asked for the General Manager to explain the tender process as no tenders were successful in the original call for tenders and Council went into direct negotiations with a contractor. The Chairperson asked if the contractor was one of the original tenderers? If so, how does Council demonstrate that it was not showing preference to this tenderer?

The General Manager advised that Council followed its Procurement Framework during the tender process with the outcome of the original call for tender being that only one tenderer met the requirement of the tender but did not meet the price requirements. Following this, at

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# MINUTES OF THE AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 4 AUGUST 2025

Attachment 1
Minutes of the Audit, Risk and
Improvement Committee Meeting
held 4 August 2025 (with redactions)

#### **AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE**

**4 AUGUST 2025** 

a Council Meeting, Council resolved under the Local Government Act 1993 to have direct negotiations with the contractor (Architect). These negotiations were held with an independent Probity Adviser present, until a design was achieved which would meet Council's budget requirements. This process was then reported back to Council for approval.

The General Manager advised that a similar process was also undertaken with regards to the Airport Tender which attracted five (5) tenderers and Council negotiated with all five (5) tenderers and only one tenderer demonstrated that they could undertake the tender work. A report went to Council and Council resolved under the Act due to the remoteness of locality, for Council to have direct negotiations with this tenderer which also included an independent Probity Adviser being present.

The Chairperson accepted the General Manager's explanation and was pleased that an independent Probity Adviser was engaged to oversee the tender negotiations.

Mr Mathers referred to Council's Procurement Framework and Policy and noted that they are yet to be examined by Council's Internal Auditors.

Ms Malpas of OCM advised that a Procurement Internal Audit is not on the schedule for 2025/2026 and Mr Xavier confirmed that OCM conducted a Procurement Internal Audit in September/October 2023, and that Council's Procurement Framework, Policies and procedures cover the requirements of the Office of Local Government and other industry requirements.

The Chairperson enquired about the outstanding Internal Audit action items on page 39 with a risk rating of 'major' which were mainly procurement items relating to tender issues since March 2024 and asked for an update on these items. The Director Finance and Commercial advised that governance processes to address these tendering issues have been included in the review of Council's Procurements Framework and Policy of which the draft will be presented to the next Committee Meeting for endorsement to be presented to Council for adoption. Following the adoption process, awareness training will be rolled-out to staff.

Mr DeLisio referred to item 3 on page 39 regarding implementing the practice of conducting financial assessments of the top two submissions during a tender evaluation process and asked if there has been the opportunity to implement this process with a recent tender? The Director Finance and Commercial advised that Council already undertakes this process and that this item on the action list is more around formalising the process which has been included in the review of Council's Procurements Framework and Policy.

Following a question from the Chairperson regarding the delay to the review of Council's Development Control Plan (DCP) on page 38, the Director Infrastructure and Environment explained that the delay in the review of Council's DCP was first associated with the involvement of the Broken Hill Lead Reference Group who were waiting for a response from the Premier's Department regarding Lead in Broken Hill which was needed to inform the review of the DCP. The review was also delayed due to Council being unable to recruit to the position of Executive Manager Planning and Place Activation. Council later combined the management of the Planning and Development Team into Council's Town Planner's role to create the role of Manager Planning and Development and the review of Council's DCP is now underway and should be completed by the end of the year.

The Chairperson referred to the Internal Audit Action List revised due date of 30 June 2025 for the Companion Animal Management item on page 38 that has a risk rating of 'moderate' and other procurement items also being held up due to Civica and asked for these due dates

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to be updated.

Mr DeLisio referred to the Cyber Security item on page 38 and asked how this review was progressing? The Director Finance and Commercial advised that Council's Information Technology team are currently working on a draft Cyber Security Policy, team members have recently completed industry training which have enhanced the team's capabilities as well as the introduction of AI Project Meetings and Reference Group Meetings.

#### Recommendation

Moved Mr Charbel Abouraad, Seconded Mr Paul DeLisio

- 1. That Broken Hill City Council Report No. 18/25 dated June 30, 2025, be received.
- 2. That the Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee note the Internal Audit Status Report from O'Connor Marsden & Associates.
- 3. That the Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee note the final internal audit report on Project Governance Health Check (Library Project).
- 4. That the Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee note the progress made on previous internal audit action items.

**CARRIED** 

<u>ITEM 2 - BROKEN HILL CITY COUNCIL REPORT NO. 19/25 - DATED JUNE 30, 2025 - SERVICE REVIEW UPDATE</u>

D25/28930

The General Manager spoke to the report advising that the current contract for management of the Broken Hill Regional Aquatic Centre is held by YMCA NSW and the contract is due to conclude in June 2026. Council management decided to conduct a service review of the current provider 12 months prior to the end of the contract to inform the tender process and to assess their performance as well as reviewing community feedback that has been



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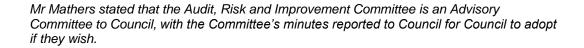
**4 AUGUST 2025** 



Mr Mathers commented that he believes that any further reports regarding this matter should be for the attention of Council's executive and the full Council to make any decisions and that this Committee's role is to review that the correct processes have been followed; and that it is up to Council and Council management now as to how they decide to move forward on this matter.

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**4 AUGUST 2025** 



The Chairperson agreed that Council needs to decide which management model of the Aquatic Centre will ensure the best value to Council and the community.

#### Recommendation

Moved Mr Paul DeLisio, Seconded Mr Charbel Abouraad

- 1. That Broken Hill City Council Report No. 19/25 dated June 30, 2025, be received.
- 2. That the Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee note the outcome of the Aquatic Centre Service Review.
- That the Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee note the progress made on previous Service Reviews.

**CARRIED** 

<u>ITEM 3 - BROKEN HILL CITY COUNCIL REPORT NO. 20/25 - DATED JULY 30, 2025 - BROKEN HILL LIBRARY PROJECT - JUNE 2025 CONSTRUCTION UPDATE</u>
D25/33896

The Director Infrastructure and Environment gave an update on the construction of the new Library advising that poor weather had delayed the installation of part of the roof structure and the roof cladding and that the project is now due for completion in November 2025. The precast concrete walls are in place, the majority of the roof structure is complete and some of the ground floor slabs. Over the next month, the remainder of the ground floor slabs will be completed, along with the roof cladding and the building will be to lock-up stage. After this stage, the internal walls and fit-out work will commence along with Council's Roads and Trades teams undertaking the carpark works and Council's Parks and Open Spaces team undertaking the landscaping works. There are two main risks involved with the project which are time and cost.

Time – some delays in the project have been due to poor weather and are out of our control. Council staff have a good working relationship with the contractors and have been meeting weekly during the project to mitigate early any issues that have arisen.

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**4 AUGUST 2025** 

Costs – while there have been some project variations occur, with good project governance in place plus some additional funding received, the project is tracking well and projected to be only 0.1% over budget.

Following a question regarding the old fire station brick wall, the Director Infrastructure and Environment confirmed that during the demolition phase, the old brick fire station wall was partially demolished and there was no structural stability in the wall that was left. The builders did a great job in repointing the brickwork and rebuilding part of the wall to make it structurally sound in order that the history of the building could be kept and become a feature in the courtyard garden.

Mr Mathers referred to the cost risk and that the report mentioned cost variations of \$660K+ and asked how this increase equates to a budget overrun of only 0.1%? The Director Infrastructure and Environment explained that the variations include the grant funding of \$437,243 that was received for new Library furniture (which was a direct budget offset as Council had budgeted \$590,366 for furniture) which allowed for a contingency of \$60K, plus with the current known variations, it is projected that the project will be \$15K over budget being 0.1%.

Following a further query from Mr Mathers regarding the budget for the Library Project, the General Manager advised that \$14.5M contract with North Constructions is grant funds and all other amounts are funding by Council with the works being carried out by Council staff. Mr Mathers queried item 6 in the financial summary table and whether this is an additional cost? The General Manager clarified that the amount of \$437,243 is the grant that Council was successful in being awarded to cover new Library furniture and that Council had budgeted an amount of \$590,366 for furniture (item 3 in the table). Due to receiving the grant for furniture, Council now only needs to cover the difference up to \$590,366.

The Director Infrastructure and Environment responded to a question from the Chairperson as to how Council ascertained that at 13 May 2025, the project was 60% complete and stated that both the budget figures of the amount expended (although some materials have had to be paid in advance) and the timeline of the project indicates that the project is 60% complete. He stressed that the delays in the project have been due to poor weather conditions, not due to poor performance and that the contractors have been good to work with and open to Council's processes.

The Chairperson mentioned that the project has been delayed twice and asked if this would impact the Library Project Governance Internal Audit result? Ms Malpas advised that it would have no impact from an audit perspective as the fieldwork of the audit was looking at the project's governance and not the timeline, so delays due to poor weather do not change the audit outcome.

#### Recommendation

Moved Mr Charbel Abouraad, Seconded Mr Paul DeLisio

- 1. That Broken Hill City Council Report No. 20/25dated July 30, 2025, be received.
- 2. That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee notes the latest updates of the Broken Hill Library Project as of June 2025.

**CARRIED** 

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**4 AUGUST 2025** 

# ITEM 4 - BROKEN HILL CITY COUNCIL REPORT NO. 21/25 - DATED JULY 23, 2025 - ENTERPRISE RISK MANAGEMENT REPORT

D25/32891

The Manager Enterprise Risk spoke to the report advising that Council had one notifiable incident during the period which had been reported to SafeWork NSW and that SafeWork NSW had noted it as a report only as Council had implemented measures to mitigate any future reoccurrence of the incident across Council's facilities.

The 2023-2025 risk management improvement initiatives are complete with all 90 volunteers fully inducted and their compliance requirements complete; Council's Strategic Risk Register and Operational Risk Register were endorsed by ELT and are now fully operational; ELT Strategic ERM Reporting is operational with monthly, quarterly and annual review meetings scheduled; and WHS Risk Management has been integrated within the Enterprise Risk Management Framework.

The Chairperson congratulated the Manager Enterprise Risk on the completion of Council's Strategic and Operational Risk Registers, commenting that they are very comprehensive.

Mr DeLisio asked what the 'personal safety (threats/abuse)' referred to in the reporting and that these had decreased from May 2025 to June 2025. The Manager Enterprise Risk advised that these incidents related to interactions with a homeless person and that the incident reduced significantly as the homeless person had been moved on.

Mr DeLisio referred to the Enterprise Risk Profile and whether the recent review of Perilya's operations and the imminent start-up of Broken Hill Mines would have any effect on this? The General Manager advised that Council's Strategic Risk Register takes into account the start-up of Broken Hill Mines' operations but that the Perilya's operational review has not been taken into account at this stage. A Councillor Briefing has been organised with the new Perilya General Manager regarding their operational review to fully understand their current position and how this might affect Council.

Mr Mathers referred to the categories on page 105 and asked for a description of the categories 'personal safety (threats/abuse)', 'safety/security incident' and 'wilful damage/theft'. The Manager Enterprise Risk advised that:

- 'personal safety (threats/abuse) relates to interactions with a homeless person;
- 'safety/security incident' relates to community sharps incidents; and
- 'wilful damage/theft' relates to graffiti.

Patterns of these incidents are being monitored and if they escalate, Council works with the local Police who will increase there patrols of certain parts of the City.

Mr Mathers referred to Sydney reports and asked if Council's reporting differentiated between ethnicity? The General Manager advised that the report is not individualised on an ethnicity basis.

Following a query from the Chairperson regarding why the identifiable incident took seven (7) days to report, the Manager Enterprise Risk advised that as soon as staff noticed the issue, it was logged.

The Chairperson referred to the Operational Risk Register and the requirement for a Private Works Policy to be reviewed and asked if this matter was progressing? The General Manager advised that Council doesn't currently have a Private Works Policy and that staff are working on developing a Policy.

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**4 AUGUST 2025** 

#### Recommendation

Moved Mr James Mathers, Seconded Mr Paul DeLisio

1. That Broken Hill City Council Report No. 21/25 dated July 23, 2025, be received.

**CARRIED** 

ITEM 5 - BROKEN HILL CITY COUNCIL REPORT NO. 22/25 - DATED JULY 18, 2025 - ACTION LIST - AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE D25/28953

At the request of Mr Mathers, the General Manager gave an overview of the current status of the legal matter.

#### Recommendation

Moved Mr Charbel Abouraad, Seconded Mr Paul DeLisio

1. That Broken Hill City Council Report No. 22/25 dated July 18, 2025, be received.

**CARRIED** 

#### Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Strategic Plan

The Chairperson advised that the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee needs to develop a Strategic Plan to be compliant with Section 428A of the Local Government Act 1993. As part of the Strategic Plan an Annual Work Plan also needs to be developed; and that these Plans should have been developed at the commencement of the current Term of Council.

The Annual Work Plan will be required to be reviewed each year and the Office of Local Government have provided Guidelines in accordance with the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 which were amended with the introduction of Part 9 Division 6A in 2023.

The Chairperson advised that he has been working with Cambelltown Council on developing their Plans and that he has shared these Plans with the Committee's independent members and Council's ELT as a suggested baseline for developing Broken Hill's Plans, with only the dates within the Plan needing to be reviewed to reflect Council's operations. At the end of each financial year, the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee is required to assess the Committee's performance against the Strategic Plan and Work Plan criteria and the General Manager is required to sign an Attestation which is published in Council's Annual Report.

Mr DeLisio also shared a draft Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Strategic Plan that he created with the use of AI (ChatGPT) and commented that the Strategic Plan needs to cover the role of the Committee.

The Chairperson advised that both draft Plans provided to Council's management covered the role of the Committee and that it would only be the dates that need to be reviewed to align with Broken Hill City Council's operations and asked that once reviewed, the draft Plans be circulated to Committee members to provide feedback prior to being presented to the August 2025 Council Meeting for adoption and implementation.

#### **Motion**

Moved Mr Paul DeLisio, Seconded Mr Charbel Abouraad

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Attachment 1
Minutes of the Audit, Risk and
Improvement Committee Meeting
held 4 August 2025 (with redactions)

#### **AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE**

**4 AUGUST 2025** 

That the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee delegates to the General Manager to develop a draft Audit, Risk and Improvement Strategic Plan and draft Annual Work Plan to comply with Section 428A of the Local Government Act 1993 and Part 9 Division 6A of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021.

That the General Manager circulates the draft Plans with members of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee for feedback.

That the General Manager present the draft Plans to the August 2025 Council Meeting for consideration of adoption and implementation.

**CARRIED** 

### Capital Projects Completion Reports

Mr DeLisio referred to the capital works projects that are currently underway and asked if the Committee will receive completion reports at the finalisation of these projects? The General Manager advised that completion reports will be provided.

Following a query from Mr DeLisio regarding whether the Warnock Street Yard Redevelopment Project includes staff rooms or just the garage workshops, the Director Infrastructure and Environment advised that offices for the garage coordinators will also be included in the redevelopment.

### July Council Meeting

The Chairperson referred to the July Council Meeting and commented on the Key Performance Indicator Reports for the Delivery Program, Operational Plan and the Disability Inclusion Action Plan and congratulated Council's management and staff on their achievements.

The Chairperson also referred to the General Manager's Performance Review and Contract Renewal and the Committee members congratulated Mr Nankivell on receiving a great result in his Performance Review and being offered a new five-year contract.

The meeting closed at 3:45pr	n.
The foregoing minutes were in Committee meeting held on 1	read and confirmed at the Audit Risk and Improvement 6 October 2025.
Chairperson	

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# **CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS**

1. BROKEN HILL CITY COUNCIL REPORT NO. 165/25 - DATED AUGUST
13, 2025 - TRANSFER OF CROWN LAND MANAGEMENT NEWMARKET RACEWAY - CONFIDENTIAL

(<u>General Manager's Note</u>: This report considers transfer of Crown Land Management and is deemed confidential under Section 10A(2) (c) of the Local Government Act, 1993 which provides for information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business).



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