



GLADSTONE
REGIONAL COUNCIL

**GENERAL MEETING NOTICE
AND AGENDA**

**TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS – CIVIC CENTRE
101 GOONDOON STREET, GLADSTONE**

On Tuesday 5 September 2023

Commencing at 9.00am

**Leisa Dowling
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

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G/1. MAYORAL STATEMENT OF CURRENT ISSUES

G/2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

G/2.1. CONFIRMATION OF GENERAL MEETING MINUTES FOR 15 AUGUST 2023

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer

Prepared By: Executive Secretary

Council Meeting Date: 5 September 2023

File Ref: CM7.2

Purpose:

Confirmation of the minutes of the General Meeting held on 15 August 2023.

Officer's Recommendation:

That the minutes of the General Meeting of Council held on 15 August 2023 be confirmed.

Attachments:

1. Minutes of the General Meeting of Council held on 15 August 2023.

G/3. DEPUTATIONS

G/4. OFFICERS' REPORTS

G/4.1. VACANT PROPERTY CONCESSION

Responsible Officer: General Manager Finance Governance and Risk

Prepared By: Manager Revenue Services

Council Meeting Date: 5 September 2023

File Ref: FM7.1

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval to grant a concession for the 2023/24 rating year to applicable properties in Category 25 - Vacant Land, ensuring the rate levied is in alignment with the adopted rating principle for Category 1 – Residential, inclusive of the application of rate in the dollar, minimum and capping principles.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council in accordance with ss 120(1)(c) and 122 (4) of the Local Government Regulation 2012, grant a concession for the 2023/24 rating year to applicable properties in Category 25 - Vacant Land, equal to the rating principle of Category 1 – Residential, this includes rate in the dollar, minimum and capping principles and allow 10% discount on 60 days from amendment.

Summary:

Post levying the 2023/24 rates a discrepancy was identified between the rate in the dollar adopted for Category 25 – Vacant Land and the intent of the establishment of the category and its proposed alignment with Category 1 – Residential properties. Approval is sought to grant a concession to the affected 440 properties in Category 25 – Vacant Land.

Link to Corporate Plan:

Accountable Council - We are providing good stewardship built on a foundation of trust.

Background:

Post levying the 2023/24 rates a discrepancy was identified in the rate intent of the budget and approval is sought to grant a concession to the affected 447 properties in Category 25 – Vacant Land.

During the development of Council's 2023/2024 Budget, the intention to separate small block vacant land from the Non-Principal Place of Residence category was agreed and evidenced by the creation of a separate rating category included in Council's endorsed Revenue Statement – Category 25.

The adoption of applicable rating parameters at the Budget Meeting included alignment of Minimum General Rate and Capping criteria for the new Category 25 – Vacant Land, however, there was no alignment with the adopted rate in the dollar.

To rectify and ensure that properties are levied the rate as intended, it is proposed that a concession is applied to applicable properties, as there cannot be an amendment to the adopted rate in the dollar post budget.

Risk Management Summary:

Council has a moderate appetite for financial risk and a minimal appetite for reputational risk. When considering the approval for the concession, Council must balance the likelihood, cost and impact against the value of the concession and the associated reputational risks.

Options and Opportunity Analysis:

Council has two options this instance:

Option 1 – Apply a concession to applicable properties to give effect to the intent of Council’s adopted Revenue Statement; or

Option 2 - Leave adopted rate in the dollar as resolved at the Budget Meeting and subsequently applied.

It is the Officer’s Recommendation that Council adopt Option 1 which will see alignment with both the adopted rating principles and the intent of Council’s budget

With regard to the continued application of Option 2, having discovered of the issue, whilst legal and in accord with adopted resolutions, does not demonstrate Council acting in accord with the overarching values and principles required of Council as per *Part 1 Local Government Act 2009*.

Stakeholder Engagement:

The Executive Leadership Team, Legal Services Team and Governance Team have been consulted.

Legal and Regulatory Implications:

Section 120 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 establishes criteria for granting concessions which must be met by Council. Section 120(1)(c) provides that a concession can be granted if it is satisfied that *“the payment of the rates or charges will cause hardship to the land owner”*.

Section 122 (1) of the Local Government Regulation 2012 provides that a concession can only be granted by resolution.

Council cannot make a decision to merely amend the adopted rate in the dollar for Category 25, as a general rate can only be adopted once in a financial year.

Financial and Resource Implications:

The overall concession of \$156,582.37 will reduce the Council’s revenue so that it is consistent with Council’s adopted Budget.

Anticipated Resolution Completion Date:

Two weeks from the date of resolution.

Attachments:

Nil

G/4.2. GATES AND GRIDS SUBORDINATE LOCAL LAW

Responsible Officer: General Manager Finance Governance and Risk

Prepared By: Governance Business Partner

Council Meeting Date: 5 September 2023

File Ref: LE3.1, LE2.26

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval to propose to make *Subordinate Local Law No. 1.16 (Gates and Grids) 2023* and *Local Government Controlled Areas, Facilities and Roads (Amendment) Subordinate Local Law (No.1) 2023*.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council propose to make:

1. *Subordinate Local Law No. 1.16 (Gates and Grids) 2023*; and
2. *Local Government Controlled Areas, Facilities and Roads (Amendment) Subordinate Local Law (No. 1) 2023*

as set out in Attachment 1 and 2 to the report.

Summary:

The proposal to make a Gates and Grids Subordinate Local Law will provide the opportunity for landholders wanting to retain responsibility for their gates and grids in Council's maintained public road network and will allow the outworking on Council's recent changes to the Gates and Grids Policy.

Link to Corporate Plan:

Connecting Communities - We work with you and for you, supporting the success of our communities.
Delivering Value - We work efficiently to deliver value for your rates.

Background:

Through the adoption of a new Gates and Grids Policy in May 2023, Council resolved to provide more flexibility on how gates and grids are managed in the Gladstone Region. In summary the new policy position provides the following options for landholders:

1. Gates and grids can be transferred to Council and Council will insure, inspect, maintain and repair the gate or grid at Council's cost with landholders to fund the replacement (if approved) of the structures at the end of its useful life (2020 policy position); or
2. Landholders obtain a permit from Council to have a gate or grid in the maintained road which will come with the responsibility of insuring, inspecting, maintaining, repairing and replacing the structures at the landholder's cost and indemnifying Council from all claims.

In order to facilitate option 2 above, it is proposed to make a Gates and Grids Subordinate Local Law which allows Council to issue a permit, subject to conditions, to ensure that the structures in the maintained road are appropriately managed in the interests of public safety.

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The subordinate local law includes two types of 'prescribed activities' being:

1. to install a 'new/replacement gate or grid'; and
2. being a 'responsible person' for a gate or grid.

The distinction has been made to allow Council to consider applications for a gate or grid at a new location and/or the replacement of old structure with a new structure at an existing location. Being the 'responsible person' for a gate or grid covers those circumstances where the structure already exists and the landholder seeks to maintain responsibility for the existing gate or grid.

Officers requested a transitional provision be provided in the Subordinate Local Law (expiring on the 31 December 2024) to allow landholders that wish to retain responsibility for gates and grids to easily register their intention without the need to provide supporting materials that will ordinarily be required to support an application (plans, specifications, traffic management plan, etc). Landholders will simply need to complete a form (Attachment 4) and lodge it with Council. A permit for the initial 12 months will be issued on receipt of the form. Unless Council directs otherwise, there will be no application fee to apply to transitional provision applications.

By proposing to make a Gates and Grids Subordinate Local Law, a minor amendment will be required to Council's existing *Subordinate Local Law No. 4 (Local Government Controlled Areas, Facilities and Roads) 2011* to include gates and grids as a restricted activity that requires an approval.

King and Company have assessed the proposed Gates and Grids Subordinate Local Law and the amendments proposed in *Local Government Controlled Areas, Facilities and Roads (Amendment) Subordinate Local Law (No.1) 2023* and advised that there are no anti-competitive provisions.

Risk Management Summary:

Council has a minimal risk appetite for Health and Safety Risks. The adoption of a subordinate local law on gates and grids will ensure that the management of risk associated with gates and grids is clearly assigned and being actively managed by either Council or those landholders that seek to retain responsibility for their gate and grid in maintained roads.

Options and Opportunity Analysis:

There are three options for Council to consider:

1. Adopt the Officer's Recommendation;
2. Adopt the Officer's Recommendation with amendment to the proposed local law; and
3. Adopt the Option 1 or 2 and impose an application fee for Transitory Applications under the proposed local law.

Option 1 – Adopt the Officer's Recommendation

This option will give effect to Council's Policy position adopted in May 2023 to facilitate landholders who elect to maintain responsibility for their Gates and Grids to obtain a permit for the prescribed activity.

Making or amending Subordinate Local Laws generally follows the process below:

1. The proposed subordinate local law and amendments are drafted taking into consideration stakeholder input and requirements
2. Council by resolution, propose to make the subordinate local law and associated amending subordinate local law (report presented today)
3. As Council is making / amending subordinate local laws and there are no anti-competitive provisions, there is no need to undertake State interest checks

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4. Consult the public about the proposed subordinate local law and amending subordinate local law for at least 21 days (can be longer)
5. Accept and consider public submissions from consultation
6. By resolution, decide whether to:
 - a. proceed with making the subordinate local law and amending subordinate local law in the form proposed
 - b. proceed with making the subordinate local law and amending subordinate local law with changes as a result of consultation, or
 - c. not proceed with the making of the subordinate local law and amending subordinate local law
7. Publish a public notice about making the subordinate local law and amending subordinate local law in the government gazette
8. Make the subordinate local law and amending subordinate local law available for inspection and purchase
9. Provide a copy to the subordinate local law and amending subordinate local law to the State Minister
10. Update Council's Local Law Register.

Option 2 – Adopt the Recommendation with Amendments

This option will give effect to Council's Policy position adopted in May 2023 to facilitate landholders who elect to maintain responsibility for their Gates and Grids to obtain a permit for the prescribed activity. However, should Council seek amendments to the provisions of the proposed subordinate local Law and amending local law as tabled, the required resolution for this option would be:

"That Council propose to make:

1. *Subordinate Local Law No. 1.16 (Gates and Grids) 2023 subject to the following amendments*
 - a. *Insert amendment*
 - b. *Insert amendment*
 - c. *Insert amendment; and*
2. *Local Government Controlled Areas, Facilities and Roads (Amendment) Subordinate Local Law (No. 1) 2023*

as set out in Attachment 1 and 2 to the report."

Option 3 – Adopt Option 1 or 2 and include an Application Fee for Transitional Provision Applications

Should Council elect to impose a fee for applications under the transitional provisions, it would need to make an addition to its resolution as set out below. Alternatively, should Council elect to impose an application fee, it could defer that consideration until it adopts a Subordinate Local Law.

"That subject to Council adopting Subordinate Local Law No. 1.16 (Gates and Grids) 2023, Council set an application fee for a Gate or Grid Permit under the transitional provisions of \$insert amount to apply for the 2023/24 financial year."

Stakeholder Engagement:

Internal consultation has occurred with stakeholders that will have a role in administering and making decisions under the proposed subordinate local law including:

- Roads Operations
- Asset Planning
- Engineering Asset Solutions
- Customer Solutions.

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Governance has considered ratepayer concerns lodged since implementation of the 2020 policy position to inform the development of the subordinate local law.

Should Council elect to propose to make the subordinate local law and amending subordinate local law, a public consultation process will be conducted in accordance with the legislative process outlined below. Submissions received as part of consultation will be brought back to Council for consideration.

Legal and Regulatory Implications:

The following legislation and policy govern the Subordinate Local Law adoption and amendment process:

1. *Local Government Act 2009* (chapter 3, division 2);
2. *Local Government Regulation 2012* (chapter 3, part 1); and
3. P-2018-10 Local Law-Making Process Policy.

It is anticipated that should Council seek to proceed with proposing to make the Subordinate Local Law and the amending Subordinate Local Law, the process would not be concluded until approximately December 2023 due to the legislative requirements.

Financial and Resource Implications:

External legal costs associated with drafting the Subordinate Local Law and associated amendments have been quoted as \$4,000. The public consultation, implementation of the policy position and local law will be undertaken by internal resources in accordance with the current adopted budget.

Anticipated Resolution Completion Date:

31 December 2023

Attachments:

1. Subordinate Local Law No. 1.16 (Gates and Grids) 2023
2. Local Government Controlled Areas, Facilities and Roads (Amendment) Subordinate Local Law (No. 1) 2023
3. P-2023-03 Gates and Grids Policy
4. Form to Register for Gate or Grid Permit under Transitional Provision

G/4.3. REVIEW OF RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY AND RISK APPETITE

Responsible Officer: General Manager Finance Governance and Risk

Prepared By: Manager Governance and Risk

Council Meeting Date: 5 September 2023

File Ref: CM28.2

Purpose:

To allow Council to review the Risk Management Policy and Council's risk appetite.

Officer's Recommendation:

That the Risk Management Policy P-2020-13 (provided as Attachment 1) be amended to reflect the following risk appetite:

1. Health Safety and Wellbeing – *appetite to be determined by Council*
2. Financial – *appetite to be determined by Council*
3. Reputation – *appetite to be determined by Council*
4. Environment – *appetite to be determined by Council*
5. Regulatory & Legal – *appetite to be determined by Council*
6. Service Delivery – *appetite to be determined by Council*

Summary:

Council's Risk Management Policy ("the Policy") establishes Council's commitment to the development, implementation and continual improvement of a comprehensive enterprise-wide risk management framework. The Policy sets out Council's risk appetite which is the amount and type of residual risk that Council is willing to pursue, retain or take in the pursuit of its objectives. This report provides Council with the opportunity to consider whether the risk appetite in the Policy remains current.

Link to Corporate Plan:

Accountable Council - We are providing good stewardship built on a foundation of trust.

Background:

Council's Risk Management Policy P-2020-13 ("the Policy") was adopted on 1 September 2020 (Resolution G/20/4311). A copy of the Policy is attached. The Policy establishes Council's commitment to the development, implementation and continual improvement of a comprehensive enterprise-wide risk management framework. The Policy establishes Council's risk management principles, risk appetite and responsibilities for managing risk.

Risk is inherent in all of Council's functions. Through the effective management of risk, Council endeavours to lower the likelihood of negative risks materialising, realise opportunities, improve performance, encourage innovation and support the achievement of Council's objectives, adding value for the entire community.

It is good practice to periodically review risk appetite, particularly where there has been a significant change in Council's operating environment.

Risk Management Summary:

The Risk Management Policy underpins Council’s Risk Management Framework and a current Policy is essential to ensure that risk is appropriately managed across Council.

Options and Opportunity Analysis:

Current Operating Environment

Some factors affecting the current operating environment for local governments include:

- Complex legislative and regulatory environment with continued shifting of responsibility to Local Government.
- Cybersecurity attacks becoming more frequent and sophisticated.
- Supply chain issues, inflation, costs of recruitment and increasing compliance requirements impacting operating costs and financial sustainability.
- Difficulty to recruit appropriately skilled people in a tight employment market.
- Aging assets and infrastructure.
- Emerging renewable energy market.
- Changing climate and the impacts of natural disasters.
- Limited ability to raise revenue and reliance on government grants.

Current risk appetite

The Policy has been reviewed by Governance as part of the annual policy review schedule. There are no changes recommended to the Policy however it is recommended that Council consider whether the risk appetite in the Policy accurately reflects Council’s current position.

Council’s risk appetite informs decision making across Council and similarly should guide the decisions of Council. It provides a basis to consider competing risks and investment in risk management including risk controls and treatment.

Risk appetite, while aspirational should also be achievable given Council’s operating environment and constraints, including budget. When considering risk appetite, Council should look forward rather than interrogating previous decisions or risk management activities.

Currently the Policy states that Council generally takes a conservative approach to risk. Council's current risk appetite is described as:

Corporate Risk Category	Risk Category Description	Residual Risk Appetite	Risk Appetite Description
Health, Safety & Wellbeing	Health safety and wellbeing of employees, contractors, volunteers, consultants, stakeholders and the broader community.	Minimal	Council takes a cautious approach towards taking risk.
Financial	Financial sustainability to support the achievement of Council’s corporate goals and objectives in the medium to long term.	Moderate	Council takes a balanced approach to taking risk.
Reputation	Council’s reputation and goodwill, relationships with government and government agencies, relationships with the community and other key stakeholders.	Minimal	Council takes a cautious approach towards taking risk.
Environment	Impact to the natural environment.	Minimal	Council takes a cautious approach towards taking risk.

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Regulatory & Legal	Regulatory and legal compliance.	Minimal	Council takes a cautious approach towards taking risk.
Service Delivery	The provision of core services and implementation of Asset Management Plans now and into the future including achieving Council's Operational Plan, asset management practices, delivery of major projects and ICT capabilities.	Moderate	Council takes a balanced approach to taking risk.

Options

There are two options available to Council:

1. That Council amend the Risk Management Policy (risk appetite) (Officer's Recommendation); or
2. That Council reaffirm its current risk appetite and the Risk Management Policy P-2020-13.

Should Council wish to adopt Option 2, an appropriate resolution would be:

"That Council reaffirms its risk appetite and no changes be made to Risk Management Policy P-2020-13 (provided as Attachment 1)."

Stakeholder Engagement:

An informal briefing session with Council (Councillor Forum) has informed this Report. No further stakeholder engagement has been undertaken.

Legal and Regulatory Implications:

Council has various statutory obligations to document and manage risk, and the Policy provides strategic direction for managing risk across Council.

Financial and Resource Implications:

Risk management activities are accommodated in Council's annual operating budget. A lower risk appetite may limit Council's ability to pursue opportunities and require additional investment in risk controls conversely it may lower the likelihood of an event occurring and Council incurring costs associated with an event.

There is the potential for significant negative financial consequences should Council not manage its risks effectively.

Anticipated Resolution Completion Date:

Two weeks from resolution.

Attachments:

1. P-2020-13 Risk Management Policy

G/4.4. SPECIALISED SUPPLIER - PAULETTE FLINT

Responsible Officer: General Manager Finance Governance and Risk

Prepared By: Manager Contracts and Procurement

Council Meeting Date: 5 September 2023

File Ref: PE1.1

Purpose:

This report is for Council to consider approving Paulette Flint as a specialised supplier to research names on the Town of Gladstone and Shire of Calliope Roll of Honour for digitisation.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council approves Paulette Flint as a specialised supplier for the purpose of researching names on the Town of Gladstone and Shire of Calliope Roll of Honour for digitisation, in accordance with Section 235 (b) of the Local Government Regulation 2012 because of the specialised nature of the services sought it would be impractical to invite quotes/tenders.

Summary:

This report seeks resolution from Council to make use of the provisions in s235 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 (LGR), that allows for the exceptions to the requirement for written quotes or tenders. The use of this provision is sought in relation to Paulette Flint for the purpose of researching names on the Town of Gladstone and Shire of Calliope Honour Roll for digitisation.

Link to Corporate Plan:

Delivering Value - We work efficiently to deliver value for your rates.

Background:

Council has recently been granted Commonwealth Government funding to conserve and digitise the 'Roll of Honour Town of Gladstone and Shire of Calliope' located at the Gladstone Regional Art Gallery and Museum (GRAGM).

The project aims not only to ensure the preservation of this pivotal artefact, but also to promote the appreciation and understanding of the experiences of those who served, to bring their stories to life through digital media to enable people to access information about our local wartime heritage on a regional, national and international level, as well as being a valuable educational engagement tool.

Paulette Flint was engaged during the grant application process due to her considerable experience in researching and publishing material on Gladstone Region's local history. The Grant approval was conditional to the professional quotations received, therefore Paulette's involvement is an integral part of the project being awarded. Paulette Flint is invested in our community and has already expended significant time into the project and her knowledge of the required expectations would be invaluable in ensuring that this project is a success, and that this important local history information is made available on an international scale. Paulette Flint already has a wealth of knowledge in this area, and her engagement would give Council the best chance of meeting the grant deadline for completion of work.

Risk Management Summary:

Council has a minimal appetite for Reputational Risk and a decision not to engage Paulette Flint may result in the loss of grant funding for the project as well as difficulty obtaining future funding. Without funding, the Roll of Honour Board, one of the community's most treasured artefacts within the Social History Collection, will continue to deteriorate.

Options and Opportunity Analysis:

Council does not currently have accurate information on those named on the Roll of Honour and without this professional research a digital version of the Roll and the history of those listed would be unachievable.

As subject matter experts on local historians in the region, the Gladstone Region Art Gallery and Museum (GRAGM) Team have advised that the most qualified, suitable and professional person to provide the research component of the project is local historian Paulette Flint. While there may be other historians in the area, Paulette has extensive experience and has written a number of books on Gladstone's history, some of which have been purchased by GRAGM for Council's Social History Collection.

GRAGM has a long-standing relationship with Paulette Flint and has engaged her many times to conduct research, as well as to conduct Writing Masterclasses for schools participating in GRAGM's 'Our Priceless Past' project. Paulette Flint has also been successful in applying for RADF funding for her research projects and has been procured as the historical professional in many others.

It would be impractical to call for other quotes as no other person would provide the same depth and quality of research required for this project, provide accurate information on each person listed on the board.

Stakeholder Engagement:

The following stakeholders have been engaged in the preparation of this report:

- Curator
- Senior Arts Administration Officer
- Manager Arts and Entertainment (Acting)
- General Manager Community and Lifestyle

Legal and Regulatory Implications:

It is a requirement of the s225 of the LGR to invite written quotations or tenders where the supply of goods or services with a cost greater than \$15,000.

Additionally, Council's Procurement Corporate Standard requires a minimum of two (2) quotes for all purchases of goods and services greater than \$5,000 and three (3) quotes for all purchases greater than \$15,000.

Section 235(b) of the LGR provides the following exception to the requirement relevant to this request which states:

"...the local government resolves that, because of the specialised or confidential nature of the services that are sought, it would be impractical or disadvantageous for the local government to invite quotes or tenders."

Financial and Resource Implications:

The value of this engagement will be approximately \$16,290.00 ex GST.

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Anticipated Resolution Completion Date:

Following resolution from Council a purchase order will be issued in September 2023.

Attachments:

Nil

G/4.5. COMMUNITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM - STRATEGIC PROJECTS APPLICATIONS

Responsible Officer: General Manager Community and Lifestyle

Prepared By: Community Investment Officer

Council Meeting Date: 5 September 2023

File Ref: GS3.1

Purpose:

To consider the recommendation of the Community Investment Panel on applications received under the Strategic Projects fund.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council:

1. Adopt the Community Investment Panel's recommendation of funding for the applications received under the categories of funding as detailed in the table below:

Application ID	Applicant	Project	Recommended Amount
STRAT005-22/23	Gladstone Netball Association Inc	Replace lighting for netball courts 1, 2 and 3	\$0
STRAT008-22/23	CQ Drag Racing Association Inc	Resurfacing of runoff/braking area	\$52,692.46
STRAT009-22/23	Gladstone Auto Club Inc	Stage 3 of the National Track Infrastructure Project	\$47,307.54
STRAT010-22/23	Calliope Football Club Inc	Installation of fencing	\$0
STRAT011-22/23	Clinton Football Club Inc	Installation of 2 light towers	\$0
Total Funding Recommended			\$100,000

and

2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer or delegate to finalise and execute funding agreements with the successful applicants detailing relevant entitlements and conditions.

Summary:

Council has received applications for funding through its Community Investment Program - Strategic Projects Fund that have been assessed by a Panel of Council Officers in line with Council's Community Investment Policy with a recommendation presented for Council's consideration.

Link to Corporate Plan:

Connecting Communities - We work with you and for you, supporting the success of our communities.
Resilient Economy - We play our part in supporting the success of our region.

Background:

The purpose of the **Strategic Projects Fund** is to strengthen not for profit organisations through the provision of financial support to upgrade existing or build new facilities where the organisation has suitable land tenure as defined in the supporting guidelines.

This financial support will foster the development of accessible, fulfilling, and engaging places and spaces for the wider community. The fund aims to create conditions for community that can:

- Increase community participation, access and organisational sustainability through major upgrades or new facilities.
- Provide or build a facility that encourages collaborative use of space.
- Create a safer, more accessible, and user-friendly facility for the community.

The Strategic Projects Fund objectives are:

- a. **CAPACITY:** to foster community led collaboration and partnerships, initiatives, programs and projects that help communities develop their own solutions to local areas of need. Initiatives and activities under this objective will generally strengthen and build the skills, knowledge, and capacity of community members and groups which can then be applied and shared. One of the key outcomes of the Capacity initiative is to advance the communities aspirations of collective action, cooperations, and shared goals.
- b. **CONNECT:** to foster community led initiatives and projects that strengthen relationships, community connection, civic participation and understanding across all sectors of the community.
- c. **WELLBEING:** to foster healthy, safe, and supported communities through the delivery of community led partnerships, programs, activities, and resources that promote healthy lifestyles, positive wellbeing, and safe communities.

The following applications have been received for consideration:

Application ID	Applicant	Project	Requested Amount
STRAT005-22/23	Gladstone Netball Association Inc	Replace lighting for netball courts 1, 2 and 3	\$100,000
STRAT008-22/23	CQ Drag Racing Association Inc	Resurfacing of runoff/braking area	\$100,000
STRAT009-22/23	Gladstone Auto Club Inc	Stage 3 of the National Track Infrastructure Project	\$47,307.54
STRAT010-22/23	Calliope Football Club Inc	Installation of fencing	\$76,364
STRAT011-22/23	Clinton Football Club Inc	Installation of 2 light towers	\$87,956
Total Funding Requested			\$411,627.54

Risk Management Summary:

In accordance with the Community Investment Policy, the eligible applications have been assessed by a Panel.

Panel assessment is undertaken using an assessment matrix to score each application against Key Selection Criteria (KSC) to determine an order of merit. The overall score (ranking) is used to inform the recommendation. The table below defines the KSC, weighting and definition of score applied in the assessment matrix:

IMPACT EVENTS KEY SELECTION CRITERIA (KSC)	Weighting
KSC 1: Fund Objectives and Aims	60%
KSC 2: Demonstratable Need	20%
KSC 3: Provides Opportunity for Collaboration & Encourages Multi-Use	15%
KSC 4: Timeliness of Delivery – Shovel Ready	5%

RATING MATRIX
<p>GREEN = Score 75% and above Full Funding The application has <u>met or exceeded</u> all assessment criteria Applicants are offered 100% of funding requested</p>
<p>ORANGE = Score 65%-74% Partial Funding The application has <u>met most</u> assessment criteria Applicants are offered 85% of funding requested</p>
<p>YELLOW = Score 56%-64% Partial Funding The application <u>meets some</u> of all assessment criteria Applicants are offered 75% of funding requested</p>
<p>RED = Score 55% and below No Funding The application <u>does not meet</u> any assessment criteria No funding offered</p>

Options and Opportunity Analysis:

As per the Community Investment Policy, an assessment was undertaken by a panel to consider the applications. Individual panel member scores are captured within the Smarty Grants portal and collated in an assessment matrix.

The Community Partnerships Manager moderated the Panel Assessment meeting with financial recommendations summarised within this table:

Applicant	Project	Project Location	Applicant Request	Panel Score	Recommendation
			Cash / Inkind		Cash / Inkind
Gladstone Netball Assoc	Replace lighting for netball courts 1, 2 and 3	West Gladstone	\$100,000	78%	\$0
CQ Drag Racing Assoc	Resurfacing of runoff/braking area	Benaraby	\$100,000	80%	\$52,692.46
Gladstone Auto Club	Stage 3 of the National Track Infrastructure Project	Benaraby	\$47,307.54	84%	\$47,307.54
Calliope Football Club	Installation of fencing	Calliope	\$76,364	26%	\$0
Clinton Football Club	Installation of 2 light towers	Clinton	\$87,956	78%	\$0
Total Funding			\$411,627.54		\$100,000

A brief overview of each application is provided below:

REPLACE LIGHTING FOR NETBALL COURTS 1, 2 and 3	
Project Dates	2023/2024
Organisation Name	Gladstone Netball Association Inc
Objective Alignment	Wellbeing
Brief Project Description <i>Extract from Application</i>	<p>Replacement of Court Lighting for Netball Courts 1, 2 and 3 is an emergency project to permit Gladstone Netball Association (GNA) to keep functioning as per its current infrastructure and facility capacity.</p> <p>The existing court lights were installed in the early 1970's and have been rewired above ground on multiple occasions. They have required continual band-aid maintenance over the past 10 years, plus pose a safety concern due to the proximity of the light posts.</p> <p>The court lights stopped working in August 2022 and GNA have been advised by an electrical contractor that they are not repairable due to their age and expense. However, due to Gladstone Netball not being able to secure grant funding by the start of 2023, Gladstone Netball paid to have the old lights rewired again in February 2023, to allow netball to continue in</p>

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	Gladstone during 2023.
Total Amount Requested	\$100,000
Total Project Cost	\$159,364
Supporting Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gladstone Netball - \$55,000 • Inkind – Broilga Cranes - \$2,970 • Inkind – Engineers QLD - \$2,500 • Gambling Community Benefit Fund – awaiting outcome • QLD Sport and Recreation Minor Infrastructure Fund – awaiting outcome
Previous Funding Received	2019/2020 - \$5,000 – Gladstone Region Rise Up Support 2020/2021 - \$2,000 – Pam Moore Carnival
Panel Score	3.13 = 78%
Moderated Commentary and Recommendation	<p>A sound application with a clear explanation of the need for replacement. The demand for evening games is well articulated and the proven growth in local membership further supports the need. The desired lighting is more sustainable, cost effective and a safer option for participants and will help to facilitate visitor attraction to carnivals. The lighting upgrade will support active living and will create a more user-friendly facility. In addition, the application identifies areas of collaboration with PCYC and Gladstone Basketball.</p> <p>Recommendation: Based on the assessment and score rating the application placed in joint third position and is unsuccessful as the allocated budget will be expended by funding applications that scored higher in first and second position.</p>

RESURFACING RUNOFF/BRAKING AREA	
Project Dates	2023/2024
Organisation Name	CQ Drag Racing Association Inc
Objective Alignment	Wellbeing
Brief Project Description <i>Extract from Application</i>	<p>The project at hand is the resurfacing of up to 400 lineal metres of asphalt runoff/braking surface past the finish line on our Drag Strip.</p> <p>As the surface is currently in excess of 40 years old, it has deteriorated to a level that prohibits safe travel of race vehicles moving at high rates of speed. This deterioration has led to reduced participation at our facility, and a poor reputation in the racing industry across Australia. By renewing this surface, we will be able to greatly improve the general safety of the sport as undertaken by all participants at our facility.</p> <p>This dramatic improvement will also repair the deteriorated reputation of our facility, thus encouraging more promoters to get involved in our facility, and larger sanctioned racing events to take place at our facility which will bring more activity and income to our region of Central Queensland. It will also ensure participants that our club and our local government care about the sport and its valuable participants and families.</p>
Total Amount Requested	\$100,000
Total Project Cost	\$394,251
Supporting Funding	CQ Drag Racing - \$145,000
Previous Funding Received	2019/2020 - Unsuccessful - \$494,270 – Strategic Projects Fund

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	2019/2020 - Unsuccessful - \$5,000 – Gladstone Region Rise Up
Panel Score	3.22 = 80%
Panel Commentary and Recommendation	<p>The application is strong and highlights how the initiative will create a safer, more accessible, and user-friendly facility for the community. The application articulates how the initiative will create opportunities to participate in sporting activities in the region, promote sportsmanship, liveability, tourism and social wellbeing. The application demonstrates support from various groups and individuals and outlines the opportunity to host more national events.</p> <p>Recommendation: Based on the application, score rating, and remaining budget, the panel would recommend partial funding of \$52,692.46.</p>

STAGE 3 – NATIONAL TRACK INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT	
Project Dates	2023/2024
Organisation Name	Gladstone Auto Club
Objective Alignment	Capacity
Brief Project Description <i>Extract from Application</i>	<p>This project seeks support to complete stage 3 of the National Track Infrastructure Project. Stage 3 is the final and most paramount phase to complete the facility and allow it to be utilised by the community and clubs all over Queensland.</p> <p>This includes the construction of a two-lane sealed access road and implementation of operational audio communication infrastructure. The completion of these two elements will finalise the track and meet the requirements of Speedway Australia to host National and State events.</p> <p>This will have astonishing economic benefits upon completion. It will also foster the development of an accessible, fulfilling, collaborative and engaging facility for the wider community.</p>
Total Amount Requested	\$47,307.54
Total Project Cost	\$59,134.43
Supporting Funding	Gladstone Auto Club - \$11,827
Previous Funding Received	2020/2021 - Unsuccessful - \$30,000 – Sport & Active Recreation - Community Projects
Panel Score	3.35 = 84%
Panel Commentary and Recommendation	<p>A strong application – well thought out, planned and detailed with a wealth of information provided. The initiative will enable the club to support the 11 clubs currently running from the complex and host larger and national meets. The goal of increasing overnight stays, and ultimately increased overnight expenditure contributes to the capacity building of the region, further strengthening the response. Significant research and engagement have been undertaken for this project, as demonstrated in the application. The benefit to the community outweighs the investment; this project will greatly assist in the capacity building of a widely popular sport.</p> <p>Recommendation: Based on the application and scoring matrix, the panel would recommend full funding of the requested amount, \$47,307.54.</p>

INSTALLATION OF FENCING	
Project Dates	2023/2024
Organisation Name	Calliope Football Club
Objective Alignment	Connect
Brief Project Description <i>Extract from Application</i>	This project seeks support to have a wire fence installed at the Calliope soccer grounds to reduce the damage received from animals digging up the turf leaving significant holes in the grounds, which becomes a hazard for players.
Total Amount Requested	\$76,364
Total Project Cost	\$95,455
Supporting Funding	Calliope Football Club - \$19,091
Previous Funding Received	N/A
Panel Score	1.03 = 26%
Panel Commentary and Recommendation	<p>Application does not adequately address how the proposed activity will meet objectives. In future submissions, it is recommended to provide more detailed responses on the goals of the project and the need for fencing. Future applications could be further strengthened by providing evidence of support from members and other community groups and organisation who will benefit from using a fenced area.</p> <p>Based on the assessment and score rating, the application is unsuccessful.</p>

INSTALLATION OF 2 LIGHT TOWERS FIELD 2	
Project Dates	2023/2024
Organisation Name	Clinton Football Club Inc
Objective Alignment	Capacity
Brief Project Description <i>Extract from Application</i>	<p>To install 2 light towers on a field to allow games to be played on this field any night of the week and for training for all affiliates of Clinton Park Sports Association to use, currently the main field has lights, and the field is used 6 days a week for training and games.</p> <p>The lights would allow Cricket and Gladstone AFL and Clinton Football Club to allow teams more space on training nights to have sufficient space to complete training exercise on bigger areas and reduced the wear on the main oval.</p> <p>The lights would allow the Gladstone Summer six competition to increase the number of teams as the competition is using 9 fields under lights in 4 four time slots the lights would allow another 4 fields to be used which would equate to another 32 teams to play this year the Registration of the teams was filled in 2 days of the nomination opening.</p>
Total Amount Requested	\$87,956
Total Project Cost	\$109,978
Supporting Funding	Clinton Football Club - \$22,022
Previous Funding Received	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2020/2021 - Unsuccessful - \$13,108 - Sport & Active Recreation - Community Projects 2019/2020 - Successful - \$35,200 - Sport & Active Recreation – Strategic Projects

Panel Score	3.10 = 78%
Panel Commentary and Recommendation	<p>A sound application that demonstrates how the project would grow the capacity of multiple local organisations and enable future membership growth. The application provides strong evidence of the day usage being at capacity, and the limitations on the numbers of teams currently being able to train during daylight hours. Future funding applications could be strengthened by including letters of support from the other sporting codes and clubs, who would also benefit from the project being funded.</p> <p>Based on the assessment and score rating the application placed in joint third position and is unsuccessful as the allocated budget will be expended by funding applications that scored higher in first and second position.</p>

Stakeholder Engagement:

As detailed within the Community Investment Policy, the delegated assessment panel was consulted and moderated by the Community Partnerships Manager.

Legal and Regulatory Implications:

The application has been assessed against Council’s Community Investment Program Policy P-2023-10, and published event guidelines. On favorable adoption of the Panel’s recommendations detailed in this report, authorised officers will proceed to enter into a grant and or funding agreement (detailing entitlements and conditions) with the successful applicant.

Financial and Resource Implications:

The amounts requested total \$411,627.54 against an allocated budget of \$100,000.

Upon endorsement of the officer’s recommendation the Strategic Projects Fund for 2023/24 will be expended.

Anticipated Resolution Completion Date:

19 September 2023

Attachments:

1. CONFIDENTIAL – Strategic Projects - Score Matrix

G/4.6. DEVELOPING NORTHERN AUSTRALIA CONFERENCE 2023

Responsible Officer: General Manager People and Strategy

Prepared By: Economic Development Lead

Council Meeting Date: 5 September 2023

File Ref: CM6.1

Purpose:

Councillor Darryl Branthwaite and Economic Development Lead Garry Scanlan to provide a report on attendance at the Developing Northern Australia Conference – Darwin Convention Centre: 24-26 July 2023.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council receives the report from Councillor Branthwaite and the Economic Development Lead.

Summary:

Over 550 domestic and international delegates attended this year's conference in Darwin. It was a wide and varied audience that shared a vision for developing Australia's North and received briefings on the Whitepaper on Developing Northern Australia and how it is progressing, and that it is still a key policy driving northern Australian development. The refresh of the White Paper on Northern Australia was an opportunity at the conference for delegates to review the longer-term vision and innovation for Australia's North.

Again, the key themes of the conference this year were livability, workforce attraction and retention, health, social cohesion, indigenous led development, small to medium business support, developing enabling infrastructure and leveraging world class natural assets.

All areas are very familiar with the Gladstone Region as we transition to a future decarbonised economy. The briefing provided by Councilor Darryl Branthwaite on the Gladstone Region Economic Transition Roadmap 2022-23 was well received with the room being at capacity and the subsequent questioning on the strategy utilising the full time allocation.

The Roadmap was the focus of another session with Dr. Amanda Cahill from the Next Economy running a Master Class session on Developing Effective Regional Transition Strategies and presenting a keynote session on what Regions Need on the Path to Net-Zero where the process of developing the Gladstone Region Strategy was featured. This conference was the largest held to date and the 9th conference held in Northern Australia. Cr. Branthwaite and the Economic Development Lead attended all days of the conference and participated in the events around the conference.

Link to Corporate Plan:

- Connecting Communities - We work with you and for you, supporting the success of our communities.
- Resilient Economy - We play our part in supporting the success of our region.

Background:

Council has attended and participated in a number of Developing Northern Australia Conferences to support the development of our northern Neighbours. After the COVID disruptions of the 2021 conference it was timely and appropriate to return to the heartland of Northern Australia, Darwin to present on the Gladstone Region Economic Transition Roadmap 2022-32. The interest in the Roadmap continues and Council was encouraged to present the work and outcomes at the 2023 Developing Northern Australia Conference.

Risk Management Summary:

The Gladstone Region is a southern outpost of Northern Australia but a critical gateway for trade and industrial development. It is imperative that the Gladstone Region continues to engage in the Northern Australia discourse to ensure the region is informed and considered as the Northern Australia agenda and economy transitions. The risk for the region by not participating in the ongoing development and policy agenda of Northern Australia is that the Gladstone Region may forfeit the opportunity to influence and participate in the development of Northern Australia offered by the the new economy developments in critical minerals processing and manufacture, renewable energy development and the management and development of world class natural and cultural assets.

Options and Opportunity Analysis:

A continuing and consistent theme from the last 2 conferences is the changing economy in Northern Australia on the back of innovation and the emergence of renewable energy in the critical minerals, manufacturing, tourism, and lifestyle sector. Again, there was also a strong focus on the challenges of delivering enabling infrastructure particularly in terms of water availability and security, digital connectivity, and supply chain reliability. The workforce continues to expect not only digital connectivity but supply chain, social, transport and cultural connectivity.

Emerging post conference themes included: -

- Greater emphasis on lifting indigenous equity in development and supply chain integration is needed.
- More focus on enabling infrastructure packages for east-west connectivity, remote access, and Indo-Pacific supply chains.
- Future focused investment in development planning is the key to resolving environment, sovereign risk, and climate risk.
- Clear need to build local workforce capacities with equal focus on an ambitious migration reform.
- Greater coordination of sub-national and strategic relationships in the Indo-Pacific.
- Securing pathways for investment, research, partnerships, planning and investment feasibility.
- The scale of landscape change with decarbonisation remains highly contested. Investment in resolving the contestability facing Northern Australia needs to be immediate and skillfully resolved.
- There is a strong desire for a joined-up voice across the north through all the organisations that represent that region.

From the economic updates presented at the conference, Northern Australia is making progress in achieving the objectives of the White Paper on Developing Northern Australia. However, progress is neither uniform across the North nor achieving sufficient success across a range of indicators.

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For example, since 2015:

- While the North's share of the national economy has grown from 11.6% to 11.8%, there are some regions where the economy has considerably contracted.
- The structure of the economy in the North remains hollow:
 - Mining alone accounts for 96% of export value
 - Most manufactured products consumed in the north are not produced in the North
 - The proportion of employment in the North in key industries (such as Defence and tertiary education) is declining, relative to Australia generally
 - Enormous reliance on professional services and other office-based services from outside the North.
- Population growth remains weak and most regions are failing to attract more new residents than those leaving.
- While private investment has been increasing, the North remains heavily reliant on public investment.
- More jobs are being generated, but at a slower rate than Australia generally and with a higher reliance on FIFO labour.
- Social development issues remain unresolved, namely declining economic participation across the North.

It was suggested that focusing on the key drivers of economic growth including residential population growth through investing in quality urban infrastructure and services to improve livability, encourages population retention and attraction. Improving sustainable development and lowering the cost of doing business (electricity, transport and insurance), increasing government spending on catalytic infrastructure (dams, energy networks, transport – mass transit and freight) will improve the economic outcomes in a changing economic landscape.

The Developing Northern Australia Conference continues to be a key driver for focus on the Northern Australia development agenda. It is well respected and attended across the political spectrum. Attendance at the next conference in Karratha WA in 2024 should be considered.

Stakeholder Engagement:

Council consulted widely with the Program Committee of the Conference and many of the attending delegates.

Legal and Regulatory Implications:

Nil

Financial and Resource Implications:

Costs for Councilor Branthwaite attendance at the conference, all of which is within the budget: -

Conference Registration	\$1,322.03
Airfares	\$1,301.45
Accommodation	\$1,829.00

Anticipated Resolution Completion Date:

N/A

Attachments:

Nil

G/5. COUNCILLORS REPORT

G/6. URGENT BUSINESS

G/7. NOTICE OF MOTION

G/8. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

G/8.1. TENDER 134-23 ROADS AND CIVIL INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADES AND RENEWALS - VARIOUS PROJECTS

Responsible Officer: General Manager Finance Governance and Risk

Prepared By: Manager Contracts and Procurement

Council Meeting Date: 5 September 2023

File Ref: FM21.1

Reason for Confidentiality:

This report is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with Section 254J of the Local Government Regulation 2012, the meeting is to be closed to the public to discuss business relating to the following: -

(g) negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government.