



## COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA – 19 MAY 2021 WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

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**TO BE HELD:** **Wednesday 19 May 2021**

**LOCATION:** **Kaniva Council Chamber**

**COMMENCEMENT:** **2.00pm**

**PUBLIC ACCESS:** **Open to the Public**

**Meeting to be recorded and published on  
Council Website post meeting.**

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<b>REQUIRED TO ATTEND:</b>	
<b>Councillors</b>	<b>Senior Management Group</b>
Bruce Meyer OAM, Mayor Jodie Pretlove, Deputy Mayor	David Bezuidenhout Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
Trevor Domaschenz Tom Houlihan	Vin McKay Director Corporate & Community Services (DCCS)
Tim Meyer	Mark Marziale Director Infrastructure Development & Works (DIDW)

*The West Wimmera Shire Council Governance Rules  
set out the meeting procedure rules for this Council Meeting.*

*Members of the public are reminded that they are required to remain silent  
during this meeting, except during Section 4.0 Questions from the Gallery.*

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***Vision Statement:***

*Our Wimmera Shire communities are healthy, thriving, diverse, harmonious,  
prosperous and self-sustaining, with regional and global connectivity*



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### 1.0 WELCOME

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

**The West Wimmera Shire Council acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet, and pays respect to their elders, past, present and emerging.**

### 2.0 OPENING PRAYER – CEO

Almighty God, we humbly ask your blessing upon this Council. Guide and prosper our decisions to the advancement of Your Glory and the true welfare of the people of West Wimmera Shire. Amen.

### 3.0 APOLOGIES, LEAVE OF ABSENCE, DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

#### 3.1 APOLOGIES

#### 3.2 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

#### 3.3 DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

*All Councillors have a personal responsibility to ensure they are aware of the provisions mandated in the Local Government Act 2020 with regard to Conflict of Interest disclosures.*



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### 4.0 QUESTIONS FROM THE GALLERY (maximum of 30 minutes)

#### 4.1 WRITTEN QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

*Governance Rules – Division 8 Section 53:*

*53.4 Questions submitted to Council can be submitted as follows:*

*53.4.1 In writing, stating the name and address of the person submitting the question and generally be in a form approved or permitted by Council; and*

*53.4.2 Placed in the receptacle designated for the purpose at the place of the meeting at least two hours prior to the Council meeting, or be lodged electronically at the prescribed email address at least two hours prior to the Council meeting.*

*53.5 No person may submit more than two questions at any one meeting.*

The Question on Notice template is available from the Edenhope and Kaniva Council Offices, and from Council's website.

Written Questions on Notice submitted to Council no later than the deadline of 5:00pm on the Monday in the previous week to the relevant Council Meeting, will be included in the Agenda.

Written Questions on Notice submitted subsequent to that deadline can be lodged electronically to [govmanager@westwimmera.vic.gov.au](mailto:govmanager@westwimmera.vic.gov.au), no later than two hours prior to the Council Meeting.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

**That Council suspend Standing Orders for the purpose of receiving questions without notice from members of the Gallery.**



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### 4.2 VERBAL QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

*Time permitting, this section of the Agenda allows members of gallery to ask verbal questions of Councillors, following the removal of standing orders and when prompted by the Mayor (Governance Rules Division 8 S53.4.3)*

*Members of the Gallery providing verbal questions without notice at a Council Meeting must state their name, to be recorded in the minutes (Governance Rules Division 8 S53.4.4)*

*No person may submit more than two questions at any one meeting (Governance Rules Division 8 S53.5)*

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

**That Council resume Standing Orders.**



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### **5.0 DELEGATES REPORTS (FOR INFORMATION ONLY) AS PROVIDED BY COUNCILLORS TO GOVERNANCE SUPPORT OFFICER PRIOR TO AGENDA BEING ISSUED**

#### **5.1 COUNCILLOR BRUCE MEYER OAM (MAYOR)**

23/04/2021 Rural North West Regional Meeting & Strategic Planning Session  
25/04/2021 ANZAC Day Service, Apsley  
28/04/2021 GWM Water Meeting  
28/04/2021 Glenelg Hopkins CMA Board Networking Luncheon  
30/04/2021 NAB Kaniva Closure Meeting  
30/04/2021 Conflict of Interest Training  
04/05/2021 Badge Assembly, Kaniva College  
05/05/2021 Councillor Forum  
11/05/2021 Carpe Diem – Seize the Day Performance, Kaniva  
18/05/2021 Budget Drop in Session, Edenhope  
19/05/2021 Budget Drop in Session, Kaniva  
19/05/2021 Council Plan Briefing  
19/05/2021 SMG Agenda Review  
19/05/2021 Council Meeting

#### **5.2 COUNCILLOR JODIE PRETLOVE (DEPUTY MAYOR)**

25/04/2021 ANZAC Day Service, Goroke  
26/04/2021 Wimmera Primary Care Partnership Committee of Management Meeting  
28/04/2021 Wimmera Primary Care Partnership Organisational Meeting  
30/04/2021 Wimmera Southern Mallee Regional Transport Group Meeting  
30/04/2021 Conflict of Interest Training  
05/05/2021 Councillor Forum  
18/05/2021 Budget Drop In Session, Edenhope  
19/05/2021 Council Plan Briefing  
19/05/2021 SMG Agenda Review  
19/05/2021 Council Meeting



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### 5.3 COUNCILLOR TREVOR DOMASCHENZ

25/04/2021 ANZAC Day Service, Edenhope  
27/04/2021 Wimmera Tourism Advisory Committee Meeting  
28/04/2021 Edenhope Hospital Meeting  
30/04/2021 NAB Kaniva Closure Meeting  
30/04/2021 Conflict of Interest Training  
03/05/2021 Streetscape Draft Plan Community Discussion Kaniva & Edenhope  
05/05/2021 Councillor Forum  
11/05/2021 Wimmera Development Association Board Meeting  
18/05/2021 Wimmera Mallee Tourism Meeting  
19/05/2021 Council Plan Briefing  
19/05/2021 SMG Agenda Review  
19/05/2021 Council Meeting

### 5.4 COUNCILLOR TIM MEYER

23/04/2021 Western Highway Action Committee Meeting  
25/04/2021 ANZAC Day Service, Kaniva  
30/04/2021 NAB Kaniva Closure Meeting  
30/04/2021 Conflict of Interest Training  
05/05/2021 Councillor Forum  
07/05/2021 Rail Freight Alliance Meeting  
11/05/2021 Carpe Diem – Seize the Day Performance, Kaniva  
19/05/2021 Council Plan Briefing  
19/05/2021 SMG Agenda Review  
19/05/2021 Council Meeting

### 5.5 COUNCILLOR TOM HOULIHAN

25/04/2021 ANZAC Day Service, Harrow  
05/05/2021 Councillor Forum  
19/05/2021 Council Plan Briefing  
19/05/2021 SMG Agenda Review  
19/05/2021 Council Meeting





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### **5.6 GENERAL DELEGATES' REPORTS**

Councillors to provide delegates reports to Council meeting in relation to meetings attended in last month for which they have been appointed as Council representative. Verbal or written delegates' reports.

### **6.0 CONDOLENCES**

### **7.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING – 21 APRIL 2021**

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

**That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 21 April 2021 be taken as an accurate record and confirmed.**

### **8.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

### **9.0 NOTICES OF MOTION**

### **10.0 COUNCILLOR FORUM RECORD – 5 MAY 2021**

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

**That the Record for the Councillor Forum held Wednesday 5 May 2021 be received and noted.**

### **11.0 DEPUTATIONS AND PETITIONS**



## 12.0 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND GOVERNANCE

### 12.1 COMMUNICATIONS POLICY

**FILE NUMBER: AD0203**

**REPORT AUTHOR: PAUL BRUMBY INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

#### FOR ADOPTION

##### Introduction

Every day Council staff communicate with our community members. This policy reinforces our commitment to enhancing communications and working with residents to foster increased community involvement in council decision making.

##### Declaration of Interests

No officer declared an interest under the *Local Government Act 2020* in the preparation of this report.

##### Background

Communication with our community members is a key part of how we undertake our work at Council. This Communications Policy provides guidance to Councillors and Council staff on how to communicate with our community members in an effective way.

The current version of this policy was adopted on 17 May 2017 and is now due for review.

This draft policy contains minor updates to reflect both the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Gender Equality Act 2020*.

##### Risk Management Implications

Failure to review the Communications Policy in line with the “next review date” creates a risk that Council’s policy suite is out-of-date. Maintaining up to date policies is a key element of good governance.

##### Legislative Implications

Local Government Act 2020  
Gender Equality Act 2020

##### Environmental Implications

Nil



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### Financial and Budgetary Implications

The review of the Communications Policy has been undertaken in-house using existing resources and budgets.

### Policy Implications

This report is supported by the following West Wimmera Shire Council documents:

- Councillor Code of Conduct Policy
- Staff Code of Conduct
- Community Engagement Policy
- Media Relations Policy
- Council Election Period Policy
- Customer Service Charter

### Council Plan Implications

This report supports the following section of the West Wimmera Shire Council Plan 2017-2021:

- Strategic Objective 1: A proactive, well governed, professional and financially sustainable organisation that encourages community participation.

### Communication Implications

Following adoption of the reviewed policy it will be published on Council's website and all staff will be notified of the revised document.

### Gender Equality

A Gender Impact Assessment (as defined in the Gender Equality Act 2020) has been conducted on this policy, and where appropriate, changes have been made to the policy to address the principles of the Gender Equality Act 2020.

### Conclusion

Communication with our community members is a key part of how we undertake our work at Council. This Communications Policy provides guidance to Councillors and Council staff on how to communicate with our community members in an effective way. Ensuring that Council's suite of policy documents is reviewed and updated in a timely manner is a key element of good governance.



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**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:**

**That Council adopt the draft Communications Policy.**

**Attachments:**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>RecFind Ref</b>
12.1.1	Communications Policy DRAFT	



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### 13.0 CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

#### 13.1 QUARTERLY BUDGET REPORT

**FILE NUMBER: FM0068**

**REPORT AUTHOR: MELANIE JORDAN, FINANCE COORDINATOR**

#### FOR INFORMATION

##### Introduction

This report presents West Wimmera Shire Council (Council) with the Quarterly Budget Report for the period ended 31 March 2021.

##### Declaration of Interests

No officer declared an interest under the *Local Government Act 2020* in the preparation of this report.

##### Background

*The Local Government Act 2020* ('the Act') requires Council to implement the principles of sound financial management (s.101). Section 97 of the Act requires that Council be presented with a Quarterly Budget Report comparing actual to budgeted revenue and expenditure for the financial year to date every quarter. This report was previously known as the Financial Performance Report under section 138(1) of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

The budget reports show an analysis of the actuals to budget forecasts at 31 March 2021. Where significant variances exist between actual amounts and budgeted figures, a note is included to provide an explanation for the variance. The budget reports include a Comprehensive Income Statement, Balance Sheet and Capital Works Statement to give a true indication of Council's operations, capital works program and financial position.

##### Risk Management Implications

Financial risks exist where officers are not adhering to budgets.

##### Legislative Implications

Section 97 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires that Council is provided with budget reports every three months comparing the budgeted revenue and expenditure with actual revenue and expenditure.



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### Environmental Implications

Nil

### Financial and Budgetary Implications

Financial and budgetary performance reporting and oversight form the fundamental building blocks of sound financial management. Without oversight of financial and budgetary performance Council may find itself unable to meet its obligations and desired community outcomes.

### Policy Implications

Nil

### Council Plan Implications

This report supports the following section/s of the West Wimmera Shire Council Plan 2017-2021:

- Strategic Objective 1: A proactive, well governed, professional and financially sustainable organisation that encourages community participation.

### Communication Implications

The Finance Coordinator will continue to work with officers and managers to educate and enable budgetary management of their department.

### Conclusion

Council's quarterly budget report at 31 March 2021 is attached for Council's information, in accordance with the requirements of s.97 of the Act.

### **OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:**

**That the Quarterly Budget Report as at 31 March 2021 be received and noted.**

#### **Attachments:**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>RecFind Ref</b>
<b>13.1.1</b>	<b>Quarterly Budget Report March 2021</b>	<b>E21/000004</b>



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### 13.2 REVENUE AND RATING PLAN

**FILE NUMBER: FMO002**

**REPORT AUTHOR: LEILANI DAWES, RATES COORDINATOR, MELANIE JORDAN, FINANCE COORDINATOR**

#### FOR DECISION

##### Introduction

West Wimmera Shire Council (Council) is required to adopt a Revenue and Rating Plan (The Plan) by 30 June 2021 in accordance with s93 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

The Revenue and Rating Plan will repeal and replace and incorporate the existing Rating Strategy and extend the scope to include other Revenue sources.

The Revenue and Rating Plan forms part of the integrated planning framework. It governs how Council will generate income from a variety of sources for the coming 4-year period, and integrates with the Community Vision, Council Plan, Asset Plan, Annual Budget and Long Term Financial Plan.

The Plan does not dictate the quantum of rates and revenue available to Council but the framework, strategy and basis for generation of income sources.

##### Declaration of Interests

No officer declared an interest under the *Local Government Act 2020* in the preparation of this report.

##### Background

The Revenue and Rating Plan will include the rating system. A rating is developed to provide a fair and equitable system for all ratepayers.

The rating system details the rating structure and outlines the charges included for consideration, along with the legislative framework applicable as imposed by the *Local Government Act 1989*. The rating system determines how Council will raise money from properties and the proportion contributed by each property but does not dictate the total amount to be raised.



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The *Local Government Act 1989* allows Council to determine the distribution of the rates and charges across the community through General Rates, Municipal Charges, Service Fees and Charges and Special Rates and Charges. There are options for rebates and early payment incentives.

Council was presented with the rating options available under the *Local Government Act 1989* at the February 2021 Council Forum. In the February 2021 Council Meeting, Council provided guidance for the rating strategy detail to be included in The Plan including:

- Service Fees and Charges s162: Council seeks full cost recovery through service fees and charges for waste recovery under a ‘User Pays’ Principal.
- Special Rates and Charges s163: No Special Rates and Charges will be levied.
- Incentives for Prompt Payment s168: No Incentives for Prompt Payment will be offered.
- Rebates and Concessions s169: No Additional Rebates or Concessions will be Levied.
- Rate Capping Part 8A: No Application for Higher Rate Cap will be made
- Municipal Charge s159: Maintain a municipal charge
- Valuation System s157: Continue with Capital Improved Valuation Base.
- General Rates s160, s161: Continue with a uniform general rate.

The Plan puts these recommendations into practice with regards to Council’s rating system.

The Plan also details how and when other revenue opportunity will be generated, including grants, fees and charges (user and statutory), contributions, interest on investments and borrowings.

The Plan has been developed in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* s9 overarching governance principles and supporting principles.

### Risk Management Implications

The Rating Strategy provide guidance on how Council’s rating system will impose rates within stipulated thresholds and legislation.

### Legislative Implications

*Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*  
*Local Government Act 1989*  
*Local Government Act 2020*  
*Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*  
*Penalty Interest Rates Act 1983*  
*Valuation of Land Act 1960*  
*Electricity Industry Act 2020*  
*Fire Service Property Levy Act 2012*  
*Cultural and Recreational Lands Act 1963*





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*Gender Equality Act 2020*  
*Domestic Animals Act 1994*  
*Planning and Environment Act 1987*  
*Planning and Environment (Fees) Regulations 2016*  
*Subdivision (Fees) Regulations 2016*  
*Monetary Units Act 2004*  
*Environment Protection Act 2017*  
*Food Act 1984*  
*Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008*  
*Residential Tenancies Act 1997*

### Environmental Implications

Nil

### Financial and Budgetary Implications

The Revenue and Rating plan will shape how Council generates revenue for the next 4 years. It will not determine how much can be raised but establish a transparent framework for determining rates, fees and charges ensuring predictable, consistent revenue for the future.

The Draft Plan will support Council in meeting its obligations of economic sustainability and ongoing financial viability in accordance with Section 9(2)(c) and (g) of Local Government Act 2020. Once adopted the Revenue and Rating Plan will be used to guide the development of future budgets of Council.

### Policy Implications

This report is supported by the following West Wimmera Shire Council Policy:

Asset Capitalisation Policy  
Asset Disposal Policy  
Asset Management Policy  
Asset Management Strategy  
Borrowings Policy  
Business Continuity Policy  
Community Engagement Policy  
Council Grants Policy  
Council Major Hall Hire Policy  
External Hire of Plant Policy  
Rate Recovery & Financial Hardship Policy  
Council Major Hall Hire Policy  
External Hire of Plant Policy



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### Council Plan Implications

Council is currently working towards developing a Community Vision and new Council Plan, extensive community consultation is being carried out to inform these documents. Until the new Council Plan is in place (due October 2021), the Rating and Revenue Plan has been prepared on the existing strategic objectives of the Council Plan and will feed into Council's budgeting and long-term financial planning documents.

This report supports the following section/s of the West Wimmera Shire Council Plan 2017-2021:

- Strategic Objective 1: A proactive, well governed, professional and financially sustainable organisation that encourages community participation.
- Strategic Objective 2: Meaningful partnerships to support advocacy priorities and service provision.
- Strategic Objective 3: Quality sustainable community services and infrastructure.
- Strategic Objective 4: Building on our agricultural and business strengths and supporting economic development.
- 

### Communication Implications

Community engagement of The Plan will be required in alignment with the Community Engagement Policy.

The community engagement strategy is detailed in Section 5 of the plan.

Level of Engagement: Consult

Type of Engagement: Participatory (submissions)

Draft Revenue and Rating Plan prepared by officers;

Draft Revenue and Rating Plan placed on public exhibition calling for public submissions;

Community engagement through local news outlets and social media,

Consideration of public submissions; and

Present the Draft Revenue and Rating Plan, with any revisions, to the June Council meeting for adoption.

### Gender Equality

A Gender Impact Assessment (as defined in the Gender Equality Act 2020) has been undertaken in relation to this matter in accordance with the Gender Equality Act (2020)



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### Conclusion

The Draft Revenue and Rating Plan is recommended to be endorsed by Council for public consultation in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Policy. Feedback will be considered by Council prior to adopting a Revenue and Rating Plan by 30 June 2021, in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*.

The draft Plan defines Council's revenue raising framework for the next four years. Community members will be encouraged to submit their feedback before Sunday 30 May 2021.

### **OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:**

**That Council:**

- 1. Endorse the Draft Revenue and Rating Plan, appended as Attachment.**
- 2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to:**
  - a) Give notice of the preparation of the Draft Revenue and Rating Plan, inviting feedback on the Draft Revenue and Rating Plan in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Policy, until 5pm on Sunday 30 May 2021.**
  - b) Make available for public inspection the Draft Revenue and Rating Plan at all Council Offices in hard copy and provide an electronic copy on Council's website.**
- 3. Consider any feedback made by the public on the Draft Revenue and Rating Plan.**
- 4. Consider a motion to adopt the Draft Revenue and Rating Plan at a Council meeting to be held on Wednesday 16 June 2021, having regard to all feedback received.**

### **Attachments:**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>RecFind Ref</b>
13.2.1	Draft Revenue and Rating Plan	



### **13.3 EDENHOPE & DISTRICT COMMUNITY CENTRE PROGRESS UPDATE**

**FILE NUMBER: ED0090**

**REPORT AUTHOR: VIN MCKAY, DIRECTOR CORPORATE AND  
COMMUNITY SERVICES**

#### Introduction

In April 2019, Council commenced construction on the new Edenhope and District Community Centre. The project is due to be completed by August 2021. This report aims to provide Councillors with an update on the progress of the project and seeks Council's approval for a revised project forecast budget.

#### Declaration of Interests

No officer declared an interest under the *Local Government Act 2020* in the preparation of this report.

#### Report

Construction on the Edenhope and District Community Centre commenced in 2019 and practical completion was issued in June 2020. In December 2020, the contract with the architect was finalised.

The building is now operational for library, community and Council use.

The main elements of the project were funded through the Drought Communities Program, Living Libraries Infrastructure Program, Council contribution and Community contributions. Council's contribution (\$500,000) and the community fundraising component (\$120,000) satisfied state government matching contribution requirements for the initial grants based on original project scope and estimates. Total funds available from all initial sources amounted to \$1,920,000

In May 2020 additional funding of \$333,000 was received from Regional Development Victoria (RDV), with a requirement for Council to match this grant with a local contribution of \$150,000. This funding was intended to cover works beyond the original scope, but nevertheless essential to fully complete the project. The Community Advisory Group has confirmed that an additional \$16,000 community cash contribution is feasible.

The cost of meeting the planning permit conditions was not originally factored into the overall project budget. The forecast expenditure required to meet all planning permit conditions is currently \$82,500.



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With total funding available from all sources amounting to \$2.299 million and a revised total project cost of \$2.497 there is therefore a funding shortfall to complete the project of \$198,000.

A comprehensive list of outstanding works to complete the project and a full project financial report was presented to the May Councillor Forum.

Council Officers have recently reviewed this year's Capital Works program expenditure. Substantial savings are projected in the road reconstruction program which is now 100% complete. These savings alone will offset the additional funds required to complete the Community Centre Project. Based on current financial projections, the year-end result for Capital Works in total will be within the total Capital Works budget set by Council when it adopted the 2020-2021 Council Budget.

### Risk Management Implications

If Council failed to complete this project within the guidelines of the funding agreement, then the funding will need to be returned leaving Council with an outstanding financial liability and an incomplete project.

### Legislative Implications

The project has complied with all legal obligations.

### Environmental Implications

Environmental considerations have been made throughout the project's planning and implementation phases.

### Policy Implications

This report is supported by the following West Wimmera Shire Council Policy:  
Communications Policy

### Council Plan Implications

This report supports the following sections of the West Wimmera Shire Council Plan 2017-2021:

- Strategic Objective 1: A proactive, well governed, professional, and financially sustainable organisation that encourages community participation.
- Strategic Objective 2: Meaningful partnerships to support advocacy priorities and service provision.
- Strategic Objective 3: Quality sustainable community services and infrastructure.



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- Strategic Objective 4: Building on our agricultural and business strengths and supporting economic development.
- Strategic Objective 5: Thriving, safe and diverse local communities.
- Strategic Objective 6: Participating in activities that address health and wellbeing issues.

### Communication Implications

An official opening will be organised on completion of the project. This event will be widely publicized providing an opportunity to fully recognise all stakeholders that have made this valuable community facility a reality.

### Gender Equality

A Gender Impact Assessment (as defined in the Gender Equality Act 2020) has been undertaken in relation to this matter in accordance with the Gender Equality Act (2020)

### Conclusion

The Edenhope and District Community Centre has already been receiving positive feedback from across the region with people attending training and information sessions. This highlights the value of the investment that Council has made into this project.

### **OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:**

#### **That Council:**

- 1. Notes the progress report on the Edenhope Community Centre.**
- 2. Approves an increase in the project forecast budget of an additional \$198,000 to enable the project to be completed in its entirety and to also meet funding body acquittal requirements.**



**13.4 COMMUNITY STRENGTHENING GRANTS PROGRAM 2020-21 ROUND**

**2**

**FILE NUMBER: PR0118 – PT2**

**REPORT AUTHOR: SARAH ELLIS, MANAGER BUSINESS PERFORMANCE,  
AND DEVELOPMENT**

**FOR INFORMATION**

Introduction

Round two of the 2020-21 West Wimmera Shire Council Community Strengthening Grants Program closed Monday 19 April 2021. Nine applications were received across the three categories.

Declaration of Interests

Two officers involved in the preparation of this report have declared a conflict of interest under the *Local Government Act 2020*. These interests have been disclosed and have been managed within Councils' Conflict of Interest Policy.

Background

The Community Strengthening Grants program is designed to promote and increase participation of local residents in community initiatives, to build and strengthen local networks and partnerships, and to support community leadership, learning, and skill development.

Through the program, Council provides financial assistance to community groups and organisations to support the provision of programs, activities, and services which respond to identified community needs, contribute to the building of a stronger community, develop innovative approaches and local social issues, and are in accordance with Council's strategic objectives.

Risk Management Implications

Community Strengthening Grants present minimal risk to Council. The policy requires a successful applicant to manage the grant funding themselves. Each application has been assessed against the policy guidelines, ensuring a transparent and equitable process has been followed.

Council could also be subject to compliance risk with recipients not meeting permit requirements, however successful applications will be reviewed by our regulatory team.



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### Legislative Implications

Nil

### Environmental Implications

Nil

### Financial and Budgetary Implications

A total of \$124,820 is allocated in the 2020-21 budget for Community Strengthening Grants. Approximately \$24,000 is still required to close out outstanding grants. This funding has been divided between the three categories as follows:

- Community Events \$11,100
- Community Projects \$34,102
- Facilities Upgrades and Equipment \$79,618

### Policy Implications

This report is supported by the following West Wimmera Shire Council Policy:

- Council Grants Policy
- Support to Community Events Policy

### Council Plan Implications

This report supports the following section/s of the West Wimmera Shire Council Plan 2017-2021:

- Strategic Objective 3: Quality sustainable community services and infrastructure.
- Strategic Objective 5: Thriving, safe, and diverse local communities.
- Strategic Objective 6: Participating in activities that address health and wellbeing issues.

### Communication Implications

The Community Strengthening Grants program was promoted through advertisements on the Council website, local newspapers, community newsletters, and social media.

In previous rounds, Community Information Sessions have been poorly attended, so these were replaced with one-on-one sessions as requested. Three requests for assistance with the application were received and actioned, and six applicants made contact prior to submitting their application.

Successful applicants will be provided with constructive feedback as appropriate. Unsuccessful applicants can request feedback should they wish.





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Further media will take place following the confirmation of successful applications, as well as media associated with individual applications.

### Gender Equality

A Gender Impact Assessment (as defined in the Gender Equality Act 2020) has been completed.

### Conclusion

Round Two of the Community Strengthening Grants Program 2020-21 has been well-subscribed with strong applications and projects submitted for consideration.

### **OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:**

**That Council allocates the following funding to applications under Round 2 of the 2020-2021 West Wimmera Shire Council Community Strengthening Grants.**

- **Kaniva Lions Club – \$4,627.00**
- **Kaniva Playgroup – \$750.00**
- **Edenhope Motorcycle Club – \$5,000.00**
- **Karnak Country Fire Authority Brigade – \$1,803.00**
- **Kaniva Hockey Club Inc. – \$4,217.00**
- **Kaniva Agricultural and Pastoral Society Inc. – \$4,913.00**
- **Edenhope Tourist Information inc. - \$5,000.00**
- **Goroke Golf Club – \$4,000.00**
- **Harrow Historical Society- \$3,067.00**

### **Attachments:**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>RecFind Ref</b>
13.4.1	West Wimmera Shire Community Strengthening Grant applications 2020-21- Round 2 Summary	PR0118-PT2



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**14.0 LATE ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

**Pursuant to West Wimmera Shire Council Governance Rules – Division 3 Section 20:**

***20. Urgent Business***

***If the agenda for a Council meeting makes provision for urgent business, business cannot be admitted as urgent business other than by resolution of Council, and only then if it:***

***20.1 relates to or arises out of a matter which has arisen since distribution of the agenda; and***

***20.2 cannot safely or conveniently be deferred until the next Council meeting.***

**15.0 SEALING SCHEDULE**

**15.1 SUPPLY OF QUARRY AND ROADMAKING MATERIAL No. CMO527,  
COOK**

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council sign and seal the Supply of Quarry and Roadmaking Material Contract CMO527 between West Wimmera Shire Council and AS & MK Cook

**15.2 SUPPLY OF QUARRY AND ROADMAKING MATERIAL No. CMO527,  
BADE**

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council sign and seal the Supply of Quarry and Roadmaking Material Contract CMO527 between West Wimmera Shire Council and John R Bade



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**MEETING CONCLUDED:**

**NEXT MEETING:**

**WEDNESDAY 16 JUNE 2021  
EDENHOPE COUNCIL CHAMBER**