



ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

AGENDA

7 FEBRUARY 2023

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993 that an **ORDINARY MEETING of ORANGE CITY COUNCIL** will be held in the **COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC CENTRE, BYNG STREET, ORANGE** on **Tuesday, 7 February 2023** commencing at **6.30PM**.

David Waddell

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

For apologies please contact Administration on 6393 8106.

AGENDA

EVACUATION PROCEDURE

In the event of an emergency, the building may be evacuated. You will be required to vacate the building by the rear entrance and gather at the breezeway between the Library and Art Gallery buildings. This is Council's designated emergency muster point.

Under no circumstances is anyone permitted to re-enter the building until the all clear has been given and the area deemed safe by authorised personnel.

In the event of an evacuation, a member of Council staff will assist any member of the public with a disability to vacate the building.

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

1.2 LIVESTREAMING AND RECORDING

This Council Meeting is being livestreamed and recorded. By speaking at the Council Meeting you agree to being livestreamed and recorded. Please ensure that if and when you speak at this Council Meeting that you ensure you are respectful to others and use appropriate language at all times. Orange City Council accepts no liability for any defamatory or offensive remarks or gestures made during the course of this Council Meeting. A recording will be made for administrative purposes and will be available to Councillors.

1.3 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

I would like to acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we meet today, the people of the Wiradjuri Nation. I pay my respects to Elders past and present, and extend those respects to Aboriginal Peoples of Orange and surrounds, and Aboriginal people here with us today.

1.4 DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS, SIGNIFICANT NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS

The provisions of Chapter 14 of the Local Government Act, 1993 (the Act) regulate the way in which Councillors and designated staff of Council conduct themselves to ensure that there is no conflict between their private interests and their public role.

The Act prescribes that where a member of Council (or a Committee of Council) has a direct or indirect financial (pecuniary) interest in a matter to be considered at a meeting of the Council (or Committee), that interest must be disclosed as soon as practicable after the start of the meeting and the reasons given for declaring such interest.

As members are aware, the provisions of the Local Government Act restrict any member who has declared a pecuniary interest in any matter from participating in the discussion or voting on that matter, and requires that member to vacate the Chamber.

Council's Code of Conduct provides that if members have a non-pecuniary conflict of interest, the nature of the conflict must be disclosed. The Code of Conduct also provides for a number of ways in which a member may manage non pecuniary conflicts of interest.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Councillors now disclose any conflicts of interest in matters under consideration by the Council at this meeting.

COUNCIL MEETING ADJOURNS FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE OPEN FORUM

COUNCIL MEETING RESUMES

2 MAYORAL MINUTES

Nil

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Orange City Council held on 20 December 2022 (copies of which were circulated to all members) be and are hereby confirmed as a true and accurate records of the proceedings of the Council meeting held on 20 December 2022.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Orange City Council held on 20 December 2022

ORANGE CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC CENTRE, BYNG STREET, ORANGE

ON 20 DECEMBER 2022

COMMENCING AT 6.30PM

1 INTRODUCTION

ATTENDANCE

Cr G Power (Deputy Mayor), Cr K Duffy (6.38pm), Cr J Evans, Cr G Floyd, Cr T Greenhalgh, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr T Mileto, Cr S Peterson, Cr J Whitton

Chief Executive Officer, Director Corporate and Commercial Services, Director Community, Recreation and Cultural Services, Acting Director Technical Services (Theakstone), Manager Corporate Governance, Chief Financial Officer, Governance Officer.

In the absence of Mayor Jason Hamling, Deputy Mayor Gerald Power chaired the Meeting.

1.1 APOLOGIES

RESOLVED - 22/538

Cr J Evans/Cr D Mallard

That the apologies be accepted from Cr J Hamling (leave) and Cr K Duffy for lateness for the Council Meeting of Orange City Council on 20 December 2022.

For: Cr G Power, Cr J Evans, Cr G Floyd, Cr T Greenhalgh, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr T Mileto, Cr S Peterson, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Hamling, Cr K Duffy

1.2 LIVESTREAMING AND RECORDING

The Mayor advised that the meeting was being livestreamed and recorded.

1.3 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Deputy Mayor conducted an Acknowledgement of Country.

1.4 DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS, SIGNIFICANT NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Nil

RESOLVED - 22/539**Cr M McDonell/Cr T Greenhalgh**

That the following Late Items be permitted to be considered at the Council Meeting of 20 December 2022:

4.1 – Notice of Motion – Timely Tree Removal and Usage

5.6 – Consultation on review of the Local Government Boundaries Commission

5.7 – Councillor Leave

For: Cr G Power, Cr J Evans, Cr G Floyd, Cr T Greenhalgh, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr T Mileto, Cr S Peterson, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Hamling, Cr K Duffy

THERE WAS NO OPEN FORUM.

2 MAYORAL MINUTES

Nil

The Deputy Mayor noted that an EOI for a multi-level car park development at the Ophir carpark site was currently on exhibition.

The Deputy Mayor thanked the Mayor for leading Council in this first year of the new Council term.

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED - 22/540**Cr G Floyd/Cr F Kinghorne**

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Orange City Council held on 6 December 2022 (copies of which were circulated to all members) be and are hereby confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings of the Council meeting held on 6 December 2022.

For: Cr G Power, Cr J Evans, Cr G Floyd, Cr T Greenhalgh, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr T Mileto, Cr S Peterson, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Hamling, Cr K Duffy

PRESENTATION – NSW AUDIT OFFICE – ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Manuel Moncada from the NSW Audit Office presented the Annual Financial Statements and Report on the Conduct of the Audit for the year ending 30 June 2022.

RESOLVED - 22/541**Cr S Peterson/Cr J Whitton**

That Council note the verbal report from the NSW Audit Office on the Presentation of the Annual Financial Statements.

For: Cr G Power, Cr K Duffy, Cr J Evans, Cr G Floyd, Cr T Greenhalgh, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr T Mileto, Cr S Peterson, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Hamling

Cr Duffy arrived at the meeting with the time being 6.38pm

4 NOTICES OF MOTION/NOTICES OF RESCISSION

4.1 NOTICE OF MOTION - TIMELY TREE REMOVAL AND USAGE

TRIM REFERENCE: 2022/2505

RESOLVED - 22/542**Cr G Floyd/Cr S Peterson**

That if Council has no plans for further utilisation of dead/fallen trees in public spaces, then Council may donate tree segments and work in conjunction with organisations such as The Mens Shed to turn these trees into such things as Park benches (painted blue) or furniture, play toys and other structures for local schools/day care centres etc.

For: Cr G Power, Cr K Duffy, Cr J Evans, Cr G Floyd, Cr T Greenhalgh, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr T Mileto, Cr S Peterson, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Hamling

Cr Mileto asked if maintenance and collecting fallen trees was an operational matter and who would be responsible for delivering the tree segments to organisations such as the Mens Shed.

The Director Community, Recreation and Cultural Services stated that yes it was an operational matter and that individual organisations would be responsible for collecting the tree segments.

Cr Mallard asked if native trees such as gums were assessed in order to retain them as habitats or nesting hollows on site or to move to other appropriate sites.

The Director Community, Recreation and Cultural Services stated that yes staff do assess them however often the quality is not suitable for other uses.

Cr Duffy asked if the Wood Bank was still operating.

The Chief Executive Officer stated yes, it was still operating, and funds allocated in the budget.

5 GENERAL REPORTS

5.1 RECOMMENDATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS FROM POLICY COMMITTEES

TRIM REFERENCE: 2022/1315

RESOLVED - 22/543

Cr K Duffy/Cr G Floyd

That Council resolves:

- 1 That the Minutes of the Planning & Development Policy Committee at its meeting held on 6 December 2022 be and are hereby confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.
- 2 That the Minutes of the Employment and Economic Development Policy Committee at its meeting held on 6 December 2022 be and are hereby confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.
- 3 That the Minutes of the Infrastructure Policy Committee at its meeting held on 6 December 2022 be and are hereby confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.
- 4 That the Minutes of the Sport and Recreation Policy Committee at its meeting held on 6 December 2022 be and are hereby confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.
- 6 That the Minutes of the Finance Policy Committee at its meeting held on 6 December 2022 be and are hereby confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.
- 7 That the Minutes of the Services Policy Committee at its meeting held on 6 December 2022 be and are hereby confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

For: Cr G Power, Cr K Duffy, Cr J Evans, Cr G Floyd, Cr T Greenhalgh, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr T Mileto, Cr S Peterson, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Hamling

RESOLVED - 22/544

Cr M McDonell/Cr D Mallard

- 5 That the Minutes of the Environmental Sustainability Policy Committee at its meeting held on 6 December 2022 be and are hereby confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings, with the amendment to note Cr Mallard, as chairperson, adjourned the meeting during item 2.2.

For: Cr G Power, Cr J Evans, Cr T Greenhalgh, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr T Mileto, Cr S Peterson

Against: Cr K Duffy, Cr J Whitton, Cr G Floyd

Absent: Cr J Hamling

5.2 STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS - NOVEMBER 2022

TRIM REFERENCE: 2022/2333

RESOLVED - 22/545**Cr M McDonell/Cr G Floyd**

That Council resolves:

- 1 To note the Statement of Investments as of 30 November 2022.
- 2 To adopt the certification of the Responsible Accounting Officer.

For: Cr G Power, Cr K Duffy, Cr J Evans, Cr G Floyd, Cr T Greenhalgh, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr T Mileto, Cr S Peterson, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Hamling

Cr Kinghorne thanked the Chief Financial Officer for providing information on the steps being taken to change Council's investments to ensure a higher return.

5.3 CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLAINT REPORTING 2021/22

TRIM REFERENCE: 2022/2094

RESOLVED - 22/546**Cr M McDonell/Cr D Mallard**

That the report on Code of Conduct Complaint Reporting for 2021/22 be acknowledged.

For: Cr G Power, Cr K Duffy, Cr J Evans, Cr G Floyd, Cr T Greenhalgh, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr T Mileto, Cr S Peterson, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Hamling

Cr Duffy asked why there were only staff costs noted in this report and not external costs. *The Chief Executive Officer advised that those matters were dealt with before being referred to an external reviewer.*

5.4 STRATEGIC POLICY - POST EXHIBITION ADOPTION

TRIM REFERENCE: 2022/2488

RESOLVED - 22/547**Cr J Whitton/Cr M McDonell**

That Council adopts the following Strategic Policies:

- ST04 - Councillor Access to Information and Interaction with Staff
- ST05 - Records Management for Councillors
- ST13 - Cyber Security

For: Cr G Power, Cr K Duffy, Cr J Evans, Cr G Floyd, Cr T Greenhalgh, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr T Mileto, Cr S Peterson, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Hamling

MATTER ARISING**Cr S Peterson**

Cr Peterson noted at clause 6.3 of the Councillors Access to Information and Interaction with Staff policy that contact is to be made during business hours, however emails are often sent outside this time. It was suggested Councillors include a clause in their email signatures to advise emails do not have to be answered when received outside of hours.

The Director Corporate & Commercial Services advised this would be taken on board in reference to the policy.

5.5 STRATEGIC POLICY REVIEWS

TRIM REFERENCE: 2022/2496

RESOLVED - 22/548**Cr G Floyd/Cr M McDonell**

That Council resolves to place the following policies on public exhibition for a minimum period of 28 days:

- ST09 – Gifts & Benefits
- ST16 – Access to Information Held by Council
- ST21 – Child Safe

For: Cr G Power, Cr K Duffy, Cr J Evans, Cr G Floyd, Cr T Greenhalgh, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr T Mileto, Cr S Peterson, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Hamling

Cr Peterson asked if Councillors were required to or should have a Working With Children Check (WWCC).

The Director Corporate & Commercial Services advised that Councillors were not obligated to have the WWCC, it was only for staff directly interacting with children.

5.6 CONSULTATION ON REVIEW OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARIES COMMISSION

TRIM REFERENCE: 2022/2574

RESOLVED - 22/549**Cr K Duffy/Cr G Power**

That Council make a submission to the Local Government Boundaries Commission.

For: Cr G Power, Cr K Duffy, Cr J Evans, Cr G Floyd, Cr T Greenhalgh, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr T Mileto, Cr S Peterson, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Hamling

5.7 COUNCILLOR LEAVE

TRIM REFERENCE: 2022/2582

RESOLVED - 22/550**Cr G Power/Cr K Duffy**

That Council grant a Leave of Absence to Cr Jason Hamling, Mayor, for the period 19 December 2022 to 1 March 2023.

For: Cr G Power, Cr K Duffy, Cr J Evans, Cr G Floyd, Cr T Greenhalgh, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr T Mileto, Cr S Peterson, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Hamling

Cr Kinghorne stated that she thought Cr Hamling, Mayor, had done a good job in this first year of the term, when he may not realise it himself. The sentiment was echoed by the Chamber.

6 CLOSED MEETING

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, in the opinion of the General Manager, the following business is of a kind as referred to in Section 10A(2) of the Act, and should be dealt with in a Confidential Session of the Council meeting closed to the press and public.

In response to a question from the Mayor, the Chief Executive Officer advised that no written submissions had been received relating to any item listed for consideration by the Closed Meeting of Council.

The Mayor extended an invitation to any member of the public present at the meeting to make a presentation to the Council as to whether the meeting should be closed for a particular item.

RESOLVED - 22/551**Cr T Greenhalgh/Cr D Mallard**

That Council adjourn into a Closed Meeting and members of the press and public be excluded from the Closed Meeting, and access to the correspondence and reports relating to the items considered during the course of the Closed Meeting be withheld unless declassified by separate resolution. This action is taken in accordance with Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act, 1993 as the items listed come within the following provisions:

6.1 Evaluation of Submissions - NetWaste Tender for Processing of Garden Organics, Wood and Timber

This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

6.2 Tender for the Wade Park Field Lighting Upgrade

This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

For: Cr G Power, Cr K Duffy, Cr J Evans, Cr G Floyd, Cr T Greenhalgh, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr T Mileto, Cr S Peterson, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Hamling

The Mayor declared the Ordinary Meeting of Council adjourned for the conduct of the Closed Meeting at 7.21pm.

The Mayor declared the Ordinary Meeting of Council resumed at 7.24pm.

7 RESOLUTIONS FROM CLOSED MEETING

The Chief Executive Officer read out the following resolutions made in the Closed Meeting of Council.

6.1 EVALUATION OF SUBMISSIONS - NETWASTE TENDER FOR PROCESSING OF GARDEN ORGANICS, WOOD AND TIMBER

TRIM REFERENCE: 2022/2466

RESOLVED - 22/552**Cr D Mallard/Cr M McDonell**

That Council resolves:

- 1 Tender F3928 for the Processing of Garden Organics, Wood and Timber be awarded to Davis Earthmoving Pty Ltd for their tendered price as set out in this report for the initial two (2) year term with the option of two (2) x 12-month available extensions.
- 2 As the existing contract expiry date (14 November 2022) has surpassed, a new contract start date for the two (2) year term will be advised by NetWaste upon endorsement from the NetWaste Steering Committee, and engagement of Davis Earthmoving Pty Ltd.
- 3 Delegate the authority to execute the contracts for the Processing of Garden Organics, Wood and Timber to the Chief Executive Officer and permission be granted for the use of the Council Seal on any relevant document if required.

For: Cr G Power, Cr K Duffy, Cr J Evans, Cr G Floyd, Cr T Greenhalgh, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr T Mileto, Cr S Peterson, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Hamling

6.2 TENDER FOR THE WADE PARK FIELD LIGHTING UPGRADE

TRIM REFERENCE: 2022/2388

RESOLVED - 22/553**Cr T Greenhalgh/Cr M McDonell**

- 1 That the Tender F3886-14 for the Wade Park Field Lighting Upgrade be awarded to REES Electrical for their tendered price of \$403,000.00 (Ex GST)
- 2 That permission be granted for the use of the Council Seal on any relevant document as required.

For: Cr G Power, Cr K Duffy, Cr J Evans, Cr G Floyd, Cr T Greenhalgh, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr T Mileto, Cr S Peterson, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr J Hamling

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 7.26PM

This is Page Number 14 and the Final Page of the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Orange City Council held on 20 December 2022.

COUNCIL MEETING ADJOURNS FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE POLICY COMMITTEES

Planning and Development - Chaired by Cr Jeff Whitton

Employment and Economic Development - Chaired By Cr Tony Mileto – NO ITEMS

Infrastructure - Chaired by Cr Jack Evans

Sport and Recreation - Chaired by Cr Tammy Greenhalgh – NO ITEMS

Environmental Sustainability - Chaired by Cr David Mallard

Finance - Chaired by Cr Kevin Duffy

Services - Chaired by Cr Melanie McDonell

COUNCIL MEETING RESUMES

4 NOTICES OF MOTION/NOTICES OF RESCISSION

4.1 NOTICE OF MOTION - ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

RECORD NUMBER: 2023/72

I, **CR STEVEN PETERSON** wish to move the following Notice of Motion at the Council Meeting of 7 February 2023:

MOTION

That individual Councillors be able to volunteer to deliver the Acknowledgement of Country during the second Council Meeting of each month.

BACKGROUND

An Acknowledgement of Country begins Council Meetings and many public events in Australia. In the hope of keeping this practice fresh and meaningful I would like individual Councillors to have the opportunity to volunteer to deliver one that they have written. Maximum 30 seconds with a commitment to stay on topic. This would present an opportunity to hear different insights and thoughts on acknowledgement and reconciliation from the variety of different Councillors that make up the chamber. A roster could be set up and we could see if sufficient interest presents itself with the Mayor conducting Acknowledgement as currently occurs for the first meeting of the month.

Signed Cr Steven Peterson

STAFF COMMENT

If resolved, staff will develop a roster.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCING IMPLICATIONS

Nil

POLICY AND GOVERNANCE IMPLICATIONS

Nil

5 GENERAL REPORTS

5.1 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

RECORD NUMBER: 2023/71

AUTHOR: David Waddell, Chief Executive Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The following report seeks Council's approval for the request for a Leave of Absence for Councillor Jack Evans from Council duties during the period of 1 March – 31 March 2023. This will include the Council Meetings of 7 and 21 March 2023.

LINK TO DELIVERY/OPERATIONAL PLAN

The recommendation in this report relates to the Delivery/Operational Plan strategy "17.1. Provide representative, responsible and accountable community governance".

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

POLICY AND GOVERNANCE IMPLICATIONS

Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That a Leave of Absence be granted to Cr Jack Evans for the period Wednesday 1 March 2023 to Friday 31 March 2023.

FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Consideration has been given to the recommendation's impact on Council's service delivery; image and reputation; political; environmental; health and safety; employees; stakeholders and project management; and no further implications or risks have been identified.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

An application for a Leave of Absence was submitted to the Chief Executive Officer on 24 January 2023 from Cr Jack Evans requesting leave for the month of March 2023 for the purpose of attending to personal family affairs.

In addition, Cr Evans would also like to note his apologies for any Committee Meetings that may occur during this period.

5.2 LGNSW RURAL AND REGIONAL SUMMIT - NOMINATIONS FOR COUNCILLOR ATTENDANCE

RECORD NUMBER: 2023/40

AUTHOR: Catherine Davis, Executive Support Manager

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

LGNSW are launching a new event which is the LGNSW Rural and Regional Summit specifically dedicated to rural and regional LGNSW members. This Summit is a one-day event on Monday 20th February (9am-7pm), which addresses key issues affecting rural and regional communities in the lead up to the NSW State Election. The Summit will be held at the Sofitel Sydney Wentworth, 61-101 Phillip Street, Sydney. For information of Councillors, the Deputy Mayor will be attending a meeting the following day in Sydney and will therefore attend this Summit.

LINK TO DELIVERY/OPERATIONAL PLAN

The recommendation in this report relates to the Delivery/Operational Plan strategy “14.3. Provide opportunities for widespread and quality engagement, and where appropriate, shared decision-making”.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The budget as set down in the *Councillors – Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities Policy* is \$60,000 per annum (financial year) in total for all Councillors to attend Conferences with \$38,950 funds currently available for attendance at this conference and those remaining between now and 30 June 2023. These conferences, of which dates have been set but registration costs etc not necessarily released as yet, include but are not limited to:

- Australian Local Government Women’s Association Conference in Victoria in May
- Destination and Visitor Economy Conference in Manly in May
- National General Assembly in Canberra in June

Registration to attend this Summit is \$440 per delegate. Accommodation and meal expenses would be in addition to the registration cost if delegates were to stay the night prior and/or the night of the Summit.

POLICY AND GOVERNANCE IMPLICATIONS

Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council resolve which Councillors, in addition to the Deputy Mayor, will attend this Summit on 20 February 2023.

FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Consideration has been given to the recommendation’s impact on Council’s service delivery; image and reputation; political; environmental; health and safety; employees; stakeholders and project management; and no further implications or risks have been identified.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

The Draft Program for this Summit is attached for Councillor information.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 LGNSW Rural and Regional Summit - February 2023 - Draft Program PDF, D23/1905 [↓](#)

Draft Program

8.00am	Registration Desk opens
8.00am	Coffee and Tea Station on arrival
9.00am	Conference starts
9.05am	MC introduction and Welcome/Acknowledgement to Country
9.10am	President's Welcome
9.15am	Speaker to be announced
9.25am	Address by Chris Minns MP, Leader of the Opposition
9.35am	<p>The Housing Crisis – in focus (panel session and Q&A)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tony Davies, CEO SocialFutures • Mark Degotardi, CEO Community Housing Industry Association NSW • Troy Green PSM, GM Tweed Regional Council • Alex Wendler, CEO Landcom
10.35am	Morning Refreshments + Networking
11.15am	<p>Success stories and learning - Local Government Housing (case studies)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cr Phyllis Miller OAM, Mayor Forbes Shire Council • Cr Kylie King, Mayor Albury City Council
11.45am	NSW Reconstruction Authority update
12.00pm	Speaker to be announced
12.20pm	Working Lunch break and networking sponsored by Landcom
1.10pm	Greg Warren MP, Shadow Minister for Local Government, Veterans and Western Sydney
1.20pm	<p>Rural Health, Mental Health and Resilience (panel session and Q&A)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ryan Park MP, Shadow Minister for Health, Shadow Minister for Mental Health • Dr Joe McGirr MP, Member for Wagga Wagga • Speaker to be announced
2.15pm	Building Back Better - Roads and Infrastructure (panel session and Q&A)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jenny Aitchison MP, Shadow Minister for Regional Transport and Roads• Other speakers to be announced
3.15pm	Afternoon refreshments
3.45pm	Rural and Regional NSW – What do our communities really need? (Panel session including Q&A) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Joanna Quilty, CEO NSW Council of Social Service (NCOSS)• Xavier Martin, President NSW Farmers• Danica Leys, CEO Country Women's Association of NSW (CWA of NSW)
4.30pm	Recap and communicate
5.00pm	Networking and Cocktail Reception
7.00pm	Conference close

* This program is correct at time of publication (15 December 2022) and is subject to change.

5.3 NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY - 2023 - OPENING OF CALL FOR MOTIONS

RECORD NUMBER: 2023/39

AUTHOR: Catherine Davis, Executive Support Manager

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) is convening the 29th National General Assembly (NGA), from 18-21 June 2023 in Canberra. A discussion paper is attached to this report to provide guidelines to assist Council in submitting motion(s) for debate at this Assembly if it so wishes. A report will be brought to Council seeking Councillor attendance when more detail on the Assembly is made available.

LINK TO DELIVERY/OPERATIONAL PLAN

The recommendation in this report relates to the Delivery/Operational Plan strategy “14.3. Provide opportunities for widespread and quality engagement, and where appropriate, shared decision-making”

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

POLICY AND GOVERNANCE IMPLICATIONS

Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council resolves any motion(s) to be submitted to the National General Assembly to be held in Canberra in mid-June 2023.

FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Consideration has been given to the recommendation’s impact on Council’s service delivery; image and reputation; political; environmental; health and safety; employees; stakeholders and project management; and no further implications or risks have been identified.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

National General Assembly

Convened annually by the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA), the National General Assembly (NGA) of Local Government is the peak annual event for Local Government to engage directly with the Federal Government, to develop national policy, and to influence the future direction of councils and communities.

The theme for the 2023 NGA is Our Communities, Our Future with the conference being held 18-21 June, 2023 at the National Convention Centre, Canberra ACT.

Motions

As the national voice of local government, the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) advocates on behalf of Australia's 537 councils for funding and policy outcomes that support local governments to deliver better results for their communities.

Each year a National General Assembly (NGA) is held in Canberra where councils from around the nation discuss current and emerging challenges and opportunities and advocate to the Federal Government on critical issues facing our sector.

The motions passed at the NGA inform ALGA's strategic direction and national advocacy objectives.

To assist us, please ensure that your motions meet the following criteria:

1. Be relevant to the work of local government nationally;
2. Not be focussed on a specific jurisdiction, location or region – unless the project or issue has national implications;
3. Be consistent with the themes of the NGA;
4. Complement or build on the policy objectives of your state and territory local government association;
5. Be submitted by a council which is a financial member of their state or territory local government association;
6. Propose a clear action and outcome ie call on the Australian Government to act on something;
7. Not be advanced on behalf of external third parties that may seek to use the NGA to apply pressure to Board members or to gain national political exposure for positions that are not directly relevant to the work of, or in the national interests of, local government;
8. Address issues that will directly improve the capacity of local government to deliver services and infrastructure for the benefit of all Australian communities;
9. Not seek to advance an outcome that would result in a benefit to one group of councils to the detriment of another;
10. Be supported by sufficient evidence to support the outcome being sought and demonstrate the relevance and significance of the matter to local government nationally.

Motions must commence with the wording: "This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to..."

Motions should be received no later than 11.59pm on Friday 24 March 2023.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 2023 NGA Discussion Paper - Call for Motions, D23/1921 [↓](#)



AUSTRALIAN
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
ASSOCIATION

2023 NGA

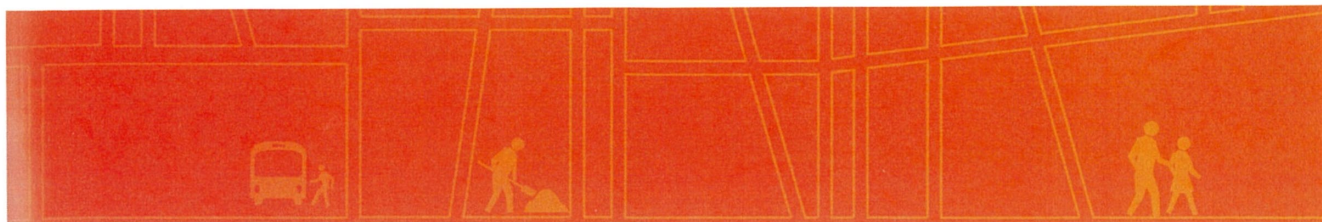
OUR COMMUNITIES
OUR FUTURE ▶▶▶

DISCUSSION PAPER
Call for Motions

JUNE 2023

NATIONAL CONVENTION CENTRE
CANBERRA





The Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) is pleased to convene the 29th National General Assembly of Local Government (NGA), to be held in Canberra mid June 2023.

This discussion paper contains essential information for Australian councils considering submitting motions for debate at the 2023 NGA.

It is recommended that all councils and delegates intending to attend this event familiarise themselves with the guidelines for motions contained in this paper.

Key Dates

December 2022	24 March 2023	June 2023 *	June 2023 *
Opening of Call for Motions	Acceptance of Motions	Regional Cooperation & Development Forum	National General Assembly

* Dates are subject to change depending on timing of Australian Council of Local Government

**To submit your motion,
visit: alga.com.au**

Background to ALGA and the NGA

ALGA was established in 1947, and its structure is a federation of member state and territory local government associations.

Its mission is to champion and strengthen Australian councils by representing the agreed position of ALGA members, the seven local government associations from around Australia, who represent 537 Australian councils.

In 1994, the ALGA Board, in consultation with its member associations, established the NGA as a unique forum to engage with councils directly at the national level.

The purpose of the NGA was to build the profile of local government on the national stage and demonstrate to the Australian Government the strength and value of working with local government nationally.

As part of the NGA, debate on motions was introduced as a vehicle for councils from across the nation to canvas ideas, and solutions to the challenges facing Australia's councils and communities.

Outcomes of debate on motions (NGA Resolutions) could then be used by participating councils to inform their own policies and priorities, as well as their own advocacy to the Federal Government and Federal MPs.

At the same time, they assist ALGA, and its member state and territory associations to gain valuable insight into council priorities, emerging national issues, and gauge the level of need and support for emerging policy and program initiatives and advocacy.

Changes for 2023

The ALGA Board has undertaken a comprehensive review of the motions process.

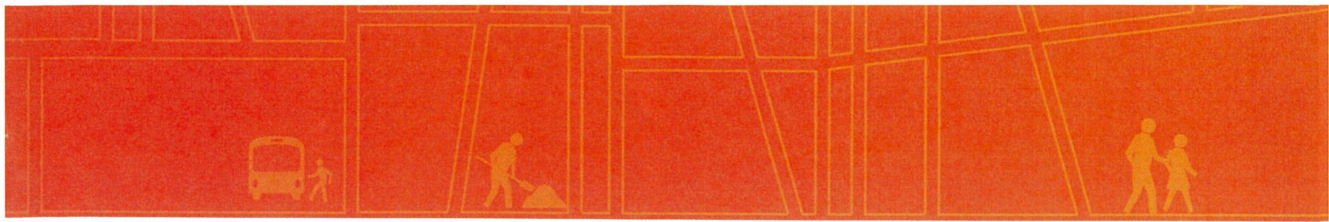
As a result, ALGA has allocated additional time for debate on motions at the 2023 NGA and amended the criteria with a view to improving the quality and relevance of motions included in the Business Papers.

The updated criteria for motions is listed on page 6.

ALGA's policies and priorities will continue to be informed by motions and determined by the ALGA Board and based on the positions of its member associations.

ALGA's Board thanks all councils for attending the NGA, and those that will take the time to submit motions for debate at this event.





Submitting Motions

The theme of the 2023 NGA: Our Communities, Our Future.

This theme conveys the critical importance of our communities, how they are the focus of our attention, and how they are at the centre of all our work.

Our communities are the reason that local governments exist, and it is the health and wellbeing of our communities that will shape Australia's future.

This discussion paper is a call for councils to submit motions for debate at the 2023 NGA, to be held in Canberra mid June 2023.

A notice of motion to this year's NGA should either:

- Focus on practical and deliverable programs and policies that the Australian Government can support and work directly with the local government sector to build our communities; or
- New program ideas that would help the local government sector to deliver national objectives.

Motions should be concise, practical and able to be implemented.

They must also meet the guidelines for motions outlined in this paper.

You are encouraged to read all the sections of the paper but are not expected to respond to every issue or question. Your council's motion/s should address one or more of the issues identified in the discussion paper.

Motions must be lodged electronically using the online form available at www.alga.com.au and be received no later than 11:59pm on Friday 24 March 2023.

All notices of motions will be reviewed by the NGA Subcommittee to ensure that they meet the criteria included in this paper.

The Subcommittee reserves the right to select, edit or amend notices of motions to facilitate the efficient and effective management of debate on motions at the NGA.

All NGA resolutions will be published on www.nationalgeneralassembly.com.au.

As the convenor of the NGA, the ALGA Board will communicate resolutions to the relevant Australian Government Minister and publish Ministerial responses as they are received on this website.

If your council does submit a motion, there is an expectation that a council representative will be present at the NGA to move and speak to that motion if required.

We look forward to hearing from you and seeing you at the 2023 NGA.



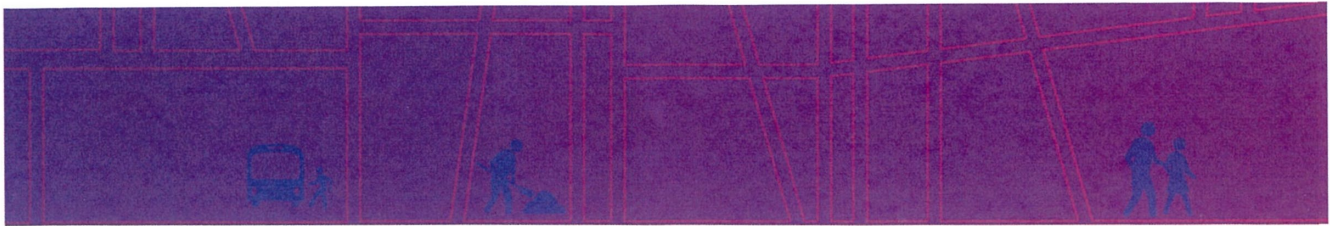
Criteria for motions

To be eligible for inclusion in the NGA Business Papers, and subsequent debate on the floor of the NGA, motions must meet the following criteria:

1. Be relevant to the work of local government nationally.
2. Not be focused on a specific jurisdiction, location or region – unless the project or issue has national implications.
3. Be consistent with the themes of the NGA.
4. Complement or build on the policy objectives of ALGA and your state or territory local government association.
5. Be submitted by a council which is a financial member of their state or territory local government association.
6. Propose a clear action and outcome ie call on the Australian Government to act on something.
7. Not be advanced on behalf of external third parties that may seek to use the NGA to apply pressure to Board members, or to gain national political exposure for positions that are not directly relevant to the work of, or in the national interests of, local government.
8. Address issues that will directly improve the capacity of local government to deliver services and infrastructure for the benefit of all Australian communities.
9. Not seek to advance an outcome that would result in a benefit to one group of councils to the detriment of another.
10. Be supported by sufficient evidence to support the outcome being sought and demonstrate the relevance and significance of the matter to local government nationally.

Motions must commence with the following wording:

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to ...



Other things to consider

Please note that it is important to complete the background section on the form. Submitters of motions should not assume that NGA delegates will have background knowledge of the proposal.

The background section helps all delegates, including those with no previous knowledge of the issue, in their consideration of the motion.

Motions should not be prescriptive in directing how the matter should be pursued.

Try to keep motions practical, focussed, relatively simple and capable of being implemented to ensure that relevant Australian Government Ministers provide considered, thoughtful and timely responses.

Multi-point motions that require cross portfolio coordination have not historically received meaningful responses from the Government.

All motions submitted will be reviewed by the NGA Subcommittee, in consultation with state and territory local government associations, to determine their eligibility for inclusion in the NGA Business Papers.

When reviewing motions, the Subcommittee will consider the motions criteria, clarity of the motion and the importance and relevance of the issue to local government.

If there are any questions about the substance or intent of a motion, ALGA will raise these with the nominated contact officer. With the agreement of the submitting council, these motions may be edited before inclusion in the NGA Business Papers.

To ensure an efficient and effective debate where there are numerous motions on a similar issue, the Subcommittee will group motions together under an overarching strategic motion.

The strategic motions will have either been drafted by ALGA or will be based on a motion submitted by a council which best summarises the subject matter.

Debate will occur in accordance with the rules for debate on motions published in the Business Papers and will focus on the strategic motions.

Associated sub-motions will be debated by exception only or in accordance with the debating rules.

Any motion deemed to be primarily concerned with local or state issues will be referred to the relevant state or territory local government association and will not be included in the NGA Business Papers.

Motions should be lodged electronically using the online form available on the NGA website at: www.alga.com.au.

All motions require, among other things, a contact officer, a clear national objective, a summary of the key arguments in support of the motion, and endorsement of your council.

> **Motions should be received no later than 11:59pm on Friday 24 March 2023.**



Setting the scene

'Through a devastating pandemic, through a succession of dangerous and damaging natural disasters, through global uncertainty and painful price rises – The Australian people have demonstrated the best of our national character. Resolute and resilient in hard times. Practical and pragmatic about the challenges we confront. Optimistic and confident in a better future. And ready to work together to build it.'

The Hon Jim Chalmer MP, Federal Treasurer Budget Speech 2022-23

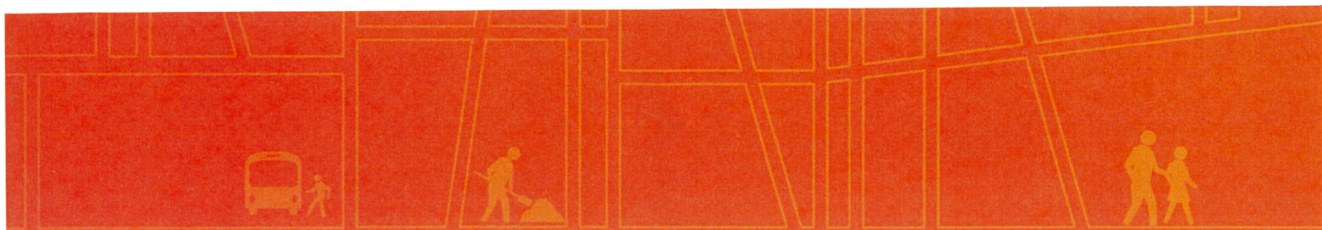
The opening statement of the Federal Treasurer's first Budget Speech describes the backdrop against which the 2023 NGA will be held.

The 2022 NGA was held just weeks after the change in the Federal Government on 21 May 2022. On 25 October 2022, the new Government handed down its first Budget which updated the economic outlook, realigned priorities and outlined how the Government was to meet its election promises.

The Budget update foreshadows deteriorating economic conditions, citing global challenges, slowing growth, high inflation and higher interest rates, and acknowledges the mounting cost of living pressures on individuals, families and communities.

Key updates include:

- The economy is expected to grow solidly this financial year, by 3 ¼ percent – before slowing to 1 ½ percent growth for 2023/24, a full percentage point lower than what was forecast in March;
- That slowing growth will have an effect on employment, but jobs will continue to be created, and unemployment is expected to stay low by historical standards – at 4 ½ percent in 2023/24 and 2024/25;
- Inflation is expected to peak at 7 ¾ percent late in 2022, before moderating over time to 3 ½ percent through 2023/24, and returning to the Reserve Bank's target range in 2024/25; and that
- When that inflation moderates, real wages are expected to start growing again in 2024.



The Government is also committed to repairing the Budget in a ‘measured and responsible’ manner consistent with the objective of maintaining full employment and the delivery of essential services. It foreshadows that this will be achieved through spending restraint, with new spending focused on high-quality and targeted investments and building on the capability of the Australian people, expanding the productive capacity of the economy, and supporting action on climate change.

The Budget also included a focus on measuring and improving community wellbeing.

By the time of the 2023 NGA, the Government will have delivered its second Budget, which will provide further updates to the economic outlook and also refine its economic strategy going forward.

The 2023 NGA provides you – the elected representatives of Australia’s local councils and communities – with the opportunity to engage with the Federal Government and key Ministers.

Further, it is your opportunity to advocate for new or extended programs and policy initiatives that could strengthen local governments’ capacity to deliver services and infrastructure to communities across the nation.

This year’s call for motions focusses on eight priority areas:

- Productivity;
- Local Government Infrastructure;
- Community Wellbeing;
- Local Government Workforce;
- Data, Digital Technology and Cyber Security;
- Climate Change and Renewable Energy;
- Natural Disasters; and
- Housing.



1. Productivity

In February 2022, the then Federal Treasurer asked the Productivity Commission to undertake an inquiry into Australia's productivity performance and provide recommendations on productivity enhancing reform.

This inquiry was the second of a regular series, undertaken at five-yearly intervals, and recognises that productivity growth is vital for Australia's future. Drawing on the Intergenerational Report the Treasurer notes that '... future growth in income and living standards will be driven from productivity growth as the participation effects of young migration are offset by an ageing population.'

ALGA engaged SGS Economics and Planning to undertake research to support its submissions to this inquiry.

SGS Principal and Partner Dr Marcus Spiller presented on some of the findings of this research at the 2022 NGA. In his presentation he identified that local governments generate local economic activity through employment, payment of wages and expenditure on goods and services in the local economy. In addition, SGS identified nine ways local government supports the productive capacity of the broader economy.

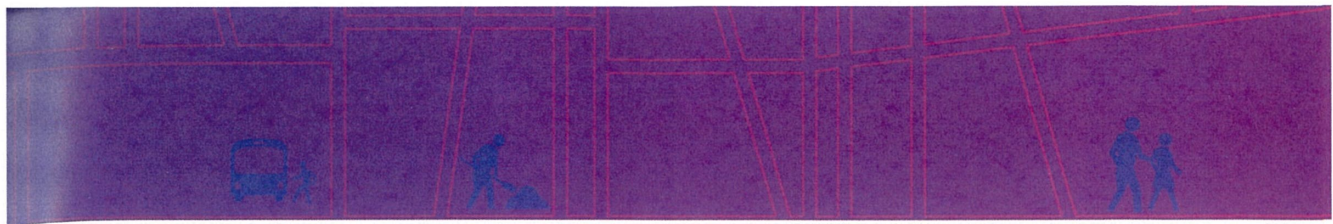
Figure 1 – Nine ways local governments contribute to the productive capacity of the broader economy:



Sources: Adapted from SGS Research for ALGA's Submission to Productivity Commission (2022)

Are there programs and initiatives that the Commonwealth Government could implement to improve local government's capacity to support productivity growth?

Are there programs that could support one, or all of the identified ways local government contributes to productivity in the broader economy?



2. Local Government Infrastructure

The 2021 National State of the Assets Report (NSoA) shone a spotlight on local government infrastructure assets. While the technical report shows that local government assets such as roads, bridges, buildings, parks and recreation, stormwater, water and wastewater and airports and aerodromes are generally in good to very good condition, around 10 percent are not fit for purpose, and around 20 – 25 percent are only fair and over time will need attention.

Over the past 12 months this situation has further deteriorated as a result of natural disasters, and particularly flooding across the eastern seaboard.

The technical report shows that in 2019/20 non-financial infrastructure assets were valued at \$342 billion and were depreciating at \$7.7 billion per year. Replacement costs of these infrastructure assets were in the order of \$533 billion.

While 86 percent of councils have adopted long term financial plans, one third of councils do not have asset management plans for their major assets, or if they do, they are out-of-date. Of the councils that do have asset management plans only 66 percent included financial projections in their financial plan.

Asset management and long-term financial planning are essential tools for councils to manage community assets now and into the future.

Are there programs or initiatives that the Commonwealth Government could adopt to improve the long-term sustainability of council's infrastructure?

Are there programs or initiatives that the Commonwealth Government could provide to improve the sector's capacity to manage local government infrastructure and to integrate these plans into long-term financial plans?



3. Community Wellbeing

While the NSoA focuses attention on physical assets, local governments also provide a wide range of important community services that improve local wellbeing. These services are provided at the discretion of councils based on local characteristics, needs, priorities and resources of the local community.

Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) data shows that local government annual expenditure in 2020/21 was \$43 billion. It is important to note that nationally local government is 83 percent self-sufficient. That is, the vast majority of local government services and infrastructure are funded at the local level either through rates, fees and charges, sale of goods and services, and interest, and only 17 percent comes from grants and subsidies from other levels of government. Unfortunately, many of these grants and subsidies are tied, and often require matching funding which restricts the ability to address local priorities in the way the council and community might like.

Local government community services are broadly defined and may include but not limited to:

- environmental health including food safety;
- childcare, early childhood education;
- aged care, senior citizens;
- services to the disabled;
- programs to address disadvantage, to reduce poverty and homelessness;
- sporting and recreational programs;
- arts and cultural activities, program and festivals;
- tourism and economic development activities; and
- library services.

Councils also play a key role making places that are attractive and liveable for current and future workers, and closing the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians.

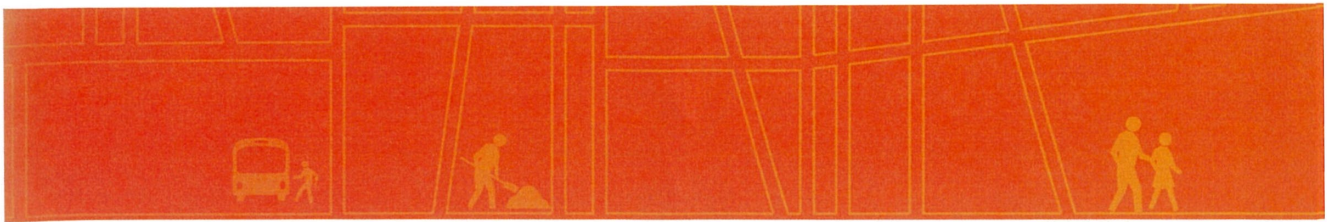
ALGA's research shows that almost one in four councils are heavily reliant on federal Financial Assistance Grants, which make up at least 20 percent of their annual operating revenue. Financial sustainability of local governments remains an ongoing issue which threatens local service provision and community wellbeing.

Noting the funding arrangements for the provision of local government community services in your area and across the country, are there programs and initiatives that the Commonwealth Government could implement to improve the delivery of these services?

Are there changes to existing programs, including to administrative arrangements, that would significantly improve local government human service planning and provision of services and infrastructure across Australia?

Are there new programs the Australian Government could develop that would support councils to close the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians?

What are the actions the Australian Government could take to support councils to improve their ongoing financial sustainability, and their capacity to deliver the services their communities need?



4. Local Government Workforce

Local government is a major employer in Australia providing employment, career advancement and training opportunities for more than 190,800 Australians, across an estimated 400 occupations. In many communities, the council is one of the largest employers.

There are 537 local councils in Australia. Importantly, they are geographically dispersed and provide essential public administration to every corner of the nation.

According to the 2022 National Local Government Workforce Skills and Capability Survey, more than 90 percent of local governments are experiencing skills shortages, resulting in around two thirds of councils having their projects impacted or delayed.

Skills shortages occur for a variety of reasons including an inability to compete against the private sector, worker accommodation, support services for families, ageing of the workforce and geographic isolation. The attrition rate (or rate of turnover) of local government staff is estimated to be between 15 – 20 percent per annum.

The most cited skills shortages include engineers, urban planners, building surveyors, environmental officers and human resources professionals.

ALGA's submission to the Productivity Commission's Productivity Inquiry called on all levels of government to work together to improve training pathways and address skills and labour shortages for the benefit of councils, communities, and businesses right across Australia.

While local government must face its immediate workforce challenges, it must also anticipate the changing nature of work, and future skills needed to meet the changing needs of our communities.

Are there programs or initiatives that the Commonwealth Government could implement that would enhance local government's capacity to attract and retain appropriately skilled staff now and into the future?

Are there programs or changes to existing programs that would increase local government's ability to employ apprentices and trainees?

Are there other initiatives that the Commonwealth Government could provide to improve the sector's ability to plan and develop skills fit for the future?

5. Data, Digital Technology and Cyber Security

Provision of information technology to all Australians is vital for innovation, economic growth and social equity. However, it is potentially even more important to regional Australia where the tyranny of distance increases the inequity of services available – including education, health, economic and social.

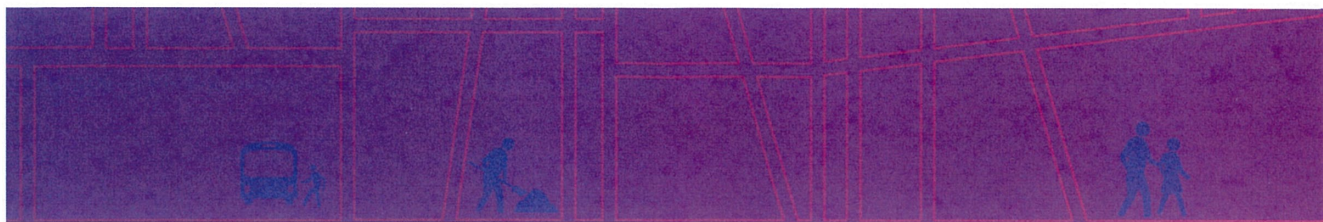
Innovative technology is becoming more broadly available and has the ability to boost productivity and economic growth.

Councils around Australia continue to embrace new technologies to improve their service delivery standards and broaden consultation and engagement with their local communities. However, many councils lack basic technological infrastructure and have a shortage of necessary skills and resources.

In October 2022, cyber-attacks on major Australian corporate organisations including Optus and Medibank Private highlighted the critical importance of cyber security. It is a timely reminder as digital information, services and products become an increasing feature of modern business operation including in local government.

Like all risks, local government must manage the risk of cyber-attack and address cyber security. At a national level, there is a poor understanding of local government's vulnerability to cyber-attacks and a lack or inadequacy of risk management strategies and business continuity planning within the sector. While this is primarily a responsibility of the sector itself, governments at all levels must work together to ensure that the public have confidence in government information management systems and its security.

Drawing upon your own council experience, and your knowledge of other councils within your state, or territory, are there programs and initiatives that the Commonwealth Government could implement to help local government develop its digital technology services and infrastructure and/or to improve cyber security within the sector?



6. Climate Change and Renewable Energy

Local governments are playing an important leadership role in addressing climate change, supporting a wide range of programs to lower the carbon footprint of their own business operations and in their local communities.

As a sector, local government is leading the debate for lowering carbon emissions, sourcing renewable energy, responding creatively to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from landfills, and facilitating the construction of green buildings and water sensitive design of cities and towns.

Councils also have a role to play supporting communities in transition, moving away from fossil fuels to new industries.

Pragmatically, local government has been at the forefront of addressing the impacts of climate change and adapting to reduce its environmental footprint. These impacts include an increased number of days with high temperatures, less rainfall and more droughts in southern Australia, less snow, more intense rainfall and fire weather, stronger cyclones, and sea level rise. These changes will increase stress on Australia's infrastructure and physical assets and natural ecosystems that are already threatened, and significantly affect agriculture, forestry, fisheries, transport, health, tourism, finance and disaster risk management.

At the 2022 NGA, there were five Strategic Motions and 15 associated motions debated concerning this issue. Councils are encouraged to review these motions on ALGA's website prior to developing new motions for debate at the 2023 NGA.

Noting the Government's commitment to reducing emissions, are there programs and initiatives that the Commonwealth Government could develop to assist councils in their work to address climate change and reduce emissions?





7. Natural Disasters

Over the past five years, Australian communities have experienced unprecedented natural disasters. At the time of writing, almost every community in Australia, particularly those on the East Coast, had been adversely affected by wet weather conditions associated with the La Nina weather pattern.

Councils in Western Australia are still recovering from a cyclone in 2021, and the Black Summer bushfires in 2019/20 burned approximately 250,000 square kilometres across the country.

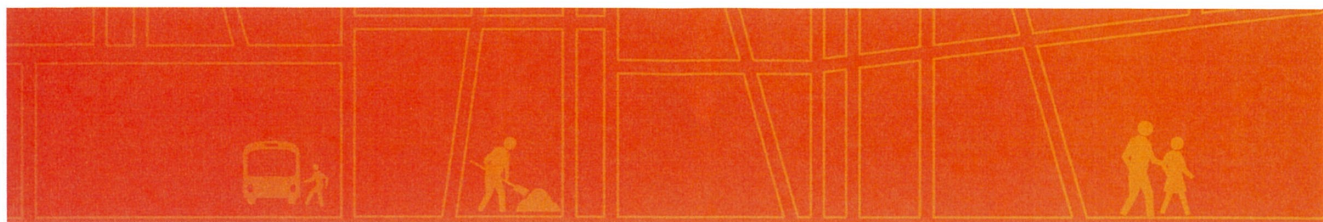
The impacts of heavy rainfall, record breaking floods and associated social disruption and damage to infrastructure have exposed weaknesses as well as the strength of current emergency management systems.

There have been numerous NGA motions in the past regarding natural disasters. This year, councils are encouraged to draw on their practical experience of the improvements that could be made to managing emergencies.

Please note, however, that many aspects of emergency management are state or territory responsibilities, and your motions should focus on how the Commonwealth Government could assist.

What new programs could the Australian Government develop to partner with local government to improve the current natural disaster management systems to further assist in recovery and build resilience?





8. Housing

A lack of affordable housing remains one of the biggest issues for Australian councils and communities.

There is less social and affordable housing stock available than there was a decade ago, and more low-income Australians are experiencing housing stress.

The shortage and rising costs of rental properties and affordable home ownership are having significant social and economic impacts in cities and towns across Australia, including rural and regional communities.

This is due to a range of factors including changes to recent migration patterns, cheap finance and labour and material shortages in the construction sector.

While the provision of affordable housing is not a local government responsibility, councils often facilitate affordable housing within their communities, operating within state/territory planning, financial and other legislation requirements.

Some councils are going further, addressing thin markets and developing land and housing themselves, delivering local solutions to meet the needs of their communities.

Local government also plays an important role addressing some of the causes of homelessness, including social inclusion programs that can assist mental health and family violence issues, as well as providing support for people currently experiencing homelessness.

What new programs and policies could the Australian Government develop to partner with local government to support the provision of more affordable housing?

How can the Australian Government work with councils to address the causes and impacts of homelessness?



Conclusion

Thank you for taking the time to read this discussion paper and your support for the 2023 National General Assembly of Local Government.

A FINAL REMINDER:

- » Motions should be lodged electronically at www.alga.com.au and received no later than 11.59pm on Friday 24 March 2023.
- » Motions must meet the criteria published in this paper.
- » Motions should commence with the following wording: 'This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to...'
- » Motions should not be prescriptive in directing how the matter should be pursued
- » Motions should be practical, focussed and relatively simple.
- » It is important to complete the background section on the form.
- » Motions must not seek to advance an outcome that would result in a benefit to one group of councils to the detriment of another.
- » When your council submits a motion there is an expectation that a council representative will be present at the 2023 National General Assembly to move and speak to that motion if required.

We look forward to hearing from you and seeing you at the 2023 National General Assembly in Canberra.



5.4 CENTRAL NSW JOINT ORGANISATION - ORANGE CITY COUNCIL PLACEMAT AND REPORT - NOVEMBER 2022

RECORD NUMBER: 2023/66

AUTHOR: David Waddell, Chief Executive Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Central NSW Joint Organisation have provided a statistical snapshot for Orange, titled a 'Placemat', providing a non-exhaustive summary of information about the Orange Local Government Area at a point in time. It is intended that the Snapshot will be updated with contemporary data ahead of each local government election and will be utilised to inform and review the development of the Community Strategic Plan.

LINK TO DELIVERY/OPERATIONAL PLAN

The recommendation in this report relates to the Delivery/Operational Plan strategy "16.1. Work in partnership with other Councils, regional organisations and State and Federal Governments".

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil cost to Council outside membership fees paid to CNSWJO for this project as well as Council staff time.

POLICY AND GOVERNANCE IMPLICATIONS

Nil?

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1 Note the 'Our PlaceMat' Report.**
- 2 Note the 'PlaceMats' purpose is to have an informed conversation with the community about their aspirations, particularly for their Community Strategic Plan.**
- 3 Acknowledge that the 'PlaceMats' use publicly provided data and as such can rapidly date.**
- 4 Note that repeating the process will show change and ultimately trends.**
- 5 Commend to the CNSWJO Board that it repeat the process in good time for the next round of Integrated Planning and Reporting; and**
- 6 Continue to advocate, including through the CNSWJO for better recognition of Integrated Planning and Reporting.**

FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Consideration has been given to the recommendation's impact on Council's service delivery; image and reputation; political; environmental; health and safety; employees; stakeholders and project management; and no further implications or risks have been identified.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION**Background**

Council will recall from past Mayoral reports that CNSWJO has been progressing regional strategic support for IP & R and the renewal of the CNSWJO Statement of Regional Strategic Priority. Please request past reports.

The project has oversight by Mr Paul Devery GM Cowra, Mr Brad Byrnes GM Cabonne and Ms Rachelle Robb, Director Corporate & Commercial Services Orange City Council. It was facilitated by weekly meetings of a consultant, CNSWJO staff, the Regional Leadership Executive and RDA Central West.

A CSP workshop with State Agencies was arranged in conjunction with Regional NSW and CNSWJO staff and delivered in Orange on 3 December 2021. The intent of the workshop was to provide an opportunity for our region's Integrated Planning & Reporting (IP&R) practitioners and other Council representatives to hear from State Government agencies about matters that will inform the development of the next local Community Strategic Plan, including:

- a. State agency priorities and plans for the next 5 years;
- b. Data collected or held by the agency that may assist Councils in their community planning;
- c. Opportunities for State agencies to partner with local Councils (including to inform Delivery Program activities); and
- d. Where Councils can find additional information related to the agency's work.

A secondary purpose of the workshop was to help establish or cement relationships between State agencies that operate in the Central West and local Councils across this region, as well as providing an opportunity for Council practitioners to network with their peers, all of whom are undertaking the same IP&R tasks within the same timeframes. Council will be aware that State agency engagement with the Integrated Planning and Reporting Process is typically poor and this project has been a step forward in addressing this ongoing issue. Ongoing advocacy and facilitation in this regard is recommended.

A key output from this program has been "Our PlaceMat." The PlaceMat's purpose is to have an informed and honest conversation with community about their aspirations, particularly for their Community Strategic Plan.

Why call it Our PlaceMat?

The PlaceMat is designed to be opened up and laid on the kitchen table to enable conversations in community about their place. Opened up it is an A3 size and could be used as a traditional placemat for the table!

Ideally, this will empower community to provide informed requests of Councils and State agencies on infrastructure and services priority. Ideally, it will enable the community themselves to consider the support they themselves can provide or the changes they themselves can make to move the dial in areas over which they have some control, for example preventative health.

About the data in OurPlacemat

The data sets for the PlaceMat were developed through a subcommittee of Council staff and elected representatives from across the region. It is important to note that the data sets were chosen to inform community about the priorities that are important to them. So, for example mental health, domestic violence and theft were selected above other health and crime indicators by the subcommittee to inform communities. It is well known that communities' perceptions about their "problems" may not necessarily be borne out in the data. Council may have a view in this regard and is encouraged to provide feedback to CNSWJO.

Further, some communities have particular challenges where the input data into these public sites is poor. For example, if a community did not have a good response to the census its ABS data will be poor. If Council has concerns regarding specific data sets then it may be worth digging deeper into the underlying issues with the data and consider what Council can do to manage this. CNSWJO advise they would welcome any feedback in this regard with a view to providing advocacy and other support.

All data sets are publicly available and rely on their sources' timeframes for renewal. This can be notoriously slow. Classic examples of this problem in the PlaceMat are median house prices and Electric Vehicles. Please find below where data has been sourced from including links for those interested in exploring the data sets to a greater degree.

The data will become more meaningful once the program is repeated and Council will be able to see change and over time, trends.

Benchmarking

The PlaceMat benchmarks against other Councils in CNSWJO and then a regional placemat benchmarks against NSW. This enables informed conversations about the potential differences in one communities' data with a neighbour. The subcommittee's view was that this was more immediate and therefore appropriate to CSP than comparisons with NSW which includes the very different metrics generated in Sydney. It is always tricky and Council may have a view and is encouraged to share this with the CNSWJO.

Next steps

This was the first time that CNSWJO has undertaken this process. It has received good feedback, there is good scope for improvement and to repeat the process. All feedback is welcomed.

ATTACHMENTS







- 1 Orange Statistical Significance Placemat December 2022, D23/4128 [↓](#)
- 2 CNSWJO Placemat Data all LGAs at November 2022, D23/4135 [↓](#)

HOW TO READ THIS DOCUMENT

The data included has been collated under four themes which reflect the quadruple bottom line: community, economy, urban and natural environment, and community leadership.

Orange has been compared to the same data for the Central NSW region as a whole, including the 9 local government areas of Bathurst, Blayney, Cabonne, Cowra, Forbes, Lachlan, Oberon, Parkes and Weddin.

The data included for Orange is reflected as follows:

-  Indicates Orange's data is comparable with the region as a whole (or a comparison is not useful).
-  Orange's data shows a **higher result** which is **positive** compared to the regional average.
-  Orange's data shows a **lower result** which is **positive** compared to the regional average.
-  Orange's data shows a **higher result** which is **negative** compared to the regional average.
-  Orange's data shows a **lower result** which is **negative** compared to the regional average.
-  Data boxes flagged with a **green or red triangle** highlight the data that deviates by more than 10% from the CNSW average.



SOURCING THE DATA

This Snapshot relies on data from a number of sources. These data sets are updated with varying frequency. The most recent and up-to-date data is included in the summary (and the date of its publication is provided in each data cell). This means that some data is older than others. The primary sources of data used in this Snapshot include:

- Australian Bureau of Statistics
- NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research
- Transport for NSW road safety statistics
- SnapshotClimate.com.au
- NSW Health
- NSW Electoral Commission
- Destination NSW
- Local councils

FOR EXAMPLE: This data tile demonstrates the rate of domestic violence assaults per 100,000 in Orange is **higher** compared to the rate of assaults per 100,000 in the other 9 LGA's within the CNSWJO which is a **negative** result.



ORANGE NSW

OUR STATISTICAL SNAPSHOT 2022



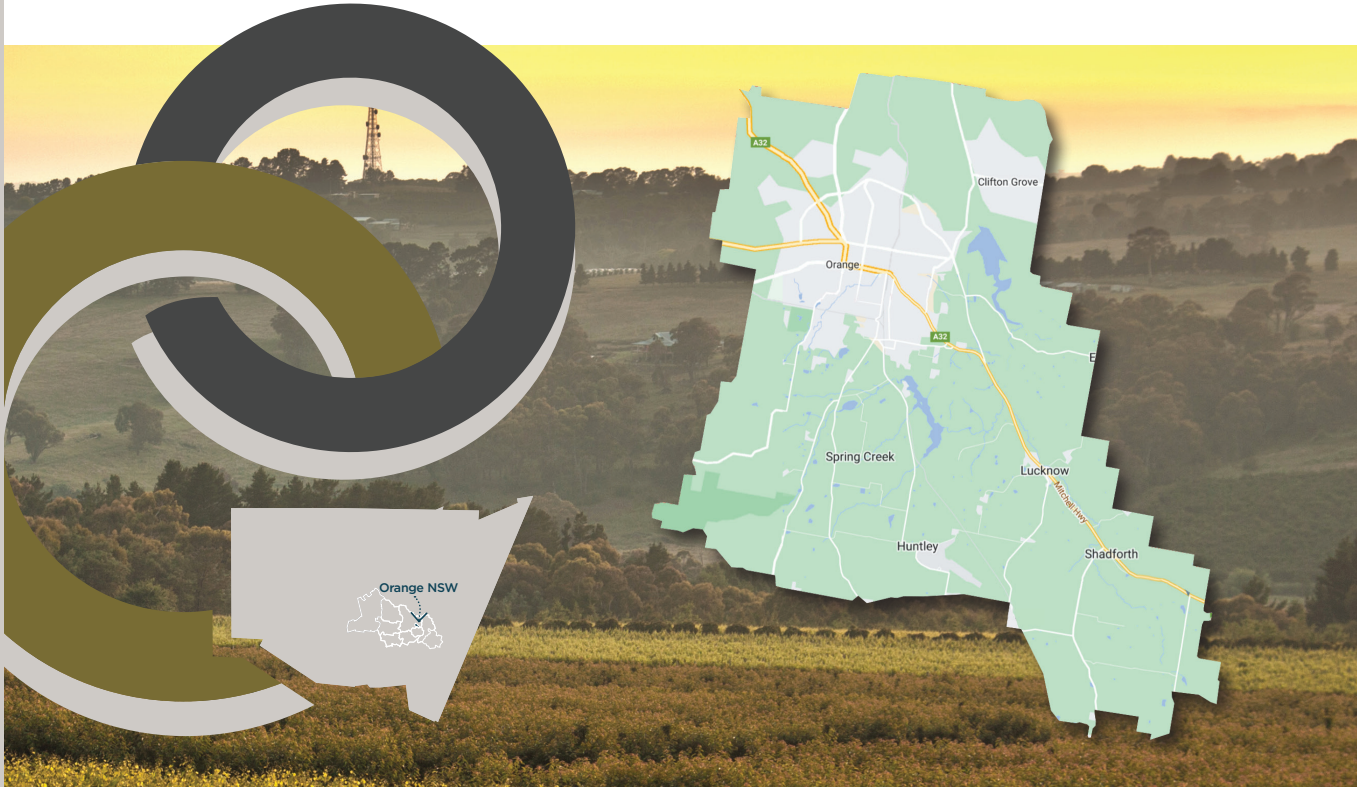
ORANGE AT A GLANCE

- 43,512 population
- 37 average age
- \$842 median weekly income
- 2.3% unemployment rate
- \$530,000 average house price

ABOUT THIS SNAPSHOT OF ORANGE

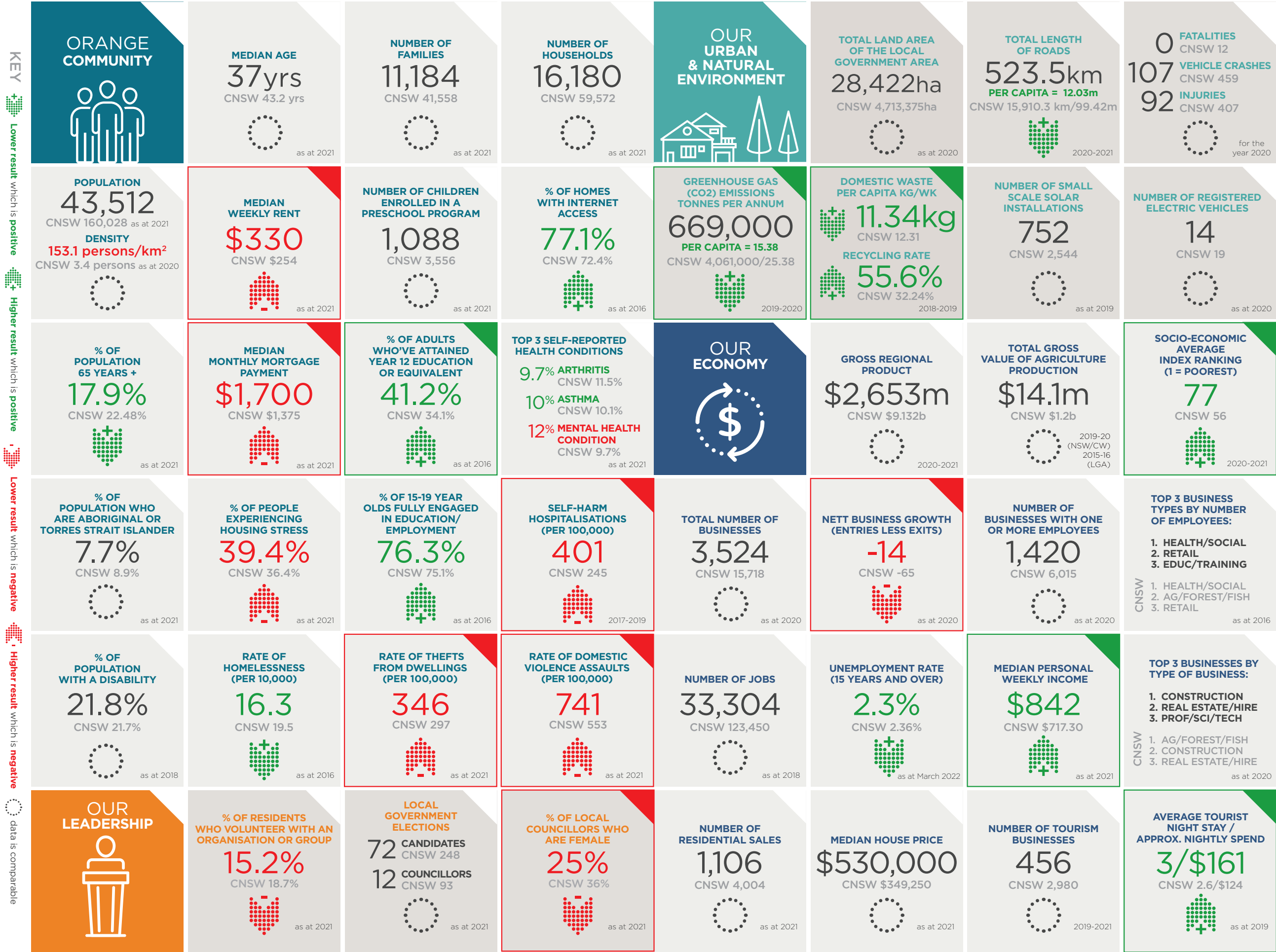
This Snapshot provides a non-exhaustive summary of information about the Orange Local Government Area at a point in time. It helps our local community, government and other decision-makers to understand where some of the opportunities and challenges exist in the local area.

It is intended that this Snapshot will be updated with contemporary data ahead of each local government election (usually every four years) and will be available to local communities to inform the review and development of each Community Strategic Plan. Information on how to read this document is provided on the back page.



Central NSW Joint Organisation (CNSWJO) provides strong cohesive leadership that aligns all tiers of government to deliver our region's community derived strategic priorities. CNSWJO has co-ordinated this project.

Our member councils Bathurst Regional Council, Blayney Shire Council, Cabonne Council, Cowra Shire Council, Forbes Shire Council, Lachlan Shire Council, Oberon Council, Orange City Council, Parkes Shire Council, and Weddin Shire Council all have unique strengths and weaknesses which shape their individual opportunities and challenges, as demonstrated in the following data Snapshot of Orange.



	Data as at [date]	NSW	Central NSW region	Bathurst	Blayney	Cabonne	Cowra	Forbes	Lachlan	Oberon	Orange	Parkes	Weddin	Data source
Our community														
Median age	2021	38.6 years	43.2 years	38 years	43 years	44 years	47 years	42 years	41 years	47 years	37 years	41 years	52 years	https://www.abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/search-by-area
Number of families	2021	2,135,964	41,558	11,242	2,044	3,721	3,376	2,414	1,502	1,432	11,184	3,668	975	https://www.abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/search-by-area
Number of households	2021	2,900,468	59,572	15,943	2,765	4,915	5,081	3,567	2,184	2,035	16,180	5,397	1,505	https://www.abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/search-by-area
Population	2021	8,072,163	160,028	43,567	7,497	13,766	12,724	9,319	6,094	5,580	43,512	14,361	3,608	https://www.abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/search-by-area
Population density/km2	2020	10.08	3.4	11.4	4.8	2.3	4.5	2.0	0.4	1.5	153.1	2.4	1.1	https://dbr.abs.gov.au/index.html
Median weekly rent	2021	\$420	\$254	\$320	\$270	\$250	\$230	\$230	\$180	\$280	\$330	\$250	\$198	https://www.abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/search-by-area
Number of children enrolled in a preschool program	2021	167,196	3,556	965	181	280	252	222	131	81	1,088	296	60	https://www.abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/search-by-area
% of homes with internet access	2016	82.5%	72.4%	79.2%	75.3%	75.7%	70.3%	69.9%	63.6%	72.2%	77.1%	70.7%	70.4%	https://dbr.abs.gov.au/index.html
% of population 65 years+	2021	17.7%	22.48%	18.4%	20.3%	21.6%	26.5%	23.1%	21.4%	24.9%	17.9%	20.8%	29.9%	https://www.abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/search-by-area
Median monthly mortgage payment	2021	\$2,167	\$1,375	\$1,733	\$1,517	\$1,625	\$1,200	\$1,283	\$878	\$1,560	\$1,700	\$1,300	\$953	https://www.abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/search-by-area
% of adults who've attained Yr 12 or equivalent	2016	52.1%	34.1%	42.3%	35.5%	37.3%	28.4%	32%	31.1%	31.6%	41.2%	31.3%	30.4%	https://dbr.abs.gov.au/index.html
Top 3 self-reported health conditions (by % of people who reported the condition)	2021	Arthritis (8.4%) MH condition (8.0%) Asthma (7.8%)	Arthritis (11.5%) Asthma (10.1%) MH cond (9.7%)	Asthma (11.1%) MH cond (10.9%) Arthritis (10.4%)	Arthritis (10.6%) Asthma (10.4%) MH cond (9.5%)	Arthritis (10.6%) Asthma (9%) MH cond (8.8%)	Arthritis (13.3%) MH cond (10.8%) Asthma (9.9%)	Arthritis (11.9%) MH cond (9.3%) Asthma (9.1%)	Arthritis (11.2%) Asthma (10.9%) MH cond (6.9%)	Arthritis (10.9%) Asthma (9.0%) MH cond (7.9%)	MH cond (12.0%) Asthma (10.0%) Arthritis (9.7%)	Arthritis (11.4%) Asthma (10.9%) MH cond (10.2%)	Arthritis (15.3%) Asthma (11.0%) MH cond (10.2%)	https://www.abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/search-by-area
% of population who are ATSI	2021	3.4%	8.9%	7.2%	5.8%	5%	8.8%	13.3%	18.3%	4.7%	7.7%	13.1%	4.7%	https://www.abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/search-by-area
% of people experiencing housing stress	2021	52.8%	36.4%	40.7%	37.1%	35.7%	39.7%	35.8%	26.7%	40.9%	39.4%	34.1%	33.7	https://www.abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/search-by-area
% of 15-19 year olds fully engaged in education/employment	2016	82.4%	75.1%	77%	80.7%	83.5%	72.7%	73.9%	67.1%	73.7%	76.3%	72.9%	73.4%	https://dbr.abs.gov.au/index.html
Self-harm hospitalisations (rate per 100,000)	2017-19	187	245	205	257	228	236	244	249	181	401	202	247	Health Intelligence Unit, WNSW LHD
% of population with a disability	2018	info not provided on a NSW basis	21.7%	19.5%	22.7%	20.3%	28.9%	20.4%	21.1%	22.4%	21.8%	22.5%	24.8%	https://dbr.abs.gov.au/index.html
Homelessness rate (per 10,000)	2016	50.5	19.5	38.3	24	19.2	9.7	31.1	13.1	5.7	16.3	6.2	31.1	https://dbr.abs.gov.au/index.html
Thefts from dwellings (rate per 100,000)	2021	16,451	297	273	230	117	377	524	476	129	346	441	56	https://www.bocsar.nsw.gov.au/Pages/bocsar_crime_stats/bocsar_lgaexceltables.aspx
Domestic violence assaults (rate per 100,000)	2021	32,133	553	755	379	234	628	736	608	240	741	788	417	https://www.bocsar.nsw.gov.au/Pages/bocsar_crime_stats/bocsar_lgaexceltables.aspx

	Data as at [date]	NSW	Central NSW region	Bathurst	Blayney	Cabonne	Cowra	Forbes	Lachlan	Oberon	Orange	Parkes	Weddin	Data source
Our leadership														
% of residents who volunteer with an organisation or group	2021	13%	18.7%	14.9%	18.2%	21.7%	18%	18.5%	23.8%	13.9%	15.2%	18.1%	24.2%	https://www.abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/search-by-
Total number of candidates for local government election	2021	NSW data not provided	248	68	8	13	16	13	12	13	65 (clr) + 7 (myr)	19	14	https://pastvtr.elections.nsw.gov.au/LG2101/index
Number of councillors	2021	NSW data not provided	93	9	7	9	9	9	10	9	11 + 1	10	9	
% of councillors who are female	2021	NSW data not provided	33 of 93 = 36%	2 of 9 = 22%	1 of 7 = 14%	4 of 9 = 44%	6 of 9 = 67%	5 of 9 = 56%	5 of 10 = 50%	3 of 9 = 33%	3 of 11 + 1 = 25%	2 of 10 = 20%	2 of 9 = 22% - elected (3 of 9 = 33% - 4 new from countback)	https://pastvtr.elections.nsw.gov.au/LG2101/index
Our urban and natural environment														
Total land area of LGA	2020	80,081,078.2 ha	4,713,375 ha	381,786 ha	152,465 ha	602,235 ha	280,878.2 ha	471,012.8 ha	1,496,825.4 ha	362,504.7 ha	28,421.6 ha	595,761.4 ha	341,485.7 ha	https://dbr.abs.gov.au/index.html
Total length of roads (km)	2020-21	167,257.1 km	15,910.3 km	1,361 km	735.4 km	1,933.3 km	1,270.3 km	1,869.2 km	3,981.5 km	972.2 km	523.5 km	2,179.3 km	1,084.9 km	https://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/public/about-councils/comparative-council-information/your-council-report/
Metres of roads per capita	2020-21	143.1 m	99.42 m	31.2 m	98.1 m	140.4 m	99.8 m	200.58 m	653.35 m	174.23 m	12.03 m	151.75 m	300.7 m	https://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/public/about-councils/comparative-council-information/your-council-report/
Number of vehicle crashes/fatalities/injured	2020	12,836 crashes 284 fatalities 15,821 injured	459 crashes 12 fatalities 407 injured	108 crashes 3 fatalities 90 injured	13 crashes 0 fatalities 13 injured	61 crashes 4 fatalities 63 injured	38 crashes 0 fatalities 29 injured	28 crashes 0 fatalities 23 injured	17 crashes 1 fatality 17 injured	30 crashes 0 fatalities 26 injured	107 crashes 0 fatalities 92 injured	45 crashes 3 fatalities 44 injured	12 crashes 1 fatality 10 injured	https://roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au/statistics/interactivecrashstats/index.html
Greenhouse gas (CO2) emission/annum	2019-20	111,257,000 tonnes	4,061,000 tonnes	809,000 tonnes	322,000 tonnes	504,000 tonnes	322,000 tonnes	343,000 tonnes	347,000 tonnes	194,000 tonnes	669,000 tonnes	397,000 tonnes	154,000 tonnes	https://snapshotclimate.com.au/explore/
Greenhouse gas emissions per capita (tonnes/annum)	2019-20	13.78	25.38	18.57	42.95	36.61	25.31	36.81	56.94	34.77	15.38	27.64	42.68	emissions divided by population
Waste generated per capita (kgs per week)	2018-19	8.8	12.31	11.69	8.11	5.97	6.56	5.68	22.05	12.13	11.34	19.86	19.74	https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/waste/local-council-operations/local-council-waste-and-resource-recovery
Recycling rate	2018-19	47%	32.24%	41.9%	36.6%	29.1%	18.5%	54%	23.7%	13.2%	55.6%	40.2%	9.6%	https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/waste/local-council-operations/local-council-waste-and-resource-recovery
Number of small scale solar installations this year	2019	77,591	2,544	622	105	237	221	139	101	68	752	228	71	https://dbr.abs.gov.au/index.html
Number of registered electric vehicles	2020	4,297	19	5	0	-	-	-	-	-	14	-	-	https://dbr.abs.gov.au/index.html

	Data as at [date]	NSW	Central NSW region	Bathurst	Blayney	Cabonne	Cowra	Forbes	Lachlan	Oberon	Orange	Parkes	Weddin	Data source
Our economy														
Gross regional product	2020-21	\$643.1 billion	\$9.132 billion	\$2,531 million	\$440 million	\$714 million	\$573 million	\$549 million	\$356 million	\$291 million	\$2,653 million	\$845 million	\$180 million	https://www.ideconomicinsights.com/2021annualeconomicupdate
Total gross value of agricultural production	2019-20 (NSW/CW) 2015-16 (LGA)	\$11,195,586,764	\$1,228,526,218 (\$1.23 billion)	\$59,281,080.82 (\$59.3 million)	\$47,251,929.47 (\$47.3 million)	\$187,003,063 (\$187 million)	\$154,123,416.6 (\$154.1 million)	\$196,101,043.4 (\$196.1 million)	\$253,092,249.7 (\$253.1 million)	\$33,055,399.25 (\$33.1 million)	\$14,075,636.23 (\$14.1 million)	\$149,925,589.6 (\$14.9 million)	\$131,454,386.8 (\$131.5 million)	https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/industry/agriculture/value-agricultural-commodities-produced-australia/2019-20
Socio-economic average index rating (1 = poorest)	2020-21	N/A	56	84	74	97	19	39	25	59	77	28	56	https://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/public/about-councils/comparative-council-information/your-council-report/
Total number of businesses	2020	820,375	15,718	3,529	801	1,847	1,330	1,183	955	697	3,524	1,314	538	https://dbr.abs.gov.au/index.html
Nett business growth (entries less exits)	2020	+15,183	-65	-25	-7	+3	-12	+40	-47	+14	-14	-6	-11	https://dbr.abs.gov.au/index.html
Number of businesses with one or more employees	2020	315,671	6,015	1,424	267	625	555	454	333	201	1,420	511	225	https://dbr.abs.gov.au/index.html
Top 3 business types by number of employees	2016	health/social retail educ/train/construction	health/social ag/forest/fish retail	health/social educ/training retail	ag/forest/fish health/social retail	ag/forest/fish health/social educ/training	ag/forest/fish health/social retail	ag/forest/fish health/social retail	ag/forest/fish health/social educ/training	ag/forest/fish manufacturing health/social	health/social retail educ/training	health/social ag/forest/fish retail	ag/forest/fish health/social educ/training	https://dbr.abs.gov.au/index.html
Number of jobs	2018	6,216,750	123,450	32,492	5,872	11,656	9,364	7,163	5,293	4,313	33,304	11,197	2,796	https://dbr.abs.gov.au/index.html
Unemployment rate	March 2022	Australia 3.5%	2.36%	2.1%	1.9%	1.3%	3.6%	2.4%	3.2%	1.7%	2.3%	3.1%	2%	https://labourmarketinsights.gov.au/regions/employment-regions/
Median personal income (weekly)	2021	\$813	\$717.30	\$796	\$765	\$768	\$606	\$718	\$644	\$759	\$842	\$700	\$575	https://www.abs.gov.au/census/find-census-data/search-by-area
Top 3 businesses by type of business	2020	construction prof/sci/tech real estate/hire	ag/forest/fish construction real estate/hire	construction ag/forest/fish real estate/hire	ag/forest/fish construction real estate/hire	ag/forest/fish construction prof/sci/tech	ag/forest/fish construction retail	ag/forest/fish construction real estate/hire	ag/forest/fish real estate/hire construction	ag/forest/fish construction transport etc	construction real estate/hire prof/sci/tech	ag/forest/fish construction other services	ag/forest/fish real estate/hire construction	https://dbr.abs.gov.au/index.html
Number of residential sales	2021	187,994	4,298	1,315	194	242	364	219	137	138	1,230	378	81	https://dbr.abs.gov.au/index.html
Median sale price: - houses - attached dwellings	2021	\$755,500 \$695,000	\$349,250 \$274,200	\$500,000 \$316,000	\$385,000 -	\$350,000 -	\$291,000 \$190,000	\$320,000 -	\$210,000 -	\$410,000 \$265,000	\$530,000 \$340,000	\$300,000 \$260,000	\$196,500 -	https://dbr.abs.gov.au/index.html
Number of tourism businesses	2019 2021	112,825	2,980	419	74	140	165	111	84	49	456	179	43	https://www.tra.gov.au/Regional/Local-Government-Area-Profiles/local-government-area-profiles
average tourist night stay; average tourist nightly spend	2019	37,237,000 3.12 \$194.58	3,366,000+ 2.6 approx \$124	1,028,000 3 \$125	109,000 2 \$not available	176,000 3 \$97	313,000 3 \$113	152,000 2 \$not available	127,000 3 \$not available	209,000 3 \$116	1,162,000 3 \$161	314,000 2 \$134	unavailable 2 \$not available	https://www.tra.gov.au/Regional/Local-Government-Area-Profiles/local-government-area-profiles

5.5 DETERMINATION OF REFERENDUM - NUMBER OF COUNCILLORS - LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTION

RECORD NUMBER: 2022/2213

AUTHOR: Janessa Constantine, Manager Corporate Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At the Council Meeting of 16 November 2021, Council resolved:

RESOLVED - 21/446**Cr R Kidd/Cr T Mileto**

That the information contained in this Mayoral Minute be acknowledged. That the matter of referendum on number of Orange City Councillors be put to the new council for consideration.

A copy of the Mayoral Minute is attached for the information of Council.

Councils should notify the NSWEC as soon as possible if they wish to enter into an arrangement for the administration of a referendum or poll.

LINK TO DELIVERY/OPERATIONAL PLAN

The recommendation in this report relates to the Delivery/Operational Plan strategy “17.1. Provide representative, responsible and accountable community governance”.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Undertaking a referendum at the time of the Local Government Election adds limited additional costs to the current election process. Undertaking a referendum outside of the Local Government Elections incurs the full election costs as if an election were being held.

POLICY AND GOVERNANCE IMPLICATIONS

Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council retain the current number of 12 Councillors.

FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Consideration has been given to the recommendation’s impact on Council’s service delivery; image and reputation; political; environmental; health and safety; employees; stakeholders and project management; and no further implications or risks have been identified.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Under section 16 of the Local Government Act 1993, a Council must obtain the approval of its electors at a constitutional referendum to do each of the following:

- o divide a council area into wards or abolish wards
- o change the number of councillors
- o change the method of electing the mayor
- o change the method of election for councillors where the council’s area is divided into wards.

Changing the number of Councillors

Section 224(2) of the Act requires that not less than 12 months before an ordinary election the Council must determine the number of its Councillors for the following term.

If, as a result of doing so, a Council has determined to change the number of its Councillors, it must also obtain approval for the change at a constitutional referendum.

If a Council resolves that a constitutional referendum or poll is to be conducted, it must comply with the notification requirements contained in Schedule 10 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.

It is of critical importance that the referendum question or questions are carefully framed to ensure that workable decisions are achieved. All questions put at a referendum should be clear, concise, and capable of being responded to with a 'yes' or 'no' answer. An example question would be: "Should the number of Orange City Council Councillors be reduced from 12 to 9".

If more than one referendum question is being asked on a particular subject, then extra care needs to be taken to ensure that the possible combinations of 'yes' and 'no' answers do not produce a conflicting decision.

Councils are responsible for the preparation and publicity of the required explanatory material. Councils must ensure this material presents a balanced case both for and against any proposition to be put to a constitutional referendum.

Any changes approved at a referendum will come into effect at the September 2028 Local Government Elections. If following the approval of a reduction in Councillor numbers, a casual vacancy occurs in the office of a Councillor (but not a mayor elected by the councillors), and the reduction has not yet taken effect, the vacancy must not be filled if the number of Councillors will remain at or above the number approved at the referendum (section 294B of the Act).

Should Council determine to decrease the number of Councillors, a further report will be provided to the next Council Meeting for the determination of a referendum and question to be asked at that referendum.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Copy of 2021/2701 Mayoral Minutes - Referendum on Number of Orange City Councillors, D22/70031 [↓](#)

COUNCIL MEETING**16 NOVEMBER 2021**

2.1 REFERENDUM ON NUMBER OF ORANGE CITY COUNCILLORS

RECORD NUMBER: 2021/2701

MAYORAL MINUTE

That Orange City Council put forward to have a constitutional referendum to see the communities attitude toward Orange City Council having nine (9) Councillors instead of twelve (12).

RECOMMENDATION

That the information contained in this Mayoral Minute be acknowledged.

Reg Kidd

MAYOR**SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

Having nine (9) Councillors would align with similar (or bigger) regional councils ie. Bathurst (9), Dubbo (10) and Wagga (9) and others.

Noting that if a referendum were to occur at the September 2024 Local Government election the changes would not come into effect until the following Election in September 2028.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There would only be financial implications to Council if the constitutional referendum were held as a stand-alone referendum ie. not part of the scheduled Local Government election.

5.6 STRATEGIC POLICY ADOPTION - POST EXHIBITION

RECORD NUMBER: 2023/58

AUTHOR: Janessa Constantine, Manager Corporate Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents policies which have been reviewed and/or placed on public exhibition and are now recommended for adoption by Council as outlined below.

During the exhibition period of 7 December 2022 – 31 January 2023, no submissions were received. These policies for are recommended for adoption:

- ST06 – Statement of Business Ethics
- ST07 – Modern Slavery
- ST14 – Related Parties

During the exhibition period of 21 December 2022 – 31 January 2023, no submissions were received. These policies are recommended for adoption:

- ST09 – Gifts & Benefits
- ST16 – Access to Information held by Council
- ST21 – Child Safe

LINK TO DELIVERY/OPERATIONAL PLAN

The recommendation in this report relates to the Delivery/Operational Plan strategy “17.1. Provide representative, responsible and accountable community governance”.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

POLICY AND GOVERNANCE IMPLICATIONS

Council’s Strategic Policies are reviewed and amended to ensure ongoing compliance with legislation and industry best practice.

Policies of Council are of two types – Strategic Policies are determined by Council, and relate to Councillors, required by Legislation or Regulation and/or have an impact on the Orange community. The Local Government Act 1993 requires the public exhibition of Policies (if new or include significant changes) and adoption by Council. Operational Policies are determined and implemented by the Chief Executive Officer, and relate to staff and the operations of the organisation.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopts the following Strategic Policies:

- **ST06 – Statement of Business Ethics**
- **ST07 – Modern Slavery**
- **ST14 – Related Parties**
- **ST09 – Gifts & Benefits**
- **ST16 – Access to Information held by Council**
- **ST21 – Child Safe**

FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Consideration has been given to the recommendation's impact on Council's service delivery; image and reputation; political; environmental; health and safety; employees; stakeholders and project management; and no further implications or risks have been identified.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION**ST06 – Statement of Business Ethics**

The Statement of Business Ethics for Council has not been updated for some years. The policy incorporates elements of the previous policy as well as those best practice elements from other NSW Councils. This policy incorporate major elements from a number of Council policies which are to be brought to the attention of those parties Council does business with.

Reference	Update
General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renumbering of Policies commenced – New Numbering at ST06 • New Formatting • Re-Written policy based on the best practice across NSW Councils.

ST07 – Modern Slavery Prevention

The Modern Slavery Prevention policy is based on the Model policy issued by Local Government Procurement. The policy is a mandatory requirement for Council under the Modern Slavery Act. The Policy has been reviewed and endorsed by Council's internal Probity and Procurement Committee and Council's Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee.

Reference	Update
General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renumbering of Policies commenced – New Numbering at ST07 • New Policy

ST14 – Related Parties

Reference	Update
General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renumbering of Policies commenced – New Numbering at ST14 previously ST138 • Updated references to the Chief Executive Officer from General Manager. • Reformatting. • Update from 6 monthly reporting to yearly reporting due 30 June.

5.6 Strategic Policy Adoption - Post Exhibition

ST09 – Gifts & Benefits

The Gifts and Benefits policy has been reviewed and incorporates best practice provisions to support the recently adopted Code of Conduct.

Reference	Update
General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renumbering of Policies commenced – New Numbering at ST09, previously ST039 • New Formatting • In keeping with the code of conduct – the nominal value has remained at \$50 and not raised to \$100 as in the model version.

ST16 – Access to Information held by Council

Reference	Update
General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renumbering of Policies commenced – New Numbering at ST16 previously ST083 • New Formatting • Update of Forms

ST21 – Child Safe

Reference	Update
General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renumbering of Policies commenced – New Numbering at ST21, previously ST146 • New Formatting • Minor typographical updates.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 FOR ADOPTION - Strategic Policy - ST06 - Statement of Business Ethics, D22/76490 (Under Separate Cover) [⇒](#)
- 2 FOR ADOPTION - Strategic Policy - ST07 - Modern Slavery Prevention, D22/35872 (Under Separate Cover) [⇒](#)
- 3 FOR ADOPTION - Strategic Policy - ST14 - Related Parties, D22/75340 (Under Separate Cover) [⇒](#)
- 4 FOR ADOPTION - Strategic Policy - ST09 - Gifts and Benefits, D22/79477 (Under Separate Cover) [⇒](#)
- 5 FOR ADOPTION - Strategic Policy - ST16 - Access to Information Held By Council, D22/79663 (Under Separate Cover) [⇒](#)
- 6 FOR ADOPTION - Strategic Policy - ST21 - Child Safe, D22/79705 (Under Separate Cover) [⇒](#)

6 CLOSED MEETING - SEE CLOSED AGENDA

The Chief Executive Officer will advise the Council if any written submissions have been received relating to any item advertised for consideration by a closed meeting of Orange City Council.

The Mayor will extend an invitation to any member of the public present at the meeting to make a representation to Council as to whether the meeting should be closed for a particular item. In accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, in the opinion of the General Manager, the following business is of a kind as referred to in Section 10A(2) of the Act, and should be dealt with in a Confidential Session of the Council meeting closed to the press and public.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adjourn into a Closed Meeting and members of the press and public be excluded from the Closed Meeting, and access to the correspondence and reports relating to the items considered during the course of the Closed Meeting be withheld unless declassified by separate resolution. This action is taken in accordance with Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act, 1993 as the items listed come within the following provisions:

6.1 Road Closure Application - Part Carwoola Drive Orange

This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

6.2 Lease to Orange Hockey Incorporated - Hockey Centre Glenroi Oval

This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors).

6.3 Proposed Acquisition of land - Footpath along Northern Distributor Road

This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (d)i commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

6.4 Tenders for Installation of Street Lighting for Clergate Road Upgrade

This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

6.5 Southern Feeder Road Stage 4 & Shiralee Collector Road Stage 5 - Contract F3718

This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

6.1 ROAD CLOSURE APPLICATION - PART CARWOOLA DRIVE ORANGE

RECORD NUMBER: 2023/61

AUTHOR: Shirley Hyde, Legal and Property Officer

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

6.2 LEASE TO ORANGE HOCKEY INCORPORATED - HOCKEY CENTRE GLENROI OVAL

RECORD NUMBER: 2023/2

AUTHOR: Shirley Hyde, Legal and Property Officer

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (a) personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors).

6.3 PROPOSED ACQUISITION OF LAND - FOOTPATH ALONG NORTHERN DISTRIBUTOR ROAD

RECORD NUMBER: 2023/25

AUTHOR: Shirley Hyde, Legal and Property Officer

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (d)i commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

6.4 TENDERS FOR INSTALLATION OF STREET LIGHTING FOR CLERGATE ROAD UPGRADE

RECORD NUMBER: 2023/59

AUTHOR: Mark Frecklington, Assistant Works Manager

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

**6.5 SOUTHERN FEEDER ROAD STAGE 4 & SHIRALEE COLLECTOR ROAD STAGE 5 -
CONTRACT F3718**

RECORD NUMBER: 2023/57

AUTHOR: John Boyd, Operations Manager

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

7 RESOLUTIONS FROM CLOSED MEETING