



# **ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL**

# **AGENDA**

**2 SEPTEMBER 2025**

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, 2 September 2025** commencing at **6:30 PM**.

Barry Omundson  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

For apologies, please contact Executive Support on 6393 8391.

## 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 19 August 2025 (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 19 August 2025.

**ATTACHMENTS**

- 1 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Orange City Council held on 19 August 2025



**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL**  
**HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC CENTRE, BYNG STREET, ORANGE**  
**ON 19 AUGUST 2025**  
**COMMENCING AT 6:30 PM**

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## **1 INTRODUCTION**

### **ATTENDANCE**

Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr K Duffy(6.38pm), Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne (*AudioVisual Link*), Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr S Peterson, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman, Cr J Whitton

Chief Executive Officer, Director Corporate and Commercial Services, Director Development Services, Director Community, Recreation and Cultural Services, Director Technical Services, Manager Corporate Governance, Manager Engineering Services, Communications Lead, Chief Financial Officer, Executive Assistant Community, Recreation and Cultural Services

### **1.1 APOLOGIES**

<b>RESOLVED - 25/406</b>	<b>Cr J Whitton/Cr G Judge</b>
That the apologies be accepted from Cr Duffy (lateness) for the Council Meeting of Orange City Council on 19 August 2025.	
Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr S Peterson, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman, Cr J Whitton	
Against: Nil	
Absent: Cr K Duffy	

<b>RESOLVED - 25/407</b>	<b>Cr J Whitton/Cr G Judge</b>
That Cr Kinghorne be permitted to attend the Council Meeting of Orange City Council on 19 August 2025 via Audio Visual Link.	
Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr S Peterson, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman, Cr J Whitton	
Against: Nil	
Absent: Cr K Duffy	

## **1.2 LIVESTREAMING AND RECORDING**

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

## **1.3 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

Cr Power conducted an Acknowledgement of Country.

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

Cr Kinghorne declared a Significant Pecuniary Interest in item 4.3 - Notice of Motion - Correction to Development Application DA 1/2025(1) - 2 Cherrywood Close as her husband's environmental consulting company has undertaken work on this site.

Cr Kinghorne declared a Significant Pecuniary Interest in item 5.3 - Development Application DA 748/2024(1) - 184 Leeds Parade as her husband's environmental consulting company has undertaken works on this site.

Cr McDonell declared a Significant Non-Pecuniary Interest in item 5.3 - Development Application DA 748/2024(1) - 184 Leeds Parade as she is on the Western Regional Planning Panel.

Cr Ruddy declared a Non-Significant Non-Pecuniary Interest in item 5.3 - Development Application DA 748/2024(1) - 184 Leeds Parade as her family resides nearby.

## **1.5 OPENING PRAYER**

Lama Chewang of the Karma Yiwong Samten Ling Tibetan Buddhist Centre led the Council in Prayer.

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

### **RESOLVED - 25/408**

**Cr T Greenhalgh/Cr D Mallard**

That the following Late Item be permitted to be considered at the Council Meeting of 19 August 2025:

- Item 4.3 - Notice of Motion - Correction to Development Application DA 1/2025(1) - 2 Cherrywood Close

Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr K Duffy, Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr S Peterson, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

**THE MAYOR DECLARED THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL ADJOURNED FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE OPEN FORUM AT 6:39 PM.**

### **Item 4.1 - Notice of Motion - Sports Precinct**

- Michael O'Mara

### **Item 5.3 - Development Application DA 748/2024(1) - 184 Leeds Place**

- Brad Draper - MAAS Group Properties
- John Grey - MAAS Group Properties

**THE MAYOR DECLARED THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL RESUMED AT 6:56 PM.**

## **2 MAYORAL MINUTES**

Nil.

## **3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

### **RESOLVED - 25/409**

**Cr J Whitton/Cr K Duffy**

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Orange City Council held on 5 August 2025 (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 5 August 2025.

Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr K Duffy, Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr S Peterson, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

### **QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**Cr K Duffy**

Cr Duffy requested information be provided on how the Menstrual Equity Program will operate and what criteria will be used to assess applications.

## **4 NOTICES OF MOTION/NOTICES OF RESCISSION**

### **4.1 NOTICE OF MOTION - SPORTS PRECINCT**

TRIM REFERENCE: 2025/1655

#### **RESOLVED - 25/410**

**Cr T Greenhalgh/Cr S Peterson**

- 1 That Orange City Council staff provide the community through their Council a timeline of the Sports Precinct construction process.
- 2 That this timeline begin at the announcement of the stadium and show what activity was underway at different points of time in the past and identify any periods of delay.
- 3 That this timeline ends on the proposed completion date when the Sports Precinct is fully complete and operational.
- 4 That this timeline include the milestones and estimated dates required for milestones finalisation to meet the completion date.

Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr K Duffy, Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr S Peterson, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

Cr Greenhalgh asked if Council could contact the Western Region Planning Panel (WRPP) to request an extraordinary meeting once there is approval for the next stage of the sports precinct.

*The Director Community, Recreation & Cultural Services advised that the Panel do not have routine scheduled meetings so there is not a requirement to call an extraordinary meeting and that the Development Services staff have been liaising with the WRPP with a meeting organised for 16 September 2025. It is hoped we would have an approval by this time.*



Cr McDonell asked what contingency is in place for unexpected events, barring weather issues, that may impact the timeline.

*The Director Community, Recreation & Cultural Services advised that Council is currently progressing with all other components on site while waiting for approval, however there is always the potential for external circumstances that cannot be avoided.*

#### **4.2 NOTICE OF MOTION - SALE OF ILLEGAL NICOTINE PRODUCTS**

TRIM REFERENCE: 2025/1656

*Cr Kinghorne noted there may be a perceived conflict of interest relating to her pharmacy business regarding this item, however her pharmacy has decided not to engage in the sale of nicotine products.*

##### **RESOLVED - 25/411**

**Cr S Peterson/Cr D Mallard**

- 1 The Council contact State Government representatives to request sufficient resources locally to discourage the sale of illegal nicotine products in Orange.
- 2 That Council commend State Government legislation announced 6 August 2025 concerning more effective law enforcement of the illegal nicotine trade and ask that warrantless search and seizure powers be considered within this process similar to other states.

Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr K Duffy, Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr S Peterson, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

Cr Duffy asked if Council will be addressing the nicotine issue through enforcing planning laws in cases where commercial property owners permit businesses to operate who may engage in misconduct.

*The Director Development Services advised that as the land use is classified as a shop in these cases, Council has no jurisdiction to dictate the type of shop. This would be a state matter.*

*\*Cr Kinghorne left the meeting with the time being 7.20pm\**

#### **4.3 NOTICE OF MOTION - CORRECTION TO DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION DA 1/2025(1) - 2 CHERRYWOOD CLOSE**

TRIM REFERENCE: 2025/1744

*Cr Kinghorne declared a Significant Pecuniary Interest in this as her husband's environmental consulting company has undertaken work on this site, left the meeting and did not participate in discussion or voting on this item.*

##### **RESOLVED - 25/412**

**Cr T Mileto/Cr M McDonell**

That Council alter the resolution to include the correct and intended conditions of consent on DA1/2025 ("the DA") for demolition (tree removal and outbuildings) and Subdivision (ten lot Torrens Title and new road) at 22 Cherrywood Close as per the attached amended Notice of Determination.

Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr K Duffy, Cr G Judge, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr S Peterson, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Cr F Kinghorne

*\*Cr Kinghorne returned to the meeting with the time being 7.20pm\**

## 5 GENERAL REPORTS

### 5.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES FROM THE EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING OF 11 JULY 2025

TRIM REFERENCE: 2025/1666

#### **RESOLVED - 25/413**

**Cr G Power/Cr J Whitton**

That the Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting from its meeting held on 11 July 2025 be and are hereby confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr K Duffy, Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr S Peterson, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

### 5.2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES FROM POLICY COMMITTEE MEETINGS 5 AUGUST 2025

TRIM REFERENCE: 2025/906

#### **RESOLVED - 25/414**

**Cr T Greenhalgh/Cr D Mallard**

That Council resolves:

- 1 That the Minutes of the Planning & Development Policy Committee at its meeting held on 5 August 2025 be and are hereby confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.
- 2 That the Minutes of the Environmental Sustainability Policy Committee at its meeting held on 5 August 2025 be and are hereby confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.
- 3 That the Minutes of the Finance Policy Committee at its meeting held on 5 August 2025 be and are hereby confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.
- 4 That the Minutes of the Infrastructure Policy Committee at its meeting held on 5 August 2025 be and are hereby confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.
- 5 That the Minutes of the Recreation and Culture Policy Committee at its meeting held on 5 August 2025 be and are hereby confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.
- 6 That the Minutes of the Services Policy Committee at its meeting held on 5 August 2025 be and are hereby confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.
- 7 That the Minutes of the Regional and Economic Development Policy Committee at its meeting held on 5 August 2025 be and are hereby confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr K Duffy, Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr S Peterson, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

**QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE****Cr K Duffy**

Cr Duffy noted a recent incident on a footpath in Sale Street and requested information on what work is being done on remediating footpaths that may pose a risk to pedestrians in the CBD.

**QUESTIONS TAKE ON NOTICE****Cr K Duffy**

Cr Duffy asked for a list to be provided of books made available to students at Council owned Early Learning Centres and Preschools.

*\*Cr Kinghorne & Cr McDonell left the meeting with the time being 7.30pm\**

**5.3 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION DA 748/2024(1) - 184 LEEDS PARADE**

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TRIM REFERENCE: 2025/1643

*Cr Kinghorne declared a Significant Pecuniary Interest in this item as her husband's environmental consulting company has undertaken work on this site, left the meeting and did not participate in discussion or voting on this item.*

*Cr McDonell declared a Significant Non-Pecuniary Interest in this item as she is on the Western Regional Planning Panel.*

*Cr Ruddy declared a Non-Significant Non-Pecuniary Interest in this item as her family resides nearby.*

**RESOLVED - 25/415****Cr D Mallard/Cr J Whitton**

That Council resolves:

- 1 That the information contained in the report for development application DA 748/2024(1) for Manufactured Home Estate (410 Dwelling Sites), Community Amenities, Open Space and Associated Civil Works at Lot 23 DP 1306339 - 184 Leeds Parade, Orange be acknowledged.
- 2 That Council determine whether or not it makes a submission on the application to the Western Regional Planning Panel, and if resolved to do so, specify the reasons for its position.

Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr G Judge, Cr D Mallard, Cr S Peterson, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman, Cr J Whitton

Against: Cr K Duffy

Absent: Cr F Kinghorne, Cr M McDonell

*\*Cr Kinghorne & Cr McDonell returned to the meeting with the time being 7.41pm\**

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**5.4 STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS - JULY 2025**

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TRIM REFERENCE: 2025/1128

**RESOLVED - 25/416****Cr G Power/Cr M Ruddy**

That Council resolves to:

- 1 Note the Statement of Investments for the period July 2025.
- 2 Adopt the certification of the Responsible Accounting Officer.

Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr K Duffy, Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr S Peterson, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

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**5.5 PROVISION OF EXPENSES AND FACILITIES TO COUNCILLORS -2024/2025 FINANCIAL YEAR REPORT**

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TRIM REFERENCE: 2025/1354

**RESOLVED - 25/417****Cr M McDonell/Cr J Whitton**

That the report on the Provision of Expenses and Facilities to Councillors be noted.

Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr K Duffy, Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr S Peterson, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

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**5.6 ORANGE SPORTS PRECINCT COUNCIL UPDATE**

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TRIM REFERENCE: 2025/1658

**RESOLVED - 25/418****Cr M McDonell/Cr T Greenhalgh**

That Council note the report on the Orange Sports Precinct Update.

Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr K Duffy, Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr S Peterson, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

Cr Greenhalgh asked if it would be better to pay for the upgraded lighting now if there is funding.  
*The Director Community, Recreation & Cultural Services advised that that both options would be included in the tender, however progressing with the higher Lux level lighting would depend on costing and available budget. Light heads could be installed and upgradable at a later time.*

Cr Duffy asked who paid for additional lighting at Bathurst Regional Council events.  
*The Director Community, Recreation & Cultural Services advised that the lighting had just been upgraded, however it previously formed part of the event day costs.*

Cr Power asked that with 8 fields now complete, could these be utilised while other construction is underway.

*The Director Community, Recreation & Cultural Services advised that the fields will be ready in a few months for other event types once the grounds stabilize and work continues on the landscaping.*

**QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE****Cr T Mileto**

Cr Mileto asked if a sign could be installed for the temporary carpark at Jack Brabham Park, to alert users to its availability.

Cr Judge noted that the tenders for the sport precinct were put out with a period of extension due to the Heritage NSW assessment delay and asked how long that extension period is.

*The Director Community, Recreation & Cultural Services advised that the extension period will be as short as possible, though the expected time depends on the significance of the requirements given by Heritage NSW. Tenders will not be closed until Council has obtained the general terms of approval.*

Cr Mallard asked there was any indication of what will be changing or modified in reference to landscaping, master plans, bushfire protection and the density of planting.

*The Director Community, Recreation & Cultural Services advised that it was not as significant as first thought. Staff have met with bushfire consultant and landscaping consultants, architects and Heritage NSW to ensure compliance with the bushfire requirements that leaves as little impact as possible on the landscape design.*

Cr Ruddy asked if the Sports Precinct design has been assessed for accessibility.

*The Director Community, Recreation & Cultural Services advised that work have been designed by a consultant in accordance with the Building Code of Australia. The guidelines for holding National Events will be implemented.*

**5.7 RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE**

TRIM REFERENCE: 2025/1647

**RESOLVED - 25/419****Cr K Duffy/Cr M McDonell**

That the information contained in the report on responses to Questions Taken on Notice be acknowledged.

Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr K Duffy, Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr S Peterson, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

**5.8 STRATEGIC POLICY REVIEWS FOR EXHIBITION**

TRIM REFERENCE: 2025/1651

**RESOLVED - 25/420****Cr M McDonell/Cr D Mallard**

- 1 That Council resolves to place the following Strategic Policies on public exhibition for a period of at least 28 days:
  - ST35 - Priority Weeds
  - ST50 - Busking
- 2 That Council DEFERS consideration of Strategic Policy ST31 - Aquatic Centre for the purpose of a Councillor briefing.

Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr K Duffy, Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr S Peterson, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

**6 CLOSED MEETING**

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, in the opinion of the Chief Executive Officer, 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 - 25/421****Cr M McDonell/Cr G Power**

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 Textile Recycling**

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 F4444 - Provision of Traffic Management Services**

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.

**6.3 Tender F4358 - Design and Construction of the March Street Bridge**

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.

**6.4 Independent Members of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC)**

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).

**6.5 Submission Redaction Report 19 August 2025**

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 (e) information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the maintenance of law.

For: Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr K Duffy, Cr T Greenhalgh, Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr S Peterson, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

The Mayor declared the Ordinary Meeting of Council adjourned for the conduct of the Closed Meeting at 8.18pm.

The Mayor declared the Ordinary Meeting of Council resumed at 8.33pm.

## 7 RESOLUTIONS FROM CLOSED MEETING

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

### 6.1 TEXTILE RECYCLING

TRIM REFERENCE: 2025/1595

#### RESOLVED - 25/422

Cr D Mallard/Cr G Power

That Council confirms with NetWaste its desire to engage RRR Australia through a regional MOU arrangement on a twelve-month trial basis and determine potential continuance of the textile recycling service thereafter based on the success of the amount of textiles recycled; contractor performance and service cost to Council.

Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr K Duffy, Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr S Peterson, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

### 6.2 TENDER F4444 - PROVISION OF TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SERVICES

TRIM REFERENCE: 2025/1624

#### RESOLVED - 25/423

Cr M McDonell/Cr K Duffy

That Council:

- 1 Approve the establishment of a new Contract Panel for the Provision of Traffic Management Services under the Council's Purchasing Policy, commencing 1 September 2025;
- 2 Include Work Control Pty Ltd and Midwest Traffic Management (Orange) Pty Ltd on the Panel with contractors ranked 1 and 2 respectively;
- 3 Approve the Chief Executive Officer, or his nominee, to enter into a standard contract with each Panel member;
- 4 Grant permission to the Chief Executive Officer or nominee to do such things as may be necessary or convenient to give effect to this decision, including affixing the Council Seal to all relevant documents if required.

Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr K Duffy, Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr S Peterson, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil



**6.3 TENDER F4358 - DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE MARCH STREET BRIDGE**

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TRIM REFERENCE: 2025/1661

**RESOLVED - 25/424****Cr D Mallard/Cr G Power**

- 1 That the Chief Executive Officer be authorised to enter into a standard contract with GC Civil Contracting Pty Ltd for the Design and Construction of March Street Bridge on East Orange Channel (F4358) for the amount of \$1,124,637.00 (excl. GST) pending agreement between Council and GC Civil Pty Ltd on Contract terms as detailed in the body of the report.
- 2 That Council affix the Council seal to any contractual documents.

Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr K Duffy, Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr S Peterson, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

**6.4 INDEPENDENT MEMBERS OF THE AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE (ARIC)**

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TRIM REFERENCE: 2025/1652

**RESOLVED - 25/425****Cr J Whitton/Cr M McDonell**

That Council appoint Emma Fountain as an independent member of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee from September 2025 until September 2028 unless otherwise resolved by Council.

Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr K Duffy, Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr S Peterson, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

**6.5 SUBMISSION REDACTION REPORT 19 AUGUST 2025**

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TRIM REFERENCE: 2025/1718

**RESOLVED - 25/426****Cr D Mallard/Cr G Judge**

That the information contained in the Submission Redaction report be acknowledged.

Cr T Mileto (Mayor), Cr T Greenhalgh (Deputy Mayor), Cr K Duffy, Cr G Judge, Cr F Kinghorne, Cr D Mallard, Cr M McDonell, Cr S Peterson, Cr G Power, Cr M Ruddy, Cr J Stedman, Cr J Whitton

Against: Nil

Absent: Nil

**THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8:36 PM.**

This is Page Number 12 and the Final Page of the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Orange City Council held on 19 August 2025.

**COUNCIL MEETING ADJOURNS FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE POLICY COMMITTEES**

Planning & Development - Chaired by Melanie McDonell

Environmental Sustainability - Chaired by Cr David Mallard

Finance - Chaired by Cr Steven Peterson

Infrastructure - Chaired by Cr Jeff Whitton

Recreation & Culture - Chaired by Cr Tammy Greenhalgh (No Items)

Services - Chaired by Cr Marea Ruddy

Regional & Economic Development - Chaired By Cr Tony Mileto (Mayor)

**COUNCIL MEETING RESUMES**

## 4 NOTICES OF MOTION/NOTICES OF RESCISSION

### 4.1 NOTICE OF MOTION - ACON AND PRIDE IN SPORT MEMBERSHIPS

RECORD NUMBER: 2025/1778

I, **CR MELANIE MCDONELL** wish to move the following Notice of Motion at the Council Meeting of 2 September 2025:

#### MOTION

**That in the interest of providing safe spaces for every member of our community, Orange City Council become a member of at least one, or both, of the following organisations:**

- **ACON (the leading health organisation in NSW specialising in community health, inclusion and HIV responses for people of diverse sexualities and genders)**
- **Pride In Sport – supporting Australian sport to be inclusive of LGBTQIA+ communities.**

#### BACKGROUND

Orange is a wonderfully diverse community, for which Council provides significant services and facilities for residents, ratepayers and visitors.

We have run, and supported, 2 highly successful Rainbow Festivals, but there is far more that Council, and Councillors, can do on an everyday basis to support all members of our diverse community.

Our tourism, sporting and cultural industries bring hundreds of thousands of visitors to our region every year, pouring millions of dollars into our economy. Every one of these visitors also must feel safe and welcome. Whether it's visiting a winery, the gallery, or attending a sporting event at our soon-to-be-complete Sporting Precinct.

Why is this needed?

There are currently more than 50 local businesses in Orange who are members of the Welcome Here Project run by ACON. Council is not one of them.

The memberships to ACON and Pride in Sport are separate from, and different to, participation in the Welcome Here Project.

Membership costs and benefits for Council and our community:

#### ACON:

- The leading community health and inclusion organisation for people of diverse sexualities and genders.
- Council membership will enhance and support every aspect of Council's work and service delivery and demonstrate to our community that we as a city welcome and embrace diversity.
- Council is not a member.
- Financial cost to Council is minimal, but the benefits are immeasurable.
- Type of membership: Organisational
- Cost: \$100/year
- Membership benefits can be seen on the form via the link below:

<https://www.aconhealth.org.au/become-a-member>

**4.1 Notice of Motion - ACON and Pride in Sport Memberships**

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**Pride in Sport:**

- A national not-for-profit program focused on making sport more inclusive for LGBTQIA+ people.
- Membership provides tailored support, resources and access to expert guidance to ensure athletes, employees, volunteers, officials, and spectators feel safe, included and valued.
- Our city and region are soon to be benefitting from the new facilities of our Sporting Precinct. The Precinct must be accessible to every single individual.
- Council is not a member.
- Type of membership: General - Standard
- Cost: \$7,316.10 inc GST/year
- Membership information available via the following link:

[https://prideinclusionprograms.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/PIS\\_Membership2025-26.pdf](https://prideinclusionprograms.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/PIS_Membership2025-26.pdf)

Further information can also be found on the Sport NSW website via this link:

<https://www.sportnsw.com.au/disability-inclusion/pride-in-sport>

Signed Cr Melanie McDonell

**STAFF COMMENT**

Information on the Sport NSW web reference above quotes “Pride in Sport is Australia’s first and only not-for-profit sporting inclusion program specifically designed to assist sporting organisations and clubs at all levels with the inclusion of people with diverse sexualities and genders”.

It is unclear to staff how the program would be implemented by Council as Council is not a sporting organisation.

Council is a member of Diversity Council of Australia which provides resources, training and advisory services specific for entities such as Council at a cost of \$4,900 per annum. This support also allows Council access to resources to help Council support services and facilities provided to the Community.

**FINANCIAL/RESOURCING IMPLICATIONS**

There is no budget allocation for membership for the Pride in Sport program. Council would need to consider adding this expense at its next quarterly review process and would either need to increase the operating deficit of Council or forego another activity.

**POLICY AND GOVERNANCE IMPLICATIONS**

Nil.

**4.2 NOTICE OF MOTION - PARKOUR DESIGN**

RECORD NUMBER: 2025/1779

I, **CR TAMMY GREENHALGH** wish to move the following Notice of Motion at the Council Meeting of 2 September 2025:

**MOTION**

That Council resolves:

- 1 To reaffirm its commitment to establishing a Parkour Park in Orange, as resolved by Council on 7 November 2023.**
- 2 To consider the allocation of \$7,500 in the next quarterly budget review to engage a designer to prepare the design for a Parkour Park in Orange.**
- 3 To note the total estimated project cost of approximately \$300,000, including soft-fall requirements.**
- 4 To Consider including the estimated cost of \$300,000 in Council's budget at the next quarterly budget review to enable delivery of the Parkour Park within the current Council term and to maximise Council's ability to apply for external grant funding.**

**BACKGROUND**

On 7 November 2023, Council passed my Notice of Motion to undertake a feasibility study into the design, costings, and grant opportunities for the development of a Parkour Park in Orange, to be located at the old netball courts or another suitable site.

That feasibility work has now been completed, and it is important that Council takes the next step to progress this project within the current term. To move forward, we require a professional design.

At present, there is no budget allocation for this design. Completion of the design will ensure that Council is "grant ready" and in a position to leverage State and Federal funding opportunities.

The total estimated build cost of the park is approximately \$300,000, largely due to the requirement for soft-fall installation under the equipment.

Parkour is a fast-growing sport worldwide and has already been embraced by a number of councils in Australia and internationally, demonstrating its community, tourism, and health benefits.

Examples include:

- Newcastle Parkour Park (in collaboration with Newcastle Parkour & Newcastle City Council – approx. \$30,000).
- Meadowbank Park, City of Ryde (Sydney)
- Julia Reserve Youth Park, Oran Park (Camden Council, Sydney)
- Simpson Park, St Peters (Sydney)
- Bunbury Skateboard & Parkour Park (Bunbury Council, WA)
- Innes Common, Hamilton City Park (New Zealand)
- Singapore Youth Space at Jurong Gardens (334 m<sup>2</sup>)
- Centennial Park, Hamilton (New Zealand).

**4.2 Notice of Motion - Parkour Design**

These examples highlight that parkour facilities are already being delivered elsewhere, with strong uptake by young people, community groups, and event organisers. Orange has the opportunity to become a regional leader by providing the Central West's first purpose-built Parkour Park.

Establishing this facility will not only deliver a unique recreational and sporting opportunity for Orange but also provide significant community and social benefits:

**Benefits**

- Provide opportunity for youth in our area to participate in a growing sport — no other known Parkour Park in the region
- Create a new community space and youth sports hub
- Encourage participation with no fee to entry
- Build community connections and youth engagement
- Support athlete development and pathways
- Spread interest in a fast-growing sport, including Olympic exposure
- Provide a multipurpose space for parkour, play, and social interaction
- Cater for multi-age use, encouraging intergenerational activity
- Promote health and wellbeing as a fitness hub to get people active
- Attract visitors and generate tourism for parkour in Orange
- Establish a potential competition venue for future events.

Delivering this project within this term of Council is a tangible investment in youth, health, and community building for the City of Orange and aligns with our community strategic plan.

Signed Cr Tammy Greenhalgh

**STAFF COMMENT**

Staff support the proposal for the establishment of a Parkour facility as described in the motion.

**FINANCIAL/RESOURCING IMPLICATIONS**

Staff time required to manage the quotation process and manage the design elements.

**POLICY AND GOVERNANCE IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

## 5 GENERAL REPORTS

### 5.1 ALGA CONFERENCE REPORT

RECORD NUMBER: 2025/1769

AUTHOR: Catherine Davis, Executive Support Manager

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Over 24-27 June 2025, the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Crs Ruddy, Duffy, McDonell and Whitton attended the 2025 ALGA National Congress in Canberra ACT. This conference is the National Local Government forum and brings together councillors, staff, agencies and industry leaders to explore common ground.

#### LINK TO DELIVERY/OPERATIONAL PLAN

The recommendation in this report relates to the Delivery/Operational Plan strategy “14.1 Work in partnership with other councils, regional organisations and State and Federal Governments”.

#### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Councillors attend within a yearly budget allocation.

#### POLICY AND GOVERNANCE IMPLICATIONS

This report is in line with Council Policy on Conference attendance.

#### RECOMMENDATION

**That the report from the CEO on the ALGA Conference be noted.**

#### FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS

The recommendation of this report has been assessed against Council’s key risk categories and the following comments are provided:

Service/Project Delivery	Nil.
Financial	Nil.
Reputation/Political	Nil.
Environment	Nil.
Compliance	Nil.
People & WHS	Nil.
Information Technology/Cyber Security	Nil.

#### SUPPORTING INFORMATION

The Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Crs Ruddy, Duffy, McDonell and Whitton attended the 2025 ALGA National Congress in Canberra ACT. This conference is the Local Government forum in the local government sector and brings together councillors, staff, agencies and industry leaders to explore common themes and goals.

The 2025 National General Assembly (NGA) of Local Government, hosted by the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA), took place from 24 to 27 June at the National Convention Centre

### **5.1 ALGA Conference Report**

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in Canberra. This annual event remains the largest gathering of local government leaders in Australia, drawing over 1,000 delegates including mayors, councillors, shire presidents, and senior council staff from across the country.

The theme for this year's NGA was "National Priorities Need Local Solutions", emphasizing the critical role local governments play in addressing national challenges through community-driven initiatives. The theme resonated strongly throughout the sessions, highlighting how councils are uniquely positioned to deliver tailored solutions that reflect the needs and aspirations of their communities.

The congress featured a dynamic program of keynote speeches, panel discussions, and workshops, with contributions from federal ministers, policy experts, and thought leaders. Topics ranged from climate resilience and housing affordability to digital transformation, infrastructure funding, and First Nations partnerships. A particular focus was placed on collaborative governance, with calls for stronger partnerships between local, state, and federal governments to ensure sustainable and inclusive development.

One of the standout sessions was the Regional Cooperation and Development Forum, which explored strategies for enhancing regional connectivity, economic diversification, and service delivery in rural and remote areas. Delegates shared success stories and challenges, reinforcing the importance of regional voices in shaping national policy.

The NGA also served as a platform for policy advocacy, with councils submitting and debating resolutions aimed at influencing federal legislation and funding priorities. These resolutions covered a wide array of issues, including disaster preparedness, mental health services, transport infrastructure, and water security. The outcomes of these debates will be forwarded to relevant federal ministers for consideration, continuing ALGA's tradition of grassroots policy influence.

Networking was a key feature of the event, with structured and informal opportunities for delegates to connect, collaborate, and share insights. The exhibition hall showcased innovative products and services tailored to local government needs, from smart city technologies to sustainable construction solutions.

In addition to the formal program, the NGA celebrated the achievements of local councils through awards and recognitions, highlighting excellence in community engagement, environmental stewardship, and economic development.

The 2025 NGA reaffirmed the vital role of local government in Australia's democratic and service delivery landscape. It underscored the need for adequate funding, policy support, and recognition of councils as frontline responders to both local and national challenges. Delegates left the congress energized and equipped with new ideas, partnerships, and strategies to take back to their communities.

As the NGA concluded, ALGA reiterated its commitment to championing the interests of local government and fostering a collaborative approach to national progress—one that begins at the community level.



## 5.1 ALGA Conference Report

### ***Councillor Takeaways***

#### **Mayor Mileto**

I was most impressed by the presentation by demographer Bernard Salt who argued that Australia has an obvious and impressive future when one looks at global population growth over the next decades. This global growth translates to necessary growth in agriculture and mining in Australia and translates to population, agriculture and mining demand for regional Australia.

It is virtually assured that the regions will prosper economically providing a great future for Orange. It tells me what I've always believed, that Orange is destined to be a town of 60,000 within my lifetime, but that we have a challenge ahead in providing the water and infrastructure to cater for this demand.

#### **Deputy Mayor Greenhalgh**

I recently had the privilege of attending the 2025 National General Assembly (NGA) of Local Government, along with the Regional Forum.

These gatherings provided valuable insights into emerging challenges, opportunities, and innovations for councils across Australia. Importantly, they also created opportunities to engage directly with fellow councillors, CEOs, ministers, and senior decision-makers, strengthening networks that will support collaborative advocacy for our community.

The 2025 National General Assembly (NGA) and Regional Forum were attended by over 660 & 1300 delegates respectively, including councillors, federal ministers, agency heads, and policy experts. The NGA explored four national themes: Emergency Management, Safer Roads, Housing & Community Infrastructure, and Local Government Jobs & Skills.

The Regional Forum provided a dedicated platform to examine regional challenges and opportunities. Key discussions centred on financial sustainability, the role of regional councils in national resilience, population shifts, and emerging infrastructure and workforce demands.

Attendance at both forums ensured Orange's voice was present in shaping national policy and strengthened relationships with key decision-makers.

Please find below a summary of my takeaways:

#### **Key Issues & Discussion**

##### **Emergency Management – Capability & Capacity**

- Brendon Moon (NEMA): reported 751 disasters declared in 521 LGAs by May 2025, with 5,548 total declarations.
- Key framework: Prepare – Respond – Recover.
- Drought and heatwave should now be included as rapid-onset disasters.
- Councils stressed the need for: Anticipatory action to reduce supply chain vulnerabilities. Critical infrastructure investment, particularly in early warning systems. & nationally consistent but locally enabled disaster recovery arrangements.
- Mitigation funding was raised by Jason Brinton, with NEMA investing \$4.34 billion nationally; five states are now using “betterment” approaches which were strongly supported.

## 5.1 ALGA Conference Report

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### **Housing & Community Infrastructure, Migration & Workforce Planning**

- Housing remains one of the most pressing national challenges, constrained by shortages in trades and enabling infrastructure.
- Innovative council led solutions were presented, including Affordable Housing Trusts and key worker housing projects.
- Concerns were raised over competitive grant models and lack of transparency in decision-making
- **Housing was framed as a human right, not a privilege.**
- Julian Leaser MP discussed skilled migration, regional settlement, and backlog issues in citizenship and visa approvals, emphasising the need for “sticky migrants” who settle long-term in regional areas.

### **Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs)**

- Councils continued strong advocacy for FAGs to return to 1% of Commonwealth taxation revenue.
- This is essential for regional councils with small rate bases and high service delivery costs.

### **Safer Roads**

- Kenn Beer presented on Vision Zero and road safety, with the goal of zero deaths and serious injuries by 2050. He stressed case-by-case validation and reducing speed limits to achieve safer outcomes.
- Road trauma rates are rising despite safety initiatives.
- Councils identified funding gaps and road infrastructure unable to cope with larger vehicles, EVs, and freight demand.
- Calls were made for greater federal-state-local coordination and tailored regional funding solutions.

### **Local Government Jobs & Skills**

- Workforce shortages are acute in planning, engineering, health, and aged care.
- Panellists pointed to solutions such as skilled migration, cadetships, and micro-credentialing.
- Childcare access and housing availability remain key barriers to workforce attraction in regional areas.

### **National Broadband Network (NBN) – Gavin Williams**

- Announced plans to extend fibre to 95% of premises by 2030.
- Current average of 25 devices per home is expected to increase to 60 by the next decade.
- Commitment to deliver faster, more reliable, and more resilient internet to regional areas, equal to metropolitan standards.

### **Driving Efficiency Through Technology**

- Speaker: Mathew Szymczak – emphasised the importance of using AI and data to deliver services more efficiently.
- Councils must ask: what level of investment are we making in this space, and how are we bringing staff along on the journey?

### **5.1 ALGA Conference Report**

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- Case studies included productivity gains of up to 34% through digital planning tools, highlighting both the opportunities and risks of AI.
- The need to build public trust and conduct risk profiling was strongly reinforced.

#### **Community Resilience and Disaster Preparedness**

- Dr Jackie Schirmer spoke on cumulative drought impacts and the importance of ongoing support even after rain, as recovery takes years.
- Mental health support was stressed as essential, with practical strategies such as door knocking and neighbourhood check ins.
- Calls for more effective disaster relief funding models were discussed, alongside addressing slow-onset natural disasters.

#### **Rural and Regional Health**

- Professor Jenny May delivered a compelling session on equitable access to health care, advocating for a “hub and spoke” model for regional services.
- Discussions also highlighted the lack of federal funding for local road and community infrastructure (LRCI), reinforcing the need for sustained grant programs.

#### **Local Government Sustainability**

- Sessions explored the sustainability of councils in meeting growing community demands. With local government managing 77% of Australia’s road network, the call for increased road funding and fair distribution of resources.

#### **Federal Advocacy and National Issues**

- ALGA President’s Address – reinforced the call to increase the overall size of Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs), rather than continuing disputes over distribution. Community expectations are growing, yet local government funding has not kept pace.
- Minister Kristy McBain highlighted national challenges including net zero, childcare, housing supply, and disaster resilience, calling for local government sustainability and innovation in solutions.
- Shadow Minister Anne Webster reinforced bipartisan support for stronger disaster preparedness and rural resilience measures.

#### **Regional Forum**

The Forum explored “National Priorities, Local Solutions” and brought regional voices directly to the table.

Key themes included:

- Driving efficiency through technology to improve local service delivery.
- Better mental health in regional communities and stronger social cohesion.
- Unpaid council rates in both metro and regional LGAs are a growing issue.
- Drought and resilience were highlighted as ongoing national challenges requiring locally led approaches.
- Population growth and demographic shifts:
  - Bernard Salt (Demographics Group) identified a 25% increase in population driving demand for Australian resources.

### 5.1 ALGA Conference Report

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- Predicted growth of 4 million people by 2035, with one-third of that growth being migration.
- Noted “youthification of the regions” — a shift of young people (15–35) moving to regions, supported by remote work and lifestyle changes.
- Kirsty Watts highlighted growth in towns such as Orange, Dubbo, and Tamworth.
- Key industries expected to expand over the next 20 years include aged care, disability services, regional nursing, and trades.

#### **Networking Benefits**

The NGA and Regional Forum reinforced the importance of relationship-building. Councillors had the opportunity to:

- Share solutions with colleagues from across Australia.
- Strengthen ties with agency leaders including NEMA and NBN Co, Australia Post and many other exhibitors in the exhibition hall.
- Advocate directly to ministers and senior officials on regional priorities.

**Networking was consistently acknowledged as one of the most valuable outcomes: “You cannot put a price on networking.”**

#### **Conclusion**

The NGA and Regional Forum reinforced that while local governments face mounting challenges—funding shortfalls, housing pressures, workforce shortages, climate resilience, and community expectations—there is also enormous opportunity through innovation, collaboration, and stronger advocacy. By participating, I was able to ensure our council’s voice is part of these national conversations while also building networks that will directly benefit our community moving forward.

For Orange City Council, attendance provided:

- Insights into emerging policy directions.
- Firsthand access to national leaders and decision-makers.
- Stronger advocacy networks to progress the needs of our community.

It is recommended that Council acknowledge the importance of continued participation in national and regional forums to strengthen advocacy, build networks with councillors, CEOs and Ministers, to ensure Orange City Council remains informed and engaged on emerging policy, funding, and governance issues. It is also recommended that Council support the ongoing sharing of insights and learnings from these events to guide strategic decision-making and enhance Council’s advocacy on behalf of the community.

#### **Cr Ruddy**

Attending the 2025 National General Assembly reinforced just how vital local government is in driving national outcomes. From housing affordability to infrastructure planning, councils like Orange aren’t just implementing policies, we’re solving real problems at a community level. The theme National Priorities Need Local Solutions couldn’t have been more relevant. Discussions around climate action, digital transformation, and sustainable funding weren’t theoretical, they reflected the everyday realities we’re navigating in Orange.

## 5.1 ALGA Conference Report

What stood out for me is that local government is about so much more than roads, rates, and rubbish. We're shaping the social and economic future of our communities. I attended sessions focused on housing and community infrastructure, two critical areas where Orange is feeling real pressure. The message was clear: councils aren't just service providers; we're community builders. Whether it's advocating for affordable housing, creating better play spaces, or planning for population growth, we're directly influencing the quality of life for our residents.

We also heard from Jason Clarke of Minds@Work, whose keynote challenged us to shift our thinking from problem-solving to idea-generation. Too often, councils focus on fixing what's broken rather than imagining what could be possible. His insights were a prompt reminder that innovation should sit at the heart of local government decision-making.

Equally exciting was Stephen Scheeler's presentation on AI and the future of technology. He highlighted how AI isn't just something for big corporations, it's a tool councils can harness right now to improve services, streamline operations, and engage more effectively with our communities. It's exciting to think about how Orange could start exploring these innovations in the years ahead.

Ultimately, this conference reinforced the importance of collaboration. Stronger partnerships with other councils, open dialogue with federal ministers, and shared strategies across regions will be key to addressing the challenges facing Orange. It's clear that Councils aren't just part of the system, we're leading it.

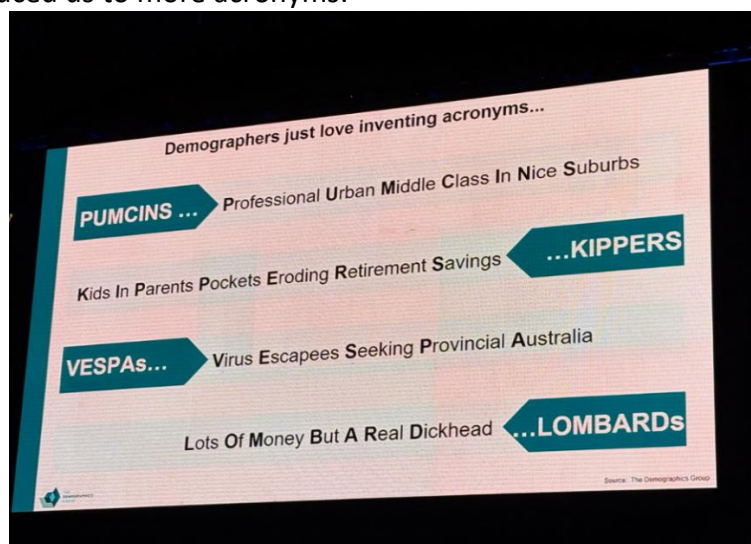
### Cr McDonell

Once again, the ALGA NGA was a jam-packed week of networking and learning with Councillors, Council staff and industry experts from across the country.

The Conference kicked on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> June with the Regional Forum. The Welcome To Country was conducted again this year by Paul Girrawah House, a Ngambri-Ngunnawal Custodian. Paul always delivers such a heartfelt, inspirational and relevant Welcome to Country.

There were two standouts for me from the Regional Forum. Firstly, demographer Bernard Salt provided a great presentation on the past, present and predicted demographics of regional, rural and remote Australia. Of particular relevance is the strong evidence showing growth in the regions will continue to rise and is an opportunity we as a city should be jumping at.

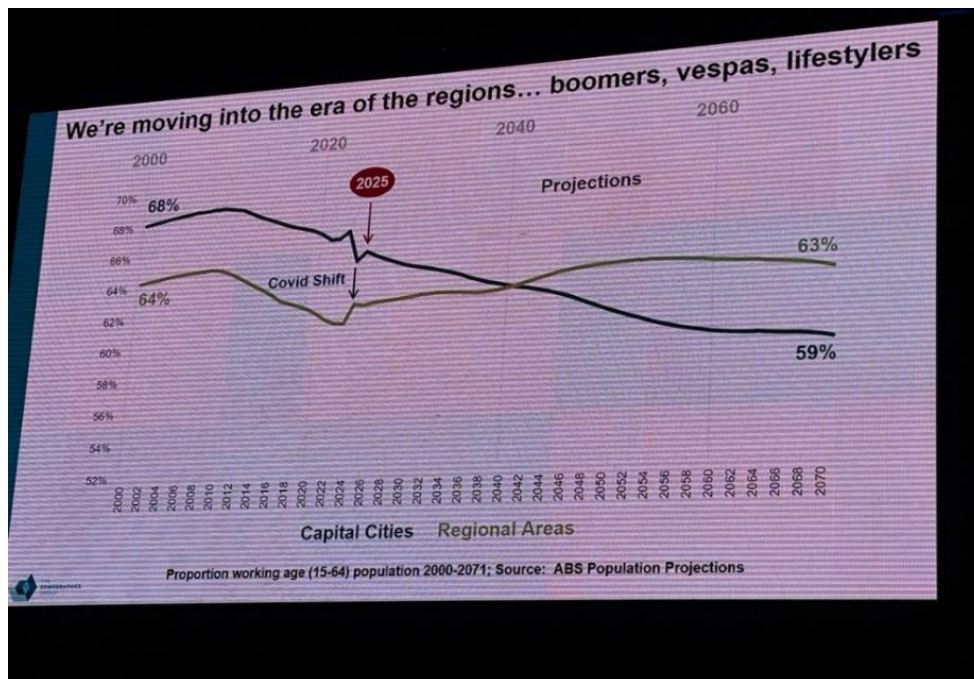
Bernard also introduced us to more acronyms:



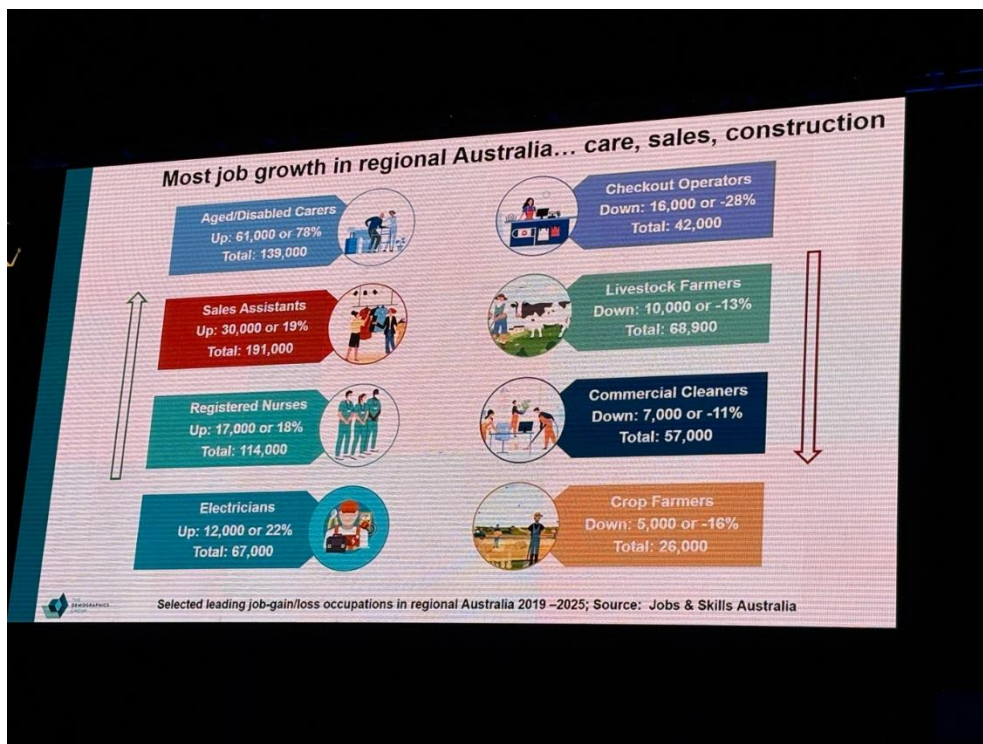


## 5.1 ALGA Conference Report

Changing demographics of city vs region population growth:

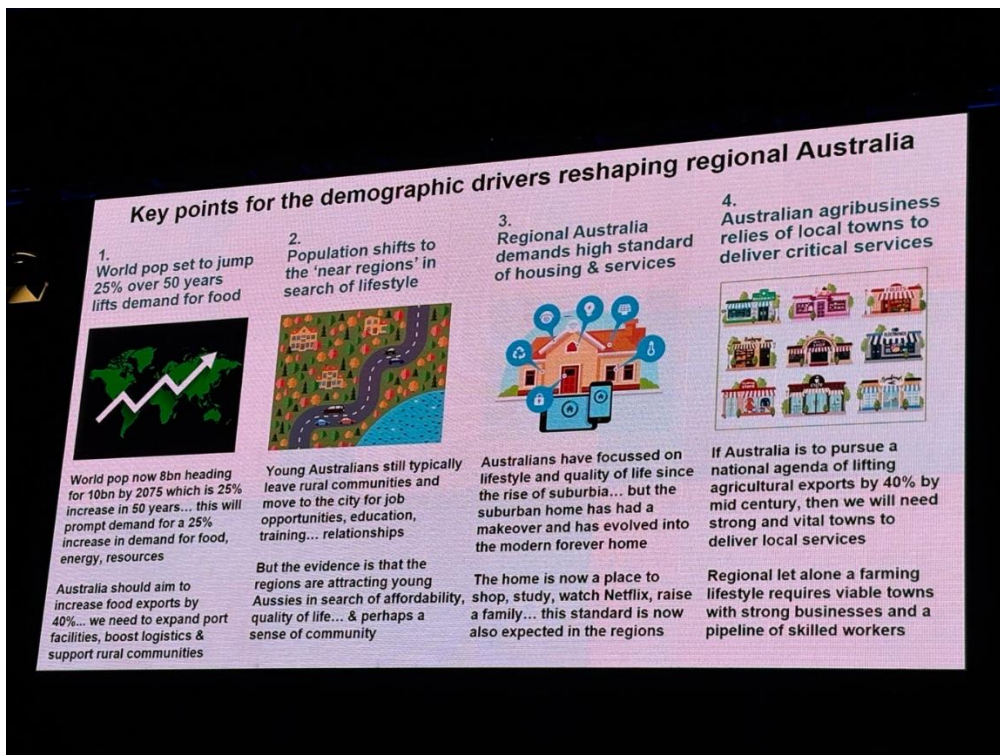


The data showing which jobs are growing in regional Australia; care, sales, and construction; is particularly relevant for Orange as we have such a large healthcare workforce already. This then feeds into the urgent, ongoing need for affordable, diverse housing options for these key workers.



## 5.1 ALGA Conference Report

The final great takeaway from Bernard Salt was:



The second key takeaway the Regional Forum was the panel session “Driving efficiency through technology”. This included a presentation from Snap Send Solve. This is a platform I’d spoken to the previous Director of Corporate and Commercial Services seeking investigation as to the possible integration with Council’s existing process to improve resident/ratepayer reporting and satisfaction. This was a great reminder to restart this conversation with the current Director to see if we can benefit from such an integration.

### **Day 1 + 2 of the NGA:**

Welcome to Country conducted by Selina Walker, Co-chair of the ACT Reconciliation Council, was fantastic.

Unfortunately, her message was not received or understood by two members of the Opposition who both made racist and offensive statements during their addresses – so much so that half the ALGA Board and many in the audience got up and walked out mid-speech. Subsequent media reports on this incident show that at least one of these MPs felt no remorse for her actions.

It was a great example of why it is still vital to conduct authentic Acknowledgement of Country and support Elders in conducting a Welcome to Country.

1300 delegates were in attendance, which was the highest attendance at the NGA yet.

It was a great opportunity to catch up with ALGWA members at the ALGWA trade stall and discuss measures underway to support women in local government across the country.

Several other trade stalls provided interesting information to start my own investigations as to potential use in our city.

On both days debate on conference motions was at times heated but still productive.

### 5.1 ALGA Conference Report

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The ALGA Awards dinner at Parliament House was a great networking opportunity also. Councillor Ruddy and I were fortunate enough to share a table with staff from Burwood Council in Sydney who were nominated for an award for their work in the domestic violence space. Councillor Ruddy and I are currently following up with Burwood Council to seek more information about their project to see how we might be able to learn from their experience and adapt and mould their project for our own community in our work to address our domestic and family violence crisis.

On the whole, the NGA was, again, a valuable experience for me as a Councillor.

#### Cr Duffy

Cr Duffy was advised by the previous Chief Executive Officer to provide input to the Manager Corporate Governance 21 August 2025. No input was received.

#### Cr Whitton

##### **Formal Summary: Attendance at the 2025 ALGA National General Assembly Councillor Jeff Whitton – Orange City Council**

I had the privilege of representing Orange City Council at the 2025 Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) National General Assembly, held in Canberra from 25–26 June 2025. My attendance commenced following my participation in key events prior to and during the summit.

- On **Tuesday evening, 24 June**, I attended the **NSW Budget Dinner hosted by the Premier of New South Wales**, where the state's economic and infrastructure priorities were outlined, including opportunities for regional councils.

#### **Wednesday 25 June 2025**

I arrived in Canberra and joined the National General Assembly at **midday**. Highlights from Wednesday's program included:

- **ALGA President Cr Matt Burnett's address**, reinforcing the 2025 theme "*National Priorities Need Local Solutions*", highlighting the importance of local government in addressing infrastructure, climate resilience, and skills development.
  - **Aligned with Orange City Council's Strategic Outcomes 3 and 4.**
- **Keynote: "From Big Picture to Local Action"** by Jason Clarke, offering practical guidance for translating federal objectives into local strategies.
  - **Aligned with Strategic Outcome 6.**
- Participation in the **first debate on motions**, addressing regional infrastructure, disaster readiness, and housing affordability.
  - **Aligned with Strategic Outcomes 1, 2, and 3.**
- That evening, I attended the **Central NSW Joint Organisation (JO) Dinner**, with Mayors and Councillors from across the Central West.
  - **Reinforcing Strategic Outcome 6: Open and collaborative leadership.**



## 5.1 ALGA Conference Report

### Thursday 26 June 2025

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Thursday's program provided key insights on emerging priorities:

- **Plenary: "Adapting Together"** – a focus on local government leadership in responding to climate change.
  - **Aligned with Strategic Outcome 2.**
- **Stephen Scheeler's keynote: "AI for Society"**, highlighting how councils can leverage AI to improve services.
  - **Aligned with Strategic Outcome 4.**
- Participation in **Listening Sessions** on:
  - Emergency management; and
  - Housing and community infrastructure.
  - **Aligned with Strategic Outcomes 1, 3, and 5.**
- Attendance at the **second debate on motions** and the **Parliament House Assembly Dinner**, offering high-value policy engagement and networking.

### Key Takeaways for Orange City Council

- A clear and consistent theme was the **tightening of Federal and State funding**, increasing the need for councils to innovate and collaborate.
- Critical priorities included **housing, renewable energy, infrastructure investment, and opportunities for AI and digital transformation** in local government.
- Regional collaboration and targeted advocacy are essential to meet future funding and service delivery challenges.

### What This Means for Orange

For Orange City Council, the Assembly reinforced that we are on the right track in many strategic areas—particularly in housing growth, sustainability, and innovation. However, the tightening of intergovernmental funding signals the need for continued vigilance.

To meet community needs while maintaining financial responsibility, we must:

- **Prioritise projects** based on long-term community benefit;
- **Pursue regional partnerships** to amplify advocacy and resource-sharing;
- **Embrace digital and AI-driven solutions** to improve efficiency; and
- Remain **diligent and transparent** in decision-making.

Council must continue to make smart, informed choices that balance innovation with financial sustainability, ensuring we deliver value to our community now and into the future.

I thank Orange City Council for the opportunity to attend this important national event and bring back valuable insights that will inform our planning, partnerships, and policy directions.

**5.1 ALGA Conference Report**

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**5.2 FEES AND CHARGES AMENDMENTS**

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RECORD NUMBER: 2025/1780

AUTHOR: Janessa Constantine, Manager Corporate Governance

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The activities and operations of Council are constantly changing and evolving and as such alterations are required to Councils fees and charges schedule.

The following additions are proposed to the fees and charges and are recommended for a public exhibition period of at least 28 days:

Pound Fees (page 38) - Surrender Fee (Risk to Community Safety) - \$0

Inspections (page 89) - Food Premises (Charities and Community Not-For-Profit) - \$0

**LINK TO DELIVERY/OPERATIONAL PLAN**

The recommendation in this report relates to the Delivery/Operational Plan strategy “15.3 Ensure financial stability and support efficient ongoing operation”.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Nil.

**POLICY AND GOVERNANCE IMPLICATIONS**

New fees and charges must be advertised for 28 days in accordance with the Local Government Act.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council resolves to place the Pound Fees - Surrender Fee (Risk to Community Safety) and Inspections - Food Premises (Charities and Community Not-For-Profit) on exhibition for the information of the community for a minimum period of 28 days.**

**FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

The recommendation of this report has been assessed against Council’s key risk categories and the following comments are provided:

<b>Service/Project Delivery</b>	Nil
<b>Financial</b>	Nil
<b>Reputation/Political</b>	Nil
<b>Environment</b>	Nil
<b>Compliance</b>	Nil
<b>People &amp; WHS</b>	Nil
<b>Information Technology/Cyber Security</b>	Nil

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

The following charges are proposed to be placed on public exhibition for a period of at least 28 days.

## 5.2 Fees and Charges Amendments

### Existing Pound Fees

#### Pound Fees

Name	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Fee (excl. GST)	Year 25/26 GST	Fee (incl. GST)	Statutory	GST
Cat at Pound – after 24hrs/per day	\$35.00	\$36.00	\$0.00	\$36.00	N	N
Dog at Pound – after 24hrs/per day	\$35.00	\$36.00	\$0.00	\$36.00	N	N
Microchipping	\$30.00	\$27.27	\$2.73	\$30.00	N	Y
Veterinary Costs (minor)	As per charged by vet				N	Y
Impound 1st time (not applicable if registered)	\$75.00	\$78.00	\$0.00	\$78.00	N	N
2nd of subsequent - Impound within 12 months	\$119.00	\$124.00	\$0.00	\$124.00	N	N
Surrender Fee	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	N	N
Borrowing of Trap Cage - per day	\$5.00	\$4.55	\$0.45	\$5.00	N	Y
Borrowing of Trap Cage - Refundable Bond Payment	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	N	N
Pensioner/Concession Card Discount	30% discount of total fee for 1st impound (does not apply to 2nd or subsequent impound within 12 months)				N	N

### New Addition Proposed:

Activity	Existing fee Ex GST	Proposed fee Ex GST	Justification
<b>Pound Fees - Surrender Fee (Risk to Community Safety)</b>	N/A	\$0.00	To further enable Council officers to mitigate risks to community safety posed by problem animals by allowing no-cost surrendering of such animals to Council by owners.

### Existing Inspection Fees:

#### Environmental Health

#### Annual Permits

Under S68 (1) of the Local Government Act 1993 and the NSW Food Act 2003.

Name	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Fee (excl. GST)	Year 25/26 GST	Fee (incl. GST)	Statutory	GST
Temporary Food Permit - Shows & Markets	\$0.00	\$44.00	\$0.00	\$44.00	N	N
Temporary Food Permit - Sporting Groups, charities & Not for profit	\$0.00	\$44.00	\$0.00	\$44.00	N	N

#### Inspections

Name	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Fee (excl. GST)	Year 25/26 GST	Fee (incl. GST)	Statutory	GST
Food premises (clause 11)	\$227.00	\$236.00	\$0.00	\$236.00	Y	N
Food Premises reinspection due to non-compliance	\$172.75	\$142.00	\$0.00	\$142.00	Y	N
Improvement notice fee (Clause 6)	\$330.00	\$330.00	\$0.00	\$330.00	Y	N
Food premises pre-purchase consultation (per hour)	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$350.00	N	N
Inspection due to complaint (substantiated)	\$175.00	\$175.00	\$0.00	\$175.00	Y	N
Commercial pools & spa public health water quality inspection	\$195.00	\$205.00	\$0.00	\$205.00	N	N
Cooling towers	\$252.70	\$262.80	\$0.00	\$262.80	N	N
Hairdresser	\$103.00	\$107.00	\$0.00	\$107.00	N	N
Skin penetration	\$170.00	\$170.00	\$0.00	\$170.00	N	N
Temporary food premises (shows & markets)	\$100.00	\$71.00	\$0.00	\$71.00	Y	N
Temporary food premises (sporting groups, charities and not for profit)	\$42.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	Y	N
Mobile food van	\$100.00	\$106.50	\$0.00	\$106.50	Y	N
Food vendor (multiple)	\$340.00	\$340.00	\$0.00	\$340.00	N	N
Pre trade/advice (new premises onsite) - where a private certifier is involved	\$238.00	\$248.00	\$0.00	\$248.00	N	N

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**5.2 Fees and Charges Amendments**

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**New Addition Proposed:**

Activity	Existing fee Ex GST	Proposed fee Ex GST	Justification
<b>Inspections – Food Premises (Charities and Community Not- For-Profit)</b>	N/A	\$0.00	To reduce the cost burden of organisations providing valuable services to those in need in our community.



**5.3 REVIEW OF ABORTION SERVICES - ORANGE LGA**

RECORD NUMBER: 2025/1754

AUTHOR: Kate Shepherd, Executive Officer

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

At the Council meeting held 17 December 2024 there was a matter arising in relation to a list of Health Care Providers that provide access to abortion services.

**MATTER ARISING****Cr M Ruddy**

*Cr Ruddy asked if Council could coordinate a list of Health Care Providers (Doctors and Pharmacists) locally where people could access abortion services.*

This report provides the most updated information identified by Council staff around the information and services available to the Community for abortion services.

**LINK TO DELIVERY/OPERATIONAL PLAN**

The recommendation in this report relates to the Delivery/Operational Plan strategy “3.2 Improve access, inclusion, equity and diversity in our community”.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Nil.

**POLICY AND GOVERNANCE IMPLICATIONS**

Nil.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council acknowledge the information provided on Abortion Services in this report.**

**FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

The recommendation of this report has been assessed against Council’s key risk categories and the following comments are provided:

<b>Service/Project Delivery</b>	Nil
<b>Financial</b>	Council staff time.
<b>Reputation/Political</b>	Some members of the community will not support Council’s role in providing information.
<b>Environment</b>	Nil
<b>Compliance</b>	Nil
<b>People &amp; WHS</b>	Nil
<b>Information Technology/Cyber Security</b>	Nil

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

Initial investigations by Council staff showed a lack of centralised information around pregnancy options and more specifically abortion services.





### **5.3 Review of Abortion Services - Orange LGA**

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Council could play a role to help communicate this information and also update the information that is publicly available.

This information could include a list of practices providing abortion care, information could also be obtained of which ultrasound locations provide “sensitive” abortion ultrasounds. Also available could be specialised Pregnancy options counselling such as Family Planning NSW, NSW Pregnancy Choices Helpline and Children by Choice.

If such a list were to be created it could also include information on the ‘morning after’ pill (also referred to as ‘Plan B’. This emergency contraception can be used to reduce the risk of pregnancy by stopping/delaying ovulation and is not an abortion pill. The morning after emergency contraception pill can be obtained without a prescription from a pharmacy, GP, sexual health clinic and family planning centre.

**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 2021, in the opinion of the Chief Executive Officer, 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 Tender F4456 - Design, Construction and Supply of Trailer Stage**

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 Submission Redaction Report 2 September 2025**

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 (e) information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the maintenance of law.

**6.1 TENDER F4456 - DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLY OF TRAILER STAGE**

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RECORD NUMBER: 2025/1785

AUTHOR: Jen Sharp, Director Corporate &amp; Commercial Services

**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 SUBMISSION REDACTION REPORT 2 SEPTEMBER 2025**

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RECORD NUMBER: 2025/1771

AUTHOR: Janessa Constantine, Manager Corporate Governance

**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 (e) information that would, if disclosed, prejudice the maintenance of law.

**7 RESOLUTIONS FROM CLOSED MEETING**