

NOTICE OF MEETING & AGENDA

Ordinary Meeting

Wednesday 23 August 2023

Roma Administration Centre

NOTICE OF MEETING

Date: 17 August 2023

Mayor:

Councillor T D Golder

Deputy Mayor:
Councillors:

Councillor G B McMullen
Councillor J R P Birkett
Councillor M C Edwards
Councillor J L Guthrie
Councillor J M Hancock
Councillor W L Ladbrook
Councillor C J O'Neil
Councillor W M Taylor

Chief Executive Officer:

Edwina Marks

Executive Management:

Erik Lambert – Director Corporate Services
Stephen Scott – Director Bendemere
Seamus Batstone – Director Booringa
Lee Jackson – Director Bungil
Leo Jensen – Director - Regional Development,
Environment and Planning
Dean Ellwood – Director Roma
Mathew Gane – Director Warroo

Attached is the agenda for the **Ordinary Meeting** to be held at the Roma Administration Centre on **23 August, 2023 at 9.00AM.**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Edwina Marks'.

Edwina Marks
Chief Executive Officer

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Item No	Subject	
1	Welcome	
2	Attendances	
3	Confirmation of Minutes	
	Ordinary 9 August 2023	5
4	Declaration of Conflicts of Interest	
5	On the Table	
6	Presentations/Petitions and Deputations	
7	Consideration of notices of business	
8	Consideration of notices of motion	
8.1	Public Information Session of the Effects of Wind Farming.....	41
	Prepared by: Mayor Golder	
8.2	Housing Issue in Surat and Proposed Solutions.....	42
	Prepared by: Councillor Hancock	
9	Reception of notices of motion for next meeting	
Reports		
10	Office of the CEO	
11	Corporate Services	
11.1	Monthly Financial Report as at 31 July 2023	43
	Prepared by: Management Accountant	
	Attachment : Business Units July 2023 Statement of Income and Expenditures	53
12	Engineering	
13	Reports - Local Area Directors	
13.1	Addition to the Road Register - Unnamed road off Burtons Road, Roma	55
	Prepared by: Director - Bungil Deputy Director / Strategic Road and Program Management	

13.2	Flying Fox Management Plan	65
	Prepared by: Director - Warroo	
	Attachment 1: Range Environmental Consultants - Ref J001326 - Ecological advice letter Flying-fox Legislation	71
	Attachment 2: MRC Flying-Fox Management Plan 2023	76
	Attachment 3: Letter from Minister - Successful Fund Application - Flying-Fox Roost Management - 18.11.2022	91
	Attachment 4: FFRM - Range Environmental - DRAFT Regional Flying-Fox Roost Management Plan - 17.08.2023	92
13.3	Expression of Interest to Lease Council Owned Land - Lot 127 on SP203119 and Lot 128 on SP206888	148
	Prepared by: Administration Officer (Booringa)	
	Attachment 1: Organisational Policy - Grazing Council Land - Adopted 14 September 2022 - OM/09.2022/14.....	153
	Attachment 2: Horse Agistment Request - Brittney Dugdale.....	157
13.4	Proposed RACQ EV Charging Station at Mitchell	158
	Prepared by: Director - Booringa	
13.5	Reinstating the Junior Sports Award	163
	Prepared by: Local Development Officer (Warroo)	

14 Regional Development

14.1	Care Outreach Request - Mitchell	167
	Prepared by: Administration Officer (Booringa)	
14.2	User Agreement - Roma Community Arts Centre - Roma on Bungil Incorporated.....	172
	Prepared by: Leases and Agreements Administration Officer	
14.3	Roma & District Lapidary & Mineral Society Incorporated - User Agreement.....	175
	Prepared by: Leases and Agreements Administration Officer	
14.4	Roma & District Family History Society Incorporated - User Agreement.....	178
	Prepared by: Leases and Agreements Administration Officer	
14.5	Schedule of Fees - Permit to Occupy and Trustee Leases (Grazing).....	181
	Prepared by: Manager - Regional Facilities (Land, Buildings & Structures)	
14.6	Roma Saleyards - Rail Loading and Unloading Infrastructure	188
	Prepared by: Manager - Regional Facilities (Land, Buildings & Structures)	
14.7	McDonald's Sign at Bassett Park.....	194
	Prepared by: Manager - Regional Facilities (Land, Buildings & Structures)	

Next General Meeting

- To be held at the Mitchell Administration Centre on 13 September 2023.

Confidential Items

In accordance with the provisions of section 254J(3) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, a local government may resolve to close a meeting to the public to discuss confidential items that it's Councillors or members consider it necessary to close the meeting.

C Confidential Items**C.1 Update - Roma Waste Facility - Weighbridge Operations**

Classification: Closed Access

Local Government Regulation 2012 Section 254J(3)(g) negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government.

C.2 Injune Caravan Park Management

Classification: Closed Access

Local Government Regulation 2012 Section 254J(3)(g) negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government.

C.3 Tender to Lease Council Owned Land - Lot 410 & 411 on Y2211

Classification: Closed Access

Local Government Regulation 2012 Section 254J(3)(g) negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government.

C.4 Request for extension on payment arrangement - 14012181

Classification: Closed Access

Local Government Regulation 2012 Section 254J(3)(d) rating concessions.

C.5 Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program Phase 4

Classification: Closed Access

Local Government Regulation 2012 Section 254J(3)(i) a matter the local government is required to keep confidential under a law of, or formal arrangement with, the Commonwealth or a State.

C.6 Roma Denise Spencer Memorial Pool Redevelopment Project - 3-5 Feather Street

Classification: Closed Access

Local Government Regulation 2012 Section 254J(3)(g) negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government.

C.7 Resident Co-Contribution Proposal - Scheffe Road, Roma

Classification: Closed Access

Local Government Regulation 2012 Section 254J(3)(g) negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government.

C.8 Flood Damage (Event 13) Program Update

Classification: Closed Access

Local Government Regulation 2012 Section 254J(3)(i) a matter the local government is required to keep confidential under a law of, or formal arrangement with, the Commonwealth or a State.

C.9 Sale of Land for Overdue Rates

Classification: Closed Access

Local Government Regulation 2012 Section 254J(3)(e) legal advice obtained by the local government or legal proceedings involving the local government including, for example, legal proceedings that may be taken by or against the local government.

Councillor Business

15 Councillor Business

17.1 Restoration of headstones for military service men and women..... 197

Prepared by: Councillor Guthrie

17.2 Quintin Street Storm Water Upgrade (Section between McDowall and Bowen Streets Roma) 198

Prepared by: Councillor McMullen

Closure

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF MARANOA REGIONAL COUNCIL HELD AT ROMA ADMINISTRATION CENTRE ON 9 AUGUST 2023 SCHEDULED TO COMMENCE AT 9.00AM

ATTENDANCE

Mayor Cr. T D Golder chaired the meeting with, Deputy Mayor Cr. G B McMullen, Cr. J R P Birkett, Cr. M C Edwards (via Microsoft Teams), Cr. J L Guthrie, Cr. J M Hancock (via Microsoft Teams), Cr. W L Ladbrook, Cr. C J O'Neil, Cr. W M Taylor (from 9.12am – 4.32pm), Chief Executive Officer – Edwina Marks, and Kelly Rogers Minutes Officer in attendance.

AS REQUIRED

Director Corporate Services – Erik Lambert, Director Roma – Dean Ellwood, Director Warroo – Matthew Gane, Director Booringa – Seamus Batstone, Director Bungil – Lee Jackson, Director Regional Development, Environment and Planning – Leo Jensen, Deputy Director / Strategic Road Management – Cameron Hoffmann, General Manager Saleyards – Daniel Haslop, Chief Financial Officer – Andrew Knight, Manager Regional Facilities (Land, Buildings & Structures – Tanya Mansfield, Manager - Airports (Roma) & Regional Compliance – Daniel Jones, Manager - Regional Economic & Community Development – Greg Lawrence, Manager - Information & Communications Technology (ICT) – Rueben Broom, Manager - Community Safety & Compliance – Samantha Thrupp, Local Development Officer Roma – Georgie Adams Woodall, Regional Arts and Culture Officer – Tennielle Limpus.

WELCOME

The Mayor welcomed all present and declared the meeting open at 9.12am.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/01

Moved Cr Birkett

Seconded Cr McMullen

That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 19 July 2023 be confirmed.

CARRIED

9/0

ON THE TABLE

The following items were laid on the table at a previous meeting:

- 13.5 (Updated to C.9) – Potential carpark Roma - update

PETITIONS

Refer to Item L.1.

CONSIDERATION OF NOTICES OF MOTION

Item Number: 8.1 File Number: D23/61999

SUBJECT HEADING: NATIONAL AUSTRALIA BANK CLOSURE MITCHELL
OCTOBER 2023

Councillor's Title: Cr. Tyson Golder

Executive Summary:

Council has been advised that the National Australia Bank will close the branch at Mitchell on 19 October 2023.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/02

Moved Cr Golder

Seconded Cr McMullen

That Council:

1. Acknowledge recent communications in relation to this matter from local MP, Ann Leahy.
2. Write to National Australia Bank about its recent decision requesting information about the decision and request a one (1) year extension of their bank closure to allow for the addition of a new possible community bank for the region if they are not willing to reconsider their decision.
3. Invite senior National Australia Bank executive/s to the region to discuss the recent decision at a Community Forum on 15th August 2023.
4. Acknowledge that the Booringa Action Group will also work on suitable community options for consideration by NAB to be able to bring to the Community Forum.

[Amendments to the motion received and accepted following progressive discussions].

CARRIED

9/0

Responsible Officer

Chief Executive Officer

Item Number: 8.2 File Number: D23/61280

SUBJECT HEADING: MARANOA TOWN GARDENS REFRESH

Councillor's Title: Cr. Tyson Golder

Executive Summary:

This notice of motion sought to approve works of low value of topping up bark/mulch and soil as well as replacing sick plants, if required, in Council owned or high visibility/profile gardens across the Maranoa.

Moved Cr Golder

Seconded Cr Birkett

That a report be prepared for an upcoming Council meeting.

NO VOTE TAKEN

No vote was taken on the draft motion at that time with the Mayor proposing the following procedural motion:

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/03
Moved Cr Golder

That we lay this on the table until later in the meeting (*to consider wording for the notice of motion*).

CARRIED
9/0
Item Number:
8.3
File Number: D23/60454
SUBJECT HEADING:
HOUSING ISSUE IN SURAT AND PROPOSED SOLUTIONS
Location:
Surat
Councillor's Title:
Cr. Johanne (Joh) Hancock
Executive Summary:

Surat is facing an acute shortage of available housing, both for sale and rental purposes. This scarcity has led to a stagnation in the town's growth as new residents and businesses struggle to find suitable accommodation. The lack of housing options is impacting the overall liveability of Surat, discouraging potential residents, and posing challenges for attracting and retaining skilled professionals, such as teachers and nurses, essential for the town's development. This notice of motion proposed a resolution to address the pressing concern.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/04
Moved Cr Hancock

That this lay on the table until later in the meeting (*to determine the number of Council owned blocks of land in Surat*).

CARRIED
9/0
Item Number:
8.4
File Number: D23/60713
SUBJECT HEADING:
REQUEST TO PURCHASE COUNCIL OWNED LAND - PART OF LOT 11 ON RP87084
Officer's Title:
**Manager - Regional Facilities (Land, Buildings & Structures)
Lead Facility Management Officer**
Original Resolution Meeting Date:
12 April 2023
Original Resolution Number:
OM/04.2023/20
Original Resolution:
That Council:

1. *Delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer (or delegate) to negotiate an agreement with the Department of Energy and Public Works in relation to the subdivision of Lot 11 on RP87084 to create two allotments for future state government employee housing.*
2. *Explore subdividing the balance of the lot to facilitate future housing development in Mitchell.*
3. *Consider allocating funds in an upcoming budget to fund costs to be incurred by Council for the development of the balance of the allotment.*

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/05

Moved Cr O'Neil

Seconded Cr Birkett

That Council amend Resolution Number OM/04.2023/20 to read as follows:

That Council:

1. Delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer (or delegate) to negotiate an agreement with the Department of Energy and Public Works in relation to the subdivision of Lot 11 on RP87084 to create allotments for future state government employee housing.
2. Accept the purchase price of \$20,000 for 50% of Lot 11 on RP87084, with the balance of the land to be retained by Council.
3. Consider the plan proposed by the State to subdivide the part of Lot 11 on RP87084 being retained by Council, into 4 lots to facilitate future housing development in Mitchell and acknowledge that Council as a condition of the subdivision being finalized will be required to provide services to the land.
4. Consider at a future Council meeting, a report outlining costs to provide services to the land and construct Newcastle and Avis Streets Mitchell.
5. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or delegate) to sign the sale contract with the Department of Energy and Public Works and any other documentation relating to this land transfer.

CARRIED

9/0

Responsible Officer

Manager - Regional Facilities (Land, Buildings & Structures)

Declaration of Interest

Item	8.5
Description	Termination of Injune Caravan Park Management Agreement
Declaring Councillor	Cr Wendy Taylor
Person with the interest Related party / close associate / other relationship	Myself
Particulars of Interest	I am the Treasurer of the Roma Clay Target Club and the club operates a caravan park
Type of conflict	Prescribed conflict of interest
Action	Leave the room while the matter is discussed and voted on.

Cr Taylor left the meeting at 9.40am.

Item Number: 8.5 **File Number:** D23/62286

SUBJECT HEADING: **TERMINATION OF INJUNE CARAVAN PARK MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT**

Officer's Title: Director - Bungil

Original Resolution Meeting Date: 10 May 2023

Original Resolution Number: OM/05.2023/43

Original Resolution:

That Council:

1. Receive notice that 1EIGHT Pty Ltd are terminating their Management Agreement for operation of the Injune Caravan Park as of 17 July 2023.
2. Invite expressions of interest to operate the Injune Caravan Park under a Management Agreement and include plans to grow the business.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/06

Moved Cr McMullen

Seconded Cr Ladbrook

That Council amend Resolution Number OM/05.2023/43 to read as follows:

That Council:

1. Receive notice that 1EIGHT Pty Ltd are terminating their Management Agreement for the operation of the Injune Caravan Park as of 18 September 2023.
2. Invite expressions of interest to operate the Injune Caravan Park under a Management Agreement and include plans to grow the business.

CARRIED

8/0

Responsible Officer

Director - Bungil

Section 150F A (2)(e) of the Local Government Act 2009

For a matter to which the prescribed conflict of interest or declarable conflict of interest relates – the name of each eligible councillor who voted on the matter, and how each eligible councillor voted.

Name of each eligible councillor who voted on the matter:

Cr. John Birkett, Cr. Mark Edwards, Cr. Tyson Golder, Cr. Julie Guthrie, Cr. Johanne Hancock, Cr. Wayne (George) Ladbrook, Cr. Geoff McMullen, Cr. Cameron O'Neil.

How each eligible councillors voted:

Each councillor voted in favour of the motion.

At cessation of discussion and decision on the abovementioned item, Cr Taylor returned to the meeting at 9.41am.

BUSINESS

OFFICE OF THE CEO

Item Number: 10.1

File Number: D23/60258

SUBJECT HEADING: LGAQ ANNUAL CONFERENCE MOTIONS 2023

Officer's Title: Chief Executive Officer

Executive Summary:

An additional motion has been suggested for presentation to the 2023 LGAQ Annual Conference, with a closing date of 9 August 2023.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/07

Moved Cr O'Neil

Seconded Cr Birkett

That Council:

1. Endorse the submission of an additional motion in relation to banking closures as attached and amended –
 - Page 52 | Under the heading 'Motion' – update the statement as highlighted in blue text below - The Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) calls on the State Government and the Federal Government to address the closures of banks in Queensland.....
2. Noting that motions (a) – (h) were endorsed at the ordinary meeting 12 and 19 July 2023 - Resolution No. OM/07.2023/06 and OM/07.2023/52:
 - a) Banking Practice
 - b) Mobile Blackspot Program
 - c) Renewable Energy Decommissioning Bonds
 - d) Amalgamation of Assessments
 - e) Resource Company Obligations – Payment of Rates
 - f) Insurance
 - g) Youth Crime Mitigation Funding to Councils
 - h) Local Government access to Housing Funds for development
3. Invite other regional councils to be co-sponsors and include the supporting organisations for respective motions as recommended.

CARRIED

9/0

Responsible Officer

Chief Executive Officer

CORPORATE SERVICES**Item Number:** 11.1**File Number:** D23/59281**SUBJECT HEADING:** SELECTIVE INSPECTION PROGRAM 2023**Officer's Title:** Manager - Community Safety & Compliance**Executive Summary:**

A Selective Inspection Program is proposed for all township areas within the Maranoa Regional Council Area. The selective inspection program will monitor compliance with the Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008 regarding dog registration and regulated dog provisions.

The inspection program may result in remedial action being undertaken and infringements issued where non-compliance is observed.

Properties will be selected where a Council Authorised Person has a reasonable belief that an unregistered and/or regulated dog may be present on the premises.

The public will be given notice that the program will commence on Monday 25 September and conclude on Friday 1 December 2023. Notification of the program will be given in the local news publications on the week commencing 4 September and posted on the Council website and social media platforms as per legislative requirements. In addition, a public notice is to be distributed through the month of August via an unaddressed mailout to residents within the town areas.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/08**Moved Cr McMullen****Seconded Cr O'Neil****That Council resolve:**

- 1. That under section 113(1) of the Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008 (AMCAD) Council approves a selective inspection program to allow authorised persons to enter and inspect selected properties in part of its local government area.**
- 2. In accordance with section 113(5)(a) of the AMCAD Act 2008 the purpose of the program is to monitor compliance with the Chapter 3 registration and Chapter 4 regulated dog provisions of the AMA.**
- 3. In accordance with section 113(5)(b) and (e) of the AMCAD Act 2008 the program will commence on Monday 25 September and conclude on Friday 1 December 2023.**
- 4. In accordance with section 113(5)(c) of the AMCAD Act 2008 inspections may occur in premises situated within the townships of Amby, Injune, Jackson, Mitchell, Muckadilla, Mungallala, Roma, Surat, Wallumbilla and Yuleba being the areas defined as designated town areas in Schedule 13 of Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011 where an Authorised Person has reasonable belief that an unregistered and/or regulated dog may be present.**
- 5. In accordance with section 114 of the AMCAD Act 2008 a public notice will be given in the local news publications on the week commencing 4 September 2023 and on the Council website and social media platforms stating that the program will commence on Monday 25 September and conclude on Friday 1 December 2023.**
- 6. On identification of an unregistered dog on a premises, that Officers issue an advisory notice for registration to be paid within 14 days upon which, if no action is taken, a fine will be issued.**

CARRIED**7/2**

Cr. Golder called for a division of the vote.

The outcomes were recorded as follows:

Those in Favour of the Motion	Those Against the Motion
Cr. Birkett	Cr. Edwards
Cr. Guthrie	Cr. Golder
Cr. Hancock	
Cr. Ladbroke	
Cr. McMullen	
Cr. O'Neil	
Cr. Taylor	

Responsible Officer	Manager - Community Safety & Compliance
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REPORTS - LOCAL AREA DIRECTORS

Cr Birkett left the meeting at 10.03am.

Item Number: 13.1 **File Number:** D23/56873

SUBJECT HEADING: LIFEFLIGHT STORE SALE FUNDRAISER SALE DAY

Officer's Title: Manager - Saleyards

Executive Summary:

LifeFlight are requesting to hold an annual store sale fundraiser sale day on an identified Tuesday in September 2023.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/09

Moved Cr O'Neil

That this lays on the table until later in the meeting (to receive further financial information).

CARRIED

8/0

Cr Birkett returned to the meeting at 10.07am.

Item Number: 13.2 **File Number:** D23/58008

SUBJECT HEADING: COMMERCIAL USE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT
CONTROLLED AREA - REQUEST TO USE ROMA
SALEYARDS STUD STOCK SELLING ARENA FOR BOER
GOAT SALE

Officer's Title: Manager - Saleyards

Executive Summary:

Council received a request to use the Roma Saleyards Stud Stock Selling Arena for a third annual Boer Goat Sale on Friday 10 November 2023.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/10

Moved Cr McMullen

Seconded Cr Ladbrook

That Council:

1. Approve the request to use the Roma Saleyards Stud Stock Selling Arena for the third Boer Goat Sale on Friday 10 November 2023 in accordance with the Hire of Roma Saleyards Policy.
2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or delegate) to nominate appropriate conditions.

CARRIED

9/0

Responsible Officer

Manager - Saleyards

Item Number:

13.3

File Number: D23/59586

SUBJECT HEADING:

**EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR THE PROVISION OF
ADVERTISING - ROMA AIRPORT AND SALEYARDS**

Officer's Title:

Manager - Airports (Roma) & Regional Compliance

Executive Summary:

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider releasing an Expression of Interest for the provision of advertising services at the Roma Airport and Roma saleyards to generate revenue for Council.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/11

Moved Cr McMullen

Seconded Cr O'Neil

That Council:

1. Pursuant to Section 228 (3) of the *Local Government Regulations 2012 (QLD)*, Invite separate and/or combined expressions of interest for the provision of advertising management on the Roma Airport and Saleyards facilities.
2. Note that it is not in the public interest for council to conduct a tender process in the first instance, as a rigid specification will not maximise potential revenue opportunities.
3. Acknowledge that considerations will be included seeking to attract local providers.
4. Negotiate with current signage owners.

[Wording amended a number of times following progressive discussions].

CARRIED

9/0

Responsible Officer

**Manager - Airports (Roma) & Regional
Compliance**

Declaration of Interest

Item	13.4
Description	Maranoa Christmas Street Party 2023
Declaring Councillor	Cr Tyson Golder
Person with the interest Related party / close associate / other relationship	Myself
Particulars of Interest	This declarable conflict of interest arises because I have a business that opened in the main street on that night.
Type of conflict	Declarable conflict of interest
Action	Leave the room while the matter is discussed and voted on.

Declaration of Interest

Item	13.4
Description	Maranoa Christmas Street Party 2023
Declaring Councillor	Cr Mark Edwards
Person with the interest Related party / close associate / other relationship	Myself and Leichardt Group
Particulars of Interest	This declarable conflict of interest arises because I am an employee/director of Leichardt Group who leases a building in the main street and I also sell oranges in the main street.
Type of conflict	Declarable conflict of interest
Action	Leave the room while the matter is discussed and voted on.

Mayor Golder and Cr Edwards left the meeting at 10.34am. The Deputy Mayor took the role of acting chair in the Mayor's absence.

Item Number:

13.4

File Number: D23/62484

SUBJECT HEADING:

MARANOA CHRISTMAS STREET PARTY 2023

Officer's Title:

Local Development Officer (Roma)

Executive Summary:

The Maranoa Christmas Street Party is an anticipated event in the Maranoa. It is proposed the 2023 Christmas Street Party take place on Thursday, 7 December from 5pm-8.30pm along McDowall Street between Hawthorne Street and Charles Street.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/12
Moved Cr O'Neil
Seconded Cr Taylor
That Council:

1. Host the 2023 Maranoa Christmas Street Party on Thursday, 7 December 2023.
2. Approve McDowall Street to be closed from Hawthorne Street to Charles Street from 2.30pm to 10pm on Thursday, 7 December 2023.
3. Seek additional sponsorship opportunities for the 2023 Maranoa Christmas Street Party.
4. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer, or delegate, to sign funding applications, and / or funding agreements relative to the 2023 My Maranoa Christmas Street Party, as applicable.
5. Form an organising committee comprising of Councillor representatives – Councillors Taylor, O'Neil, Ladbrook and Hancock, Council staff, community and business representatives.
6. Coordinate a Christmas shop local campaign.

CARRIED
7/0
Responsible Officer
Local Development Officer (Roma)
Section 150F A (2)(e) of the *Local Government Act 2009*

For a matter to which the prescribed conflict of interest or declarable conflict of interest relates – the name of each eligible councillor who voted on the matter, and how each eligible councillor voted.

Name of each eligible councillor who voted on the matter:

Cr. John Birkett, Cr. Julie Guthrie, Cr. Johanne Hancock, Cr. Wayne (George) Ladbrook, Cr. Geoff McMullen, Cr. Cameron O'Neil, Cr. Wendy Taylor.

How each eligible councillors voted:

Each councillor voted in favour of the motion.

COUNCIL ADJOURNED THE MEETING
 FOR A MORNING TEA AT 10.39am

SUBJECT HEADING: RESUMPTION OF STANDING ORDERS
 COUNCIL RESUMED THE MEETING AT 11.19am

Mayor Golder and Cr Edwards were present at the resumption of standing orders.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/13
Moved Cr O'Neil
Seconded Cr Golder
That we move Item 13.5 into the closed section of the agenda.
CARRIED
9/0

Item Number: 13.6 File Number: D23/60950

SUBJECT HEADING: SCULPTURES OUT BACK

Officer's Title: Local Development Officer (Roma)

Executive Summary:

Council held a briefing with the Sculptures Out Back committee on 11 July 2023 to discuss their long-term vision of the 'Sculpture Park' to ensure it aligns with Council's arts, culture and tourism plans. This report sought to confirm budget for the conceptual plan; enter in an MOU; confirm the dates for 2024 exhibition; and sponsorship requests.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/14

Moved Cr O'Neil

Seconded Cr Birkett

That Council:

1. Confirm a budget allocation of \$15,000 for a conceptual plan of the site – Lot Plan 210WV1624 and allocate funds from WO20424.
2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or delegate) to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding for the period of 3 years with the Sculptures Out Back committee.
3. Approve access to Lot Plan 210WV1624 to the Sculptures Out Back committee for the purpose of an art exhibition, from 15 June to 14 September 2024 on the conditions that all Transport and Main Roads approvals are obtained where applicable.

CARRIED

9/0

Responsible Officer

Local Development Officer (Roma)

Item Number: 13.7 File Number: D23/59872

SUBJECT HEADING: FLOOD LIGHTING FOR BASKETBALL COURT LOCATED NEAR PCYC - UPDATE

Officer's Title: Local Development Officer (Roma)

Executive Summary:

At the Ordinary Council meeting on 19 July 2023, Council requested a report be prepared for an upcoming Council meeting regarding flood lighting for the basketball courts near PCYC Maranoa. Staff sourced a quote from Brandts Electrical for \$5,488.41 for a flood light.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/15

Moved Cr Ladbrook

Seconded Cr Birkett

That Council:

1. Acknowledge this report enacts Resolution No.OM/07.2023/51.
2. Receive and note the quote from Brandts Electrical.
3. Proceed with installation of the light and charge \$5,488.41 to WO14328.2364 (Equipment purchase & repair PCYC).

CARRIED

9/0

Responsible Officer

Local Development Officer (Roma)

Item Number: 13.8 File Number: D23/63169

SUBJECT HEADING: DONATION BOXES - ROMA SALEYARDS

Officer's Title: Manager - Saleyards

Executive Summary:

Council resolved for a report to come back to Council regarding donation boxes at Roma Saleyards.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/16

Moved Cr McMullen

That this lay on the table until later in the meeting (to allow for the reporting officer to be present for discussions).

CARRIED

9/0

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Item Number: 14.1 File Number: D23/60436

SUBJECT HEADING: APPLICATIONS THROUGH REGIONAL ARTS
DEVELOPMENT FUND (RADF) PROGRAM 2023/2024

Officer's Title: Regional Arts and Culture Officer

Executive Summary:

The Maranoa Regional Council Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) Committee has reviewed two funding applications for arts and cultural projects, at the RADF Committee meeting held 24 July 2023. It was recommended that the Committee's assessments be endorsed.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/17

Moved Cr Taylor

Seconded Cr Hancock

That Council endorse the RADF Committee's grant assessment recommendations for applications accessed at the RADF Committee meeting held 24 July 2023.

CARRIED

9/0

Responsible Officer

Regional Arts and Culture Officer

Item Number: 14.2 File Number: D23/58875

SUBJECT HEADING: PAYMENT TO QUEENSLAND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
MUTUAL MANAGED BY JARDINE LLOYD THOMPSON
PTY LTD - ANNUAL ASSET INSURANCE PAYMENT

Officer's Title: Lead Facility Management Officer

Executive Summary:

Council has received the annual insurance premium invoice from Queensland Local Government Mutual – Assets for Council's Property Protection (ISR), Motor Vehicle, Engineering (Machinery Breakdown), Personal Accident – Group, Personal Accident – Voluntary Workers, Marine Hull Commercial and Marina Operators Liability insurances.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/18
Moved Cr O'Neil
Seconded Cr Ladbrook
That Council:

1. Authorise payment to Queensland Local Government Mutual Assets, totalling \$ 1,329,958.16 (GST Inclusive), being payment for Property Protection (ISR), Motor Vehicle, Engineering (Machinery Breakdown), Personal Accident - Group, Personal Accident – Voluntary Workers, Marine Hull Commercial and Marina Operators Liability insurances.
2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to approve the purchase order with expenditure assigned to the 2023/24 budget allocation for associated insurances.
3. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to complete future payments invoiced by Local Government Mutual Assets in accordance with budget approvals.

CARRIED
9/0
Responsible Officer
Lead Facility Management Officer
Item Number:
14.3
File Number: D23/59693
SUBJECT HEADING:
ACQUISITION OF 12-16 STATION STREET ROMA
Officer's Title:
Manager - Regional Facilities (Land, Buildings & Structures)
Executive Summary:

Council has been in ongoing negotiations with Queensland Rail in relation to the acquisition of the historic Grain Shed at 12 - 16 Station Street Roma. The purpose of this report was to provide Council with an update on the status of the acquisition.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/19
Moved Cr Golder
Seconded Cr Birkett
That Council:

1. Receive and note the Officer's report as presented.
2. Request a briefing on opportunities to do maintenance and manage the building.

CARRIED
7/2

Cr. Golder called for a division of the vote.

The outcomes were recorded as follows:

Those in Favour of the Motion	Those Against the Motion
Cr. Birkett	Cr. Hancock
Cr. Edwards	Cr. Taylor
Cr. Golder	
Cr. Guthrie	
Cr. Ladbrook	
Cr. McMullen	
Cr. O'Neil	

Responsible Officer
Manager - Regional Facilities (Land, Buildings & Structures)

Item Number: 14.4 File Number: D23/60322

SUBJECT HEADING: MUCKADILLA RIFLE RANGE

Officer's Title: Manager - Regional Facilities (Land, Buildings & Structures)

Executive Summary:

The Western District Rifle Association Inc. are seeking a formal arrangement with Council over part of the Camping and Water Reserve that is located behind the Eric Burey Memorial Muckadilla Rifle Range.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/20

Moved Cr Birkett

Seconded Cr Ladbrook

That Council:

1. Pursuant to s236(2) of the Local Government Regulation 2012 (Qld), that Council grant the lease the subject of the following resolution without tender or auction on the basis that the trustee lease is to be granted to a community organisation as permitted by the exception conferred by s236(1)(b)(ii) of the Local Government Regulation 2012 (Qld).
2. Grant a trustee lease to the Western District Rifle Association Inc. over part of the reserve land described as Lot 42 on SP220293, subject to the following conditions:
 - a) The total term, including options to renew, of the trustee lease is to not exceed 10 years.
 - b) Council and Western District Rifle Association Inc. reaching agreement on the terms and conditions of the lease to the satisfaction of Council's Chief Executive Officer (or delegate).
3. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or delegate) to sign the lease and any associated documentation.

CARRIED

9/0

Responsible Officer

Manager - Regional Facilities (Land, Buildings & Structures)

COUNCIL ADJOURNED THE MEETING
 FOR A BRIEF RECESS AT 11.54am

SUBJECT HEADING: RESUMPTION OF STANDING ORDERS
 COUNCIL RESUMED THE MEETING AT 11.55am

Item Number: 13.8 File Number: D23/63169

SUBJECT HEADING: DONATION BOXES - ROMA SALEYARDS

Officer's Title: Manager - Saleyards

Executive Summary:

Council resolved for a report to come back to Council regarding donation boxes at Roma Saleyards.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/21
Moved Cr McMullen
Seconded Cr Ladbrook
That:

1. Council receive and note the report as presented.
2. Council support the construction of two (2) identical donation boxes to be installed in a prominent position at the Roma Saleyards.
3. Further discussions occur with stakeholders in relation to Council's wishes.

CARRIED
9/0
Responsible Officer
Manager - Saleyards
Item Number:
14.5
File Number: D23/61988
SUBJECT HEADING:
**PROGRESS UPDATE - COUNCIL RESOLUTION
OM/06.2023/47 - INTRODUCTION OF KERBSIDE PICK UP
TO IMPLEMENT RECYCLING**
Officer's Title:
**Director - Regional Development, Environment and
Planning**
Executive Summary:

Council at its meeting on the 14 June 2023 discussed the roll out of a recycling bin (yellow lid) collection service for the Maranoa region. As part of those discussions, Council was advised that the general waste collection contracts were up for renewal and given the timing and structure of the contracts, they were renewed for a period of three years based on the terms already in place. This precluded the introduction of a recycling service at the present time. The discussions resulted in three resolutions. This report provided an update on the three items.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/22
Moved Cr McMullen
Seconded Cr Guthrie
That Council receive the Officer's report and acknowledge that this report updates the Council on the three items in Council Resolution OM/06.2023/47.
CARRIED
9/0
Responsible Officer
**Director - Regional Development,
Environment and Planning**
Item Number:
14.6
File Number: D23/62012
SUBJECT HEADING:
**PROGRESS UPDATE - COUNCIL RESOLUTION
OM/08.2022/56 - SUPPLY OF SECOND HAND GOODS
FROM REGIONAL WASTE FACILITIES**
Officer's Title:
**Director - Regional Development, Environment and
Planning**
Executive Summary:

Council at its meeting on 17 August 2022 (Item L.7) (OM/08.2022/56) sought a report on how the supply of second-hand goods from council's waste facilities across the Maranoa region could be better managed considering ongoing compliance issues for untidy / unsightly properties associated with Local Law No.3 non-compliance. This report provides and update and suggested procedure should issues become problem in the future.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/23
Moved Cr Golder
Seconded Cr McMullen
That Council:

1. Receive the Officer's report as presented and acknowledges that the report enacts Council resolution OM/08.2022/56.
2. Note that a future operational procedure will be developed as part of the broader waste operations review underway in the latter part of 2023 to enact the request of stopping second hand items and products being removed from the tip where there are compliance issues with unsightly allotments.

CARRIED
9/0
Responsible Officer
**Director - Regional Development,
Environment and Planning**
Item Number:
14.7
File Number: D23/62013
SUBJECT HEADING:
**PROGRESS UPDATE - COUNCIL RESOLUTION
OM/06.2023/07 - INVESTIGATE THE CONSTRUCTION OF
MATERIALS RECOVERY FACILITY**
Officer's Title:
**Director - Regional Development, Environment and
Planning**
Executive Summary:

This report provides an update on the items associated with Council's resolution OM/06.2023/07 and seeks Council's concurrence to include a feasibility study in preparing a concept plan for Materials Recovery Facility.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/24
Moved Cr McMullen
Seconded Cr Guthrie
That Council:

1. Notes this report and note that item 1 of OM/06.2023/07 has been listed in the 2023/24 budget quarter 1 review list; and item 2 has been incorporated in the 2023/24 operational plan.
2. Concurs with the undertaking of a feasibility study in developing a future concept plan for any future recycling and resource recovery facility in Roma or other suitable location as outlined in OM/06.2023/07.
3. Notes that cost estimates for a retail facility concept plan will be brought back to council once a Roma Waste Facility Site Masterplan is developed.

CARRIED
9/0
Responsible Officer
**Director - Regional Development,
Environment and Planning**

Item Number: 14.8 File Number: D23/62014

SUBJECT HEADING: CONTAINERS FOR CHANGE CONTAINER EXCHANGE (COEX) PUBLIC PLACES PILOT PROGRAM - MARANOA REGION

Officer's Title: Director - Regional Development, Environment and Planning

Executive Summary:

Recently a representative from the Containers for Change Container Exchange (COEX) program presented to a Councillor briefing session (11/07/2023) to outline the COEX Local Council Public Spaces Solutions program, and an outline of a pilot project for the Maranoa Regional Council. This report discusses the proposed Pilot program and reconfirms Council's enthusiasm and commitment to sign up for the program.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/25

Moved Cr Guthrie

Seconded Cr Birkett

That Council:

1. Note this report and receive the verbal update provided at the meeting.
2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or delegate) to enter into a formal agreement with Containers for Change Container Exchange program in rolling out the Pilot program across the region, once all the necessary infrastructure has been sourced and secured.

CARRIED

9/0

Responsible Officer

Director - Regional Development, Environment and Planning

COUNCILLOR BUSINESS

Item Number: 17.1 File Number: D23/59751

SUBJECT HEADING: GOLF LINKS ESTATE OVERLAND FLOW

Councillor's Title: Cr. Tyson Golder

Executive Summary:

Golf Links Estate is situated in such a way that it is often impacted by water through overland flow and the runoff from neighbouring properties and water retention dams. This report sought options on how to address these issues.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/26

Moved Cr Golder

Seconded Cr O'Neil

That a report be prepared for an upcoming Council meeting.

CARRIED

9/0

Responsible Officer

Deputy Director / Strategic Road and Program Management

Item Number: 17.2 **File Number:** D23/60318
SUBJECT HEADING: UNNANMED ROAD OFF BURTONS ROAD, ROMA
Location: Burtons Road, Roma
Councillor's Title: Cr. Geoff McMullen

Executive Summary:

Request for a report outlining the cost to upgrade a section of road reserve off Burtons Road Roma, with a view to Council considering the additional section being added the road register.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/27

Moved Cr McMullen

Seconded Cr Golder

That a report be prepared for an upcoming meeting detailing the cost to upgrade a section of the road reserve off Burtons Road currently used by two (2) residents to access their property.

CARRIED

9/0

Responsible Officer

Director - Bungil

Item Number: 17.3 **File Number:** D23/60323
SUBJECT HEADING: DUST SUPPRESSION - BUNGWORGORAI ROAD
Location: Bungil area
Councillor's Title: Cr. Geoff McMullen

Executive Summary:

Request for a report detailing estimates to extend the bitumen and widen existing bitumen on the sharp corner at the southern end of Bungeworgorai Road.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/28

Moved Cr McMullen

Seconded Cr Ladbrook

That a report be prepared for an upcoming meeting detailing the cost to:

1. Extend the bitumen on Bungeworgorai Road by another 400 – 500 metres.
2. Widen the sharp corner at the end of the existing bitumen on the southern end.

CARRIED

9/0

Responsible Officer

Director - Bungil

Cr Ladbrook left the meeting at 12.40pm, and returned at 12.42pm.

Item Number: 17.4 **File Number:** D23/61757
SUBJECT HEADING: WANDERING CATTLE WALLUMBILLA
Councillor's Title: Cr. Geoff McMullen

Executive Summary:

That Council be provided with a report in relation to wandering cattle issues in relation to the Wallumbilla area and broader region.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/29
Moved Cr McMullen
Seconded Cr Golder

That a report be prepared for an upcoming Council meeting to give consideration to designated pound facilities for wandering stock.

CARRIED

9/0

Responsible Officer
**Director – Regional Development,
Environment and Planning**
Resolution No. OM/08.2023/30
Moved Cr Golder
Seconded Cr Birkett

That a report be prepared in regards to a portable/mobile trailer option for an impounding pen and ramp for use on impounding stock on public roads.

CARRIED

9/0

Responsible Officer
**Director – Regional Development,
Environment and Planning**
Item Number:

17.5

File Number: D23/60434

SUBJECT HEADING:
ADDRESSING THE INDIAN MYNA BIRD SPREAD
Location:

Regional

Councillor's Title:
Cr. Cameron O'Neil
Executive Summary:

Earlier in 2023 Maranoa Regional Council adopted its Biosecurity Management Plan 2023-2027. In the plan, the Indian Myna bird species was identified as an invasive species in the Maranoa.

Moved Cr O'Neil
Seconded Cr Ladbrook

That a report be presented at an upcoming council meeting that includes measures and costs to address the increase our region is experiencing with the Indian Myna, including the Roma CBD.

NO VOTE TAKEN

No vote was taken on the draft motion at that time, with Mayor Golder and Cr Edwards making the following declarations:

Declaration of Interest

Item	17.5
Description	Addressing the Indian Myna Bird spread
Declaring Councillor	Cr Tyson Golder
Person with the interest Related party / close associate / other relationship	Myself
Particulars of Interest	I have a business in the Roma CBD and this is mentioned in the report.
Type of conflict	Declarable conflict of interest
Action	Although I have a declarable conflict of interest, I do not believe a reasonable person could have a perception of bias. Therefore, I will choose to remain in the meeting. However, I will respect the decision of the meeting on whether I can remain and participate in the decision or not.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/32

Moved Cr McMullen

Seconded Cr Birkett

That it is in the public interest that Councillor Golder participates and votes on agenda item 17.5 because a reasonable person would trust that the decision is made in the public interest.

CARRIED

7/0

Declaration of Interest

Item	17.5
Description	Addressing the Indian Myna Bird spread
Declaring Councillor	Cr Mark Edwards
Person with the interest Related party / close associate / other relationship	Myself and Leichardt Group
Particulars of Interest	I am a Director of Leichardt Group which has a business in the Roma CBD and this is mentioned in the report.
Type of conflict	Declarable conflict of interest
Action	Although I have a declarable conflict of interest, I do not believe a reasonable person could have a perception of bias. Therefore, I will choose to remain in the meeting. However, I will respect the decision of the meeting on whether I can remain and participate in the decision or not.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/33

Moved Cr McMullen

Seconded Cr Guthrie

That it is in the public interest that Councillor Edwards participates and votes on agenda item 17.5 because a reasonable person would trust that the decision is made in the public interest.

CARRIED

7/0

Item Number: 17.5 **File Number:** D23/60434
SUBJECT HEADING: ADDRESSING THE INDIAN MYNA BIRD SPREAD
Location: Regional
Councillor's Title: Cr. Cameron O'Neil

Executive Summary:

Earlier in 2023 Maranoa Regional Council adopted its Biosecurity Management Plan 2023-2027. In the plan, the Indian Myna bird species was identified as an invasive species in the Maranoa.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/34

Moved Cr O'Neil

Seconded Cr Ladbrook

That a report be presented at an upcoming council meeting that includes measures and costs to address the increase our region is experiencing with the Indian Myna, including the Roma CBD.

CARRIED

9/0

Responsible Officer

Director Regional Development, Environment & Planning

Section 150F A (2)(e) of the Local Government Act 2009

For a matter to which the prescribed conflict of interest or declarable conflict of interest relates – the name of each eligible councillor who voted on the matter, and how each eligible councillor voted.

Name of each eligible councillor who voted on the matter:

Cr. John Birkett, Cr. Mark Edwards, Cr. Tyson Golder, Cr. Julie Guthrie, Cr. Johanne Hancock, Cr. Wayne (George) Ladbrook, Cr. Geoff McMullen, Cr. Cameron O'Neil, Cr. Wendy Taylor.

How each eligible councillors voted:

Each councillor voted in favour of the motion.

Item Number: 17.6 **File Number:** D23/62082
SUBJECT HEADING: UPGRADE OF THE SURAT CEMETERY
Location: Surat
Councillor's Title: Cr. Johanne (Joh) Hancock

Executive Summary:

The addition of a lawn section at the Surat Cemetery would not only give the community a further choice of burial options, it would also enhance the aesthetics of the cemetery.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/35

Moved Cr Hancock

Seconded Cr Golder

That Council:

1. Investigate the cost of upgrading the Surat Cemetery aesthetically, including the inclusion of a lawn section.
2. Be provided a report by the second ordinary meeting of October 2023, including an understanding of arrangements for other lawn cemeteries across the region.

CARRIED

9/0

Responsible Officer	Director - Warroo
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COUNCIL ADJOURNED THE MEETING
 FOR LUNCH AT 1.08pm

SUBJECT HEADING: RESUMPTION OF STANDING ORDERS
 COUNCIL RESUMED THE MEETING AT 2.18pm

The Mayor was not present at the resumption of standing orders and the Deputy Mayor took the role of acting chair in his absence.

Item Number: 13.1 **File Number:** D23/56873

SUBJECT HEADING: LIFEFLIGHT STORE SALE FUNDRAISER SALE DAY

Officer's Title: Manager - Saleyards

Executive Summary:

LifeFlight are requesting to hold an annual store sale fundraiser sale day on an identified Tuesday in September 2023. This matter had been laid on the table earlier during the meeting, Council resumed its deliberations.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/36

Moved Cr Taylor

Seconded Cr Birkett

That Council:

- a) Endorse the request from LifeFlight, a registered charity, to hold a Store Sale Fundraiser at the Roma Saleyards on an identified Tuesday in September 2023 in accordance with the Roma Saleyards Annual store Sale Fundraiser Policy.
- b) Advise LifeFlight to market the charity sale event via their promotional channels and have an engaging presence at the charity sale day which benefits the present Saleyards stakeholders.
- c) Assist LifeFlight with the co-promotion of council media opportunities.

CARRIED

8/0

Responsible Officer	Manager - Saleyards
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Declaration of Interest

Item	L.1
Description	Petition Australia Day Awards – Sportsperson Award Booringa
Declaring Councillor	Cr John Birkett
Person with the interest Related party / close associate / other relationship	Myself and family members
Particulars of Interest	I, and my family members have signed the petition.
Type of conflict	Declarable conflict of interest
Action	Leave the room while the matter is discussed and voted on

Cr Birkett let the meeting at 2.25pm.

LATE ITEMS

Item Number: L.1 **File Number:** D23/65832

SUBJECT HEADING: PETITION | AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS -
SPORTSPERSON AWARD BOORINGA

Officer's Title: Lead Officer – Elected Members & Community
Engagement

Executive Summary:

A petition dated 12 July 2023 regarding the Australia Day Awards Program was received by Council on 2 August 2023 regarding the Sportsperson Award for Booringa.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/37**Moved Cr Guthrie****Seconded Cr Taylor**

That Council note that the lodged petition does not conform with the policy, however, Council will lodge it as a customer request on the customer's behalf.

CARRIED**7/0****Responsible Officer****Lead Officer - Elected Members &
Community Engagement****Section 150F A (2)(e) of the *Local Government Act 2009***

For a matter to which the prescribed conflict of interest or declarable conflict of interest relates – the name of each eligible councillor who voted on the matter, and how each eligible councillor voted.

Name of each eligible councillor who voted on the matter:

Cr. Mark Edwards, Cr. Julie Guthrie, Cr. Johanne Hancock, Cr. Wayne (George) Ladbrook,
Cr. Geoff McMullen, Cr. Cameron O'Neil, Cr. Wendy Taylor.

How each eligible councillors voted:

Each councillor voted in favour of the motion.

The Mayor returned to the meeting at 2.26pm, assuming the chair.
Cr Birkett returned to the meeting at 2.26pm.

Item Number: 8.2 **File Number:** D23/61280

SUBJECT HEADING: MARANOA TOWN GARDENS REFRESH

Location: Roma

Councillor's Title: Cr. Tyson Golder

Executive Summary:

This is a notice of motion to approve works of low value of topping up bark/mulch and soil as well as replacing sick plants, if required, in Council owned or high visibility/profile gardens across the Maranoa. This matter had been laid on the table earlier during the meeting, Council resumed its deliberations.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/38

Moved Cr Golder

Seconded Cr Birkett

That Council:

1. Authorise the CEO (or delegate) to undertake low value works to refresh regional council owned or high profile gardens with bark/much including any replacement of dead or tired plants as part of respective Local Area Maintenance budgets.
2. Liaise with any community groups or stakeholders that act as stewards for any of our Council owned and operated parks.
3. Utilise-
 - a) Council staff (where capacity exists)
 - b) Micropanel (new and/or current)
 - c) Panel suppliers (new and/or current)

as a value for money solution to complete these works where needed.

[Wording amended following accepted suggestions from Cr O'Neil].

CARRIED

9/0

Responsible Officer

Chief Executive Officer

Item Number:

8.3

File Number: D23/60454

SUBJECT HEADING:

HOUSING ISSUE IN SURAT AND PROPOSED SOLUTIONS

Location:

Surat

Councillor's Title:

Cr. Johanne (Joh) Hancock

Executive Summary:

Surat is facing an acute shortage of available housing, both for sale and rental purposes. This scarcity has led to a stagnation in the town's growth as new residents and businesses struggle to find suitable accommodation. The lack of housing options is impacting the overall liveability of Surat, discouraging potential residents, and posing challenges for attracting and retaining skilled professionals, such as teachers and nurses, essential for the town's development. This notice of motion proposes a resolution to address the pressing concern. This matter had been laid on the table earlier during the meeting, Council resumed its deliberations.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/39

Moved Cr Hancock

That we lay this on the table to the next ordinary meeting of Council

CARRIED

9/0

Responsible Officer

Lead Officer – Elected Members & Community Engagement

Statement – by Cr Julie Guthrie

I would like to advise that I have a conflict of interest for Item C.5 – Rates Concessions 2020 – 2024 (2022). I have previously made a declaration in past meetings for this agenda item and so I reaffirm my intention to leave the room whilst this matter is discussed and voted on.

Declaration of Interest

Item	C.5
Description	Rates Concession 2020 – 2022
Declaring Councillor	Cr Johanne Hancock
Person with the interest Related party / close associate / other relationship	S Mickelbrough
Particulars of Interest	S Mickelbrough is mentioned in the report and is an employee of Surat Post & News Pty Ltd, which my husband and myself own.
Type of conflict	Declarable conflict of interest
Action	Leave the room while the matter is discussed and voted on.

CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/40

Moved Cr O'Neil

Seconded Cr Ladbrook

In accordance with the provisions of section 254J(3) of the Local Government Regulation 2012, that Council resolve to close the meeting to the public [at 2.42pm] to discuss confidential items that its Councillors consider is necessary to close the meeting.

In accordance with Section 254J(5) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, the following table provides:

- The matters to be discussed;
- An overview of what is to be discussed while the meeting is closed.

Agenda Item	Matters to be discussed (Reasons to close the meeting under the <i>Local Government Regulation 2012</i>)	Overview
C.1 – Services Building Roma	Section 254J (3) (h) negotiations relating to the taking of land by the local government under the Acquisition of Land Act 1967.	The applicant has written seeking to ascertain if Council has any interest in purchasing the building located on reserve land – Lot 4 on R86106.
C.2 – Queensland Electric Super Highway – Electrical Vehicle Charging Station in Roma	Section 254J (3) (i) a matter the local government is required to keep confidential under a law of, or formal arrangement with, the Commonwealth or a State.	The Queensland Government is implementing its Zero Vehicle Emission Strategy. Part of this strategy includes the roll out of electric vehicle charging stations along a route known as the Queensland Electric Super Highway (QESH). Roma has been identified as a part of the QESH roll out.

C.3 - Warroo Canteen Project Update	Section 254J (3) (g) negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government.	Under the Queensland Government's Works for Queensland (W4Q) Program, Council nominated the Warroo Sporting Complex canteen upgrade as one of the projects under the program. A tender was issued to the market on the 26 May 2023, and closed on 7 July 2023. This information report aims to inform Council of the status of the project and provides a summary of the responses received.
C.4 – Contract Plumber for Injune for the period of 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2025	Section 254J (3) (g) negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government.	Consideration of arrangements for a contract plumber for Injune for the specified period.
C.5 – Rates Concessions 2020 - 2022	Section 254J (3) (c) the local government's budget.	This report outlined information requested as part of Resolution OM/07.2023/37.
C.6 – Upgrade of Audio & Visual Equipment – Injune Hall	Section 254J (3) (c) the local government's budget.	At the Ordinary meeting on 23 November 2022, Council resolved that a report be presented to a future Council meeting with the costs to upgrade / replace the PA system at the Injune Memorial Hall to a standard that will accommodate all groups wishing to use this facility.
C.7 – Council Facilities of Regional Significance	Section 254J (3) (f) matters that may directly affect the health and safety of an individual or a group of individuals.	Request for a report regarding Council facilities of regional significance.
C.8 – Increase Resident Safety and Property Protection in the Maranoa	Section 254J (3) (c) the local government's budget.	Request to investigate the purchase of additional security cameras for the Maranoa Region.
C.9 (Initially Item 13.5) Potential carpark Roma - update	Section 254J (3) (g) negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of	At the Ordinary Council meeting on 19 July 2023, Council resolved: Resolution No. OM/07.2023/61 1. That this lay on the table until a future meeting. This report provides an update on the matter.
LC.1 - Santos Festival of Rugby – February 2024	Section 254J (3) (c) the local government's budget.	Consideration of Council support for the 2024 Santos Rugby 7s event.
CARRIED		

Mayor Golder left the meeting at 3.06pm with the Deputy Mayor taking the role of acting chair in the Mayor's absence. Mayor Golder returned to the meeting at 3.08pm, assuming the chair.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/41

Moved Cr O'Neil

Seconded Cr Guthrie

That Council open the meeting to the public [at 3.36pm].

CARRIED

9/0

Declaration of Interest

Item	C.4
Description	Contract Plumber for Injune for the period of 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2025
Declaring Councillor	Cr John Birkett
Person with the interest Related party / close associate / other relationship	Myself
Particulars of Interest	I own a plumbing business in the Maranoa region.
Type of conflict	Declarable conflict of interest
Action	Leave the room while the matter is discussed and voted on.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/42

Moved Cr O'Neil

Seconded Cr McMullen

That Council close the meeting to the public [at 3.38pm].

CARRIED

9/0

Cr Birkett, having previously declared a declarable conflict of interest in Item C.4 left the meeting at 3.38pm, prior to discussion on the item.

At cessation of discussion on the abovementioned item, Cr Birkett returned to the meeting at 3.41pm.

Cr Ladbrook left the meeting at 3.340m, and returned at 3.41pm.

Cr Guthrie, having stated a conflict in item C.5 left the meeting at 3.40pm, prior to discussion on the matter.

Cr Hancock, having previously declared a declarable conflict of interest in item C.5 left the meeting at 3.40pm, prior to discussion on the matter.

At cessation of discussion on the abovementioned item, Councillors Hancock and Guthrie returned to the meeting at 4.15pm.

Mayor Golder left the meeting at 3.43pm, and returned at 3.44pm.

Cr Ladbrook left the meeting at 4.11pm, and returned at 4.13pm.

Cr Taylor left the meeting at 4.32pm, and did not return for the remainder of the meeting.

Cr Ladbrook left the meeting at 4.57pm.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/43
Moved Cr Birkett
Seconded Cr Guthrie
That Council open the meeting to the public at 4.58pm.
CARRIED
7/0

Cr Ladbrook returned to the meeting at 4.59pm.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/44
Moved Cr O'Neil
Seconded Cr McMullen
That Council close the meeting to the public [at 4.59pm].
CARRIED
8/0
Resolution No. OM/08.2023/45
Moved Cr O'Neil
Seconded Cr Birkett
That Council open the meeting to the public at 5.41pm.
CARRIED
8/0

The Director – Roma acted for the Chief Executive Officer who was not present when the meeting resumed.

Item Number:
C.1
File Number: D23/59704
SUBJECT HEADING:
SERVICES BUILDING ROMA
Officer's Title:
Manager - Regional Facilities (Land, Buildings & Structures)
Executive Summary:
The applicant has written seeking to ascertain if Council has any interest in purchasing the building located on reserve land – Lot 4 on R86106.
Resolution No. OM/08.2023/46
Moved Cr O'Neil
Seconded Cr Birkett
That Council undertake further due diligence on Lot 4 on R86106.
CARRIED
8/0
Responsible Officer
Manager - Regional Facilities (Land, Buildings & Structures)

The Chief Executive Officer returned to the meeting at 5.42pm.

Item Number: C.2 File Number: D23/61156

SUBJECT HEADING: QUEENSLAND ELECTRIC SUPER HIGHWAY - ELECTRICAL VEHICLE CHARGING STATION IN ROMA

Officer's Title: Deputy Director / Strategic Road and Program Management
Senior Engineer - Contract Management Office

Executive Summary:

The Queensland Government is implementing its Zero Vehicle Emission Strategy.

Part of this strategy includes the roll out of electric vehicle charging stations along a route known as the Queensland Electric Super Highway (QESH). Roma has been identified as a part of the QESH roll out.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/47

Moved Cr Birkett

Seconded Cr McMullen

That Council:

1. Receive the attached licence agreement and summary of legal review and negotiation with Yurika Pty Ltd.
2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or delegate) to enter into a licence agreement with Yurika Pty Ltd for the installation of electric vehicle charging stations within the Arthur Street Carpark, if final terms are acceptable.

CARRIED

8/0

Responsible Officer

Deputy Director / Strategic Road and Program Management

Item Number: C.3 File Number: D23/62075

SUBJECT HEADING: WARROO CANTEEN PROJECT UPDATE

Officer's Title: Project Officer - Contract Management Officer

Executive Summary:

Under the Queensland Government's Works for Queensland (W4Q) Program, Council nominated the Warroo Sporting Complex canteen upgrade as one of the projects under the program.

A tender was issued to the market on the 26 May 2023, and closed on 7 July 2023. This information report aims to inform Council of the status of the project and provided a summary of the responses received.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/48

Moved Cr O'Neil

Seconded Cr Ladbrook

That Council receive and note this Information Report by way of update to the Warroo Canteen Project, including a summary of the responses from the Construction Tender released in late-May.

CARRIED

8/0

Responsible Officer

Project Officer - Contract Management Officer

Cr Birkett, having previously declared a declarable conflict of interest in the following item, left the meeting at 5.44pm.

Item Number: C.4

File Number: D23/61132

SUBJECT HEADING: CONTRACT PLUMBER FOR INJUNE FOR THE PERIOD OF 1 JULY 2023 TO 30 JUNE 2025.

Officer's Title: Manager - Procurement

Executive Summary:

Consideration of arrangements for a contract plumber for Injune for the specified period.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/49

Moved Cr McMullen

Seconded Cr Ladbrook

That Council:

1. Invite by way of public tender a 2 year contract for plumbing maintenance services for the township of Injune ending on 30 September 2025 in accordance with the Local Government Act 2009 and Local Government Regulation 2012.
2. Extend the engagement of the current provider – the Trustee for Portbury Family Trust T/a Portbury's Plumbing Services Pty Ltd on a month by month basis until the tender is decided.
3. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or delegate) to negotiate suitable terms for the extension and execute any documents necessary to ensure services are maintained.

CARRIED

7/0

Responsible Officer

Manager - Procurement

Section 150F A (2)(e) of the *Local Government Act 2009*

For a matter to which the prescribed conflict of interest or declarable conflict of interest relates – the name of each eligible councillor who voted on the matter, and how each eligible councillor voted.

Name of each eligible councillor who voted on the matter:

Cr. Mark Edwards, Cr. Tyson Golder, Cr. Julie Guthrie, Cr. Johanne Hancock, Cr. Wayne (George) Ladbrook, Cr. Geoff McMullen, Cr. Cameron O'Neil.

How each eligible councillors voted:

Each councillor voted in favour of the motion.

At cessation of discussion and decision on the abovementioned item, Cr Birkett returned to the meeting at 5.45pm.

Item Number:**C.5****File Number: D23/61997****SUBJECT HEADING:****RATES CONCESSIONS 2020 - 2022****Moved Cr Golder****That Item C.5 lay on the table until later in the meeting.****NO VOTE TAKEN**

Cr Guthrie, having previously declared an interest in Item C.5 left the meeting at 5.46pm.

No vote was taken on the procedural motion and Mayor Golder adjourned the meeting.

COUNCIL ADJOURNED THE MEETING
FOR A BRIEF RECESS AT 5.46pm

SUBJECT HEADING: RESUMPTION OF STANDING ORDERS
COUNCIL RESUMED THE MEETING AT 5.50pm

Cr Guthrie returned to the meeting at 5.50pm.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/50**Moved Cr Golder****That Item C.5 lay on the table until later in the meeting.****WITHDRAWN (Mayor Golder elected to withdraw this procedural motion)**

Councillors Guthrie and Hancock, having previously declared an interest in the following item left the meeting at 5.51pm.

Item Number:**C.5****File Number: D23/61997****SUBJECT HEADING:****RATES CONCESSIONS 2020 - 2022****Officer's Title:****Chief Financial Officer
Lead Rates and Utilities Billing Officer / System
Administrator
Director - Corporate Services*****Executive Summary:***

This report outlined information requested as part of Resolution OM/07.2023/37.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/51**Moved Cr Golder****Seconded Cr McMullen****That Council:**

- 1. Acknowledge that this report enacts Resolution OM/07.2023/37.**
- 2. Receive and note the report.**
- 3. Grant a 100% concession on the general rates increase due to loss of capping for the period of 01.07.2020 to 30.06.2024 for rate assessments-**

[Stated from left to right]

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4	Column 5	Column 6	Column 7
15020274	15020308	15019003	15020001	15020571	15020357	15021009
15020019	15019987	15020068	15020704	15020027	11007598	15015563
15020183	15020191	15017189	15020548	15020985	15019623	15020902
15004997	13010616	13008735	13007273	15020928	15020944	15020654
15020167	15019540	15020324	15020761	15021041	15020647	15020746
15019961	15019417	15020639	15020753	15020712	12009726	15011919

[Stated from left to right]

Column 8	Column 9	Column 10	Column 11	Column 12	Column 13	Column 14
15020142	15019730	15020837	15020498	12008157	15021025	15020910
15020159	15019680	15021017	15020688	13012497	15021215	15020530
15020175	15019573	15020613	15020381	12007985	11005188	15021181
15019995	15019821	14014443	15020787	15020803	15021207	15021116

4. Resolve the assessments that were given additional concessions greater than 100% due to calculation anomalies are not adjusted accordingly.

CARRIED

6/0

Responsible Officer

Chief Financial Officer

Section 150F A (2)(e) of the Local Government Act 2009

For a matter to which the prescribed conflict of interest or declarable conflict of interest relates – the name of each eligible councillor who voted on the matter, and how each eligible councillor voted.

Name of each eligible councillor who voted on the matter:

Cr. John Birkett, Cr. Mark Edwards, Cr. Tyson Golder, Cr. Wayne (George) Ladbrook, Cr. Geoff McMullen, Cr. Cameron O'Neil.

How each eligible councillors voted:

Each councillor voted in favour of the motion.

At cessation of discussion and decision on the abovementioned item, Councillors Guthrie and Hancock returned to the meeting at 5.59pm.

Item Number:

C.6

File Number: D23/57426

SUBJECT HEADING:

UPGRADE OF AUDIO & VISUAL EQUIPMENT - INJUNE HALL

Officer's Title:

Director - Bungil

Executive Summary:

At the Ordinary meeting on 23 November 2022, Council resolved that a report be presented to a future Council meeting with the costs to upgrade / replace the PA system at the Injune Memorial Hall to a standard that will accommodate all groups wishing to use this facility.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/52

Moved Cr Guthrie

Seconded Cr Ladbrook

That Council:

1. Acknowledge that this report enacts Resolution No OM/11.2022/50.
2. Receive and note the report.
3. Include the upgrade of the audio/visual equipment at the Injune Memorial Hall as part of carry over project 22906 - 'Injune Hall Complex upgrades/renewals.'

CARRIED

8/0

Responsible Officer

Director - Bungil

Item Number:

C.7

File Number: D23/62173

SUBJECT HEADING:

COUNCIL FACILITIES OF REGIONAL SIGNIFICANCE

Councillor's Title:

Cr. Geoff McMullen

Executive Summary:

Request for a report regarding Council facilities of regional significance.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/53

Moved Cr McMullen

Seconded Cr O'Neil

That a further report be provided to Council as soon as possible.

CARRIED

8/0

Responsible Officer

Director - Roma

Item Number:

C.8

File Number: D23/63024

SUBJECT HEADING:

INCREASE RESIDENT SAFETY AND PROPERTY PROTECTION FOR THE MARANOA

Councillor's Title:

Cr. Tyson Golder

Executive Summary:

Request to investigate the purchase of additional security cameras for the Maranoa Region.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/54

Moved Cr Golder

Seconded Cr Ladbrook

That a report be provided at an upcoming meeting outlining potential options for funding the purchase of additional security cameras to improve safety options for residents across the Maranoa region.

CARRIED

8/0

Responsible Officer

Information and Communications Technology (ICT)

Item Number: C.9 (Initially 13.5)

File Number: D23/59873

SUBJECT HEADING: POTENTIAL CARPARK ROMA - UPDATE

Officer's Title: Local Development Officer (Roma)

Executive Summary:

*At the Ordinary Council meeting on 19 July 2023, Council resolved:
Resolution No. OM/07.2023/61*

- 2. That this lay on the table until a future meeting.*

This report provides an update on the matter.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/55

Moved Cr Golder

Seconded Cr Birkett

That:

- 1. Council acknowledge this report enacts Resolution No. OM.07.2023/61.**
- 2. Council proceed with option 2 as discussed, including negotiations.**
- 3. A further report be presented to Council with final costs and budget allocations.**

[Wording amended following progressive discussions].

CARRIED

8/0

Responsible Officer

Local Development Officer (Roma)

LATE CONFIDENTIAL ITEM

Item Number: LC.1 **File Number:** D23/
SUBJECT HEADING: SANTOS FESTIVAL OF RUGBY – FEBRUARY 2024
Officer's Title: Manager - Regional Economic & Community Development

Executive Summary:

Consideration of Council support for the 2024 Santos Rugby 7s event.

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/56**Moved Cr McMullen****Seconded Cr O'Neil****That Council:**

1. Approve Twin View Turf as the supplier of turf specialty services in accordance with s235(b) of the Local Government Regulation 2012 on the grounds that it is specialised work and there is limited supply of services.
2. Approve \$45,000 for the cost of aeration and services management of the turf at Gallas Fox Park and a further \$22,000 (\$67,000) for the traffic management for this event at Gallas Fox Park which is part of the 2023/24 budget. Funded from Sponsorship 02887.229.2001 (\$45,000) and Sport and Rec 02843.2001.2001 (\$22,000).
3. Provide in-kind assistance for the Santos Festival of Rugby – Roma 2024 through:
 - o Scarifying and aeration of the playing field at Gallas Fox Park
 - o Spreading of top-dressing material on the playing field at Gallas Fox Park
 - o Labour to lay turf on the playing field at Gallas Fox Park and a general tidy up in the weeks leading up to the event, mainly around the fence line
 - o Labour to administer chemicals, soil amendments and fertilisers to the playing field at Gallas Fox Park
 - o Support of Liquor Licence Application
 - o Assistance with DES notifications for noise and light
4. Request that the CEO or delegate look at ways to value add in our commitment to engaging Twin View Turf while they are in the region.

CARRIED**8/0****Responsible Officer****Manager - Regional Economic & Community Development****CLOSURE**

There being no further business, the Mayor thanked Council for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 6.11pm.

These Minutes are to be confirmed at the next Ordinary Meeting of Council to be held on 23 August 2023, at Roma Administration Centre.

COUNCILLOR NOTICE OF MOTION

Meeting: Ordinary 23 August 2023

Date: 14 August 2023

Item Number: 8.1

File Number: D23/67562

SUBJECT HEADING: Public Information Session of the Effects of Wind Farming

Classification: Open Access

Councillor's Title: Cr Tyson Golder

Executive Summary:

This is a notice of motion to approve holding a public information session focused on the effects of wind farming. This session aims to provide insights to the community on the environmental, economic and social impacts of wind farms to the landholders in the community.

Councillor's Recommendation:

That Council:

1. Schedule the public information session on 15 September, encourage community members to attend and participate in this informative session.
 2. Invite Mayor Lawrence Springborg of Goondiwindi as a spokesperson on behalf of Local Government on the benefits, challenges, and potential effects of wind farms.
 3. Invite landowner Anna and Edward Bassett to participate in the discussion.
 4. Invite a Brisbane solicitor who represents affected landowners.
-

Background:

This notice of motion is initiated by a strong advocacy of a community member on the impact of renewable energy in the community. The session will give the attendees the opportunity to ask questions and engage in discussions with the presenters who have direct experience in the various aspects of wind farming.

The input and questions are essential in shaping future decision related to wind energy in our area and aims to foster a productive dialogue about the effects of wind farming in the community.

Supporting Documentation:

Nil

Notice prepared by:

Cr. Tyson Golder

COUNCILLOR NOTICE OF MOTION

Meeting: Ordinary 23 August 2023

Date: 16 August 2023

Item Number: 8.2

File Number: D23/68213

SUBJECT HEADING: Housing Issue in Surat and Proposed Solutions
Classification: Open Access
Councillor's Title: Cr Johanne (Joh) Hancock

Executive Summary:

Surat is facing an acute shortage of available housing, both for sale and rental purposes. This scarcity has led to a stagnation in the town's growth as new residents and businesses struggle to find suitable accommodation. The lack of housing options is impacting the overall liveability of Surat, discouraging potential residents, and posing challenges for attracting and retaining skilled professionals, such as teachers and nurses, essential for the town's development. This notice of motion proposes a resolution to address the pressing concern.

This item had been laid on the table at the ordinary meeting on 9 August 2023.

Councillor's Recommendation:

That Council:

1. Put out an expression of interest on two (2) parcels of Council residential land in the Surat township.
2. Utilise the funds generated from these sales to invest in housing projects and initiatives.
3. Investigate the cost to purchase a house to put on another available parcel of land in Surat township.
4. Be provided a report at an ordinary meeting within the next two (2) months.

Background:

The housing issue in Surat is an urgent matter that requires immediate attention. The shortage of houses for sale or rent is hindering the town's growth and overall liveability. Selling parcels of land and exploring the purchase of houses to be placed on available land, will have far-reaching positive impacts on the town's economy, business growth, and the ability to attract and retain essential professionals like teachers and nurses. It is imperative for council to act swiftly and consider these proposed solutions to address the housing crisis and foster a thriving and sustainable future for Surat.

Supporting Documentation:

Nil

Notice prepared by: Cr. Johanne (Joh) Hancock

OFFICER REPORT

Meeting: Ordinary 23 August 2023

Date: 7 August 2023

Item Number: 11.1

File Number: D23/65209

SUBJECT HEADING: Monthly Financial Report as at 31 July 2023

Classification: Open Access

Officer's Title: Management Accountant

Executive Summary:

The purpose of this report is for the Chief Executive Officer to present the monthly financial report to Council in accordance with section 204 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* for the period ended 31 July 2023

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council receive and note the Monthly Financial Report for the period ended 31 July 2023

Individuals or Organisations to which the report applies:

Are there any individuals or organisations who stand to gain a benefit, or suffer a loss, (either directly or indirectly) depending on the outcome of consideration of this matter?

(Note: This is to assist Councillors in identifying if they have a Material Personal Interest or Conflict of Interest in the agenda item - i.e. whether they should participate in the discussion and decision making).

Maranoa Regional Council

Acronyms:

Are there any industry abbreviations that will be used in the report?

Note: This is important as particular professions or industries often use shortened terminology where they refer to the matter on a regular basis. However, for individuals not within the profession or industry it can significantly impact the readability of the report if these aren't explained at the start of the report).

Acronym	Description
Nil	Nil

Context:

Why is the matter coming before Council?

To present the monthly financial report for the period ended 31 July 2023, in accordance with section 204 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

Background:

Has anything already happened in relation to this matter?

(Succinct overview of the relevant facts, without interpretation)

This report presents the high-level consolidated statement of income and expenditure for operating and capital budgets versus actuals for the period ended 31 July 2023. Noting that the budget for continuing projects (carry overs) from 2022-23 will be updated at Quarter 1 Budget Review.

Maranoa Regional Council

Ordinary Meeting - 23 August 2023

1. Operating Budget: income and expenditure

Maranoa Regional Council Statement of Income and Expenditure 31 July 2023					
Council Consolidated Operating	July-2022 Actual \$	2023-24 Current Budget \$	July-2023 Actual \$	% of budget (8.33% target)	Comments
Operating revenue					
Net rates, levies and charges	-25,368	45,883,346	2,834	0%	1st half-yearly rates billing to be issued next month (August)
Fees and charges	195,773	3,779,361	283,714	8%	Overall on track
Rental income	55,373	620,000	50,325	8%	On track
Interest received	186,231	3,157,150	550,803	17%	Investment and QTC interest higher due to RBA rates increase
Recoverable works and sales revenue	637,430	17,521,957	656,628	4%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overall on track: RMPC works (0% forecast) Airport revenue (8% forecast). Roma Saleyards (9% of forecast). Quarry revenue (2% of forecast)
Other income	40,693	4,727,204	66,197	1%	Internal cost transfers not yet recognized this month (Quarry Pits)
Grants, subsidies, contributions	1,487	117,701,861	1,531	0%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Event 13 Flood Damage restoration works in progress. Financial Assistance Grants – due to the advance in 2022-23 of nearly all the 2023-24 allocation, the 4 quarterly payments will be small
Total operating revenue	1,091,619	193,390,879	1,612,032	1%	
Operating expenses					
Employee benefits (includes Councillor remuneration)	1,584,384	33,188,421	1,598,036	5%	Below target due to vacancies
Materials and services	2,264,050	136,066,694	3,251,556	2%	On track
Finance costs	55,308	949,726	51,927	5%	On track
Depreciation	1,711,384	23,158,970	1,929,914	8%	On track -budgeted for 1 month as actual depreciation not yet available
Total operating expenses	5,615,126	193,363,811	6,831,433	4%	
Operating result					
Operating revenue	1,091,619	193,390,879	1,612,032	1%	
Operating expenses	5,615,126	193,363,811	6,831,433	4%	
Net Operating result total	-4,523,507	27,068	-5,219,401		

Operating revenue:

Operating revenue of \$1.612 million has been received to the end of July 2023 which is 1% of the annual budget.

The FAGs original budget was based on the Council's total estimated annual allocation. Timing of payments is an historical issue. In FY 22/23, advance payments of 95.6% were received for 23/24 allocation amounting to \$16.9M. In previous years this has been 50% and accordingly the budget for 22/23 accounted for the 50% (not 25%). The timing of prepayment of monies is *discretionary*.

The Federal Government can choose to pay either in advance or within the year the obligation fall. Council accounts for it in the year it is received.

QRA Event 13 flood damage works have commenced.

**Advance payments for Event 13 flood damage have been received by Council, however as per Accounting Standards, this revenue is not recognised until works have been completed.*

Operating expenses:

Operating expenses of \$6.831 million is currently 4% of annual current budget.

2. Capital Budget:

Maranoa Regional Council Capital 31 July 2023					
Council Consolidated	July-2022 Actual \$	2023-24 Current Budget \$	July-23 Actual \$	% of budget (8.33% target)	Comments
Capital revenue					
Contributions – capital	23,598	5,469,030	0	0%	
Developer contributions/infrastructure charges	0	0	0	0%	Not budgeted
Government grants and subsidies	0	24,112,007	0	0%	Refer below schedule
Total capital revenue	23,598	29,581,037	0	0%	
Capital expenditure					
Projects – capital	1,662,559	55,947,480	269,265	0%	
Loan repayments	0	1,832,000	0	0%	Next quarterly payment due in September 2023
Total capital expenditure	1,662,559	57,779,480	269,265	0%	

Capital revenue:

No Capital revenue received/invoiced yet to 31 July 2023. As externally funded projects are commenced/completed, external funding will be received however reimbursement will only occur on invoices received even if projects are in progress.

Capital expenditure:

Council's investment in community infrastructure capital works year to date is \$0.269 million before loan repayments.

Major projects currently in progress/completed in 2023-24:

In progress – major projects

Arcadia Valley Road upgrade – design
 Primaries Road extension – Roma Saleyards – service relocations
 Campbells Park Upgrade – design completion
 Purchasing and installation pumps Roma Levee
 Roma Saleyard - Auctioneers Walkways – design
 Roma Saleyards Dump Ramp - design
 Acquisition of land Lot 145 on SP321788
 Replace Mungallala bore
 Roma Pool Design
 Construction of Stage 1 of the Roma Skate Park and Youth Precinct - Pump Track
 Bollon Road Bitumen Extension – design of first 5kms in progress

Maranoa Regional Council

Ordinary Meeting - 23 August 2023

Capital works grant schedule for information:

Capital Works Grants	2023-24 grant budget \$	2023-24 grant received project \$	
Grant funding (source to be determined)	2,280,000	0	
Construction of public washdown facility Wallumbilla/Yuleba region	280,000	0	Funding to be sought
Conversion of waste sites to transfer stations - Surat Yuleba Injune and Mitchell	1,500,000	0	Pending outcome of funding application
Bassett Park Capital Upgrades	500,000		Funding to be sought
TIDS	1,706,000	0	
Remote Road Upgrade Pilot Program - Bollon Road Bitumen Extension	1,706,000	0	Design of first 5km package is underway. Survey well advanced. Geotechnical investigations have commenced. <i>Jointly funded with Remote Roads Upgrade Pilot Program</i>
State Government Grants and Subsidies TOTAL	3,986,000	0	
Roads to Recovery (R2R)	2,576,007	0	
Bitumen Rehabilitation - Charles Street Roma (Station to Bowen)	175,500		
Asphalt Rehabilitation - Roundabout Roma	485,000		
Asphalt Overlay - Arthur Street Roma (Bungil to McDowall)	335,507		
Bitumen Rehabilitation - Gunnawarra Road	550,000		
Floodway Upgrade Program - Mt Moffatt Road	250,000		
Mt Moffatt Road - Bitumen Rehabilitation chainage 40.70 to 43.63km	780,000		Project complete. Funding received quarterly
Roads of Strategic Importance (ROSI)	4,800,000	0	
Arcadia Valley Upgrade Works (multi-year project)	4,800,000	0	Design in progress
Remote Road Upgrade Pilot Program	12,750,000	0	
Remote Road Upgrade Pilot Program - Bollon Road Bitumen Extension	12,000,000		Design of first 5km package is underway. Survey well advanced. Geotechnical investigations have commenced. <i>Jointly funded with TIDS program</i>
Strategic Roads RRUP - Bitumen Extension Yuleba - Surat Road Design only (2023/24)	375,000		
Strategic Roads RRUP - Bitumen Extension Redford Road - Design only (2023/24)	375,000		
Grants and subsidies (capital) - Federal Total	20,126,007	0	
Total grants and subsidies	24,112,007		

Loans:

The closing balance of Queensland Treasury Corporation (QTC) loans as at 31 July 2023 is \$15,441,133 which includes accrued interest and administration costs for the month of July 2023.

Maranoa Regional Council

Ordinary Meeting - 23 August 2023

Cash Expense Coverage Ratio:

The cash expenses ratio as at 31 July 2023 is 26 months (QTC target is 3 months), which means that the current cash balance position of \$127.276 million can sustain the Councils monthly operating expenses (net of depreciation and finance cost) which is over 8X the target ratio.

Rates & Charges:

Rates Outstanding - Number of Assessments – July 2023

	Total Number of Assessments
As at 31 July 2023	421
As at 30 June 2023	464
As at 31 July 2022	521

Rates Outstanding - Balance – July 2023

	Total Amount Outstanding
As at 31 July 2023	\$9,138,811
As at 30 June 2023	\$9,202,468
As at 31 July 2022	\$4,833,569

Assessment by Category Type – July 2023

Category	Total Number of Rates Assessments	Amount Outstanding	Number of Assessments Outstanding	Percentage of the Category Outstanding
Residential				
As at 31 July 2023	4416	\$1,087,710	296	6.70%
As at 30 June 2023	4419	\$1,124,577	332	7.51%
30 July 2022	4395	\$1,120,288	322	7.33%
Commercial/ Industrial				
As at 31 July 2023	616	\$238,739	35	5.68%
As at 30 June 2023	610	\$256,302	35	5.74%
31 July 2022	611	\$330,759	41	6.71%
Rural				
As at 31 July 2023	1340	\$357,046	40	2.99%
As at 30 June 2023	1337	\$439,673	47	3.52%
31 July 2022	1641	\$365,764	45	2.74%
Non-Urban Industrial				
As at 31 July 2023	143	\$7,193,118	32	22.38%
As at 30 June 2023	141	\$7,119,063	32	22.54%
31 July 2022	163	\$1,638,478	23	14.11%

Prepaid Rates:

	Prepaid Rates & Charges	Number of Assessments
As at 31 July 2023	\$941,760	960
As at 30 June 2023	\$808,104	916
31 July 2022	\$1,348,467	945

Maranoa Regional Council

Ordinary Meeting - 23 August 2023

Payment Arrangements:

	Number of Accounts that have Payment Arrangement	Value Outstanding in Payment Arrangements	Percentage of Rates arrears in payment arrangements
As at 31 July 2023	90	\$249,748	3%
As at 30 June 2023	107	\$258,690	3%
As at 31 July 2022	84	\$2,574,095	53%

Reminder & Demand Letters – 1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024

			Issue Date	Number Issued
First Reminder Letter – Levy 1 – 2023			N/A	N/A
Second Reminder Letter – Levy 1 – 2023			N/A	N/A
Demand Letter – Levy 1 – 2023			N/A	N/A
Statement of Liquidated Claims – Levy 1 – 2023			N/A	N/A
First Reminder Letter – Levy 100 – 2024			N/A	N/A
Second Reminder Letter – Levy 100 – 2024			N/A	N/A
Demand Letter – Levy 100 – 2024			N/A	N/A
Statement of Liquidated Claims – Levy 100 – 2024			N/A	N/A

Debt Recovery Status: 1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023

Recovery Step	No. of Accounts	Amount Referred \$	Amount Paid / Closed \$	% Paid / Closed	No. Open	Amount Owning \$
Demand Letter	233	\$6,038,983	\$388,317	5.89%	116	\$5,650,666
Statement of Liquidated Claim	23	\$104,819	\$21,106	0.32%	14	\$100,054
Statement of Liquidated Claim served	19	\$145,722	\$57,752	0.88%	7	\$96,492
Pre-Judgment	18	\$181,779	\$139,570	2.12%	16	\$56,680
Post-Judgement	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	293	\$6,471,303	\$606,743	9.21%	153	\$5,906,893

Debt Recovery Status: 1 July 2020 – 30 June 2024

Recovery Step	Number of Accounts	Amount Referred \$	Amount Paid / Closed \$	Paid / Closed	Number Open	Amount Owning \$
Demand Letter	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statement of Liquidated Claim	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statement of Liquidated Claim served	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pre-judgment	-	-	-	-	-	-
Judgment	-	-	-	-	-	-
Post Judgment	-	-	-	-	-	-

Maranoa Regional Council

Ordinary Meeting - 23 August 2023

Debt Recovery Status: 17 November 2016 – 31 July 2023

Recovery Step	No. of Accounts	Amount Referred \$	Amount Paid / Closed \$	% Paid / Closed	Number Open	Amount Owing \$
Demand Letter	1820	\$12,456,519	\$6,731,211	39.59%	122	\$5,725,308
Statement of Liquidated Claim	124	\$325,876	\$234,763	1.38%	18	\$110,373
Statement of Liquidated Claim served	359	\$2,052,396	\$1,645,060	9.67%	8	\$419,027
Pre-judgment	144	\$935,300	\$864,586	5.08%	29	\$100,992
Judgment	4	\$28,772	\$28,772	0.0%	0	0
Post Judgment	161	\$1,081,905	\$1,033,503	6.08%	21	\$72,738
Total	2612	\$16,880,768	\$10,537,895	61.97%	198	\$6,428,438

Legislation, Local Laws, State Policies & Other Regulatory Requirements:

What does the legislation and other statutory instruments include about the matter under consideration?

(Include an extract of the relevant section's wording of the legislation – please do not just quote the section number as that is of no assistance to Councillors)

Local Government Regulation 2012

204 Financial Report

- (1) *The local government must prepare a financial report.*
- (2) *The chief executive officer must present the financial report -*
 - (a) *If the local government meets less frequently than monthly - at each meeting of the local government; or*
 - (b) *Otherwise - at a meeting of the local government once a month.*
- (3) *The financial report must state the progress that has been made in relation to the local government's budget for the period of the financial year up to a day as near as practicable to the end of the month before the meeting is held.*

Council Policies or Asset Management Plans:

Does Council have a policy, plan or approach ordinarily followed for this type of decision?

What are the relevant sections of the policy or plan?

(Quote/insert the relevant section's wording / description within the report)

N/A

Input into the Report & Recommendation:

Have others' views or input been sourced in developing the report and recommendation to Council? (i.e. other than the report author?) What did each say? (Please include consultation with the funding body, any dates of critical importance or updates or approvals required)

Lead Rates and Utility Billing Officer / System Administrator
Program Funding and Budget Coordinator

Funding Bodies:

Is the project externally funded (or proposed to be)? If so, are there any implications in relation to the funding agreement or grant application. (Please do not just include names)

Projects with external funding are required to be delivered in accordance with funding agreements.

This Financial Year's Budget:

Will the matter under consideration impact how much Council collects in income or how much it will spend? How much (\$) ? Is this already included in the budget? (Include the account number and description).

If the matter under consideration has not been included in the budget, where can the funds be transferred from? (Include the account number and description) What will not be done as a result?

The purpose of this report is to present financial information on the progress that has been made in relation to Council's budget for the period ended 31 July 2023.

Future Years' Budgets:

Will there need to be a change in future years' budgets to cater for a change in income or increased expenditure as a result of Council's decision? How much (\$) ? (e.g. estimate of additional maintenance or operating costs for a new or upgraded project)

This report is for information purposes.

Impact on Other Individuals or Interested Parties:

Is there anyone who is likely to be particularly interested in or impacted by the decision, or affected by the recommendation if adopted? What would be their key interests or concerns?

(Interested Parties Analysis - IS9001:2015)

Interested Parties – Maranoa residents, Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government & Planning, Queensland Audit Office, Queensland Treasury Corporation.

Risks:

What could go wrong if Council makes a decision on this matter? (What is the likelihood of it happening and the consequence if it does) (List each identified risk in a table)

Risk	Description of likelihood & consequences
Compliance with <i>Local Government Regulation 2012</i>	The presentation of the financial report is in accordance with the Regulation.

Advice to Council:

What do you think Council should do, based on your skills, qualifications and experience, your knowledge of this and related matters, and the facts contained in the report?

(A summary of what the employee thinks Council needs to hear, not what they think individual Councillors want to hear – i.e. employees must provide sound and impartial advice – the employee's professional opinion)

The presentation of monthly financial statements is a legislative requirement.

Recommendation:

What is the 'draft decision' based on the advice to Council?

Does the recommendation suggest a decision contrary to an existing Council policy? If so, for what reason?

(Note: recommendations if adopted by Council become a legal decision of government and therefore must be clear and succinct about the action required by employees (unambiguous)).

Does this recommendation suggest a decision contrary to an existing Council policy?

If so, for what reason?

That the monthly financial report for the period ended 31 July 2023 be received and noted.

Link to Corporate Plan:

Corporate Plan 2018-2023

Strategic Priority 2: Delivering strong financial management

2.5 Financial Reporting

Supporting Documentation:

1 [↓](#) Business Units July 2023 Statement of Income and Expenditures

D23/66029

Report authorised by:

Operations Manager - Finance

Chief Financial Officer

Director - Corporate Services

Maranoa Regional Council Business Units - Statement of Income and Expenditure 31 July 2023								
	Original Budget \$	Current Budget \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Actual \$	MTD Current Budget \$	MTD Actuals \$	% of budget (8.33% target)	
Airports								
Operating revenue								
Fees and charges - commercial	2,049,550	2,049,550	170,795	166,880	170,795	166,880	8%	on track
Other revenue	20,000	20,000	1,667	120	1,667	120	1%	under budget
Total operating revenue	2,069,550	2,069,550	172,462	167,000	172,462	167,000	8%	on track
Operating expenses								
Employee costs	601,196	601,196	46,373	29,397	46,373	29,397	5%	on track
Finance costs	70,454	70,454	6,045	6,052	6,045	6,052	9%	on track
Materials and services	1,075,128	1,075,128	83,656	68,389	83,656	68,389	6%	on track
Depreciation	877,132	877,132	73,096	0	73,096	0	0%	not yet finalised
Total operating expenses	2,623,910	2,623,910	209,170	103,837	209,170	103,837	4%	on track
Airports Net Result	-554,360	-554,360	-36,708	63,163	-36,708	63,163	-11%	
Gas								
Operating revenue								
Fees and charges - commercial	950,000	950,000	79,166	-166	79,166	-166	0%	under budget
Internal revenue	235,464	235,464	0	0	0	0	0%	under budget
Rates and charges	0	0	0	19	0	19	0%	not budgeted
Total operating revenue	1,185,464	1,185,464	79,166	-148	79,166	-148	0%	under budget
Operating expenses								
Employee costs	201,835	201,835	15,525	6,013	15,525	6,013	3%	on track
Materials and services	543,775	543,775	45,154	34,741	45,154	34,741	6%	on track
Depreciation	222,105	222,105	18,508	0	18,508	0	0%	not yet finalised
Total operating expenses	967,715	967,715	79,187	40,754	79,187	40,754	4%	on track
Gas Net Result	217,749	217,749	-21	-40,902	-21	-40,902	-19%	
Saleyards								
Operating revenue								
Fees and charges - commercial	4,393,517	4,393,517	489,031	376,664	489,031	376,664	9%	on track
Total operating revenue	4,393,517	4,393,517	489,031	376,664	489,031	376,664	9%	on track
Operating expenses								
Employee costs	970,330	970,330	74,640	47,119	74,640	47,119	5%	on track
Finance costs	7,006	7,006	584	618	584	618	9%	on track
Materials and services	2,861,798	2,861,798	238,028	155,047	238,028	155,047	5%	on track
Depreciation	504,952	504,952	42,079	0	42,079	0	0%	not yet finalised
Total operating expenses	4,344,086	4,344,086	355,331	202,784	355,331	202,784	5%	on track
Saleyards Net Result	49,431	49,431	133,700	173,880	133,700	173,880	352%	
Sewerage								
Operating revenue								
Fees and charges - statutory	111,450	111,450	9,287	15	9,287	15	0%	under budget
Grants subsidies and contributions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	not budgeted
Rates and charges	3,045,000	3,045,000	253,749	670	253,749	670	0%	under budget
Sales of contract and recoverable works	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	not budgeted
Total operating revenue	3,156,450	3,156,450	263,036	685	263,036	685	0%	under budget
Operating expenses								
Employee costs	596,297	596,297	45,871	31,244	45,871	31,244	5%	on track
Finance costs	55,588	55,588	4,632	4,776	4,632	4,776	9%	on track
Materials and services	979,582	979,582	81,086	52,384	81,086	52,384	5%	on track
Depreciation	877,624	877,624	73,135	0	73,135	0	0%	not yet finalised
Total operating expenses	2,509,091	2,509,091	204,724	88,404	204,724	88,404	4%	on track
Sewerage Net Result	647,359	647,359	58,312	-87,719	58,312	-87,719	-14%	

Maranoa Regional Council Business Units - Statement of Income and Expenditure 31 July 2023							
	Original Budget \$	Current Budget \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Actual \$	MTD Current Budget \$	MTD Actuals \$	% of budget (8.33% target)
Quarry							
Operating revenue							
Internal revenue	3,115,000	3,115,000	259,582	0	259,582	0	0%
Other revenue	950,000	950,000	79,166	15,396	79,166	15,396	2%
Sale of goods and major services	5,081,842	5,081,842	423,485	108,837	423,485	108,837	2%
Sale of contract and recoverable works	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Total operating revenue	9,146,842	9,146,842	762,233	124,234	762,233	124,234	1%
Operating expenses							
Employee costs	828,148	828,148	63,709	36,887	63,709	36,887	4%
Finance costs	65,000	65,000	5,417	0	5,417	0	0%
Materials and services	6,114,340	6,114,340	508,953	343,512	508,953	343,512	6%
Depreciation	315,422	315,422	26,285	0	26,285	0	0%
Total operating expenses	7,322,910	7,322,910	604,364	380,399	604,364	380,399	5%
Quarry Net Result	1,823,932	1,823,932	157,869	-256,165	157,869	-256,165	-14%
Waste							
Operating revenue							
Fees and charges - commercial	1,431,500	1,431,500	119,124	39,522	119,124	39,522	3%
Fees and charges - statutory	636,029	636,029	53,002	55,349	53,002	55,349	9%
Grants subsidies and contributions	471,647	471,647	39,304	0	39,304	0	0%
Rates and charges	1,720,300	1,720,300	143,083	428	143,083	428	0%
Total operating revenue	4,259,476	4,259,476	354,513	95,299	354,513	95,299	2%
Operating expenses							
Employee costs	839,272	839,272	64,725	25,670	64,725	25,670	3%
Finance costs	300,000	300,000	0	0	0	0	0%
Materials and services	3,738,336	3,738,336	298,406	104,089	298,406	104,089	3%
Depreciation	148,084	148,084	12,340	0	12,340	0	0%
Total operating expenses	5,025,692	5,025,692	375,471	129,759	375,471	129,759	3%
Waste Net Result	-766,216	-766,216	-20,958	-34,459	-20,958	-34,459	4%
Water							
Operating revenue							
Fees and charges - statutory	251,500	251,500	20,959	1,347	20,959	1,347	1%
Grants subsidies and contributions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Internal revenue	4,000	4,000	333	0	333	0	0%
Rates and charges	6,208,500	6,208,500	517,372	-5,953	517,372	-5,953	0%
Sales of contract and recoverable works	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Total operating revenue	6,464,000	6,464,000	538,664	-4,606	538,664	-4,606	0%
Operating expenses							
Employee costs	1,349,114	1,349,114	104,409	74,667	104,409	74,667	6%
Finance costs	85,043	85,043	7,087	8,312	7,087	8,312	10%
Materials and services	3,185,277	3,185,277	264,154	133,064	264,154	133,064	4%
Depreciation	1,792,606	1,792,606	149,382	0	149,382	0	0%
Total operating expenses	6,412,040	6,412,040	525,032	216,043	525,032	216,043	3%
Water Net Result	51,960	51,960	13,632	-220,648	13,632	-220,648	-425%

OFFICER REPORT**Meeting:** Ordinary 23 August 2023**Date:** 10 August 2023**Item Number:** 13.1**File Number:** D23/66527**SUBJECT HEADING:** Addition to the Road Register - Unnamed road off Burtons Road, Roma**Classification:** Open Access**Officer's Title:** Director - Bungil**Executive Summary:**

At the Ordinary meeting on 9 August 2023, Council considered a Councillor Request for Agenda Report in relation to a request to add an unnamed section of road off Burtons Road, Roma, to Council's Road Register. Council resolved that a report be prepared for an upcoming Council meeting detailing the costs involved.

This report is provided by way of follow up to this request, and tables the investigation completed by Council Officers and recommendations for Council's consideration.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council:

1. Endorse the addition of the unnamed section of road off Burtons Road, Roma onto Council's Road Register, with the classification of Rural Access – Secondary and an estimated length of 0.555 kilometres.
2. Consult the residents that directly adjoin the unnamed section of road off Burtons Road to gauge their input on the potential road naming of this section, giving regard to Council Road Naming Policy.
3. Be presented with a subsequent report detailing the outcome from the community engagement with the residents, with the view of formally naming the unnamed section of road off Burtons Road, Roma.

Individuals or Organisations to which the report applies:

Are there any individuals or organisations who stand to gain a benefit, or suffer a loss, (either directly or indirectly) depending on the outcome of consideration of this matter?

(Note: This is to assist Councillors in identifying if they have a Material Personal Interest or Conflict of Interest in the agenda item - i.e. whether they should participate in the discussion and decision making).

Owner Name	Lot/Plan
SG Evans	Lot 379 on WAL53186
GL Haaijer & EA Haaijer	Lot 396 on WAL53186
RJ Purnell	Lot 473 on WAL53210

Acronyms:**Are there any industry abbreviations that will be used in the report?**

Note: This is important as particular professions or industries often use shortened terminology where they refer to the matter on a regular basis. However, for individuals not within the profession or industry it can significantly impact the readability of the report if these aren't explained at the start of the report).

Acronym	Description
CMDG	Capricorn Municipal Development Guidelines
FAGS	Financial Assistance Grants

Context:***Why is the matter coming before Council?***

A request has been received to maintain and include an unnamed section of roadway off Burtons Road, Roma, in Council's Road Register. This report tables the details of the investigation completed by Council Officers and recommendations for Council's consideration.

Background:***Has anything already happened in relation to this matter?***

(Succinct overview of the relevant facts, without interpretation)

At the Ordinary meeting on 9 August 2023, Council considered a Councillor Request for Agenda Report in relation to a request to add an unnamed section of road off Burtons Road, Roma, to Council's Road Register. The outcome from the meeting was that Council resolved as follows:

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/27

That a report be prepared for an upcoming meeting detailing the cost to upgrade a section of the road reserve off Burtons Road currently used by two (2) residents to access their property.

The map below has a blue line identifying the extent of roadway requested.

Figure 1 – Unnamed section of road off Burtons Road, Roma



Investigation Outcomes

The roadway being requested to be included in Council's Road Register presently benefits two landowners for the purpose of providing access to property.

The lots adjoin an existing Council road, being Burtons Road, however due to the topography and low lying areas on the northern part of these lots, the section of unnamed road reserve (the subject to this report) is probably the more suitable access for the first two lots.

Including this section of unnamed roadway would also allow for GIS to allocate rural addresses more accurately for these residents and businesses along the new section of roadway.

Options Available

Council has a number of options available with regard to this request:

1. Take No Action

Under this option, no maintenance work would be undertaken by Council staff, and therefore it is likely that further approaches will be received from residents requesting access to their properties and maintenance on the section of roadway. Under this option, the avenue for residents to undertake maintenance on the road at their cost, and as per Council's Works on Road Reserve Policy would remain.

2. Approve maintenance works without adding section to Road Register

Under current policy, Council resources do not have the delegation to undertake works on roads that are not listed on Council's Road Register. Notwithstanding, the section in question is formally recognised under the *Local Government Act 2009* as a road, and therefore Council may choose to allocate funds to undertake works on this section.

This approach may address the initial concerns regarding the current condition of the road, however by not formally adding the section of road to the register, no future maintenance will be programmed for this road, and should a similar request be received in the future, it will again be a matter for Council's consideration.

3. Add Section of Unnamed Road to Council's Rural Road Register

This will result in the section of road being formally added to the road register and assigned a road classification. Formal addition to the road register essentially provides Council Officers with the formal delegation to undertake maintenance on a section of road, as per agreed service levels/maintenance frequency (as set by Council).

The recommendation presented in this report aligns with Option 3.

Should Council adopt Option 3 and endorse the addition to the road register, Council Officers recommend a subsequent report be presented to Council after Officers

undertake consultation with the immediate residents along this section of roadway regarding the proposed road naming.

Legislation, Local Laws, State Policies & Other Regulatory Requirements:

What does the legislation and other statutory instruments include about the matter under consideration? (Include an extract of the relevant section's wording of the legislation – please do not just quote the section number as that is of no assistance to Councillors)

Local Government Act 2009

Under Section 59 of the *Local Government Act 2009*, defines a road as;

- (1) This division is about roads.
- (2) A **road** is—
 - (a) an area of land that is dedicated to public use as a road; or
 - (b) an area of land that—
 - (i) is developed for, or has as 1 of its main uses, the driving or riding of motor vehicles; and
 - (ii) is open to, or used by, the public; or
 - (c) a footpath or bicycle path; or
 - (d) a bridge, culvert, ford, tunnel or viaduct.
- (3) However, a **road** does not include—
 - (a) a State-controlled road; or
 - (b) a public thoroughfare easement.

Local Government Regulation 2012

Inspection of the roadway identifies the roadway as a “formed” roadway as described in the *Local Government Act 2009* and *Local Government Regulations 2012*.

Section 57 Prescribed particulars for register of roads – Act, s74

- (3) In this section –
 - formed*, for a road, means a road, other than a gravelled pavement or sealed pavement road, formed so that stormwater drains from the road.
 - gravelled pavement*, for a road, means a road surface with gravel, limestone or rubble and constructed by the use of a mechanical compaction process.
 - sealed pavement*, for a road, means a road with a surface of asphalt, bitumen, concrete or pavers.
 - unformed*, for a road, means a road or track that –
 - (a) is not formed, gravelled pavement or sealed pavement road; but
 - (b) is open to, and used by, the public.

Council Policies or Asset Management Plans:

Does Council have a policy, plan or approach ordinarily followed for this type of decision?

What are relevant sections of the policy or plan?

(Quote/insert the relevant section's wording / description within the report)

Council Policy – Register of Roads

Council Policy – Road Network Standards - Maintenance, Renewals and Upgrades

Council Policy – Construction of Roads for Access to Property

Council Policy – Road Naming

Assessment for an Addition to the Road Register -

The *Local Government Act 2009* and *Local Government Regulation 2012* set the requirement for Council to identify all roads within its local area. Council has powers under the legislation to name roads, assign classification, and identify the surface type, length and width of a roadway.

The name, classification, surface type, length, width and alignment of a roadway are required to be taken into consideration by Council before endorsement of a roadway is considered inclusion to Council's Road Register.

These have been detailed below for Council's consideration.

Road Hierarchy – Classification and Surface type

Best practice guidelines for traffic analysis and estimated road use recommend the calculation used per day is based on the number of house sites. For rural roads it is estimated each household will perform at least 2 trips per day with 2 vehicles (i.e. to town and back in two separate cars).

Based on the current number of properties along the unnamed roadway, the estimated traffic volumes have the potential to be up to 2 - 4 vehicle movements per day.

Therefore under section 4.3.1 of Council's Rural Road Classification within Council's Register of Road Policy, it is recommended the unnamed section be classified as ***Rural Access - Secondary***.

The Rural Access – Secondary classification is for roads that have between 0 – 9 vehicles a day. Under the CMDG Geometric Road Design table, the road classification is not required to have material added to the road surface, i.e. the road is natural surface formation only. *Figure 4* below tables the requirements for road design in the Maranoa Regional Council area.

Figure 2 – CMDG Geometric Road Design Table for Maranoa Regional Council

MRC DESIGN CRITERIA

Rural Areas

MRC – DESIGN CRITERIA – RURAL AREAS									
	Arterial Major ¹	Arterial Minor	Rural Collector Major A	Rural Collector Major B	Rural Collector Minor A	Rural Access Primary A	Rural Access Primary B	Rural Access Secondary	
General Requirements									
1	Traffic generation (AADT)	>3000	1000 – 3000	250 – 999	150 – 249	100 – 149	40 – 99	10 – 39	< 10
2	Design Speed (individual elements)	80km/h	80km/h	80km/h	80km/h	80km/h	60km/h	60km/h	40km/h
3	Desirable Speed Environment	100km/h	100km/h	100km/h	100km/h	100km/h	80km/h	80km/h	80km/h
4	Design vehicle ^{2,3}	Double Roadtrain (Class 11)	Double Roadtrain (Class 11)	Double Roadtrain (Class 11)	Double Roadtrain (Class 11)	Double Roadtrain (Class 11)	Double Roadtrain (Class 11)	Double Roadtrain (Class 11)	Double Roadtrain (Class 11)
5	Direct lot access	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
6	Parking provision in road reserve	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
7	Longitudinal line-marking	Edge of lane and centre	Edge of lane and centre	Edge of lane and centre	Not required	Not required	Not required	Not required	Not required
8	Minimum Flood Immunity AEP	10%	10%	18%	18%	39%	39%	39%	63%
9	Trafficable Immunity, AEP	2%	2%	5%	5%	10%	10%	18%	18%
Cross-section Requirements									
10	Minimum reserve width (Flat terrain ≤ 5%)	40m	25m	20m	20m	20m	20m	20m	20m
11	Minimum reserve width (Undulating / Hilly > 5%)	50m	30m	25m	25m	25m	25m	25m	25m
12	Formation	10m	10m	9m	9m	9m	8m	8m	6m
13	Pavement Width	9m	9m	8m	8m	8m	7m	4m	No Pavement Required
14	Seal Width	9m	9m	8m	7(8)m ⁴	7m	No Seal Required ⁵	No Seal Required ⁵	No Seal Required ⁵
15	Minimum lane width	3.5m	3.5m	3.5m	3m	3m	3m	-	-

Road Length and Width

The length of the unnamed roadway has been identified as being 0.555 kilometres and the width of the unnamed road reserve has been identified as being approximately 30 metres.

Should Council resolve to add the unnamed roadway to Council's Road Register it is recommend it be recorded with a length of 0.555 kilometres, with a formation width of 6 metres.

Road Alignment

Council's GIS data aerial imagery appears to indicate the roadway is contained in the existing road reserve.

Section 4.3.1 of Council's Construction of Roads for Access to Property Policy states Council may consider accepting sections of road onto its Road Register for ongoing control and maintenance and subject to a set of conditions being met. One of these being that a registered surveyor confirms the road alignment is fully contained within the existing road reserve. Council may wish to consider if this option is required before adding the roadway to Council's Road Register.

Maintenance of the unnamed roadway

Section 4.2.1 of Council's Road Network Standards - Maintenance, Renewals and Upgrades Policy – Rural Roads, states maintenance on roads with the classification of Rural Access – Secondary will be entitled to:

1. A light maintenance grade once a year, light grading will remove transverse scours and wheel ruts, and clear drains as required. Machinery – Grader
2. A heavy formation grade once every 3 years, this includes ripping the existing pavement, mixing water, relaying and compacting with a roller. All diversion drains are reinstated. Machinery – Grader, Water Truck, Roller.

In accordance with this policy, Section 4 – Policy Details, Council has no obligation to undertake capital improvements on unmade, unformed or formed roads within a public road reserve for the purpose of access by the landowner to their land.

Notwithstanding, the policy does allow that Council may accept a roadway as a public road and add it to Council's Road Register where a benefit to the community can be demonstrated.

At present, under existing lot ownership, it is recommended that Council choose to include this roadway in Council's Road Register, as the roadway has the potential to provide benefit to at least two properties.

Road Naming

Should Council choose Option 3 and endorse the addition to the road register, Council Officers recommend a subsequent report be presented to Council after Officers undertake consultation with the immediate residents along this section of roadway regarding the proposed road naming.

Council officers will also do some research of survey plans to understand if there has been any long-term historic ownership of land in the area directly adjacent to this section of unnamed road reserve.

Input into the Report & Recommendation:

Have others' views or input been sourced in developing the report and recommendation to Council? (i.e. other than the report author?) What did each say? (Please include consultation with the funding body, any dates of critical importance or updates or approvals required)

Deputy Director / Strategic Road Management (Co-Author of Report)
GIS Officer

Department of Resources - Council confirmed with the Department of Resources that there are no existing permit to occupies or road licenses on this area of roadway. They have confirmed the road remains open for use as a dedicated road.

If Council resolved and carried the recommendation as presented, additional input from adjoining landowners would be furnished regarding a potential name of the section that has been requested to be added to Council's Road Register.

Funding Bodies:

Is the project externally funded (or proposed to be)? If so, are there any implications in relation to the funding agreement or grant application. (Please do not just include names)

Should the roadway be adopted to Council's Road Register, Council may benefit from an increase in the Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs) allocation as the roads components takes into consideration the overall length of Council's road network.

This said, the overall change is likely to be immaterial given the traffic volume and length of the proposed inclusion.

This Financial Year's Budget:

Will the matter under consideration impact how much Council collects in income or how much it will spend? How much (\$)? *Is this already included in the budget? (Include the account number and description).*

If the matter under consideration has not been included in the budget, where can the funds be transferred from? (Include the account number and description) What will not be done as a result?

There is no budget allocation for the establishment and or inclusion of new roads in the current year.

Should the roadway be adopted to Council's Rural Road Register, annual maintenance costs will apply to the roadway. Costs will be applicable to the specific road classification, approved length and formation type.

In accordance with the *Council Policy – Road Network Standards - Maintenance, Renewals and Upgrades* the maintenance costs are anticipated to be in the order of \$3,000 per annum – averaged over 3 years.

Future Years' Budgets:

Will there need to be a change in future years' budgets to cater for a change in income or increased expenditure as a result of Council's decision? How much (\$)? (e.g. estimate of additional maintenance or operating costs for a new or upgraded project)

Should the roadway be adopted to Council's Rural Road Register with the classification of Rural Access – Secondary, it would require the roadway to be included into:

1. The Rural Road Maintenance program for ongoing scheduled maintenance.
2. The Rural Roads Asset Management Plan to allow condition monitoring and valuation of formation.

Additions to the road register also require Council to recognise this new length of road in its annual depreciation estimates. Given the additional of the road, the impact to the depreciation across the entire rural road network would be considered immaterial.

Impact on Other Individuals or Interested Parties:

Is there anyone who is likely to be particularly interested in or impacted by the decision, or affected by the recommendation if adopted? What would be their key interests or concerns?

(Interested Parties Analysis - IS9001:2015)

Adjoining lot owners:

Owner Name	Lot/Plan
SG Evans	Lot 379 on WAL53186 Lot 379 Burtons Road
GL Haaijer & EA Haaijer	Lot 396 on WAL53186 610B Burtons Road
RJ Purnell	Lot 473 on WAL53210 548 Burtons Road
MJ Bauer & R Bauer	Lot 284 on WAL53102 707 Burtons Road

Risks:

What could go wrong if Council makes a decision on this matter? (What is the likelihood of it happening and the consequence if it does) (List each identified risk in a table)

Risk	Description of likelihood & consequences
Refer Options outlined in the Background of the Report	

Advice to Council:

What do you think Council should do, based on your skills, qualifications and experience, your knowledge of this and related matters, and the facts contained in the report?

(A summary of what the employee thinks Council needs to hear, not what they think individual Councillors want to hear – i.e. employees must provide sound and impartial advice – the employee's professional opinion)

It is recommended that the section of unnamed road off Burtons Road be formally added to Council's Rural Road Register as the roadway has the potential to provide benefit to at least two properties.

On initial review, the request would appear to be a request for an additional access to the lots – as they are currently adjacent to Burtons Road from the north. The topography and low-lying areas on the northern part of these lots however make the section of unnamed road reserve (the subject to this report) a more suitable and reliable access for these lots.

Recommendation:

What is the 'draft decision' based on the advice to Council?

Does the recommendation suggest a decision contrary to an existing Council policy? If so, for what reason?

(Note: recommendations if adopted by Council become a legal decision of government and therefore must be clear and succinct about the action required by employees (unambiguous)).

Does this recommendation suggest a decision contrary to an existing Council policy? If so, for what reason?

That Council:

1. Endorse the addition of the unnamed section of road off Burtons Road, Roma onto Council's Road Register, with the classification of Rural Access – Secondary and an estimated length of 0.555 kilometres.
2. Consult the residents that directly adjoin the unnamed section of road off Burtons Road to gauge their input on the potential road naming of this section, giving regard to Council Road Naming Policy.
3. Be presented with a subsequent report detailing the outcome from the community engagement with the residents, with the view of formally naming the unnamed section of road off Burtons Road, Roma.

Link to Corporate Plan:

Corporate Plan 2018-2023

Strategic Priority 1: Getting the basics right

1.3 Roads and drainage

Supporting Documentation:

Nil

Report authorised by:

Director - Bungil

OFFICER REPORT

Meeting: Ordinary 23 August 2023

Date: 14 August 2023

Item Number: 13.2

File Number: D23/67355

SUBJECT HEADING: Flying Fox Management Plan

Classification: Open Access

Officer's Title: Director - Warroo

Executive Summary:

This report discusses the development of a long-term, effective roost management action plan for Surat, Roma and Mitchell flying fox colonies.

It further outlines implementation action plan and strategic solutions for long term co-existence with flying foxes in Surat, Roma and Mitchell.

The report forms the basis for an application for additional and final round of funding to implement these strategies across the region.

Officer's Recommendation:

That council endorse the following:

1. Select Option 4 in the recommendations - Provide in-principal support, proceed to Round 6 for implementation, ensure community consultation is carried out concurrently.
2. Endorse the allocation of \$20,000 (ex GST) from Roma (\$5K), Booringa (\$5K) and Warroo (\$10K) operational budgets (2023-24) to carry out ongoing monitoring of the roost for the upcoming flying fox season.

Individuals or Organisations to which the report applies:

Are there any individuals or organisations who stand to gain a benefit, or suffer a loss, (either directly or indirectly) depending on the outcome of consideration of this matter?

(Note: This is to assist Councillors in identifying if they have a Material Personal Interest or Conflict of Interest in the agenda item - i.e. whether they should participate in the discussion and decision making).

Surat Town and adjacent rural landowners

Mitchell Town and adjacent landowners

Roma Town and adjacent landowners

Acronyms:

Are there any industry abbreviations that will be used in the report?

Note: This is important as particular professions or industries often use shortened terminology where they refer to the matter on a regular basis. However, for individuals not within the profession or industry it can significantly impact the readability of the report if these aren't explained at the start of the report).

Acronym	Description
FFRMP	Flying Fox Roost Management Plan
DES	Department of Environment and Science

Context:

Why is the matter coming before Council?

This report and council decision is a forerunner to a future application for additional funding for round 6 of the Queensland Government Flying-Fox Roost Management - Local Government Grants Program.

Round 6 of the Program will open for applications on 7 August 2023 and close on 8 September 2023.

This funding will used to implement the FFRMP for Maranoa Regional Council.

Background:

Has anything already happened in relation to this matter?

(Succinct overview of the relevant facts, without interpretation)

- On 10/12/21 Council wrote to members of state and federal parliaments requesting assistance with managing flying fox colony in Surat.
- In August 2022 council applied for funding through the Flying Fox Roost Management Program (Queensland Grants Funding Program). In November 2022 council was further advised by Department of Environment and Science (DES) of a successful funding application. Funding for this round is \$30,958.30 (ex GST).
- On 14/2//23 Range Environmental were appointed lead expert consultant to develop and draft a long-term flying fox management plan.
- On 17/4/23 Range Environmental consultants met with council staff in Roma, Mitchell and Surat to discuss issues concerning flying foxes and investigate potential alternate roost locations.
- On 23/5/23 Council officers and Range Environmental had their first briefing session on the draft flying fox management plan. Council requested at the end of the session that officers produce an alternative roost options map for Surat (upstream and downstream of the weir for example). No changes were recommended for Mitchell and Roma roost sites as these are considered low risk / low conflict sites.
- On 8/8/23 Council Officers and Range Environmental presented council with the updated roosting locations for Surat. At this meeting council determined,

‘in principle’ support for the draft flying fox management plan. Council further noted that officers and Range Environmental would need to continue consultation with them and the community concurrently as planning continues.

- The next round of funding (Round 6) opens for applications on 7 August 2023 and closes on 8 September 2023.

STANDARD ROOST MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

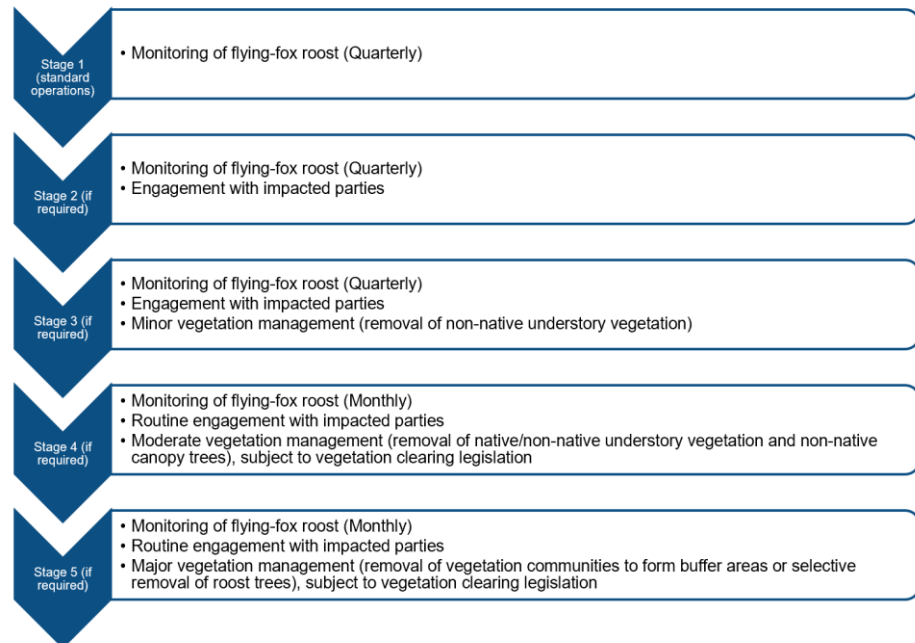


Image 1. Framework for FFRMP

Legislation, Local Laws, State Policies & Other Regulatory Requirements:

What does the legislation and other statutory instruments include about the matter under consideration? (Include an extract of the relevant section's wording of the legislation – please do not just quote the section number as that is of no assistance to Councillors)

- See attached Ecological Advice Letter – Flying Fox Legislation from Range Environmental.
- Local governments also have the option to develop a flying-fox management plan to cover their entire local government area. If the plan is endorsed by the department, local governments will be able to be granted a three-year approval to manage flying-fox roosts outside of urban areas. This will reduce the need for reactive requests for approvals for individual roost sites outside of urban areas.
- A whole-of-local government area flying-fox management plan could identify areas where flying-foxes roosts may be problematic and where flying-foxes should be discouraged from roosting. It could also be used to identify alternative sites where new roosts may be encouraged or left to establish with minimal human intervention.

- An attempt by anyone other than a local government to manage or disperse a flying-fox roost requires a FFRMP.
- While the health and well-being of people is central to the Queensland Government's new approach, the sustainability of Queensland's flying-fox species will not be put at risk. The culling of flying-foxes at roost sites will not be authorised.

Council Policies or Asset Management Plans:

- Council is currently developing a management framework via the latest round of funding.

***Does Council have a policy, plan or approach ordinarily followed for this type of decision?
What are relevant sections of the policy or plan?***

(Quote/insert the relevant section's wording / description within the report)

If endorsed, Council will be consulted to understand the final outcomes for the FFRMP plan including for example: Vegetation improvements / establishment works. See Image 1 – framework moving forward.

Input into the Report & Recommendation:

Have others' views or input been sourced in developing the report and recommendation to Council? (i.e. other than the report author?) What did each say? (Please include consultation with the funding body, any dates of critical importance or updates or approvals required)

- Range Environmental Consultants
- Environment, Health & Waste Officer, Environmental Health & Waste
- Warroo Local Area – Overseer
- Warroo Local Area – Development Officer
- Booringa Local Area – Director
- Booringa Local Area – Team Leader Towns and Surrounds
- Roma Local Area - Director
- Roma Local Area – Team Leader Towns and Surrounds

Funding Bodies:

Is the project externally funded (or proposed to be)? If so, are there any implications in relation to the funding agreement or grant application. (Please do not just include names)

Queensland Government – Flying Fox Roost Management Local Government Grants funding.

This Financial Year's Budget:

Will the matter under consideration impact how much Council collects in income or how much it will spend? How much (\$)? Is this already included in the budget? (Include the account number and description).

If the matter under consideration has not been included in the budget, where can the funds be transferred from? (Include the account number and description) What will not be done as a result?

- \$20,000 (ex GST); ongoing monitoring of the current roosts for this upcoming season and ascertain numbers for long term monitoring in the plan.

Future Years' Budgets:

Will there need to be a change in future years' budgets to cater for a change in income or increased expenditure as a result of Council's decision? How much (\$)? (e.g. estimate of additional maintenance or operating costs for a new or upgraded project)

- Long-term funding of the plan would be sought through future rounds of this program (Round 7 for example).

Impact on Other Individuals or Interested Parties:

Is there anyone who is likely to be particularly interested in or impacted by the decision, or affected by the recommendation if adopted? What would be their key interests or concerns? (Interested Parties Analysis - IS9001:2015)

- Surat Town Community
- Roma Town Community
- Mitchell Town Community

Risks:

What could go wrong if Council makes a decision on this matter? (What is the likelihood of it happening and the consequence if it does) (List each identified risk in a table)

Risk	Description of likelihood & consequences
Delayed decision	Round 6 funding application may not proceed. No confidence from the Qld Government regarding application for funding.
Consultation	Following internal endorsement; Community engagement can follow.
Public Perception	The flying fox roost is currently located over the Surat Weir, the town's main water source. Not having an action plan may further exacerbate community perceptions / concerns over the quality of drinking water
Tourism	Although the migration of flying foxes does not impact the main tourist season, perception of the roost may impact tourism perceptions over the longer term.

Advice to Council:

What do you think Council should do, based on your skills, qualifications and experience, your knowledge of this and related matters, and the facts contained in the report?

(A summary of what the employee thinks Council needs to hear, not what they think individual Councillors want to hear – i.e. employees must provide sound and impartial advice – the employee's professional opinion)

- That council provide in-principal support of the FFRMP for Maranoa.
- That council engage with the communities of Roma, Mitchell and Surat via 'Have Your Say' platform once internal plans are finalised.

Recommendation:

What is the 'draft decision' based on the advice to Council?

Does the recommendation suggest a decision contrary to an existing Council policy? If so, for what reason?

(Note: recommendations if adopted by Council become a legal decision of government and therefore must be clear and succinct about the action required by employees (unambiguous)).

That council consider the following options:

- Option 1 - Do nothing
- Option 2 - Provide in-principal support of FFRMP, and do not proceed to Round 6 to fund implementation program
- Option 3 - Provide in-principal support of FFRMP, proceed to Round 6 to fund implementation program only
- Option 4 - Provide in-principal support, proceed to Round 6 to fund implementation program, ensure council and community consultation is carried out concurrently

***Does this recommendation suggest a decision contrary to an existing Council policy?
If so, for what reason?***

No.

Link to Corporate Plan:

Corporate Plan 2018-2023

Strategic Priority 3: Helping to keep our communities safe

3.3 Environmental and public health

Supporting Documentation:

1	Range Environmental Consultants - Ref J001326 - Ecological advice letter Flying-fox Legislation	D23/67515
2	MRC Flying-Fox Management Plan 2023	D23/67389
3	Letter from Minister - Successful Fund Application - Flying-Fox Roost Management - 18.11.2022	D23/67370
4	FFRM - Range Environmental - DRAFT Regional Flying-Fox Roost Management Plan - 17.08.2023	D23/68840

Report authorised by:

Director - Warroo



TOOWOOMBA
Office A, 189 Hume St,
Toowoomba QLD 4350

BRISBANE
Unit 1, 7 Birubi St,
Coorparoo QLD 4151

(07) 4588 6711

Mathew Gane
Director – Warroo Directorate
Maranoa Regional Council
PO Box 620
Roma QLD 4455

Our Reference: J001326
Date: 14 August 2023

Ecological Advice Letter – Flying-fox Legislation

Dear Mathew,

Range Environmental was engaged by Maranoa Regional Council to prepare a regional flying-fox management plan for the local government area (LGA). This advice letter provides an overview of flying-fox legislation and protections in Queensland.

Overview of Legislation

All species of flying-fox in Queensland are protected under the State *Nature Conservation Act 1992* (NCA). However, local governments are permitted to interfere with flying-fox roosts within their designated Urban Flying-Fox Management Areas (UFFMA) under an 'as of right authority' (extent of MRC UFFMA shown in Attachment A). Where management actions within roosts are proposed these are required to be undertaken in compliance with one of the two relevant codes of practice:

- Code of Practice – Ecologically sustainable management of flying-fox roosts
- Code of Practice - Low impact activities affecting flying-fox roosts

The Code of Practice – Low impact activities affecting flying-fox roosts allows council to continue normal land management actions (mowing, mulching, watering etc.) within parklands containing or adjacent to flying-fox roosts. These activities are not considered to be flying-fox roost management actions and do not have the intent of shifting or dispersing a flying-fox roost.

Where local governments interfere with a flying-fox roost (such as with the intent to shift or disperse a roost), methods are limited to non-lethal techniques with implemented controls to avoid harm or death occurring to an animal. The Department of Environment and Science Flying-fox Roost Management Guideline (DES 2020) aids the assessment of viable management options, and the planning of safe and effective management actions in relation to flying-fox roosts.

Under the Queensland Planning framework vegetation clearing is regulated under the *Planning Act 2016* and subordinate regulations. Where clearing of vegetation is proposed, this must be completed in accordance with the requirements of the Act and subordinate regulation.

Vegetation protection provisions may also apply under the local planning scheme and *Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1992* in addition to State restrictions. Vegetation clearing within areas of local biodiversity significance may be assessable development where sought to be undertaken.

Flying-fox roosts are protected under Section 88C of the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*. Under the Act a person must not:

- destroy a flying-fox roost unless the person is an authorised person or the destruction is authorised under this Act;
- drive away, or attempt to drive away, a flying-fox from a flying-fox roost unless the person is an authorised person or the driving away is authorised under this Act; or
- disturb a flying fox in a flying-fox roost unless the person is an authorised person or the disturbance is authorised under this Act.

Requirements of Management Actions

Where Council seeks to undertake management actions within a roost aimed to create additional buffers between the community and a roost, shift a roost or disperse a roost the following requirements must be met for the works to be authorised under Council's 'As of Right Authority':

- Works must be proposed within the State Designated Urban Flying-fox Management Area (UFFMA)
 - The Surat roost falls within a designated UFFMA
- Works must be carried out in accordance with the Code of Practice – Ecologically sustainable management of flying fox roosts
 - The code of Practice ensures acceptable welfare outcomes for flying-foxes
 - The Code of Practice is to be read in conjunction with the Flying-fox roost management guideline
- Provision of pre-works notifications to the State and post-works evaluation forms are mandatory
- Roost dispersal attempts are strictly regulated with requirements for timing of activities, and the presence of a person knowledgeable about flying-fox behaviour
- Works are limited to non-lethal methods (for example, non-lethal use of smoke, noise, light, foggers, water sprinklers, and/or 'scarecrow' type devices. To remove any doubt, methods that physically injure flying-foxes (e.g. high-pressure hoses, caustic soda, paint ball guns) are not authorised)
- Consideration must be made for avoiding works when:
 - females are in the late stages of pregnancy or there are dependant young (e.g. creched young, pups) that cannot sustain independent flight, and
 - during or immediately after climatic extremes, or weather events that may cause food shortages, such as periods of unusually high temperatures or humidity, cyclones and fires, and
 - which may negatively impact the conservation of flying-fox species which are listed as threatened wildlife under the Act.

- The use of aerial drones is understood to be currently not in accordance with the Code of Practice, with the Flying-fox roost management guideline advising that further trialling is needed to understand how they might safely and effectively be used for flying-fox management

Alternative Management Approaches to Addressing Community Concerns

Acknowledging the significant challenges, costs and uncertainty with completing roost shifting or dispersal management actions Local Governments routinely utilise a range of measures to reduce and mitigate community conflict and meet community expectations. Depending on a range of factors these can have varying levels of success and community acceptance as an effective management tool. Some additional mechanisms utilised across Queensland include:

- Ongoing proactive roost monitoring, parkland maintenance and community engagement and education on a flying-fox roosts occupancy and status
- Nudging of roosts within a vegetation patch to create increased separation distances between the community and flying-fox roosts
- Moving flying-foxes within a roost by modifying vegetation
- Community grant programs, providing additional mitigation devices or mechanisms such as car covers, first-flush devices, double glazed windows, air conditioners and pressure cleaners
- The removal of problem (preferred) feed trees
- The establishment of potential alternative, low-conflict roost locations
- Research and monitoring engagement
- Community education
- Responding to complaints and choosing 'no intervention'
- Land use planning which sites future development areas away from known roosts

Range Environmental continues to prepare the Maranoa Regional Council Regional Flying-fox Management Plan which will include a range of proposed mitigation measures recommended to be investigated/implemented by Council. Utilisation of a combination of measures is likely to achieve the greatest level of management success and acceptance by the community.

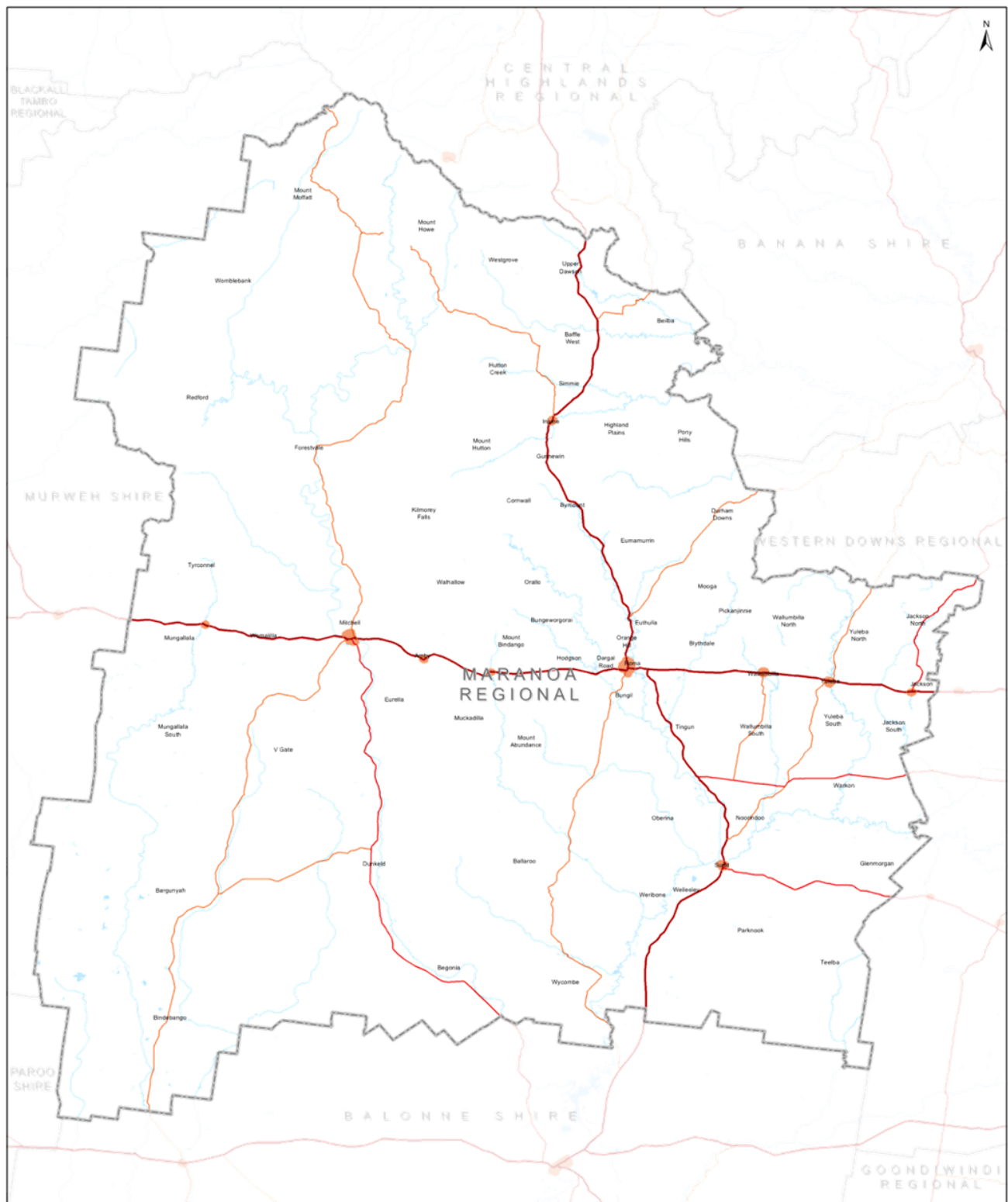
We hope the above advice assists. If you require any further information on this matter please do not hesitate to contact me on will.gibson@rangeenviro.com.au or 0400 451 600.

Yours sincerely,

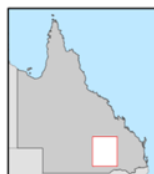


Will Gibson
Senior Ecologist
Range Environmental Consultants

Attachment A – Maranoa Regional Council Urban Flying-Fox Management Area

**MARANOA REGIONAL****Legend**

- Urban Flying-Fox Management Area
- Local Government Area
- Road



0 5 10 20 30 km

Urban Flying-Fox Management Area

COORDINATE SYSTEM: GCS GDA 1984
HORIZONTAL DATUM: GDA 1984

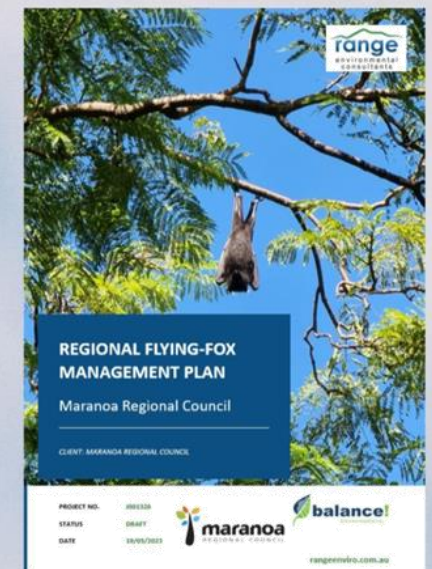
MAP PRODUCTION
29 July 2013
Nature Conservation Services
Department of Environment and Heritage Protection

© The State of Queensland
Department of Environment and Heritage Protection 2013



MRC FLYING-FOX MANAGEMENT PLAN 2023

Consultant: Range Environmental & Balance Environmental
Will Gibson – Senior Ecologist



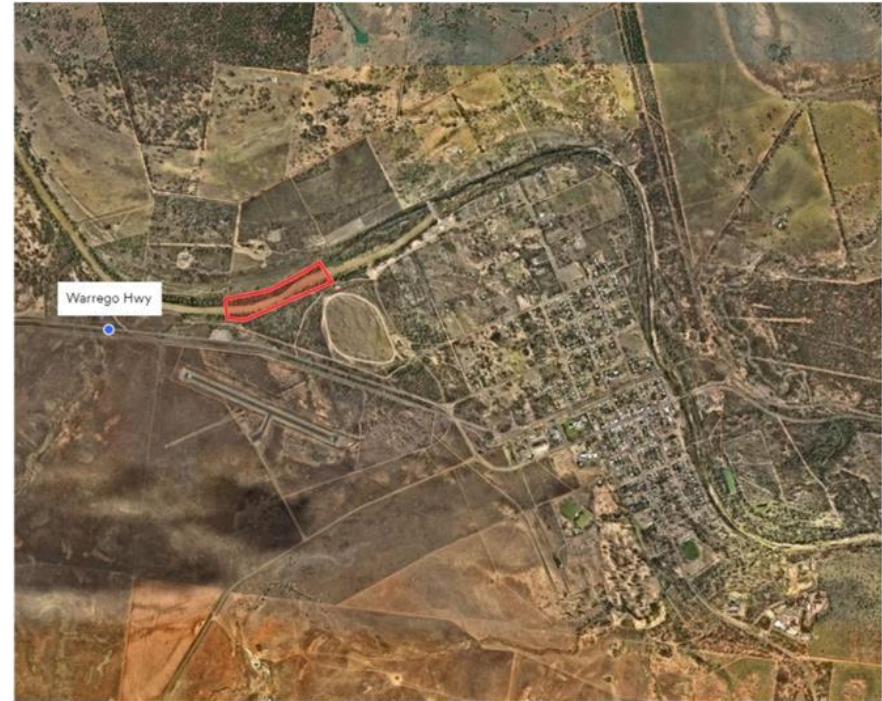
FLYING-FOX MANAGEMENT – LOCAL GOVERNMENT

- Councils have historically been the primary entity which has led management of flying-fox roosts
- Across Queensland this has resulted in outcomes which have been reactive and often have not resolved long-term conflict between flying-foxes and communities
- Council's are bound by State Roost Management Guidelines, and State Vegetation Clearing restrictions. Management of roosts is often a challenging and frustrating task for land managers
- Council has three seasonally occupied roosts (Roma, Surat and Mitchell) known across the region
- Two species of flying-fox are known to be present within the region, with Little Red and Black-headed flying-foxes being seasonal visitors, however Grey-headed flying-foxes are possible to occur in the region

WHAT IS THE CHALLENGE?

- Flying-foxes are often disruptive when present in urban areas – impacts of noise, odour, concerns about disease, health of trees and liveability are major points of community concern. Flying-fox roosts can become very large (10,000s to 100,000s of individual animals)
- Flying-foxes are a critical component of our natural environment, contributing to pollination and seed dispersal across the states extensive environmental areas
- All flying-foxes are protected at a State level, and Grey-headed flying-fox roosts can have additional protections under commonwealth legislation
- Foraging habitat for Grey-headed flying-foxes is also protected under Commonwealth legislation (eucalypt woodlands and forests), regardless of Local or State vegetation restrictions. This protection is poorly enforced by the Commonwealth
- Flying-foxes regularly move between roosts and regions. Management can result in unpredictable outcomes
- Flying-foxes are wild animals

MITCHELL AND ROMA ROOSTS



SURAT



WHAT IS THE APPROACH TO ACHIEVING A BALANCED OUTCOME?

- Development of a Regional Flying-fox Management Plan (FFMP) by Local Councils
- Council can develop and apply a consistent and equitable approach to management of conflict between flying-foxes and communities
- Council is able to articulate when and what they are comfortable in doing to manage conflict in a Statement of Management Intent (SOMI)
- Reinforcing what Council can realistically achieve based on resourcing capacity

BRINGING THE PLAN TOGETHER

- Council was successful in obtaining \$30,958 from the State Government's Flying-Fox Roost Management - Local Government Grants Program
- We have engaged with Council staff to understand the current 'state of play' of management of roosts across the region, and the history of management over the last 10 years
- We are engaging with MRC to understand community concerns and views regarding local flying-foxes

THE SURAT FLYING-FOX ROOST CHALLENGE?

- Surat is a seasonally occupied roost which routinely provides habitat for very large numbers of flying-foxes (10,000s – 100,000s of flying-foxes)
- The habitat which the flying-foxes are roosting within is likely the best available habitat along the river, due to the permanent water source behind the weir and relatively dense understory vegetation
- Council has previously expended significant resources (staffing and financial) on attempted dispersals which were ultimately unsuccessful and which not reduce community impacts

WHAT IS THE DRAFT STRATEGY?

-
- No major changes to current operations for Roma and Mitchell Roosts – very low conflict (monitoring and community education)
 - Council will take a long-term strategic approach to the Surat Roost including:
 1. Reinforcing that water quality outcomes are appropriately managed through treatment of town water supplies and that there is no immediate risks to human health
 2. Designating a preferred alternate long term roosting location
 3. Undertaking vegetation enhancement and establishments works within the preferred long term roosting location
 4. At a future stage – further assessment/enactment of opportunities to shift the flying-fox roost to this preferred location once it is established

WHAT DOES AN ALTERNATE ROOSTING LOCATION RESEMBLE?

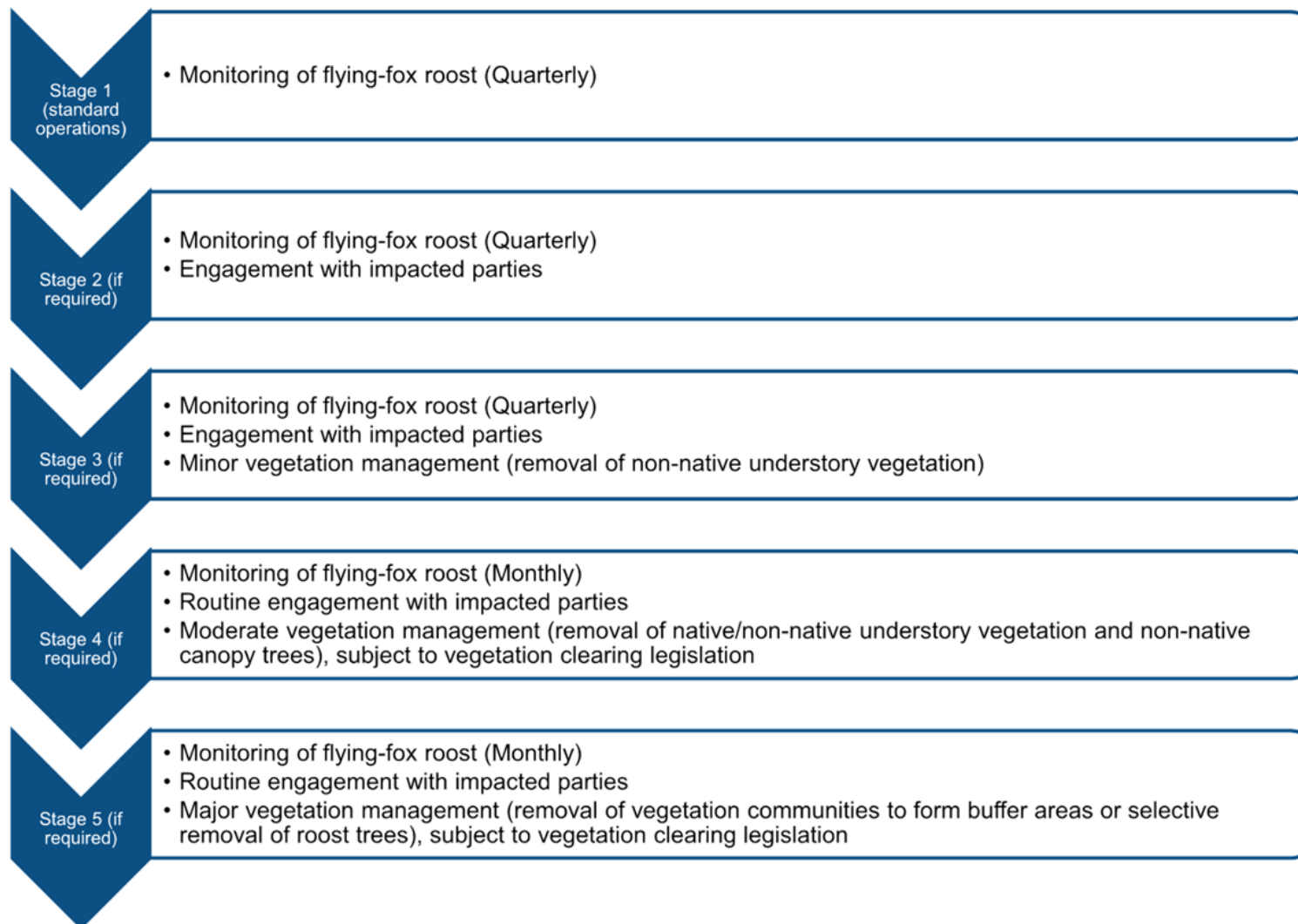
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1. Council controlled land
 2. Is within an area which contains a permanent – or near permanent water source
 3. Contains, or has the capacity to contain within a reasonable period of time, a self-sustaining mid-dense to dense vegetation community
 4. Is sufficiently set back from sensitive receptors (the community) to achieve adequate community amenity outcomes
 5. In the context of Surat, a location which is preferably downstream of the water supply weir

WHAT LOCATION HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED - SURAT?

1. Approximately 700m downstream
2. Downstream of weir location
3. Provides sufficient setback from weir for recreational fishing at weir to continue uninterrupted
4. Opportunities to obtain further grant funding from Queensland Government to support vegetation enhancement works will be explored



STANDARD ROOST MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK



OVERVIEW

- We are working with Council to develop a plan which clearly articulates Council's view of the current location of flying-fox roosts AND their long-term intent to manage these roosts in a manner which improves community amenity, and meets the State's roost management codes of practice
- Council will continue monitoring the roost locations/populations and engaging with the community where they have questions about impacts, health and water quality
- Council will look to enact vegetation enhancement actions at the preferred Surat roost location
- Council will seek to obtain funding from the Department of Environment and Science (Queensland Government) to facilitate these works
- Council will seek to communicate this strategy to the community, reinforcing that this approach improves the likelihood of success of 'shifting' the roost in the future once suitable alternate habitat is developed

ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION?

- Monitoring of roosts – currently little information is formally recorded about the population and dynamics of the Surat, Roma and Mitchell Roosts. Implementing a quarterly monitoring roster would be beneficial and assist with developing a better understanding of the roosts
- Educational signage – information could be provided along the riverside walk on the water treatment process and basic flying-fox ecology
- Where any flying-fox related works are undertaken, seek to obtain grant funding support from the State Government
- Community engagement – where vegetation enhancement works are undertaken in Surat there is potential for community involvement – national tree day planting style or works
- Education – Informative letter box drops

QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION



Minister for the Environment and the Great Barrier Reef
Minister for Science and Youth Affairs

1 William Street Brisbane Qld 4000
GPO Box 5078 Brisbane
Queensland 4001 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3719 7140
Email environment@ministerial.qld.gov.au

Our Ref: CTS 18824/22

18 November 2022

Ms Cara Cicero
Maranoa Regional Council
cara.cicero@maranoa.qld.gov.au

Dear Ms Cicero

I would like to offer my congratulations to Maranoa Regional Council (MRC) on its success in achieving approval for funding of \$30 958.90 (GST excl) under Round 4 of the Flying-Fox Roost Management in Queensland Grants Program (the Program), for the following roost management project proposal:

– Maranoa Flying-fox Management.

I understand officers from the Department of Environment and Science (the department) will be in contact with you shortly regarding the details of this funding and to commence contract negotiations.

I request that you continue to treat your funding as confidential, that is, no media or public announcements, until the department approves such publication. Once the grant has been announced, I would encourage MRC to actively promote its success in securing the funding, and the achievement of milestones as the project proceeds. A departmental officer may contact you regarding opportunities to attend future media or promotional events.

Once again, congratulations to MRC on its successful grant application and I look forward to learning more about the progress of your project.

Should you have any questions about the Program, please contact Mr Michael Messer, Manager - Wildlife and Threatened Species Operations, Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service and Partnerships of the department by email at wildlife.management@des.qld.gov.au or on telephone 0466 544 507.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "MS", with a horizontal line underneath.

Meaghan Scanlon MP
Minister for the Environment and the Great Barrier Reef
Minister for Science and Youth Affairs

REGIONAL FLYING-FOX MANAGEMENT PLAN

Maranoa Regional Council

CLIENT: MARANOA REGIONAL COUNCIL

PROJECT NO.	J001326
STATUS	DRAFT FOR PUBLIC CONSULT
DATE	17/08/2023



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Table of Contents

1	Introduction	7
1.1	Objectives of FFMP	8
1.2	Management Responsibilities	8
1.3	Management Approach	8
2	Definitions	9
2.1	Flying-fox Roosts	9
2.2	Council Definitions	10
3	Legislation and Other Requirements	12
3.1	State and Local Legislative Considerations	12
3.2	Federal Legislative Considerations	12
4	Flying Fox Background	14
4.1	Flying-foxes	14
4.2	Flying Fox Ecology and Impacts	16
4.3	Flying Fox Movements	18
4.4	Flying Fox Breeding Cycles	19
4.5	Threats	20
4.6	Living with Flying-foxes	20
4.7	Historic Management of Flying-fox Roosts	23
5	Maranoa Roost History and Community Impacts	24
5.1	Overview of Roost History	24
5.2	Roosts	26
6	Conservation of Flying-fox Populations	29
6.1	Whole of LGA Management Approach	29
6.2	Protection of Viable Flying-fox Roost Locations	29
6.3	Identification and Establishment of Alternative Long-term Flying-fox Roost Locations	29
6.4	Protection and Restoration of Flying-fox Foraging Habitats	29
6.5	Support for Additional Research	29
7	Community Engagement	31
7.1	Methods	31

REGIONAL FLYING-FOX MANAGEMENT PLAN

Maranoa Regional Council

7.2	Initial Councillor Consultation	31
7.3	Management of Flying Fox Roosts Policy	31
8	Statement of Management Intent	32
8.1	Flying-foxes on Council Managed Lands	32
8.2	Flying-foxes on Private, State or Commonwealth Managed Lands	32
8.3	Approach to Colony Management on Council Managed Land (Management Actions)	33
8.4	Considerations for Roost Management Approach	35
8.5	Timing of Vegetation Management Works	37
8.6	Creation of Alternative, Low Conflict Roosting Habitats	37
8.7	Ongoing Community Education	41
8.8	Foraging Tree Replacement Works	41
8.9	Council Support for Research	41
9	Response to Heat Stress Events	42
9.1	Impacts of Heat Stress Events	42
9.2	Approach by Council	42
9.3	Liaison with Wildlife Carers	43
9.4	Waste Disposal	43
10	Evaluation and Review	44
11	Key Recommendations	45
11.1	Short to Medium-term Recommendations	45
11.2	Long-term Recommendations	46
12	References	47
12.1	Further information and resources	48

Table of Tables

Table 1 State Government's interim policy for determining when a flying-fox congregation is regarded as a flying-fox roost	9
Table 2 Known roost locations across the region	24
Table 3 Table of alternate roost suitability	38

Table of Figures

Figure 1 Flying-foxes of the Maranoa Region and their national geographic distribution (shown in green) (sourced from Flying-fox Roost Management Guideline, State of Queensland 2020)	14
Figure 2 Potential foraging habitat areas (Maranoa Region)	17
Figure 3 Birthing and breeding cycle for flying-fox species present within the region	19
Figure 4 Overview of roost locations (Maranoa Regional Council LGA)	25
Figure 5 Staged management approach to flying-fox roost management	34
Figure 6 Alternate roost locations	40

Table of Photographs

Photograph 1 Roma Roost viewed from south of roost extent	26
Photograph 2 Surat Roost viewed from west of roost extent	27
Photograph 3 Mitchell Roost viewed from east of roost extent	28

Table of Appendices

Appendix A Urban Flying-fox Management Area	50
Appendix B Extent of Roosts	51

1 Introduction

Flying-foxes, also known as 'fruit bats', are a genus of megabats which occur across tropical and subtropical regions of Africa, Asia, Australia, and some oceanic islands. There are at least 60 species known worldwide, with three (3) species occurring across a range of habitat types in southern Queensland. Flying-foxes are nocturnal and form congregations called roosts during the day, with the sizes of congregations ranging from several individuals to hundreds of thousands. As the size of these roosts grow they can be a source of community concern, with impacts such as noise, odour, disease, damage to infrastructure and damage to fruit crops experienced by nearby residents and landowners.

Flying-foxes play an integral role in regulating and maintaining the eastern Australian environment and are a keystone species within the eastern Australian states. Flying-foxes are key species in pollination of eucalypt and other forests and the dispersal of seeds from fruiting trees, contributing to maintenance of ecological functions throughout the landscape. Some trees like eucalypts only flower at night and depend on flying-foxes to pollinate their flowers and spread their seeds. Without Flying-foxes, there would be no eucalypt forests and no habitat for koalas.

Historically within Queensland and across Australia, Local Government (Councils) have led and coordinated management of flying-fox roosts. Range Environmental Consultants (hereafter 'Range Environmental'), in partnership with Balance! Environmental was engaged by Maranoa Regional Council (hereafter 'Council') to assist in the development of a Flying-Fox Management Plan (FFMP) for the Maranoa Region, providing a long-term, strategic management framework for the region-wide management of flying-fox roosts.

There are four (4) current and historic roosts across the Maranoa region, known to Council through access to the National Flying-fox Monitoring Viewer, engagement with residents and review of flying-fox tracking data recorded across the region. The region currently contains three (3) known seasonal roosts which are regularly inhabited, being the Balooone River (Surat), Bungil Creek (Roma) and Neil Turner Weir (Mitchell) Roosts. The status of the fourth known roost (Surat Parknook), located on private property is not well documented.

Impacts of shifting climate, extreme heat events, bushfire and, changes to food resource availability are driving changes in flying-fox behaviour across roosts throughout Australia. This plan aims to manage public health, amenity, critical infrastructure supply and conservation considerations in a long-term, holistic and balanced way, ensuring equitable treatment is provided to communities across the region.

1.1 Objectives of FFMP

The FFMP was developed to provide effective, long-term management of flying-fox roosts, particularly in potential and realised high-conflict areas. The key objective of the FFMP is to balance community expectations of Council, public amenity and conservation of flying-fox species across the region. This FFMP has been informed by a Statement of Management Intent (SOMI), which outlines Council's framework for management of roosts. The SOMI has been incorporated into this document and is outlined in Section 9.

This FFMP provides an overview of the following relevant information:

- State and Commonwealth legislative requirements
- Flying-fox ecology
- Roost information
- Councils approach to roost management
- Community education
- Research
- Heat stress management

1.2 Management Responsibilities

The responsibility to manage flying-foxes lies with the owners of lands on which a flying-fox roost is located. Council is not responsible for the management of flying-foxes on land which is not controlled by the Council (e.g. private or state controlled lands).

Council may contribute to joint management activities when human-flying-fox conflicts arise on both private and Council lands. The contributions, and extent, in these circumstances are at the discretion of Council and will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

Where Council undertakes roost management actions on any lands Council shall seek to engage with the State Government to facilitate cost sharing arrangements through the Department of Environment and Science 'Flying-Fox Roost Management - Local Government Grants Program'.

1.3 Management Approach

Given the significant level of uncertainty of management success and high financial costs associated with management of flying-fox roosts, Council's position is to minimise interference with flying-fox roosts where possible (such as where flying-foxes are well setback from the community), with significant roost management actions only undertaken where a clearly unacceptable impact to public health, amenity or environmental values can be demonstrated.

2 Definitions

2.1 Flying-fox Roosts

Flying-fox roosts are protected under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*, with management actions required to comply with State Codes of Practice. Under these Codes of Practice specific restrictions apply to management of roosts, dependent on their status as a permanent roost.

Council's position is that an area which contains a congregation (grouping of at least 50 flying-foxes) of flying-foxes between the hours of 6am and 6pm is a roost, and will be managed as a roost. The Department of Environment and Science's Operational Policy *Interim policy for determining when a flying-fox congregation is regarded as flying-fox roost under section 88C of the Nature Conservation Act 1992* provides the State Government legislative definitions for a flying-fox roost. The below definitions have been included from version 2.0 (July 2021) of this Policy.

Table 1 State Government's interim policy for determining when a flying-fox congregation is regarded as a flying-fox roost

Congregation Type	Congregation Characteristics
Flying-fox Roost	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Means a tree or other place where flying-foxes congregate from time to time for breeding or rearing their young.
Permanent Roost	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The site has previously met the requirements to satisfy the roost definition under this policy Includes Continuous Use sites Continuous Use – indicates that the site is permanently, or almost permanently, occupied by flying-foxes Includes Seasonal Use sites Seasonal Use – indicates that a site is occupied by flying-foxes during certain periods as a result of the availability of nearby food sources such as nectar/flowers or due to climactic changes such as seasonal temperature variations. Includes New Congregations which satisfy the requirements of the roost definition under this policy
New Congregation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A site where flying-foxes have not been known to congregate previously, or where occupation has not yet met the criterion for 'from time to time' Includes 'splinter camps' May include overflow from existing roost sites into trees that have previously not been occupied by flying-foxes
Historical Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A site that has previously met the 'roost definition' requirements but hasn't been occupied by flying-foxes for a period of 5 consecutive years If flying-foxes resume occupancy of an Historical Site, the site should be classified as a New Congregation until it has once more met the density, temporal, behavioural and spatial aspects that allow it to once again be classified as a Permanent Roost
Destroyed Roost	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A site that has been destroyed either legally/illegally or destroyed through natural events (e.g. cyclone, fires etc) and is no longer being occupied by flying-foxes, and not capable of being occupied by flying-foxes.

2.2 Council Definitions

Term	Definition
Codes of Practice	
Low impact activities	Means mulching, mowing, weeding, watering under or near roost trees, minor trimming of roost trees, and installation, maintenance or removal of infrastructure, where the activities are not directed at destroying a flying-fox roost, driving away, or attempting to drive away, a flying-fox from a flying-fox roost, or disturbing a flying-fox in a flying-fox roost.
Management actions	Means non-lethal actions intended to stop flying-foxes from making use of a site or part of a site and include destroying and/or trimming vegetation at a site, as well as coordinated action to drive flying-foxes away from a site or move flying-foxes within a roost site.
Additional terms	
As-of-right authority	In the context of flying-fox roost management, is a legal right to carry out a flying fox roost management activity, provided the activity is carried out in accordance with the relevant Australian Government and Queensland Government legislation, codes and guidelines. The current Code of Practice for management of a flying-fox roost commenced in 2020.
Buffer zone	Refers to physical separation between humans and flying foxes (such as an area cleared of roost trees)
Flying-fox roost	Refers to a discrete spatial area where flying-foxes (50 or greater) congregate during the hours of 6am to 6pm, regardless of breeding or temporal status.
Common use area	Refers to areas of a property which are accessed and/or actively used by residents, visitors or occupants, for example outdoor seating areas or veranda areas. Common use areas do not include backyards associated with a dwelling.
Containment	Refers to management actions (such as creation of cleared buffer zones) which are aimed at containing flying-foxes within an area of a roost which reduces the impact of the roost on sensitive receptors.
Commonwealth-owned or Commonwealth-managed land	Is property which is under Australian Government control.
Council land	Is property which is under Council.
Creche	Is a tree or other place where females leave dependent young (ie those unable to fly independently)
Dispersal	Refers to management actions which result in temporary or permanent relocation of flying-foxes to alternative roosts
Shifting	Refers to management actions which move flying-foxes further away from high-conflict areas without dispersal ('pushing' of a flying-fox roost along a waterway corridor)
Flying Fox Roost Management Plan (FFRMP)	Refers to a document which outlines the management approach/strategy for a singular roost or several related roosts.
Food tree	Is a tree or other plant which flying-foxes use as a source of food, typically at night
Owner (of a property)	In the context of this document may refer to the person or organisation who owns, manages, occupies, leases or is otherwise responsible for the property in question (e.g. trustee)

REGIONAL FLYING-FOX MANAGEMENT PLAN

Maranoa Regional Council

Pollarding	Is the removal of the upper branches of a tree. This may include reducing the tree back to only its basic structural components (the trunk).
Private property	In the context of this document is a property which is owned by a member of the public or a private entity, and the property is occupied by the owner, tenant or manager
Residential dwelling	Is a permanent, approved place of residence, and does not include temporary living facilities, sheds or other constructs on private property
Roost vegetation management plan	A Roost Vegetation Management Plan is a site-specific document detailing potential vegetation management options for a roost. This plan includes maps with specific management areas, proposed management intents/actions, rehabilitation actions and details of sequencing. The intent of this plan is to provide a long-term strategic approach to management of the roost. This plan will also document relevant regulatory requirements or restrictions to vegetation management and include details of whether the roost is a maternity roost. A schedule for works (including timing within the year) is to be included to guide any delivery of management actions.
Sensitive receptor	Sensitive receptors near flying-fox roosts may include dwellings (houses), schools, medical centres, playgrounds, pools, approved/certified attached structures such as patios. It also includes common use areas (such as courtyards) in facilities used by potentially vulnerable members of the community such as children or elderly persons. For the purpose of this plan sensitive receptors do not include agricultural, industrial or indoor commercial areas (i.e. warehouses)
Splinter roost	Refers to a roost which contains a smaller number of flying-foxes which have established in close proximity to an existing roost, typically as a consequence of dispersal actions
SOMI	Statement of Management Intent (provided at section 9)
State-owned or State-managed land	Is property which is under Queensland Government control
UFFMA	Refers to the Queensland Government Urban Flying-Fox Management Area (Appendix A). An UFFMA delineates where a local government maintains as 'as of right authority' to undertake flying-fox management actions

The Department of Environment and Science definitions for a permanent roost, new congregation, historical roost and destroyed roost will be utilised by Council in the first instance where consideration of these definitions is required.

3 Legislation and Other Requirements

3.1 State and Local Legislative Considerations

Under Queensland's *Nature Conservation Act 1992*, flying-foxes are protected. However, local governments are permitted to interfere with flying-fox roosts within their designated *Urban Flying-Fox Management Areas (UFFMA)* under an 'as of right authority'. Where management actions are proposed these are required to be undertaken in compliance with one of the two relevant codes of practice:

- Code of Practice – Ecologically sustainable management of flying-fox roosts
- Code of Practice - Low impact activities affecting flying-fox roosts

Where local governments interfere with a flying-fox roost, methods are limited to non-lethal techniques with implemented controls to avoid harm or death occurring to an animal. The Department of Environment and Science Flying-fox Roost Management Guideline (DES 2020) aids the assessment of viable management options, and the planning of safe and effective management actions in relation to flying-fox roosts.

Under the Queensland Planning framework vegetation clearing is regulated under the *Planning Act 2016* and subordinate regulations. Where clearing of vegetation is proposed, this must be completed in accordance with the requirements of the Act and subordinate regulation.

Vegetation protection provisions may also apply under the local planning scheme in addition to State restrictions. Vegetation clearing within areas of local significance may be assessable development where sought to be undertaken.

Flying-fox roosts are protected under Section 88C of the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*. Under the Act a person must not:

- destroy a flying-fox roost unless the person is an authorised person or the destruction is authorised under this Act;
- drive away, or attempt to drive away, a flying-fox from a flying-fox roost unless the person is an authorised person or the driving away is authorised under this Act; or
- disturb a flying fox in a flying-fox roost unless the person is an authorised person or the disturbance is authorised under this Act.

3.2 Federal Legislative Considerations

The Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act 1999)* protects the environment in relation to Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) which include listed threatened species and ecological communities. This includes the Grey-headed flying-fox, which is listed as 'vulnerable' under the Act.

Under the EPBC Act, if a flying-fox management action is likely to result in a significant impact on an MNES, the proposal must be referred to the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) for assessment against the Act.

The EPBC Act Policy Statement: *Referral guideline for management actions in Grey-headed and spectacled flying-fox camps* (DoE 2015) provides assistance assessing whether an action may require approval under the EPBC Act. Impacts within roosts which are not identified as nationally significant roosts or which constitute low impact activities such as mowing, minor vegetation trimming, or other activities which apply best practice mitigation standards (outlined in the EPBC Act Policy Statement) are unlikely to require referral to the Department of the Environment. Flying-fox roosts which are occupied by 10,000 or more Grey-headed flying-foxes more than once within the past ten years, or are occupied (either permanently or seasonally) by more than 2,500 Grey-headed flying-foxes each year for the past ten years are considered nationally important.

REGIONAL FLYING-FOX MANAGEMENT PLAN

Maranoa Regional Council

No Nationally significant flying-fox roosts are currently identified within the region.

Foraging habitat for the Grey-headed flying-fox is protected under the *EPBC Act 1999*. A significant impact assessment against the relevant Commonwealth guidelines is recommended to be undertaken where an ecological values assessment identifies Grey-headed flying-fox habitat is likely to be impacted by a project proposal.

4 Flying Fox Background

4.1 Flying-foxes

There are four native species of flying-foxes in Australia. Three of these species occur in the Maranoa region, and all are legally protected. Species present include Grey-headed flying-fox (*Pteropus poliocephalus*), Black flying-fox (*P. alecto*) and the Little Red flying-fox (*P. scapulatus*). These species are all protected under the NCA, and the Grey-headed flying-fox is also listed as 'vulnerable' under the EPBC Act. Images of these species and their national distribution are provided in Figure 1.

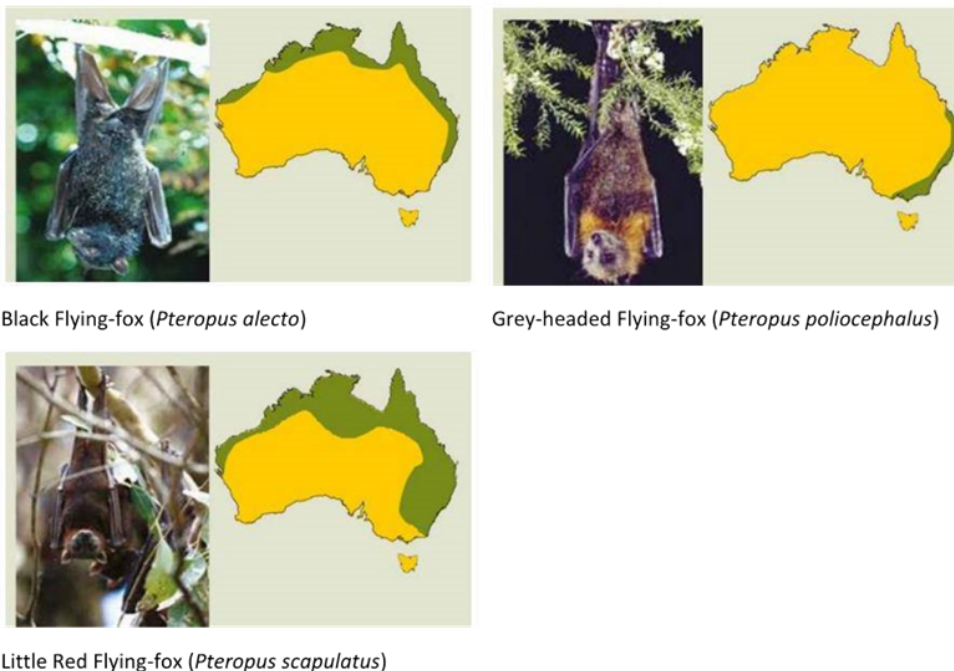


Figure 1 Flying-foxes of the Maranoa Region and their national geographic distribution (shown in green) (sourced from Flying-fox Roost Management Guideline, State of Queensland 2020)

Both the Grey-headed and Black flying-fox have an adult wingspan up to 1 m and a body mass of up to 1 kg (Hall 2002). Both species occupy coastal regions, while Black flying-foxes also inhabit northern Australia and Grey-headed flying-foxes occupy south-eastern and eastern Australia (Churchill 2008). Across the Maranoa Region, these species are the typical roost inhabitants, with both species recorded year-round.

Both species feed in the canopy of trees, especially blossoms and fruits of eucalyptus, Melaleuca and rainforest trees. The blossoms and fruits from introduced tree species (such as those found in commercial orchards) are also consumed, particularly in times of limited native food sources (Harden et al. 2004).

Little Red flying-foxes are smaller, weighing up to 500g (Vardon and Tideman 1999), and occur throughout eastern, northern and north-western Australia (Vardon and Tideman 1999). Little Red flying-foxes are nectarivorous, primarily feeding on eucalypt blossoms (Hall and Richards 2000 & Bradford et al. 2022). They are highly nomadic and migrate to northern Australia during the winter. The movements and duration of time spent in a single location by Little Red flying-foxes is understood to be influenced by the availability of food sources (Roberts et al. 2012).

REGIONAL FLYING-FOX MANAGEMENT PLAN

Maranoa Regional Council

Little Red flying-foxes arrive in the Maranoa region in the warmer summer months as flowering eucalypts provide a ready source of foraging resources. During this period, they may temporarily join camps of Grey-headed or Black flying-foxes, appearing suddenly in large numbers and remaining from a few days to several months. As Little Red flying-foxes roost in dense clusters on individual branches, considerable damage to trees may occur. Where large congregations of this species occur significant community concern can arise, with populations of roosts quickly increasing in size, with corresponding intensification of noise and odour impacts to nearby residents.

4.2 Flying Fox Ecology and Impacts

4.2.1 Roosts

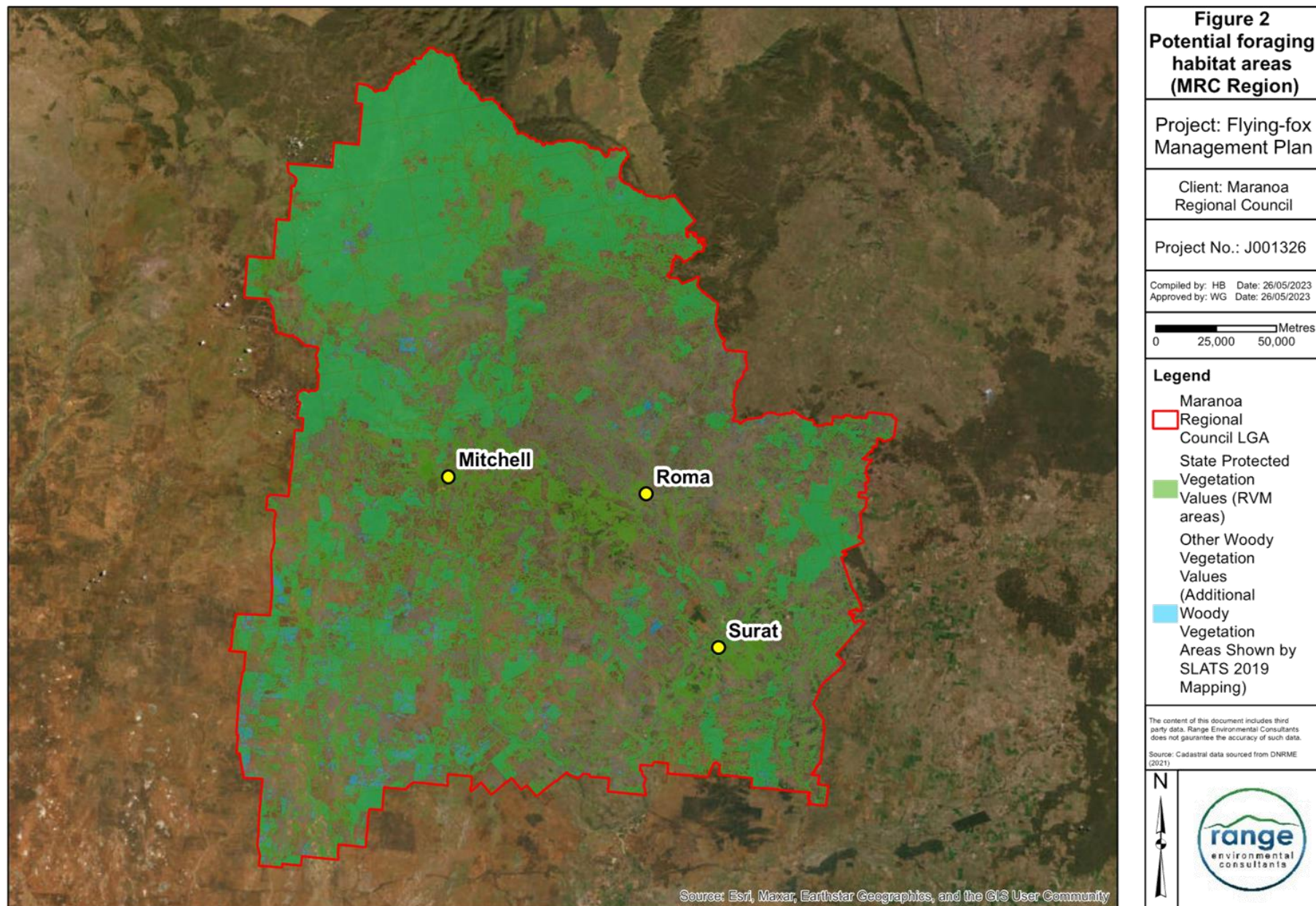
A flying-fox roost is a discrete spatial area where flying-foxes congregate during the hours of 6am to 6pm, regardless of breeding or temporal status. Flying-fox roosts typically are located within vegetation adjacent to watercourses, typically with a dense (but often sparse or absent) understory. Across the region flying-fox roosts have predominantly been recorded along creeks with a mix of dense understory vegetation and open woodland environments. Historic locations of flying-fox roosts across the region have also included large areas of semi-evergreen vine thicket ("dry rainforest" or "vine scrub").

4.2.2 Ecological Importance

Flying-foxes are essential pollinators, by transporting pollen grains between tree species while feeding (Eby 1991; Fujita & Tuttle 1991; Wescott et al. 2008). Fruit seeds are also digested and spread over large areas as they feed and move between roosts (McConkey et al. 2011; Wescott et al. 2008). The ecological function of flying-foxes maintains native forest ecosystems, including hardwood species which are commercially important (Hall & Richards 2000; Rose 2011).

Flying-foxes are able to maintain genetic diversity of forest ecosystems as they have high mobility and can travel long distances regularly, allowing for transport of genetic material to isolated forest patches. This genetic movement/exchange, is becoming even more important with increased habitat fragmentation (Eby 1995). Figure 3 shows an approximate extent of woody vegetation values which may provide foraging habitat areas across the region.

As shown on this map of potential food resources significant areas of foraging habitat are provided by the regions forests much of which is conserved by State Forests. Carnarvon National Park, Belington Hut State Forest, Gurulmundi State Forest, and Orkadilla State Forest are also thought to provide a ready source of flowering eucalypts to flying-foxes across the Central Highlands, Banana Shire, Western Downs Regional and Murweh Shire areas.



4.3 Flying Fox Movements

Flying-foxes have been recorded travelling 50 km from a roost to search for food, and can travel hundreds of kilometres over several nights when moving between roosts. All three flying-fox species found in the region are capable of travelling large distances, which allow them to arrive in large numbers overnight to local flowering events.

Grey-headed flying-foxes, Black flying-foxes and Little Red flying-foxes are understood to visit the region from the months of August to December. Limited radio tracking of flying-foxes has been conducted across the region to inform discussion of inter-roost dynamics. Based on the results of other Queensland based tracking projects regular movement between roosts is highly likely, with constant turnover of individuals at each roost location (Moreton Bay Regional Council 2022). Thinking of roosts as 'airports' for flying-foxes, with large amounts of different visitors coming and going all the time can help appreciate the management complexities for management of roosts.

4.4 Flying Fox Breeding Cycles

Flying-foxes reach reproductive maturity between two to three years of age, with females producing a single offspring each year, resulting in slow population growth (Westcott et al. 2018).

Flying-fox young are carried by their mothers 'under wing' for approximately four weeks following birth (Markus and Blackshaw 2002). As young grow and become too heavy for their mothers to carry while foraging they are left in crèches within roosts overnight, for up to 8 weeks (Churchill 2008).

Black and Grey-headed flying-foxes both birth their young at roosts across the region.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
BFF												
GHFF												
LRFF												

Key	Stage of breeding
	Peak conception
	Late-stage pregnancy
	Birthing and young under wing
	Pregnant
	Young crèched at roost
	Young capable of short flight
	Period of least impact on breeding

Figure 3 Birthing and breeding cycle for flying-fox species present within the region

Where works are undertaken adjacent to or within camps across the region works should predominantly be undertaken in either when roosts are not occupied, or May to mid August if flying-foxes are present year round, minimising impacts to breeding cycles and dependent young.

4.5 Threats

4.5.1 Loss of foraging Habitat

Flying-fox foraging habitats include a broad range of eucalypt woodlands, rainforests, semi-evergreen vine thickets and urban green spaces. The habitats have historically been threatened through clearing for agriculture, heavy industry, infrastructure and urban development. The introduction of significant State legislation in 1999 to slow and minimise clearing of remnant and high-value regrowth native vegetation values has played a role in slowing the loss of foraging habitat values for flying-foxes.

Within urban areas where the majority of vegetation comprises regrowth, gardens and parks, streetscape areas and landscape feature trees, limited protection is generally afforded to potential foraging trees. These trees play a potentially significant role in providing food resources for local populations during periods of drought and heat stress.

4.5.2 Roost fragmentation

Flying-fox roosts have been historically disturbed to remove populations from urban and rural centres where noise, odour and disease impacts to residents and landowners can cause significant disruption (Lane 1984). Through these roost management actions large, significant roosts have been disturbed and fragmented resulting in numerous splinter or offshoot roosts. Along waterway corridors this may have resulted in increased 'roost hopping', where a roost seasonally shifts up and down a vegetated corridor. In part, as a result of historic camp disturbance roost sizes have potentially decreased (particularly in very large roosts), however due to the splinter roosts, the number and overall spatial impact of roosts on residents and land managers is likely to have increased, especially in urban areas.

4.5.3 Heat stress and climate change

Long-term changes to the climate of the Maranoa region may lead to increased incidence of extreme weather events including flooding, bushfires, temperature extremes and altered weather patterns. Flying-foxes are extremely vulnerable to high temperatures above 38°C and have suffered widespread mass mortality events where temperatures exceed 42°C. Increases in the frequency and intensity of extreme heat events may result in a rapid population decline, and possible extinction of flying-foxes through death of individuals and reduced reproductive capacity (Welbergen et al 2008).

From the three (3) flying fox species found in the Maranoa region, Black flying foxes are the most susceptible species to heat stress, followed by Grey-headed Flying-foxes (Welbergen et al 2008). This increased vulnerability to heat stress events is potentially a result of increasing dispersal ranges to regions where these species were not previously found with increased temperature extremes (Welbergen et al 2008). Evidence suggests that Black Flying-foxes have lower species-specific physiological limits, which reduces their ability to cope with higher temperatures (Welbergen et al 2008). When Flying-foxes are experiencing higher metabolic activities (e.g. when pregnant or lactating), resting core body temperature is higher, increasing susceptibility to heat stress events (Welbergen et al 2008). Little Red flying foxes may have increased resilience to heat stress events through their regular exposure to high temperature, high humidity climates in northern Australia.

4.6 Living with Flying-foxes

Where flying-fox roosts are close to urban or residential land uses, potential exists for human/wildlife conflict. Typical impacts reported within these situations include noise, odour, disease concerns and impacts to infrastructure and vegetation. Droppings from flying-foxes can also be a source of annoyance to both residents near roosts and residents with significant feed trees within or around their properties.

4.6.1 Disease

Some people worry about flying-foxes spreading disease and threatening both human and animal (pets and livestock) health. While a small proportion of flying-foxes may carry diseases such as Australian bat lyssavirus and Hendra virus, the risk of those diseases being transmitted to people, pets or livestock can be effectively controlled through education, basic hygiene measures, management protocols and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

Queensland Health advice on Australian bat lyssavirus (Queensland Health 2022)

Australian bat lyssavirus (ABLV) is a virus closely related to the rabies (classical rabies) virus which causes serious and usually fatal disease in humans. Australia is free from classical rabies in land-dwelling animals. However, ABLV has been found in a number of bat species including flying foxes/fruit bats and microbats. Surveys of wild bat populations have indicated less than one percent of bats carry ABLV. In sick and injured bats, around 7% have been found to carry the virus. However, it must be assumed that any bat (sick, injured or healthy) in Australia could be infectious with ABLV.

Three cases of human infection of ABLV have been recorded in Australia. All occurred in Queensland. All were associated with being bitten or scratched by a bat and all were fatal. Do not touch bats, even if they are injured. Instead, call a trained vaccinated handler to attend the bat: RSPCA (1300 ANIMAL), Department of Environment and Science (1300 130 372), or local wildlife care groups. Only trained and vaccinated handlers should touch bats.

Queensland Health advice on Hendra virus (Queensland Health 2022¹)

Hendra virus was discovered following an outbreak of illness in horses in a large racing stable in the suburb of Hendra, Brisbane in 1994. The natural host for Hendra virus is the flying fox. The virus can spread from flying foxes to horses, horses to horses and rarely, from horses to people.

Since Hendra virus was identified in 1994, more than 90 horses are known to have been infected. These animals have either died as a direct result of their infection or have been euthanised. Several hundred people have been exposed to Hendra virus infected horses but have not been infected. However, 7 people have been confirmed to have Hendra virus following high levels of exposure to infected horses (excessive contact with horse bodily fluids). Four of these people died, the most recent in 2009.

Evidence of exposure to Hendra virus has been identified in asymptomatic dogs on two occasions. These dogs were identified as contact animals on properties with infected horses. Research and testing of many other animals and insects has shown no evidence of Hendra virus infection occurring naturally in any other species.

4.6.2 Noise

Flying-foxes roosts can often be a source of nuisance to adjacent residents due to loud vocalisations from individuals within roosts. Where roosts are disturbed regularly by human activities or by other animals (such as ibis, crows and domestic dogs) a near consistent level of vocalisation can be heard during the day. Roosts can also become disturbed where individual animals are competing over territorial spaces or mating partners. Flying-fox roosts are generally quiet when undisturbed; however, can be noisier in March and April during peak mating season. During summer months when Little Red flying-foxes arrive roost noise levels can increase rapidly as the roost size and extent increase. These impacts typically subside as the seasonal Little Red flying-foxes continue to follow the flowering eucalypts south.

4.6.3 Odour

Flying-foxes use odour as another form of communication, including the marking of territory or mate attraction. Odour of flying-fox roosts is particularly strong following rain, during hot and humid weather, and large population events (e.g. Little Red flying-foxes temporarily joining a camp). Juvenile flying-foxes also emit scent to help mothers correctly identify their young upon returning from foraging activities.

4.6.4 Droppings

Flying-foxes often defecate at feeding sites and after leaving their roosts, which can impact residents property, including; outdoor furniture, cars, swimming pools, solar panels, washing and roofs. When flying-foxes consume fruit of the introduced cocos palm (*Syagrus romanzoffiana*), their faeces become particularly sticky and more difficult to remove (DAFF 2013). The cocos palm is commonly planted in gardens for ornamental purposes and has been spread and become naturalised throughout SEQ as flying foxes and birds spread its seeds.

4.6.5 Vegetation Damage

Where flying-foxes roost in large numbers, impacts to vegetation values have been recorded. Impacts typically consist of temporary defoliation (loss of leaf cover) and damage (cracking or snapping of branches). Concern generally is raised where impacts to heritage or locally significant values (i.e. street trees) are observable. However, flying-foxes often adjust their core roosting locations within permanent roosts. Within intact forest, damage to vegetation opens the canopy, and initiates a natural cycle of vegetation regeneration in the impacted area (SEQ Catchments 2012). In small remnant vegetation patches with edge effects, damage to vegetation caused by flying-fox activity may increase the impact of invasive weeds within the site (particularly vines) (SEQ Catchments 2012).

From observations of historical flying-fox roosts which have been abandoned disturbed areas of native vegetation often naturally regenerate, allowing for cycling of the vegetation community back to a typical mature status.

Opportunities to manage these impacts on heritage or locally significant trees include; tree trimming, sprinkler systems, shifting of roosts and other novel deterrent devices (odour, noise or light emitters).

4.7 Historic Management of Flying-fox Roosts

4.7.1 Dispersal of Flying-fox Roosts

Flying-fox roost dispersal, which is the permanent exclusion of flying-foxes near human settlements, is a management tool utilised to mitigate human-wildlife conflict (Roberts et al. 2021).

In their review of 48 dispersal attempts at flying-fox roosts across Australia, Roberts et al. (2021), found that in 88% of cases alternative roosts formed within 1km of the original roost site following management actions, transferring conflict to alternative residents. Of the 48 roost dispersal attempts only 23% were considered successful, generally after expensive destruction of roost vegetation.

Costs were poorly documented; however, no roost attempt costing less than \$250,000 was successful. The authors of this review paper concluded the following:

- Roost dispersal is a high-risk, high-cost tool for mitigating human–wildlife conflict;
- In situ management strategies and tools should be developed;
- Evidence-based information on management options should be made available to stakeholders via a nationally curated resource library; and
- Research is required on the impacts of roost management practices on flying-foxes.

Maranoa Regional Council has previously attempted roost dispersal attempts in Surat in an attempt to provide enhanced community amenity outcomes in association with the occurrence of a significant little red flying-fox roost. Attempts included the use of the following mechanisms to attempt to shift the roost:

- Smogging / fogging using mechanical mobile equipment, in and around the roosting area on the Balonne River
- Smogging / fogging as well as gas guns noise (gas noise guns) and other practical noise
- Vegetation removal works
- The flying of eagle kites
- Deployment of a high-pitched sonar noise system
- Deployment of strobe lights

Roost dispersal attempts were ultimately unsuccessful in shifting or dispersing the roost and attempts were discontinued after three months.

5 Maranoa Roost History and Community Impacts

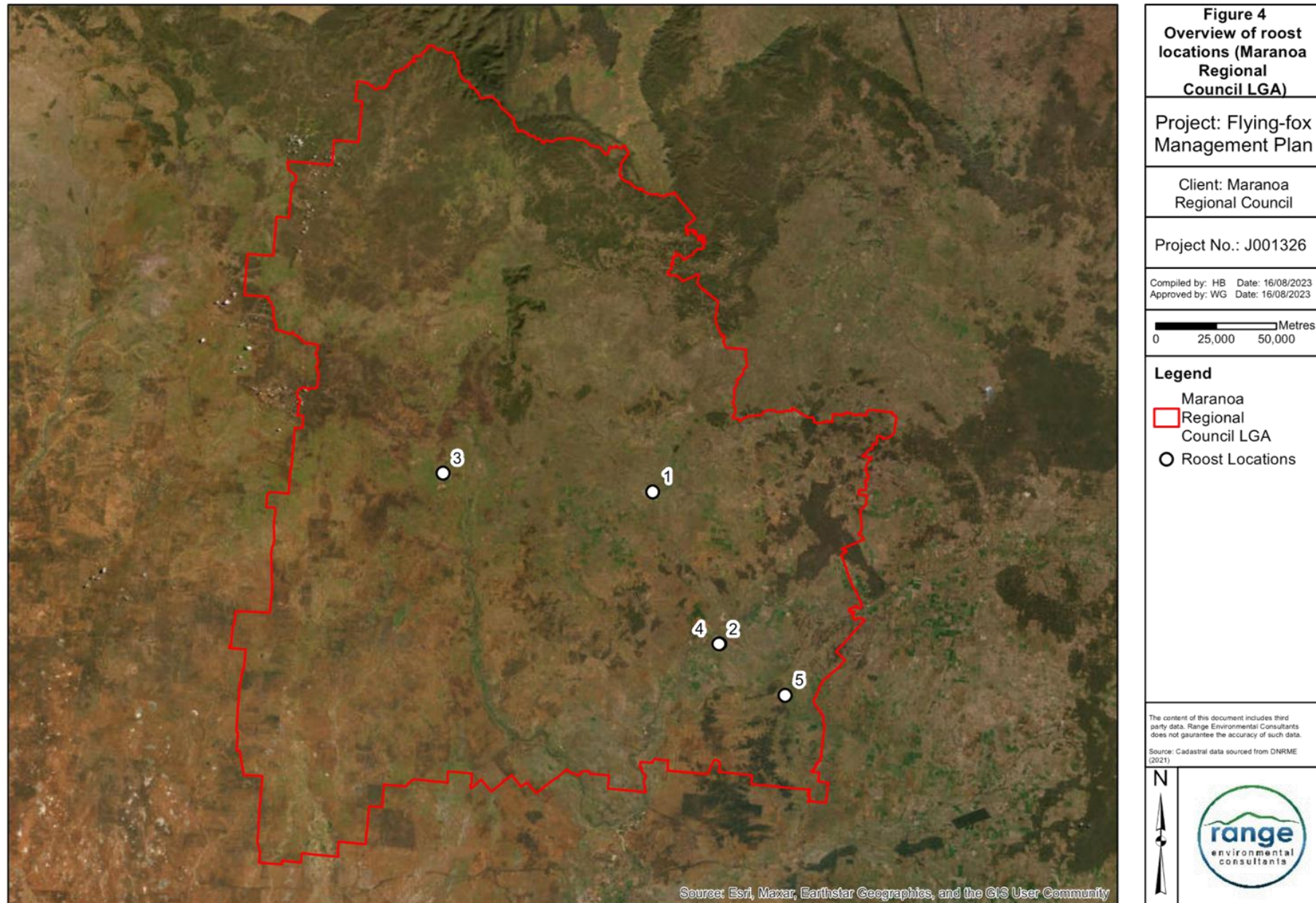
5.1 Overview of Roost History

A total of three (3) flying-fox roosts have previously been recorded within the MRC region. Roost locations have been determined through a combination of access to the National Flying-fox monitoring viewer, Council records and Department of Environment and Science records.

The extent of known current and historical roosts is provided in Figure 4 and tabulated in Table 2. Individual roost maps for the region's roosts are provided at Appendix B.

Table 2 Known roost locations across the region

Maranoa Roost number	Roost	CSIRO NFFMV identification number	Classification	BFF	GHFF	LRFF
Known active Roosts						
1	Roma	295	Seasonal	Limited data	Limited data	✓
2/4	Surat (Balonne River)	277/1004	Seasonal	Limited data	Limited data	✓
3	Mitchell	Unknown	Seasonal	Limited data	Limited data	✓
Additional roost – limited information available						
5	Surat Parknook	1129	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	✓



5.2 Roosts

5.2.1 Roma (Roost 295)

Flying-foxes have been consistently recorded utilising this site back to at least 2014, with the earliest record dating back to 2003. Little-red flying-foxes are the only recorded species to be locally present at this roost. Sited along Bungil Creek and straddling Council controlled land and private land the Roma Roost has potential to be a source of long term human/wildlife conflict. However, due to adequate separation between residential dwellings (approximately >300m at the closest extent) and commercial properties this roost is considered low conflict and has not historically been the cause for any contention. In late October 2022, little-red flying-foxes began feeding in trees behind 'The Big Rig', a tourist and educational facility in Roma, for approximately a week. During this time there were some concerns regarding the smell of flying-foxes and the impact this may have on facility operations.

As the roost is largely located on Walkabout Park, Council continue to maintain the Council managed land by mowing the areas away from the roost and leaving an unmown buffer around the roost trees to avoid human disturbance, particularly during summer. Flying-foxes have continued to roost at this site in various extents/locations. A permanent source of water is available at this roost in association with Bungil Creek.



Photograph 1 Roma Roost viewed from south of roost extent

5.2.2 Surat (Balonne River) (Roost 277/1004)

Flying-foxes were recorded occupying this site located along the banks of the Balonne River back to at least 2013. This roost is recorded as a seasonal Little Red flying-fox roost, with no recorded numbers of Black and Grey-headed flying-

foxes. This roost is considered to be high-conflict, due to the significant size of the roost, the tendency for flying-foxes to forage on urban feed trees, the proximity between where flying-foxes are roosting and the uptake for the town's water supply and concerns about general impacts to town amenity during periods of flying-fox influxes. Previous efforts have been employed to attempt dispersal of flying-foxes, with limited success. Attempts included the use of the following mechanisms to attempt to shift the roost:

- Smogging / fogging using mechanical mobile equipment, in and around the roosting area on the Balonne River
- Smogging / fogging as well as gas guns noise (gas noise guns) and other practical noise
- Vegetation removal works
- The flying of eagle kites
- Deployment of a high-pitched sonar noise system
- Deployment of strobe lights

Roost dispersal attempts were ultimately unsuccessful in shifting or dispersing the roost and attempts were discontinued after three months.



Photograph 2 Surat Roost viewed from west of roost extent

5.2.3 Mitchell

There is no official record of a flying-fox in the town of Mitchell. However, local knowledge has confirmed that for several decades, each year, flying-foxes return along the Maranoa River behind the Mitchell Racecourse. This roost is

understood to have limited potential for conflict due to the large separation between the roost and town facilities and residents.



Photograph 3 Mitchell Roost viewed from east of roost extent

5.2.4 Surat Parknook (Roost 1129)

Range Environmental is aware of a little red flying-fox roost located on private property approximately 35 kilometres southeast from Surat. Vegetation at this roost is mapped as Regional Ecosystems (RE) 11.9.5 *Acacia harpophylla* and/or *Casuarina cristata* open forest to woodland on fine-grained sedimentary rocks and 11.7.1 *Acacia harpophylla* and/or *Casuarina cristata* and *Eucalyptus thozetiana* or *E. microcarpa* woodland on lower scarp slopes on Cainozoic lateritic duricrust. RE 11.7.1 mapped areas can also be associated with areas of semi evergreen vine thicket.

Further assessment of this roost location is proposed to be undertaken (where access is available) in association with regional roost monitoring works.

6 Conservation of Flying-fox Populations

6.1 Whole of LGA Management Approach

Maranoa Regional Council supports a regional approach to management of flying-fox roosts to provide strategic, long-term and ecologically sustainable management of flying-fox roosts and populations throughout their range. Council will provide education and leadership on flying-fox roost conflict management, with this regional flying-fox management plan providing a framework for equitable, evidence based and environmentally responsible management.

6.2 Protection of Viable Flying-fox Roost Locations

Council supports an approach which minimises management of flying-fox roosts unless a clearly unacceptable public impact can be demonstrated. Where significant impacts to sensitive receptors can be demonstrated and the roost is on Council managed land, Council will provide a tailored management strategy to manage and reduce conflict at the site. Council is supportive of a long-term approach which seeks to create greater separation between large, disruptive flying-fox roosts and the community. Where Council seeks to undertake management actions of roosts this will be conducted in a strategic manner informed by best practice advice, with due regard for efficient use of available funds and where a genuine and realistic outcome which reduces community conflict, impacts or provides public health benefits is likely to be achieved.

Cost sharing agreements are to be sought with the State Government (including where available through grant programs) to support provision of management actions in identified roosts where these are to be undertaken.

6.3 Identification and Establishment of Alternative Long-term Flying-fox Roost Locations

Council supports identification, rehabilitation and establishment of low-conflict, long-term flying-fox roost locations throughout the region. Long-term roost locations are preferred on Council or State managed lands to ensure effective, long-term sustainable management of roosts. Long-term roosting locations may also be supported on high-conservation value properties which are registered with Council or the Department of Environment and Science (such as properties with voluntary conservation agreements, Nature Refuges or Special Wildlife Reserves). Large rural properties which contain flying-fox roosts may also be identified at a regional level as low-conflict and desirable for long term retention. Low-conflict locations generally will have the following characteristics:

- No sensitive receptors are located within 150 metres of the roost;
- The site zoning is inconsistent with further intensification of residential or other sensitive land uses;
- The site provides, or is able to provide a permanent water source for flying-foxes; and
- The site supports or is able to support a predominantly native vegetation community.

6.4 Protection and Restoration of Flying-fox Foraging Habitats

Protection and restoration of foraging habitats for flying-foxes is supported by Council as it provides protection of habitats for a range of additional federal, state and local conservation significant species across the region.

6.5 Support for Additional Research

Council supports provision of additional research to fill knowledge gaps in flying-fox ecology, roost choice behaviours and management strategies. Council will seek to partner with the Department of Environment and Science, neighbouring Local Governments, industry and research organisations to facilitate region-based research opportunities. Research topics of high interest to Council include the following:

REGIONAL FLYING-FOX MANAGEMENT PLAN

Maranoa Regional Council

- GPS tracking research, focusing on the following study areas;
 - Additional roost locations
 - Regional population dynamics
 - Foraging patterns
- Roost impact mitigation and ongoing management measures;
- Roost habitat characteristics;
- Methodologies for shifting of flying-fox roosts, including through the use of aerial drones and other emerging technologies;
- Heat stress monitoring and assessments, determining at-risk roost locations; and
- Detailed further assessment and modelling of long-term, low-conflict alternative roost locations.

7 Community Engagement

7.1 Methods

Range Environmental, in partnership with Council has undertaken the following community engagement actions at the time of report preparation:

- Draft report consultation with Councillors and Officers (conducted during preparation of SOMI and FFMP).

Following preparation of this draft plan it is intended that this plan will be published on Council's 'Have Your Say Maranoa' platform for community feedback.

7.2 Initial Councillor Consultation

In preparation of the FFMP, Range Environmental has engaged with MRC councillors to discuss impacts of flying-foxes in the region.

Feedback from Council highlighted a long-term desire to 'shift' flying-foxes from the township of Surat (an area of high-conflict) to a low-conflict area further down the river. The roosts at Roma and Mitchell currently are understood to have limited community conflict due to the separation from residential dwellings and businesses and the flying-foxes. The highest levels of conflict between residents and flying-foxes is understood to be related to smell, noise, damage to property and local perception of impacts to water quality.

7.3 Management of Flying Fox Roosts Policy

Council has not previously developed an endorsed 'Management of Flying-Fox Roosts' Policy or Flying-Fox Management Plan which outlined the management actions that Council may undertake to reduce the impact of flying-fox roosts in the Maranoa region. It is anticipated that this Flying-Fox Management Plan will inform a subsequent Policy document for the management of flying-fox roosts.

8 Statement of Management Intent

Council's approach to human / flying-fox conflict management is undertaken in a holistic and strategic approach and is not limited to any one individual management action. The suite of conflict and impact management approaches includes:

- Ongoing monitoring of flying-fox roosts
- Roost specific management actions
- The identification and establishment of alternate, long-term, low-conflict roost locations
- Community education and engagement
- The investigation and implementation of preferred foraging tree replacement programs
- The investigation and implementation of preferred research programs

8.1 Flying-foxes on Council Managed Lands

Council's primary responsibility is the management of flying-fox roosts on Council managed lands. This can include state owned land, managed by Council as trustee.

Works are to be undertaken in a manner consistent with the following:

- Code of Practice – Low impact activities affecting flying-fox roosts (DES)
- Code of Practice – Ecologically sustainable management of flying-fox roost (DES)
- Flying-fox Roost Management Guideline (DES)
- Any relevant guidance under the EPBC Act 1999 in relation to management of Grey-headed flying-fox roosts

Council's as-of-right authority allows for management of roosts within Urban Flying-fox Management Areas (UFFMA) within the region. Where Council undertakes management of roosts outside of the UFFMA a Flying-fox Roost Management Plan (FFRMP) shall be developed and approved by the State prior to commencement of works. Roosts within and outside the UFFMA are to be managed in a manner consistent with Council's approach to roost management (section 8.3). Council will not extend their as-of-right authority to roosts that Council does not manage and are wholly on private or State managed lands.

8.2 Flying-foxes on Private, State or Commonwealth Managed Lands

Council will not undertake vegetation management, dispersal or significant roost destruction activities on private lands. Council may provide advice and assistance to landowners and residents about flying fox ecology (education), buffer management options and asset protection measures. Where a roost is sited over private and Council lands Council will seek to lead management of the roost and may assist with weed management and minor vegetation works on private lands where a clear community benefit is able to be demonstrated.

Council may seek to assist landowners in obtaining a FFRMP where they seek to obtain one. Council may also support landowners through the following:

- Provision of detailed advice on the vegetation composition of their properties (native/exotic species) and options for management
- Opportunities for wildlife conservation (Land for Wildlife)
- Advice on flying-fox ecology and roost information

- Assistance to landowners in developing an implementation strategy (plan) for low impact activities within the roost, under the DES Code of practice - Low impact activities affecting flying-fox roosts

Where relevant, Council will assess all assessable development at a roost site, or adjacent to a roost site for impacts to a 'Matter of State Environment Significance (MSES) - Wildlife Habitat' value and impacts to local Planning Scheme Overlays.

8.3 Approach to Colony Management on Council Managed Land (Management Actions)

Council will implement a staged approach to conflict management where it identifies a clearly unacceptable impact to community health, wellbeing, public amenity or environmental values. Consideration of what constitutes a clearly unacceptable impacts to community health, wellbeing, public amenity or environmental values is assessed on a case-by-case basis by Council Officers however the following criteria broadly describe the parameters which are considered in this deliberation:

- Is the roost occurrence known or likely to be resulting in any direct public health impacts (such as impacts to water quality which exceed permitted levels of the Queensland Water Quality Guidelines);
- Is the roost occurrence known or likely to be resulting in a realised exposure to flying-fox associated diseases such as ABLV or Hendra virus;
- The level that the roost occurrence is significantly impeding nearby residents' liveability and use of property (i.e. are noise levels emitted from the roost exceeding reasonable internal building noise criteria);
- The level that the roost occurrence is significantly impacting or degrading heritage or other cultural environmental values.
- Degradation of native vegetation values in itself is unlikely to be a sufficient justification for the shifting or dispersal of a flying-fox roost. It is understood that flying-fox roosts have historically naturally shifted as vegetation is degraded and no longer provides the preferred structure and microclimate dynamics.

Council will first undertake community engagement actions to understand impacts to residents, sensitive receptors and any other impacted parties. Council will implement the following staged approach where management of a roost is undertaken in accordance with the relevant code of practice (Figure 5).

See sections 8.4.3, 8.4.4 and 8.4.5 for further detail on the tiers of vegetation management. These direct roost management approaches are to be utilised in conjunction with additional flying-fox management techniques such as community education, establishment of alternate roost habitats.

REGIONAL FLYING-FOX MANAGEMENT PLAN

Maranoa Regional Council



Figure 5 Staged management approach to flying-fox roost management

8.4 Considerations for Roost Management Approach

Council will consider the management of individual roosts in a balanced manner to ensure equitable and responsible governance is provided for the region. Council will consider the following factors when determining a management approach:

- Whether a roost is permanently occupied or seasonal
- The period of occupancy, and roost dynamics (do populations naturally fluctuate significantly in size, extent or location)
- The proximity of sensitive receptors/sites
- The level of impacts to adjacent sensitive receptors/sites
- The probability of success in providing enhanced health, amenity and environmental outcomes as a result of the management actions (i.e. addressing community concerns)
- Regulatory factors (including vegetation management legislation)
- The status of the roost (Nationally significant and/or maternity roost)
- The cost of management actions, and opportunities to receive assistance with funding from the State Government

Attempts at shifting will only occur when suitable, alternative roost locations are established with a sufficient structure and microclimate. Following the establishment of alternative roosting sites, any attempts to shift a roost may occur to increase distance between flying-foxes roosts and areas of high-conflict.

Reactive dispersal attempts of a flying-fox roosts typically are discouraged due to the low likelihood of management success, potential for extreme long-term costs and risk of exacerbating impacts. A successful roost attempt is likely to cost greater than \$250,000 and is unlikely to provide a satisfactory long-term outcome without correct long-term planning and implementation.

8.4.1 Monitoring

Council intends to undertake regular (quarterly) monitoring of several known roosts across the region. Roosts which are wholly on private land, and which are unable to be accessed or viewed publicly are not monitored unless landholder consent is provided to access and monitor. Council is supportive of extending monitoring of roosts to additional roosts across the region and encourages residents to contact Council to notify of any unrecorded roosts.

Council intends to monitor roosts to gain and maintain an understanding of roost dynamics, local breeding observations and potential impacts to the community which allows for informed management decisions to be made. As more roosts are recorded across the region these are to be added to the existing quarterly monitoring schedule.

Data collected by Council officers is provided to the State Government and recorded by the National Flying-Fox Monitoring Viewer.

8.4.2 Engagement with impacted parties (Landholders)

Council will seek to respond and engage proactively with landowners and residents concerned about flying-foxes. Council will share information on flying-fox ecology, roosts and management with concerned parties. Questions or concerns regarding human health and flying-foxes will be referred to Queensland Health and Biosecurity Queensland where detailed advice is sought.

Council will provide advice to landowners and residents on options they may take to mitigate impacts of nearby flying-fox roosts or individual flying-foxes. Options for residents to consider include fruit tree netting, car and vehicle covers,

building treatments (glazing improvements), air conditioning, bringing the washing in at night, trimming of trees, clearing of roofs and water tanks and landscaping which does not attract or support flying-fox roosting behaviour.

8.4.3 Minor vegetation management (Weed management)

Minor vegetation management may occur to modify edges of roosts or to increase separation between roosts and sensitive receptors. Minor vegetation management is limited to non-native vegetation within the understory layers and trimming of roost trees (less than 10% of canopy). Minor vegetation management is unlikely to require State or Commonwealth approval. Examples of works include:

- Control of non-native understorey species (e.g. slashing or spraying);
- Removal and disposal of non-native tree saplings; and
- Minor trimming of native and non-native roost trees (in accordance with low-impact guidelines).

Minor vegetation management works are to be designed to reduce densities of flying-foxes in proximity to sensitive receptors or to modify understory vegetation to minimise suitable roost habitat features in buffer areas. Flying-fox roosts are highly sensitive and measures will be undertaken to avoid significant reduction in roosting habitat where no suitable replacement habitat is available as this may splinter roosts. This may include completing weed management works over a staged period, allowing for establishment of alternative native roosting habitat within areas with greater separation from sensitive receptors. Impacts to microclimates in respect to heat-stress management should also be considered when planning works, with significant modification of understory vegetation potentially increasing risk of heat stress within roosts.

8.4.4 Moderate vegetation management

Council may conduct moderate vegetation management works to deliberately modify roost environments to create buffers or areas which support lower densities of flying-foxes in proximity to sensitive receptors. Moderate vegetation management actions include removal of non-native vegetation (all stratum) and removal of native understory vegetation. Moderate vegetation management may require approval and conditions set by either the State or Commonwealth Governments depending on the extent of works. Examples of works include:

- Removal of portions of understorey vegetation (native/non-native);
- Removal of saplings (native/non-native);
- Removal of canopy tree species (non-native); and
- Major trimming of native and non-native roost trees.

Moderate vegetation management actions are likely to impact roosting habitats within sites and are to be undertaken in a strategic manner, minimising impacts to vegetation values which provide ancillary environmental benefits such as creek bank stabilisation. At this level of works potential for unintended impacts is readily present and roosts may splinter or change location. Consideration of potential heat stress impacts from vegetation removal is recommended to be made at this stage of works.

8.4.5 Major vegetation management

Major vegetation management may occur to significantly modify roost extent and to create cleared buffers in proximity to sensitive receptors. This may also include 'shifting' of flying-fox roosts to a preferred roost extent location. Major vegetation management actions include removal of native and non-native vegetation over all strata. These works do not have the objective of destroying a roost and are predominately in relation to creating cleared buffers, allowing for shifting of roosts to achieve greater separation distances. Major vegetation management may require approval and conditions set by either the State or Commonwealth Governments. Examples of works include:

- Removal of all understory vegetation (native/non-native);

- Removal of saplings (native/non-native);
- Removal of canopy tree species (native/non-native); and
- Pollarding or major trimming of native and non-native roost trees.

Following major vegetation works, actions are to be undertaken to establish a native understory cover inconsistent with flying-fox roosting (such as a native grassland or low height shrub layer).

Major vegetation works are likely to result in high levels of disturbance to flying-foxes, potentially resulting in shifting or long-term changes to roost population and dynamics. At this level of on-ground works significant impacts to a roost microclimate are likely, with potential heat stress event impacts.

Site-specific factors may result in significant limitations to implementation of these works when regulatory, environmental or riverine clearing restrictions limit clearing within State regulated areas (i.e. remnant vegetation).

8.5 Timing of Vegetation Management Works

8.5.1 Requirements of Codes of practice

Management action works within roosts conducted under the DES code of practices may occur at any time of the year. However, the person in charge must consider avoiding the activities where these may negatively impact on the breeding or survivability of the species.

Council will generally not conduct vegetation management works within the roost footprint at the following times:

- when females are in the late stages of pregnancy or there are dependant young (e.g. crèched young, pups) that cannot sustain independent flight
- during or immediately after climatic extremes, or weather events that may cause food shortages, such as periods of unusually high temperatures or humidity, cyclones, fires or during a declared drought

Council gives due consideration of the likely and potential impacts of works and will ensure works are undertaken in a manner which minimises potential to negatively impact the conservation of flying-fox species which are listed as threatened wildlife under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*.

Officers should familiarise themselves with the requirements of the codes of practice in relation to the prescribed methods for management actions and prescribed methods for low impact activities.

8.6 Creation of Alternative, Low Conflict Roosting Habitats

Council supports the establishment or expansion of alternative roosting sites to encourage flying-foxes to camp in areas that will not affect residents. Council will investigate opportunities to integrate roost rehabilitation and establishment actions at suitable locations in a strategic and balanced manner.

While subject to previous research no single factor has been determined to conclusively draw flying-foxes to roost locations. Establishment of new roost sites accordingly is a challenging and potentially frustrating exercise for land managers. Where Council seeks to establish or improve potential roost locations this will be conducted in a manner which allows for a suite of potential biodiversity outcomes. Additionally, Council will seek to protect existing low-conflict roosts, and enhance and expand roost locations which are considered to be viable in the long-term.

8.6.1 Criteria for low-conflict roost areas

Suitable features which may support the establishment of roosting habitat include the following:

- Be sited to adjoin a waterway or permanent water feature.

- Be within a vegetated area (or is able to be revegetated) of sufficient size to allow the roost population to expand and contract, and to shift around the site as vegetation is structurally degraded and naturally regenerated
- Appropriate vegetation type and height, generally with a canopy of at least 20m, and a mid-dense to dense understory
 - Where revegetation of an area is proposed, alignment with the pre-clear regional ecosystem is broadly recommended. Use of 'wetter' species may also support establishment of a more typical flying-fox roost, noting that roosts can occur over a broad range of habitat types. Consideration of planting of food trees for flying-foxes within these roosts is also recommended.
- Be proximal to food resources (i.e. national parks or large intact forests)
- Maintain appropriate separation from sensitive receptors (the closest possible extent of roost area should not extend closer than 150m from a sensitive receptor), and should ideally be in an open space, environmental management, rural or in some cases large lot rural-residential zoned precincts.

Roosts within conservation managed private properties (i.e. nature refuges, special wildlife reserves, voluntary conservation agreements (covenants) or land for wildlife) are likely to be highly compatible with the long-term management intent. Council will support the long-term management of these roosts for conservation purposes and will investigate opportunities to assist landowners with providing a long-term management framework. Council may also support requests for funding of flying-fox conservation activities through the State's grant funding programs where these are available.

8.6.2 Preliminary assessment of alternate roost locations

As a recommendation of this plan two (2) potential alternative roost locations are proposed to be established to the west of Surat as preferred long-term roosting locations.

A preliminary assessment of Council-owned or managed lands that may contain suitable areas for establishment of alternative low-conflict roosting habitat was conducted. This assessment identifies potential areas for integration into Council land management programs, potentially providing sources of alternate low-conflict roosting habitat for flying-fox populations. Five (5) roost locations were investigated for their suitability as a flying-fox roost near the township of Surat. These potential roost locations were assessed for their suitability, with results shown below in Table 3 and locations shown in Figure 6.

Table 3 Table of alternate roost suitability

	Roost Location				
	1 – current roost extent	2	3	4	5
Does roost location reduce conflict?	No	Partially (roost would be downstream (below weir) of town water supply)	Yes (roost would be downstream (below weir) of town water supply)	Yes (roost would be downstream (below weir) of town water supply)	Yes (roost would remain upstream of town water supply)
Approximate distance from current roost extent?	0 m	700 m	1.4 km	1.6 km	1.7 km

REGIONAL FLYING-FOX MANAGEMENT PLAN

Maranoa Regional Council

Potential for flying-foxes to be shifted?	Current roost extent	Possible	Lower likelihood	Lower likelihood	Lower likelihood
Flood immunity/protection for revegetation works?	Some (some areas are not protected)	Some (some areas are not protected)	Some (some areas are not protected)	Some (some areas are not protected)	Low immunity
Accessible?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Limited	Yes
Council owned or managed land?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Permanent water source?	Yes	Yes	Limited – during drought, pockets of narrow and shallow water remain	Limited – during drought, pockets of narrow and shallow water remain	Yes
Existing canopy vegetation?	Yes	Yes	Some – requires enhancement	Some – requires enhancement	Some – requires enhancement
Existing dense midstory vegetation?	Yes	No – requires establishment	No – requires establishment	No – requires establishment	Potentially some – requires establishment
Area of enhancement works?	N/A	Up to 3.5 ha (Both sides of waterway)	0.6-1 ha (northern side of waterway)	Up to 1.8 ha (northern side of waterway)	Up to 8 ha (both side of waterway)

Following this analysis, it is recommended that alternate roost location 2 be prioritised for roost habitat embellishment works on the basis that a future potential roost shifting action would have the highest probability of success at this location. It is acknowledged that while alternate roost location 2 reduces human-wildlife conflict, it will not completely remove conflict, with the alternate roost location achieving a 700m shift from its current location.

It is recommended that alternate roost location 3 is rehabilitated concurrently with alternate roost location 2. By establishing two alternate roost locations with enhanced flying-fox habitat, the option would be available to Council at a future stage to attempt a secondary shifting action achieving a 1.4km shift in the roost location.

8.6.3 Associated recommendations

That Council investigate opportunities to deliver the following identified actions:

- Council undertake roost habitat embellishment works generally in accordance with identified alternate roost locations 2 and 3, as per Figure 6. Council will explore all opportunities for cost sharing arrangements with the Queensland Government under the Local Government Flying-fox Management Grants program.
- Council continues lobbying the Queensland Department of Environment and Science and Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) to expand and fund research into assessment of techniques to effectively nudge or shift problematic flying-fox roosts, including through the use of drones.



8.7 Ongoing Community Education

Ongoing community education on flying-fox ecology is likely to lead to greater long-term acceptance of the role of flying-foxes within healthy ecosystems. Typical community education on flying-foxes has been limited to targeted letter box drops around high-conflict roost locations.

The following community education strategies present opportunities to achieve enhanced community environmental awareness:

- Proactive newsletter or roost status letter updates to nearby residents during periods of high occupancy, discussing local flowering species or breeding patterns
- Engagement with local schools and the broader community to provide informative, targeted education on flying-foxes. This could be through print resources or integrating with relevant classes such as environment, geography and biology
- Broad active engagement including community seminars, workshops and information stalls at local markets and events
- Information workshops for conservation landowners across the region to build knowledge among landowners on flying fox habitats and foraging resources (engagement with conservation partners)
- Media engagement during large influxes, reinforcing messaging on the temporal nature of large congregations and the ecological reasons for visiting the region (large amounts of foraging resources).
 - This could be facilitated through print media, radio and television interviews or short videos on various platforms.

8.8 Foraging Tree Replacement Works

A range of historically planted urban shade amenity and street trees are understood to be foraging sources across the Surat, Roma and Mitchell townships. In particular, in the township of Surat, Cadaghi (*Corymbia torelliana*) is understood to be a preferred foraging tree during influxes of little red flying-foxes.

Council will seek to investigate opportunities for a potential long-term tree replacement program to assist in removal of trees which may be attracting flying-foxes to forage within the town area.

8.9 Council Support for Research

Support for ongoing research into flying-fox ecology by scientific research institutions (Universities and CSIRO) continues to enhance land managers' understanding of flying-fox roost dynamics, locations and impacts across the region. Where possible Council will seek to support research projects which align with Council's strategic priorities through in-kind and grant support (where available). Priority research items to support enactment of recommendations of the plan are identified in section 6.5 of this FFMP.

9 Response to Heat Stress Events

9.1 Impacts of Heat Stress Events

As temperatures exceed 38°C and approach 42°C flying-foxes suffer extreme impacts to their health and survival. In the local context, Black and Grey-headed flying-foxes are more likely to be impacted by periods of extreme hot weather, with Little Red flying-foxes often displaying greater tolerance.

As temperatures approach and exceed these levels flying-foxes ability to thermoregulate themselves diminish. Individuals will display cooling behaviours including wing fanning, clustering, salivating and panting behaviour. As the temperature rises flying-foxes can begin clustering at the base of large trees (where available) as they attempt to cool themselves, potentially leading to decreased cooling as they form dense clumps. Heat stress mortalities may occur prior to flying-foxes reaching the final stage symptoms of heat-stress.

Flying-fox heat stress events have occurred across the Region over the preceding 10 years and are expected to continue. Where Council conducts roost management actions these will not be undertaken during extended periods of high temperatures (exceeding 36° or above). Low impact works (i.e. mowing or regular weeding) may also be temporarily suspended during these periods to reduce disturbance to stressed animals.

9.2 Approach by Council

Council will seek to provide leadership during flying-fox heat stress events to facilitate humane care of flying-foxes in distress by experienced wildlife carers, and to ensure that public amenity is maintained during these periods.

Council has an established procedure for management of flying-fox heat stress events, hereafter the 'heat event response plan'. As part of the heat event response plan the following key stages of management are identified:

1. Disaster Management and/or Bureau of Meteorology alerts for high fire risk and/or high temperature
2. Communications with relevant stakeholders to advise of upcoming potential for heat stress events
3. Preparation of resources at Council depots
4. Heat event - management of event in collaboration with wildlife carers and landowners
 - a. Council's role during these events is limited to facilitating site access, arranging access to water supplies (where available) and managing stakeholder interactions (neighbours, landowner and wildlife carers).
 - b. Council Officers shall not handle, touch or treat live flying-foxes. Under the direct supervision and direction of a suitably qualified and experienced wildlife carer Council Officers may support immediate response (spraying or misting of flying-foxes) utilising Council spray assets.
 - c. Treatment of flying-foxes is to be undertaken by vaccinated wildlife carers. Where a suitably qualified and experienced Council representative is present technical assistance in determining the stage of heat stress may be provided. Council Officers are not responsible for determining the appropriate stage for treatment of flying-foxes.

Noting the potential significant overlap between high-risk bushfire events and flying-fox heat stress events Council is unable to guarantee the supply of water transport and spray units. In the first instance Council's immediate priority is to respond to imminent threats to life and property posed by bushfire events.

1. Clean up and disposal of deceased flying-foxes
2. Post event review by Responsible Officers

9.3 Liaison with Wildlife Carers

During heat stress events Council will liaise with wildlife carers to facilitate access to impacted roosts for immediate treatment and care of impacted flying-foxes. Where a roost is located on private land Council will seek permission from the landowner for Council staff and wildlife carers to access the property and provide support.

Council will provide water resources to assist with care where available, noting that heat stress events may coincide with high-risk bushfire weather.

9.4 Waste Disposal

During heat stress events Council will seek to isolate deceased or heat-impacted flying-foxes from publicly accessible areas to minimise potential for community interaction with stressed flying-foxes.

Following completion of a heat stress event Council will seek to undertake removal of deceased flying-foxes. Council will seek to assist impacted landowners and landowners with flying-fox roosts on their properties, however priority for immediate clean-up will be Council managed lands.

Where landowners provide consent to access for management of heat stress events Council will seek to assist within clean-up of deceased flying foxes.

10 Evaluation and Review

The regional Flying-fox Management Plan (FFMP) establishes a framework for long-term, holistic management of roosts in a whole-of-region context. The FFMP is informed by Council Policy and is a tool to assist decision makers make informed decisions on flying-fox roost management opportunities and constraints.

Council shall undertake regular review of regional flying-fox management programs at least once every five (5) years. In completing this evaluation and review Council is to review and update the following components:

- Relevant ecological, behavioural and social information provided within this plan
 - A review of significant research outcomes in relation to flying-fox management practices is recommended to be undertaken
- Roost location information, and updates to roost extent mapping
 - Where additional roosts are identified, these are to be incorporated into this plan to ensure a whole-of-region approach to management is maintained
- A review of the management framework for flying-fox roosts throughout the region. The review should ensure the following outcomes are being achieved:
 - Flying-fox management is undertaken in a considered, well-planned, long-term approach
 - Management intents are clearly identified for roosts across the region
 - Management of roosts maintains a broad level of community support
 - Management frameworks provide for maintenance and improvement of public safety, amenity and critical infrastructure
 - Actions undertaken by Council support the effective long-term conservation of flying-foxes at a state-wide level
 - That the plan be consistent with guidance from the Department of Environment and Science Flying-fox Roost Management Guideline, and complies with relevant codes of practice

11 Key Recommendations

In preparing this regional FFMP recommendations have been developed to assist in prioritising short-medium and long-term management actions. Council may undertake delivery of the identified actions where resources are available and will seek to facilitate cost sharing arrangements with the State, research partners and industry where possible to deliver the recommendations of the FFMP.

11.1 Short to Medium-term Recommendations

Short to medium-term actions are actions identified as priority works for completion or scheduling within 1-3 years of endorsing this plan. Priorities for individual recommendations are likely to alter as roost dynamics shift on a seasonal basis with on-ground works for conflict mitigation (reactive measures) prioritised.

Monitoring

- Council is to implement a quarterly monitoring roster for known roosts across the region.

Education

- The publishing of this flying-fox management plan on Council's website with a webpage accessible with basic information on Council's approach to flying-fox management.
- The preparation of a management action summary document detailing the suite of proposed measures to be implemented to manage flying-foxes and their impacts on the community in Surat.
- Flyer drops to residents adjacent to major roosts during periods of significant population increases at urban roost locations.

Alternative long-term low-conflict roost habitats

- The preparation of an alternate roost habitat establishment management plan document to guide the establishment of alternate roost habitat in Surat.
- The preparation of a grant application to the Queensland Government for the establishment of two (2) alternative low-conflict roost sites to the west of Surat, in accordance with the below.
 - Council undertake roost habitat embellishment works generally in accordance identified alternate roost locations 2 and 3, as per Figure 6 of this plan.
 - Council will explore all opportunities for cost sharing arrangements with the Queensland Government under the Local Government Flying-fox Management Grants program.

Conflict Management

- The investigation of a preferred foraging tree replacement program for impacted townships.

Research

- Support the delivery of a regional or bioregion-based flying-fox roost mapping program through use of GPS tracking collars.
 - Identification of adjacent partner Councils is recommended to allow pooling of resources and sharing of research outcomes.
 - The Queensland Government flying-fox roost management grants may support delivery of these project works.

11.2 Long-term Recommendations

Long-term recommendations are actions identified to be undertaken over an extended period of time (1-5 years) to provide long-term management outcomes. Identified actions are likely to be delivered in association with regional delivery of additional conservation and operational programs

Conflict Management

- Establish and maintain a level of regular written and oral communication with residents adjacent to flying-fox roosts under Council management, providing updates on any roost management actions and seasonal influxes.
- Subject to further investigation, the implementation of a preferred foraging tree replacement program for impacted townships.

Education

- Partner with local universities and schools to identify opportunities to provide environmental education outcomes, reinforcing the key ecological function of flying-foxes.

Alternative long-term low-conflict roost habitats

- Subject to the proposed grant funding application to the Queensland Government, implement alternate roost habitat establishment works at identified sites.
- Following the establishment of suitable alternative roosting sites (i.e. through establishment or enhancement), with the correct vegetation composition and structure, the use of shifting methods will be attempted to shift flying-foxes in Surat from their current roosting location to the enhanced alternate roost habitat sites.

Research

- Support for research for further investigation of methodologies for shifting of flying-fox roosts, including through the use of aerial drones and other emerging technologies.
- Support delivery of bioregion scale (whole of SEQ) research programs through in-kind support, with priority in supporting the following research priorities:
 - The creation of suitable alternative roost habitat areas
 - Foraging habitat (including mapping of seasonal habitat areas)
 - Habitat impact assessment
 - Roost management and conflict mitigation actions
 - Education programs and stakeholder engagement approaches

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Westcott, D Caley, P Heersink, D & McKewown, A 2018) 'A state-space modelling approach to wildlife monitoring with application to flying-fox abundance', *Scientific reports*, vol. 8, no. 1, pp. 1–9.

12.1 Further information and resources

Roost Management - codes of practice and guidelines

Department of Environment and Science 2020, *Code of Practice Ecologically sustainable management of flying-fox roosts Nature Conservation Act 1992*, Queensland Department of Environment and Science, Brisbane.

Department of Environment and Science 2020¹, *Code of Practice Ecologically sustainable management of flying-fox roosts Nature Conservation Act 1992*, Queensland Department of Environment and Science, Brisbane.

Department of Environment and Science 2020², *Flying-fox Roost Management Guideline, Wildlife and Threatened Species Operations*, Department of Environment and Science, Brisbane.

Department of Environment and Science, Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service and Partnerships 2021, Interim policy for determining when a flying-fox congregation is regarded as flying-fox roost under section 88C of the Nature Conservation Act 1992, Department of Environment and Science, Brisbane.

Education

Department of Environment and Science Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), <https://www.qld.gov.au/environment/plants-animals/animals/living-with/bats/flying-foxes/about-flying-foxes/questions-and-answers>

Southern Queensland Flying-fox Education Kit 2022, Burnett Mary Regional Group, <
<https://www.allaboutbats.org.au/education/flying-foxes/>>.

Sunshine Coast Council 2022, BatPod podcast, <https://www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au/Environment/Native-Animals/Flying-Foxes/Education-and-events/BatPod-Podcast>

Heat Stress

Flying-fox heat Stress Forecaster, <https://www.animalecologylab.org/ff-heat-stress-forecaster.html>

Department of Environment and Science 2022, Interim flying-fox heat stress guideline, Department of Environment and Science, Brisbane.

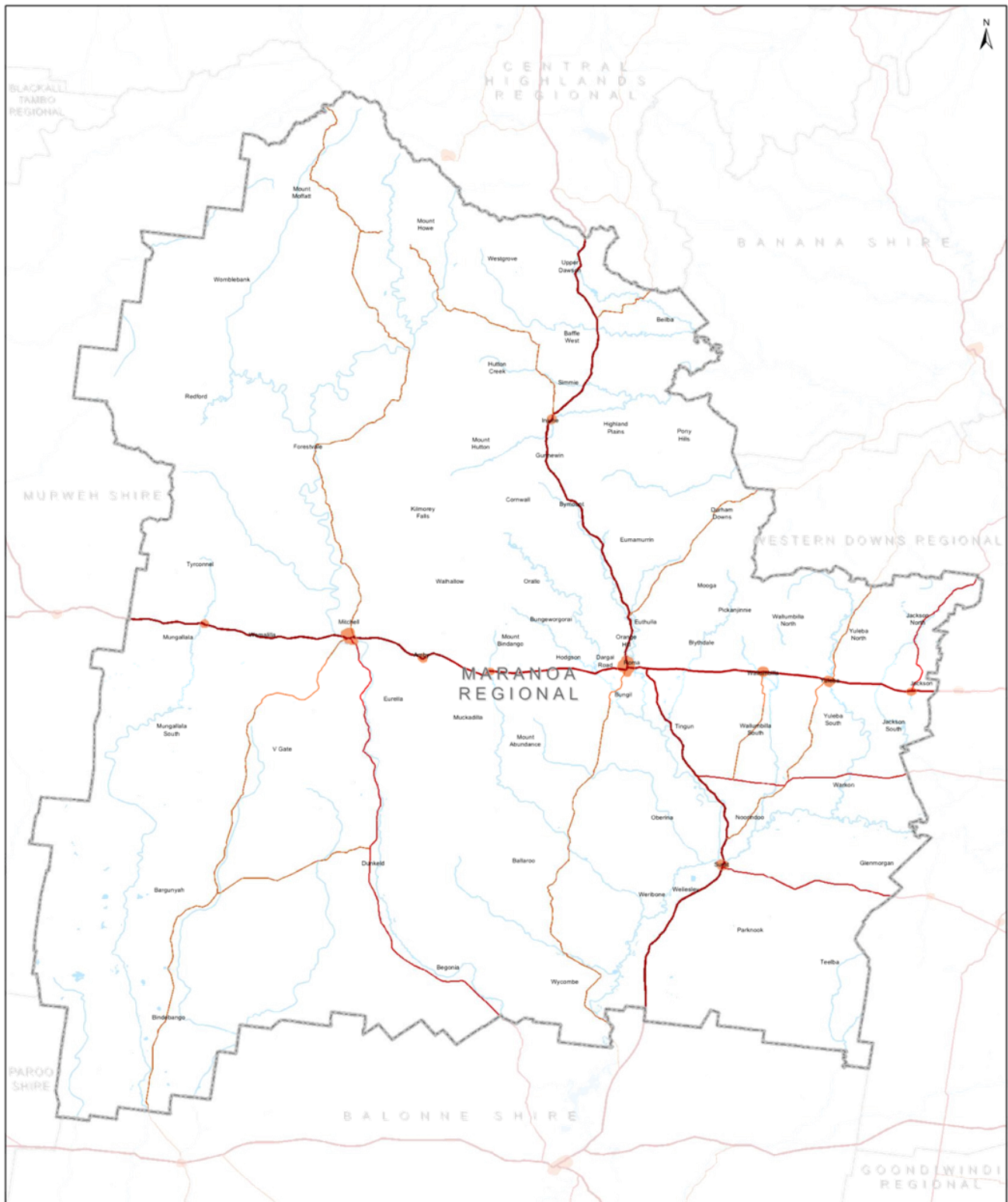
Department of Environment and Science 2022¹, Technical appendices - Interim flying-fox heat stress guideline, Department of Environment and Science, Brisbane.

Roost Vegetation Management and Revegetation

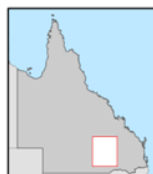
Management and Restoration of Flying-fox Camps 2012, SEQ Catchments,
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Appendices

Appendix A Urban Flying-fox Management Area

**MARANOA REGIONAL****Legend**

- Urban Flying-Fox Management Area
- Local Government Area
- Road



0 5 10 20 30 km

Urban Flying-Fox Management Area

COORDINATE SYSTEM: GCS GDA 1984
HORIZONTAL DATUM: GDA 1984

MAP PRODUCTION
29 July 2013
Nature Conservation Services
Department of Environment and Heritage Protection

© The State of Queensland
Department of Environment and Heritage Protection 2013



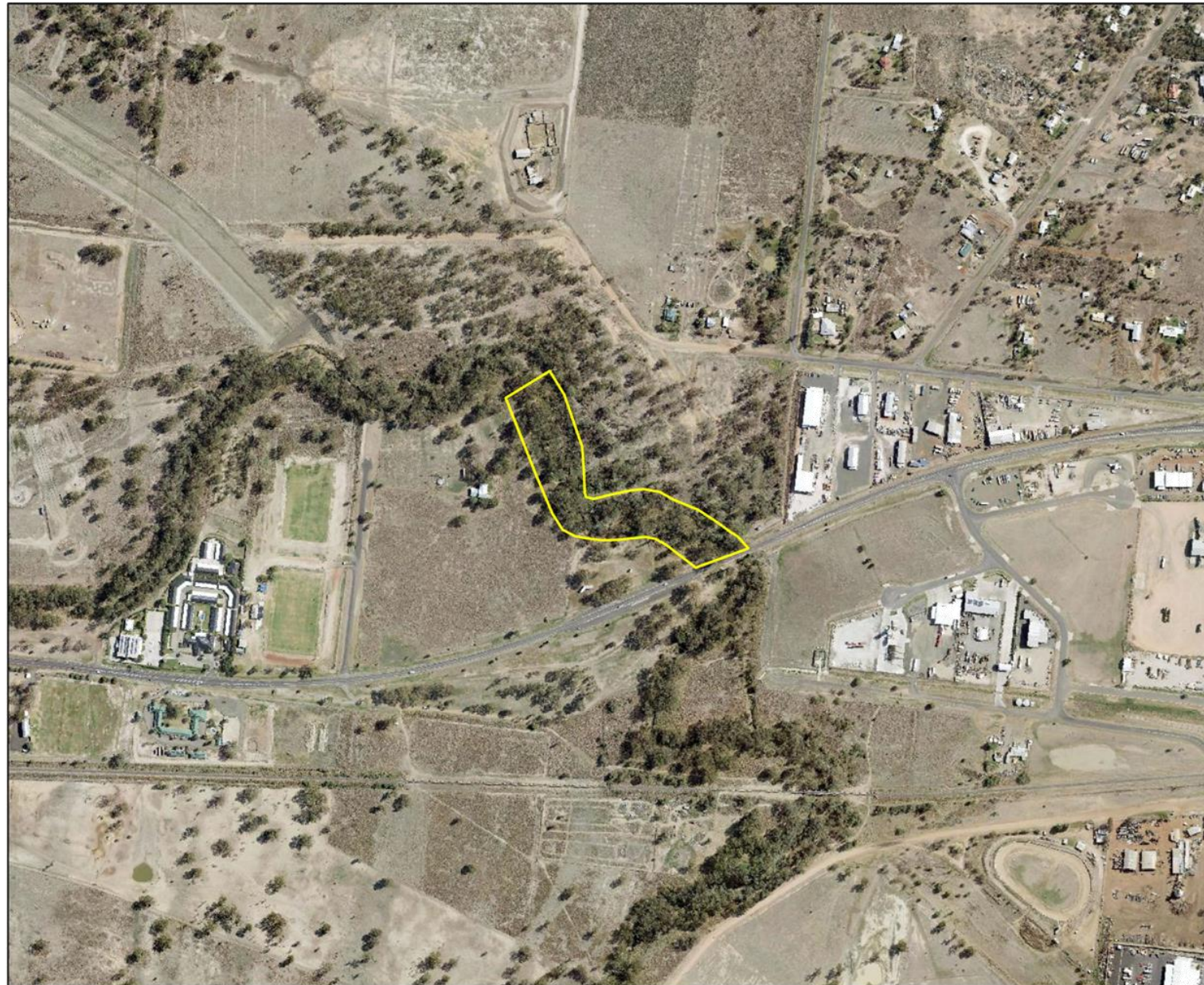
Appendix B Extent of Roosts

Appendix B1 - Roma (Roost 295) extent

Appendix B2 - Surat (Roost 277 and 1004) extent

Appendix B3 - Mitchell extent

Further information on roost locations and extents is available on request from Maranoa Regional Council.



Appendix B1 - Roma (Roost 295) Extent

Project: Flying-fox
Management Plan

Client: Maranoa
Regional Council

Project No.: J001326

Compiled by: HB Date: 16/08/2023
Approved by: WG Date: 16/08/2023

0 100 200 Metres

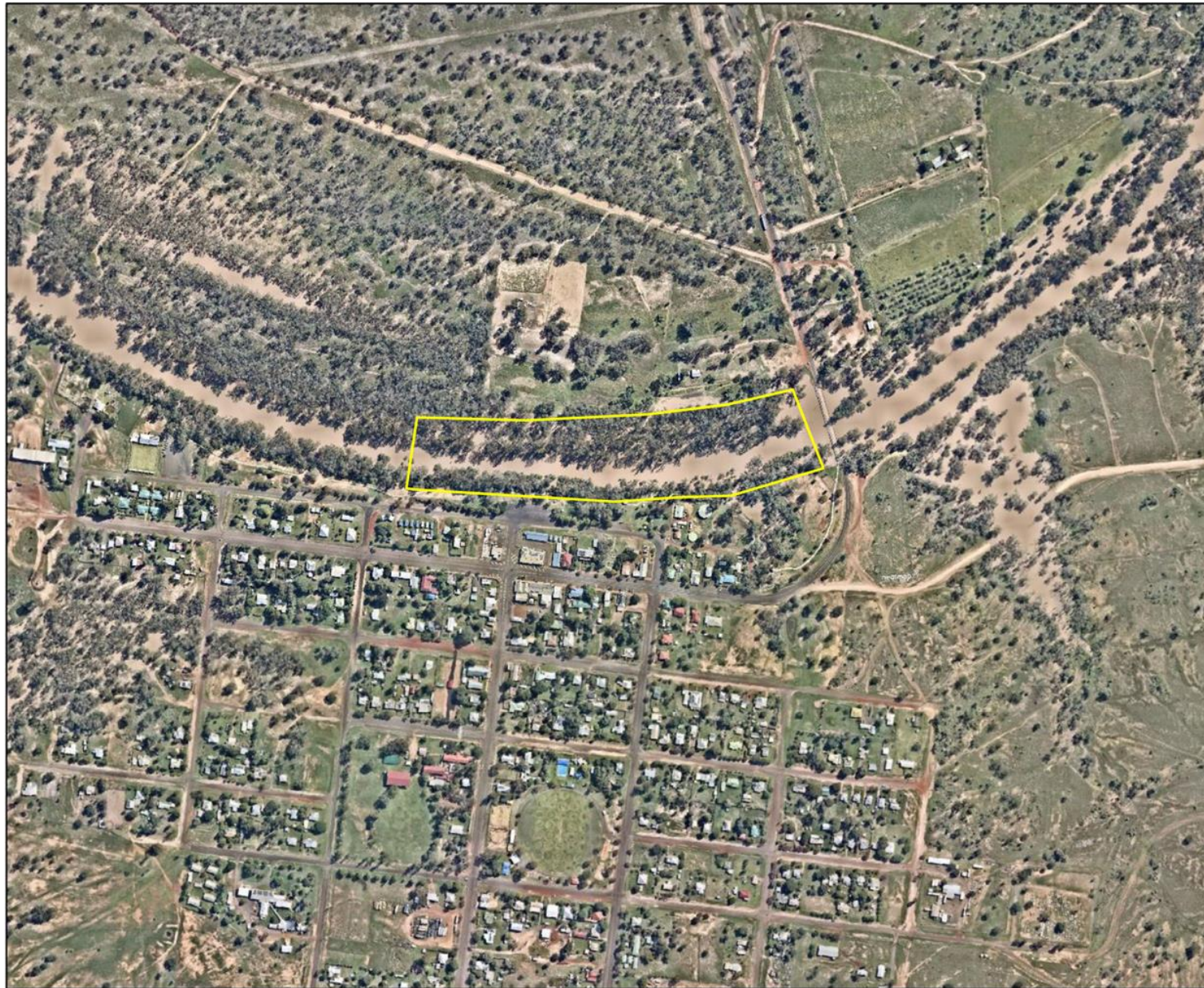
Legend

 Roost Extent

The content of this document includes third party data. Range Environmental Consultants does not guarantee the accuracy of such data.

Source: Cadastral data sourced from DNRME (2021)





Appendix B2 - Surat (Roost 277 and 1004) Extent

Project: Flying-fox
Management Plan

Client: Maranoa
Regional Council

Project No.: J001326

Compiled by: HB Date: 16/08/2023
Approved by: WG Date: 16/08/2023

0 100 200 Metres

Legend

Roost Extent

The content of this document includes third party data. Range Environmental Consultants does not guarantee the accuracy of such data.

Source: Cadastral data sourced from DNRME (2021)





Appendix B3 - Mitchell Extent

Project: Flying-fox
Management Plan

Client: Maranoa
Regional Council

Project No.: J001326

Compiled by: HB Date: 16/08/2023
Approved by: WG Date: 16/08/2023

0 150 300 Metres

Legend

Roost Extent

The content of this document includes third party data. Range Environmental Consultants does not guarantee the accuracy of such data.

Source: Cadastral data sourced from DNRME (2021)





www.rangeenviro.com.au

BRISBANE

Unit 1/7 Birubi Street
Coorparoo Qld 4151

TOOWOOMBA

Office A, 189 Hume St
Toowoomba QLD 4350

T 07 4620 0148

E admin@rangeenviro.com.au

OFFICER REPORT

Meeting: Ordinary 23 August 2023

Date: 11 August 2023

Item Number: 13.3

File Number: D23/67014

SUBJECT HEADING: Expression of Interest to Lease Council Owned Land - Lot 127 on SP203119 and Lot 128 on SP206888

Classification: Open Access

Officer's Title: Administration Officer (Booringa)

Executive Summary:

Council has received correspondence expressing interest in leasing Council owned land located Mitchell, known as Lot 127 on SP203119 and Lot 128 on SP206888.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council

1. Fund \$55,000 to fence a portion of Lot 127 on SP203119 into four (4) 1 acre blocks and a portion of Lot 128 on SP206888 into six (6) 5 acres blocks.
 2. Call for Expressions of Interest to lease Council owned land being portions of Lot 127 on SP203119 and Lot 128 on SP206888, situated in Mitchell for a period of one (1) year for grazing purposes
-

Individuals or Organisations to which the report applies:

Are there any individuals or organisations who stand to gain a benefit, or suffer a loss, (either directly or indirectly) depending on the outcome of consideration of this matter?

(Note: This is to assist Councillors in identifying if they have a Material Personal Interest or Conflict of Interest in the agenda item - i.e. whether they should participate in the discussion and decision making).

Brittney Dugdale - L & B Horse Rescue and Rehoming

Acronyms:

Are there any industry abbreviations that will be used in the report?

Note: This is important as particular professions or industries often use shortened terminology where they refer to the matter on a regular basis. However, for individuals not within the profession or industry it can significantly impact the readability of the report if these aren't explained at the start of the report).

Acronym	Description
Nil	Nil

Context:

Why is the matter coming before Council?

Council have received correspondence from a resident, Brittney Dugdale, expressing their interest in leasing land in Mitchell to house horses.

Background:

Has anything already happened in relation to this matter?

(Succinct overview of the relevant facts, without interpretation)

Council previously identified this Lot and Plan for potential grazing purposes.

Resolution No. OM/11.2020/92

That Council consider at a future Ordinary Meeting, a report detailing the cost of undertaking improvements to the identified parcels to make the land suitable for grazing horses:

- Lot 2 on RP101099 (6 Newbon Street Roma) fenced into smaller paddocks with options for water provided to each paddock.
- Lot 2 on SP212826 (Bassett Lane Roma), Lot 5 on RP172985 (8 McPhie Street Roma), Lot 8 on R869 (7 McPhie Street Roma), fencing to protect the flood levee and ensure the paddocks are stock proof.
- Lot 127 on SP203199 (Saleyards Road Mitchell) fenced into smaller paddocks with water provided to each paddock or not and ensure the paddock is stock proof.

Map below showing the proposed four, 1 acre paddocks on Lot 127 on SP203119



Lot 127 on SP203119 is Council Freehold land on the Saleyards Road, Mitchell. The lot is 44.46Ha, the proposed paddocks will be approximately 4,000sqm each allowing one horse per paddock as per Subordinate Local Law No 2.

Map below showing the proposed six, 5 acre paddocks on Lot 128 on SP206888



Legislation, Local Laws, State Policies & Other Regulatory Requirements:

What does the legislation and other statutory instruments include about the matter under consideration? (Include an extract of the relevant section's wording of the legislation – please do not just quote the section number as that is of no assistance to Councillors)

Subordinate Local law No 2.

Council Policies or Asset Management Plans:

Does Council have a policy, plan or approach ordinarily followed for this type of decision?

What are relevant sections of the policy or plan?

(Quote/insert the relevant section's wording / description within the report)

Organisational Policy - Grazing Council Land - Adopted 14 September 2022 - OM/09.2022/14

Input into the Report & Recommendation:

Have others' views or input been sourced in developing the report and recommendation to Council? (i.e. other than the report author?) What did each say? (Please include consultation with the funding body, any dates of critical importance or updates or approvals required)

Regional Facilities (Land, Buildings & Structures)

Rural Land Services (Regional Environmental Health and Waste)

Local Fencing Contractor (quotes)

Funding Bodies:

Is the project externally funded (or proposed to be)? If so, are there any implications in relation to the funding agreement or grant application. (Please do not just include names)

Nil

This Financial Year's Budget:

Will the matter under consideration impact how much Council collects in income or how much it will spend? How much (\$) ? Is this already included in the budget? (Include the account number and description).

If the matter under consideration has not been included in the budget, where can the funds be transferred from? (Include the account number and description) What will not be done as a result?

Potential Income – Should Council approve to Lease this land.

Cost of approximately \$55,000 for the fencing of the paddocks Lot 127 on SP203119 and Lot 128 on SP206888 and providing water to the 5 acre paddocks located Lot 128 on SP206888.

Future Years' Budgets:

Will there need to be a change in future years' budgets to cater for a change in income or increased expenditure as a result of Council's decision? How much (\$) ? (e.g. estimate of additional maintenance or operating costs for a new or upgraded project)

Potential Income

Impact on Other Individuals or Interested Parties:

Is there anyone who is likely to be particularly interested in or impacted by the decision, or affected by the recommendation if adopted? What would be their key interests or concerns? (Interested Parties Analysis - IS9001:2015)

Ms Dugdale has raised the issues of common land for horses, however, the issue has been raised by other residents and gave rise to resolution OM/11.2020/92. There are a number of Mitchell residents that may want to lease a paddock for horses. The proposed resolution will allow a number of residents to lease paddocks and there is room to create more of these common paddocks if there is a high demand. Providing opportunities for any resident to lease a horse paddock may assist in revitalizing local horse sports and clubs such as the Maranoa Pony Club.

Risks:

What could go wrong if Council makes a decision on this matter? (What is the likelihood of it happening and the consequence if it does) (List each identified risk in a table)

Risk	Description of likelihood & consequences
Nil	Nil

Advice to Council:

What do you think Council should do, based on your skills, qualifications and experience, your knowledge of this and related matters, and the facts contained in the report?

(A summary of what the employee thinks Council needs to hear, not what they think individual Councillors want to hear – i.e. employees must provide sound and impartial advice – the employee's professional opinion)

Call for expression of interest in leasing land in Mitchell, being portions of Lot 127 on SP203119 and portions of Lot 128 on SP206888.

If funds are available to complete the recommended fencing, Council will be able to offer a number of leases, if no funding is available for fencing, Council will be able to offer one paddock for lease.

Recommendation:

What is the 'draft decision' based on the advice to Council?

Does the recommendation suggest a decision contrary to an existing Council policy? If so, for what reason?

(Note: recommendations if adopted by Council become a legal decision of government and therefore must be clear and succinct about the action required by employees (unambiguous)).

That Council fund \$55,000 to fence portions of Lot 127 on SP203119 into four (4) 1 acre blocks and portions of Lot 128 on SP206888 into six (6) 5 acres blocks and call for Expressions of Interest to lease Council owned land being portions of Lot 127 on SP203119 and portions of Lot 128 on SP206888, situated in Mitchell for a period of one (1) year for grazing purposes.

Does this recommendation suggest a decision contrary to an existing Council policy? If so, for what reason?

This recommendation is consistent with Council policy and a Council resolution based on a previous report. Booringa staff have provided recommended costs associated with Council interest in this issue as per Resolution No. OM/11.2020/92.

Link to Corporate Plan:

Corporate Plan 2018-2023

Strategic Priority 4: Growing our region

4.10 Facilities

Supporting Documentation:

- | | | |
|---|--|-----------|
| 1 | Organisational Policy - Grazing Council Land - Adopted | P22/20 |
| | 14 September 2022 - OM/09.2022/14 | |
| 2 | Horse Agistment Request - Brittney Dugdale | D23/67033 |

Report authorised by:

Director - Booringa

ORGANISATIONAL POLICY



Document Control	
Policy Title	Grazing Council Land
Policy Number	P22/20
Function	Regional Facilities
Responsible Position	Manager Regional Facilities (Land, Buildings and Structures)
Supersedes	Not Applicable
Review Date	14 September 2023

Version	Council Meeting Date (Date of Adoption / Review)	CEO Signature
1	14 September 2022 OM/09.2022/14	
2		

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide Council with a strategic, consistent and comprehensive approach to assessing applications and managing approvals to graze Council owned freehold land.

2. Scope

This policy is applicable to requests to graze Maranoa Regional Council owned land.

This policy does not apply to applications to graze trust land, reserves, stock route agistment permits or stock route travel permits.

3. Statement**3.1 Policy Details**

Council owns freehold land suitable for grazing of livestock. Where land is deemed surplus to operational requirements, Council may opt to offer the land for grazing of cattle, horses or sheep under a lease or licence arrangement.

With consideration for its legislative obligations, Council may invite the public to submit an offer to graze the land via tender or expression of interest process.

4. Standard Condition for Grazing**4.1 Tenants Responsibilities**

- Stock the land with their own cattle, horses (other than a stallion or rig), or sheep in such number as is agreed between the tenant and Council.

ORGANISATIONAL POLICY



- The number of stock will be determined as to prevent damage to the grassland, considering the type, quality, productivity and drainage of the soil.
- Ensure an adequate supply of water is always available.
- Maintain the boundary and internal fences to stock-proof standard.
- Comply with all laws, standards and guidelines on animal welfare, bio-security and stock management and prevent animals straying away from the land.
- Comply with any limitations on stocking density, mowing, fertilising, spraying and other management conditions imposed by Council as a local government authority.
- Slash the paddock if not grazed to a level satisfactory to Council.
- Keep the Land clean and free from noxious weeds.
- Not allow animal manure to accumulate and cause nuisance to neighbouring properties.
- Make sure all vaccinations and other treatments required by good husbandry have been given to animals at the appropriate times prior to delivery of the animals to the Land and also during agreement period.
- Remove the carcass immediately if any animal dies on the Land.
- Maintain the state and condition of the land.
- Maintain any fences, gates, locks, structures and other fixtures or installations in the condition in which they were at the commencement of the agreement.
- Maintain water infrastructure and pipework located within the area.
- Maintain the area free of all declared (notifiable) weeds and pests.
- Maintain coverage of \$20,000,000 public liability insurance annually.

4.2 Restrictions on Tenants

In grazing the land, the tenant must not:

- Construct any building or structure on the Land.
- Deposit or bury any rubbish in the Land.
- Accumulate or allow to accumulate anything on the Land, the accumulation of which could contravene any law, rule of regulation.
- Bring onto or allow to remain on the Land any animal infected with a contagious or notifiable disease. The tenant must notify Council immediately if any animal suffers or has been in contact with any significant or notifiable sickness, disease or injury.
- Introduce any disease affecting the Land.

ORGANISATIONAL POLICY



- Bring onto or store on the Land any goods whatsoever except goods connected with the tenant's grazing of the Land.
- Contaminate or obstruct any waterway running through or adjacent to the Land.
- Obstruct any easement or private or public right of way or any access by any other party to any other land belonging to Council.
- Construct or maintain road accesses without Council's written permission.
- Cause a nuisance to Council or any other person. If complaints are made by neighbouring properties, Council reserves the right to discuss this with the tenant and make reasonable actions to address the issue if verified (excessive dust, encroachment of stock on boundary etc).

Council reserves the right to undertake 6 monthly inspections or compliance checks. Council will issue the tenant with a notice to make rectifications.

5. Allocation of Grazing

Applications to graze Council land will be assessed on merit in accordance with Council's strategic direction and operational requirements. A market rate of rental will apply. Council has the right to waive or reduce the rental amount.

Where grazing rights are invited via tender or expression of interest, Council will evaluate submissions on the following criteria.

- Plans for the site (intended stock use and stocking numbers)
- Lease price offered to Council
- Contribution to the local economy

Council will have the option of allocating previous/existing tenants +/-5% overall loading in recognition of the previous/existing tenant's performance in managing the land and paying grazing fees to Council.

6. Standard Term of Lease / Licence Agreements

- Grazing leases 2 years with an option for a further 2 years.
- Grazing licence – 2 years.
- Dargal Road Paddocks (Licences) – 2 years.

7. Cancellation of Lease / Licence Agreements

- Council reserves the right to cancel the grazing agreement if the policy requirements are not met.

8. Definitions

Council Land Land owned by Council.

ORGANISATIONAL POLICY



Trust Land	As per the Land Act 1994, land comprising a reserve or deed of grant in trust.
Reserve	Land set aside for a community purpose or public purpose under the Land Act 1994 (Qld)
Expression of Interest	The process used by Council to determine the most suitable applicant for vacant Council owned land under a licence agreement.
Tender	Process of going to the external market with the intent of inviting offers to use land under a lease agreement.
Evaluation Criteria	Measures that will be used by the evaluation panel for selecting the most appropriate response to an approach to market.
Lease	An agreement whereby Council conveys to a Lessee, in return for a payment, the right to use Council land for an agreed period of time.
Licence	An agreement whereby Council conveys a contractual right to occupy or use Council owned land for an agreed payment amount for an agreed period of time.

9. Related Policies and Legislation*Land Act 1994**Local Government Act 2009**Local Government Regulation 2012**Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2011**Local Law No. 4 (Local Government Controlled Areas, Facilities and Roads) 2011**Maranoa Planning Scheme**Procurement Policy 2020*

From: Brittney rehoming <lbrescueandrehoming@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, 5 May 2023 10:24 AM
To: Council
Subject: Horse agistment

You don't often get email from lbrescueandrehoming@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hi my name is Brittney Dugdale I run a horse rescue called L & B Horse Rescue and Rehoming. I have just moved to the lovely town of Mitchell and was hoping that I could get some help of getting agistment here in or around Mitchell.

My requirements are simple this includes but isn't limited to:
20+ acres to be able to move horses around
A shed to be able to store feed tack and medical supplies (this is a need but not a massive one)
Access to water to be able to bath the horses and clean injuries if they occurs.
Access to the property/ area so I'm able to do twice a day feeding this includes hard feed and hay.

I am able to afford \$200 a fortnight but can possibly stretch it a little bit.
I'm moving all the way from Warwick and am very new to the beautiful little town of Mitchell. I'm happy to do fencing if it needs to be fenced and/or patch up holes in the fencing.

Any help would be greatly appreciated.

OFFICER REPORT

Meeting: Ordinary 23 August 2023

Date: 16 August 2023

Item Number: 13.4

File Number: D23/68142

SUBJECT HEADING: Proposed RACQ EV Charging Station at Mitchell

Classification: Open Access

Officer's Title: Director - Booringa

Executive Summary:

There is a regional E.V charging station installation program being led by RACQ and co-funded by the Queensland Government through QRIDA. A site in Mitchell (Council owned freehold) has been proposed for installation of an E.V charging station. Council is asked to consider authorising the Chief Executive or delegate to finalise negotiations for a licence agreement for this project.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council authorise the Chief Executive or their delegate to finalise a licence agreement with RACQ-QRIDA for installation and operation of an electric vehicle charging station should a mutually beneficial agreement be negotiated.

Individuals or Organisations to which the report applies:

Are there any individuals or organisations who stand to gain a benefit, or suffer a loss, (either directly or indirectly) depending on the outcome of consideration of this matter?

(Note: This is to assist Councillors in identifying if they have a Material Personal Interest or Conflict of Interest in the agenda item - i.e. whether they should participate in the discussion and decision making).

Booringa Action Group
Booringa Heritage Museum

Acronyms:

Are there any industry abbreviations that will be used in the report?

Note: This is important as particular professions or industries often use shortened terminology where they refer to the matter on a regular basis. However, for individuals not within the profession or industry it can significantly impact the readability of the report if these aren't explained at the start of the report).

Acronym	Description
EV	Electric Vehicle
RACQ	Royal Automobile Club of Queensland
QRIDA	Queensland Rural and Industry Development Authority

Context:

Why is the matter coming before Council?

A party has asked for a license agreement to establish an EV charging station within an area of Council owned freehold land. For this proposal to proceed, Council will need to agree to the Chief Executive negotiating and signing a license agreement.

Background:

Has anything already happened in relation to this matter?

(Succinct overview of the relevant facts, without interpretation)

The Booringa Action Group proposed in a general meeting, that funding should be sought for an EV charging Station in Mitchell.

The Deputy Director, Strategic Road Management lodged an expression of interest in the Queensland Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Scheme program to co-fund an EV charging station at Mitchell.

Council were successful in the expression of interest and subsequently approached by RACQ-QRIDA.

Council staff proposed two preferred locations in Mitchell being:

1. In the carpark between the Great Artesian Spa complex and the Booringa Heritage Museum; and
2. In a car park adjacent to the Mitchell Memorial Park.

RACQ-QRIDA selected an area within the carpark between the Great Artesian Spa complex and the Booringa Heritage Museum. This location is also preferred by Council as it's closer to businesses that will benefit from trade generated by the charging station.



Figure: Aerial image showing proposed charging station location. Spa complex fence is immediately adjacent to the charging bays. Museum is across the parking lot.

RACQ-QRIDA provided a draft license agreement. This draft was forwarded to McCullough Robertson to review on behalf of Council. McCullough Robertson have reviewed this type of agreement recently for Council (the Yurika Pty Ltd agreement for a station in Roma). The agreement is now ready for final negotiations.

Legislation, Local Laws, State Policies & Other Regulatory Requirements:

What does the legislation and other statutory instruments include about the matter under consideration? (Include an extract of the relevant section's wording of the legislation – please do not just quote the section number as that is of no assistance to Councillors)

Queensland's Zero Emission Vehicle Strategy 2022-2032

Council Policies or Asset Management Plans:

Does Council have a policy, plan or approach ordinarily followed for this type of decision?

What are relevant sections of the policy or plan?

(Quote/insert the relevant section's wording / description within the report)

N/A. There is currently no mention or consideration of electric vehicle charging station in Council's asset management plans.

Input into the Report & Recommendation:

Have others' views or input been sourced in developing the report and recommendation to Council? (i.e. other than the report author?) What did each say? (Please include consultation with the funding body, any dates of critical importance or updates or approvals required)

- Booringa Action Group
- Deputy Director, Strategic Road Management
- RACQ
- McCullough Robertson

Funding Bodies:

Is the project externally funded (or proposed to be)? If so, are there any implications in relation to the funding agreement or grant application. (Please do not just include names)

Queensland Government

This Financial Year's Budget:

Will the matter under consideration impact how much Council collects in income or how much it will spend? How much (\$)? Is this already included in the budget? (Include the account number and description).

If the matter under consideration has not been included in the budget, where can the funds be transferred from? (Include the account number and description) What will not be done as a result?

In Council's expression of interest, Council nominated a contribution of \$60,000 to the project. This was the expected expense to Council. In the latest correspondence, RACQ have not proposed any contribution from Council. Council staff are seeking clarification from RACQ as to whether there is a contribution required. This information will be available for the meeting.

Future Years' Budgets:

Will there need to be a change in future years' budgets to cater for a change in income or increased expenditure as a result of Council's decision? How much (\$)? (e.g. estimate of additional maintenance or operating costs for a new or upgraded project)

N/A – a peppercorn fee paid to Council for the license agreement area.

Impact on Other Individuals or Interested Parties:

Is there anyone who is likely to be particularly interested in or impacted by the decision, or affected by the recommendation if adopted? What would be their key interests or concerns?
(Interested Parties Analysis - IS9001:2015)

- Current and future electrical vehicle owners in the Maranoa
- Tourists to Mitchell and South Western Queensland

Risks:

What could go wrong if Council makes a decision on this matter? (What is the likelihood of it happening and the consequence if it does) (List each identified risk in a table)

Risk	Description of likelihood & consequences
Do nothing	Lost opportunity to have this facility installed in Mitchell.
Consequences inherent in the license agreement	The license agreement has been reviewed by McCullough Robinson and some clauses amended to be more in line with Council's needs.

Advice to Council:

What do you think Council should do, based on your skills, qualifications and experience, your knowledge of this and related matters, and the facts contained in the report?

(A summary of what the employee thinks Council needs to hear, not what they think individual Councillors want to hear – i.e. employees must provide sound and impartial advice – the employee's professional opinion)

The charging station is proposed in a location that will enhance trading opportunities from tourists and travelers. The draft license agreement is generally consistent with other agreements Council entering into.

It is recommended that Council authorise the Chief Executive Officer to finalise negotiations with RACQ-QRIDA to install the charging station.

Recommendation:

What is the 'draft decision' based on the advice to Council?

Does the recommendation suggest a decision contrary to an existing Council policy? If so, for what reason?

(Note: recommendations if adopted by Council become a legal decision of government and therefore must be clear and succinct about the action required by employees (unambiguous)).

That Council authorise the Chief Executive or their delegate to finalise a licence agreement with RACQ-QRIDA for installation and operation of an electric vehicle charging station at Mitchell should a mutually beneficial agreement be negotiated.

Does this recommendation suggest a decision contrary to an existing Council policy? If so, for what reason?

N/A

Link to Corporate Plan:

Corporate Plan 2018-2023

Strategic Priority 4: Growing our region

4.2 Economic development

Supporting Documentation:

Nil

Report authorised by:

Director - Booringa

OFFICER REPORT

Meeting: Ordinary 23 August 2023

Date: 16 August 2023

Item Number: 13.5

File Number: D23/68322

SUBJECT HEADING: Reinstating the Junior Sports Award

Classification: Open Access

Officer's Title: Local Development Officer (Warroo)

Executive Summary:

Consideration of a written request asking Council to reinstate the Junior Sports Award category for the Australia Day Awards.

Officer's Recommendation:

That:

1. Council approve either option one or option 2.
-

Individuals or Organisations to which the report applies:

Are there any individuals or organisations who stand to gain a benefit, or suffer a loss, (either directly or indirectly) depending on the outcome of consideration of this matter?

(Note: This is to assist Councillors in identifying if they have a Material Personal Interest or Conflict of Interest in the agenda item - i.e. whether they should participate in the discussion and decision making).

Individuals listed on the letter of request.

Acronyms:

Are there any industry abbreviations that will be used in the report?

Note: This is important as particular professions or industries often use shortened terminology where they refer to the matter on a regular basis. However, for individuals not within the profession or industry it can significantly impact the readability of the report if these aren't explained at the start of the report).

Acronym	Description
<Insert Acronym>	<Provide details>

Context:

Why is the matter coming before Council?

Council has received a written request asking that a Junior Sports Award be added to the categories for the Australia Day Awards. The letter contains over 70 signatures or names of individuals. Addresses have not been provided by the signatories, other than the lead initiator so it is unclear how many reside in the Booringa area.

This letter was circulated to all Councillors and considered at the ordinary meeting on 9 August 2023, with Council resolving:

Resolution No. OM/08.2023/01

That Council note that the lodged petition does not conform with the policy, however, Council will lodge it as a customer request on the customer's behalf.

Background:

Has anything already happened in relation to this matter?

(Succinct overview of the relevant facts, without interpretation)

There are two possible options.

Option 1 – No further categories be added for the Australia Day Awards.

Currently, the number of nominations for the Australia Day Awards is small. In 2023 the following number of Sports Award nominations were received in each area:

Warroo – 7

Bungil – 3

Booringa – 3

Bendemere – 3

Roma – 0

The letter expressed concern, that Junior and Senior Sportspeople were different in their level of competitiveness, competence and outlook on sportsmanship, and therefore there should be both a senior and junior sports award.

The 2023 Australia Day Awards Guidelines state that the Sports Award is in recognition of people or teams who have an outstanding record of achievement in sport and who have served as noteworthy ambassadors for their sport at regional, state or international level.

Sports Award nominees are judged on their record of achievement in their chosen sport. A junior sportsperson competes against other juniors when playing their sport, therefore have the same opportunity to achieve an outstanding record of achievement as a senior sportsperson competing against other senior sports people in their sporting field.

Option 2 – Include both a Junior and Senior Sports Award in the Australia Day categories

The categories could be:

Sports Award

Eligible nominees must be 26 years or older as of 26 January 2024. In recognition of people who have an outstanding record of achievement in sport and who have served as noteworthy ambassadors for their sport in regional, state or international level.

Junior Sports Award

Eligible nominees must be 25 years or younger as of 26 January 2024.

In recognition of young people who have an outstanding record of achievement in sport and who have served as noteworthy ambassadors for their sport in regional, state or international level.

If an extra award category was created there would be extra costs incurred with five extra framed certificates and five extra engraved medallions totaling approximately \$500.

Legislation, Local Laws, State Policies & Other Regulatory Requirements:

What does the legislation and other statutory instruments include about the matter under consideration? (Include an extract of the relevant section's wording of the legislation – please do not just quote the section number as that is of no assistance to Councillors)

N/a

Council Policies or Asset Management Plans:

Does Council have a policy, plan or approach ordinarily followed for this type of decision?

What are relevant sections of the policy or plan?

(Quote/insert the relevant section's wording / description within the report)

N/a

Input into the Report & Recommendation:

Have others' views or input been sourced in developing the report and recommendation to Council? (i.e. other than the report author?) What did each say? (Please include consultation with the funding body, any dates of critical importance or updates or approvals required)

Local Development Officers in Roma, Mitchell, Yuleba and Injune.

Funding Bodies:

Is the project externally funded (or proposed to be)? If so, are there any implications in relation to the funding agreement or grant application. (Please do not just include names)

N/a

This Financial Year's Budget:

Will the matter under consideration impact how much Council collects in income or how much it will spend? How much (\$) Is this already included in the budget? (Include the account number and description).

If the matter under consideration has not been included in the budget, where can the funds be transferred from? (Include the account number and description) What will not be done as a result?

Any extra costs would come from 02888.2253.2001 - Australia Day.

Future Years' Budgets:

Will there need to be a change in future years' budgets to cater for a change in income or increased expenditure as a result of Council's decision? How much (\$)? (e.g. estimate of additional maintenance or operating costs for a new or upgraded project)

Each year the Junior Sports Award is included as an additional category there will be the extra costs incurred.

Impact on Other Individuals or Interested Parties:

Is there anyone who is likely to be particularly interested in or impacted by the decision, or affected by the recommendation if adopted? What would be their key interests or concerns? (Interested Parties Analysis - IS9001:2015)

Individuals who have signed the letter of request.

Risks:

What could go wrong if Council makes a decision on this matter? (What is the likelihood of it happening and the consequence if it does) (List each identified risk in a table)

Risk	Description of likelihood & consequences
Community perception	Individuals listed on the request may be unhappy with Council's decision, depending on the decision.

Advice to Council:

What do you think Council should do, based on your skills, qualifications and experience, your knowledge of this and related matters, and the facts contained in the report?

(A summary of what the employee thinks Council needs to hear, not what they think individual Councillors want to hear – i.e. employees must provide sound and impartial advice – the employee's professional opinion)

That Council approve either option one or option 2.

Recommendation:

What is the 'draft decision' based on the advice to Council?

Does the recommendation suggest a decision contrary to an existing Council policy? If so, for what reason?

(Note: recommendations if adopted by Council become a legal decision of government and therefore must be clear and succinct about the action required by employees (unambiguous)).

Does this recommendation suggest a decision contrary to an existing Council policy? If so, for what reason?

That Council approve either option one or option 2.

Link to Corporate Plan:

Corporate Plan 2018-2023

Strategic Priority 4: Growing our region

4.12 Local development and events

Supporting Documentation:

Nil

Report authorised by:

Director - Booringa

OFFICER REPORT

Meeting: Ordinary 23 August 2023

Date: 26 July 2023

Item Number: 14.1

File Number: D23/61209

SUBJECT HEADING: Care Outreach Request - Mitchell

Classification: Open Access

Officer's Title: Administration Officer (Booringa)

Executive Summary:

Care Outreach is a Not-for-Profit Organisation that runs an annual Christmas for the Bush program in rural communities. They provide physical, emotional and spiritual wellbeing support to families doing it tough around Christmas time.

They are visiting Mitchell from 15 November 2023 to 08 December 2023 and have requested a fee waiver to use the main shed located on the Mitchell Showgrounds as well as the old retirement village to accommodate their volunteers.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council:

1. Waive the fees for Care Outreach to use the main shed at the Mitchell Showgrounds and Mitchell Retirement Village from 15 November 2023 to 08 December 2023 inclusive, as long as no paying customer requests use of the facility in this time.
2. Allocate the fee waiver of \$9624.00 from GL 2887.2412.2132 Community Service Obligation Budget.

Individuals or Organisations to which the report applies:

Are there any individuals or organisations who stand to gain a benefit, or suffer a loss, (either directly or indirectly) depending on the outcome of consideration of this matter?

(Note: This is to assist Councillors in identifying if they have a Material Personal Interest or Conflict of Interest in the agenda item - i.e. whether they should participate in the discussion and decision making).

Care Outreach – John Morley, Mitchell Area Coordinator

Acronyms:

Are there any industry abbreviations that will be used in the report?

Note: This is important as particular professions or industries often use shortened terminology where they refer to the matter on a regular basis. However, for individuals not within the profession or industry it can significantly impact the readability of the report if these aren't explained at the start of the report).

Acronym	Description
Nil	Nil

Context:

Why is the matter coming before Council?

Council has received a request from Care Outreach, a non-profit organisation, to host their Christmas in the Bush program in Mitchell. They have requested the use of the main shed on the Mitchell Showgrounds as well as the old retirement village for volunteer accommodation. They have also requested a fee waiver for these facilities as they are a not-for-profit organisation.

Due to the significant value of the fee waiver requested, Council's approval is required.

Background:

Has anything already happened in relation to this matter?

(Succinct overview of the relevant facts, without interpretation)

Not-for-Profit and ministry organisation "Care Outreach" travel to rural and remote regions that are suffering from drought conditions. Care Outreach support and assist with donated care packages for families when times are tough. Their support is focused on caring for the physical, emotional, and spiritual well-being to those in remote areas, specifically farmers.

They have been travelling to the Maranoa region for over 15 years. In previous years, Care Outreach have been approved for a fee waiver of the shed on the Mitchell showgrounds, which they use to gather and collate their care packages. They also use the retirement village to accommodate their volunteers in Mitchell.

A similar request went to Council in 2022 which was approved by Resolution No. OM/11.2022/12:

That Council:

1. **Waive the fees for Care Outreach to use the main shed at the Mitchell Showgrounds from 16 November 2022 – 4 December 2022 and Mitchell Retirement Village from 16 November 2022 to 1 December 2022 inclusive, as long as no paying customer requests use of the facility in this time.**
2. **Allocate the fee waiver of \$9624.00 from GL 2887.2412.2132 Community Service Obligation Budget.**

This year, the Mitchell Area Coordinator of Care Outreach has requested the use of the main shed on the Mitchell Showgrounds from 15 November to 08 December 2023. They have also requested accommodation at the retirement village for the duration.

The costs of these facilities are outlined in Council's Fees and Charges Register. The cost to hire the Mitchell Showgrounds shed is \$289.00/day. As Care Outreach have requested this for a total of 24 days, the total cost of hire is \$6936.00. The cost to hire the retirement village is \$112.00/day, the total cost of hire is \$2688.00. The total cost of hire of both facilities for 24 days will be \$9624.00.

The facility will be cleaned prior to Care Outreach occupying the buildings. The cleaning of the facility during and after the event is the responsibility of Care Outreach.

Legislation, Local Laws, State Policies & Other Regulatory Requirements:
What does the legislation and other statutory instruments include about the matter under consideration?

(Include an extract of the relevant section's wording of the legislation – please do not just quote the section number as that is of no assistance to Councillors)

N/A

Council Policies or Asset Management Plans:

Does Council have a policy, plan or approach ordinarily followed for this type of decision?

What are relevant sections of the policy or plan?

(Quote/insert the relevant section's wording / description within the report)

Grants and Non-Financial Assistance Policy -

Not-for-profit organisations are eligible to receive a one-off fee waiver for events that directly benefit residents of the Maranoa region.

Input into the Report & Recommendation:

Have others' views or input been sourced in developing the report and recommendation to Council? (i.e. other than the report author?) What did each say? (Please include consultation with the funding body, any dates of critical importance or updates or approvals required)

Booringa Director

Booringa Local Development Officer

Funding Bodies:

Is the project externally funded (or proposed to be)? If so, are there any implications in relation to the funding agreement or grant application. (Please do not just include names)

N/A

This Financial Year's Budget:

Will the matter under consideration impact how much Council collects in income or how much it will spend? How much (\$)? Is this already included in the budget? (Include the account number and description).

If the matter under consideration has not been included in the budget, where can the funds be transferred from? (Include the account number and description) What will not be done as a result?

The total hire cost of \$9,624.00 has been requested as a fee waiver.

It is recommended this is allocated from GL 2887.2412.2132 Community Service Obligation. This budget is used for fee waivers for not-for-profit organisations. There is currently \$40,000 in this budget for the 2023/24.

If this request is approved, there will be \$30,376 remaining in this budget for the 2023/24 financial year.

Future Years' Budgets:

Will there need to be a change in future years' budgets to cater for a change in income or increased expenditure as a result of Council's decision? How much (\$)? (e.g. estimate of additional maintenance or operating costs for a new or upgraded project)

If Care Outreach continue visiting the Maranoa region, as they have done for over the past 15 years, Council may need to consider this as an ongoing assistance request.

Impact on Other Individuals or Interested Parties:

Is there anyone who is likely to be particularly interested in or impacted by the decision, or affected by the recommendation if adopted? What would be their key interests or concerns?
(Interested Parties Analysis - IS9001:2015)

Care Outreach

Risks:

What could go wrong if Council makes a decision on this matter? (What is the likelihood of it happening and the consequence if it does) (List each identified risk in a table)

Risk	Description of likelihood & consequences
Request is denied	Care Outreach will have to find an alternative space and accommodation to run their program.

Advice to Council:

What do you think Council should do, based on your skills, qualifications and experience, your knowledge of this and related matters, and the facts contained in the report?

(A summary of what the employee thinks Council needs to hear, not what they think individual Councillors want to hear – i.e. employees must provide sound and impartial advice – the employee's professional opinion)

It is recommended that the fee waiver for the showgrounds is approved as Care Outreach provides assistance to rural communities and families doing it tough around Christmas. It is hoped that the local families benefit from the donated care packages they create. It is also recommended that the request to accommodate volunteers in the old retirement village is approved at no cost and the cleaning costs are allocated as in-kind assistance.

Due to the long period of hire (24 days), it is suggested that a condition of hire be that Care Outreach must vacate the facility if a paying customer requests the use of the Mitchell Showgrounds during this time. This is to ensure Care Outreach does not disrupt the Mitchell community and any of their Christmas events.

Recommendation:

What is the 'draft decision' based on the advice to Council?

Does the recommendation suggest a decision contrary to an existing Council policy? If so, for what reason?

(Note: recommendations if adopted by Council become a legal decision of government and therefore must be clear and succinct about the action required by employees (unambiguous)).

Does this recommendation suggest a decision contrary to an existing Council policy?

If so, for what reason?

That Council:

1. Waive the fees for Care Outreach to use the main shed at the Mitchell Showgrounds and Mitchell Retirement Village from 15 November 2023 to 08 December 2023 inclusive, as long as no paying customer requests use of the facility in this time.
2. Allocate the fee waiver of \$9624.00 from GL 2887.2412.2132 Community Service Obligation Budget.

Link to Corporate Plan:

Corporate Plan 2018-2023

Strategic Priority 4: Growing our region

4.12 Local development and events

Supporting Documentation:

Nil

Report authorised by:

Director - Booringa

OFFICER REPORT

Meeting: Ordinary 23 August 2023

Date: 19 July 2023

Item Number: 14.2

File Number: D23/58870

SUBJECT HEADING: User Agreement - Roma Community Arts Centre - Roma on Bungil Incorporated

Classification: Open Access

Officer's Title: Leases & Agreements Administration Officer (Booringa)

Executive Summary:

Roma Community Arts Centre – Roma on Bungil Gallery Incorporated have advised Council that the group would like to enter into a new user agreement for the Gallery and shared storeroom.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council:

1. Enter into a new exclusive Agreement with Roma on Bungil Gallery Incorporated for a period of five (5) years for the use of the Roma Community Arts Centre – Gallery and shared storeroom.
 2. Charge no hire fee.
 3. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer or delegate to sign the user agreement.
-

Individuals or Organisations to which the report applies:

Roma on Bungil Gallery Incorporated.

Acronyms:

Acronym	Description
Nil	Nil

Context:

The User Agreement between Council and the Roma Community Arts Centre – Roma on Bungil Gallery Incorporated has reached the end of the current term. The group has requested to renew for a further five (5) years.

Background:

The Roma on Bungil Gallery and Council have previously had a formal User Agreement for a period of five (5) years with no hire fee, from 2018 to 2023.

Legislation, Local Laws, State Policies & Other Regulatory Requirements:

Nil

Council Policies or Asset Management Plans:

Nil

Input into the Report & Recommendation:

Roma on Bungil Gallery Incorporated
Local Area Director Roma – Approval to renew lease.
Regional Arts and Culture Officer – confirmation of regular usage of the gallery by the group.

Funding Bodies:)

Nil

This Financial Year's Budget:

Nil

Future Years' Budgets:

Nil

Impact on Other Individuals or Interested Parties:

Roma on Bungil Gallery Incorporated.

Risks:

Risk	Description of likelihood & consequences
Nil	Nil

Advice to Council:

That Council agree to renew the User Agreement for Roma on Bungil Gallery Incorporated for a further five years.

Recommendation:

That Council:

1. Enter into a new exclusive Agreement with Roma on Bungil Gallery Incorporated for a period of five (5) years for the use of the Roma Community Arts Centre – Gallery and shared storeroom.
2. Charge no hire fee.
3. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer or delegate to sign the user agreement.

Link to Corporate Plan:

Corporate Plan 2018-2023

Corporate Plan Pillar 3: Connectivity

3.1 Quality, fit-for-purpose strategic facilities

Supporting Documentation:

Nil

Report authorised by:

Manager - Regional Facilities (Land, Buildings & Structures)

Director - Regional Development, Environment and Planning

OFFICER REPORT

Meeting: Ordinary 23 August 2023

Date: 28 July 2023

Item Number: 14.3

File Number: D23/61823

SUBJECT HEADING: Roma & District Lapidary & Mineral Society
Incorporated - User Agreement

Classification: Open Access

Officer's Title: Leases and Agreements Administration Officer

Executive Summary:

Roma & District Lapidary & Mineral Society Incorporated have advised Council that the group would like to enter into a new user agreement for the Lapidary Buildings (Old Band Hall and hospital building) located at 17 McDowall Street, Roma.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council:

1. Enter into an exclusive User Agreement with Roma & District Lapidary & Mineral Society Incorporated for a period of five (5) years for the use of the lapidary buildings at 17 McDowall Street, Roma.
2. Charge no hire fees for the use of the Lapidary Building for the term of this agreement.
3. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or delegate) to sign the agreement.

Individuals or Organisations to which the report applies:

Roma & District Lapidary & Mineral Society Incorporated.

Acronyms:

Acronym	Description
Nil	Nil

Context:

The user agreement between Council and the community organization is at the end of the current term. Roma & District Lapidary & Mineral Society Incorporated have requested to renew for a further five (5) years.

Background:

Roma & District Lapidary & Mineral Society Incorporated operates from 17 McDowall Street, Roma 4455. Council previously approved a written User Agreement for a period of five (5) years at no charge.

In 2022 Council coordinated and project managed the relocation of a historic building from the Roma Hospital to the land for the use of the lapidary group.

Legislation, Local Laws, State Policies & Other Regulatory Requirements:

Nil

Council Policies or Asset Management Plans:

Nil

Input into the Report & Recommendation:

Roma & District Lapidary & Mineral Society Incorporated
Lead Local Development Officer – no known external interest.
Facilities Manager – Approval to renew.

Funding Bodies:

Nil

This Financial Year's Budget:

Nil

Future Years' Budgets:

Nil

Impact on Other Individuals or Interested Parties:

Nil

Risks:

Risk	Description of likelihood & consequences
Nil	Nil

Advice to Council:

That Council agree to renew the request to enter a new five (5) years User Agreement with the Roma & District Lapidary & Mineral Society Incorporated. The new agreement to incorporate the building relocated from the Roma Hospital.

Recommendation:

That Council:

1. Enter into an exclusive User Agreement with Roma & District Lapidary & Mineral Society Incorporated for a period of five (5) years for the use of the lapidary buildings at 17 McDowall Street, Roma.

2. Charge no hire fees for the use of the Lapidary Building for the term of this agreement.
3. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or delegate) to sign the agreement.

Link to Corporate Plan:

Corporate Plan 2018-2023

Corporate Plan Pillar 3: Connectivity

3.1 Quality, fit-for-purpose strategic facilities

Supporting Documentation:

Nil

Report authorised by:

Manager - Regional Facilities (Land, Buildings & Structures)

Director - Regional Development, Environment and Planning

OFFICER REPORT

Meeting: Ordinary 23 August 2023

Date: 28 July 2023

Item Number: 14.4

File Number: D23/61863

SUBJECT HEADING: Roma & District Family History Society
Incorporated - User Agreement

Classification: Open Access

Officer's Title: Leases and Agreements Administration Officer

Executive Summary:

Roma & District Family History Society Incorporated have advised Council that the group would like to enter into a new user agreement for the Family History Lodge building and storage shed located at 17 McDowall Street, Roma.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council:

1. Enter into an exclusive Agreement with Roma & District Family History Society Incorporated for a period of five (5) years for the use of the building and storage shed at 17 McDowall Street, Roma.
2. Charge the Roma & District Family History Society Incorporated no hire fees for the term of this agreement.
3. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or delegate) to sign the agreement.

Individuals or Organisations to which the report applies:

Roma & District Family History Society Incorporated.

Acronyms:

Acronym	Description
Nil	Nil

Context:

User Agreement end of current term. Request to renew for a further five (5) years.

Background:

The Roma & District Family History Society Incorporated operates from 17 McDowall Street Roma. Council previously approved a written User Agreement for a period of five (5) years at no charge.

Legislation, Local Laws, State Policies & Other Regulatory Requirements:

Not applicable to this report.

Council Policies or Asset Management Plans:

Not applicable to this report

Input into the Report & Recommendation:

The Roma & District Family History Society Incorporated
Lead Local Development Officer – no known external interest.

Funding Bodies:

Nil

This Financial Year's Budget:

Nil

Future Years' Budgets:

Nil

Impact on Other Individuals or Interested Parties:

Not applicable to this report.

Risks:

Risk	Description of likelihood & consequences
Nil	Nil

Advice to Council:

That Council agree to renew the User Agreement with the Roma & District Family History Society Incorporated for a further five years.

Recommendation:

That Council:

1. Enter into an exclusive Agreement with Roma & District Family History Society Incorporated for a period of five (5) years for the use of the building and storage shed at 17 McDowall Street, Roma.
2. Charge the Roma & District Family History Society Incorporated no hire fees for the term of this agreement.
3. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or delegate) to sign the agreement.

Link to Corporate Plan:

Corporate Plan 2018-2023

Corporate Plan Pillar 3: Connectivity

3.1 Quality, fit-for-purpose strategic facilities

Supporting Documentation:

Nil

Report authorised by:

Manager - Regional Facilities (Land, Buildings & Structures)

Director - Regional Development, Environment and Planning

OFFICER REPORT

Meeting: Ordinary 23 August 2023

Date: 28 February 2023

Item Number: 14.5

File Number: D23/14587

SUBJECT HEADING: Schedule of Fees - Permit to Occupy and Trustee Leases (Grazing)

Classification: Open Access

Officer's Title: Manager - Regional Facilities (Land, Buildings & Structures)

Executive Summary:

The Department of Resources are no longer issuing Permits to Occupy for grazing. Council, as trustee of the land, has the option of issuing approval to graze state reserve land via a trustee lease or trustee permit (where the proposal meets the requirements of the Land Act 1994 and stock route legislation).

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council amend the 2023/24 Fees and Charges Schedule to include two new fees to graze Council managed state land under a trustee permit or trustee lease.

1. Application Fee - \$314.71 GST free, per title reference. Application fees are non-refundable.
 2. Annual fee – estimated stocking rate x \$4.40 per head per week, with a minimum rental of \$300 per annum plus GST.
-

Individuals or Organisations to which the report applies:

Current and prospective applicants wishing to graze state reserve land where Council is the trustee.

Acronyms:

Acronym	Description
Nil	Nil

Context:

The Department of Resources are no longer issuing Permits to Occupy for grazing. The Department will still consider applications for other short term uses for example pump sites, advertising signs on roads and apiary sites.

On land where Council is the trustee, Council has the option of issuing approval to use the land through Trustee Permit or Trustee Lease. The stipulated preferred tenure option is trustee permit, then trustee lease (as per Department Resources Operational Policy).

Background:

A Trustee Permit is permission by Council to occupy or use a parcel of land pursuant to Section 60 of the *Land Act 1994*. Trustee Permits can be issued over parcels of land described as reserves (including stock route reserves). Trustee permits cannot be issued over roads and primary stock routes (stock routes do not include stock route reserves eg. Camping and water reserves).

It is the intention of Council that Trustee Permits are applied to grazing applications upon land parcels held in trust by Council and suitable for the grazing of stock. Permits should only be issued when such activities pose no danger or hazard to the public.

When assessing applications, Council must consider if the:

- (i) the presence of a stock proof boundary fence; and,
- (ii) pasture and water available and is likely to sustain the stock needs; and,
- (iii) stock's agistment is likely to:
 - introduce or spread a declared pest onto the agisted land;
 - degrade the land (reduce feed to below threshold or cause excessive pugging); or
 - adversely affect road safety.
- (iv) the land may be used for the purpose for which it was reserved or granted in trust without undue interruption or obstruction.

Trustee Permit – Fees

Fees must be appropriate having regard to the use and the community benefit and purpose of the trustee permit.

Trustee Lease

A Trustee Lease is a longer-term version of the Trustee Permit. Council is not required to obtain ministers consent to issue a trustee lease, if the purpose of the lease is consistent with the purpose of the reserve for example grazing on a camping and water reserve.

- The lease must be registered with the Queensland Titles Office.
- A trustee lease or sublease must not be for more than 5 years over a stock route.
- A trustee lease or sublease must not contain a covenant, agreement, or condition to renew the lease, to convert to another form of tenure or to buy the land.
- It is a condition of every trustee lease or sublease, that the land may be used for the purpose for which it was reserved or granted in trust without undue interruption or obstruction.

At its Ordinary Meeting on 28 June 2023, Council made a decision in regard to setting fees to prepare trustee leases and permits and an annual fee to occupy the land.

Resolution No. OM/06.2023/67 (28 June 2023)

That Council:

1. **Advise the lessee and Department of Resources that it will enter into a trustee lease or trustee permit in respect of Lot A on DL419 at the expiry of the current lease.**
3. **Recoup all fees associated with the preparation of the trustee lease / trustee permit from the lessee.**
3. **Charge an annual fee for occupation of the land, with the schedule of fees to be presented at a future Ordinary Council meeting for decision.**

It is proposed that the below process will be followed when Council receives an application for grazing state owned land where Council is the trustee.

Stage 1 - Application

Applicant comes to Council requesting renewal of a PTO or a new PTO for grazing.

Council cannot issue a permit to occupy – the options to Council are trustee permit or trustee lease. Preferred tenure option is trustee permit, then trustee lease (as per Department Resources Operational Policy. Trustee permit maximum 3 years, trustee lease over stock route maximum 5 years).

Applicant pays an application fee.

Amount as per Council's adopted fees and charges. Note: In 2022/23 the Department Resources charged an application fee of \$304.32 GST free per title reference. In 2023/24 the Department Resources charge an application fee of \$314.71 GST free per title reference. Application fees are non-refundable.

Council should when in setting the 2024/25 fees, consider the actual cost of issuing trustee leases and trustee permits for grazing. Under Section 97 of the Local Government Act 2009 (LG Act), a council can fix cost-recovery fees for a number of activities. Under Section 97(4), a cost-recovery fee must not exceed the cost to the local council of undertaking the activity. Council needs to ensure that the recommended fee is sufficient to cover the costs Council may incur.

Stage 2 – Investigation and Consultation

Council investigates the application including:

- **Regional Stock Routes (Council function).**

Regional stock routes to refer to the applicable stock route management plan eg. Booringa, Bungil, Bendemere, Warroo. (Council does not currently have a consolidated Stock Route Management Plan, however the recent amendments to the Stock Route Management Act 2002 effected by the Land and Other Legislation

Amendment Bill require Council to prepare a stock route management plan within 12 months).

- **Feedback from the Local Area Director.**

Local Area Director to consult with any neighbouring property owners (if applicable).

- **Consultation with Department Resources (Stock Route Management Unit)**

Stage 3 - Decision Making

Report to Maranoa Regional Council Ordinary General Meeting seeking Council approval to issue the trustee permit/lease.

Report to provide summation of communication and outcome of consultation completed during the Investigation and Consultation Stage and provide an Officers Recommendation.

Stage 4 - Administration

- **Trustee Permit/Lease to include Department Resources mandatory terms and any other terms that may be determined by Council.**
- **Communicate outcome to applicant and issue trustee permit/lease (if applicable).**
- **Calculate annual rental and set up standing invoice.**

Standing invoice set up within Council's debtors system to bill permittee /tenant. Annual rental to be charged in accordance with Council's Fees and Charges. Note: for the 2022/23 year the Department charged 0.75% of the unimproved capital value of the subject parcel. The Land Regulation 2020 specifies that the minimum rent payable for a category 11.2 primary production is 277 fee units. A fee unit for the 2023/24 year is \$1.06, therefore minimum rental payable for a category 11.2 is \$293.62. Not all land is valued – therefore a charge of 0.75% of the unimproved capital value may not be practical.

Charters Towers Regional Council charge the same fee for grazing stock under a Trustee Permit, as they charge stock grazing under a Stock Route Grazing (Agistment) Permit. Large Stock (alpacas, camels, cattle, donkeys, horses, llamas, mules or vicunas) - \$2.50 per head per week. Small stock (goats and sheep) - \$0.47 per head per week. The system relies on the trustee lessee providing Council with accurate stocking numbers. It should also be considered that Charters Towers only allow trustee permits for a maximum of 13 weeks.

Maranoa Regional Council charge the fee as contained in the Stock Routes Management Act for agistment permits on roads and / or stock routes.

Permit fees for stock route agistment permit for

- large stock—
 - a. (i) minimum fee, for each head, for each week \$2.97
 - b. (ii) maximum fee, for each head, for each week \$5.83
- small stock—
 - a. (i) minimum fee, for each head, for each week \$0.424
 - b. (ii) maximum fee, for each head, for each week \$0.848

Depasture permits for Maranoa Regional Council owned land for 2023/24 are:

Cattle - \$6.00 per head per week

Horses - \$9.00 per head per week

Sheep - \$1.00 per head per week

Legislation, Local Laws, State Policies & Other Regulatory Requirements:

Land Act 1994 –

60 Trustee permits

(1) A trustee may issue a trustee permit for the use of all or part of trust land.

(2) A trustee permit must not be inconsistent with—

- (a) the purpose of the trust land; or
- (b) the requirements prescribed by regulation.

(3) Despite subsection (2)(a), a trustee permit may be inconsistent with the purpose of the trust land if—

- (a) a management plan for the trust land has been approved under [section 48](#); and
- (b) the management plan—

(i) identifies the potential impacts of the trustee permit being inconsistent with the purpose of the trust land; and

(ii) states how the trustee permit being inconsistent with the purpose of the trust land would not diminish the purpose of the trust land.

(4) If a trustee permit is for more than 1 year, the trustee must lodge a copy of the permit for registration in the appropriate register.

(5) A trustee permit must not be for more than 3 years.

Council Policies or Asset Management Plans:

Nil

Input into the Report & Recommendation:

Department Resources Stock Route Management Unit

Council's Rates Department - Council doesn't have valuations on state land as they are classed as non-rateable.

Funding Bodies:

Nil

This Financial Year's Budget:

Potential income from Trustee leases / permits.

Future Years' Budgets:

Potential income from Trustee leases / permits.

Impact on Other Individuals or Interested Parties:

Department of Resources – Stock Route Management Unit.

Risks:

Risk	Description of likelihood & consequences
Nil	Nil

Advice to Council:

It is recommended that Council introduce new fees into the 2023/24 Fees and Charges for use of Council managed reserve land for grazing, under a Trustee Lease or Trustee Permit arrangement.

The Department Resources has been historically issuing Permits to Occupy for grazing and term leases, with the Department charging and retaining all associated fees. Council, as the Stock route network manager, has been managing the route without the benefit of revenue from the fees and charges. In the 2022/23 financial year, the Department benefited \$62,906 from payment of annual charges. The type of approval (Permit to Occupy or Trustee Lease) makes no difference to the obligations of Council to manage the land in accordance with the Stock Route Management Act 2002.

As Council doesn't have valuations on state land (as they are classed as non rateable), an alternative charging methodology to that used by the Department has had to be suggested. \$4.40 is the arithmetic mean permit fee for a stock route agistment permit for large stock eg. Maximum fee of \$5.83 + minimum fee of \$2.97 / 2.

Recommendation:

That Council amend the 2023/24 Fees and Charges Schedule to include two new fees to graze Council managed state land under a trustee permit or trustee lease.

1. Application Fee - \$314.71 GST free, per title reference. Application fees are non-refundable.
2. Annual fee – estimated stocking rate x \$4.40 per head per week, with a minimum rental of \$300 per annum plus GST.

Link to Corporate Plan:

Corporate Plan 2018-2023

Strategic Priority 4: Growing our region

4.9 Rural lands

Supporting Documentation:

Nil

Report authorised by:

Director - Regional Development, Environment and Planning

OFFICER REPORT

Meeting: Ordinary 23 August 2023

Date: 21 July 2023

Item Number: 14.6

File Number: D23/59815

SUBJECT HEADING: Roma Saleyards - Rail Loading and Unloading Infrastructure

Classification: Open Access

Officer's Title: Manager - Regional Facilities (Land, Buildings & Structures)

Executive Summary:

Queensland Rail has contacted Council in relation to the facilities to load and unload cattle onto trains at the Roma Saleyards and is seeking Council's interest in acquiring the infrastructure.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council:

1. Purchase the loading infrastructure located within the rail corridor at the Roma Saleyards from Queensland Rail for the negotiated price of \$1.00;
2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or delegate) to sign all documentation relating to this acquisition.

Individuals or Organisations to which the report applies:

Queensland Rail
Saleyards Agents
Livestock Buyers and Sellers
Watco

Acronyms:

Acronym	Description
Nil	Nil

Context:

Queensland Rail has recently come into the possession/ownership of the cattle loading infrastructure (outlined in red) located within rail corridor land (outlined in yellow) at the Roma Saleyards.

The siding has lacked activation in recent years and the State has recently addressed tenure issues relating to rail infrastructure across Queensland. Queensland Rail is seeking any interest from Council in acquiring the infrastructure.



Background:

On 27 April 2023, Council's Chief Executive Officer, General Manager Saleyards, Deputy Director Infrastructure, and Manager Regional Facilities (Land Buildings and Structures) had a preliminary meeting with Chris Hood from Watco, to discuss rail infrastructure capability and development at the Saleyards.

Watco is interested in reintroducing rail transportation to and from the Roma Saleyards. The aim of the meeting was to get an appreciation of Watco's plans for the rail siding, and to better understand the sidings interface with the yards and efficiency/ effectiveness of existing infrastructure eg loading ramps etc.

After the meeting, Council's Manager Regional Facilities contacted Queensland Rail and sought further information on aspects of the proposed sale to Council. The discussion points posed, and the response from Queensland Rail's Manager Property Strategy and Planning are recorded below:

a) price/peppercorn sale? – \$1.00, if demanded. *Subject to approval by Queensland Rail's delegated authority and a formal Transfer Deed being executed by all parties.*

b) upgrades to the infrastructure to bring it back to serviceability – *Transfer of ownership will be on an 'as is, where is' basis. Queensland Rail makes no warranties as to the condition or suitability of the cattle loading infrastructure.*

c) confirmation of what is included in the infrastructure site, particularly confirmation that the 2nd loading rail track is outside of this parcel of land and will remain a QR responsibility – *Track infrastructure is expressly excluded from the transfer and will remain the responsibility of Queensland Rail. The infrastructure to be included in the transfer are the loading bank and fencing only as indicated in the following image:*

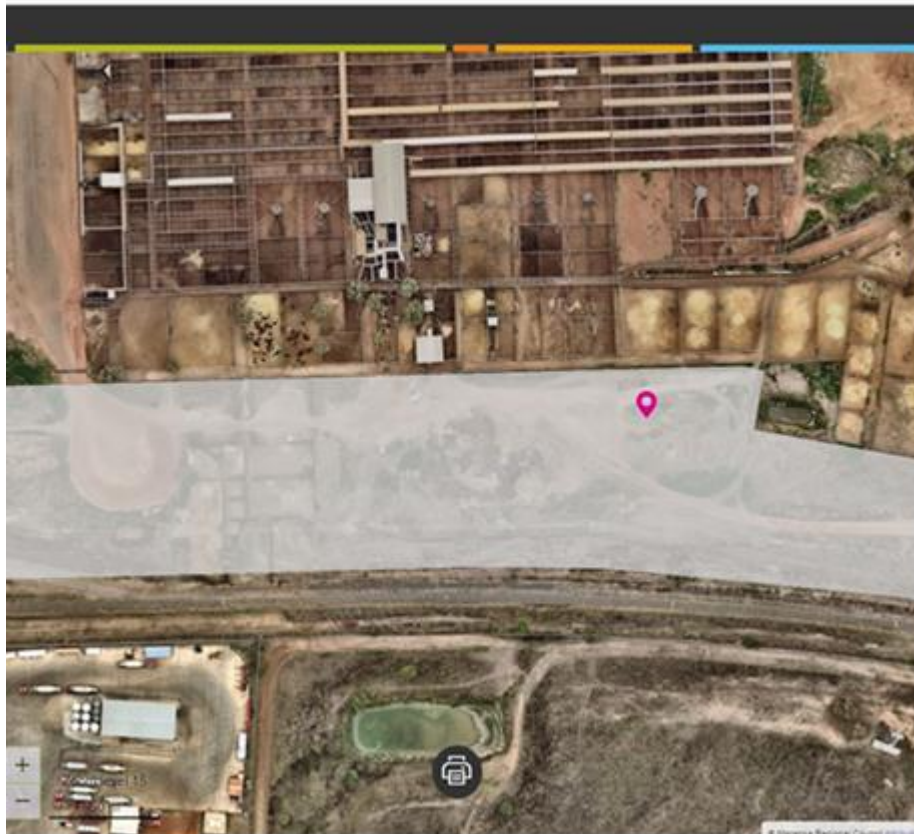
d) exemptions built in (or extended permits) to be able to work on or within this land parcel without the need for a QR permit or observer. – *Queensland Rail cannot*

accept this condition. The infrastructure is located within the operational rail corridor, as such all works at this location must first be approved by the Asset Maintenance Manager Non-Coal and undertaken with appropriate track protection in place.

The yards have been in-situ for many years. The yards and loading ramp that will be used to load and unload the cattle are shown on the map below. The second map shows the same photo with the road overlay.

This area is used by travelling stock to enter the saleyards and the route is proposed to be dedicated as a primary stock route in coming months. At this time it is used as a stock route under the “any road is a stock route” provisions.





Kent Morris, Senior Land Officer State Land and Stock Route Management has been asked about any implications of the land between the rail yards and the Saleyards being a stock route and Kent has advised:

1. Council, as the “manager” of the stock route network, may make improvements to the stock route network, that enhances its use as a stock route.

The construction of the trucking yards on the stock route network would need to demonstrate how it enhances the use of the network for stock route travel. (eg, allowing access to the saleyards for travelling stock, allowing access to the stock route network from rail transport or saleyards). The strategic nature of the asset to the network should also be included in the councils Stock Route Network Management Plan.

2. Any works undertaken on the stock route must not impede the movement of stock on the stock route network (as per S 179 of the Stock route Management Act 2002)
3. Any fencing or other linear infrastructure must be comply with the attached policy “Fencing on the Stock Route Network” paying particular reference to the requirements of gate locations and widths
4. Council should record the infrastructure on the site as a local government owned asset in the Stock Route Management System, to ensure that the obligations regarding ongoing ownership and maintenance of the asset are clear.

Council will also need to make contact with Department of Agriculture Fisheries to discuss the implications in regard to NLIS transfers, particularly giving regard to the fact that the Roma Saleyards, and the Stock Route Network each have a separate PIC number. The Department of Agriculture and Fisheries would be best placed to provide advice in this regard.

The location at which the infrastructure is proposed, is the most used section of the stock route network in the entire state of Queensland, therefore any works at the site needs to be carefully considered against the requirements of the Stock Route Management Act, and the impacts on the continued functioning of the network for travelling stock must be minimised.

Furthermore Kent has advised that travel across the stock route network would constitute travel under the Stock Route Management Act that would ordinarily require a stock route travel permit, however, Kent has checked with the state stock routes policy team, and suggests that Council include the purpose of the yards in the Stock Route Network Management Plan, and explore the possibility of allowing for approval for the use of the yards under either the Local Government Facilities, Areas and Roads Local Law or the Saleyards Local Law to “legitimise” the use of the yards for the saleyards purpose. This may negate the need for the issue of a stock route travel permit for a journey of 70m across the stock route.

Legislation, Local Laws, State Policies & Other Regulatory Requirements:

Land Act
Stock Route Management Act

Council Policies or Asset Management Plans:

Nil

Input into the Report & Recommendation:

Daniel Heslop, General Manager Frank Martinek, Lead Rural Land Services and Funding Officer
Kent Morris - Senior Land Officer, State Land and Stock Route Management, Stock Routes

Funding Bodies:

Nil

This Financial Year's Budget:

Cost of any required upgrades.

Future Years Budgets:

Cost of any required upgrades

Impact on Other Individuals or Interested Parties:

Watco
State Land and Stock Route Management
Queensland Rail

Risks:

Risk	Description of likelihood & consequences
Financial	Possible. Cost of upgrading and maintaining yards.
Compliance	Possible. Compliance with requirements of stock route management requirements.

Advice to Council:

It is recommended that Council acquire the loading infrastructure located in the rail corridor land at the Roma Saleyards from Queensland Rail for the negotiated price of \$1.00 to support the transportation of cattle to and from the Roma Saleyards via rail.

The General Manager of the Saleyards will need to work with Council's Rural Lands team and the State Land and Stock Routes Management team to manage how the Saleyards and Stock Route will interface in this location.

Recommendation:

That Council:

1. Purchase the loading infrastructure located within the rail corridor at the Roma Saleyards from Queensland Rail for the negotiated price of \$1.00;
2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or delegate) to sign all documentation relating to this acquisition.

Link to Corporate Plan:

Corporate Plan 2018-2023
Strategic Priority 4: Growing our region
4.6 Saleyards

Supporting Documentation:

Nil

Report authorised by:

Director - Regional Development, Environment and Planning

OFFICER REPORT

Meeting: Ordinary 23 August 2023

Date: 11 August 2023

Item Number: 14.7

File Number: D23/67090

SUBJECT HEADING: McDonald's Sign at Bassett Park

Classification: Open Access

Officer's Title: Manager - Regional Facilities (Land, Buildings & Structures)

Executive Summary:

McDonald's Roma have a promotional advertising sign installed at the northern corner of Bassett Park where it can be viewed by both travellers through Roma and visitors arriving from the airport. It is recommended that Council enter a signage licence agreement with the new Licensee of McDonald's Roma.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council:

1. Enter a signage licence agreement with the licensee of McDonald's Roma in respect to the promotional sign at Bassett Park Roma.
 2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to sign the agreement.
-

Individuals or Organisations to which the report applies:

McDonald's Roma – New Owner

Acronyms:

Acronym	Description
Nil	Nil

Context:

There has been a McDonald's Roma promotional sign on the northern corner of Bassett Park since at least 2003/2004.

The new licensee of McDonald's Roma has been approached by Council's Manager Regional Facilities (Land, Buildings and Structures) and has agreed to enter into a written agreement in respect to the sign and pay the annual fee for 2023/24.

Background:

Council's Fees and Charges for the 2023/24 year include a fee of \$702 per annum for the sign to be located on Bassett Park.

Legislation, Local Laws, State Policies & Other Regulatory Requirements:

Nil

Council Policies or Asset Management Plans:

Nil

Input into the Report & Recommendation:

Richard Harris - McDonald's Roma Licensee

Andrew Davidson – Overseer Roma

Danielle Pearn Manager Planning, Building & Development - The current planning scheme generally requires a Development Approval for signage on freehold land. There are some exceptions depending on the specifics of the sign, but mostly they are captured as assessable. As the sign has been in place since pre-amalgamation it is considered to be lawfully existing. Council's Local Law for advertising signs does not apply if the sign is assessable under the planning scheme.

Funding Bodies:

Nil

This Financial Year's Budget:

Income \$702 per annum.

Future Years' Budgets:

Annual income as per Council's Fees and Charges.

Impact on Other Individuals or Interested Parties:

Richard Harris - McDonald's Roma Licensee

Risks:

Risk	Description of likelihood & consequences
Complaint by others who may wish to place a sign in this location.	Possible. The current sign has been in-situ since prior to Council amalgamations and approval for the sign would have been granted by the Roma Bungil Saleyards Board who managed Bassett Park.

Advice to Council:

It is recommended that Council enter into a signage licence agreement with the new licensee of McDonald's Roma.

Recommendation:

That Council:

1. Enter a signage licence agreement with the licensee of McDonald's Roma in respect to the promotional sign at Bassett Park Roma.
2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to sign the agreement.

Link to Corporate Plan:

Corporate Plan 2018-2023

Strategic Priority 4: Growing our region

4.13 Sport, recreation and community wellbeing

Supporting Documentation:

Nil

Report authorised by:

Director - Regional Development, Environment and Planning

COUNCILLOR REQUEST FOR AN AGENDA REPORT

Meeting: Ordinary 23 August 2023

Date: 15 August 2023

Item Number: 17.1

File Number: D23/67949

SUBJECT HEADING: Restoration of headstones for military service men and women

Classification: Open Access

Councillor's Title: Cr Julie Guthrie

Executive Summary:

Request for a report investigating potential funding options to restore the faded and aged headstones of men and women who have served in past wars across the region.

Councillor's Recommendation:

That a report be prepared for an upcoming Council meeting.

Details of Requested Agenda Report:

Recent community conversations in the town of Injune have highlighted the fact that there are faded and aged headstones on the graves of service men and women who had served in the military. This is often the case as they are no longer able to be maintained by family members who have either moved away or have also since passed away.

This may also be a consideration for all many headstones placed in our regional cemeteries. I would like to request a report which investigates potential funding options and approaches for their restoration.

Supporting Documentation:

Nil

COUNCILLOR REQUEST FOR AN AGENDA REPORT

Meeting: Ordinary 23 August 2023

Date: 17 August 2023

Item Number: 17.2

File Number: D23/68797

SUBJECT HEADING: Quintin Street Storm Water Upgrade (Section between McDowall and Bowen Streets Roma)

Classification: Open Access

Councillor's Title: Cr Geoff McMullen

Executive Summary:

Currently there is no underground storm water infrastructure between Quintin and Bowen Streets in Roma.

Councillor's Recommendation:

That a report be prepared for a future council meeting outlining estimates and timelines to upgrade the underground storm water from McDowall Street to the new development currently under construction on Quintin Street.

Details of Requested Agenda Report:

Currently the stormwater of the business facing this section of Quintin Street flows through other premises out onto Hawthorne Street, creating problems for all business located in this vicinity for many years.

The proposed upgrade should aim to significantly reducing the amount of stormwater that some businesses have been dealing with for years.

Map of subject area



Supporting Documentation:

Nil