



LATE ITEMS AGENDA

Ordinary Meeting

Wednesday 14 May 2025

Roma Administration Centre

NOTICE OF MEETING

Date: 13 May 2025

Mayor:

Councillor W M Taylor

Deputy Mayor:

Councillor C J O'Neil

Councillors:

Councillor J R P Birkett
Councillor M K Brumpton
Councillor A K Davis
Councillor P J Flynn
Councillor J M Hancock
Councillor B R Seawright
Councillor J R Vincent

Chief Executive Officer:

Robert Hayward

Executive Management:

Brett Exelby – Director Corporate Services
Stephen Scott – Director Bendemere
Seamus Batstone – Director Engineering
Lee Jackson – Director Bungil
Jamie Gorry – 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 **14 May 2025 at 9:00 AM**.

Robert Hayward
Chief Executive Officer

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COUNCILLOR NOTICE OF MOTION

Meeting: Ordinary 14 May 2025

Date: 8 May 2025

Item Number: L.1

File Number: D25/46565

SUBJECT HEADING: Youth Council | Concept Discussion at Councillor Workshop

Classification: Open Access

Councillor's Title: Cr Cameron O'Neil

Executive Summary:

Establishing a Youth Council will empower young people across the Maranoa region to contribute to local decision-making, build leadership skills, and enhance civic engagement. This initiative supports Council's commitment to inclusive community involvement and ensures youth perspectives are reflected in planning and development.

The Youth Council would:

- Provide a platform for youth to share views and ideas;
- Support youth-focused programs and initiatives; and
- Develop leadership, teamwork, and communication skills.

Successful models in councils such as Mackay and Barcaldine demonstrate the benefits of structured youth representation.

A Councillor Workshop is proposed to explore potential models, membership, resourcing, and implementation strategies, ensuring the initiative is representative, accessible, and meaningfully connected to Council processes.

Councillor's Recommendation:

That Council endorse the inclusion of an agenda item titled 'Establishment of a Youth Council' for discussion at an upcoming Councillor Workshop, with the aim of exploring opportunities to establish a representative body that fosters youth engagement and participation in local government decision-making.

Background:

Engaging young people in local government is a recognised strategy for developing future leaders, increasing civic participation, and ensuring that decisions reflect the diverse perspectives of the community. A Youth Council (or Youth Advisory Group) would provide a platform for young people across the Maranoa region to:

- Share their views on community matters;
- Contribute ideas for youth-focused programs, events, and infrastructure; and
- Develop leadership, teamwork, and public speaking skills.

A Youth Council also aligns with Council's broader goal of inclusive community engagement, providing opportunities for young people to have a voice in shaping their communities.

Similar initiatives have been successfully implemented by a number of local governments across Queensland, including Mackay Regional Council and Barcaldine Regional Councils. These examples demonstrate the value of providing a formal structure for youth representation and show how it can lead to meaningful contributions to Council planning and community development.

Bringing the concept to a Councillor Workshop will provide the opportunity for a collaborative and informed discussion around possible models, membership structures, resourcing requirements, and how best to pilot or stage the initiative across the Maranoa region. The workshop discussion can also explore how to ensure the Youth Council is representative, accessible, and linked meaningfully with Council decision-making processes.

Supporting Documentation:

Nil

Notice prepared by:

Cr. Cameron O'Neil

OFFICER REPORT

Meeting: Ordinary 14 May 2025

Date: 28 April 2025

Item Number: L.2

File Number: D25/42587

SUBJECT HEADING: Maranoa Medical Bursary Program

Classification: Open Access

Officer's Title: Project and Administration Officer

Executive Summary:

This report is to seek Councils endorsement of The Maranoa Nursing Advancement Bursary Program for 2025

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council:

1. Adopt the Maranoa Nursing Advancement Bursary Program framework document.
 2. Launch and deliver the Maranoa Nursing Advancement Bursary Program for 2025–2026
 3. Form an assessment panel comprising two Councillors and three nursing professionals.
-

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

Background (*Including any previous Council decisions*):

In 2025, the inaugural Maranoa Medical Bursary Program was launched, attracting 14 applicants. A selection panel consisting of Councillors, medical professionals, and Council staff reviewed the applications, and Council endorsed the recommended recipients (**OM01.2024/75**). The program offered three types of bursaries: the Doctor Retention Bursary, which received three applicants, with two awarded bursary payments of \$20,000 each; the Student Doctor Bursary, which had four applicants, with one awarded \$20,000 and two receiving commendations of \$2,500 each; and the Nursing Bursary, which received seven applications, with three recipients each awarded \$10,000. Although the bursary framework was never formally adopted by Council, it was used to determine eligibility based on medical professionals' advice at the time and was referenced in Council Resolution **OM07.2023/39**.

Following the first year, a review of the program identified that while it was well received by applicants, it did not achieve the intended goal of retaining doctors within the region. However, the nursing bursary component was more successful in supporting the retention of nursing staff. As a result, it is recommended that the program be refined to focus on Nursing Advancement, supporting nurses in the Maranoa region who are pursuing specialisation through an Advanced Nursing Degree. Eligible fields of study will include Midwifery, Nurse Practitioners, and

Clinical Nurse Specialists. The program will provide up to four bursaries of \$10,000 each per year, with recipients selected based on the panel's recommendations.

Council also has an ongoing obligation to continue supporting the renewal of the Medical Student Bursary for the duration of the recipient's studies or up to seven years, whichever comes first. The successful applicant can continue applying for the annual \$20,000 renewal payment, provided they submit the necessary supporting documentation as outlined in the program. To ensure the sustainability of the revised program, an annual budget of \$60,000 will be required—\$40,000 for the four Nursing Advancement Bursaries and \$20,000 for the Medical Student Bursary renewal. This refined approach will ensure the bursary program effectively contributes to workforce retention in the healthcare sector within the Maranoa region.

The draft framework was reviewed by Dr Anthony Brown Health Service Chief Executive Officer, who suggested minor changes to the document which were implemented into the draft document. Dr Brown expressed his interest in partnering with Maranoa Regional Council on this program.

Dr Brown has also provided the following feedback on the success of the two recipients from last year's program, thus further supporting the program for 25/26:

Both recipients are continuing to work in the Maranoa region. One has completed her Graduate Certificate and has now commenced her Nurse Practitioner studies, recently completing her first clinical placement in Roma. The second recipient is currently undertaking a Graduate Certificate in Emergency Nursing in Roma. This support has been highly beneficial, helping to upskill the local workforce in critical areas and ensuring we are growing our own future healthcare professionals.

Options Considered:

One option considered was to discontinue the program due to the number of scholarships and bursary programs already available through various organisations. However, this was not recommended, as it was identified that the nursing sector would greatly benefit from the program. Additionally, with the future of medicine increasingly focusing on advanced nursing degrees, continuing the bursary program would provide valuable support for nurses pursuing specialised qualifications.

Recommendation:

That Council:

1. Adopt the Maranoa Nursing Advancement Bursary Program framework document.
2. Launch and deliver the Maranoa Nursing Advancement Bursary Program for 2025–2026
3. Form an assessment panel comprising two Councillors and three nursing professionals.

Risks:

Risk	Description of likelihood & consequences
Discontinue the program	Nurses within our region may not be able to advance their career due to financial burden when undertaking their placement within the medical sector.

Policy and Legislative Compliance:

N/A

Budget / Funding (*Current and future*):

\$55,000 remains in the 24/25 budget for this program. It is recommended that the remaining budget be carried over into 25/26 to cover the bursary funding and to also cover the Student Dr bursary program which will require a top up of \$5,000 giving the 25/26 budget a total of \$60,000

Timelines / Deadlines:

asap

Consultation (*Internal / External*):

CEO of Maranoa Regional Council
Manager Economic and Community Development
Health Service Chief Executive Officer

Strategic Asset Management Implications:

(If applicable, outline changes to whole of life costs and / or level of service)

n/a

Acronyms:

Acronym	Description
<Insert Acronym>	<Provide details>

Addition to Operational or Corporate Plan:

Plan Description	Yes / No
Operational	Yes – this is within our current Operational plan and will need to continue into the 25/26 Operational plan
Corporate	No

Link to Corporate Plan:

Corporate Plan 2023-2028

Strategic Priority 4: Growing our region

4.1 Work with our communities to identify priorities, and provide leadership and advocacy to grow our region

Supporting Documentation:

1 [↓](#) Maranoa Nursing Advancement Bursary Program Policy D25/29784
DRAFT

Report authorised by:

Chief Executive Officer



The Maranoa Nursing Advancement Bursary Program Framework

1. Introduction

The Maranoa Nursing Bursary Program aims to provide financial assistance and professional development opportunities to nursing students and professionals from the Maranoa Local Government Area, Queensland. The program supports Nursing individuals committed to serving the local community in the nursing field.

2. Maranoa Nursing Advancement Bursary Program

2.1 Objective

The Maranoa nursing Advancement Bursary Program provides financial assistance to existing nurses living and working in the region who wish to specialize in midwifery (CNMs), nurse practitioner (NPs) and clinical nurse specialists (CNSs) roles. It aims to mitigate the financial burden associated with unpaid clinical placements while fostering professional growth and retention in the Maranoa region.

2.2 Eligibility Criteria Applicants must meet the following criteria:

1. Residents of the Maranoa Local Government Area, Queensland, Australia.
2. Enrolled in an accredited nursing program specialising in midwifery (CNMs), nurse practitioner (NPs) and clinical nurse specialists (CNSs) studies.
3. Demonstrated commitment to the nursing profession and a clear motivation to pursue a career in midwifery or nursing advanced professional roles.
4. Financial need will be considered.

2.3 Number of Bursaries

The Maranoa Nursing Advancement Bursaries for midwifery (CNMs), nurse practitioner (NPs) and clinical nurse specialists (CNSs) will be awarded in any combination, depending on applications recommended by the panel. Up to four bursaries will be awarded to the value of \$10,000 each.

2.4 Application Process

1. Interested candidates must complete the official application form, including personal information, academic achievements, professional goals, a personal statement, and references.
2. Applications can be submitted online through the Council's website or via mail.
3. Application deadlines will be specified annually.

2.5 Selection Process



1. A selection committee composed of nursing professionals, Councillors, and program coordinators will review applications.
2. The selection panel chair will be a nurse.
3. Applicants will be assessed based on academic achievements, commitment to the nursing profession, financial need, professional goals, and personal statements.
4. Shortlisted candidates may be invited for an interview or additional assessments if necessary.
5. Final selection will be made by Council based on the committee's evaluation and recommendation.

2.6 Notification and Award

1. Successful recipients will be notified via email or phone.
2. Recipients will receive an official award letter detailing the bursary terms and conditions.
3. Bursary funds will be disbursed directly to the recipients to cover educational expenses such as tuition or clinical placement costs.

2.7 Monitoring and Evaluation

1. Recipients must provide a final results report to the program committee, showcasing their academic achievements and successful completion of their specialty within a month of completion or they may have to repay their bursary back to Council.
2. The program committee will evaluate the program's impact based on recipients' feedback, academic progress, and career advancement.
3. Review and Amendments This framework will be reviewed periodically to ensure its continued relevance and effectiveness. Amendments may be made as required by the Council to enhance program objectives and outcomes.



Maranoa Nursing Advancement Bursary Program Application Form

1. Medical Pathway

What training Pathway are you planning/currently undertaking?

- Midwifery (CNMs)
 - Nurse practitioner (NPs)
 - Clinical nurse specialists (CNSs)
-

2. Residency

Are you a resident or do you reside in the Maranoa Local Government Area? For how long?

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Comments:

3. Personal Information

Please enter the following details:

- Full Name:
- Date of Birth (DOB):
- Contact Number:
- Email Address:
- Residential Address:
- Postal Address (if different):
- Do you identify as being of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin?

○

4. Education

Are you enrolled in an accredited medical school or nursing program?

- Current Education Facility:
- Course of Study:
- Where did you complete your secondary education?



- How long have you been in the Maranoa Region?
 - Please provide proof of enrolment
-

5. Professional Goals

Please explain why you would be a suitable recipient of the Maranoa Nursing Advancement Bursary. What are your medium- and long-term professional goals? (Max 300 words):

6. Personal Statement

This is a space to demonstrate a more holistic picture of yourself. Please tell us about yourself. For example:

- How would you describe your connection to the community?
 - What attracts you to the rural lifestyle?
 - What can you bring to the community?
 - Are you currently the recipient of any other scholarship or bursary?
 - Value received
 - Timeframe
 - Contractual obligations
-

7. Financial Need

How would this bursary benefit you financially? (Max 200 words):

8. References

Please provide the names and contact information of two references (e.g., teachers, employers, community leaders):

1. **Name:**
Contact Information:
 2. **Name:**
Contact Information:
-

9. Additional Information

Is there any additional information you would like the selection panel to consider? (Max 200 words):



10. Declaration

I declare that the information provided in this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that any false information provided may disqualify my application.

11. Submission

Please submit the completed application via email or in person. Please include any supporting documents (such as academic records, a personal statement, or references).

Submission Options:

In Person or by Post: Any Council administration office or PO Box 620, Roma QLD 4455

Email: council@maranoa.qld.gov.au

OFFICER REPORT

Meeting: Ordinary 14 May 2025

Date: 9 May 2025

Item Number: L.3

File Number: D25/46804

SUBJECT HEADING: Services Building Roma - Future Purpose

Classification: Open Access

Officer's Title: (Acting Manager) - Regional Facilities
Management

Executive Summary:

The Roma Services Building is located at 85 – 91 Bowen Street Roma, being Lot 4 on R86106.

The future use of this building is presented for Council's consideration.

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council:

1. Undertake an Expression of Interest (EOI) process to assess interest from potential tenants for the Services Building located at 85 – 91 Bowen Street Roma.
2. Invite respondents to the EOI to provide:
 - a) Details of their proposed use of the premises.
 - b) Capacity to manage and operate the facility in compliance with relevant regulations of their proposed use.
 - c) The potential benefits to the local community and/or business sector.
 - d) Any requirements for fit-out and anticipated financial contributions.
 - e) Proposed commercial rental terms, including the rental amount offered for tenancy.
3. Receive a further report on the outcome of the EOI process including recommendations for the future use and management of the space.

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

The Roma Services Building is located at 85 – 91 Bowen Street Roma, on Reserve land described as Lot 4 on R86106.

The Reserve purpose is for educational purposes.

This report seeks Council's consideration and direction regarding the future use of the facility.

Background *(Including any previous Council decisions):*

The Endeavour foundation was previously the Trustee of the Reserve and owner of the building located on Lot 4 on R86106. In July 2023, the Endeavour Foundation approached Council expressing it's interest in selling the building and transferring the Trusteeship of the Reserve to Council.

At the Ordinary Meeting held on 22 November 2023, Council considered this proposal and resolved as follows:

Resolution No. OM/11.2023/71

That Council:

1. List for inclusion sufficient funds to affect the purchase of the buildings in-situ in the quarterly budget review process in Quarter 2.
2. Subject to sufficient funds being approved and allocated during the budget quarterly review process above, authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or delegate) to finalise negotiations with Endeavour Foundation Inc. Qld in relation to the acquisition of the buildings located at 85-91 Bowen Street, Roma with the purchase to be conditional on the successful transfer of the Educational Reserve on which the buildings are located, to Council's trusteeship.
3. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or delegate) to apply to the Department of Resources to have the trusteeship of the Educational Institution Reserve described as Lot 4 on R86106 transferred from the Endeavour Foundation Inc. Qld to Council.
4. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer (or delegate) to execute all contracts and other documentation associated with finalising this matter.

Following this resolution, further investigation and due diligence were undertaken. A subsequent report was presented at the Council Meeting held on 26 June 2024, Council resolved as follows:

Resolution No. OM/06.2024/53

That Council:

1. Confirm support for Resolution OM/11.2023/71, and authorise the Chief Executive Officer to complete the purchase of the building located at 85 – 91 Bowen Street Roma on land described as Lot 4 on R86106 for \$140,000 (plus GST).
2. Notes that \$140,000 was approved in the 2024/25 budget at the Special Budget Meeting to complete the purchase.

Council completed the purchase and formally became the Trustee of the Reserve in December 2024.

Following this, Council received correspondence expressing interest in leasing the facility.

Council is asked to consider the future use of the facility by releasing an EOI to assess potential tenancy opportunities that align with the Reserve's educational purpose.

Options Considered:

Council contributing budget towards maintenance of the facility as outlined in the building condition report.

Recommendation:

That Council:

1. Undertake an Expression of Interest (EOI) process to assess interest from potential tenants for the Roma Services Building located at 85 – 91 Bowen Street Roma.
2. Invite respondents to the EOI to provide:
 - a) Details of their proposed use of the premises.
 - b) Capacity to manage and operate the facility in compliance with relevant regulations of their proposed use.
 - c) The potential benefits to the local community and/or business sector.
 - d) Any requirements for fit-out and anticipated financial contributions.
 - e) Proposed commercial rental terms, including the rental amount offered for tenancy.
3. Receive a further report on the outcome of the EOI process including recommendations for the future use and management of the space.

Risks:

Risk	Description of likelihood & consequences
Loss of Income	Unoccupied building.

Policy and Legislative Compliance:

Section 227 – Local Government Regulation 2012

Maranoa Planning Scheme

Budget / Funding (*Current and future*):

If approved, funds towards maintenance as outlined in the building condition report.

Timelines / Deadlines:

Nil

Consultation (Internal / External):

Director – Regional Development, Environment and Planning.

Senior Town Planner

Economic Development and Tourism Officer

Strategic Asset Management Implications:

(If applicable, outline changes to whole of life costs and / or level of service)

Nil

Acronyms:

Acronym	Description
EOI	Expression of Interest

Addition to Operational or Corporate Plan:

Plan Description	Yes / No
Operational	No
Corporate	No

Link to Corporate Plan:

Corporate Plan 2023-2028

Corporate Plan Pillar 3: Connectivity

3.1 Quality, fit-for-purpose strategic facilities

Supporting Documentation:

Nil

Report authorised by:

Director - Regional Development, Environment & Planning