

Minutes

Ordinary Meeting of Council

Corryong Council Office

Tuesday 5 September 2017

This information is available in alternative formats on request

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL TO BE HELD AT TOWONG
SHIRE COUNCIL, CORRYONG OFFICE ON TUESDAY 5 SEPTEMBER 2017
COMMENCING AT 10.30 AM.**

Commonly used acronyms

ABBREVIATION	TITLE
Staff	
CAE	Civil Asset Engineer
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
DCCS	Director Community and Corporate Services
DTS	Director Technical Services
EA	Executive Assistant
MCS	Manager Community Services
MED	Manager Economic Development
Government/Organisation	
ACSUM	Alliance of Councils and Shires of the Upper Murray
DEDJTR	Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources
DELWP	Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
GMW	Goulburn Murray Water
HRGLN	Hume Region Local Government Network
MAV	Municipal Association of Victoria
NECMA	North East Catchment Management Authority
NEW	North East Water
NEWRRG	North East Waste and Resource Recovery Group
RCV	Rural Councils Victoria
RDA	Regional Development Australia
RDV	Regional Development Victoria
THS	Tallangatta Health Service
UMHCS	Upper Murray Health and Community Services

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1 Opening Prayer

"Almighty God, we ask that you be present at this meeting to assist us in our service to the Community through Local Government.

We pray that our decisions will be wise and taken with goodwill and clear conscience.

Amen."

2 Councillor and Officer presence at the meeting

Present: Crs Wortmann, Scales, Star, Tolsher and Whitehead

In Attendance:	Title:
Ms J Phelps	Chief Executive Officer
Ms J Shannon	Director Community and Corporate Services
Mr J Heritage	Director Technical Services

3 Apologies and granting of leave of absence

Nil

4 Declaration of pecuniary interest and/or conflict

For the purpose of this section, Councillors must disclose the nature of the conflict of interest in accordance with s79(2) of the Local Government Act.

Nil

5 Confirmation of minutes

Ordinary Meeting of 1 August 2017 and Special Meeting of 15 August 2017.

CR STAR CR TOLSHER

THAT THE MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 1 AUGUST 2017 AND SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON 15 AUGUST 2017 AS CIRCULATED BE CONFIRMED.

CARRIED

6 Petitions, joint letters and declarations

Nil

7 Assembly of Councillors

A written record of the Assemblies of Councillors from 19 July to 29 August 2017 is included at [Appendix 1](#).

**CR WHITEHEAD
CR STAR**

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT THE INFORMATION BE NOTED SUBJECT TO THE AMENDMENT OF THE 1 AUGUST 2017 MEETING RECORD.

CARRIED

8 Open Forum

NAME	TOPIC
Mr Angus McLean	Mr McLean enquired as to the s173 Agreements in relation to the Jarvis Subdivision. Mr McLean also raised the issue of the erosion of land at McNamara's Bridge (CMA matter) and also enquired about the draft Hunting Tourism Strategy.
Mr Peter Koopmans	Mr Koopmans spoke about negotiating with Council about future employment, deer hunting and the disposal of carcasses.

9 Organisational improvement

9.1 Finance Report as at July 2017 (06/02/0021-DCCS)

Disclosure of Interests (S.80C):

This report was prepared by Mr Blair Phillips, Manager Finance.

At the time of preparation of the report the officer did not have a direct or indirect interest in any matter to which the report or advice relates.

OPERATING RESULT

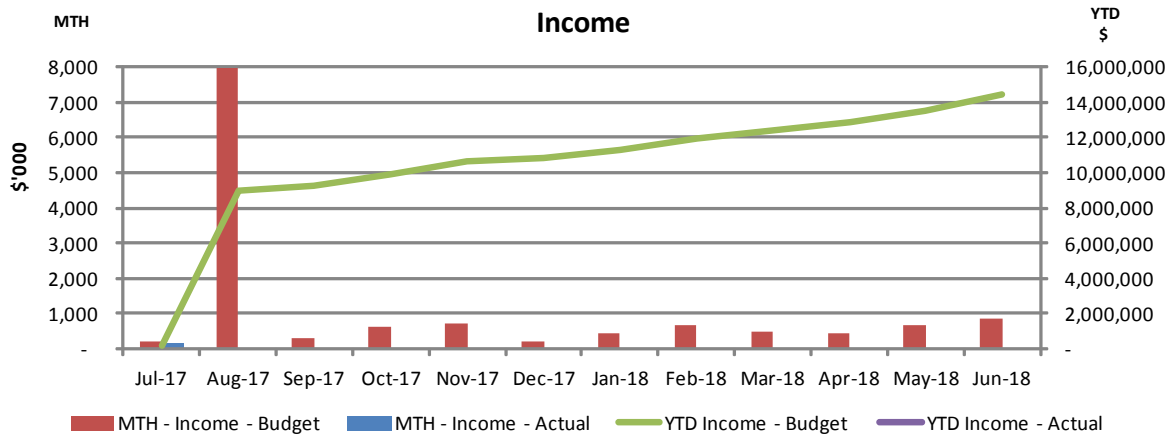
	Note	Jul-17 (Actual) \$'000	Jul-17 (Budget) \$'000	YTD (Actual) \$'000	YTD (Budget) \$'000	YTD (Variance) \$'000	YTD (Variance) %	2017/18 Full Year (Budget) \$'000	2017/18 Full Year (Achieved) %
Income	1	160	193	160	193	(33)	(17%)	14,394	1%
Expenditure	2	644	766	644	766	122	16%	14,522	4%
Surplus/ (Deficit)		(484)	(573)	(484)	(573)	89	(16%)	(128)	378%

Table 1: Operating Result

Note 1:

Council's YTD income at 31 July 2017 is \$160,000 against a budget of \$193,000. The major items contributing to the \$33,000 unfavourable variance include:

- Revenue received that was not budgeted in 2017/18:
 - \$30,000 in charges in lieu of rates that was back dated to the date of commissioning a new hydro-electric power station at Banimboola.
- Revenue that will be received later than anticipated:
 - \$67,000 of investment interest income that was accrued as earned for financial year ending 30 June 2017 will not be paid until maturity of the short-term term deposits.



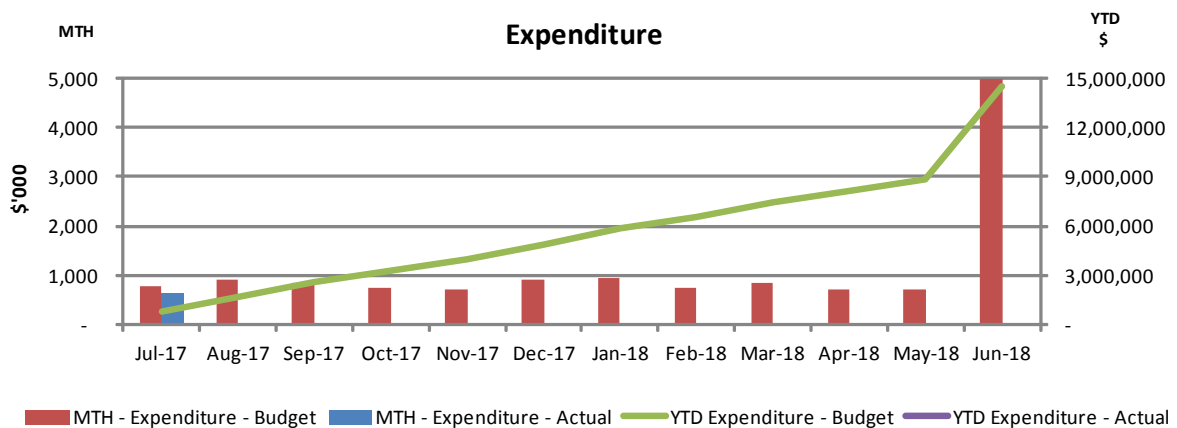
Note 2:

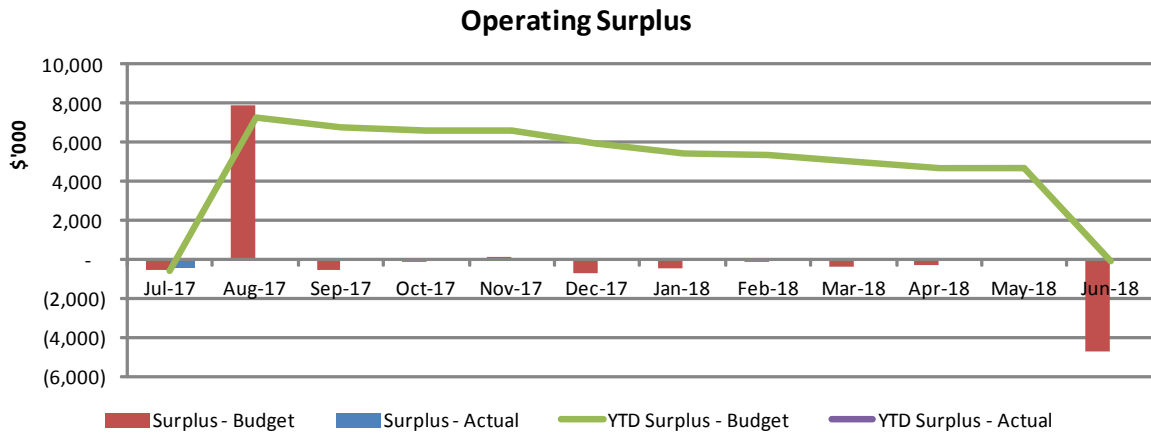
Council’s expenditure at 31 July 2017 is \$644,000 against a budget of \$766,000. The major items contributing to the \$122,000 favourable variance include:

- Expenses that will be incurred later than anticipated:
 - \$36,000 for invoices not yet received for services rendered in planning and building services.
 - \$32,000 for employee on-costs with an invoice for WorkCover not yet received.
 - \$28,000 for insurance on Council buildings.

- Expenses that were not budgeted for in 2017/18:
 - \$40,000 for works to repair infrastructure due to flood damage. This is expected to be reimbursed by the State Government once all works are complete (timing difference)

- YTD to 31 July 2017 Council is operating at 65.8 EFT staff against a budget of 71.6 EFT.





Grant Income

	Note	Jul-17	YTD	YTD	YTD	YTD	2017/18	2017/18
		(Actual)	(Actual)	(Budget)	(Variance)	(Variance)	(Budget)	(Achieved)
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%	\$'000	%
Recurrent	1	97	97	84	13	15%	3,290	3%
Non-Recurrent	2	22	22	15	7	47%	1,223	2%
Total		119	119	99	20	20%	4,513	3%

Table 2: Grant Income

Note 1:

Council's YTD recurrent grant income at 31 July 2017 is \$97,000 against a budget of \$84,000. The major items contributing to the \$13,000 favourable variance include:

- Revenue received that was not budgeted:
 - \$9,000 has been received above the budgeted amount for July including funds for the Occasional Care program
 - \$3,000 additional income has been received in grant funding under the Public Library Funding Program. Council budgeted for \$100,000 to be received from this program for 2017/18 and will actually receive \$106,000. Half of the current year funding has been received.

Note 2:

Council's YTD non-recurrent grant income at 31 July 2017 is \$22,000 against a budget of \$15,000. The major item contributing to the \$7,000 favourable variance is receiving \$6,000 in funding for the Freeza program earlier than anticipated.

Grants received Year-to-Date (YTD) are in the following table:

	\$'000
Recurrent Grants	
Library	53
Maternal and Child Health	13
Corryong Pre School	10
Tallangatta Pre School	9
Berringa Pre School	6
Community Access	3
Pre-School Cluster	3
Total Recurrent Grants	97
Non-Recurrent Grants	
Tallangatta Neighbourhood House	15
Freeza Funding	6
Community Health and Wellbeing	1
Total Non-Recurrent Grants	22
Total Grants Received	119

Table 3: Grant Income received

Unexpended Grants and Restricted Funds

Where Council has received grants that are required to be expended in a specified manner, but the funds have not yet been expended, the grant is recognised as an unexpended grant or restricted funds. This identifies cash holdings that are required to be spent on a specified purpose and are not available for other Council priorities.

The following table provides a listing of current unexpended grants:

	\$'000
Unexpended Grants	
Roads to Recovery (R2R)	302
Corryong Swimming Pool Upgrade Grant	178
Improved Connections Hanson Street project	135
Community Access	111
Country Roads and Bridges	105
Mitta North Rd Intersection Improvement	85
Omeo Hwy Pedestrian Path Eskdale	80
Walwa Streetscape	80
Tallangatta Neighbourhood House	52
Flood Recovery Officer	40
Library	40
Local Gov Business Collaboration	32
L2P Program	24
Freeza Funding	21
Bushfire Management Overlay	13
Kinder Enrolment	12
The Narrows Project	10
Children Services Review	10
Improving Liveability of Older People	10
Beat the Heat - Tree Project	8
Weed Project	6
Maternal and Child Health Enhancement	5
Health Promotions (Walk to School)	5
Total Unexpended Grants	1,364

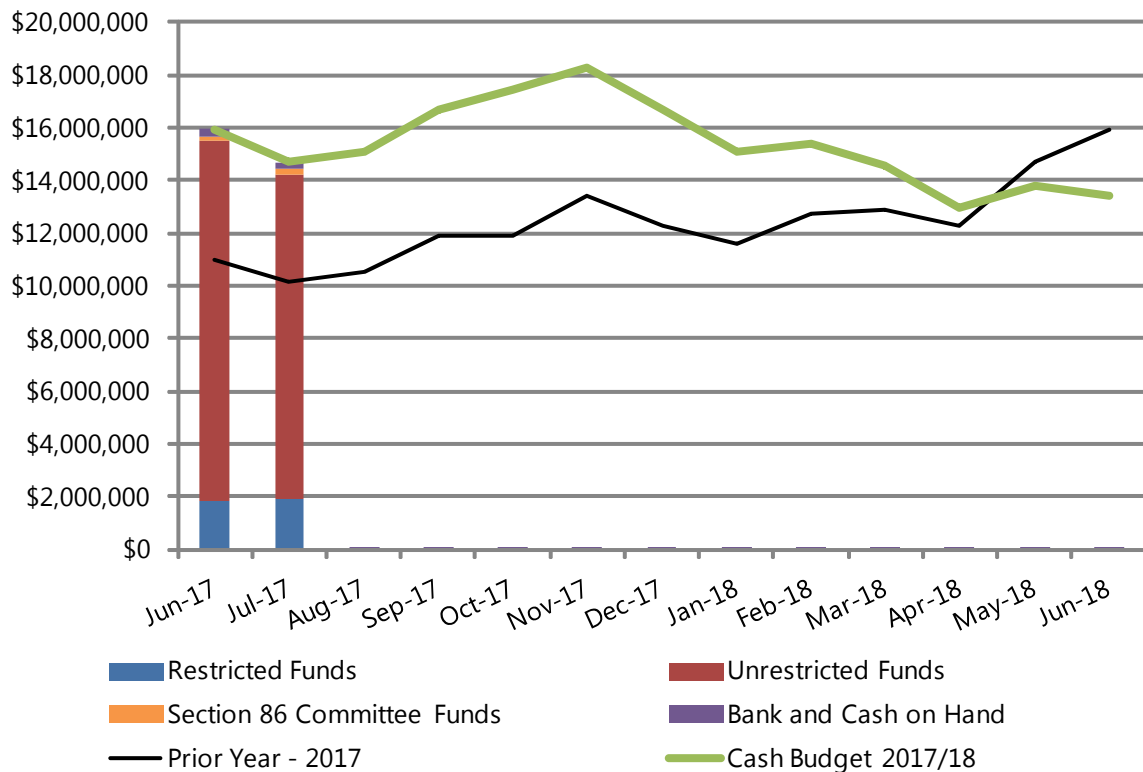
Table 4: Unexpended Grants

CASH POSITION

Cash on Hand

The cash position moved during the month as detailed below:

	Current Month	Prior Month	Variance	
	Jul-17	Jun-17	\$	%
	\$	\$	\$	%
Unexpended Grants	1,364,890	1,301,087	63,803	4.9%
Other Provisions and Reserves	525,102	541,802	(16,700)	(3.1%)
Restricted Funds	1,889,992	1,842,889	47,103	2.6%
Provision for Employee Entitlements	1,200,307	1,064,669	135,638	12.7%
Other Unrestricted Funds	11,164,607	12,593,824	(1,429,217)	(11.3%)
Total Unrestricted Funds	12,364,914	13,658,493	(1,293,579)	(9.5%)
Section 86 Committee Funds	196,445	190,555	5,891	3.1%
Total Investments	14,451,351	15,691,937	(1,240,586)	(7.9%)
Bank and Cash on Hand	259,350	259,350	-	0.0%
Total Cash	14,710,701	15,951,286	(1,240,586)	(7.8%)
Average Interest Rate	2.46%	2.39%		



Investments

Investments were made up of the following at the month end:

Date	Product	Institution	Principal	Yield	Term	Rating	Maturity
20/06/2017	Term Deposit	Bank of Queensland	1,000,000	2.05%	61 Days	A2	21/08/2017
21/06/2017	Term Deposit	Bendigo Bank	1,500,000	2.70%	279 Days	A2	20/03/2018
17/03/2017	Term Deposit	AMP	1,000,000	2.75%	180 Days	A1	13/09/2017
14/03/2017	Term Deposit	Bendigo Bank	1,000,000	2.55%	184 Days	A2	14/09/2017
3/05/2017	Term Deposit	Bank of Queensland	1,500,000	2.65%	184 Days	A2	3/11/2017
8/02/2017	Term Deposit	ME Bank	1,000,000	2.70%	273 Days	A2	8/11/2017
18/05/2017	Term Deposit	Bank of Queensland	1,500,000	2.80%	186 Days	A2	20/11/2017
9/03/2017	Term Deposit	Bendigo Bank	1,000,000	2.65%	214 Days	A2	9/10/2017
5/04/2017	Term Deposit	AMP	1,000,000	2.75%	188 Days	A1	10/10/2017
14/06/2017	Term Deposit	ME Bank	1,000,000	2.65%	182 Days	BB	13/12/2017
11/01/2017	Term Deposit	WAW	863,327	2.60%	368 Days		11/02/2018
N/A	Cash Management	Westpac	1,891,579	1.55%	On Call	AA-	N/A
N/A	S86 Committees	Various	196,445	4.68%	N/A		N/A
Total Investments			14,451,351				

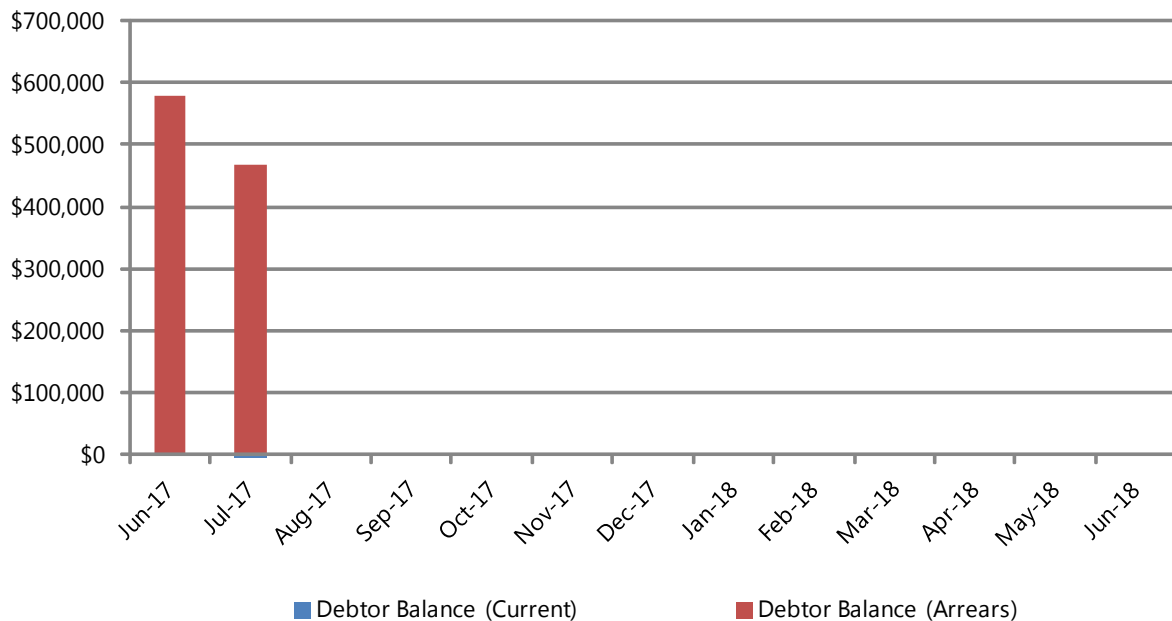
Table 5: Investments at month end

RECEIVABLES

Rates, Municipal Charge, Waste Management Charge and Waste Collection Charge

The breakdown of rates received for the current month and year-to-date is shown in the following table and graph:

Rates, charges and FSPL Debtors						
	Amount	Received	% Collected	Received	Collected	Balance
	\$	Jul-17	Jul-17	YTD	YTD	Outstanding
	\$	\$	%	\$	\$	\$
Levied 2017/18	-	31,079	0.0%	31,079	0.0%	(31,079)
Arrears prior to 2017/18	577,651	111,189	19.2%	111,189	19.2%	466,462
Total Charges		142,268		142,268		435,383

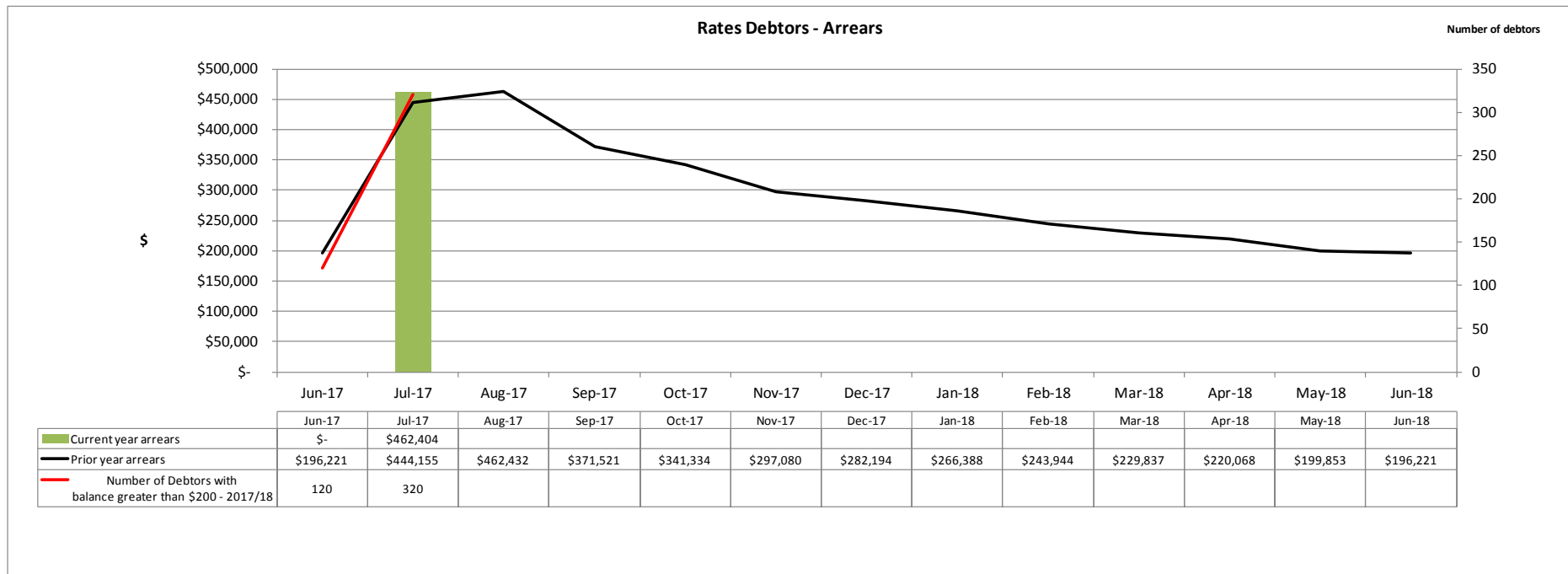


Rates and charges for 2017/18 will be levied in August 2017. There are some payments that have been received in advance for the current year's rates due to payment arrangements that are in place. These payments may be reflected as negative balances in the debtors report until the rates are levied in August.

Quarterly instalments are due at the end of September, November, February and May.

Debt Collection

The graph below compares the arrears balances as at the end of each month for the current financial year (2017/18) and the arrears balances at the equivalent time in the prior financial year (2016/17). The number of debtors with a balance greater than \$200 relates to the 2017/18 financial year.

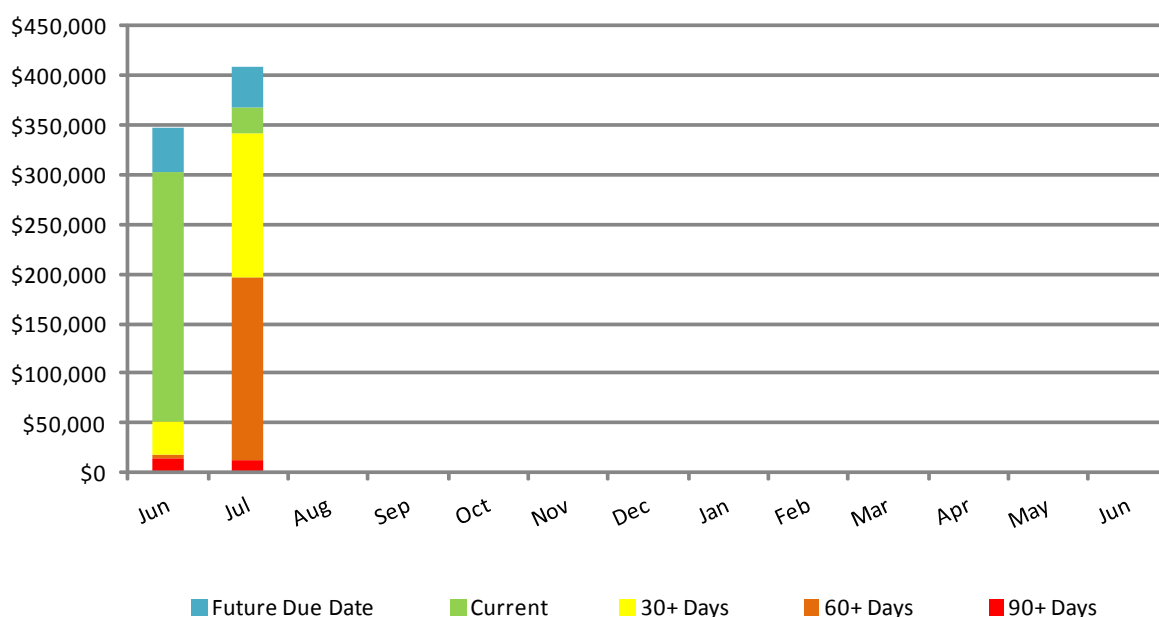


At 31 July 2017 there were 320 rates debtors with an outstanding balance of greater than \$200. This is an increase of 200 debtors since 30 June 2017. This increase is due to rates debtors that have outstanding 2016/17 rates now being included in this report.

Sundry Debtors

The Sundry Debtors outstanding at month end and the movement from the prior month is shown below:

Sundry Debtors	Future Due Date	Current	30 Days	60 Days	90+ Days	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
July 2017	41,508	26,268	143,460	184,044	13,406	408,686
June 2017	44,258	251,185	33,213	4,165	14,021	346,843
Movement	(2,750)	(224,917)	110,247	179,879	(615)	61,843



Significant debtors (>\$1,000) with ageing of greater than 90 days are as follows:

Debtor	Amount	Description	RO	Notes
Debtor 17007	\$1,540	Cost recovery for slashing	BP	Contact has been made with the debtor and is expected to be recovered.
Debtor 18925	\$3,250	Community contribution	BP	The debtor has requested a meeting with the CEO and a meeting has now been scheduled.
Debtor 19755	\$1,548	50% Cost Recovery for weed control	BP	Contact has been made with the debtor and is expected to be recovered.
Debtor 20210	\$1,100	Fees	BP	Contact has been made with the debtor and is expected to be recovered.

Table 6: Significant debtors > 90 days

LOCAL ROADS

The following tables report on progress of Local Roads and Bridges Capital and Maintenance programs.

Local Roads and Bridges Capital Works

Local Roads and Bridges Infrastructure - Capital	Note	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance	Annual Budget
		\$	\$	\$	\$
410 Road Construction	1	46,996	-	(46,996)	1,290,642
411 Pavement Reconstruction		-	-	-	100,000
416 Sealing		-	-	-	-
417 Resealing		-	-	-	550,000
420 Drainage Construction		-	-	-	30,000
421 Digouts		-	-	-	650,000
422 Resheeting		-	-	-	180,000
432 Footpaths		-	-	-	145,000
433 Kerb and Channel		-	-	-	585,000
442 Guardrails		-	-	-	30,000
450 Bridge Construction		-	-	-	100,000
Total		46,996	-	(46,996)	3,660,642

Table 7: Local Roads & Bridges – Capital Works (YTD)

Note 1:

Invoices for works on Towong Street as part of the Destination Tallangatta project were received earlier than anticipated (timing variance).

Local Roads and Bridges Maintenance

The table below shows maintenance of local roads and bridges. Flood damage works are reported in Table 9 later in this report.

Local Roads and Bridges Infrastructure - Maintenance	Note	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance	Annual Budget
		\$	\$	\$	\$
302 Survey and Design		-	500	500	65,000
304 Pavement Maintenance		7,245	7,500	255	148,000
306 Grading		7,017	5,000	(2,017)	452,000
308 Shoulder Maintenance		136	1,000	864	98,000
310 Drainage Maintenance		11,988	7,500	(4,488)	167,000
312 Call Outs		-	1,000	1,000	20,000
324 General Roadside Maintenance		3,599	9,000	5,401	73,000
328 Tree Maintenance		4,826	7,000	2,174	122,000
330 Footpath Maintenance		-	500	500	8,000
331 Kerb and Channel Maintenance		-	-	-	5,000
334 Roadside Treatments		-	-	-	15,000
336 Signs Maintenance		2,339	1,000	(1,339)	12,000
338 Linemarking		-	-	-	10,000
340 Guideposts		682	500	(182)	7,000
342 Guardrail		-	-	-	5,000
346 Fire Access Tracks		-	-	-	5,000
346 Bridge Maintenance		5,232	-	(5,232)	30,000
Total		43,064	40,500	(2,564)	1,242,000

Table 8: Local Roads & Bridges - Maintenance (YTD)

The Local Roads and Bridges maintenance program is budgeted based on the type of work proposed to be undertaken, such as grading, drainage maintenance, pavement maintenance, bridge maintenance, etc. When the maintenance program is actually implemented, the most recent asset inspection data available is used to inform or alter the maintenance program to accommodate the maintenance needs with the greatest priority. This enables the impact of ongoing weather conditions and/or recent significant weather events to be factored into the program. Whilst the type of work proposed may alter from that originally proposed, the total maintenance program is kept within the total annual budget (\$1.24 million for 2017/18).

Flood repairs and maintenance

	Note	YTD Actual \$	YTD Budget \$	Variance \$	Annual Budget \$
313 Storm/Flood Damage		41,986	-	(41,986)	-
Total		41,986	-	(41,986)	-

Table 9: Local Roads and Bridges – Flood damage works

Flood damage works are expected to be reimbursed through the State Government's Natural Disaster Financial Assistance (NDFFA) program.

OTHER FINANCIAL MATTERS

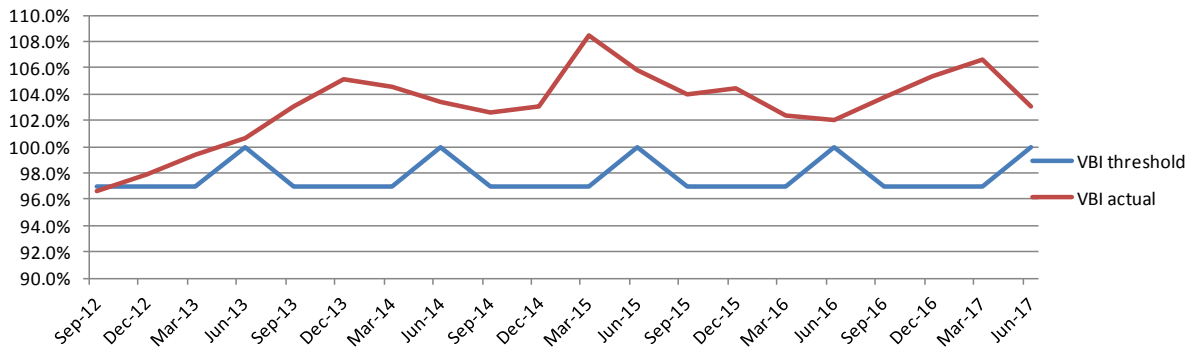
Defined benefit superannuation

Council has obligations under a defined benefit superannuation scheme that may result in the need to make additional contributions to the scheme to ensure that the liabilities of the fund are covered by the assets of the fund. There are nine current employees covered by this superannuation fund. In addition there is a liability for former employees.

In summary, the Vested Benefits Index (VBI) is the measure required to be used to determine whether there is an unfunded liability.

A VBI must generally be kept above a fund's nominated shortfall threshold. The estimated VBI released by Vision Super for June 2017 is 103.1%. The graph following shows Vision Super's VBI performance against the fund's nominated VBI threshold.

Defined Benefit Superannuation - Vested Benefit Index (VBI)



If the actual VBI falls below the above VBI thresholds, a funding call will be initiated which will mean Council will have to provide additional funding to the Defined Benefit fund to ensure that the liabilities of the fund can be met.

The triennial actuarial investigation as at 30 June 2017 is currently in progress. As a result, the VBI threshold is 100% until the investigation is completed. At this stage, Vision Super anticipates that the investigation will be completed in December 2017.

**CR WHITEHEAD
CR SCALES**

THAT THE FINANCE REPORT BE NOTED.

CARRIED

9.2 Occupational Health and Safety Report (06/04/0212-DCCS)

The Occupational Health and Safety report is presented every second month. The next report is due in October 2017.

The bi-monthly Council Plan Priorities report is included in this agenda at Item 9.4.

9.3 Action Sheet Reports (06/05/0010-EA)

Items requiring action from the 1 August 2017 Council Meeting are attached at [Appendix 2](#).

**CR WHITEHEAD
CR TOLSHER**

THAT THE REPORT BE NOTED.

CARRIED

9.4 Council Plan Priorities (07/05/0022-DCCS)

The bi-monthly updates on the 2017-2021 Council Plan priorities are attached at [Appendix 3](#) for information.

**CR SCALES
CR TOLSHER**

THAT THE REPORT BE NOTED.

CARRIED

9.5 Performance Reporting Graphs (DCCS)

The Performance Reporting Graphs are attached at [Appendix 4](#) for information.

**CR WHITEHEAD
CR STAR**

THAT THE REPORT BE NOTED.

CARRIED

9.6 Council Plan 2017-2021 (07/05/0029-CEO)

Disclosure of Interests (S.80C):

This report was prepared by Ms Juliana Phelps, Chief Executive Officer.

At the time of preparation of the report the officer did not have a direct or indirect interest in any matter to which the report or advice relates.

Background/History:

The 2017-2021 Council Plan was adopted at the 1 August Council meeting.

The Plan (at item 3.5) includes the following Strategic Priority:

Deliver the Destination Tallangatta project: foreshore upgrade, path links, playground, road improvements, retail precinct upgrade.

Whilst the Destination Tallangatta project includes works at the Tallangatta Holiday (Caravan) Park, Council's aspirations for the park would be better represented by the inclusion of a specific Strategic Priority, for example:

Secure control of the Tallangatta Caravan Park and seek funding to implement the adopted recommendations from the Tallangatta Holiday Park Planning Study.

Impact on Council Policy:

Nil

State Government Policy Impacts:

Nil

Budget Impact:

A report detailing any budget impact of implementing the Strategic Priority will be provided to Council at a future date when further information is available.

Risk Assessment:

Nil

Community Consultation/Responses:

The Tallangatta community's support for improving the caravan park has been made known to Councillors and staff over many year. This support was reinforced at the Tallangatta Council Plan community consultation session held early in 2017.

Discussion/Officers View:

The omission of a specific Strategic Priority in the Council Plan was an oversight and it is recommended that the Council Plan 2017-2021 be amended to include a specific Strategic Priority in relation to the Tallangatta Caravan Park.

**CR TOLSHER
CR SCALES**

THAT THE 2017-2021 COUNCIL PLAN BE AMENDED TO INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING STRATEGY PRIORITY:

SECURE CONTROL OF THE TALLANGATTA CARAVAN PARK AND SEEK FUNDING TO IMPLEMENT THE ADOPTED RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE TALLANGATTA HOLIDAY PARK PLANNING STUDY.

CARRIED

9.7 High Country Rail Trail (05/02/0154-CEO)

Disclosure of Interests (S.80C):

This report was prepared by Ms Juliana Phelps, Chief Executive Officer.

At the time of preparation of the report the officer did not have a direct or indirect interest in any matter to which the report or advice relates.

Background/History:

Correspondence has been received from Parklands Albury Wodonga requesting Council's assistance in advocating for Parklands Albury Wodonga Ltd to be appointed a DELWP Committee of Management for the following sections of the rail trail:

1. Old Tallangatta to Boggy Creek, Koetong (this section is Parklands highest priority as it is nearing completion)
2. Cudgewa township to Lucyvale boundary with Hancock Plantations lease (this will be Parklands' focus over the next few years).

Parklands have advised that they will continue to progress what have been positive negotiations with Hancock Plantations to secure access through the Crown land which is leased to Hancocks between Shelley and Lucyvale.

Impact on Council Policy:

Nil

State Government Policy Impacts:

Nil

Budget Impact:

Nil

Risk Assessment:

Nil

Community Consultation/Responses:

No community consultation has been undertaken.

Discussion/Officers View:

In past years there has been much debate in the chamber in relation to the management and development of the High Country Rail Trail. Councillors have previously been provided with Council Meeting Minutes where the matter was debated.

As noted above, there has been no community consultation by Council in relation to Parklands Albury Wodonga being appointed Committee of Management for the sections of trail mentioned above.

Given Council's limited resources we are not in a position to be the Committee of Management for the sections of rail trail identified above.

Parklands Albury Wodonga have significant experience in the development and management of the rail trail in other locations and it would seem appropriate to advocate for Parklands Albury Wodonga to be appointed Committee of Management in order to formalise the management responsibility and further develop the trail.

**CR SCALES
CR TOLSHER**

THAT COUNCIL SUPPORT PARKLANDS ALBURY WODONGA REQUEST TO BE APPOINTED AS A DELWP COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT FOR THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS OF RAIL TRAIL:

- 1. OLD TALLANGATTA TO BOGGY CREEK**
- 2. CUDGEWA TOWNSHIP TO LUCYVALE BOUNDARY WITH HANCOCK PLANTATIONS LEASE**

CARRIED

10 Community wellbeing

The Community Wellbeing report is presented every second month. The next report is due in October 2017.

The bi-monthly Council Plan Priorities report is included in this agenda at Item 9.4.

11 Asset management

The Asset Management report is presented every second month. The next report is due in October 2017.

The bi-monthly Council Plan Priorities report is included in this agenda at Item 9.4.

12 Land-use planning

No Planning reports.

13 Environmental sustainability

The Environmental Sustainability report is presented every second month. The next report is due in October 2017.

The bi-monthly Council Plan Priorities report is included in this agenda at Item 9.4.

13.1 Beating the Heat - Climate Change Resilient Trees Species List (01/04/0107-DTS)

Disclosure of Interests (S.80C):

This report was prepared by Ms Rachael Gadd, Civil Asset Engineer.

At the time of preparation of the report the officer did not have a direct or indirect interest in any matter to which the report or advice relates.

Background/History:

In 2015 Council adopted the Tree Management Plan which set a goal to achieve forty percent street tree canopy coverage in urban streets within the Shire. The plan recognises that trees can improve amenity in urban areas, improve the pedestrian experience in heat-waves and provide shading for on-street parking. These improvements can also contribute to local economies through an improved visitor experience. Furthermore, consistent canopy coverage in urban streets will assist in resilience to climate change.

Funding was obtained through the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning's Victorian Climate Change Grants 2015 through the Beating the Heat – Cooling canopies for urban resilience project. This project involved the researching and development of a climate change resilient species list to ensure the longevity of Council's future street and park tree plantings. To satisfy the requirements of the funding the completed list requires council endorsement.

Impact on Council Policy:

This Climate Change resilient tree species list is a supporting document to Council's Tree Management Policy and Tree Replacement Strategy.

State Government Policy Impacts:

Nil

Budget Impact:

Nil

Risk Assessment:

Nil

Community Consultation/Responses:

Nil

Discussion/Officers View:

Aligning Council's tree planting to this list will reduce impact of the natural environment on infrastructure such as drainage, roads and footpaths and ensure the future quality of trees within the Shire's urban environments. The species on this list have been rated against a number of criteria that address both climate change resilience and street/park tree suitability.

Descriptions of each criteria are detailed in the species list documents ([Appendix 5](#)) and include infrastructure impact potential, maintenance requirements, longevity and tolerance to climate change induced events such as drought, heat wave, wind, water logging and pollution.

CR STAR

CR WHITEHEAD

**THAT COUNCIL ENDORSE THE BEATING THE HEAT - CLIMATE CHANGE
RESILIENT TREES SPECIES LIST.**

CARRIED

14 Economic and tourism development

The Economic and Tourism Development report is presented every second month. The next report is due in October 2017.

The bi-monthly Council Plan Priorities report is included in this agenda at Item 9.4.

15 Councillor reports

15.1 Corryong Red Cross Branch AGM (07/05/0007-Cr Wortmann)

Date of Meeting/Event:	4 August 2017
Location of Meeting/Event:	CFA Rooms Corryong
Key information presented/discussed at meeting:	<p>I was invited to chair the election of office bearers of the Corryong Red Cross Branch</p> <p>I must compliment all the members of the Branch as it was one of the best organised AGMs I have ever had the pleasure of chairing.</p> <p>Lauren Elvin Manager of Economic Development was the guest speaker at the meeting.</p> <p>Lauren gave a detailed account of the Corryong Airport Project.</p> <p>The project will provide enormous benefits to Corryong and the Upper Murray District.</p> <p>DELWP plans to have their fire suppression aircraft operational from the airport this fire season.</p> <p>The lighting at the airport will allow aircraft to land at night which is very beneficial in the event of emergency situations.</p> <p>The airport project will provide economic opportunities for the area.</p>

Members Comments Thoughts:	The meeting was well attended and I found it very informative to me.
Possible Actions:	Nil.
Additional Info Available:	Nil.

15.2 Essential Services Commission (07/05/0007-Cr Wortmann)

Date of Meeting/Event:	10 August 2017
Location of Meeting/Event:	Melbourne
Key information presented/discussed at meeting:	<p>The CEO Juliana Phelps, Director of Community and Corporate Services Jo Shannon, Mayor David Wortmann and Deputy Mayor Aaron Scales met with representatives from the ESC.</p> <p>The purpose of the meeting was to expand on the process and reasoning behind the ESCs decision to allow Towong Shire Council's application to raise rates by a higher percentage than the cap set by the Minister for Local Government. The ESC commented on the following:</p> <p>Towong Shire Councils successful application demonstrates good long-term financial planning. This, in turn, means that the council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - identified its major financial challenges and, based on the best information available, considered them in its long-term financial plan - showed that it consistently took action to manage its financial challenges — particularly those within its control to improve its revenues and reduce costs - established good policies, plans, processes and practices to give us confidence that it identified and quantified its financial needs - reasonably engaged effectively over time, improving its community's understanding of its major financial needs, including:

- any major trade-offs (involving services, infrastructure or finances)
- the reasons why these needs should be funded by a higher cap
- the consequential impacts if the higher cap is not approved.

We note the Victorian Auditor General's view of the financial sustainability of small rural councils, and recognise that many of them face major financial challenges. The Commission understands some of these major financial challenges, including:

- heavy dependence on grant revenue limited capacity to generate revenue from other sources significant road infrastructure network to maintain, relative to their size and capacity small rate base (and any additional cost of applying for a variation may prove to be prohibitive).

-It is reasonable for us to require a higher standard of documentation for multi-year higher cap applications. As a minimum, councils like Towong should and successfully did:

- outline the key operating and financial assumptions underpinning the long-term financial plan identify and model viable alternative budget scenarios.

Over a longer period (say, for a four year higher cap) there is greater scope for longer term trade-offs that are often not possible in the short term. These trade-offs can include different service, infrastructure and financial options that may be available to a council and its community.

In these cases, we expect a council to explore trade-offs in more detail and model their financial and service impacts in a longer term plan. This process will also involve engaging effectively with its ratepayers and community.

As required under the Fair Go Rates system, we examined each of the six legislative matters

	<p>addressed in Towong’s application.</p> <p>Our assessment takes into account the statutory objectives and legislative matters that applications must address. This approach ensures that the assessment includes all relevant factors covered by the legislation that impact on whether the application demonstrates a long-term financial need that should be funded through a higher cap.</p> <p>To assist in our assessment we sought external advice from Deloitte Access Economics (Deloitte), KJA and Mosaic Lab. The advice covers technical areas of financial capacity and community engagement.</p>
<p>Members Comments Thoughts:</p>	<p>The meeting with the ESC was very informative and very worthwhile. It was clear and extremely pleasing that four independent organisations had studied our application and all concluded that it demonstrated a long term financial need that is consistent with the long term interests of the Council's ratepayers and communities and enables sustainable outcomes in service delivery and critical infrastructure maintenance and renewal.</p> <p>The conclusions of the independent organisations also reinforces our consistent position that more financial support is required for Rural Councils. Especially in the case of Towong where we have demonstrated that we have developed a robust long term financial plan, we have implemented cost reductions over many years now, increased efficiencies in the organisation and explored alternative revenue opportunities. We will use this information at every opportunity to argue and to support our case for increased funding for Towong Shire, from all levels of government.</p>
<p>Possible Actions:</p>	<p>Nil</p>
<p>Additional Info Available:</p>	<p>Nil</p>

15.3 Essential Services Commission (07/05/0007-Cr Scales)

Verbal report

Director Technical Services, Jamie Heritage, left the Chamber the time being 11.11am

15.4 North East Regional Waste Recovery Group (07/01/0050-Cr Tolsher)

Verbal report

**CR TOLSHER
CR STAR**

THAT THE COUNCILLOR REPORTS BE NOTED.

CARRIED

16 Urgent business

No Urgent Business

17 Committee Minutes

No Committee Minutes

18 Occupational health and safety

18.1 OHS Committee (06/04/0212-DCCS)

The unconfirmed minutes of the meeting held on 17 August 2017 are attached at [Appendix 6](#) for information.

**CR STAR
CR TOLSHER**

**THAT THE UNCONFIRMED OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE
MINUTES BE NOTED.**

CARRIED

19 Council policies (10/01/0007-CEO)

The following policies were tabled for review at the 2 May 2017 Council meeting and are presented at **Appendix 7** for adoption. Please note that recommended changes are shown in red.

- Disabled Access Funding (DTS)
- Disability Access (DCCS)
- Employee Recognition (DCCS)
- Flexi Time (DCCS)

**CR WHITEHEAD
CR SCALES**

THAT THE FOLLOWING POLICIES AS PRESENTED BE ADOPTED:

- **DISABLED ACCESS FUNDING**
- **DISABILITY ACCESS**
- **EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION**
- **FLEXI TIME**

CARRIED

No policies tabled for review this month.

20 Sealing of documents

No documents for sealing.

21 Confidential

In accordance with S77 (2) information is 'confidential information' if:

(a) the information was provided to the Council or a special committee in relation to a matter considered by the Council or special committee at a meeting closed to members of the public and the Council or special committee has not passed a resolution that the information is not confidential; or

(b) the information has been designated as confidential information by a resolution of the Council or a special committee which specifies the relevant ground or grounds applying under section 89(2) and the Council or special committee has not passed a resolution that the information is not confidential; or

(c) Subject to sub-section (3), the information has been designated in writing as confidential information by the Chief Executive Officer specifying the relevant ground or grounds applying under section 89(2) and the Council has not passed a resolution that the information is not confidential.

In accordance with Section 89(2) and 89(3) of the Local Government Act 1989,

(2) A Council or special committee may resolve that the meeting be closed to members of the public if the meeting is discussing any of the following—

- (a) Personnel matters;
- (b) The personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer;
- (c) Industrial matters;
- (d) Contractual matters;
- (e) Proposed developments;
- (f) Legal advice;
- (g) Matters affecting the security of Council property;
- (h) Any other matter which the Council or special committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person;
- (i) A resolution to close the meeting to members of the public.

(3) If a Council or special committee resolves to close a meeting to members of the public the reason must be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

Director Technical Services, Jamie Heritage, returned to the Chamber the time being 11.14am

CR STAR

CR TOLSHER

THAT THE MEETING BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC TO CONSIDER INFORMATION CONSIDERED UNDER SECTION 89(2)(h) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT TO BE CONFIDENTIAL.

CARRIED

21.1 Tender Assessment – Labour Hire and Technology Solutions (07/03/0002 – DCCS)

CR SCALES

CR STAR

THAT:

- 1. THE SUBMISSION FROM MOMENTUMONE SHARED SERVICES PTY LTD FOR LABOUR HIRE AND ACCOMPANYING TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS AT THE RATES CONTAINED IN THEIR SUBMISSION DATED 28 AUGUST 2017 BE ACCEPTED; AND**
- 2. THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER BE AUTHORISED TO SIGN AND SEAL CONTRACT DOCUMENTS FOR LABOUR HIRE AND TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS FOR COUNCIL'S SWIMMING POOLS FOR A ONE YEAR PERIOD WITH TWO SINGLE YEAR OPTIONS; AND**
- 3. THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER BE AUTHORISED TO EXERCISE THE FUTURE ONE YEAR OPTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE CONTRACT.**

CARRIED

21.2 Bellbridge Childcare (04/03/0045 – DCCS)

CR TOLSHER

CR STAR

THAT THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER BE AUTHORISED TO SIGN AND SEAL APPROPRIATE CONTRACTS TO ENABLE THE ALBURY WODONGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE TO PROVIDE CHILD CARE AND KINDERGARTEN SERVICES AT THE BERRINGA COMMUNITY CENTRE.

CARRIED

CR SCALES

CR WHITEHEAD

THAT THE MEETING BE RE-OPENED TO THE PUBLIC, THE TIME BEING 11.52AM.

CARRIED

There being no further business the meeting was closed, the time being 11.53am.