

Minutes

Ordinary Meeting of Council

Held at 10:30am, Wednesday 30 April 2025
Council Chamber, Corryong Council Office
76 Hanson Street, Corryong, Victoria

Our Community Vision

Towong Shire will be the ideal place to be: welcoming, vibrant and diverse communities with quality facilities and services.

This information is available in alternative formats on request.

**Minutes for the Ordinary Meeting of Council held at
76 Hanson Street, Corryong, Victoria
at 10:30am on Wednesday 30 April 2025**

Commonly Used Acronyms

Abbreviation	Title
Council Officers	
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
DIE	Director Infrastructure and Environment
DCP	Director Community and Planning
DCOD	Director Corporate and Organisational Development
MF	Manager Finance
SAE	Senior Asset Engineer
Government/Organisation	
CH	Corryong Health (formerly Upper Murray Health and Community Services)
DFFH	Department of Families, Fairness and Housing
DJSIR	Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions
DTP	Department of Transport and Planning
DEECA	Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action
GMW	Goulburn Murray Water
HRGLN	Hume Region Local Government Network
MAV	Municipal Association of Victoria
NECMA	North East Catchment Management Authority
NERPEN	North East Regional Procurement Excellence Network
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
VGC	Victorian Grants Commission
WBNC	Walwa Bush Nursing Centre

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Confirmed

The Mayor declared the meeting open, the time being 10:33 am.

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

Councillor Attendance

Crs Whitehead, Anderson, Wortmann, Tolsher and Pitman

Officer Attendance:	Title:
Ms Phelps	Chief Executive Officer
Mr Heritage	Director Infrastructure and Environment
Mr Florence	Director Community and Planning
Ms Taylor	Director Corporate and Organisational Development

3 Apologies and Granting of Leave of Absence

Nil.

4 Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest

Section 130 of the Act requires that a 'Relevant person' (which means a person who is a Councillor, a member of a delegated committee who is not a Councillor or a member of Council staff) disclose any conflict of interest in the manner required by Council's Governance Rules and exclude themselves from the decision making process in relation to the matter including any discussion or vote on the matter at any Council meeting.

Council's *Governance Rules* state as follows:

A2 Obligations with regards to conflict of interest

Councillors, members of delegated committee, and Council staff are required to:

- a. Avoid all situations which may give rise to conflicts of interest;*
- b. Identify any conflicts of interest; and*
- c. Disclose or declare all conflicts of interest.*

A3 Disclosure of a conflict of interest at a Council meeting

A Councillor who has a conflict of interest in a matter being considered at a Council meeting at which he or she:

A3.1 is present must disclose that conflict of interest by explaining the nature of the conflict of interest to those present at the Council meeting immediately before the matter is considered; or

A3.2 intends to be present must disclose that conflict of interest by providing to the Chief Executive Officer before the Council meeting commences a written notice:

A3.2.1 advising of the conflict of interest;

A3.2.2 explaining the nature of the conflict of interest; and

A3.2.3 detailing, if the nature of the conflict of interest involves a Councillor's relationship with or a gift from another person, the:

- a. name of the other person;*
- b. nature of the relationship with that other person or the date of receipt, value and type of gift received from the other person; and*
- c. nature of that other person's interest in the matter, and then immediately before the matter is considered at the meeting announcing to those present that he or she has a conflict of interest and that a written notice has been given to the Chief Executive Officer under this sub-Rule.*

The Councillor must, in either event, leave the Council meeting immediately after giving the explanation or making the announcement (as the case may be) and not return to the meeting until after the matter has been disposed of.

No disclosures of any conflicts of interest were made.

5 Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the meetings listed below were circulated to Councillors following each respective meeting. Confirmation of the minutes is now sought.

- Ordinary Council Meeting held on 26 March 2025

Recommendation:

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 26 March 2025 be confirmed.

Council Resolution:

**CR WORTMANN
CR PITMAN**

THAT THE MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 26 MARCH 2025 BE CONFIRMED.

CARRIED

6 Petitions and Joint Letters

Nil.

7 Public Question Time

In accordance with Council's Governance Rules, all questions must be submitted to Council in writing by 2.00pm on the day prior to the Council meeting.

An online form is available on Council's website, and a hard copy of the form is available at both the Tallangatta and Corryong Council offices.

Public Notice of Public Question Time was included in the advertisement for the Council meeting.

The CEO will advise of any Public Question Time submissions at the meeting.

Nil.

8 Informal Meetings of Councillors

In accordance with Council's *Governance Rules*, a written summary of the matters discussed at each informal meeting of Councillors is to be tabled at the next convenient Council meeting and recorded in the minutes of that meeting.

The Meeting Records from the Informal Meeting of Councillors held on 12 March 2025, 19 March 2025 and 26 March 2025, are attached as follows:

1. Workshop Meeting Records 12 March 2025 (1) [**8.1.1** - 3 pages]
2. Workshop Meeting Records 19 March 2025 (1) [**8.1.2** - 2 pages]
3. Workshop Meeting Records 26 March 2025 (1) [**8.1.3** - 2 pages]

Recommendation:

That the information be noted.

Council Resolution:

CR PITMAN
CR TOLSHER

THAT THE INFORMATION AS AMENDED BE NOTED.

CARRIED

9 Organisational Improvement

9.1 Action Sheet Report (CEO-06/06/0010)

Disclosure of Interests (S.130):

This report was prepared by Mr Justin Troy, Coordinator Governance and Compliance.

At the time of preparation of this report, the officer did not have a general or material conflict of interest in any matter to which the report or advice relates.

Purpose of Report:

The purpose of this report is to inform Councillors of the status of the resolutions from the Ordinary Council meeting on 26 March 2025

Summary:

The attached report summarises the progress made in relation to the resolutions from the Ordinary Council meeting on 26 March 2025.

Recommendation:

That the report be noted.

Attachment:

1. Action Sheet from Ordinary Council Meeting 26 March 2025 [9.1.1 - 3 pages]

Background/History:

Not applicable.

Relevant Law (s.9(2)(a)):

Not applicable.

Options – Best Outcomes for the Community (s.9(2)(b)):

Not applicable.

Sustainability Implications (s.9(2)(c)):

Not applicable.

Community Engagement (s.9(2)(d)):

Not applicable.

Innovation and Continuous Improvement (s.9(2)(e)):

Not applicable.

Collaboration (s.9(2)(f)):

Not applicable.

Financial Viability/Budget Impact (s.9(2)(g)):

Not applicable.

Regional, State and National Plans and Policies (s.9(2)(h)):

Not applicable.

Council Plans and Policies:

Not applicable.

Transparency of Decision (s.9(2)(i)) :

It is the officer's view that it is appropriate to consider this matter in a Council meeting that is open to the public.

Risk Assessment:

Not applicable.

Officer's View:

It is the officer's view that good progress has been made by the responsible officers, noting the Easter Holiday break has delayed further progress from being made.

Council Resolution:

**CR ANDERSON
CR TOLSHER**

THAT THE REPORT BE NOTED.

CARRIED

Confirmed

9.2 Changes to Council Meeting Locations - May and June 2025 (DCOD)

Disclosure of Interests (S.130):

This report was prepared by Mr Justin Troy, Coordinator Governance and Compliance.

At the time of preparation of this report, the officer did not have a general or material conflict of interest in any matter to which the report or advice relates.

Purpose of Report:

The purpose of this report is to request a variation of the scheduled Council Meeting locations for May and June 2025.

Summary:

Each year, Council resolves on the location for the upcoming calendar year of Ordinary Council Meetings to promote transparency for both the community and Councillors.

A variation to the location for the 28 May Council meeting from Tallangatta to Corryong is being requested to assist in facilitating the Council Plan 2025-29 community sessions, with the Corryong Council Plan session scheduled to be held in Corryong on 28 May 2025 at the Memorial Hall. Councillors and Council staff will be better placed logistically to conduct the Corryong Council Plan session. Further to this, the Ordinary Council Meeting for 25 June is proposed to be moved from Corryong to Tallangatta.

Recommendation:

That:

1. The location for the Ordinary Council Meeting scheduled for 28 May 2025 be changed from Tallangatta to Corryong; and
2. The location for the Ordinary Council Meeting scheduled for 25 June 2025 be changed from Corryong to Tallangatta.

Attachment:

Nil

Background/History:

At the November 2024 Ordinary Council Meeting, the Council Meeting Arrangements schedule for the 2025 calendar year was resolved as follows:

Date	Location
29 January 2025	Tallangatta
26 February 2025	Corryong
26 March 2025	Tallangatta
30 April 2025	Corryong
28 May 2025	Tallangatta
25 June 2025	Corryong
23 July 2025	Tallangatta
27 August 2025	Corryong
24 September 2025	Tallangatta
22 October 2025	Corryong
26 November 2025	Tallangatta
17 December 2025	Corryong

It is being recommended that the location for the Ordinary Council Meeting scheduled for May 2025 be swapped with the location for the June 2025 meeting.

Relevant Law (s.9(2)(a)):

The scheduling of meetings are determined by the Governance Rules:

Part C – Notices of Meetings and Agenda

C1 Scheduling of Ordinary Council meetings

C1.1 The date, time and locations of Ordinary Council meetings will be fixed by Council from time to time.

C1.2 Notwithstanding sub-clause (C1.1) the date, time and location of a Council meeting may be altered by:

- a. Council resolution, or*
- b. the Chief Executive Officer may change the date, time and place of, or cancel, any Council meeting which has been fixed.*
- c. Public notice of any change of schedule must be made in accordance with sub-sections (C1.3) and (C1.4).*

C1.3 A schedule of Council meetings must be prepared and published on Council's website at least once a year, and with such frequency as the Chief Executive Officer determines.

C1.4 Public notice of upcoming Ordinary Council meetings must be given in accordance with Rule C3.

Options – Best Outcomes for the Community (s.9(2)(b)):

By swapping the locations for the May 2025 and June 2025 Ordinary Council Meetings, Council will be better able to facilitate the Corryong Council Plan 2025-29 community session.

Sustainability Implications (s.9(2)(c)):

Not applicable.

Community Engagement (s.9(2)(d)):

Not applicable.

Innovation and Continuous Improvement (s.9(2)(e)):

Not applicable.

Collaboration (s.9(2)(f)):

Not applicable.

Financial Viability/Budget Impact (s.9(2)(g)):

Not applicable.

Regional, State and National Plans and Policies (s.9(2)(h)):

Not applicable.

Council Plans and Policies:

Council Plans:
Not applicable.

Council Policies:
Governance Rules

Part C of the Governance Rules '*Notices of Meetings and Agenda*' requires Council to provide public notice of any changes to the Council Meeting schedule, which are to be published to the Council website.

Transparency of Decision (s.9(2)(i)) :

It is the officer's view that it is appropriate to consider this matter in a Council meeting that is open to the public.

Risk Assessment:

There is minimal risk to Council or the community in varying the location of the May and June 2025 Ordinary Council Meetings.

Officer's View:

It is the officer's view that moving the May 2025 Ordinary Council Meeting location to Corryong will logistically support Councillors and Council staff to effectively run the Council Meeting, as well as conduct the Corryong Council Plan 2025-29 community session, providing better outcomes for the community in turn.

Council Resolution:

**CR ANDERSON
CR PITMAN**

THAT:

- 1. THE LOCATION FOR THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULED FOR 28 MAY 2025 BE CHANGED FROM TALLANGATTA TO CORRYONG;
AND**
- 2. THE LOCATION FOR THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULED FOR 25 JUNE 2025 BE CHANGED FROM CORRYONG TO TALLANGATTA.**

CARRIED

9.3 Risk and OHS Bi-Monthly report (DCOD)

Disclosure of Interests (S.130):

This report was prepared by Ms Loren Murray, Manager People and Safety.

At the time of preparation of this report, the officer did not have a general or material conflict of interest in any matter to which the report or advice relates.

Purpose of Report:

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on Council's Risk and Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) strategy, performance, activities, and key initiatives for the reporting period.

Summary:

The Risk and OHS bi-monthly report provides a summary of the following:

- High level summary of incidents and injuries in the business and WorkCover claims,
- High potential incidents and near misses (HPIs), that have occurred during the reporting period and details of the identified causes, recommended controls, and the progress of developing and implementing these controls to date,
- An insurance report on notable public liability claims that occurred during the reporting period,
- Progress on close out of major hazards by site,
- A high-level summary of the major projects underway and progress on systems development and implementation.

Recommendation:

That the Risk and OHS Bi-Monthly report be noted.

Attachment:

Documents have been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting.

Background/History:

The Risk and OHS report shows how Council is performing against its OHS strategic plan and accepted industry standards. Council's Risk and OHS management performance measures and indicators quantify the inputs, outputs, and outcomes of

a risk management system. They identify whether the risk management processes are implemented and working as intended; and if the risk management system is effective.

Relevant Law (s.9(2)(a)):

No relevant laws are applicable with any Council decisions or actions required from this report.

Options – Best Outcomes for the Community (s.9(2)(b)):

Not applicable.

Sustainability Implications (s.9(2)(c)):

Not applicable.

Community Engagement (s.9(2)(d)):

Not applicable.

Innovation and Continuous Improvement (s.9(2)(e)):

Innovations and improvements during this reporting period:

- The Injury Management Framework has been completed and reviewed by HR Legal. The next step is Senior Management Team (SMT) and employee consultation.
- The successful insurance renewal for council and community assets, which included community halls.

Collaboration (s.9(2)(f)):

Not Applicable.

Financial Viability/Budget Impact (s.9(2)(g)):

Budget requirements and availability have been confirmed, grant funding has been sought where possible, and all expenditure is being monitored and managed within agreed budget allocations.

Regional, State and National Plans and Policies (s.9(2)(h)):

Not Applicable.

Council Plans and Policies:

Council Plans:

This report supports the following Council Plan 2021-2025 priorities.

6. Organisational Improvement - Maintain a high performing customer-centred organisation that works with the community to develop and deliver priorities.

6.7 Provide a safe and healthy workplace for all Councillors and staff in a continually evolving environment

6.13 Continually improve the risk management and governance frameworks and practices

Council Policies:

Occupational Health and Safety Policy.

Risk Management Policy.

Transparency of Decision (s.9(2)(i)):

It is the officer's view that it is appropriate to consider this matter in a Council meeting that is open to the public.

Risk Assessment:

Project activities are prioritised commensurate to the likelihood and impact of identified business and OHS risks. The appended report highlights the importance of the implementation of a Safety Information Management System to record, manage and track hazards, incidents, training competency, maintenance, inspections and actions, to reduce the risk for the organisation and Officers of the organisation.

Officer's View:

There has been a review of priorities with the combining of the HR and Safety functions. Developing the strategic priorities for the Council Plan has been a useful exercise in focusing the direction of both teams' activities. One of the most rewarding wins this reporting period, has been the positive team collaboration and strong working relationship between Infrastructure, OHS and the Finance teams.

Council Resolution:

**CR TOLSHER
CR PITMAN**

THAT THE RISK AND OHS BI-MONTHLY REPORT BE NOTED.

CARRIED

Confirmed

9.4 Corporate and Organisational Development Report (DCOD-06/01/0011)

Disclosure of Interests (S.130):

This report was prepared by Ms Narelle Taylor, Director Corporate and Organisational Development.

At the time of preparation of this report, the officer did not have a general or material conflict of interest in any matter to which the report or advice relates.

Purpose of Report:

The purpose of the report is to provide Councillors with an overview of activities conducted within the Corporate and Organisational Development team between October and December 2024.

Summary:

The attached report provides a summary of activities within the Corporate and Organisational Development team between October and December 2024.

Significant activities undertaken in this quarter included:

- Execution of actions required to reduce hazards to staff and the public, as well as in response to incidents that have occurred in the workplace;
- Planning the consultation and engagement activities to generate community engagement with the development of the Council Plan 2025/29; and
- Continued negotiation of a new Enterprise Agreement.

Recommendation:

That the report be noted.

Attachment:

1. DCOD quarterly update April 2025 [9.4.1 - 1 page]

Background/History:

The Corporate and Organisational Development Report is provided on a quarterly basis.

Relevant Law (s.9(2)(a)):

Corporate and Organisational Development activities and decisions have been made in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Options – Best Outcomes for the Community (s.9(2)(b)):

Not applicable.

Sustainability Implications (s.9(2)(c)):

Not applicable.

Community Engagement (s.9(2)(d)):

The Communications and Engagement team continues to support numerous community engagement activities particularly the Council Plan 2025-29

Innovation and Continuous Improvement (s.9(2)(e)):

Not applicable.

Collaboration (s.9(2)(f)):

Not applicable.

Financial Viability/Budget Impact (s.9(2)(g)):

Not applicable.

Regional, State and National Plans and Policies (s.9(2)(h)):

Not applicable.

Council Plans and Policies:

The activities of the Corporate and Organisational Development team during the quarter supported the *Council Plan 2021-2025* priorities as outlined in the Report on Council Plan Priorities.

Transparency of Decision (s.9(2)(i)) :

It is the officer's view that it is appropriate to consider this matter in a Council

meeting that is open to the public.

Risk Assessment:

The February Audit and Risk Committee meeting was held during the quarter, and the unconfirmed minutes from this meeting were made available to Council in the March Council meeting.

Officer's View:

Considerable progress has been made with preparation of the Budget and Long-term financial planning for the next financial year; planning of consultation and engagement sessions for the Council Plan is underway. These are two strategically important pieces of work and will continue into the next quarter.

Council Resolution:

**CR WORTMANN
CR TOLSHER**

THAT THE REPORT BE NOTED.

CARRIED

10 Community Wellbeing

10.1 Draft Towong Shire Youth Strategy (DCP)

Disclosure of Interests (S.130):

This report was prepared by Mr Michael Stanton, Manager Community Wellbeing.

At the time of preparation of this report, the officer did not have a general or material conflict of interest in any matter to which the report or advice relates.

Purpose of Report:

The purpose of this report is to seek approval to place the Draft Youth Strategy (2025 - 2029) on Public Exhibition for comment and feedback prior to finalisation.

Summary:

A draft Youth Strategy was developed in 2024 by an experienced consultant and included significant data review and various community engagement processes.

This Strategy focuses on the age range between 12 – 25 years old, sets the direction for Towong Shire Council's Youth portfolio from 2025 – 2029, and acknowledges that Towong Shire is a better place to live with a healthy and connected youth population

Council approval to place the Draft Strategy on Public Exhibition is being sought.

Recommendation:

That:

1. The Chief Executive Officer be authorised to place the draft Youth Strategy 2025 – 2029 on public exhibition and submissions be invited, with submissions closing at 5pm on Sunday 25 May 2025; and
2. At the Council Meeting on 25 June 2025:
 - a. Any submissions in relation to the proposed draft Youth Strategy 2025 - 2029 be considered;
 - b. Any person or their representative who wishes to speak in support of their submission be heard; and
 - c. The proposed draft Youth Strategy 2025 - 2029 be considered for adoption.

Attachments:

1. Towong Shire Youth Strategy 2025-2029 DRAFT [**10.1.1** - 34 pages]
2. Towong Youth Strategy Engagement Findings [**10.1.2** - 13 pages]

Background/History:

Towong Shire's last youth strategic document was the Youth Plan 2019 – 2023 which included the priority areas of community connectedness, health and wellbeing, recreation, educational pathways and collaborative partnerships.

There have been a number of strategies and actions that have been implemented from the above plan, however over this period there has also been an increase in youth activities, events and wellbeing programs as part of the recovery focus and initiatives from the Black Summer bushfires

The requirement for a new Youth Strategy and staffing changes and the implementations of a new structure of the Community and Planning Directorate led to consultant CL Consulting being engaged in 2024 to complete the Towong Shire Youth Strategy 2025 – 2029.

This Draft Strategy was developed through a logical process, of literature review, evidence statistics, stakeholder engagement, evaluation of collected data to prepare the draft plan. This Draft Strategy sets the direction for the Shire's Youth portfolio and focuses on the age range between 12 – 25 years old.

There are a number of actions listed in the Draft Youth Strategy from 2025 – 2029, under the following Strategic Priorities:

1. Youth Voice and Participation
2. Youth Friendly Spaces and Facilities
3. Stronger Partnerships and Local Solutions
4. Advocacy for Accessible Health and Wellbeing Supports
5. Leadership, Advocacy and Celebration
6. Future Prepared Youth

It's important to note that Towong Shire Council's role is not in direct service provision for young people, but in mobilising support from specialist services, networks and funding bodies to partner on programs and ensure young people feel a sense of belonging and security wherever they live in Towong. The actions listed in this draft document are reflective of this.

Relevant Law (s.9(2)(a)):

The Local Government Act 2020.

Options – Best Outcomes for the Community (s.9(2)(b)):

The Draft Youth Strategy works towards achieving the following vision for young people:

“Young people are valued and connected to their Towong communities; they will thrive through participating in decision making programs and initiatives in their towns”.

The action plan in the Draft Strategy contains detailed deliverables across 6 strategic priorities to address some of the issues raised by young people

Sustainability Implications (s.9(2)(c)):

Social:

Partnering to achieve improved offerings for young people will be a central priority of this strategy, and ensures their needs are effectively addressed with a number of social outcomes as a result.

Community Engagement (s.9(2)(d)):

The Draft Strategy was developed with the direct input from young people, their parents, carers, guardians and from stakeholders who work with young people or deliver programs and services for young people.

The community engagement techniques used in the development of this Strategy included service mapping, three separate surveys, communication and meetings with forty (40) stakeholder groups and face to face meetings at schools.

Innovation and Continuous Improvement (s.9(2)(e)):

The development of this Draft Youth Strategy sets the direction for Towong Shire Council's Youth portfolio from 2024-2029 and ensures appropriate support, programming, advocacy and services for young people remains a priority for the Council.

Collaboration (s.9(2)(f)):

The development of the Draft Youth Strategy involved collaboration and consultation

with a number of stakeholders. Many of these stakeholders are listed as partners for the delivery of the Actions listed in the document to maximise the outcomes of the Actions under the various strategic objectives.

Financial Viability/Budget Impact (s.9(2)(g)):

Budget requirements and availability have been confirmed, grant funding has been sought where possible and will continue to be sought for specific actions within the Draft Strategy. All expenditure is being monitored and managed within agreed budget allocations.

Regional, State and National Plans and Policies (s.9(2)(h)):

Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2023 – 2027.

Council Plans and Policies:

Council Plans:

This report supports the following *Council Plan 2021-2025* priorities.

2. Community Wellbeing - Encourage and support all people in our Shire to be healthy, happy, connected and resilient.
- 2.4 Support the development of recreational activities and infrastructure to encourage active lifestyles for all ages and stages
- 2.8 Renew the Youth Plan to embed the 'youth voice' in all aspects of service delivery

Council Policies:

Not applicable.

Transparency of Decision (s.9(2)(i)) :

It is the officer's view that it is appropriate to consider this matter in a Council meeting that is open to the public.

Risk Assessment:

Placing the Draft Strategy on Public Exhibition may inadvertently convey to the community that Council is positioned to financially support all actions within the document.

Towong Shire Council's role is not in direct service provision for young people, but in mobilising support from specialist services, networks and funding bodies to partner

on programs. The emphasis on a partnership approach and seeking funding for specific actions within the Strategy will be communicated as part of the public exhibition process.

Officer's View:

The Draft Youth Strategy has been informed by data, community consultation and developed by an experienced consultant in this area.

The development of an updated Youth Strategy was required given the timeframes of the most recent Strategy was 2019 – 2023 and it's important that we are able to have an overarching youth document providing direction and actions which we can work through and deliver with the identified partners in the Strategy.

It is the officer's recommendation that the Draft Strategy be placed on Public Exhibition.

Council Resolution:

**CR ANDERSON
CR PITMAN**

THAT:

- 1. THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER BE AUTHORISED TO PLACE THE DRAFT YOUTH STRATEGY 2025 – 2029 ON PUBLIC EXHIBITION AND SUBMISSIONS BE INVITED, WITH SUBMISSIONS CLOSING AT 5PM ON SUNDAY 25 MAY 2025; AND**
- 2. AT THE COUNCIL MEETING ON 25 JUNE 2025:**
 - a. ANY SUBMISSIONS IN RELATION TO THE PROPOSED DRAFT YOUTH STRATEGY 2025 - 2029 BE CONSIDERED;**
 - b. ANY PERSON OR THEIR REPRESENTATIVE WHO WISHES TO SPEAK IN SUPPORT OF THEIR SUBMISSION BE HEARD; AND**
 - c. THE PROPOSED DRAFT YOUTH STRATEGY 2025 - 2029 BE CONSIDERED FOR ADOPTION.**

CARRIED

11 Asset Management

11.1 Tender evaluation - Truck, Tipper and Water Tank - Contract No. 2024/25-037 (DIE)

Disclosure of Interests (S.130):

This report was prepared by Mr Greg Karlson, Co-ordinator Circular Economy and Environment.

At the time of preparation of this report, the officer did not have a general or material conflict of interest in any matter to which the report or advice relates.

Purpose of Report:

The purpose of this report is to provide information to support the assessment of tender submissions for the supply of a new Tipper Truck with capacity to carry a 10,000L slip on/off water spray tank, as part of Council's plant asset replacement program for Tallangatta Depot. The report also seeks approval to appoint the recommended supplier.

Summary:

This report details the tender process undertaken and provides a recommendation for the preferred supplier to procure a new Tipper Truck equipped with a slip-on/off water cart feature. This truck will replace an aging MACK Granite Tipper Truck and will complement Tallangatta's existing heavy vehicle fleet, enhancing Council's capabilities for road maintenance and haulage operations.

Recommendation:

That

1. Contract No. 2024/25-037 for a Tipper Truck with Water Cart be awarded to CMV Bus & Truck Albury/Wodonga for the sum of \$355,220 excluding GST net of trade in;
2. The Chief Executive Officer be authorised to sign and seal Contract No. 2024/25-037 in accordance with Local Law 1 – Common Seal and Miscellaneous Penalties; and
3. The Chief Executive Officer be authorised to approve contract variations up to the total value of the allocated budget.

Attachment:

A copy of quotations from the supplier and the Evaluation tool have been provided to Councillors prior to the meeting.

Background/History:

A tender was issued in February 2025 in line with the Procurement Policy.

The tenders were evaluated based on price and future asset values, service backup and familiarity with the vehicle and weighting scale applied.

The decision to replace the current MACK Granite Truck was made as the equipment is reaching its useful lifespan. First acquired in November 2010, it has required ongoing maintenance work.

The unit was identified as a priority for replacement against other major equipment assets, with depot crew ratifying a preference for a similar heavy equipment vehicle to the current unit, which has historically been fit for purpose.

Tender request included provision of a specified tipper body type which has historically been made by fabricator CBB Chris's Body to accommodate a quick release slip on/off water tank removal that enables greater flexibility and usage of truck for other haulage activities.

For the tank system Council has approached a reputable and leading industry player Australian owned -Trans Tank International "TTI" which operates both locally and overseas. A quote was also received on the water cart from a Sydney based firm Allquip Water Trucks however cost was some \$8K higher. Council has acquired various TTI spray unit types for its fleet in the past with most recent addition being a similar 10,000L unit utilised by our Corryong Depot.

The business also works closely with CBB truck body fabricator with partnership deemed most beneficial for our custom requirements.

The following are the summary responses from the suppliers:

Suppliers	Quoted Plant type	Remarks
CMV Truck & Body Albury/Wodonga	MACK EURO 6 Anthem 6x4 Rigid MP8 Air, CBB Chris Body Tipper Body & TTI 10,000L Water	Preferred Plant

	Tank with pressurised dribble Bar	
DAF - Twin City Truck Centre	Kenworth T410, CBB Chris Body Tipper Body & TTI 10,000L Water Tank with pressurised dribble Bar	Not Preferred -

Relevant Law (s.9(2)(a)):

Section 109 of the *Local Government Act 2020* states:

"A Council must comply with its Procurement Policy before entering a contract for the purchase of goods or services or the carrying out of works."

The procurement process followed for this tender and the subsequent assessment and recommendation have been undertaken in accordance with Council's *Procurement Policy*.

Options – Best Outcomes for the Community (s.9(2)(b)):

Option 1

Award the contract for the new truck as per the recommendation.

Option 2

Award the contract to an alternative supplier.

Option 3

Re-tender the contract.

Sustainability Implications (s.9(2)(c)):

Economic

This tender used approved suppliers as part of Vendor Panels accepted supplier network with the primary dealers working closely with local dealerships under their network. This has a positive impact on the local economy through the purchase of local materials and services over the life of the asset.

Environmental/Climate Change

This capital spend will have a minimal contribution either positive or negative to carbon emission levels due to the slow advancement of alternate fuel types for heavy vehicle equipment.

Community Engagement (s.9(2)(d)):

Not applicable.

Innovation and Continuous Improvement (s.9(2)(e)):

Not applicable.

Collaboration (s.9(2)(f)):

Not applicable.

Financial Viability/Budget Impact (s.9(2)(g)):

The recommended tender value is within the allocated budget spend for current financial year.

Regional, State and National Plans and Policies (s.9(2)(h)):

Not Applicable.

Council Plans and Policies:

Council Plans:

This report supports the following *Council Plan 2021-2025 priorities*.

- 1.1 Deliver 100% of the annual capital works program and bushfire recovery projects

Council Policies:

Procurement Policy

Transparency of Decision (s.9(2)(i)) :

It is the officer's view that it is appropriate to consider this matter in a Council meeting that is open to the public.

Risk Assessment:

Business Operational Risk:

The acquisition involves minimal risk despite extended supplier lead times for fabrication works. Current machinery and equipment is well-resourced to handle

capital works projects and Council asset maintenance programs. Active management and adherence to scheduled maintenance will minimise any downtime of machinery /equipment assets.

Serviceability Risk

Notwithstanding, the cost of the MACK truck is slightly dearer by \$1,635 the model has far greater features. Depot crew were instrumental as per of the decision making process and highlighted key differences between both brand types which are outlined hereunder.

Kenworth T410

PROS

- 18 speed automatic / manual transmission
- Manual gear shift paddle on steering column
- 6 external truck surround camera optional extra availability for low visibility areas

CONS

- Hydraulic PTO quick shift unit mounted on transmission which eliminates any gear selection above 4th limiting the ability of spreading gravel
- Drum Brakes requires longer maintenance & servicing duration period with more demanding & strenuous effort involved
- Brake mechanisms between cabin & rear of truck require frequent maintenance e.g lubrication
- 510 HP Paccar engine.- Has reported ongoing unreliability issues

Mack Euro 6 Anthem 6 x 4 Rigid MP8 Air

PROS

- Hydraulic PTO quick shift mounted on engine which allows any gear selection while spreading gravel
- Disk Brakes are considered more responsive with improved braking with extended maintenance periods
- Brake mechanism between cabin & rear of truck requires no lubrication affording an extended maintenance period
- 535 HP Mack Engine deemed more reliable
- 8 bag air bag suspension system which provides excellent truck to ground traction on uneven surfaces
- Sloped front engine bonnet which offers excellent road vision while driving

CONS

- N/A

Additionally, parts and service availability in Wodonga/Albury is advantageous.

Officer's View:

There is nominal difference in price point between both supplier offers, however the following factors are important considerations.

- Mack truck is deemed a quality truck vehicle and is well regarded in the civil earthworks industry;
- Engine specs and safety feature are far superior and afford greater safety, flexibility and functionality for everyday tasks;
- The delivery lead time on the Mack vehicle closely correlates with the production run and supply of the tipper body by third party supplier;
- Our depot mechanics are well-versed in servicing the Mack brand as most of the existing truck fleet is MACK orientated affords more efficiency when performing mechanical maintenance & servicing related tasks;
- The international backing of a reputable industry player demonstrates the ability to provide a quality end product along with a dedicated aftercare service offering delivering good value and low risk to Council.

It is the officer's view that CMV Bus & Truck Albury/Wodonga be awarded tender for the sum of \$355,220, excluding GST. The MACK truck is considered fit for purpose and will assist the depot with increasing work productivity, efficiencies and reduce running costs whilst also meeting safety requirements going forward.

Council Resolution:

**CR PITMAN
CR TOLSHER**

THAT

- 1. CONTRACT NO. 2024/25-037 FOR A TIPPER TRUCK WITH WATER CART BE AWARDED TO CMV BUS & TRUCK ALBURY/WODONGA FOR THE SUM OF \$355,220 EXCLUDING GST NET OF TRADE IN;**
- 2. THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER BE AUTHORISED TO SIGN AND SEAL CONTRACT NO. 024/25-037 IN ACCORDANCE WITH LOCAL LAW 1 – COMMON SEAL AND MISCELLANEOUS PENALTIES; AND**
- 3. THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER BE AUTHORISED TO APPROVE CONTRACT VARIATIONS UP TO THE TOTAL VALUE OF THE ALLOCATED BUDGET.**

CARRIED

Mr Heritage left the meeting, the time being 10.57am, returning to the meeting at 10.58am.

12 Land Use Planning

12.1 Land Use Planning Report (DCP)

Disclosure of Interests (S.130):

This report was prepared by Mrs Margaret Fox, Contract Planner.

At the time of preparation of this report, the officer did not have a general or material conflict of interest in any matter to which the report or advice relates.

Purpose of Report:

The purpose of this report is to report on the activities of the Planning Team.

Summary:

This report summarises permit and development activity up to 28 February 2025.

Recommendation:

That the report be noted.

Attachment:

1. April 2025 Council Report Stats [**12.1.1** - 4 pages]

Background/History:

This report provides an overview of the number, location and nature of customer enquires resolved by the Planning department, as well as the number, nature and location of all planning permit applications received and issued for the financial year to date as of 28 February 2025, and the percentage of applications decided within the statutory timeframe.

Relevant Law (s.9(2)(a)):

Planning and Environment Act 1987

Options – Best Outcomes for the Community (s.9(2)(b)):

Not applicable.

Sustainability Implications (s.9(2)(c)):

Planning permit applications are considered within the context of the Towong Shire Planning Scheme which give effect to the long-term sustainability of land in use across the Shire.

Community Engagement (s.9(2)(d)):

Not Applicable.

Innovation and Continuous Improvement (s.9(2)(e)):

Staff have been working towards improving the customer service experience for planning permit applications through the Greenlight project (an on-line platform for building and planning permit approval management). The system went live in August 2024 and has been effective. Further work is proposed to be undertaken to document all processes and procedures to firstly identify any potential improvements and secondly to ensure the longevity of the system.

Collaboration (s.9(2)(f)):

Staff continue to work collaboratively with key stakeholders, including Indigo Shire Council, Alpine Shire Council and E-Vis (the Greenlight provider) to share processes and procedures to identify best practice.

Financial Viability/Budget Impact (s.9(2)(g)):

All planning resources and expenses have been factored into the budget.

Regional, State and National Plans and Policies (s.9(2)(h)):

All land use planning decisions align with the *Victorian Planning Provisions*.

Council Plans and Policies:

Council Plans:

This report supports the following *Council Plan 2021-2025* priorities.

4. Land Use - Ensure that Council's planning, building and environmental health services support all aspects of liveability and sustainable population growth.

- 4.1 Support the rebuild process for fire impacted properties
- 4.11 Review statutory service processes to ensure an excellent customer experience

Council Policies:
Not applicable.

Transparency of Decision (s.9(2)(i)):

It is the officer's view that it is appropriate to consider this matter in a Council meeting that is open to the public.

Risk Assessment:

Not Applicable.

Officer's View:

It is the officer's view the improvements that have been implemented in the Planning Department continue to provide an improved customer experience.

Council Resolution:

**CR WORTMANN
CR ANDERSON
THAT THE REPORT BE NOTED.**

CARRIED

13 Environmental Sustainability

There are no Environmental Sustainability reports to present this meeting.

14 Economic and Tourism Development

There are no Economic and Tourism Development reports to present this meeting.

Confirmed

15 Councillor Reports

15.1 New Hospital New Site Advocacy Meetings - Cr Anderson

Meeting/event attended:	New Site New Hospital Advocacy Meetings
Date of Meeting/Event:	7 March 2025, 3 April 2025 and 17 April 2025
Key information presented/discussed at meeting:	Meetings were arranged with the Ministers for Health in NSW and VIC. The Meetings were with the Mayors from Albury and Wodonga. A request for regional Mayors to attend was rejected. These meetings did not provide any clear outcomes. A rally was organised and held at Vic Parliament on 5/3 with over 200 local residents, patients, nurses, doctors, councillors attending. The Rally was well supported, with media reporting. Many residents were unable to do the trip to Melbourne, so another Rally was organised for Albury 29/3. This was a very well attended Rally, with a sea of white shirts in QE11 Square. The speakers, Doctors, representatives for Nurses and Ambulance, had many examples of what is happening and why. One being our Mayor, who's story was heart breaking. Better Border Health had the numbers and the facts! Together we all showed our unity. The Federal Election has since been called. Letter writing and contact with relevant Government Departments continues. The Corowa community has organised a Rally for 27/4.
Action Required:	Nil – meetings to continue
Additional Information Available:	Our local communities have been keen to be involved by supporting the advocacy work Council has been doing. Petitions have been distributed in Tallangatta. They will also be taken to Corryong and to other parts of the shire over the next weeks.

Recommendation:

That the report be noted.

Council Resolution:

CR ANDERSON

CR PITMAN

THAT THE REPORT BE NOTED.

CARRIED

16 Urgent Business

In accordance with Council's Governance Rules, matters of urgent business can only be considered if:

- a) It relates to or arises out of a matter which has arisen since distribution of the agenda; and
- b) It cannot safely or conveniently be deferred until the next Council meeting; and
- c) The Council resolves to admit an item considered to be urgent business.

An item of urgent business was dealt with at item 19.1.

17 Committee Minutes

There are no Committee Meeting minutes for review or confirmation this meeting.

18 Council Policies

18.1 Policies for Review

The following policies are tabled for review in accordance with Council's agreed review cycle. Feedback should be provided to the nominated officer by 28 May 2025 to ensure any input can be considered prior to tabling the policies for adoption:

- Councillor Correspondence Policy
- Councillor Gift Policy

Attachment:

1. Councillor Correspondence - Adopt 27 April 22 [**18.1.1** - 3 pages]
2. Councillor Gift Policy - Adopt 27 April 22 [**18.1.2** - 3 pages]

Recommendation:

That the policies tabled for review be noted.

Council Resolution:

CR TOLSHER
CR ANDERSON

THAT THE POLICIES TABLED FOR REVIEW BE NOTED.

CARRIED

19 Sealing of Documents

19.1 Renewal of Lease of Council Land, Burrowye - Country Fire Authority

Council Resolution:

**CR WORTMANN
CR TOLSHER**

THAT ONE ITEM OF URGENT BUSINESS IN RELATION TO THE RENEWAL OF THE LEASE OF COUNCIL LAND AT BURROWYE TO THE COUNTRY FIRE AUTHORITY BE ADMITTED.

CARRIED

Council Resolution:

**CR WORTMANN
CR PITMAN**

THAT:

- 1. COUNCIL RATIFY THE EXERCISE OF THE OPTION TO RENEW THE LEASE OF PART LOT 1 GUYS FOREST ROAD BURROWYE TO THE COUNTRY FIRE AUTHORITY FOR A PERIOD OF 10 YEARS; AND**
- 2. THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER BE AUTHORISED TO SIGN AND SEAL THE LEASE AGREEMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH LOCAL LAW 1 – COMMON SEAL AND MISCELLANEOUS PENALTIES.**

CARRIED

20 Confidential

Section 66 of the *Local Government Act 2020* declares that meetings are to be open to the public unless the following specified circumstances apply:

1. *A Council or delegated committee must keep a meeting open to the public unless the Council or delegated committee considers it necessary to close the meeting to the public because a circumstance specified in subsection (2) applies.*
2. *The circumstances are –*
 - a) *the meeting is to consider confidential information; or*
 - b) *security reasons; or*
 - c) *it is necessary to do so to enable the meeting to proceed in an orderly manner.*
3. *If the circumstance specified in subsection (2)(b) or (2)(c) applies, the meeting can only be closed to the public if the Council or delegated committee has made arrangements to enable the proceedings of the meeting to be viewed by members of the public as the meeting is being held.*
4. *For the purposes of subsection (3), the arrangements may include provision to view the proceedings on the Internet or on closed circuit television.*
5. *If a Council or delegated committee determines that a meeting is to be closed to the public to consider confidential information, the Council or delegated committee must record in the minutes of the meeting that are available for public inspection –*
 - a) *the ground or grounds for determining to close the meeting to the public by reference to the grounds specified in the definition of confidential information in section 3(1); and*
 - b) *an explanation of why the specified ground or grounds applied.*

As defined in section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020 "confidential information" means the following information

- a. *Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released;*
- b. *Security information, being information that if released is likely to endanger the security of Council property or the safety of any person;*
- c. *Land use planning information, being information that if prematurely released is likely to encourage speculation in land values;*

- d. Law enforcement information, being information which if released would be reasonably likely to prejudice the investigation in an alleged breach of the law or the fair trial or hearing of any person;*
- e. Legal privileged information, being information to which legal professional privilege or client legal privilege applies;*
- f. Personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs;*
- g. Private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that –
 - (i) relates to trade secrets; or*
 - (ii) if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage;**
- h. Confidential meeting information, being the records of meetings closed to the public under section 66(2)(a);*
- i. Internal arbitration information, being information specified in section 145;*
- j. Councillor Conduct Panel confidential information, being information specified in section 169;*
- k. Information prescribed by the regulations to be confidential information for the purposes of this definition; and*

Information that was confidential information for the purposes of section 77 of the Local Government Act 1989.

Nil.

21 Closure of Meeting

There being no further business, the Mayor declared the meeting closed, the time being 11:08 am.