

# **GYMPIE REGIONAL COUNCIL**

## **AGENDA**

*of the*

## **ORDINARY MEETING**

**CHAIRMAN: Cr GC Hartwig (Mayor)**

**Held in the Boardroom**

**Town Hall**

**2 Caledonian Hill**

**Gympie Qld 4570**

**On Wednesday, 7 December 2022**

**At 9.00 am**



The Corporate Plan 2022-2027 provides a clear framework and direction in relation to Council's **vision, mission, values** and **key response areas**.

Gympie Regional Council has a vision for embracing opportunities, promoting wellbeing and celebrating strong communities.

Our mission is to leave a positive legacy for future generations by embracing progress through good planning and efficient service delivery.

Our values are:

### **Accountability**

We are open, transparent and take responsibility for our actions.

### **Communication**

We consult with the community, actively listen to and respond to the input of residents, and keep people informed.

### **Customer Service Focused**

We meet the needs of our community in an efficient and effective manner. We strive to continually improve, show empathy and are environmentally aware in our service delivery.

### **Integrity**

We act with honesty and respect in all we do and respect all residents, colleagues and visitors.

### **Teamwork and Collaboration**

We recognise and support everyone's contributions. We are inclusive and contribute respectfully working as a team. We will care for ourselves and others.

Council's activities are aimed at achieving our vision and are focused into the following three key response areas/objectives:

### **COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT**

*Our communities have infrastructure and spaces for living, working, learning, sport and recreation that supports and caters for growth and enables the community to be inclusive, connected and safe. Natural ecosystems are conserved and enhanced and our built environment embraces biodiversity, sustainability and heritage.*

### **INFRASTRUCTURE AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY**

*Our planning and infrastructure seeks to meet foreseeable future needs to support economic development, community enhancement and residents' wellbeing.*

### **ORGANISATION**

*Gympie Regional Council is an organisation that understands the community, and delivers services efficiently and effectively through highly engaged staff.*

The above framework informs council's decision making and guides our organisational management and operational activities.



Gympie Regional Council **ORDINARY**

*Mayor GC Hartwig (Chairman),*

*Crs J Milne, NG Jensen, SA Waldock, BM Devereaux, DH Stewart, HT Smerdon, WA Polley and RA Fredman.*

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## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

## **OPEN WITH PRAYER**

## **SECTION 1: DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST**

## **SECTION 2: APOLOGIES / LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

## **SECTION 3: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Minutes of the Gympie Regional Council Ordinary Meeting held on 23 November 2022 be taken as read and confirmed.

## **SECTION 4: PETITIONS**

## SECTION 5: OFFICE OF THE CEO

### 5.1 Council Ordinary Meeting Action Report for Quarter 1 2022-23

**PORTFOLIO:** Governance, Risk and Disaster Management

**DIRECTORATE:** Office of the CEO

**DOC ID:**

#### LINKS TO CORPORATE/OPERATIONAL PLAN

#### KEY RESPONSE AREAS:

3. Organisation

#### 1. BACKGROUND AND PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

Action Items are defined as Council Ordinary Meeting recommendations and/or action items (including resolutions) approved or endorsed by Council that require Council's administrative arm to implement the formal decisions of the local government.

In adhering to the local government principles outlined in section 4 of the *Local Government Act 2009*, a quarterly 'Council Ordinary Meeting Action Item Report' (Quarterly Actions Report) is being implemented to enable an accountable, effective, efficient and sustainable system of government. This reporting identifies Council's formal decisions and provides transparency of officer responsibility to implement Action Items across the Directorates of Council.

#### 2. REPORT

Since the current Council's first Ordinary meeting held on 23 April 2020 to 30 September 2022 (Q4), there have been 459 Action Items recorded, six of which are pending. Each pending Action Item has a corresponding Minute number that can be searched on Council's webpage for more details, except for In-Committee reports.

The pending action items and comments against each are shown in the attachment to this report titled, Council Ordinary Meeting Action Item Report for Quarter 1.

#### 3. BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

There are no budget implications associated with the recommendation of this report.

#### 4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications associated with the recommendation of this report.

#### 5. CONSULTATION

Executive Leadership Team

#### 6. CONCLUSION

As outlined above, this report provides the progress on the implementation of Council's formal decision making. The pending items will be monitored over the next quarter.

## ATTACHMENTS

- [1.](#) Council Ordinary Meeting Action Item Report for Quarter 1

## RECOMMENDATION

**That Council notes the Council Ordinary Meeting Action Item Report for Quarter 1 2022-23.**

## 5.2 Audit and Risk Committee Chair

**PORTFOLIO:** Governance, Risk and Disaster Management

**DIRECTORATE:** Office of the CEO

**DOC ID:**

### LINKS TO CORPORATE/OPERATIONAL PLAN

#### KEY RESPONSE AREAS:

3. Organisation

#### 1. BACKGROUND AND PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

The tenure of the current Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) Chair is due to expire on 31 December 2022. Mr Hayden Wright was appointed by Council to the Chair role in August 2022 after previously serving as an ARC independent member and Acting Chair since January 2022.

To ensure continuity and operation of the ARC, it is proposed that Council approve for the extension of Mr Hayden Wright to continue in the role of Chair for the ARC, for the remaining term of Council.

#### 2. REPORT

Since January 2022, Mr Hayden Wright has served as the Acting Chair of the ARC and was subsequently formally appointed to the role in August 2022 by Council.

Mr Wright has been a long serving independent member of the ARC and brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the committee, he is a former Chief Executive Officer of Redland Shire Council and has held senior roles within Brisbane City Council responsible for corporate governance.

As the formal engagement arrangement with Mr Wright is due to expire on 31 December 2022, Council will need to extend this arrangement to ensure the continued operation of the ARC.

As such, it is proposed that Council approve for the extension of Mr Hayden Wright to continue in the role of Chair for the ARC, for the remaining current term of Council.

#### 3. BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

All costs associated with the ARC are included within the annual budget allocations.

#### 4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications associated with the recommendation of this report.

## **5. CONSULTATION**

Acting Chief Executive Officer

ARC Chair

Manager Governance, Integrity and Risk

## **6. CONCLUSION**

To ensure continuity and operation of the ARC, it is proposed that Council approve for the extension of Mr Hayden Wright extend the tenure of Mr Hayden Wright in the role of Audit and Risk Committee Chair for the remaining term of Council.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council resolves to extend the tenure of Mr Hayden Wright in the role of Audit and Risk Committee Chair for the remaining term of Council.**

## 5.3 Audit and Risk Committee Charter

**PORTFOLIO:** Governance, Risk and Disaster Management

**DIRECTORATE:** Office of the CEO

**DOC ID:**

### LINKS TO CORPORATE/OPERATIONAL PLAN

#### KEY RESPONSE AREAS:

3. Organisation

#### 1. BACKGROUND AND PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

As part of Council governance processes, a review of the Audit and Risk Committee Charter (ARC Charter) has been undertaken to ensure adequacy and alignment to best practice.

A number of updates to the existing Charter, which was last adopted by Council in December 2021, have been made and are now presented to Council for consideration. The updates are more of an administrative nature and do not impact upon the intent of the Charter nor the operation of the Audit and Risk Management Committee (ARC).

#### 2. REPORT

On an annual basis, the ARC Charter is reviewed by the Governance Integrity and Risk Branch to ensure adequacy and alignment to best practice. Recommendations for any proposed changes are sourced from all members of the ARC and then presented to Council for adoption.

As indicated above, the updates proposed are more of an administrative nature and include:

- a) formatting to the new policy template
- b) additional definitions
- c) clarification of reporting responsibility
- d) Meeting attendees.

It is recommended that Council approve the revisions to the ARC Charter to ensure the continued effective operation of the ARC for the next 12 months.

#### 3. BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

There are no budget implications associated with the recommendation of this report.

#### 4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

A revised Audit and Risk Committee Charter is provided to Council for adoption as part of a governance review of the committee.



## **5. CONSULTATION**

Audit and Risk Committee

Manager Governance, Integrity and Risk

Internal Auditor

## **6. CONCLUSION**

Council should approve the revisions to the ARC Charter to ensure the continued effective operation of the ARC for the next 12 months.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

[↓](#)1. Audit and Risk Committee Charter

## **RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council resolves to adopt the revised Audit and Risk Committee Charter as presented.**

## 5.4 Flood Recovery Plan 2022-2024

**PORTFOLIO:** Governance, Risk and Disaster Management

**DIRECTORATE:** Office of the CEO

**DOC ID:**

### LINKS TO CORPORATE/OPERATIONAL PLAN

#### KEY RESPONSE AREAS:

1. Community and Environment
2. Infrastructure and Economic Opportunity
3. Organisation

### 1. BACKGROUND AND PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

Item 33 of Council's Operational Plan 2022-2027 provides for the development and implementation of a Flood Recovery Plan.

### 2. REPORT

In accordance with the Queensland Recovery Plan (October 2021), 'disaster recovery' is defined as the coordinated process of supported disaster-affected communities' psychosocial (emotional and social), and physical well-being; reconstruction of physical infrastructure; and economic and environmental restoration (including regeneration of the natural environment, associated infrastructure and heritage sites and structures and the management of pollution and contamination. One aim of the Queensland Recovery Plan is to ensure recovery operations are locally-led, integrated and appropriate to the scale of the disaster event.

Following Gympie's flooding events in early 2022, the attached Flood Recovery Plan 2022-2024 (Flood Recovery Plan) has been developed by key stakeholders and was endorsed by the Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG) at its meeting on 8 November 2022. The Flood Recovery Plan provides an overview of the recovery activities to be delivered in the Gympie region to 30 June 2024. It is a living document that will be updated to respond to changing circumstances as required.

Working under the Queensland Disaster Management Arrangements, the Gympie Local Disaster Recovery Group will:

- Take lead responsibility for the implementation of this plan
- Inform residents and stakeholders of this plan and provide progress updates
- Promote and leverage disaster funding and support packages
- Escalate issues to State and Federal agencies as required
- Review implementation of this plan every two months or as required
- Provide reports to the LDMG every quarter to 30 June 2024. These reports will also be provided to Council
- Develop any further actions in June 2024 based on remaining flood recovery need assessed at that time.

In accordance with Council's Local Disaster Management Plan, the Gympie Local Recovery Coordinator is the Director, Community Sustainability.

The Flood Recovery Plan is provided to Council for noting and endorsement.

### **3. BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

Grant funding has been provided by the State Government for one Full Time Employee - Community Recovery and Resilience Officer plus funds for activities to the value of \$535,334 through to 30 June 2024. Further grant submissions will be made by Council to promote and leverage disaster funding and support packages as per the commitments listed in the Flood Recover Plan. Other work will be included in accordance with Council's budget funding.

### **4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

There are no policy implications as the activities and reporting meet the policy requirements of Governance, Finance and Disaster Management.

### **5. CONSULTATION**

The attached Flood Recovery Plan has now been developed by key stakeholders, including the Queensland Reconstruction Authority and was endorsed by the LDMG at its meeting on 8 November 2022.

### **6. CONCLUSION**

The Flood Recovery Plan 2022-2024 approved by the LDMG on 8 November 2022 is now submitted to Council for endorsement.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

- [1.](#) Flood Recovery Plan 2022-2024

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council endorse the Flood Recovery Plan 2022-2024 (Flood Recovery Plan).**

## SECTION 6: CORPORATE SERVICES

### 6.1 Procurement Panel Report November 2022

**PORTFOLIO:** IT and Finance

**DIRECTORATE:** Corporate Services

**DOC ID:**

#### LINKS TO CORPORATE/OPERATIONAL PLAN

#### KEY RESPONSE AREAS:

3. Organisation

### 1. BACKGROUND AND PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

In April 2021, Council endorsed the formation of a Procurement Panel to oversee council's procurement activities.

This report provides a summary of the Panel's activities for the month of November 2022 including items endorsed by the Panel for procurement but which exceed the financial delegation of the Acting Chief Executive Officer.

### 2. REPORT

#### 2.1 Procurement Panel Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the Procurement Panel Meetings, are:

- i. **Procurement Meeting No 69 – 15 November 2022 (Flying Minute)**
  - a. the Executive approve that RFQ2022-23 020 be awarded to Pipe Management Australia Pty Ltd for \$152,995.50 (ex-GST)
  - b. the executive approve the release to market of RFT2022-23 010 Wastewater Treatment Plants and Water Reservoirs Instrumentation Supply and Installation.
- ii. **Procurement Meeting No 70 – 18 November 2022 (Flying Minute)**
  - a. Pre Market Release RFT2022-23 014 Project Management & Support.
- iii. **Procurement Meeting No 71 – 22 November 2022 (Flying Minute)**
  - a. Final Extension of RPQS T138 – Pest Animal Control Services
  - b. Final Extension of RPQS T156 – Vegetation Management ( Herbicide Application)
  - c. RFQ2022-23 039 – Design Bonnick Road Eastern Cell.

#### 2.2 Request for Tender - RFT2022-23 001 Sewer Pump Station G1 Relocation

On 20 September 2022, an Approach to market was conducted via Vendor Panel as a public tender release. The public tender was based on AS2124-1992 General Conditions of Contract including Annexures Part A & Part B.

The RFT2022-23 001 closed on Tuesday 25 October 2022 with a total of six (6) submissions

being received, four (4) being conforming and two (2) being alternative submissions.

The Evaluation Panel completed the evaluation of the initial tenders and post tender clarifications on 15 November 2022. The post tender clarifications, requested further information in relation to the proposed construction program, costs savings and specific construction methodology.

The tables below identify the tenders assessed during the evaluation process for both Non Price & Priced Components. Tender prices are exclusive of GST.

<b>EVALUATION PANEL – Non Price Elements</b>	
<b>Tenderer</b>	<b>Score</b>
Offaly Civil Pty Ltd (conforming)	3.86
Offaly Civil Pty Ltd (Alternative)	3.68
M&K Pipelines (QLD) Pty Ltd (conforming)	3.17
Re Pump Australia	3.09
SNG Engineering	2.83
M&K Pipelines (QLD) Pty Ltd (alternate)	Not Scored Alternate Tender not accepted

<b>EVALUATION PANEL –Price Elements</b>		
<b>Tenderer</b>	<b>Tender Sum</b>	<b>Score</b>
Offaly Civil Pty Ltd (Alternative Tender)	\$1,547,431.95	4.50
Offaly Civil Pty Ltd (Conforming Tender)	\$1,632,171.77	4.21
SNG Engineering	\$2,031,233.00	3.38
M&K Pipelines (QLD) Pty Ltd (Conforming Tender)	\$2,163,822.74	3.17
Re Pump Australia Pty Ltd	\$2,400,551.25	2.86
M&K Pipelines (QLD) Pty Ltd (Alternative Tender)	\$2,272,090.45	Not Scored Alternate Tender not accepted

<b>EVALUATION PANEL COMBINED SCORE AND TOTAL OVERALL RANK*</b>		
<b>Tenderer</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Overall Ranking</b>
Offaly Civil Pty Ltd (Alternative)	8.18	1
Offaly Civil Pty Ltd (conforming)	8.07	2
M&K Pipelines (QLD) Pty Ltd (conforming)	6.34	3
SNG Engineering	6.21	4
Re Pump Australia	5.95	5

Based on the evaluation of the initial tenders and post tender clarifications the Evaluation Panel has recommended that the RFT 2002-23 001 SPS G1 Relocation be awarded to Offaly

Civil (Alternative Tender) for \$1,547,431.95 plus \$154,743.19 (GST) for a Total Contract Sum of \$1,702,175.14.

### **2.3 RFP0521 DRFA Construction Services - Minor Works – for endorsement**

On 17 August 2022, An Approach to Market was conducted via Vendor Panel and released as a public tender.

The tender closed on 14 September with Twenty One (21) tender submissions

<b>Tenderer</b>
Arborcultural Contractors Australia
Ark Construction Group Pty Ltd
Bellrise Investments Pty Ltd
G & R Brown & Sons Pty Ltd T/A Brown Contractors
Carruthers Contracting
Smicko Project Services
CQ Concreting
Daniels Civil
Exceed Concrete
GRI Road Services
Gulf Civil
JM Plumbing
MD Plant Hire
MRB Electrical & Earthworks
Durack Civil Pty Ltd
RPQ Northcoast
Spraywayz Linemarking
Offaly Civil Pty Ltd
SGQ Pty Ltd
Stabilised Pavements of Australia Pty Ltd
True North Contracting

### **Tender Evaluation Panel (the Panel)**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Representing</b>
Liam Watson	Manager Capital Delivery and Assets
Gordon Magann	Acting Director Infrastructure Services
Michael Anderson	Advisor – Wellbeing & Safety
Ron McCarthy	CRC/DRFA Program Manager

### **Evaluation Procedure**

The tender evaluation was conducted in two (2) stages

- Initial Evaluation
- Final Evaluation

### **Initial Evaluation**

An initial evaluation of proposals received was conducted. This initial evaluation identified that the general responses received could be broken up into 4 categories, these being:

- contractors who can adequately do all elements of scope
- contractors who can adequately do some elements of scope
- contractors who provide a service already the subject of a Gympie Regional Council Supplier List
- contractors who do not offer relevant services.

It is appropriate for the Panel to appoint Respondents to the Register of Prequalified Suppliers with limitations on the scope of works they can be engaged for under the Register of Prequalified Suppliers.

### Existing Suppliers

It was identified that some Proposals were received for Services already the subject of an existing Council Supplier List. These Proposals were discounted from further consideration and, if not already on Council's relevant Supplier Lists, be provided with information on how to apply for these in future.

Respondent's that were assessed as being in this category include:

<b>Name of Respondent</b>	<b>Relevant Supplier List</b>
Arboriculture Contractors Australia	Tree and Arboricultural Services
MD Plant Hire	Plant Hire Services (Wet Hire)
MRB Electrical & Earthworks	Plant Hire Services (Wet Hire)
MRB Electrical & Earthworks	Electricians
JM Plumbing	Plumbers, Gas Fitters and Drainers

The Panel determined the following work types to be suitable for each Proposal received:

<b>Name of Respondent</b>	<b>Suitable Work Types</b>
Ark Construction Group Pty Ltd	Full Scope
Bellrise Investments Pty Ltd	Full Scope
Carruthers Contracting	Full Scope
G & R Brown & Sons Pty Ltd T/A Brown Contractors	Full Scope
Smicko Project Services	No suitable work types
CQ Concreting	Full Scope
Daniels Civil	Earthworks only
Durack Civil Pty Ltd	Full Scope
Exceed Concrete	Full Scope
GRI Road Services	No suitable work types
Gulf Civil	Full Scope
Offaly Civil Pty Ltd	Full Scope
RPQ Northcoast	Full Scope
SGQ Pty Ltd	Full Scope
Spraywayz Linemarking	No suitable work types
Stabilised Pavements of Australia Pty Ltd	Full Scope
True North Contracting	Full Scope

### Final Evaluation

The Proposals were assessed against the evaluation criteria for the suitable work types. The evaluation resulted in the following scores:

<b>Suitable Work Type</b>	<b>Name of Respondent</b>	<b>Total Score</b>
Full Scope	Ark Construction Group Pty Ltd	4.63
Full Scope	Bellrise Investments Pty Ltd	4.70
Full Scope	Carruthers Contracting	4.63
Full Scope	G & R Brown & Sons Pty Ltd T/A Brown Contractors	4.70
Full Scope	CQ Concreting	6.30
Earthworks only	Daniels Civil	4.18
Full Scope	Durack Civil Pty Ltd	6.70
Full Scope	Exceed Concrete	4.68
Full Scope	Gulf Civil	4.68
Full Scope	Offaly Civil Pty Ltd	6.68
Full Scope	RPQ Northcoast	4.63
Full Scope	SGQ Pty Ltd	4.63
Full Scope	Stabilised Pavements of Australia Pty Ltd	4.65
Full Scope	True North Contracting	4.70

It is the Panel's opinion that the above Respondents should be appointed to the Register of Pre-Qualified Suppliers (RPQS), with each Respondents suitable work types documented, given each submitted a compliant proposal with adequate capability and experience for the areas of work they were considered suitable for.

The Panel's also recommended the formation a Register of Pre-Qualified Suppliers (RPQS) for RFP0521 DRFA Construction Services - Minor Works with the following suppliers.

<b>Name of Respondent</b>	<b>Suitable Work Types</b>
Ark Construction Group Pty Ltd	Full Scope
Bellrise Investments Pty Ltd	Full Scope
Carruthers Contracting	Full Scope
G & R Brown & Sons Pty Ltd T/A Brown Contractors	Full Scope
CQ Concreting	Full Scope
Daniels Civil	Earthworks only
Durack Civil Pty Ltd	Full Scope
Exceed Concrete	Full Scope
Gulf Civil	Full Scope
Offaly Civil Pty Ltd	Full Scope



RPQ Northcoast	Full Scope
SGQ Pty Ltd	Full Scope
Stabilised Pavements of Australia Pty Ltd	Full Scope
True North Contracting	Full Scope

### 3. BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Items considered by the Procurement Panel are consistent with the 2022-23 Budget and the Long Term Financial Forecast 2022-23 to 2031-32 adopted by Council on the 14 July 2022.

### 4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

All procurement processes, reports and recommendations are consistent with Council's Procurement Policy, adopted 14 July 2022.

### 5. CONSULTATION

Consultation has been undertaken across the key stakeholders within Council, in relation to the items considered by the Procurement Panel during the period covered by this report.

### 6. CONCLUSION

The Procurement Panel has endorsed the items outlined above and within the recommendations below.

#### RECOMMENDATION 1

**That Council resolve to receive and note the minutes of the Procurement Panel meeting No 69 – 15 November 2022 Procurement Panel meeting No 70 – 18 November 2022.**

#### RECOMMENDATION 2

**That Council resolve that RFT 2022-23 001 SPS G1 Relocation be awarded to Offaly Civil (alternative offer) for \$1,547,431.95 (exclusive of GST).**

#### RECOMMENDATION 3

**That council resolves to establish a Register of Prequalified Suppliers for RFP0521 DRFA Construction Services – Minor Works with the following suppliers:**

Name of Respondent	Suitable Work Types
Ark Construction Group Pty Ltd	Full Scope of Works
Bellrise Investments Pty Ltd	Full Scope of Works
Carruthers Contracting	Full Scope of Works
G & R Brown & Sons Pty Ltd T/A Brown Contractors	Full Scope of Works
CQ Concreting	Full Scope of Works
Durack Civil Pty Ltd	Full Scope of Works
Exceed Concrete	Full Scope of Works
Gulf Civil	Full Scope of Works

<b>Offaly Civil Pty Ltd</b>	<b>Full Scope of Works</b>
<b>RPQ Northcoast</b>	<b>Full Scope of Works</b>
<b>SGQ Pty Ltd</b>	<b>Full Scope of Works</b>
<b>Stabilised Pavements of Australia Pty Ltd</b>	<b>Full Scope of Works</b>
<b>True North Contracting</b>	<b>Full Scope of Works</b>
<b>Daniels Civil</b>	<b>Earthworks Only</b>

## **SECTION 7: COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY**

### **7.1 Community Sustainability Directorate Update**

**PORTFOLIO:** Planning and Regulatory Compliance

**DIRECTORATE:** Community Sustainability

**DOC ID:**

#### **LINKS TO CORPORATE/OPERATIONAL PLAN**

#### **KEY RESPONSE AREAS:**

3. Organisation

#### **1. BACKGROUND AND PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION**

Council's Executive Team have agreed that on a quarterly basis Directorate Managers will provide an overview of the operations of their business units for the prior quarter and the quarter to come.

These quarterly reports are an opportunity to reflect on achievements and learnings and to encourage information sharing across the Directorates, the Organisation and Council.

#### **2. REPORT**

This report provides a summary of the key achievements and planning for each of the business units within the Community Sustainability Directorate.

#### **COMMUNITY AND COMMERCIAL SERVICES**

##### **Gympie Regional Libraries**

##### ***It's a Wrap on WriteFest 2022***

Over 1,500 people in the community attended 3 days of literary events held at locations across the Gympie region from 9-11 September. There was something for everyone - including writing workshops, author talks and sessions to help people unlock their creative potential. The event was proudly funded and supported by the Queensland Government and the State Library of Queensland, assisted by Bolinda and Gympie Regional Council.

##### ***Writing Friday group recognised***

The Gympie Library-based Writing Friday group was featured in the Queensland Writers Centre's (QWC) official quarterly publication WQ (Issue 278, Sept-Nov 2022).

The local writing group meets on the third Friday of every month in the foyer at Gympie Library, where qualified library staff and guest speakers present writing workshops, information sessions and publishing industry news, with plenty of time allotted for practical writing exercises, encouragement and advice.

Members of the Gympie Writing Friday group include successfully published authors of both fiction and non-fiction, poets and QWC Ambassadors, as well as many others who wish to develop and enhance their writing skills and participate more fully in the world of books and literature.

### ***Local Studies Amplified***

Library staff attended the Local Studies Amplified workshop at State Library of Queensland in October where they presented one positive piece of local history pertinent to our area and spoke about the need to capture memories from residents and their lives in our region. Staff also learnt more about best practice collection management principles, and further strategies to engage library members with the history collection and ideas to encourage more use of the resources.

### ***Friends of the Library Sewing Bee***

The Friends of the Library group have been sewing up a storm making library bags for new library members as part of the Return yourself to the library campaign. Each bag has been made with love using donated fabric, making each bag unique and special. These bags have been filled with information about the library service for the new members to enjoy.

The Friends Sewing Bee have also been making a variety of goodies that will be sent out to the Home Library service recipients as an end of year treat.

### ***Gympie Regional Libraries RFID upgrade to Quick Connect***

Gympie Regional Libraries are leading the way as they become the first library in the world to have their smart return shelves upgraded to the Quick Connect platform. Quick Connect is currently used on self-checkout kiosks in many libraries, including our own, but this is the first time that it has been configured to work on return shelves. Using RFID technology to automatically return borrowed items, the smart return shelves have been hugely popular with staff and patrons since their installation in 2019. The new software aims to increase the speed and reliability of the shelves' operation while also providing a consistent experience for patrons.

### ***Early Years Outreach and Onsite Library Programs: October – December 2022***

Gympie Regional Libraries staff are busy hosting onsite library programs and visiting schools, playgroups and community groups across the region to run library outreach programs. Below is a list of some of the highlights during this reporting period:

- Jones Hill Spring Fair
- Woolooga Playgroup Halloween Storytime
- Senior Special School Visit to Makerspace
- Little Beginnings Mum's Group Visit and Baby Bounce
- Gympie Library Halloween Storytime
- Kitiwah Early Learning Centre Storytime
- Goodstart Jones Hill Storytime
- One Mile Pups Playgroup Storytime
- First 5 Forever Online Storytime Project – Recording at Rainbow Beach
- Kids Bizz Tin Can Bay Storytime
- Special School Laser Engraver Demo @ Makerspace
- Gympie South Playgroup Rhyme Time

- Goomeri School Year 1s Visit to Goomeri Library
- Kids Bizz Library presentation – providing information about library membership, website/catalogue and advice around the F5F program for families
- Kids R Us Storytime
- Rainbow Beach Homeschool Robotics @ Community Hall
- Goomboorian Playalong visit Gympie Library
- Gympie Homeschool Group Learn to Sew
- St. Pat's After School Care Program visits the Gympie Library
- Kids R Us After School Care – Holiday Tinker Table @ Kids R Us.

### ***RAT distribution and Gympie Regional Libraries***

From 1 August 2022 to 31 October 2022 Gympie Regional Libraries participated in a joint Federal, State and Local Government project distributing Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs) to vulnerable members of our community. Eligible card holders were entitled to three (3) boxes of free RATs per month. During this time over 7,000 RATs were distributed to the community as a preventative measure to manage a potential increase in COVID-19 cases in Queensland.

### ***Community Displays at Gympie Library***

During August the Gympie Family History Society displayed historical photographs and documents from their collection on the display walls and other historical items and mementos in the cabinet. The Gympie Family History Society was founded in 1980, and has grown from a small group of members meeting to help each other to do research, to a well-equipped Society with their own rooms and a large library of reference materials and research facilities.

In September the Gympie library was lucky to secure a display from – Mitchell Collins - a talented local artist in the community. His display of famous portraits was a highlight of the month.

In October the Gympie Camera Club showcased the winners of their photography competition. The Gympie Camera Club is a club that holds regular meetings and practical evenings for anyone interested in photography. Their aim is to help members improve their photography, no matter what level of experience the photographer may have.

As part of Seniors Month in October, Gympie U3A (University of the third age) showcased examples of the classes offered by the organisation and their history. U3A Gympie has a long history of self-help and adult education. They began in 1987 and currently have over 150 members. A range of educational, physically rewarding and socially stimulating activities are provided with the target audience being aged 50 and over.

In November there was a Woodworks Group display in the Gympie Library cabinet and winners of the MRCCC Mary River Catchment Photo Competition were on display in the library foyer.

In December there will be a library display from Community Action Inc.

### **Operational Statistics**

The Gympie Regional Libraries October 2022 Operational Report is attached. The report provides an overview of library operations. Of note, there has been a significant increase in eMusic access in October 2022. Staff will continue to monitor these statistics to see if this trend continues.

### **Looking ahead - January to March 2023 – Snapshot**

- December/January School Holiday activities will be presented at all library service points across the Gympie Region.
- Launch of Acknowledgement of Country video – State Library of Queensland Strategic Priorities Grant funded project.
- Carry out the First Five Forever program to improve literacy skills and encourage a pleasure of reading across the region for under 5s.
- Carry out the Be Connected program to improve digital literacy skills across the region for the over 50s.
- Plan for the launch of the 2023 Library Survey.

### **Customer Contact**

Customer Contact continued to provide Customer Service to the community over the phone, online and in-person at Gympie Town Hall and Channon Street Community Sustainability Counter. Attached are the team's operational statistics for the period August –October 2022.

Highlights for Customer Contact during this period include:

- Month on Month August to September: calls presented decreased by 12.4 %, Email and Mail request decreased by 25%, Counter Interactions increased by 4.4%. Online Request decreased by 34 requests. All Target KPI's were exceeded in the month of September.

Rates were due 08 September 2022. Hence the peak work was completed in 6 business days up to that date, rather than over the whole month.

High call rates and decreased staff capacity in the peak resulted in the Average speed of Answer increasing by 22 seconds, the Average Handle Time increased by 5 seconds with abandonment rates also increasing.

- Month on Month September to October: All Target KPI's were exceeded in the month of October.
- Customer actions requests (CARs) August to October 2022, generated through calls, emails and on-line requests: New CARs increased by 12.81% in the month of October, together with an 11.63% increase to the number CARs closed within target. Total open and overdue CAR's for October decreased by 604 overall with Infrastructure Services open and overdue CAR decreasing by 509 and Community Sustainability decreasing by 95.
- Councillor Requests: Attached is a summary of Councillor Requests, highlighting the number of requests, topic area, requests still active and those that have been closed.

Other key activities for Customer Contact Team for the period included:

- Organisation and attendance of Customer Contact team training morning attended by staff, Manager and Director
- Reviewed Customer Contact 10 Day training
- Customer Contact Reporting – Presentation to ELT
- Completed final conversation as part of 5 Conversations framework
- Resourcing activities including upskilling, new starter training and internal secondments
- Assisted and updated customer scripting across Council.

## **ARTS, COMMUNITY AND CULTURE UPDATE**

### **Community Development**

#### ***Community Grants Program***

Applications opened on 5 September 2022 and closed on 16 October for the Competitive Round of Council's Community Grants Program.

The Community Development Team delivered 6 information sessions, 2 grant writing workshops and 6 drop in sessions in regional libraries throughout September and October. Additionally, there were over 100 in person or over the phone contacts with applicants. There were 71 applications across the 8 categories, with 22 of these being first time applicants.

Applications were assessed by staff with relevant expertise and recommendations to fund 57 applications to a total of \$529,995 are being presented to Council at its November 23 Ordinary Meeting for endorsement.

The Rolling Round of Council's Community Grants program has 6 categories including Recovery, Wellbeing and Resilience, Council Venue Fee Waiver and Micro Environment Projects. Applications close on 31 May 2023 or when funds are expended. Applications are assessed as they are submitted, and notification of outcome provided to applicants in 4 weeks.

#### ***INFOsations***

*INFOsations* is a new initiative that provides an opportunity for residents and organisations to connect in person with the Community Development team and others of the community, in their local library. It supports the Community Development Team's commitment to foster and support inclusive and connected communities (Corporate Plan 2022-2027, Strategic Priority 1.2).

This initiative involves the scheduled delivery of services in strategic localities throughout the Gympie region, utilising library spaces and promoting these spaces as places to connect.

Every two months, the Community Development Team will be located at Imbil, Goomeri, Kilkivan, Rainbow Beach, Tin Can Bay and Gympie libraries. Each month will have a different focus topic for discussion. These sessions are free and there is no need to register.

September's focus topic for discussion was Council's Community Grants program and a total of 30 people attended.

November focus topic for discussion was disaster preparation for community groups and the Community Development Team partnered with Red Cross to deliver this.

February will provide general advice to community organisations on grants and funding, community organisation governance, local events and community activities, and other services provided by the Community Development Team.

### **Community Training**

The Successful Community Organisations workshop held on 29 October had 22 people in attendance for the day to explore key aspects of viability and sustainability for community organisations. Feedback was very positive with 100% of attendees stating they agreed or strongly agreed that the workshop gave them a greater understanding of the topics and that the presenter was knowledgeable.

Future training includes:

- Disaster Planning for Community Organisations on 30 November at The Pavilion. Two sessions available, 2pm and 5:30pm. These sessions are free to attend
- Creative Recovery Forum on 22 November to understand the concept of what creative recovery is for the community. 5:30pm at Gympie Regional Gallery. This is also free to attend
- Creative Recovery Training on 2, 3 and 4 December delivered by Creative Recovery Network (CRN). The event is free to attend.

### **Night at the Flicks**

*Night at the Flicks* are free, family-friendly events that foster community connection in locations across the Gympie region. Council is engaging local community halls to co-host a Night at the Flicks throughout the region. Six movie nights were presented during September, October and November with over 300 attendees.

### **Seniors Month**

The Community Development Team partnered with 5 community organisations across the region to deliver events during October for Queensland Seniors Month. Over 400 people attended the following events:

- Morning Tea and Music in Gympie on 13 October
- Cheers and Beers at Amamoor on 15 October
- Bush Poets Breakfast at Curra on 16 October
- Tai Chi and Morning Tea in Kilkivan on 21 October
- Sunday BBQ at Tin Can Bay on 23 October
- Gympie Regional Libraries held a range of events and activities for Seniors.

### **Community Halls Forum**

Council's Community Development Team coordinates two Community Halls Forums per year in collaboration with interested halls.

Glastonbury Hall hosted a forum on 8 September 2022 with over 40 people in attendance representing 16 of the 33 community halls across the region. The Community Development Team provided an overview of Council's grant program and other support for community



halls, and led a discussion on promoting events and activities held in community halls. Participants learnt about a range of information, asked questions, shared learnings and ideas about hall management.

Feedback from attendees was very positive, particularly towards the brainstorming/information sharing session and networking with other halls. Over 90% of attendees strongly agreed that the forum was well organised and the information provided was relevant.

Attendees provided positive comments such as:

- I found this very informative
- A really great afternoon. So much information ideas and enthusiasm from all present and thank you GRC staff for organizing these forums.
- You guys are amazing!

The next forum is planned for April 2023. Topics that the attendees have identified for discussion include marketing, technology and volunteer recruitment and retention.

### ***Community Info Share e-news***

The Community Development Team is committed to supporting the community by providing opportunities for Council and not for profit community organisations to share their events and activities and provide news and information on opportunities including funding programs. The monthly e-news has more than 575 subscribers, predominantly representing community organisations.

Analytics for sent e-newsletters during the reporting period are as follows:

- 8 September 41.6% opens, 6.4% clicks
- 30 September 45.2% opens, 5.6% clicks
- 11 October 45.4% opens, 3.5% clicks
- 21 October 49.6% opens, 11.5% clicks
- 4 November 39.3% opens, 2.3% clicks

### ***Youth Week 2023***

Queensland Youth Week (QYW) is an annual celebration of young people aged 12 to 25 and the positive contributions they make to Queensland communities. It's an opportunity to showcase the values, concerns and interests of young people in the Gympie region. Queensland Youth Week 2023 will be held from 11 to 17 April.

The Community Development Team, using funding received from the Localised Mental Health Initiative through Queensland Government, is currently planning to deliver events and activities for Youth Week 2023.

A survey for young people will be open for submissions during November. The Team's intention is to celebrate our youth by hosting a series of events and activities designed to engage, educate, entertain and enthuse the young people of our region. We want to create experiences that are designed for youth, by youth, with a focus on the creative power of the Gympie region.

### **Staffing and Team news**

The Community Development Team consists of 2.6 FTE.

Recruitment for a Recovery and Resilience Officer to join the team is underway. This 18 month fixed term role is funded by Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy to deliver a Community Recovery and Resilience Officer Service in the Gympie Local Government Area, with commencement of a team member in this role expected in January 2023.

### **Venues**

#### **September - Key Events**

##### **Little Kids Day Out 2022 - Saturday 3/9 – 9am – 2pm**

A full day of activities for children and their families on the downstairs level of the Pavilion and outdoor areas located close by.

Attendance figures were around 2,000. Feedback from Hirer:

*"Thank you for your support in making the Little Kids Day Out a huge success".*

##### **Gympie War Widows Friendship Day Lunch - Thursday 15/9 – 11am – 3pm**

Around 250 war widows attended this event held in the downstairs court area.

Great feedback was received from the hirer:

*"Great delivery by all of your team. Cleanliness, reception of guests / hosts. Food and Bar well done team".*

##### **The Listies ROFLSHALBOWCO (Rolling on the Floor Laughing) – Tuesday 27/9 Critical Stages Touring**

Performance 10am – 77 tickets sold

School Holiday entertainment for kids and families. Multi award winning Touring Production. Very positive feedback received from the audience, kids and adults alike.

#### **October - Key Events**

##### **GPAC – Night of Nonsense Performances: - Saturday 1/10 and Sunday 2/10**

3 x performances – 67 tickets sold in total

##### **Heart of Gold International Short Film Festival - Thursday 27/10 – Sunday 29/10**

An atmospheric and unique opening night of the festival, lit by electronic candlelight and a small generator due to a storm that caused a power cut to the Pavilion for the duration of the opening.

A truly amazing 4 days and nights of film and music supported by many volunteers and attended by around 3000 people throughout the festival. Original season scheduled for late August had to be postponed due to Covid-19 amongst cast members.

## November - Key Events up to Sunday 13/11/2022

### SCIC Melbourne Cup Lunch – Tuesday 1/11

The Apex was themed with colourful hats for this event, which was attended by approximately 100 guests. Guests had an enjoyable time and the hirer was thrilled with the success of the event.

Very positive feedback received for venue and staff.

### Pavilion Event and Usage Statistics

The Pavilion has had a busy quarter with usage statistics available for September, October and up until the submission of this report in November.

#### Event Statistics by Activity / September

Type	No. of events
Banquet Dining	4
Workshop/Training	11
Sport	9
Meetings	4
Rehearsal / Performances	6
Bump in/out days	7
Talks/Forums	7
Festival	1
<b>Total events</b>	<b>49</b>

#### Event Statistics by Room / September

Room	No. of events
Stadium / Ground Floor	24
Apex	3
Smith/Bishop Rooms	9
Smith Room	2
Bishop	2
Madill	6
Entire Pavilion	3
<b>Total events</b>	<b>49</b>

#### Event Statistics by Activity / October

Type	No. of events
Banquet Dining	1
Workshop/Training	9
Sport	15
Meetings	3
Rehearsal / Performances	2
Bump in/out days	6
Talks/Forums	6
Festival Days	4
Private Function	2
<b>Total events</b>	<b>48</b>

#### Event Statistics by Room / October

Room	No. of events
Stadium / Ground Floor	18
Apex	4
Smith/Bishop Rooms	5
Smith Room	1
Bishop	2
Madill	9
Entire Pavilion	8
Caterers Kitchen	1
<b>Total events</b>	<b>48</b>

#### Event Statistics by Activity / Nov (to date)

Type	No. of events
Banquet Dining	2
Private Function	2
Sport	7
Meetings / Workshops	3
Forum / Talk	3
<b>Total Events to date</b>	<b>17</b>

#### Event Statistics by Room / Nov (to date)

Room	No. of events
Stadium / Ground Floor	9
All of Upstairs	2
All of Ground Floor	2
Madill Room	3
Atrium	1
<b>Total Events to date</b>	<b>17</b>

## **Arts and Cultural Development**

The Gympie Region Studio Trails was held over 3 weekends from 3-18 September 2022.

Total visitation was 1516 patrons across the 32 listed studios. As the visitors to the Gympie Regional Gallery and local businesses that exhibited local artists were not specifically for the Studio Trails, this data is not included. A breakdown of visitor numbers is attached to this report.

The marketing and promotion for this event was more extensive than previous years but this did not necessarily translate to an increase in visitor numbers.

The marketing activities included:

- Distribution of 2000 printed Studio Trails Guidebooks to local outlets across the region and to galleries, groups, businesses in the Fraser Coast, South Burnett, Noosa Shire, Sunshine Coast, Redlands and Brisbane
- Media releases weekly
- Billboard advertising on the Bruce Highway heading into Gympie
- Targeted Facebook campaigns to neighbouring regions and Brisbane
- Radio interviews with participating artists on ABC Sunshine Coast FM
- Listing on the Australian Tourism Data Warehouse (ATDW) including Visit Sunshine Coast
- Website with downloadable guidebook and link to flip book.

A requirement of the external funding from the Regional Arts fund was to obtain at least 30 responses to a survey through Culture Counts. Culture Counts is used around the world by arts and cultural organisations to consistently evaluate the impact of their programs, activities and events. The survey for the Gympie Region Studio Trails received a total of 61 responses, noting: 87% of respondents rated the Studio Trails as Excellent with the remaining 13% rating the Studio Trails as Good.

Comments from visitors included:

*'The artist was very generous with her time in showing the scope of her artistic work in a friendly and authentic way. Excellent!'*

*'Each artist was so passionate and wonderful communicators and so generous with their knowledge.'*

*'This event was a great showcase of local talent. It was great to see what is happening locally. I liked that it was held over a period of time as it made it easier to fit in. I especially liked seeing how many artists are providing opportunities for children and young people to experience art.'*

*'Congratulations. Opened my eyes to how much is in our area.'*

Learnings from the 2022 Studio Trails include:

- More time is required in the lead up to delivery to develop artist capacity to proactively promote themselves and the program. A session on social media would be beneficial for some of the artists
- Professional development of participating artists to write an enticing artist statement, provide high quality imagery and activities that value add to the visitor experience.
- Studios that provided low cost, short activities were buzzing with visitors!
- Weekdays did not attract many visitors
- Visitors tended to remain in one particular area (e.g. Gympie) and did not venture to outer lying areas
- Providing a pro-forma visitor record to artists to enable better data capture on visitation.

Overall, the learning is that the program did not work with the 'whole of region' approach and despite aiming to target the peak tourism season, there were factors that impeded visitation e.g. inclement weather, Fathers' Day and school holidays. The second weekend attracted the most visitors.

Some of the artists were happy just to be involved. The number of visitors was secondary to the broader promotion they received and that the Studio Trails Guidebook will extend beyond the weekends they were open.

Feedback from the participating artists in 2022 provided recommendations for future Studio Trails:

1. Establish a core-working group with participating artists and tourism stakeholders. This would provide broader community input, support and assist with developing content and public relations activities.
2. Break the trail into specific regional areas - e.g. north, southeast and west on specific weekends. This worked well in the past and ties in with the Mary Valley Arts Festival on the final weekend.
3. Open on weekends only and promote at other times by appointment.
4. Encourage artists to form collectives, to share the workload and to enable artists to visit other studios during the Studio Trails.
5. Bring back the bus tours. The Gallery had facilitated day trips by bus in the past and this worked well.

This project was made possible by a \$10,000 grant from the Australian Government's Regional Arts Fund in support of the arts in regional and remote Australia. The Regional Arts Fund is administered in Queensland by Flying Arts Alliance Inc.

### **Festival of Small Halls**

Festival of Small Halls is a series of tours that takes some of the best folk and contemporary acoustic artists and sends them out on the road to halls in communities all over Australia.

This year, Council partnered with the Veteran Hall Social Committee Inc. to present the Festival of Small Halls event at the Veteran hall on Saturday 15 October. Veteran local, Russell Bennet gave a Welcome to Country. The touring artists included Catherine MacLellan from Prince Edward Island in Canada and Karl S Williams from Queensland with Georgia Rose Donachie joining the line up as a local emerging artist.

The event attracted a total of 68 ticket holders and 8 volunteers from the Veteran Hall Social Committee. At the time of this report, Council is awaiting the results of a survey conducted by the tour manager at the event.

### **Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) – Council Initiated Project 2021/2022**

The First Nations Regional Partnership Project supported by RADF was a partnership between Sunshine Coast Council, Noosa Shire Council and Gympie Regional Council as a Council Initiated Project for the three local government areas identified as Kabi Kabi (Gubbi Gubbi) and Jinibara country.

On Tuesday 8 November 2022, Councillors from Gympie Regional Council and staff attended a presentation hosted by the Project Coordinator and the two Project Officers engaged for the project. The presentation outlined the objectives, methodology and outcomes of the project with a suite of proposed recommendations for local councils to continue to build the relationship with, and capacity of, the First Nations arts community in our regions.

The project team provided a full report for internal use by Councils to review and for planning purpose. The full report is an attachment to this report.

#### **\*Disclaimer:** Indigenous Cultural Intellectual Property (ICIP)

The report must be used in the context of the First Nations regional partnership Project and state the project scope and limitations as outlined in the report. The reports should not be used in any other way without permission via the team through Munnimbah-dja.

<b>Contribution</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Sunshine Coast Council (including AQ contribution for RADF)	\$10,000
Noosa Shire Council (including AQ contribution for RADF)	\$10,000
Gympie Regional Council	\$5,000
Arts Queensland (GRC RADF Contribution)	\$5,000
<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>\$30,000</b>

### **Competitive Grant Round 2022/2023**

GRC Community Grants Program in 2022/2023, the Regional Arts Development Fund achieved the following outcomes:

- Fourteen (14) applications received across the Creative Industry Development and Creative Community Projects categories.
- A total of \$82,225 in funding requested
- Funding recommendations will be determined by Council at its Ordinary Meeting on 23 November 2022.

### **Highlights from funded projects 2021/2022**

The Regional Arts Development Fund provided funding for twelve (12) projects through competitive grants in 2021/2022. The following is a snapshot of the top three (3) projects that achieved outstanding results.

## **Creative Community Projects Category**

### **1. GRIT: The Cabaret Performance Project by Perseverance Street Theatre Company**

GRIT is about people – the project and resulting performances reflected local culture and local stories. The final production was of a very high quality and was accessed by a diverse range of patrons that were not frequent theatre-goers. The production had a two-week season that built momentum and stronger engagement with a broader audience base. The feedback from attendees was extremely positive. GRIT developed community cultural identity and celebrated the passion and resilience of the people of this region. There were 810 attendees to this event.

### **2. Focus on Gympie - A Kid's Eye View by the Local Level Alliance, Gympie**

This project built on the work of the Local Level Alliance to improve outcomes for children by documenting children's views on what is important to them in their community. The project engaged children through photography and visual arts mediums and presented their experiences and views about growing up in the Gympie Region in local exhibitions at Gympie Community Place and Gympie Central Shopping Centre. An advisory group that included seven children between the ages of 5 and 15 years was established and consulted throughout the project. Involving children and young people in all aspects of the project was something that worked well. Partnering with the shopping centre as a location that children and families frequent was an invaluable strategy within this project, as the centre provided an accessible venue with 'traffic' to a public exhibition as well as additional funding support.

The report from the Local Level Alliance for the project helped local service providers, funding bodies and the broader community understand the perspective of children, and recognise the unique strengths, barriers and opportunities they face growing up in our community. The Kids Eye View Report by the Local Level Alliance is as an attachment to this report. There were 500 attendees to the exhibitions with 41 artists/cultural workers employed.

## **Creative Concept Development Category**

### **1. Voices of the Valley (working title) by EM Media and Events**

The top three outcomes of the project were social connection, creative community and empowered youth. This project advances the concept that everybody has the right and ability to create and enjoy their own music and provided a platform to elevate local voices. The diversity of the participants connected a wide range of interests, age groups and experiences that is representative of the community as a whole. This project benefitted participants and their immediate and greater community as it delivered a strong sense of belonging and cohesion, cross-generational interaction and mitigated cultural and ability barriers. Key aspects of Gympie region's history were included as local stories were woven into the songs created during the workshops. The celebration of the region through song helps to build a stronger and healthier community with the innovative use of music to share pride and a sense of belonging and place. Industry professionals mentored participants to produce two original pieces of music that will form the basis for a compilation album in the next phase of the project. There were 20 attendees to the exhibitions.



## Gympie Regional Gallery

<b>Total Gallery Visitation</b> 1 Sept – 16 November 2022	1,720
<b>Gallery Visitation by month</b> (A – Adult/ C – Child) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>September</li> <li>October</li> <li>November (until 5/11)</li> </ul>	646 A/ 85 C 556 A/ 33 C 126 A/ 14 C
<b>Exhibitions</b>	
<b>Hi-Artworks</b> 6 September – 1 October Annual exhibition celebrating the visual art creativity of Gympie Region High Schools. Curated by Gallery staff. <b>Official Opening</b> Thursday 8 September. Guest speaker, Libby Parke	666  45
<b>Pockets Project</b> 29 September – 5 November Local art group 'Chatsworth MopArts' explored the theme of 'Pockets'. Varied works including contemporary and historical concepts.  <b>Official Opening</b> Friday 30 September <b>Coffee and Conversation Event</b> Saturday 8 October	728  45 23
<b>Artistic Endeavour</b>   Contemporary botanical artists' response to the legacy of Banks, Solander and Parkinson 7 October – 26 November Touring exhibition from Museum and Gallery Services QLD marking the 250 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of the HMB Endeavour's voyage along the east coast of Australia. Works by members of the Botanical Artist' Society of QLD.  <b>Official Opening and Curators Talk</b> Saturday 15 October, 1pm <b>Botanical Art Workshop</b> 22 October <b>Ferns with Backgrounds</b> 19 November	601 (to 5/11)     15 8 (full capacity) 8 (full capacity)
<b>A Moment in Time</b> 10 November – 24 December Curra Art Group exhibition featuring all local artists. GRG engaged a curator through EOI process to bring this exhibition to fruition. Awarded to local artist, Sandra Ross.  <b>Official Opening</b> Saturday 12 November, 11am. <b>Artist Demonstrations</b> Every Thursday throughout the exhibition period.	201   75
<b>Willy Webster</b> 11 November – 24 December Local artist with Down Syndrome self-titled exhibition 'Willy Webster' presents his first ever exhibition in Gallery Foyer.	169



<b>Official Opening</b> Saturday 12 November, 11am. <b>Artist-in-Residence</b> Saturday 26 November, Friday 2 December from 10.30 – 12.30pm as part of Disability Action Week.	75
<b>Regular Programs</b>	
<b>Art Stars</b> for children, 3 sessions  <b>Untutored Life Drawing</b> for adults, 2 sessions  <b>Art Groups</b> held on Tuesday and Thursday's: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Botanical Art Group, met 8 times</li> <li>○ Tuesday AM Art Group, met 8 times</li> <li>○ Thursday PM Art Group, met 6 times</li> <li>○ Thread and Fibre Group, met 2 times</li> </ul>	17 avg/per session   4 avg/per session
<b>Volunteers</b>	
9 active volunteers providing approximately 57.75 hours/month time on Reception Desk.	
<b>School Visits</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 21 October</li> </ul>	9

## Commercial Services

The Commercial Services portfolio is responsible for the Gympie Aerodrome, Gympie Saleyards, Gympie ARC and regional pools. Following is a summary of activities completed from September to November 2022 and priorities for Q3 2022/23.

### Gympie Aerodrome

Jasko Airport Services completed an annual Compliance Inspection Report and have made seven recommendations. The most critical recommendation relates to the lopping or removal of trees that infringe the obstacle surfaces.

Other recommendations included improvements to the definition of aircraft areas and a suggestion that Appointed Reporting Officers be formally trained. Officers are actioning the recommendations in order of priority.

On 4 November 2022, Council facilitated a *Celebration of Service* event for retiring Volunteer Airport Reporting Officer, Jennifer Beck. The function was attended by approximately 60 airmen and women who paid tribute to Jennifer's 12 years of voluntary service to the aerodrome and associated airspace.

Tragically, two pilots lost their lives on 9 November 2022 when their aircraft collided mid-air approximately 2 kilometres south of the aerodrome. Council officers have been collating Aviation Data and call in recordings to assist authorities with their investigations as required.

Lease negotiations between Council and Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) have progressed with a report proposing a 10 year lease being presented to Council's Ordinary Meeting on 23 November 2022. Council will now carry out survey work and

undertake onsite operational works to prepare the pad for three water storage tanks, associated plumbing and a shipping container.

Works are likely to commence in Q3 2022/2023. A temporary water storage tank is being installed by QFES in November to support aerial firefighting measures until the lease and permanent tanks are installed.

Council will be facilitating an Aerodrome User Group meeting on 8 December 2022. The meeting will provide attendees with an opportunity to discuss both strategic and operational aerodrome-related matters with Council officers, improving Council's engagement and communication with facility stakeholders.

Q3 2022/23 Focus:

- Work with user groups to explore commercial opportunities including but not limited to the National Skydiving Championships
- Provide assistance to QFES so works on the QFES Water Storage Tank and aerial fire-fighting project can be expedited
- Reported obstacles per the Jasko Compliance Inspection Report be actioned
- Appointed Officers to undertake Airport Reporting Officer (ARO) training.

### **Aquatics**

To better serve the broader community, stakeholders and contractors, regular and frequent meetings are occurring with Council's Pool Operator Contractor, Belgravia Leisure.

Discussions have also taken place between Council and the Rainbow Beach Sports Club to clarify reporting obligations and foster a better working relationship.

A number of reports have been presented to Council in Quarter 2 regarding:

- Management arrangements and visitation data for public swimming pools within the Gympie region
- Future community access and arrangements for the Kilkivan Pool and the Rainbow Beach Aquatic Centre
- Lease negotiations between Council and the Department of Transport and Main Roads for tenure at the Tin Can Bay pool site.

Council has approved works at the Gympie Aquatic Recreation Centre to replace two failing circulating pumps within the 25 metre and 50 metre pool plant room. Further, the works include refurbishment of the two failing pumps providing Council with an immediately available redundancy (i.e. back up pumps).

The team continues to focus on user engagement, water quality leading into the warmer summer months and communication between Council and our Contract Partners.

Q3 2022/23 Focus:

- User engagement
- Communication with key stakeholder groups (i.e. Access Advisory Committee, Gympie Hydrotherapy Group)
- Liaising with manufacturers and equipment suppliers to improve efficiencies and maximise outputs of existing plant and equipment

- Developing a network of capable technicians and service agents so critical repairs can be undertaken in a timely and cost effective manner.

### ***Gympie Saleyards***

As part of the National Saleyard Quality Assurance (NSQA) program and standards, the Saleyards undertook an Accreditation Audit to ensure all relevant requirements of the Standards are being addressed. The Gympie Saleyards was found to meet the Standards and as such, will maintain its accreditation.

The maintenance shed extension is underway and apart from delays with the external construction team, the shed construction is expected to be completed by the end of Q2.

Reactive maintenance continues to be a common occurrence at the Saleyards due primarily to the age of the asset and behaviour of cattle/beasts damaging gates and fences. On occasion, the latter have interrupted Sale Day proceedings and necessitated repairs both during the Sale Day and the day(s) following.

Sale Days continue to be held at least fortnightly with high volumes of beasts and sales moving through the saleyards, providing a vital service to the region's agricultural sector. Following is a breakdown of cattle usage for September 2022:

- Meatworks Cattle: 520
- Store Cattle: 2313
- Calves: 118
- Yardage Cattle: 282
- Dipping Calves: 13
- Dipping Cattle: 3493
- **Revenue to Council: \$35,018.05**

Council also hosted a Triangle Horse Sale during the period with sellers travelling from Northern Territory, Queensland and New South Wales and buyers travelling from Biloela, Gold Coast, Roma, and parts of New South Wales. Statistics for the horse sale are summarised as follows:

- Horses for sale: 91
- Top price fetched: \$10,500.00
- Average price fetched: \$4,000.00
- People who attended: 400
- Online bidders: 300

Council revenue as part of the one-day Triangle Horse Sale:

- Horses: \$882.70
- Agent selling permit: \$933.20
- Ring hire: \$545.00
- **Total Revenue: \$2,360.90**

The focus for Q3 2022/23 will be:

- A Request for Tender (RFQ) will be released in early Q3 for a new Drafting System
- Ongoing maintenance works and repairs to shade structures, pen railings and gates
- Pen and yard works for potential rail transport clients.

### **Kilkivan Office**

The Kilkivan Office provides a strong customer service focus to a diverse community in the Western Division of the Gympie Regional Council area ranging from urban, rural residential to rural throughout Kilkivan, Goomeri, Tansey and Woolooga as well as the surrounding areas.

Front counter customers have decreased after rate payments closed, with staff then kept busy with dog registrations.

This quarter the Kilkivan Office were tasked with the Customer Contact and Liaison role for seven (7) cemeteries that are owned and operated by Gympie Regional Council.

Kilkivan and District Community Care Association Inc, are renewing their bookings for office and Boardroom space for their group for the ageing community members and Seniors Hub.

Advanced Personnel Management have submitted a continual booking for office space, taking appointments on Wednesday, and now upgrading to weekly visits, from 8.30 am to 4.30 pm.

ELD (Equestrian Land Developments) completed the first maintenance visit since the Kilkivan Equestrian Centre was opened. ELD was the company engaged to construct the surface of the arena when it was being built. ELD used specialist laser guided equipment to bring the surface back to base modelling depths across the arena.

Subscriptions for casual riding have been coming in for the past months since July. Approximately 84 hours were booked for casual riding in September, October and November to date. The weather has kept riders away.

### **Events for September, October and November.**

9 – 13 September 2022 – Melanie Larsen – Reata Ranch Horsemanship Clinic

Estimated attendance: 10

17 – 18 September 2022 – Noosa District Equestrian Inc – Training Weekend

Estimated attendance: 18

27 September 2022 – 4 October 2022 – Cowgirls Gathering – Interactive workshops with the world's best educators, trade stalls, glamping, competitions, music, art and entertainment in one action packed weekend.

Estimated attendance 1125

6 – 9 October 2022 – T & H Keliher Contracting P/L – Kilkivan PBR (Professional Bull Ride)

Estimated attendance 1500

21 – 23 October 2022 – Shane & Meredith Ransley – Quantum Savvy Horsemanship Clinic.

Estimated attendance 15

4 – 7 November 2022 – Gympie and District Kennel Club – All Breeds Dog Show

Estimate attendance 500 Dog Attendance 400

### **Event to be held**

11- 13 November 2022 – NBHA div 2 – Barrel Racing Finals

Estimated attendance 150

20 November 2022 – Tom Curtain – Katherine Outback Experience – Tom Curtain's Nothin's Gonna Stop Us Tour.

Estimated attendance 150-200

## **ENVIRONMENT AND RESOURCE RECOVERY**

### **Waste Minimization Officer: Highlights & Activities – September/October 2022**

Council's Waste minimisation Officer employed as part of the Cleanaway contract has had a really busy quarter with numerous programmes including;

#### **Off Grid Expo in Goomeri**

This event promotes off grid living options for locals who want to live more sustainably. The event showcased a range of innovative and emerging technologies that support sustainable lifestyles. The Waste Minimization Officer displayed a recycling and worm farm stall over the two-day event to educate visitors about recycling options available to them in the Gympie region. The worm farm sparked conversations about reducing food waste and how easy a worm farm can be incorporated into a home.

#### **Rainbow Beach Fishing Club: Let's Tackle Waste Program**

This behaviour change program has been developed by the Waste Minimization Officer to work with the Rainbow Beach Fishing Club community and encourage litter pick up in the area. The program will follow members over the next 6 months and assess their current recycling and litter pick up habits before and after taking part in the program.

#### **Tin Can Bay State School Waste Education lessons and Cleanaway truck visit**

Two students from Tin Can Bay State School upcycled waste items into boats winning the Junk-to-Junk school competition at EnviroTech Day. Part of their prize was a waste education lesson and Cleanaway truck visit to their school.

#### **Gympie East State School Special Person Celebration**

The Waste Minimization Officer displayed a sustainability and recycling stall at the school event. Students, parents and grandparents were in attendance, all taking part in the sorting game to win a prize. The sorting game challenged attendees from all ages, testing their recycling skills and provided an opportunity to learn more about the benefits of recycling.

#### **Spring Festival of Learning at Jones Hill State School**

A recycling stall was set up in the school library, adding a sustainability component to the school's festival of learning. Students took part in a sorting challenge to earn themselves a prize. Many students referred to their waste education lesson from earlier in the year to help sort their items. It was estimated 300-400 students took part in this event.

#### **Social Friday at Gympie Library: Reducing food waste and composting session**

Gympie residents took part in an information session at the library, learning about the issues associated with food waste, how composting and worm farms assist in reducing landfill gas emissions, and how they can set up and take care of a compost and worm farm at home.

### **MRF tour with Widgee State School**

Year 3 students at Widgee State School took part in an excursion to the Material Recovery Facility in Hervey Bay on Tuesday 6 October. Gympie Regional Council provided the bus and tour of the facility for local schools. This excursion enhances students learning of the recycling component within the Australia curriculum.

### **Environment Services**

The Environment Services team is now at full complement after operating at between 25 and 50% capacity and complement for almost two years. The team are continuing to progress the development of the Environmental Management Strategy and associated documentation as identified within Council's Corporate Strategic Plan (2022-2027). Other works undertaken include:

- Environmental risk workshop conducted and a further risk workshop scheduled
- Attended MRCCC AGM with along with Councillors
- \$197 000 in grants received for environmental projects this year to date
- GRC Environmental Grants – oversubscribed, assessed and recommendation prepared for Council.

A number of Environmental programmes have been developed and have commenced or are now operational including:

- Flying Fox:
  - Widgee Crossing Habitat Improvement Project Development of GRC Flying Fox Program Management Plan
  - Development of GRC Flying Fox Regional Management Plan
- Development of Land for Wild Program Management Plan:
  - 36 properties registered with the LfW program so far in FY 22/23
  - LfW events (Field botany walk and Camera Monitoring workshop) scheduled for November
- Natural Areas Program contract extension currently in negotiation
- Extension and contract management of Water Course Litter Prevention Program (Gross Pollutant Traps and Drain buddies).

### **Bushfire Risk Mitigation**

Council currently has a grant funded position supporting the regions Bushfire Risk Mitigation for 12 months. This role has been undertaking risk assessment for Councils bushfire management including:

- (RFS GRC, DNR and the Country Club) conditions)
- Risk from Council controlled lands; Risk to Council infrastructure
- Risk of species loss on Council controlled lands due to inappropriate fire regimes; Risk to Council reputation if not managing bushfire hazards on Council controlled land
- Investigations into high risk/profile areas with rural fire service and Tin Can Bay Country Club land in question is 69CP910971 which is state land with GRC as the trustee.
- Prepared containment lines for a co-operative burn around Tin Can Bay Country Club Investigation into Scullett drive burn area.

The Rural Fire Service and Gympie Regional Council undertook a hazard reduction burn around the Tin Can Bay Country Club and Tin Can Bay Waste Transfer facility on 15

November. The hazard reduction burn included land managed by Gympie Regional Council and the Department of Natural Resources.

In planning for the hazard reduction burn, Gympie Regional Council slashed a number of firebreaks to provide a safe edge for the fire crews to light from and to contain the fire to within defined containment lines.

The hazard reduction burn was a success, with fuel reduced over an area of approximately 20 hectares. Gympie Regional Council staff checked the burn boundaries on subsequent days to ensure the fire was safe, putting out any smouldering logs close to unburnt areas.

Council have also mounted a 600 litre mop up unit onto a GRC vehicle to enable GRC to assist RFS with Hazard Reduction burns and monitoring.

### **Biosecurity**

Council's second Coordinated 1080 Baiting for vertebrate pests for 2022 commenced this quarter.

Eligible registered landholders wishing to use this tool to help manage wild dogs, feral pigs and foxes on their land are asked to attend one of 6 'bait stations' spread throughout the region to have their bait material prepared by a Council Authorised Officer. Next week will see the program service the western part of the region with stations at Tansey, Goomeri and Kilkivan.

The Biosecurity Team will be preparing a *Sentiment Survey* to be distributed to the rural sector to better understand customer desire/need for this service and any possible obstacles or opportunities for better integration into pest management practices, in order to help guide future service provision.

The Biosecurity plan is on exhibition with the team working to review a number of internal documents including the surveillance program and the Biosecurity plan draft.

Councils weed spraying programme has been focussing on:

Parthenium, Annual Ragweed and Fireweed
Bruce HWY Guideposts – TMR contracts
Burnett Hwy Nth – Regrowth and enviro spraying
GRT across the region and particular in the West
TMR Guideposts/ RMPC
Mary Valley Rd (if Burnett Nth and Kilkivan Tansey Rd finished) – Regrowth and enviro spraying with 3 (or 4) x TC's stop/go with E-lights.

The team has also been assisting with managing a large water hyacinth infestation at the Widgee STP with a combination of harvesting and spraying to reduce and eradicate the infestation which is thought to have established after the floods.



## **BUILDING AND PLUMBING SERVICES**

The local building industry is steady following signs of a slight easing compared to previous quarters, but is still generating higher levels of activity than in years prior to 2020.

Council has recently appointed two additional Plumbing Inspectors to return the staff complement to 100% capacity and as a result significant improvements have been made with assessment timeframes for plumbing applications.

Increased resourcing has also enabled Council to fully resume the responsibility of conducting all necessary plumbing inspections required to support local development.

Council's Building Section continues to process new building applications, as well as inspecting construction works that were approved throughout the boom of the previous two (2) years.

Customer enquiries for general building and plumbing advice remains at consistently high levels, as does the number of requests for Building and Plumbing Searches prepared by the team for conveyancing and property sale and transfer purposes.

## **COMPLIANCE**

### ***Environmental Health and Regulatory Services***

Council has recently accepted the delegation under the *Waster and Reduction and Recycling Act 2011* for illegally dumped rubbish and as a part of this process Council applied and were successful in obtaining a \$139,000.00 grant enabling us to recruit for a full time Illegal Dumping Officer. This position will sit in the Compliance team and service the entire region working with the Queensland State Government Department of Environmental Science.

This quarter the Environmental Health team have completed the annual Food Business Licencing process and have been able to increase our service to customers during this period completing inspections and opening new businesses throughout the region.

This team also recently hosted the first face to face Mary Burnett Vector Management Group meeting since COVID. It was an impressive turn out that included Environmental Health and Biosecurity professionals from Bundaberg, Fraser Coast, North Burnett, South Burnett Councils and Queensland Health Communicable Diseases Branch Advanced Medical Entomologists, Wide Bay Public Health Unit, CSIRO and UQ Associate Professor Biological Science.

The Environmental Health Teams have recently had their efforts regarding mosquitos control recognised in the national mosquito magazine. Page 34 [MB-WINTER-EDITION-96PPI-1.pdf](#) ([mcaa.org.au](http://mcaa.org.au))

Council have had regular meetings managing the RSPCA contract for Council's Animal Pound. This four year contract is half way through its period of execution and Council are working well with the RSPCA providing the community with a safe and functional Animal Pound.



Recruitment has been continuing with Council's expanded Compliance team with two positions being filled. We are still to recruit a Building and Plumbing Compliance officer along with a Coordinator for this team. The team are dealing with several complaints surrounding Short Term Accommodation and are working with the Planning Department to formalise a management outcome for this issue. Short Term Accommodation is a general problem for the region and is attracting more interest with the holiday periods quickly approaching.

Compliance officers are also in the process of producing an Erosion and Sediment Policy that will be supported by and Erosion and Sediment Control Education, Encouragement and Enforcement Strategy. This will enable staff to monitor and enforce the guidelines and environmental duty that Council have.

The Regulatory Services team are running well with staff in all positions. The Coordinator role is currently being recruited. With the Christmas and holiday periods not far away, staff are working collaboratively with QPS, QPWS and MSQ in the Rainbow Beach and Tin Can bay areas. This will be to monitor and control unlawful activities in the area over this period, including illegal camping, illegal dumping and other regulatory issues.

## **PLANNING**

### **Development Assessment**

The Development Assessment Unit received 78 new Development Applications in the September quarter, a decrease of 4 from the June quarter and compared to 64 for the same period in 2021 and 72 in 2020.

In addition to these, there were 14 Change Applications and 12 Survey Plan Endorsement requests, bringing the total applications to 104 for the July to September Quarter.

As of 31 October 2022 - 197 applications have been determined for the calendar year as follows:

- 11 Superseded Planning Scheme
- 9 Building Work Assessable Against the Planning Scheme
- 83 Reconfiguring a Lot
- 60 Material Change of Use
- 34 Operational Work.

For the Quarter from July to September - 61 applications determined as follows:

- 5 Building Work Assessable Against the Planning Scheme
- 25 Reconfiguring a Lot
- 17 Material Change of Use
- 13 Operational Work.

The number of permanent Council development assessment planners recently reduced from three (3) to two (2) with casual agency staff working remotely and some outsourcing of applications to a consultancy firm continuing. Recruitment for two (2) positions is currently underway for a second time this year.

**Development Engineering**

During the September quarter the team held five (5) prestart meetings, accepted three (3) developments 'on-maintenance' and accepted two (2) developments as 'off-maintenance' (i.e. now becoming Council Assets). The Team attended 53 various site inspections for the quarter compared with 14 in July, 21 in August and 18 in September.

The Team currently consists of four (4) full-time positions, but only three (3) are currently filled. Two (2) agency/consulting engineers are currently assisting with high workloads. Recruitment to fill the Development Engineer (Inspector) role was conducted earlier this year but not successful. Further recruitment of this position will be undertaken by the end of November.

**Strategic Planning**

The Planning Scheme preparation works are continuing and an update on the planning scheme project was discussed with Councillors at last month's Councillor Workshop.

Further workshops with Councillors early in 2023 are currently being arranged to present the outcomes of the background studies and start formulating Council policy positions across the various State planning issues Council needs to address within the new planning scheme.

**Urban Design**

The sports' field study budgeted for this year is currently undergoing procurement.

A brief for the Mary Street improvements is also being prepared with the intention of workshoping with Councillors early 2023.

The remaining grant funding obtained for implementation of the RV Strategy is planned for expending by the end of the year. This involves installation of a dump point at Widgee, for which a contractor has been chosen, and also installation of signage and a new crossover at the Kilkivan Rail Trail site.

**3. BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

There are no budget implications associated with the recommendation of this report.

**4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

There are no policy implications associated with the recommendation of this report.

**5. CONSULTATION**

Community Sustainability Directorate Managers, Officers and Coordinators were consulted in the development of this report.

**6. CONCLUSION**

As outlined above, this report provides an opportunity to reflect achievements and learnings and to encourage information sharing across the Directorate, the Organisation and Council.

## ATTACHMENTS

- [↓](#)1. AUG-OCT Councillor Summary
- [↓](#)2. First Nations Regional Partnership Project 2022 Final Report
- [↓](#)3. Kids Eye View 2022 Report - Local Level Alliance Gympie
- [↓](#)4. Studio Trails 2022 - Visitor Breakdown
- [↓](#)5. Customer Contact Statistics October 2022

## RECOMMENDATION

**That Council notes the Community Sustainability Directorate's report.**

## 7.2 Extension of the Gympie Regional Council Biosecurity Plan 2018 - 2022

**PORTFOLIO:** Planning and Regulatory Compliance

**DIRECTORATE:** Community Sustainability

**DOC ID:**

### LINKS TO CORPORATE/OPERATIONAL PLAN

#### KEY RESPONSE AREAS:

1. Community and Environment

### 1. BACKGROUND AND PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

Councils Biosecurity Plan 2018 – 2022 (the Plan), is due to expire on 31 December 2022. Council's new plan has been prepared but is still in its draft form and will require key stakeholder and community consultation prior to its adoption.

As this required consultation cannot be completed prior to the date of expiry of the Plan, Officers are seeking Council endorsement to retain the Plan in operation until the adoption of a new Gympie Regional Biosecurity Plan in mid-2023.

### 2. REPORT

At the Ordinary Meeting on 28 February 2018, Council resolved to support the Gympie Regional Biosecurity Plan 2018 – 2022 with the Plan having a term of 5 years.

Although the Plan technically expires on the 31 December 2022, the Council resolution adopting the plan for 5 years occurred in February 2018 making the actual expiry date February 2023.

In preparation for the expiry of the Plan, Council's new biosecurity plan has been prepared by Officers but is still in its draft form pending key stakeholder and community consultation prior to its finalisation and subsequent adoption by Council

As a part of key stakeholder consultation, it is Officer intent to reconvene Council's former 'Weeds Committee' as a Weeds and Pest Animal Advisory Group, in order that this group may support Officers in the management of biosecurity issues relating to pest flora and fauna and provide advice on the content of the new draft Biosecurity Plan.

This consultation and key stakeholder engagement is highly important to ensure the document reflects the Biosecurity issues for the region and the concerns of the community.

The extension of the Plan will not impact any current biosecurity or pest control programs, operating budgets or enforcement outcomes; however, by enabling the extension and in

seeking community and other key stakeholders to engage and provide feedback, it is believed Council will be able to produce a better informed new plan.

Officers are now seeking Council's endorsement to reconvene the former 'Weeds Committee' as a Weeds and Pest Animal Advisory Group and to extend the current Biosecurity Plan until the new plan is finalised for Council's endorsement in Quarter 4 of the 2022-23 financial year.

### **3. BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

All works to be undertaken will be within existing allocations in Council's 2022-23 Budget.

### **4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

There are no policy implications associated with the recommendations of this report. Although it is best practice that Council keeps an endorsed framework and current arrangements in place until superseded by a new plan.

### **5. CONSULTATION**

No consultation is required for this report, the new plan will be subject to a separate report for Council endorsement with public consultation to occur prior to adoption.

### **6. CONCLUSION**

This report recommends that Council endorse an extension of the Plan until a new plan is prepared and finalised. It is anticipated that a new draft plan will be presented to Council for endorsement and adoption by Quarter 4 of the 2022-23 financial year.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council resolve to:**

- 1. Extend the provisions of the current Biosecurity Plan 2018 – 2022, until the new plan is endorsed.**
- 2. Develop the terms of reference for and establish of a Weeds and Pest Animal Advisory Group to replace the former Weeds Committee.**

**7.3 Muster Site - Amamoor State Forest**

**PORTFOLIO:** Civil Works and Design, Asset Management, Facilities, Property and Open Space

**DIRECTORATE:** Community Sustainability

**DOC ID:**

**LINKS TO CORPORATE/OPERATIONAL PLAN****KEY RESPONSE AREAS:**

1. Community and Environment

**1. BACKGROUND AND PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION**

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of an approach that the State Government has made to Gympie Regional Council to gauge interest in Council managing the Gympie Music Muster site.

The Gympie Music Muster are seeking to expand their operations and secure suitable tenure over the current muster site. It is argued that this will allow the Muster to lodge applications for grant funding with greater ease, and subsequently enable the future viability of the event, which is not currently possible while the land remains as State forest under the control of the State Government.

While the *Forestry Act 1959* does allow State forests to be used for recreational purposes, the cardinal (or primary) principal for management is for the purpose of producing timber, associated products and protecting the watershed.

Given its history, the significance of the Muster event and economic benefits it provides to the Gympie community and Gympie region, the Queensland Government Department of Environment and Science (Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service & Partnerships) are currently exploring future tenure options that may allow for the event to continue and/or expand and provide security of tenure to the Muster.

Specifically, the State Government hopes to gauge Council's views and interests in future management and tenure arrangements over the site.

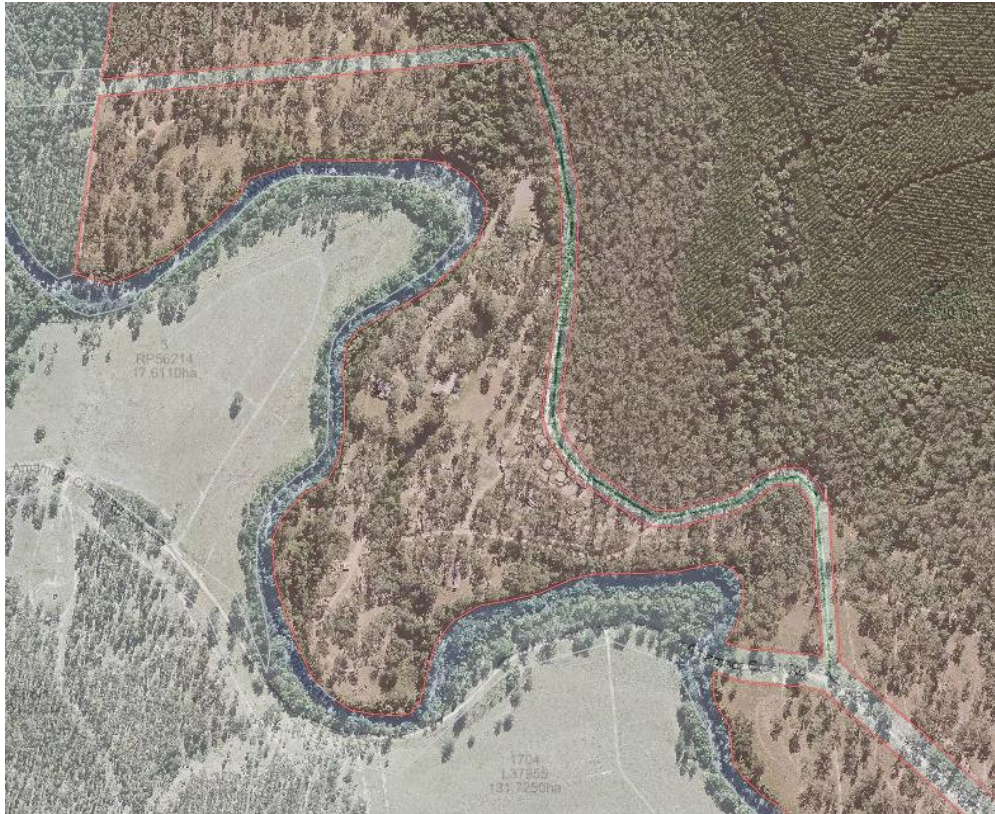
**2. REPORT**

The Gympie Music Muster Site is accessed via Amamoor Creek Road and Heathcote Road, identified as part of Lot 435 FTY1895. There have been some preliminary discussions between the State Government and Gympie Regional Council officers, focussing on the issues outlined below, with the aim of establishing whether Council has any interest in managing the Muster site into the future.

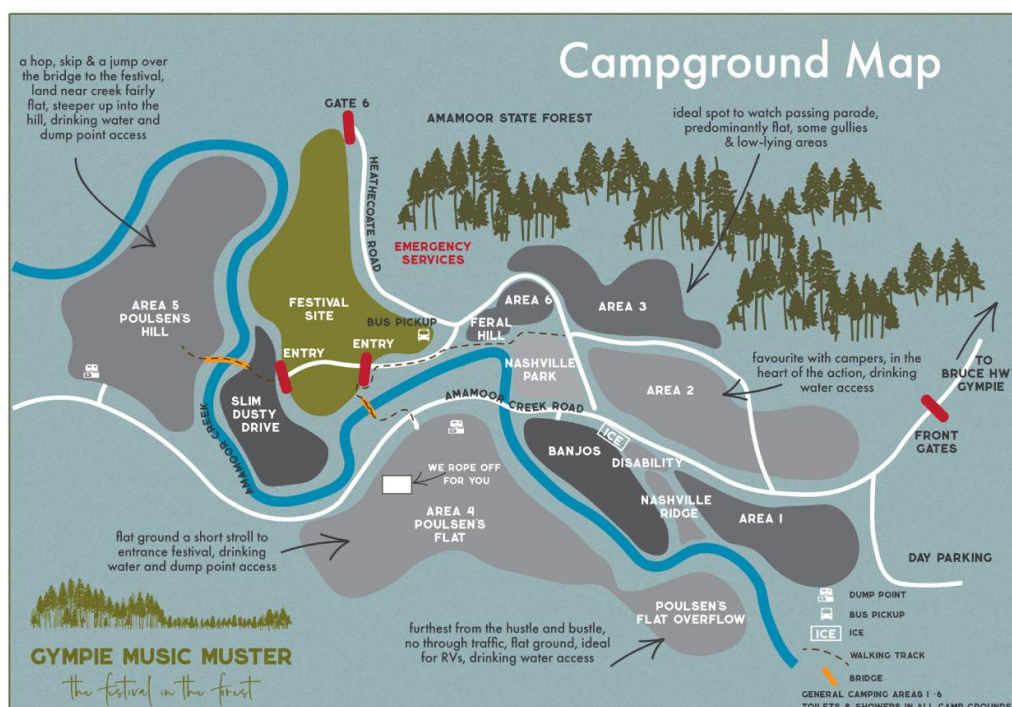


### Site Tenure and Permits

The Gympie Music Muster Site is located on land owned by the State Government for the purposes of forestry. The Muster itself is located on a portion of the site accessed via Amamoor Creek Road and Heathcote Road. The site is shown in the aerial overleaf, and the basic operations of the Muster event can be seen by the 'Campground Map' (taken from the Muster website at <https://www.muster.com.au/>). The Muster are seeking to expand their operations and seek tenure over the current muster site, arguing that this will allow for applications for grant funding and enable the future viability of the event, which is not currently possible whilst the land remains as State forest.



Aerial overlay of the Muster site north/east of Amamoor Creek and separated by Heathcote Road from the remainder of the forestry site.



The Campground Map provides further detail as to how the site is utilised at Muster time.

The State advises the following in relation to the Muster site:

*The Muster has three different permits for the area – conditions specifically relating to maintenance are listed below.*

- *Occupation Permit for permanent infrastructure (fenced area) – expires 31 May 2029*
  - *The Muster is required to maintain the area in a non-flammable condition.*
  - *The Muster is required to pay for any maintenance to the tracks as required by QPWS as a consequence of the permitted use.*
  - *The Muster is required to control vegetation / plants etc. as required by QPWS.*
  - *The Muster at its expense is required to protect from damage and maintain in a good and neat condition at all times to the satisfaction of the State all improvements, roadways, paths, equipment and services on the permit area.*
- *Occupation Permit for an Effluent Site – expires 31 May 2024*
  - *Same conditions as above.*
- *Commercial Activity Agreement (broader area including camping and car parking) – 3 year term for the event.*
  - *The new CAA will require the Muster to consult with QPWS to develop a biosecurity plan for the area at least 60 days prior to each event.*



- *The Operator shall at its own cost and expenses take such action as directed by a Forest/Parks officer to restore, repair or maintain parking and camping areas and access routes to a condition approved by a Forest/ Parks officer.*
- *The Operator shall prepare and maintain parking and camping areas only as indicated on location plans approved by the Department and in accordance with such reasonable conditions as may be notified by the Department to the Operator. Such maintenance shall include servicing of toilets and water supply during the term of the permit.*
- *At the conclusion of the Approved Activities, the Operator must ensure that all structures, equipment and waste are removed from the Relevant Areas and the Relevant Areas are returned to their pre-existing site condition.*
- *The Operator must ensure that when event activities are being conducted, all reasonable steps are taken to minimise disturbance and damage to the QPWS managed area.*

### **3. BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

#### **Costings and Other Considerations**

The State Government has provided a copy of its revocation policy (attached to this report). It outlines the standard process and requirements for revocation of state forest, noting the standard policy for revoking State forests attract a 5:1 market value monetary compensation. State government representatives have outlined that this may be negotiable and there may be consideration of alternative mechanisms or a combination of options such as reduced compensation, in-kind compensation (such as pest management activities), and land swaps (unencumbered high conservation value land adjacent to existing Queensland Parks and Wildlife Services estate) as alternatives.

Any change in the tenure will also require Native Title resolution; however, prior to undertaking any of these activities, the State is interested to understand Council's interest or value in taking on management of this site and its ongoing support for the Muster. It is understandable for Council to understand the potential details of obtaining this site, as well as prospective management obligations into the future as part of its due diligence.

### **4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

#### **Primary and Secondary Purposes**

State Government representatives are interested to understand Gympie Regional Council's position and interest in taking over management of the site, and argue how the site may provide broader recreational opportunities for residents and visitors to the Gympie region. This may be considered a secondary or even tertiary purpose of the site, after its uses for forestry and as a campground.

Should Council agree to taking on site management, the responsibilities for all of these uses (i.e. the Muster event, campgrounds and potential recreational uses) would fall under Council operations.

It has not been typical for Council to manage campgrounds in remote locations, and there is only a small outlined shortfall of sport and recreational land or facilities in this catchment. The Open Space and Recreation Plan identifies a 3.67Ha shortfall of recreation parks, and a 1.8Ha shortfall in sports parks in the Mary Valley through its own Open Space and Recreation Plan endorsed in 2016.

However, in recent years Council has invested in the provision of sport and recreation opportunities in the Mary Valley via implementation activities and priority projects identified in the Open Space and Recreation Plan, Tracks and Trails Plan and Canoe and Kayak Strategy. Namely, Council has established new assets with the Bert Smith Skate Park in Imbil; the Mary Valley Rail Trail between Imbil and Brooloo and the canoe and kayak launch points in Kandanga and Imbil. The muster site is remote, and may appeal to bushwalking and mountain bike riding opportunities for which there is ample alternative provisions.

### **Ongoing Gympie Music Muster Activities**

The Gympie Music Muster has made approach about holding further festival type events (notably in November / December 2022 and April 2023). Whether or not this is anticipated as an ongoing arrangement to enable longer term security (via supplementary income) is unknown. The State Government is hesitant to investigate approving any further festival type activities at this location until it has a better idea on future management of the site.

As previously outlined, music festivals and/or events are not consistent with the management principles of the *Forestry Act 1959* or with the *Nature Conservation Act 1992* (which may be the future tenure of this location if Queensland Parks and Wildlife Services retain ownership and management). It is unlikely that the state will authorise any further growth in this activity over the site in the short term.

Budgetary implications (both short and long term) and liability issues also need to be carefully considered by Council in its decision making process.

## **5. CONSULTATION**

Councillors have been previously briefed of this approach from the State Government. Following consideration of the matter, it was recommended that the issue be reported to Council for resolution.

## **6. CONCLUSION**

This report is presented to Council to formalise Council's views and interests in future tenure and management of the site. Following, the State Government will be advised of this interest or otherwise via formal correspondence returned to their officers to enable for future planning and management of the site.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

1. QPWS Revocation Policy

## **RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council resolve to advise the Queensland State Government Department of Environment and Science (Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service & Partnerships) that it has no interest in pursuing management or ownership of the Muster site located within Amamoor State Forest.**

## 7.4 Naming of Council Facilities

**PORTFOLIO:** Planning and Regulatory Compliance

**DIRECTORATE:** Community Sustainability

**DOC ID:**

### LINKS TO CORPORATE/OPERATIONAL PLAN

#### KEY RESPONSE AREAS:

Choose a theme.

1. Community and Environment

## 1. BACKGROUND AND PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

This report introduces a policy for the naming of council facilities and responds to the Notified Motion of 21 September 2022, Naming an Unnamed Bridge - Warren Dakin Bridge.

Council resolved at the Ordinary Meeting 21 September 2022 (M02/09/22) as follows:

*That Council requests the CEO to begin the process, including public consultation with the community, with a view to naming the unnamed bridge on Scrub Rd, Theebine for the late Warren Dakin and that staff begin the process of developing a Place Naming Policy to be tabled at the November 2022 Councillor Workshop/Briefing.*

The policy attached has previously been considered in draft format at the 23 November 2022 Workshop and the report now before Council recommends a Naming of Council Facilities Policy for endorsement.

## 2. REPORT

Gympie Regional Council recognises the value of naming the region's places and important features for the purpose of fostering a sense of community and celebrating historic events and shared connections. Named places help orientate visitors to our region and can assist emergency services to specific areas within larger open space.

Due to the shared nature of community places and spaces, the naming process is complex and sensitive. An equitable framework to ensure consistent decision making and appropriate naming is crucial in considering names that will have a connection to the region's public space and a potential impact on the community.

Currently, council are aware of a number of requests for the naming of facilities within the Gympie region including:

- unnamed bridge on Scrub Road Theebine for the late Warren Dakin

- memorial bench seat at the Imbil Skate Park
- community hall at Tin Can Bay located in Emperor Street Tin Can Bay.

In consideration of the above, there is a clear need to implement a policy for the naming of council facilities and to clarify the distinction between what is covered by other naming authorities and Gympie Regional Council's endorsed Memorials and Monuments Policy.

### **Naming of Council Facilities Policy**

A policy for the Naming of Council Facilities has been prepared and attached to this report.

For the purpose of the policy a facility is defined as:

- structures such as buildings or parts of buildings, skate parks, playgrounds and bridges (where not a gazetted State road)
- Areas of open space including, reserves, ovals and playing fields.

The key objectives for the Naming of Council Facilities Policy are to:

- provide a mechanism for any person or organisation to propose the naming of a facility for consideration
- ensure the proposed name is appropriate for the facility
- ensure the name is recorded.

The policy outlines details for submitting a request and the process for assessment. The policy proposes that the decision for the naming of council facilities, rests in a resolution from Council following a recommendation by council officers.

The policy nominates a period of no less than six months for a commemorative name of someone that has passed to be applied to a council facility. The Queensland Place Names Act and the Queensland Government's Place Names Policy do not specify a time following death for the naming of places. Policies and guidelines implemented in other States were found to treat this matter differently, one or two years were required for some, while others, like Queensland were silent on the issue.

An appropriate timeframe was discussed at the November Workshop with a period of six months agreed as appropriate to ensure family and/or community sentiment regarding the commemoration remains unchanged. Names that commemorate living persons are strongly discouraged for this reason.

### **Draft review of the Memorial and Monuments Policy**

Given the policies are closely related, an early review of the Memorials and Monuments Policy is also being undertaken. The review of this policy has focussed on simplifying the document and aligning definitions and language with the proposed Naming of Council Facilities Policy.

Key updates to the document will likely include:

- incorporating an application form as part of the request to streamline council process
- clarifying when costs are applicable to the applicant and what might be covered by council

- nominating a standard for plaques to be supplied by the applicant
- amendments as required to ensure any discrepancies with the proposed Naming of Council Facilities Policy are addressed, including aligning a time period for posthumous commemoration with the Naming of Council Facilities Policy
- clarification regarding decision making, for example, if the asset is already proposed as part of council's works program then following the assessment process the delegated officer will determine whether the memorial is approved.

The revised Memorials and Monuments Policy will be brought to a Council Workshop in early 2023.

### **3. BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

Associated costs relevant to the naming of facilities will be determined on a case by case basis and determined to cover relevant signage as required. Budgetary provision of approximately \$5,000 will be included in Council's draft Budget for 2023-24 and outyears to cover potential costs of consultation and naming signs.

### **4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

The policy provides a structure and framework for consistent decision making to requests for the naming of council facilities.

### **5. CONSULTATION**

The policy has been completed in consultation with relevant council units and presented at the 23 November Workshop for discussion with Councillors. This process has informed the final document attached.

### **6. CONCLUSION**

The Naming of Council Facilities Policy provides our community with an equitable and consistent framework for the naming of our places and spaces. This policy acknowledges the importance of names in recognising and remembering groups and individuals that have made a significant impact in our community. Further, it values important areas and features that make our region unique.

It is recommended that the proposed policy be adopted to guide the naming of council facilities in our region.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

- [1.](#) Naming of Council Facilities Policy

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council resolves to adopt the Naming of Council Facilities Policy as attached with immediate effect.**

## SECTION 8: INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

### 8.1 Water and Sewer Service Area Annual Review 2022

**PORTFOLIO:** Water and Waste Water

**DIRECTORATE:** Infrastructure Services

**DOC ID:**

#### LINKS TO CORPORATE/OPERATIONAL PLAN

#### KEY RESPONSE AREAS:

2. Infrastructure and Economic Opportunity

#### 1. BACKGROUND AND PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

Section 163 of the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008* (the Act) requires the service provider (Council) to keep a map showing both the limits of the service area and the location of the service provider's infrastructure. It further provides that the map must be updated at least annually.

Sections 161 and 162 of the Act require a Council resolution to declare all or part of its area to be a service area or to amend the declaration. A notice must be published of any declarations or amendments.

The service areas were reviewed by the Operations Water Waste Water Branch as at 31 October 2022. As part of this review, some changes were identified from the areas previously approved on 20 October 2021.

#### 2. REPORT

Changes are now recommended to be made to both water and sewerage service areas as part of the 2022 review. The property changes are all in Gympie, with a correction at Tin Can Bay.

The following changes are recommended to be made to the water service area:

- boundaries altered to include an additional five properties
  - subdivisions/developments – three
  - general changes – two
- removed properties – two.

The following changes are recommended to be made to the sewerage service area:

- boundaries altered to include an additional 21 properties
  - subdivisions/developments – 11
  - general changes – 10.

It should also be noted that there remains a relatively small number of water connections identified still outside the water serviced area with no water main fronting the property at any

point. These properties may not be adequately serviced with firefighting capabilities nor meet our current customer service standards and as such have been determined to fall outside the area.

### **3. BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

There are no significant budget implications associated with the recommendation of this report.

### **4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

There are no policy implications associated with the recommendation of this report.

### **5. CONSULTATION**

Coordinator Asset Planning  
Senior Advisor Water Waste Water  
Rates Unit  
GIS Unit

### **6. CONCLUSION**

Based on this review, Council's water and sewerage service areas are considered to up to date as of 31 October 2022. It is recommended that Council declare the amendments to the service areas shown on the attached maps. Once declared the revised areas must be advertised.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

- [1. Sewerage Service Area - Gympie](#)
- [2. Sewerage Service Area - Regional Towns](#)
- [3. Water Service Area - Gympie](#)
- [4. Water Service Area - Regional Towns](#)

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council resolves to declare its Service Areas for Water and Waste Water to as identified on the attached maps.**



## **SECTION 9: PORTFOLIO COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

## **SECTION 10: GENERAL BUSINESS**

## SECTION 11: IN COMMITTEE

### 11.1 Councillor Conduct

**PORTFOLIO:** Governance, Risk and Disaster Management

**DIRECTORATE:** Office of the CEO

**DOC ID:**

This item is in-committee in accordance with s254J(3)(e) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* - legal advice obtained by the local government or legal proceedings involving the local government including, for example, legal proceedings that may be taken by or against the local government.

<b>11.2</b>	<b>Councillor Conduct</b>
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**PORTFOLIO:** Governance, Risk and Disaster Management

**DIRECTORATE:** Office of the CEO

**DOC ID:**

This item is in-committee in accordance with s254J(3)(e) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* - legal advice obtained by the local government or legal proceedings involving the local government including, for example, legal proceedings that may be taken by or against the local government.

<b>11.3</b>	<b>Councillor Conduct</b>
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**PORTFOLIO:** Governance, Risk and Disaster Management

**DIRECTORATE:** Office of the CEO

**DOC ID:**

This item is in-committee in accordance with s254J(3)(e) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* - legal advice obtained by the local government or legal proceedings involving the local government including, for example, legal proceedings that may be taken by or against the local government.

<b>11.4</b>	<b>Councillor Conduct</b>
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**PORTFOLIO:** Governance, Risk and Disaster Management

**DIRECTORATE:** Office of the CEO

**DOC ID:**

This item is in-committee in accordance with s254J(3)(e) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* - legal advice obtained by the local government or legal proceedings involving the local government including, for example, legal proceedings that may be taken by or against the local government.

<b>11.5</b>	<b>Councillor Conduct</b>
-------------	---------------------------

**PORTFOLIO:** Governance, Risk and Disaster Management

**DIRECTORATE:** Office of the CEO

**DOC ID:**

This item is in-committee in accordance with s254J(3)(e) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* - legal advice obtained by the local government or legal proceedings involving the local government including, for example, legal proceedings that may be taken by or against the local government.

## SECTION 12: ATTACHMENTS

5.1	<b>Council Ordinary Meeting Action Report for Quarter 1 2022-23</b>	
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5.3	<b>Audit and Risk Committee Charter</b>	
	ATTACHMENT 1	AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE CHARTER ..... 67
5.4	<b>Flood Recovery Plan 2022-2024</b>	
	ATTACHMENT 1	FLOOD RECOVERY PLAN 2022-2024 ..... 73
7.1	<b>Community Sustainability Directorate Update</b>	
	ATTACHMENT 1	AUG-OCT COUNCILLOR SUMMARY ..... 83
	ATTACHMENT 2	FIRST NATIONS REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP PROJECT 2022 FINAL REPORT ..... 92
	ATTACHMENT 3	KIDS EYE VIEW 2022 REPORT - LOCAL LEVEL ALLIANCE GYMPIE ..... 115
	ATTACHMENT 4	STUDIO TRAILS 2022 - VISITOR BREAKDOWN ..... 159
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7.3	<b>Muster Site - Amamoor State Forest</b>	
	ATTACHMENT 1	QPWS REVOCATION POLICY ..... 162
7.4	<b>Naming of Council Facilities</b>	
	ATTACHMENT 1	NAMING OF COUNCIL FACILITIES POLICY ..... 171
8.1	<b>Water and Sewer Service Area Annual Review 2022</b>	
	ATTACHMENT 1	SEWERAGE SERVICE AREA - GYMPIE ..... 174
	ATTACHMENT 2	SEWERAGE SERVICE AREA - REGIONAL TOWNS ..... 175
	ATTACHMENT 3	WATER SERVICE AREA - GYMPIE ..... 176
	ATTACHMENT 4	WATER SERVICE AREA - REGIONAL TOWNS ..... 177

PENDING ACTIONS REPORT - ORDINARY MEETINGS (APRIL 2020-SEPT 2022)				
Division	Reference Numbers	Action required	Date Registered	Comments
Community Sustainability	2520354 M11/08/22 - Biosecurity Policy and Giant Rat Rail Grass Guideline	That Council: 1. Place the new draft Gympie Regional Council Biosecurity Policy on public exhibition for 28 days in accordance with the Local Government Act 2009 QLD. 2. Consider a report to support the adoption of a new Gympie Council Biosecurity Policy at the conclusion of this consultation. 3. Support the reestablishment of the Weeds Advisory Group to work with the community on biosecurity issues.	31-Aug-22	Awaiting public exhibition period to finish.  Report being prepared for the 7 December Council Ordinary Meeting for adoption of the policy.
	2520356 M16/08/22 - Illegal Dumping Delegations	That Council pursuant to section 263 (1) (b) of the Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011, Council resolves to seek delegation of all powers contained in the Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011 to the Chief Executive Officer. These powers must be excised subject to any limitation contained in the Instrument of Delegation.	31-Aug-22	The relevant delegated powers from the Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011 have been forwarded to Governance and they are to be implemented through the current Delegation Review process.
Office of the CEO	2536296 M02/09/22 - Notified Motion - Naming an Unnamed Bridge - Warren Dakin Bridge	That Council requests the CEO to begin the process, including public consultation with the community, with a view to naming the unnamed bridge on Scrub Rd, Theebine for the late Warren Dakin and that staff begin the process of developing a Place Naming Policy to be tabled at the November 2022 Councillor Workshop/Briefing.	30-Sep-22	A draft policy has been developed by Community Sustainability and has been presented to a Council workshop and will be submitted to the 7 December 2022 Ordinary meeting for adoption.
	2536298 M04/09/22 - Notified Motion - Acknowledging Local Indigenous Country via Council Mail	That Council requests the CEO: 1. Arrange consultation with Butchulla, Gubbi Gubbi and Wakka Wakka elders and any key stakeholders for feedback on the proposal to acknowledge their country on Council mail. 2. Engage with the broader local community and evaluate Council's ability to implement the recommendation. 3. Adopt an appropriate footer during the consultation period and come back to Council with the results in time for this to be actioned, depending on results of public engagement, in time to be considered for the next rates mail out.	30-Sep-22	An Acknowledgement of Country has been created for Council email footers.  Manager Finance is currently progressing the outstanding actions.
	2536301 - Notified Motion - Expedite Review of Gympie Regional Council's Memorials and Monuments Policy	This item had been removed from the agenda as it was advised that the policy is being reviewed.	30-Sep-22	The review of this policy is progressing and will be brought to a Council Workshop in early 2023.
	2536305 M07/09/22 - Notified Motion - Gympie Urban Art	That Council requests the CEO: 1. Develop a policy for urban art murals on identified Council owned walls for local artists to practice and display their talents without fear of reprisal. 2. Identify other suitable infrastructure (such as sewer pump stations) and develop a policy for more formal work, including an approval process with flexibility to allow Council, community groups, businesses or artists to be the instigator, with funding of a murals program through RADF and other funding sources if possible. 3. Investigates the possibility of investing in commercial projectors which can light up council buildings, granting local artists the ability to explore projection art, as well as allowing council to honour national days such as ANZAC DAY, support major local events such as Heart of Gold or The Muster, and increase the excitement around things like Christmas in a visually dynamic manner.	30-Sep-22	Reports have been submitted to the November Workshop and Ordinary Meeting and the outcomes are below.  Item 1 - A review of the current Public Art policy (which will cover urban art murals) has been Council approved for early 2023.  Item 2 - In 2023, officers will undertake an audit of Council owned infrastructure to identify assets that are suitable for murals.  Item 3 - Officers will investigate suitable locations and projectors for inclusion in a future Council budgets and works programmes with investigations commencing in early 2023.



# Audit and Risk Committee Charter



Document Control		
<b>Policy Title:</b>	Audit and Risk Committee Charter	<b>Policy Type:</b> Council
<b>Responsible Directorate:</b>	Office of the CEO	<b>Doc Id No:</b>
<b>Date Review Due</b>	30 June 2023	

Version <sup>1</sup>	Council/Executive Meeting Date (Date of Adoption/Endorsement)	Minute Number
1	[Insert Date]	

## 1. Purpose and Scope

This policy supports the delivery of Council's Corporate Plan 2022-2027 in the Key Response Area of 'Organisation', under strategic priorities:

- 3.1 An organisation that is transparent and accountable in its evidence-based planning, decision making and reporting; and
- 3.4 Provide strong financial management, value for money services and budgets are delivered.

The Charter provides direction to the Audit and Risk Committee on its operation and reporting requirements. This Charter also defines the roles, responsibilities, composition and operations of the Audit and Risk Committee.

## 2. Related Legislation/Documents

Local Government Act 2009

Local Government Regulation 2012

Risk Management Policy

Strategic and Operational Risk Register

<sup>1</sup> The Version Number is direct from the Corporate Records Management System

# Audit and Risk Committee Charter



## 3. Definitions

To assist in interpretation of this policy the following definitions apply:

- **CEO** means Chief Executive Officer
- **Charter** means Audit and Risk Committee Charter Policy
- **Committee** means Audit and Risk Committee
- **Council** means Mayor and elected Councillors.

## 4. Policy Statement

### 4.1 Role

The Primary role of the Audit and Risk Committee is to monitor, review and provide advice to Council on matters relating to:

- Internal audit function, plan and progress reports
- External audit
- System of financial management including financial statements
- Governance including risk management and compliance
- Business continuity; and
- Make recommendations about these matters that need action or improvement.

### 4.2 Authority

The Committee undertakes an advisory role and is directly responsible to Council. The Committee has no executive powers.

The primary responsibility for financial and other reporting, internal control and compliance with laws, regulations and ethics within Council rests with management. The Committee will need to liaise closely with management and internal and external auditors to carry out its responsibilities.

The Committee is independent of management and does not have any delegated authority to implement actions over which management has responsibility.

In circumstances where the Committee requires additional information, a request is to be made through the CEO office. The Committee also may seek information or advice from the person who has carried out the internal or external audit.

# Audit and Risk Committee Charter



## 4.3 Responsibilities

The Committee is responsible for monitoring, reviewing and providing advice and providing reports including recommendations to the CEO for presenting to Council.

In carrying out its responsibilities, the Committee will at all times recognise that primary responsibility for management of the organisation rests with the CEO.

Members of the Committee are expected to understand and observe the legal requirements of the *Local Government Act 2009* and the *Local Government Regulation 2012*. Members are also required to:

- contribute the time needed to study and understand the papers provided
- apply good analytical skills, objectivity and good judgement
- express opinions frankly and ask questions that go to the fundamental core of the issue.

## 4.4 Composition and Tenure

The Council will make the appointment of Committee members by resolution.

The Committee must consist of at least four and not more than six members including two, but no more than two Councillors.

At least one member must have significant experience and skills in financial matters.

The Council will resolve to appoint one of the Committee members as the Chair. The Chair is to be an independent Committee member i.e. a non-Councillor member.

Councillors are usually appointed for the term of the Council.

Independent members are to be appointed for a two-year term on a rotational basis, using a staggered annual appointment process. Council may reappoint an independent member at its discretion.

Council may by resolution at any time add, remove or change the membership or the chair of the Committee.

# Audit and Risk Committee Charter



## 4.5 Other Attendees

The Mayor and CEO may attend all Committee meetings.

The CEO may invite other officers or parties to attend the Committee meetings where appropriate. These may include Councillors and internal and external auditors. The Committee may make a request to the CEO for the attendance of officers or parties that may be able to assist the Committee in their considerations. These officers or parties will attend the meeting for the presentation, topic, report or time allocated by the Committee.

The Queensland Audit Office will be notified of the Committee's meeting schedule and invited to attend meetings of the Committee as appropriate.

Non-Committee members are not to participate in meeting discussions unless invited to do so by the Chair. Non-Committee members do not have any voting rights.

Due to the nature of the work of the Committee and the potential sensitivity of material, the meetings of the Committee are not open to the public.

## 4.6 Conflict of Interest

Committee members will be required to disclose conflicts of interest at the commencement of each meeting. Ongoing conflicts of interest need not be declared at each meeting once acknowledged. Where members or invitees at Committee meetings are deemed to have a real or perceived conflict of interest in a matter before the Committee, they must deal with the conflict in an appropriate manner. Members or invitees will be excused from the Committee discussions and deliberations on any issue where a conflict of interest exists.

Members with ongoing conflicts between their personal activities and the audit and risk matters should resign from the Committee. Where Council identifies such a conflict the Council may require the member to remove themselves from the Committee.



# Audit and Risk Committee Charter



## 4.7 Confidentiality

All information acquired during a Committee member's term of appointment is to be regarded as confidential to Council and is not be disclosed to third parties (by whatever means), either during the member's term of appointment or after termination, unless the person is required to do so by law. Non-Committee member attendees are required to treat all matters in relation to the Committee as confidential.

## 4.8 Privacy

All Committee members and non-committee member attendees are bound to comply with the requirements of relevant privacy legislation, including the *Information Privacy Act 2009*, and Council's Information Privacy Policy.

## 4.9 Code of Conduct

Committee members are to undertake their duties within the spirit and intent of the ethics principles outlined in the Public Sector Ethics Act 1994 and the local government principles contained within the *Local Government Act 2009*. Committee members shall interact with each other, Councillors, Council staff and invited meeting guests with courtesy and respect. All relevant legislation, policies and procedures, including the full requirements of this Charter are to be complied with. Failure to do so may result in the termination of a member's appointment to the Committee.

## 4.10 Meetings

The Committee must meet at least twice per annum unless required by Council.

A forward rolling plan will be developed and adopted each year, to align with the Queensland Audit Office timetable for the completion and auditing of the annual financial statements. This plan may be reviewed and amended from time to time.

A quorum will consist of at least half the number of members of the Committee. The Council's Standing Orders, can be used by the Chair of the Committee as a guide to the formal functioning of the meeting.

# Audit and Risk Committee Charter



In the Chair's absence from a meeting, the members of the Committee present at the meeting will select a Chair for that particular meeting. Anyone attending the meeting may do so by tele or video conferencing.

The Office of the CEO will provide the secretariat support for the Committee and will compile the agendas and meeting report. The Chief Executive Officer will place the Committee meeting report on the next available Council agenda. Council will consider recommendations of the Committee.

## 4.11 Evaluation

The Committee should undertake an annual self-evaluation in relation to the effectiveness of its processes and outcomes.

## 4.12 Remuneration

Council sets the remuneration for external members and will review that amount from time to time. Reasonable expenses will be reimbursed to external members at the discretion of the CEO.

## 4.13 Induction

New Committee members will receive information and briefings on the work of the Committee to assist them meet their responsibilities. Inductions for new Committee members will be arranged by the secretariat.

## 5. Review

This policy will be reviewed when any of the following occur:

1. The related legislation/documents are amended or replaced.
2. Other circumstances as determined from time to time by a resolution of Council.
3. As initiated by the CEO or Executive Leadership Team.
4. Periodic Review within two year of adoption.

## 6. Delegations

Nil.



# FLOOD RECOVERY PLAN

## 2022-2024

January/February/May 2022 Extreme Rainfall and Floods

Endorsed by the Local Disaster Management Group 08 November 2022





# Recovery Plan

## About this Plan

This plan provides an overview of recovery activities to be delivered in the Gympie region to 30 June 2024.

It is a living document that will be updated to respond to changing circumstances as required.

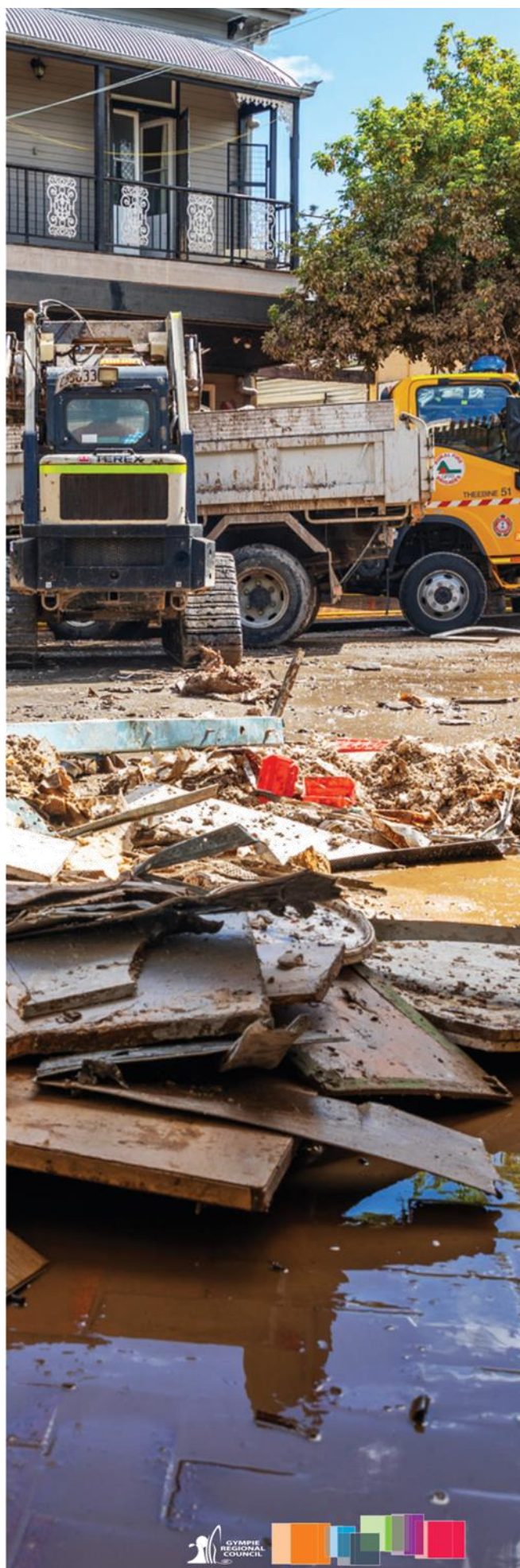
## Meaning of Recovery

In accordance with the Queensland Recovery Plan, disaster recovery is defined as the coordinated process of supporting disaster-affected communities' psychosocial (emotional and social), and physical well-being; reconstruction of physical infrastructure; and economic and environmental restoration (including regeneration of the natural environment, associated infrastructure and heritage sites and structures and the management of pollution and contamination).

## Commitments, Communication, Review and Reporting

The Local Disaster Recovery Group will:

- Take lead responsibility for the implementation of this plan
- Inform residents and stakeholders of this plan and provide progress updates
- Promote and leverage disaster funding and support packages
- Escalate issues to State and Federal agencies as required
- Review implementation of this plan every two months or as required
- Provide reports to the Local Disaster Management Group every quarter to 30 June 2024
- Develop any further actions in June 2024 based on remaining flood recovery need assessed at that time.





# Recovery Narrative

## About our Region

- Population approximately 53,800 people.
- Land area of 6,898 km<sup>2</sup> with mix of urban, rural and coastal townships.
- Ageing population with overall higher than state/national proportion of people with a disability.

## About the Disaster Events

Extreme Rainfall Event Ex-Tropical Cyclone Seth:  
7-9 January 2022:

- More than 400mm recorded in Bureau of Meteorology gauges in the hills to the north-west of Gympie
- Local reports of intense rainfall between 600-700mm in some areas of Goomeri, Kilkivan, Woolooga, Boobyjan, Tansey causing flash flooding and severe impacts to road network and agricultural areas and rural townships
- Mary River peaked at 13.7m.

SEQ Rainfall and Flooding Event: 23 February -  
2 March 2022:

- Mary River peaked at 22.96m, highest peak since 1893
- Widespread flooding throughout the entire Mary River catchment
- Transport corridors inundated, cutting Gympie city in half and isolating communities north, south, east and west.

SEQ Rainfall and Flooding Event: 6-20 May 2022:

- Mary River peaked just above 16m
- Floodwaters cut Bruce Highway and low-lying business owners evacuated
- Flooding at Dagun, Gympie and Miva.

## Local Recovery Group

- Chaired by the Deputy Mayor with group comprised of council and agency staff.

## Key Stakeholders

- Gympie residents and property owners.
- Community, business, industry, tourism sectors.
- Local Disaster Management Group.
- Queensland Reconstruction Authority .
- Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries.
- Queensland Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy.
- Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads.

# Damage and Impacts

## Human and Social

- January 2022: places of refuge established at Kilkivan, Goomeri and Imbil for stranded persons; 100 families isolated at Borumba Deer Park, Imbil.
- February 2022: over 460 people accommodated at four evacuation centres.
- May 2022: evacuation centre opened predominantly for stranded travellers.
- Two deaths - January/February events.
- Swift water rescue teams deployed.
- Aerial and boat drops of food and medication/ ambulance services to isolated streets/ communities.
- February 2022: 291 residential properties with minor – severe flood damage (February 2022 initial QFES damage assessment).
- Psychological distress and anxiety, compounded by mental health impacts of COVID-19 and previous bushfires and drought in region.
- Disruption to community events and volunteer capacity.
- Lack of access to damaged sporting and recreational facilities and open space e.g. netball, polocrosse/pony clubs, gem club, AFL grounds, Albert Park precinct, One Mile precinct, River to Rail Trail, Tansey Bowls Club.
- Flood inundation of several not for profit retail shops e.g. Little Haven Palliative Care Market Place, Neighbours Aid Gympie Op Shop, RSPCA Op Shop with resultant revenue loss.
- Further disruption to creative sector through inundation or flood damage of cultural assets e.g. Gympie Civic Centre; Alluvial Gallery.
- For the February flood, schools temporarily closed; significant damage to One Mile and Two Mile State Schools; USC Gympie and TAFE temporarily closed.
- Increase in demand for services at Gympie Community Place (neighbourhood centre) and key community services e.g. St Vincent de Paul, Salvation Army.

## Economic

- Extensive damage and loss to agricultural properties and primary production e.g. fencing, irrigation, livestock, dam walls, destroyed crops.
- 143 commercial and industrial properties with minor – severe flood damage (February 2022 initial QFES damage assessment).
- Severe damage to retail and commercial precincts including Mary Street and CBD, Crescent/Brisbane Road.
- Loss of business revenue.
- Loss of employment/less hours.
- Moderate – severe damage of tourism attractions e.g. The Rattler, Glen Echo Park and Gympie Historical and Gold Mining Museum.
- Damage to hotels and accommodation e.g. Fox Glenn Gympie, resulting in loss of temporary/crisis accommodation and visitation.
- Severe damage to major business e.g. Nolan Meats.

## Environment

- Contamination of public and private properties.
- Large amounts of flood debris scattered across public and private properties, as well as conservation areas and coastline.
- Large scale bank collapses, gully erosion and slips in Mary River and other catchments.
- Extensive damage to wildlife habitat, including nesting and breeding habitat for the endangered Mary River turtle and cod.
- Over 455 per cent increase in tonnage disposed at council Waste Facilities for the period 1/3/22 – 30/4/22 (being 14,186.41 tonnes compared to 3113.8 for the same period in 2021), representing 50 per cent of council's projected annual waste received in only eight weeks.



## Built Environment

- **Electricity:** February 2022: Floodwater inundation/ damage to a significant portion of electricity network infrastructure and customer electrical installations in the Gympie regional area resulted in approximately 6900 individual customer power outages in the peak of the disruption.
- **Telecommunications:** January 2022: Damage to fibre cable impacting Oakview Radio Tower (near Kilkivan) resulting in a loss of phone connection to approximately 800 customers in the surrounding area; loss of mobile coverage and internet services in Gympie and surrounds due to power failures at 11 mobile sites and one exchange impacting approximately 10,000 customers (no damage to network infrastructure sustained).
- February 2022: Loss of mobile coverage and internet services in Gympie and surrounds due to power failure at 18 mobile sites and one exchange impacting 20,000 plus customers (no damage to network infrastructure sustained); two locations (Oakview, Cinnebar) considered to be in isolation due to loss of both mobile and fixed line services as a result of power failure;
- **Sewerage:** January 2022: Water damage to three sewerage treatment pumps and leads causing sewer overflows and discharges from manholes; February 2022: 27 sewer pump stations without power including the region's four major stations.

- **Water:** January 2022: Damage to water infrastructure resulting in partial operation of Goomeri plant, 36 lineal metres of water main missing in Goomeri. Goomeri WTP clear water pumps damaged resulting in partial operation and shut down of Plant. Goomeri Showgrounds bore switchboard required repair. February 2022: five water treatment plants were not operational between one and three days.
- **Streetscapes:** Extensive damage to Gympie CBD, signature parks and playgrounds, Kandanga/ Goomeri/Gympie community pools, military memorial sites (e.g. Memorial Walk, Anzac Flame), heritage listed assets (e.g. rotunda in Memorial Park), community halls, public amenities.

## Roads and Transport

- Extensive damage across transport network including bridges, culverts, crossings, road surfaces, road shoulders resulting in road closures and isolation of some streets/communities.
- Train derailed near Traveston.
- Major bridge closures including Pengellys, Normanby, Bells, Inglewood and Kidd Bridges and numerous creek crossings and culverts.
- **Road closures at peak:** January 2022: 17 main roads, 23 council LGA roads. February 2022: 20 main roads, 28 council LGA roads. May 2022: 16 main roads, 34 council LGA roads.



## Recovery Objectives

### Human and Social

- 1 Enable residents to access the support they need for daily living (e.g. food, household, financial and psychological assistance).
- 2 Coordinate emergency and transitional housing for flood impacted residents.
- 3 Support community connection, mental health and resilience through community-led events, training and activities.
- 4 Reinforce community disaster preparedness for future events.

### Economic

- 5 As far as possible, return streetscape and amenity to key commercial/retail precincts.
- 6 Work with local chambers of commerce and tourism networks to identify need and strategies for economic recovery.
- 7 Encourage local spend through "buy local" and "holiday local" campaigns.
- 8 Support economic development and resilience, advocate for economic opportunities including tourism and recreation.

### Environment

- 9 Remove flood debris from natural assets including waterways, conservation areas and open space/recreational areas.
- 10 Monitor and address public health issues arising from flood contamination and waste disposal.

- 11 Identify flood impacts on vegetation, waterways and fauna, and support environmental recovery/resilience projects.
- 12 Implement sustainable solutions for the Gympie region's waste disposal.

### Built Environment

- 13 Identify damage to public infrastructure and telecommunication assets, including weather monitoring.
- 14 Prioritise restoration work to public infrastructure and telecommunications and secure short-medium term funding.
- 15 Repair and/or build more disaster resilient public infrastructure, telecommunications and weather monitoring assets.
- 16 As far as possible, ensure the Local Planning Scheme mitigates future hardship through comprehensive consideration of natural disaster planning.

### Roads and Transport

- 17 Inspect and make safe priority road and transport network.
- 18 Prioritise road and transport recovery works and seek funding for priority works.
- 19 Execute reconstruction works on time and on budget.
- 20 As far as possible, ensure future road and transport planning and construction methods mitigate future hardship relating to natural disasters.

## Recovery Timeframes

Timeframe	Short Term 03/2022 - 09/2022	Medium/Long Term 10/2022 - 06/2024	Ongoing
Human and Social	1, 2	3	4
Economic	5	6, 7	8
Environment	9	10, 11	12
Built Environment	13	14, 15	16
Roads and Transport	17	18, 19	20



# Recovery Tasks

## Human and Social

- Establish recovery hub/s.
- Connect residents to available community and government support.
- Support flood impacted community and sporting groups with information about grant funding and provide grant writing support.
- Collaborate with State government on short – long term housing recovery solutions.
- Support and fund community-led recovery events and programs (e.g. Night at the Flicks, community BBQs, Neighbour Day activities, active and healthy program, creative/arts and cultural recovery projects).
- Monitor ongoing community fatigue, loss of hope and mental health issues during the recovery process and seek additional resources to address service shortages as required.

## Economic

- Advocate to the Federal government disaster agencies in regard to criteria for the extraordinary primary producer and small business grants.
- Collaborate with stakeholders to deliver information sessions for primary producers and businesses impacted by the January extreme rainfall event.
- Provide skip bins to key commercial/retail precincts for emergency debris removal.
- Provide commercial operators with free waste disposal of eligible flood debris for limited period.
- Provide free car park allocation for trades and waste purposes for impacted businesses on Mary Street.
- Encourage "buy local" and "holiday local" campaigns.
- Work with local chambers of commerce and tourism networks to identify need and strategies for economic recovery.
- Work across sectors and all tiers of government to support industry development and assist in developing economic resilience.
- Advocate for economic opportunities including tourism and recreation.



## Environment

- Support flood impacted residents and property owners with kerbside collection and waste disposal of eligible debris at council waste facilities.
- Provide public information regarding safe disposal of contaminated materials, asbestos, hazardous waste.
- Liaise with Department of Environment and Science regarding landfill site constraints, solutions for excess flood waste disposal and longer term sustainable options.
- Work with peak and local environmental organisations to understand impact on vegetation, wildlife (e.g. Mary River turtle and cod) and waterways (e.g. sediment and bank erosion) to plan and resource medium-long term environmental restoration and recovery projects.
- Monitor and address any increase in pest and weed species.

## Built Environment

- Advocate strongly for better telecommunications infrastructure.
- Investigate shortcomings in weather monitoring systems and seek funding for replacement or new assets.
- Understand the impacts of new flood mapping on property owners ability to rebuild or repair and take into account in the development of new Local Planning Scheme.
- Prioritise key community assets for demolition, repair or future relocation.
- Improvement to water treatment plants in managing flooded/dirty water.

## Roads and transport

- Inspect all public roads and transport networks.
- Remove debris.
- Undertake emergent works.
- Prioritise restoration and reconstruction work.
- Program works, based on available funding and priority list.
- Seek external funding to future-proof, build back better ageing road/transport infrastructure



# Measures of Success

## Human and Social

- Number of residents that have accessed the Gympie Recovery Hub and Recovery Support Centre.
- Number of residents/property owners that received State/Federal government disaster recovery funding.
- Number of flood impacted residents supported with emergency and/or transitional housing.
- Number of damaged not for profit community, cultural and sporting facilities that have re-opened or relocated after disaster events.
- Number of community recovery events (e.g. free BBQs) supported by council to June 2024.

## Economic

- Completion of flood debris removal from key business precincts.
- Number of businesses that received State/Federal government recovery funding.
- Number of economic recovery information sessions delivered by council and partners.

## Environment

- Completion of flood debris removal from natural assets including public conservation areas, waterways/banks, walking tracks, beach access points.
- Number of damaged playgrounds and parks made safe and re-opened to the public.
- Number of environmental recovery projects implemented to June 2024.

## Built Environment

- Completion of flood debris removal from community facilities.
- Completion of damage assessment of council owned assets and public facilities.
- Submission of council insurance claim.
- Completion of restoration works on priority flood impacted buildings and public assets with available funding.

## Roads and Transport

- All public roads and transport corridors inspected and made safe.
- Completion of repair and/or reconstruction of priority road and transport network with available funding.



Gympie Regional Council  
1300 307 800  
2 Caledonian Hill (PO Box 155), Gympie Qld 4570  
[gympie.qld.gov.au](http://gympie.qld.gov.au)







**Customer Action Request for Mayor**  
Request open or determined 01/08/2022-31/10/2022

Total active	2	Total closed	3	Total
Communications - General				1
Council Road - Sealed Road				1
Council Road - Unsealed Road				2
New or Changed Road and Traffic Sign and Line Matters				1
Total				5



## Customer Action Request for Cr Jess Milne

Request open or determined 01/08/2022-31/10/2022

Total active	8	Total closed	46	Total
Bin - New Connection Cancellation or Change				1
Building - General				1
Building Enquiry				1
Compliments and Feedback from Customers - Reallocate to Ap				2
Council Road - Sealed Road				4
Design - General				2
Design Services				6
Dogs				2
Environment Services				1
Lands Protection - Pest Animal				2
New or Changed Road and Traffic Sign and Line Matters				3
Office of CEO				2
Online CRM (Councillor)				2
Parks - Division 1				2
Parks & Gardens				2
Parks Division 1				6
Property & Leasing				1
Regulatory Services				2
Southside Sewerage				1
Stormwater Drainage				9
Temporary Signs - Advertising Devices				1
Water Service Leaks & Breaks / Bursts				1
<b>Total</b>				<b>54</b>



## Customer Action Request for Cr Dolly Jensen

Request open or determined 01/08/2022-31/10/2022

Total active	3	Total closed	21	Total
Communications - General				2
Council Road - Sealed Road				8
Council Road - Unsealed Road				3
Design Services				2
Online CRM (Councillor)				3
Planning & Development				2
Plumbing - Non-Sewered Site Residential General				1
Stormwater Drainage				1
Vegetation/Trees - Rural Roads				2
<b>Total</b>				<b>24</b>



### Customer Action Request for Cr Shane Waldock

Request open or determined 01/08/2022-31/10/2022

Total active	1	Total closed	5	Total
Building - Dangerous and Dilapidated Structure				1
Council Road - Bridges				1
Council Road - Sealed Road				2
Design - Road or Path - New or Upgrades				1
Vegetation/Trees - Rural Roads				1
Total				6



## Customer Action Request for Cr Bruce Devereaux

Request open or determined 01/08/2022-31/10/2022

Total active	4	Total closed	55	Total
Commercial Enterprise				2
Communications - General				2
Compliments and Feedback from Customers - Reallocate to Ap				1
Council Road - Maintenance of Roadside Furniture				5
Council Road - Sealed Road				8
Council Road - Unsealed Road				1
Dead Animal Removal				2
Design Services				4
Environmental Health Nuisance				1
Facilities & Maintenance				1
Maintenance of Constructed Footpaths				2
Marketing & Communication				5
Office of CEO				2
Online CRM (Councillor)				1
Parks - General				2
Parks & Gardens				11
Planning & Development				1
Property & Leasing				1
Stormwater Drainage				4
Waste Operations				1
Water Meters - Location / Issues / Relocation				1
Water Service Leaks & Breaks / Bursts				1
<b>Total</b>				<b>59</b>



### Customer Action Request for Cr Dan Stewart

Request open or determined 01/08/2022-31/10/2022

Total active	6	Total closed	44	Total
Town Centre Revitalisation_ Streetscape Works_Marketing an				1
Compliance Enquiry				1
Council Road - Maintenance of Roadside Furniture				2
Council Road - Sealed Road				26
Council Road - Unsealed Road				3
Illegal Camping				1
Litter and Cleansing				2
Online CRM (Councillor)				2
Plumbing - Sewered Site Commercial General				1
Plumbing - Sewered Site Residential General				1
Pollution Incident				1
Stormwater Drainage				5
Vegetation/Trees - Rural Roads				2
Water Supply and Sewerage Systems				2
<b>Total</b>				<b>50</b>



### Customer Action Request for Cr Hilary Smerdon

Request open or determined 01/08/2022-31/10/2022

Total active	4	Total closed	2	Total
CEO - General				1
Council Road - Bridges				1
Online CRM (Councillor)				1
Parks - General				1
Stormwater Drainage				1
Waste Operations				1
Total				6



## Customer Action Request for Cr Warren Polley

Request open or determined 01/08/2022-31/10/2022

Total active	1	Total closed	48	Total
Council Road - Maintenance of Roadside Furniture				4
Council Road - Sealed Road				29
Design Services				3
Main Road - Sealed Road				1
Main Roads				3
Office of CEO				1
Plumbing - Non-Sewered Site Residential General				1
Southside Sewerage				1
Vegetation/Trees - Rural Roads				4
Waste Operations				2
<b>Total</b>				<b>49</b>





## Customer Action Request for Cr Bob Fredman

Request open or determined 01/08/2022-31/10/2022

Total active	1	Total closed	41	Total
Communications - General				1
Council Road - Bridges				2
Council Road - Sealed Road				14
Council Road - Unsealed Road				9
Council Sponsored Events and Festivals				1
Design Services				3
Environmental Health Nuisance				1
Litter and Cleansing				2
Maintenance of Council Owned and Controlled Buildings				1
Online CRM (Councillor)				1
Parks & Gardens				1
Property & Leasing				1
Stormwater Drainage				2
Vegetation/Trees - Rural Roads				3
<b>Total</b>				<b>42</b>



## FIRST NATIONS REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP PROJECT 2022

This project was supported by the Regional Arts Development Fund.

The Regional Arts Development Fund is a partnership between the Queensland Government and Sunshine Coast Council, Noosa Shire Council and Gympie Regional Council in support of local arts and culture in regional Queensland.



# PROJECT REPORT

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## PROJECT OVERVIEW

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Through the Regional Arts Development Fund, Gimpi Gimpi/Gympie (GRC), Wantima/Noosa (NSC) and Sunshine Coast Council (SCC) initiated the project titled "First Nations Regional Partnership Project 2022".

The Regional Arts Development Fund is a partnership between the Queensland Government and Sunshine Coast Council, Noosa Shire Council and Gympie Regional Council in support of local arts and culture in regional Queensland.

This was a 5-month project that aimed to develop lasting and meaningful connections with First Nations artists and cultural practitioners who reside in the Gympie, Noosa and Sunshine Coast regions.

The key vision of this pilot project was to successfully identify 3 emerging First Nations Project Officers within each of the Council areas to undertake a 3-month creative and professional development program, structured to their individual needs.

This final report has been prepared by:

- Libby Harward, Ngugi, Quandamooka - *Project Coordinator*
- Bridgette Williams, Birri-Gubba, Yugambeh - *Project Officer*
- Lulu Littler, Gomerioi - *Project Officer*

We would like to acknowledge the Kabi Kabi and Jinibara people as Traditional Owners of the lands this project encompasses.

### Intellectual and Cultural Property

The information in this report includes our and the community's cultural and intellectual property and is not to be used beyond the permissions outlined unless further permissions are sought via the team through Munnimbah-dja. The engagements (yarns) we had with the community are presented in a general capacity in this report as we respect and preserve the ICP of our people.

### Permissions

This report can be used

1. To report back to Arts QLD
2. Internally by councils to review and make future plans and attract funding for FN projects.

This report must be used in the context of the First Nations Regional partnership project and state the project scope and limitations as below. The report should not be used in any other way without permission via the team through Munnimbah-dja.

### Limitations

This report is only a reflection of a short term very limited project and should not assume to be a conclusive consultation. It should not be used to reflect FN community consultation post a 12 month period without permission is sought via the team through Munnimbah-dja.

### **Considerations of Country**

Kabi Kabi and Jinibara Country sits across more than 3 local government regions which include Gympie, Noosa and Sunshine Coast. First Nations people do not consider these borders as important in our culture.

## **PROJECT OBJECTIVES**

1. Develop lasting and meaningful connection with First Nations artists and cultural practitioners in our regions – both Traditional owners and First Nations people who reside in the Gympie, Noosa and Sunshine Coast regions.
2. Work collaboratively to consider engagement protocols.
3. Provide an opportunity for First Nations people and arts and cultural practitioners to determine how they would like to engage with councils, what their priorities are and how they would like to work with councils to achieve their goals.
4. Develop a pilot project to put some of the learnings into practice and to work as a catalyst for future projects.

## **PROJECT OUTCOMES**

1. Building lasting and meaningful connections with First Nations artists and cultural practitioners in our regions – both Traditional owners and First Nations people who reside in the Gympie, Noosa and Sunshine Coast region.
2. Suggested engagement protocols or approach to developing them.
3. Specific activities to determine how First Nations artists and cultural practitioners would like to engage with councils e.g. newsletter, regular meetings, gatherings.
4. Specific priorities how they would like to work with councils to achieve them. professional development, artist development, business, residencies.
5. Proposal or delivery of a pilot project to put some of the learnings into practice and to work as a catalyst for future projects e.g. newsletter, gathering or event.
6. Database shared with First Nations Creative Development Officer for future communications

## **RECRUITMENT PROCESS**

Libby Harward was selected as Project Coordinator in April 2022 and the recruitment of Project Officers began in May 2022. The opportunity was advertised via social media platforms and emailed through internal channels. Applicants were invited to submit via SmartyGrants.

### **Snapshot:**

- 5 applications were received.
- 4 applicants were Sunshine Coast residents.
- 1 Applicant from Noosa Shire.
- All Applicants chose Sunshine Coast Council as their first choice.
- Selection made based on appropriate skills and experience to work with First Nations community by First Nations project facilitators.
- Decision was supported by Council Project Officers.
- No applications from Traditional Owner groups from any region.
- Two First Nations Project officers Recruited - June 2022



## SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS

### Lulu Littler

I'm a Gomeroi artist, poet, nurse, doula, arts worker and mentor. Gunnedah is my great grandmother's Country and I will always feel a strong connection to that Country along with the family and kin that I can found there. I grew up off Country, mostly around Warra (Sandgate) area and I feel really connected to that place - the homelands of the Turrbal people. I feel lucky to have learnt and grown there with my Mum and sisters.

My background is mostly in health, but I love working in the arts and continuing the dreaming of my own arts practice here on Kabi Country. I'm mostly involved in spaces of women's business and community health, visual arts, storytelling and spoken word, but more recently arts, events, mentoring and tutoring.

I've lived in Kureelipa on Kabi Kabi Country for a year and half since moving up from Meanjin and I feel a deep connection to this place and mob here.

### Bridgette Williams

I am a Yugambeh/Bundjalung and Birri-Gubba/Juru woman, cultural educator, facilitator, and I also dance with mob here on the coast. I am also an arts worker.

I have lived on beautiful Kabi Kabi and Jinibara country for most of my life and I've been involved in supporting mob in the education sector for over 15 years.

I am grateful to be working and living on this beautiful country and to give back to a community that has given me so much.

## THE PROJECT TEAM

This project involved 3 representatives from each council region, along with 2 First Nations Project Officers and Project Coordinator.

### **Project Core Team**

- Libby Harward, Ngugi, Quandamooka - Project Coordinator
- Bridgette Williams, Birri-Gubba, Yugambeh - Project Officer
- Lulu Littler, Gomeroi - Project Officer



*The team at Darwin Art Fair with Local arts Industry representatives and artists*

## PROJECT BUDGET

Partner investment for the project included:

- NOOSA investment \$10,000
- GYMPIE investment \$10,000
- SC Investment \$13,200

### IN KIND CONTRIBUTION

Munnimbah-dja/ Libby Harward 50 Hours	\$3750.00
Lulu Littler and Bridgette Williams 50 hours	\$4,400.00
Elders and Aboriginal Community unpaid 20 hours	\$3000.00

### BUDGET BREAKDOWN

Budget Item	Amount	Details	SCC	NC	GRC
Project Officer 1+ 2	\$16,640	2 x Contracted Placement 3 months for \$35 days	\$5,548.00	\$5,546.00	\$5,546.00
Workshop Facilitators	\$2,000	Contractors	\$1,232	\$384	\$384
Project Coordinator	\$12,210	Contracted Placement 5 months	\$4,070	\$4,070	\$4,070
Other -	\$2,350	Consultation, Meetings, Travel, catering Catering, Insurances, admin, Stationery	2350	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$33,200</b>		<b>\$13,200</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>

<b>PLUS IN KIND (breakdown above)</b>	<b>\$11,150</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>\$44,350</b>

## DELIVERING THE PROJECT

### PROJECT STRATEGY

1. Develop Culturally Safe Project methodology to role model engagement protocols
2. Recruit a culturally strong team
3. Ensure Traditional Owners are aware of and support our intentions
4. Attend and support existing First Nations programming and First Nations events and increasing the capacity for First Nations connections at these events
5. Create First Nations only safe space for discussions around determining how we would like to engage with councils, what our priorities are and how we would like to work with councils to achieve our goals.
6. Ensure that the expectations from council match the investment
7. Develop a pilot project to put some of the learnings into practice and to work as a catalyst for future projects.



### METHODOLOGY

Project Coordinator Libby Harward developed a project methodology and plan to role model engagement for working from First Nations perspectives and a pilot for future project delivery. Project components were delivered under the methodologies of

Identity  
Country and People  
Community and Relationships  
Listen and Share  
Create and Reciprocity



This was made accessible to the Project team and Council representatives via a project planning document and updated regularly. Due to time limitations of the project and a large amount of time spent negotiating expectations and advocating for First Nation's needs, not all were achievable in the timeframe.

<p><b>IDENTITY</b></p> <p>Relational ethos core to First Nations people - Begins with connecting around our own identity to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish cultural protocols and guidance around Identity - ensuring cultural responsibilities honored</li> <li>• Placing self on Country</li> <li>• Establish relationships / Team Building</li> <li>• Establish specific interests and needs of Project Officers</li> </ul>
<p><b>COUNTRY and PEOPLE</b></p> <p>Relational ethos core to FN people - Connecting with Country and its people</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Connecting with TO's</li> <li>• Honoring our Custodians connections and history -</li> <li>• Meeting with Traditional Custodians- Understanding who the TO's are and develop stronger connection to Country</li> </ul>
<p><b>COMMUNITY and RELATIONSHIPS</b></p> <p>Relational ethos core to First Nations people - Connecting with each other and extended community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Connecting with community</li> <li>• Community Listening</li> <li>• Honoring our interconnected histories</li> <li>• Understanding and documenting community needs</li> </ul>
<p><b>LISTEN and SHARE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sharing Knowledge and learning from each other</li> <li>• Mentoring</li> <li>• Handing over to next generation</li> </ul>
<p><b>CREATE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaborative Dreaming for delivery of project</li> <li>• Piloting project</li> </ul>
<p><b>REFLECT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaborative reflection</li> <li>• Cultural support</li> <li>• Collate Conversations with Community</li> <li>• Collate feedback from Community to council</li> </ul>
<p><b>RECIPROCITY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delivery of projects that meet Community needs</li> <li>• Honor and celebrate Community Contribution</li> <li>• Be transparent and share learnings and future project plans</li> </ul>

## PROJECT ACHIEVEMENTS

Over the project timeframe of 30 days, the two First Nations Project Officers worked together to achieve a wide range of activities, conversations and gatherings guided by the following framework of:

### CONNECTION

Building genuine relationships.  
Prioritizing relationship before partnership.

### LISTENING

Consulting with Traditional Custodians and community.

### FACILITATING BLAK SPACES

Creating spaces of cultural safety and safe expression  
for the community.

### PRIORITISING FIRST NATIONS VOICES

Feeding these voices back to Council

### SUPPORTING

Attending BLAK events and initiatives & supporting mob  
to attend events, advertised and connecting mob.

## SNAPSHOT OF ACHIEVEMENTS

<b>4</b> facilitated First Nations only events	<b>15</b> First Nations Community meetings
<b>5</b> Community Meetings.	<b>8</b> First Nations Community events attended.
<b>11</b> First Nations exhibitions and performances attended.	<b>8</b> Industry meetings and masterclasses.
<b>18</b> Reflection and Debrief sessions.	<b>100</b> Members were connected to Blak Creatives Facebook Group (100 members)



Bridgette Williams, Fiona Foley, Lulu Littler at Noosa Regional Gallery Mob Only Artist Yarn

## IN DETAIL

### FIRST NATIONS ONLY EVENTS

Gimpi Gimpi (Gympie) Blak Creatives Community Gathering Event.  
Wantima (Noosa) Blak Creatives Community Gathering Event.  
Namba (Nambour) Blak Creatives Community Gathering Event.  
Fiona Foley Artists Yarn – Mob (First Nations) Only Event.

### FN COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Sunshine Coast First Nations Community Meeting's - Natalied, Mark & Stephen.  
Nungeena Connection Day, with Emily McConachie.  
Nungeena meeting - Libby Harward.  
Klds In Action Indigenous Advisory Meeting.  
9 x Meaningful discussion and consultation with Traditional Custodians - Aunty Deb Bennett, Uncle Russell Bennett, Uncle Tais Muckan, Aunty Helena Gulash, Bj Murphy, Uncle Noel Blair, Aunty Hope O'chin, Aunty Beverly Hand, Aunty Lillian Burke.  
Engagement with University of Sunshine Coast students.  
Liaised with Cultural Officers from Sunshine Coast Council.

### COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Meeting at Noosa Regional Gallery with Michael Brennan to organise Fiona Foley event.  
Meeting with Gympie Council.  
Meeting with Noosa Council.  
Meeting with Sunshine Coast Council.  
Meeting with Sunshine Coast Galleries Team.

## FIRST NATIONS COMMUNITY EVENTS

Gympie NAIDOC Flag Raising.  
Namba NAIDOC Flag Raising.  
Gympie NAIDOC Dinner Dance.  
Gympie Memorial Day for First Nations Soldiers.  
Nambour Hospital NAIDOC event - connected with Aunty Hope O'Chin.  
Namba NAIDOC Wan'diny Family Fun Day, connected with First Nations Elders & Community.  
Kids in Action (Education Day) Maroochy Botanic Gardens, connected with Aunty Beverly Hand, BJ, Natalied, Mark, Stephen, Gabrielle.  
Attending and participating in Cultural dance with Jinibara and Kabi Kabi.

## FIRST NATIONS EXHIBITIONS and PERFORMANCES ATTENDED

Munnimbah-Dja exhibition.  
6 Horizon events.  
Veiled Histories Exhibition, Jennifer Herd and Joanne Currie.  
Connected with Vernon- Ah-Kee and Gabrielle Quakawoot.  
Michael Cook, Fiona Foley, Midgely Dolls Exhibition, connected with Fiona Foley.  
Got Up, Stood Up, Showed Up Exhibition - Jandamarra, Alister Bartholomew and Peter Mulcahy exhibition.  
First Nations Voices in text: Artists Yarn with Uncle Noel Blair, Lulu Littler and Libby Harward.  
Redcliffe Regional Gallery: interview with Uncle Noel Blair led by Lulu Littler.  
Poetry Writing with Lulu Littler as part of the First Nations in Text exhibition public programming.  
Beeyali Exhibition by Lyndon Davis at University of Sunshine Coast.  
Beeyali Presentation By Lyndon Davis University of Sunshine Coast.

## INDUSTRY MEETINGS AND MASTERCLASSES

Family histories Masterclass with Tania Shaefer, connected with Dominique Chen, Emily McConochie.  
Nadine McDonald-Dowd Masterclass.  
Libby Harward Business Masterclass.  
Lydia Fairhall Masterclass.  
DARWIN Aboriginal Arts Fair DAAF - Jo-anne Driessens Arts Law, Stephanie Parkins Aboriginal Art Code.  
Arts industry mentoring by Libby Harward.  
NAVA consultation meeting.  
First Nations Supplier Day.

## REFLECTION

15 x Reflections/debriefing and Cultural protocol session within team.  
3 x Reflection time on Ancestral Country - **Libby, Bridgette & Lulu.**





Bridgette Williams, Uncle Noel Blair, Lulu Littler, Libby Harward, BJ Murphy at Maroochydore Library Artist Yarn

## FINDINGS

### THE VOICE OF COMMUNITY

In the course of the project, conversations with First Nations community and the arts sector across the region, the following feedback was received:

1. We want to live our culture through our participation in the Arts.
2. First Nations First - We want First Nations owned run and led project/business's/events to run Masterclasses and professional capacity building - Business Training/development - Funding and Fund Raising - Indigenous Curatorship opportunities.
3. We need First Nations only space.
4. We want more Blak Creative Gatherings.
5. We want On-country experiences.
6. We want more identified roles that are not isolated.
7. We want the power imbalance to be recognised - there is an Unwillingness to work with the government because of colonial history, tokenism, historical contexts, and not wanting to create dependence. We don't want to perpetuate power imbalances.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations are proposed to all partners as realistic outcomes of the project.

### Reconciliation Action Plans

- Noosa and Gympie Councils to have a Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP)
- a. To consult and refer back to the RAP.

- b. To embed working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in culturally safe ways.
- c. Engage Kabi Kabi consultant to deliver.

### **Cultural Competency**

All council staff to have undertaken initial and ongoing Cultural Humility/Cultural Responsiveness Training.

- a. Understand Indigenous peoples lack of trust in Government structures, programs and systems and how to build relationships with First Nations artists.
- b. Understanding there is a depth and spirituality that encompasses Indigenous culture and how to work with that nation.
- c. Addressing working with Indigenous people in a culturally appropriate way.
- d. Understanding the historical and political impacts that affect Indigenous Ar.t

### **First Nations Ongoing Initiatives**

All Councils should commit to providing longer/long-term investment models for First Nations Capacity building projects that:

- a. Have realistic expectations of investment.
- b. Consistency with staff, gatherings, and opportunities are essential.

### **First Nations only events**

To provide safe spaces for First Nations people and communities.

- a. Establish safe yarns where their cultural and artistic challenges are nurtured.
- b. Understanding that First Nations art from a holistic model, that involves understanding the political, social, historical contexts of Indigenous people.
- c. When referring to art, you are also referring to the reality of broken cultural connections and therefore broken connections and access to their artistic practices.
- d. Needing safe spaces for us to yarn about the breadth of the impact and how we move forward.

### **Prioritise First Nations Led Initiatives**

Professional development and training development education to First Nations people.

- a. Support and provide mentorships through the varying stages of a professional lifecycle of an artist i.e. Emerging > Mid-career > Established/Advanced artist
- b. On-country events and experiences.
- c. Specific activities to determine how the First Nations mob would like to engage.

### **Invest in First Nations skill and capacity**

- a. Networking.

- b. Masterclasses.
- c. Guest speakers.
- d. Cultural experiences/ camps.
- e. Artist yarns and community yarns.

### **First Nations Staffing**

All councils should be aiming to have more identified positions.

- a. These positions should not be isolated and encouraged across all areas of council, not just within the Arts and Culture programming.
- b. Gympie and Noosa need Identified positions in the Arts and culture teams and those positions should be working alongside Sunshine Coast Council.

### **Bureaucracy**

All councils need to explore how their Bureaucracy alienates First Nations people.

- a. Delineation between Council borders should become irrelevant on First Nations projects.
- b. Accountability on councils - this is not First Nations people's responsibility.

## **SUGGESTED SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PARTNERS**

The following recommendations are for each specific partner.

### **GYMPIE REGIONAL COUNCIL**

- a. Implement Recommendations above
- b. Commit to continuation of Funding Blak Creative Gatherings
- c. Commit Startup Funding to deliver Blak Creatives First Nations led targeted Professional Development programs including mentorships, on country workshops, camps and masterclasses, Arts Business education and ICIP, Arts Law workshops, Understanding National and International Arts sector trends in Indigenous Art, Indigenous Curatorial projects.
- d. Commit to at least 1 exhibition in the gallery within 12 months that is curated by an experienced Indigenous curator with a brief designed in consultation with GIMPI Blak Creative Network.
- e. Work towards employment of First Nations Arts and cultural position.

### **NOOSA COUNCIL**

- a. Implement Recommendations above
- b. Commit to continuation of Funding Blak Creative Gatherings
- c. Commit Startup Funding to deliver Blak Creatives First Nations led targeted Professional Development programs including mentorships, on country workshops,

- camps and masterclasses, Arts Business education and ICIP, Arts Law workshops, Understanding National and International Arts sector trends in Indigenous Art, Indigenous Curatorial projects.
- d. Commit to at least 1 exhibition in the gallery within 12 months that is curated by an experienced Indigenous curator with a brief designed in consultation with GIMPI Blak Creative Network.
  - e. Work towards employment of First Nations Arts and cultural position

### **SUNSHINE COAST COUNCIL**

- a. Continuation of Funding Blak Creative Gatherings
- b. Continue funding to deliver First Nations led targeted Professional Development programs including mentorships, on country workshops, camps and masterclasses, Arts Business education and ICIP, Arts LAW workshops, Understanding National And International Arts sector trends in Indigenous Art, Indigenous Curatorial projects
- c. Commit to at least 1 exhibition in the gallery within 12 months that is curated by an experienced Indigenous curator with a brief designed in consultation with SCC Blak Creative Network
- d. Work towards employment of First Nations Arts and cultural position



## PROPOSAL FOR PILOT PROJECT

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### BLAK CREATIVES- MUNNIMBAH-DJA

**Blak Creatives:** A First Nations networking space and series of Indigenous-led professional development opportunities embedding cultural safety to support First Nations artistic endeavors on Kabi Kabi and Jinibara Country

**Blak Creatives** is a program born out of community voice providing culturally safe feedback loops through committed ongoing relationship building/networking it remains responsive to FN needs.

**Blak Creatives** is designed to build the profile, recognition and capacity of FN artists/cultural practitioners- living/connected to Kabi Kabi and Jinibara Country. The project focuses on arts business development, informal mentorship and networking, contemporary urban Indigenous practice development, cultural protocol, industry development, and pathways for emerging and mid-career artists.

**With Investment funding Munnimbah-dja will be able to provide continuity for community by continuing:**

- Coordination by Libby Harward
- Employment of 2 FN project officers Bridgette Williams as Key project officer and Lulu Littler as Arts worker
- Facilitating the deliver Blak Creatives networking and consultation events
- Deliver Masterclasses on topics which have been identified as needs by the FN community.
- Deliver on-country experiences/ culture camps
- Invest in the continuation of partnerships

#### **Current Investment**

- Sunshine Coast Council have committed \$10,000 for the continuation of Blak Creative events.
- \$20,000 - Munnimbah-dja have applied for \$20k a year funding for 3 years from Sunshine Coast Council creative Investment for masterclasses/on-country professional development across Jinibara and Kabi country. - Outcome **TBC**
- \$5000- The Jinibara Peoples Aboriginal Corporation has committed \$5000 funding towards the project and eldership in kind.
- Munnimbah-dja is in conversation with SC University and Sunshine Coast Creative Arts Alliance for future partnerships for the delivery of Blak Creatives

## ATTACHMENT 1# - Project Observations

*As observed by Project Coordinator and Project Officers.*

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1. First Nations run and led initiative need to be invested in as a priority.
2. There was a difference in working with Councils that have RAPS and ongoing cultural humility training and ones that don't in terms of strength in relationships with First Nations people and cultural safety.
3. Councils are not following NAVA rates when paying artists.
4. First Nations people feel Government Grants are Restrictive and create dependence - we need to invest in education around other business models.
5. There is an unwillingness from the community to work with the council that needs to be acknowledged and listened to.
6. Councils need to take accountability for building Relationships with First Nations communities and not rely on First Nations employees and projects to do this work for them - it should be embedded at all levels.
7. There is accountability on councils to encourage, appreciate and action First Nations feedback.
8. There is continued ISOLATION of First Nations staff within Councils, this was addressed in this project by forming a team rather than separating the First Nations team members across council borders as first suggested.
9. Providing Cultural humility and responsiveness training as part of our role on First Nations projects is too time and resource consuming for projects that are meant to invest in First Nations people
10. Having to navigate requirements of western council borders that are not relevant to First Nations people is too time and resource consuming for projects that are meant to invest in First Nations people
11. There needs to be Eldership at all First Nations events delivered
12. INVEST- RELATIONSHIP- PARTNERSHIP - There needs to be a clear understanding of power imbalance Councils need to acknowledge this then INVEST in First Nations run and led Business's and Projects Understanding and Relationship comes before Partnership.  
Councils should
  - a. INVEST In First Nations initiatives for First Nations people,
  - b. Ongoing - Build relationships with First Nations People
  - c. Form partnerships with First Nations people, projects, business's

## ATTACHMENT 2# - Reflections

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### FEEDBACK on the project Methodology, Plan and Personal Reflections

*"I liked the way the project was initially invested in my own professional development as an emerging First Nations Project Officer (FNPO). This capacity building helped me work towards fulfilling and feeling comfortable in my new role within the arts but also connected me with mentors and supports through the masterclasses we did with Lydia Fairhall and Tanya.*

*We soon added in 'Events' to our project plan (calender) as we recognised the important role that we as FNPO's in attending exhibitions, shows and project for our mob, not just to support mob, but to show our faces and build on our new and already existing, connections with mob who live here on Country. I would have liked more of these of these masterclasses and more one on one time with TO's and elders in a personal capacity - e.g taking them for lunch or visiting them at their spaces.*

*I would have also liked allocated time and perhaps travel allowance to visit artists and cultural practitioners at their galleries/studios/workplaces.*

*At times I felt limited in the capacity to provide what council was asking for given that we were only contracted for 6 hours, 2 days per week. Because of this, we did a lot of community engagement in our own time, because this was the most important element in the role for me (speaking of behalf of myself).*

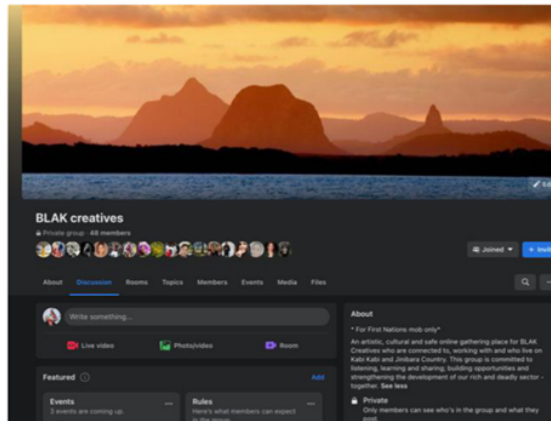
*I also felt like we didn't have any time on Country (on country - outside of buildings) with TO's for example a walk and talk with Lyndon or Uncle Tais Muckan." - Lulu Littler - Arts Worker*

\*\*\*\*\*

*It was important for me to assert that the project team was also part of the First Nations arts community and that it was essential that the design of the project incorporated a culturally appropriate mentoring process that needed time invested. We had to assert that the project would only achieve an initial scoping and it needed to establish an inward focus on firstly the Indigenous team and then Traditional Owner endorsement and then community, as it felt there were a lot of external needs from the 3 councils that could not be delivered by the project within the allocated hours and timeline. The project has resulted in initiating a strong team who are invested in continuing outcomes for First Nations arts and Culture - Libby Harward - Project Coordinator*

## ATTACHMENT 3# - Facebook Group

### FACEBOOK PAGE AND GROUP RULES



#### Group rules from the admins

##### 1 SAFE YARNS

Connections and relationship. This is a safe space for connection and relationship to eachother - be respectful of the voices of others and their journeys. Lateral violence, bullying and harrassment will not be tolerated you mob.

##### 2 BLAK AND LOCAL:

Who we are. We have made this group First Nations members only, who live, breathe, play, create, be, respect and care for, Gubbi Gubbi/Kabi Kabi & Jinibara Country - please help us space in integrity - share and connect with your local community.

##### 3 PROTOCOL

We follow the lore/law of the old people and permissions - don't share without permissions - we all know what this means and if you're unsure - we're hear to help.

##### 4 CIRCLE

We are circular people - we take care of one another.

##### 5 Tread lightly and respectfully

Leave this place better than when you found it . The lore and laws of Country apply in this group as well - as a member, please leave this space better than you found it.



## ATTACHMENT 4# - SWOT Analysis of all activities

*undertaken by Project Officers and Coordinator*

### 3 x Blak Creative gatherings - Gympie, Noosa and Sunshine Coast.

Strengths	Weaknesses
<p>Libby Stepping back and ensuring the council representatives understood the importance in stepping back - This was a chance for the FNPO's, Practice autonomy within our roles as present to the community an event created by us.</p> <p>Blak only event facilitates a space for safe yarns.</p> <p>Beginning to develop a self-determined space for Indigenous Artists to direct their own arts and cultural directions.</p>	<p>No security of continuity - commitment to ongoing future funding meant insecurity for team.</p> <p>Council requirements can mean inability to be responsive.</p> <p>At times there felt that lack of cultural Awareness Training led to a sense of over management and lack of trust in 100% First Nations Team capacity to manage things appropriately culturally. This also consumed a great deal of our limited time.</p>
Opportunities	Threats
<p>To strengthen our connection as individuals but also as community.</p> <p>An opportunity to gather mob feedback.</p> <p>Develop our own professional development programs.</p>	<p>No security or commitment from Council for long term investment or continuity meant FN people were wary of being tokenised again.</p>

### Masterclasses

Strengths	Weaknesses
<p>Having high level artists, professionals, business people coming and speaking about their experience, cultural journey.</p> <p>Knowledge and sharing in this space.</p>	<p>We did not have enough of these.</p> <p>Maybe more would have had the opportunity to develop ourselves further as arts workers and emerging artists</p>
Opportunities	Threats
<p>Building connections with First Nations leaders in their industry and roles.</p>	<p>No men presented, and not enough of these masterclasses.</p>

Learning more about different opportunities and areas of where we can collaborate or work in within the arts sector	
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### **1 x Fiona Foley Artists Yarn – Mob (First Nations) Only Event**

<b>Strengths</b>	<b>Weaknesses</b>
<p>Practice autonomy within our roles FNPO's and lead an event that the community see's we are the face of.</p> <p>Opportunity to connect with established Artist was invaluable.</p> <p>Feedback from Establish Artist reflected the need for this from an artist mentor perspective as it wasn't something she had received from the gallery. Also helped enact proper protocol via Eldership.</p> <p>Turnout and feedback reflected need from local artists perspective.</p> <p>Blak only event facilitates a space for safe yarns was celebrated by our community.</p>	<p>Limited support from council in terms of ongoing commitment to fund continued events.</p> <p>Having to assert strongly the need for FN only space led to feelings of distrust in teams capacity to managed things appropriately culturally.</p>
<b>Opportunities</b>	<b>Threats</b>
<p>One on one time for community with established artists in a controlled space.</p> <p>To strengthen our connection as individuals but also as community.</p> <p>An opportunity to gather mob feedback.</p> <p>Good turnout indicated need for ongoing Masterclasses.</p>	<p>No commitment towards continuity harmful to project outcomes and trust building.</p>

### **Meetings**

<b>Strengths</b>	<b>Weaknesses</b>
<p>Sunshine Coast First Nations Community Meetings to connect with mob and hear/share about what is happening in community/needs, issues and solutions discussed and shared.</p>	<p>Not able to attend enough of these with mob-focused events and meetings, having to meet with council regularly instead</p>
<b>Opportunities</b>	<b>Threats</b>



Build relationships with community and First Nations people and organisations	
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### Exhibitions Attendance

Strengths	Weaknesses
<p>Connecting and building relationships with First Nations artists on the coast.</p> <p>Support First Nations Artists, demonstrating strength and commitment to culture and community.</p>	<p>No Mob Only Yarns or options to connect with artists.</p> <p>Lack of First Nations people in attendance.</p> <p>First Nations people not feeling it is a place that is safe for them to attend.</p>
Opportunities	Threats
<p>To connect and meet new First Nations artist and build on current connections with community</p>	<p>Limited funding for project officers to attend or travel across and between the 3 council regions.</p> <p>Non-Indigenous people's unconscious bias and creating unsafe spaces when working with First Nations people, artists and community.</p> <p>Non-Indigenous people not putting First Nations artists front and centre</p> <p>Celebrating Curators or directors of these exhibitions and galleries getting up to speak</p>

### Community Events Attended

Strengths	Weaknesses
<p>The ability to connect, yarn and build relationships with community and mob.</p> <p>To get a sense of what is happening on the ground within the community.</p> <p>To be visible to mob within our roles and what we are hoping to achieve within this project.</p>	<p>A lot of these things at night, and within limited or not resources to attend these (fuel or no council/community car to use and drive).</p> <p>Burn out/overworked, a lot of these also overlapped so the team was rushing from one thing to another.</p> <p>Limited time to really connect with all community members at these events.</p> <p>Sometimes rushing to chat quickly with everyone while there, unable to have deeper yarns</p>
Opportunities	Threats
<p>Networking with community</p>	

### Professional Development

Strengths	Weaknesses
<p>NAVA was delivered culturally safe, and with First Nations voices-lead with amazing recommendations. A fantastic opportunity to be involved in a Nation-wise platform with people from all over the country with various levels of experience.</p> <p>DAAF: Incredible experience to see how cultural centers in the Top End represent their artists and culture. An opportunity to connect deeper as colleagues (FNPO).</p>	<p>Overwhelming with so many things to do and see in such a short amount of time. Huge delay from RADF funds for reimbursement.</p>
Opportunities	Threats
<p>Making connections with people across the country for future projects and collaborations</p>	<p>Cost, lack of funding to cover for PD.</p>





## **FOCUS ON GYMPIE:** **A Kids Eye View 2022**



**GYMPIE REGION  
LOCAL LEVEL ALLIANCE**  
Collective Impact in Action





## Acknowledgements

This document has been compiled and produced by the Gympie Region Local Level Alliance (LLA). The LLA is delivered in the Gympie region through a partnership between Gympie Community Place, Act for Kids, and the Department of Children, Youth Justice and Multicultural Affairs. Local Level Alliances are responsible for identifying the family support services communities need and how those needs can be met. They are designed to ensure all families are supported with an integrated mix of services that respond to local needs and issues. The Gympie Region LLA is committed to listening to the voices of children and ensuring they are welcomed and valued as community members. The *Focus on Gympie: A Kids Eye View* project has been a starting point for capturing and celebrating the views of children by using creative methods.

Photographs, artworks and stories contained in this report have been provided by children and young people from across the Gympie region. They showcase how children see their community. They provide a perspective about the people, places and possibilities in children's lives.

We thank every child and young person who contributed. Thank-you also to the children and young people who participated in the Project Advisory Group and helped to design project resources, select and frame artwork, and who have helped us to identify the key messages and themes of this project.

We would also like to acknowledge and express our appreciation for the following key project contributors:

- The Regional Arts Development Fund, which is a partnership between the Queensland Government and Gympie Regional Council to support local arts and culture in regional Queensland,
- Local Artists - Henna Halonen and Sandra Ross who facilitated a series of incredible visual arts workshops with children from across the region,
- Holly Moore, Centre Manager at Vicinity Shopping Centres, whose contribution towards promotion, resources, workshops and centre-based exhibitions has been invaluable.
- Rachel Rolfe from Lead Based Ink who provided graphic design
- Jekka Shearer from Naturally Jek Photography who captured photographs of children and young people from across the region
- Members of the LLA Core group, in particularly Jayne Clapton and Abbie Grant-Taylor, who helped to develop and manage the project, and the partner organisations of the LLA.

We respect and acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the Gympie region, the Kabi Kabi First Nation people (also known as Gubbi Gubbi), and the Butchulla and Wakka Wakka people of the greater Gympie region. We pay respect to Elders past and present for they hold the memories, the traditions, the culture and hopes of Australia's first people. We acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who live in, work in, and contribute to the Gympie Region.







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# Introduction

The wellbeing of children right across the Gympie region is at the core of the work being done through the Gympie Region LLA. Hearing, listening to and responding to their voices is important to us.



*From before birth children are connected to family, community, culture and place. Their earliest development and learning takes place through these relationships, particularly within families, who are children's first and most influential educators. As children participate in everyday life, they develop interests and construct their own identities and understandings of the world.<sup>1</sup>*





## INTRODUCTION



The Gympie Region covers a large and diverse geographical area spanning some 6,898 square kilometres.

The region comprises the City of Gympie and its many surrounding smaller towns and communities. It includes the Cooloola Coast communities to the east, the Mary Valley to the south, north to Curra, Gunalda and Theebine, and west to Kilkivan and Goomeri.

# ***Focus on Gympie: A Kids Eye View – What and why***



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GYMPIE REGION LOCAL LEVEL ALLIANCE  
Focus on Gympie: A Kids Eye View 2022



### FOCUS ON GYMPIE – A KIDS EYE VIEW: WHAT AND WHY

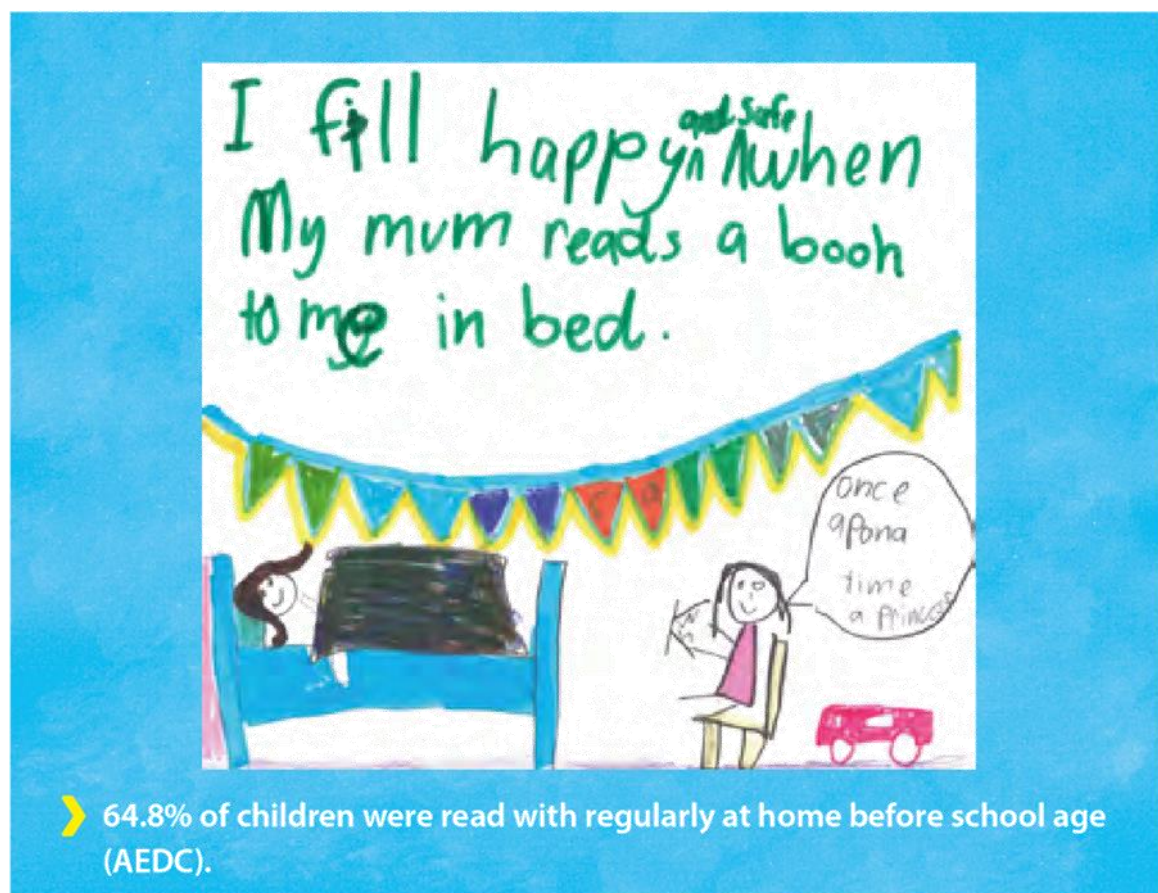
During the past five years, the Gympie Region LLA has partnered with community members, government departments and services to develop whole of community and place-based responses to create the best start for every child in the region. We recognise that children bring value and influence to our community and have the right to contribute to decision-making. Through *Focus on Gympie: A Kids Eye View*, children who are growing up in the Gympie region have had opportunity to share what's important to them. Hence, using various creative activities, *Focus on Gympie: A Kids Eye View* aims to capture and celebrate the voices and views of children in the Gympie region and provide them with an opportunity to have authentic input into the planning and decisions that affect their lives.

After engaging children in workshops and conversations designed to empower their participation and contribute to their sense of belonging as active community members, *Focus on Gympie: A Kids Eye View* also shares key messages, artwork and themes through this report and local exhibitions.

This project brings the experiences, rights and views of children to the centre of the LLA's collaborative planning efforts and will help services, funding bodies and the broader community understand the perspective of children and recognise the unique strengths, barriers and opportunities they face growing up in our community.

Current data shows us that many children in the Gympie region are thriving. However, some children in our region experience vulnerabilities and face big challenges.

The 2016 Census provides us with data on relative socio-economic disadvantage, based on a range of characteristics. The Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage (IRSD) paints a challenging picture for our region. With a score of 919, the Gympie Region sits in the 13th percentile which means that only 13% of areas in the country have higher levels of disadvantage. Or, to phrase that another way, 87% of areas have higher levels of advantage.

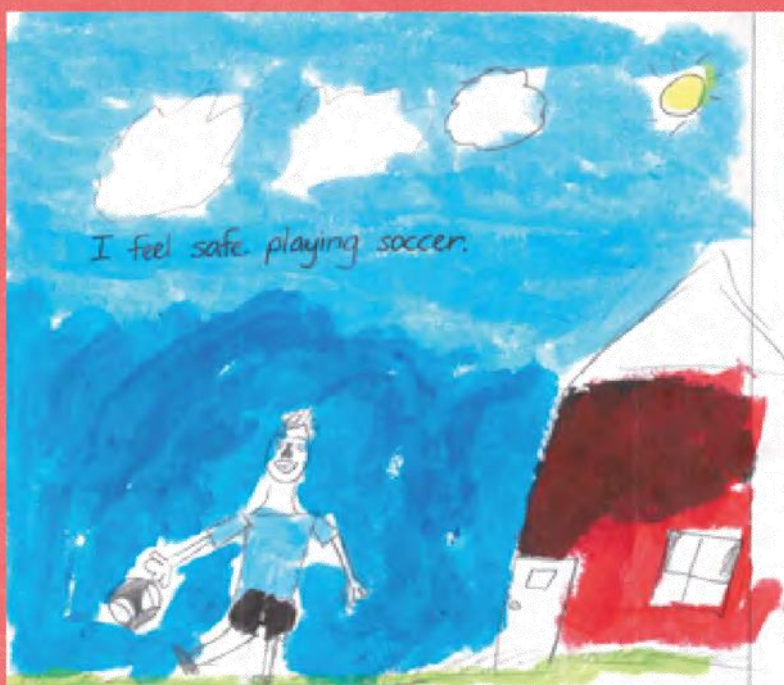




FOCUS ON GYMPIE – A KIDS EYE VIEW: WHAT AND WHY



➤ 79.9% of children attended preschool/kindergarten program in year before school (AEDC).



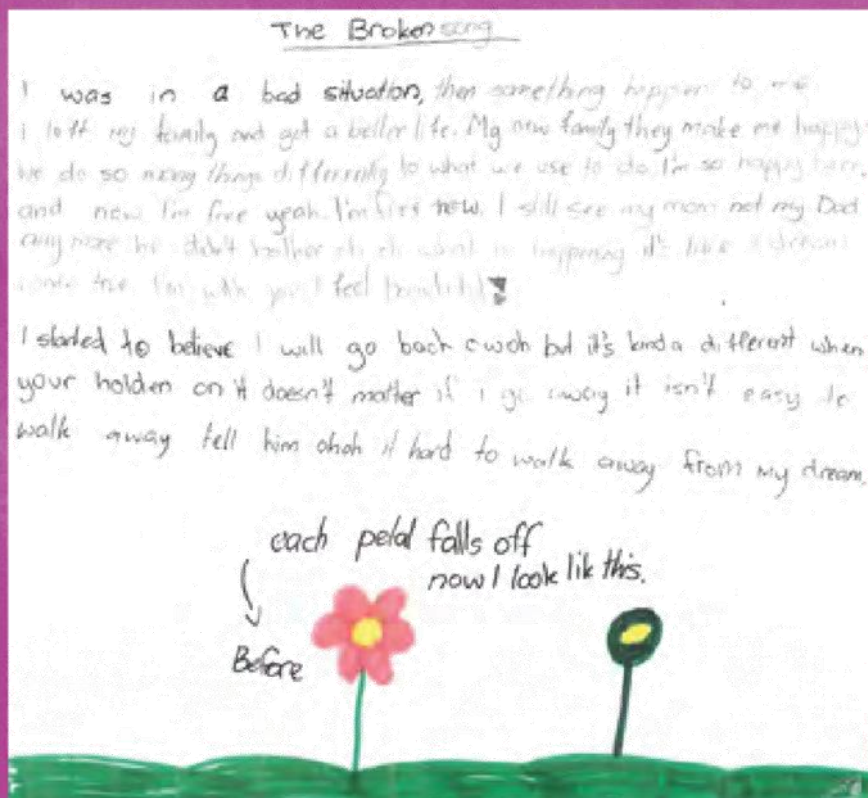
➤ 72.4% of children are on track with their physical health and wellbeing starting school (AEDC).



FOCUS ON GYMPIE – A KIDS EYE VIEW: WHAT AND WHY



- 27.7% of children are vulnerable on one or more domain while 13% are vulnerable on two or more domains (AEDC).



FOCUS ON GYMPIE – A KIDS EYE VIEW: WHAT AND WHY



**Where we live has an impact on life chances.**

*A child's earliest years fundamentally shape their life chances. Gaps in capabilities between children from socioeconomically disadvantaged families and their more advantaged peers appear early in life. Starting school 'behind the eight ball' can begin a cycle of disadvantage that sets a trajectory for poorer outcomes later in life.<sup>ii</sup>*



FOCUS ON GYMPIE – A KIDS EYE VIEW: WHAT AND WHY



When we consider place-based practice, it is usually quantitatively defined, (definitions of places/ regions, demographics, data sources). By shifting to some qualitative work, and by using artwork, photography and workshops as the methodology, the *Kids Eye View* project has allowed us to find out more.

Through this project, we can start to consider the diverse experiences that children and young people have growing up across the region, and identify some areas of commonality.



# How we approached *A Kids Eye View*



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GYMPIE REGION LOCAL LEVEL ALLIANCE  
Focus on Gympie: A Kids Eye View 2022



## HOW WE APPROACHED A KIDS EYE VIEW

### Rationale

In providing an opportunity for 'Kids' to express how they view their world, various aspects and facets of their lives become apparent. Such expressions can identify specific details, such as the importance of people and places, as well as other relationships and activities. Furthermore, Kids Eye views can highlight senses of happiness, safety, participating and belonging – all essential to their inherent wellbeing<sup>iii</sup> iv. Acknowledging and exploring these intrinsic aspects of children's lives helps to understand how children developmentally navigate and transverse private to public spaces, that is: from families and personal relationships to active citizenship; from places such as home and school to community participation; from encounters and experiences to potential and opportunities<sup>v</sup>. Therefore, understanding the significance of the transformation of children's sense of place in their world also expands a community's understandings of what matters and what responses are required.

### Using creative activities as a method

This project utilised a range of creative activities as the method to collect the Kids Eye views. The creative method was chosen as it encompassed a variety of strategies that children felt at ease with by which to relate their stories and insights. For example, when describing the use of art works, Alnasuan (2016, p. 1)<sup>vi</sup> states:

*Children adore art because they use it as a language to express how they feel and to communicate with the outside world where words may fail. Child art is an instrument for the children as they discover the world through intellectual, emotional and physical methods.*





## HOW WE APPROACHED A KIDS EYE VIEW



## Process

*Focus on Gympie: A Kids Eye View* built on the existing work of the LLA, to improve outcomes for children, by documenting children's views on what's important to them in their community. The project engaged children through photography and visual arts mediums and presented their experiences and views about growing up in the Gympie Region in local exhibitions and in this report. An advisory group that included seven children between the ages of 5 and 15 years was established and consulted throughout the project.

The *Kids Eye View* project targeted children and young people who live in the Gympie Region. It involved hearing and capturing their voices and views through intentional conversations, workshops and visual arts mediums. The project was accessible to all children in the region, with free workshops facilitated in places that children and families frequent (e.g. local shopping centre and at the 2022 Little Kids Day Out) and some broader scale participation opportunities such as a Photo Scavenger Hunt and survey which were promoted on social media and through schools.

Visual arts workshops for children were facilitated by local artists, Henna and Sandra, at Gympie Central Shopping Centre. Kindy and primary school aged children were invited to participate in an 'art class with a difference'. Henna and Sandra worked one on one to guide nearly 50 participants to create life-sized self-portraits/silhouettes whilst exploring the themes of people, place and possibilities. The impactful creations were displayed in the shopping centre through the month of October 2022.

We also asked children to share photographs of places and experiences in their local community that are of significance to them. The Child Protection Week Artwork competitions, Kids Eye View Photo Scavenger Hunt and Kids Eye View Survey were promoted on social media and through local schools and early childhood education and care programs. We showcased artwork at the Little Kids Day Out event and used this as an opportunity to further engage children in the project. At this event, we offered children the use of instant cameras to take photographs of things that interested them. With the support of Act For Kids, 110 additional artworks from children relating to the project themes. In total over 500 children have contributed to this project.

## HOW WE APPROACHED A KIDS EYE VIEW

Key messages, photographs and artwork created by children through this project were also featured at an exhibition at Gympie Community Place in October 2022 for Children's Week. With assistance from a graphic designer, a PowerPoint presentation and this report were developed.

This project provided a platform and opportunity to document and showcase the things that are important to children in the Gympie region, what they wish for in their lives and things that they like or don't like in their community.

## What we learnt from the children's creative activities

### Activity: Child Protection Week art competition entries 2020, 2021

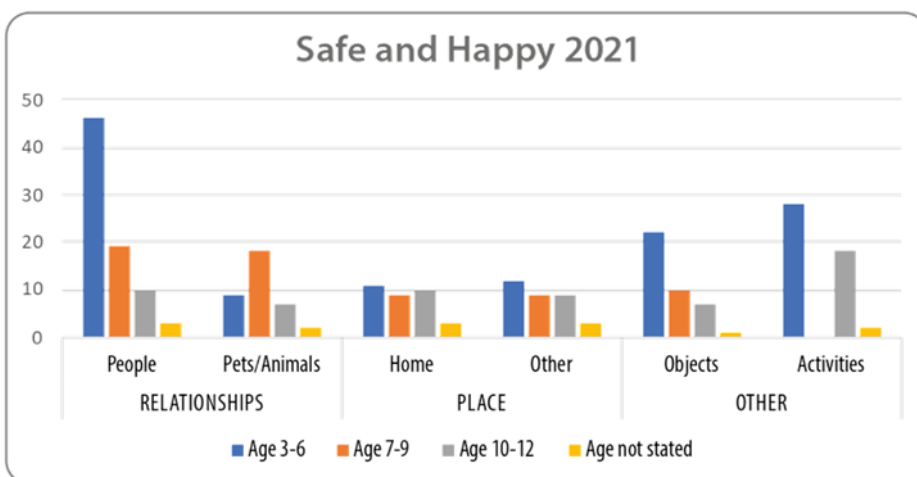
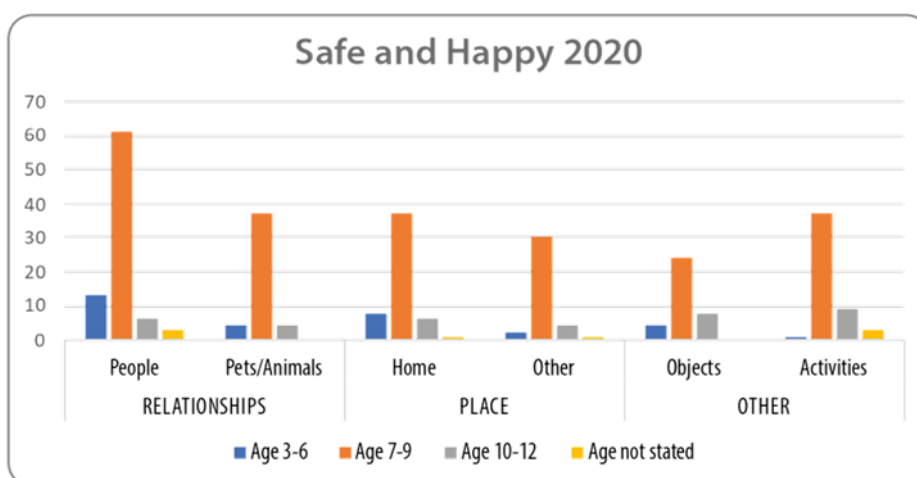
Children were invited to draw/paint/collage what makes them feel happy and safe.

#### Comments/interpretation:

We looked at the responses and found common themes. Responses were grouped under:

- Relationships
- Place – home and other (beach, parks, football grounds, playgrounds)
- Other – objects (e.g. toys) and activities they like doing (e.g. camping, sport)

It was apparent that the images and themes of the children's artwork changed according to the children's ages, as indicated in the graphs below.



HOW WE APPROACHED A KIDS EYE VIEW

**Activity: Kids Eye View Art Workshops at the shopping centre 2022**

Life-sized self-portrait workshops were facilitated by local artists for kindy and primary school aged children. The half-hour workshops involved children interacting one-on-one with an artist and consenting to the artist tracing their profile silhouette.

**Comments/ Interpretation:**

This was a life size activity where the children chose how they wanted their identity to be expressed and detailed. For example, they chose their pose, what outfits they were wearing, colours, expressions on their faces and what symbols of things that were important to them on the silhouette (e.g. food, activities, brands, styles, nature, contemporary trends, and personal characteristics).





## HOW WE APPROACHED A KIDS EYE VIEW



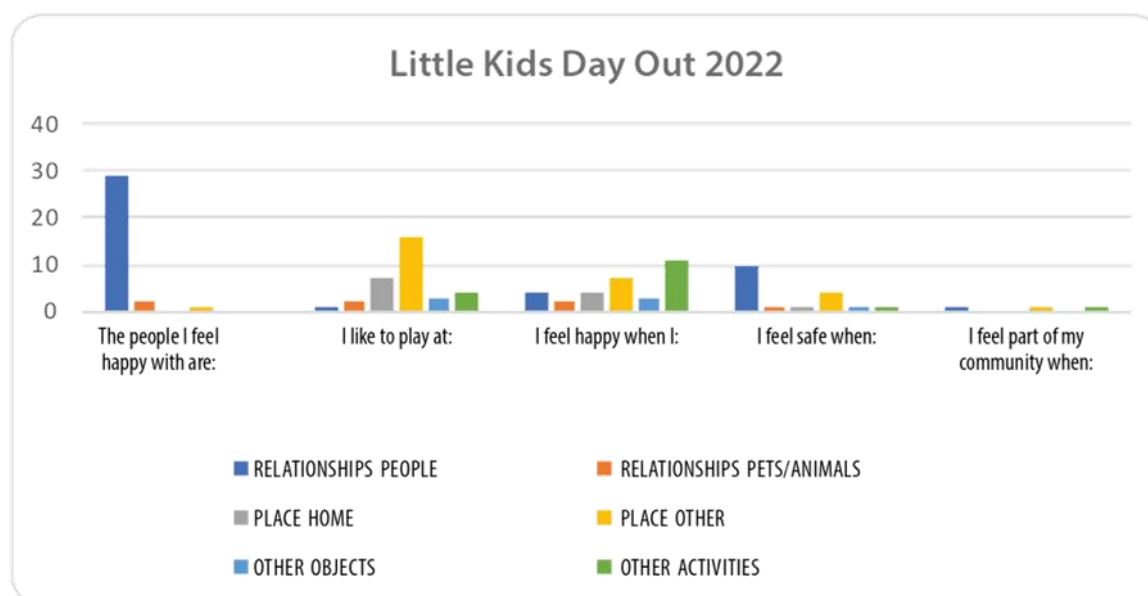
### Activity: Little Kids Day out 2022 drawing entries (Act For Kids activity)

Children were invited to respond to themes:

- People I feel happy with...*
- I like to play at...*
- I feel happy when I...*
- I feel safe when...*
- I feel part of my community when...*

#### Comments/Interpretation:

Although a different set of guiding questions to the Child Protection Week art competitions, the children's responses in this activity revealed similar themes of relationships, place and activities. The graph below indicates the spread of these themes according to the guiding statements.



HOW WE APPROACHED A KIDS EYE VIEW





## HOW WE APPROACHED A KIDS EYE VIEW

### Activity: Photos by children at Little Kids Day Out 2022

Self-directed instax camera use by children.

#### Comments/ interpretations:

Photos taken by children showed images of activities, animals, toys, police car, trees, and activity displays.

### Activity: Photo Scavenger Hunt

**FOCUS ON GYMPIE – A KID'S EYE VIEW PHOTO SCAVENGER HUNT**

**Here's your task –**

Use a camera or an available device with a camera app.  
Read and choose one or more prompt to drive your creativity and object of your photo.  
Take photos where you live, play or learn, or plan to take this list with you on an outing. The prompts are designed around the themes **People**, **Places**, and **Possibilities**, and you can do as many or as few as you are inspired; any contribution is appreciated.

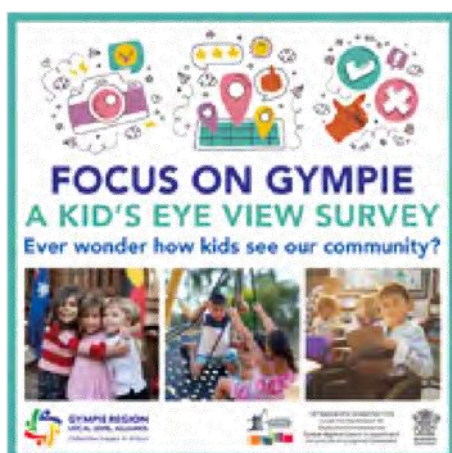
PEOPLE (Me and my community)	PLACES	POSSIBILITIES
<input type="checkbox"/> I feel I'm good at... <input type="checkbox"/> I enjoy doing... <input type="checkbox"/> I'd like to learn... <input type="checkbox"/> This stops me... <input type="checkbox"/> My goal is... <input type="checkbox"/> Something really special to me... <input type="checkbox"/> Something special that has happened to me... <input type="checkbox"/> A community means... <input type="checkbox"/> I spend time with...	<input type="checkbox"/> The best thing about living here is... <input type="checkbox"/> This could be better... <input type="checkbox"/> This is where I play... <input type="checkbox"/> Today I went to... <input type="checkbox"/> This is what I did and felt... <input type="checkbox"/> A place I like to visit - I go with... - This is what we do... - This is how it makes me feel...	<input type="checkbox"/> I'm looking forward to... <input type="checkbox"/> If I had a magic wand I would... <input type="checkbox"/> My goal for the future is...

GYMPIE REGION LOCAL LEVEL ALLIANCE  
Education Project 2022

#### Comment/Interpretation:

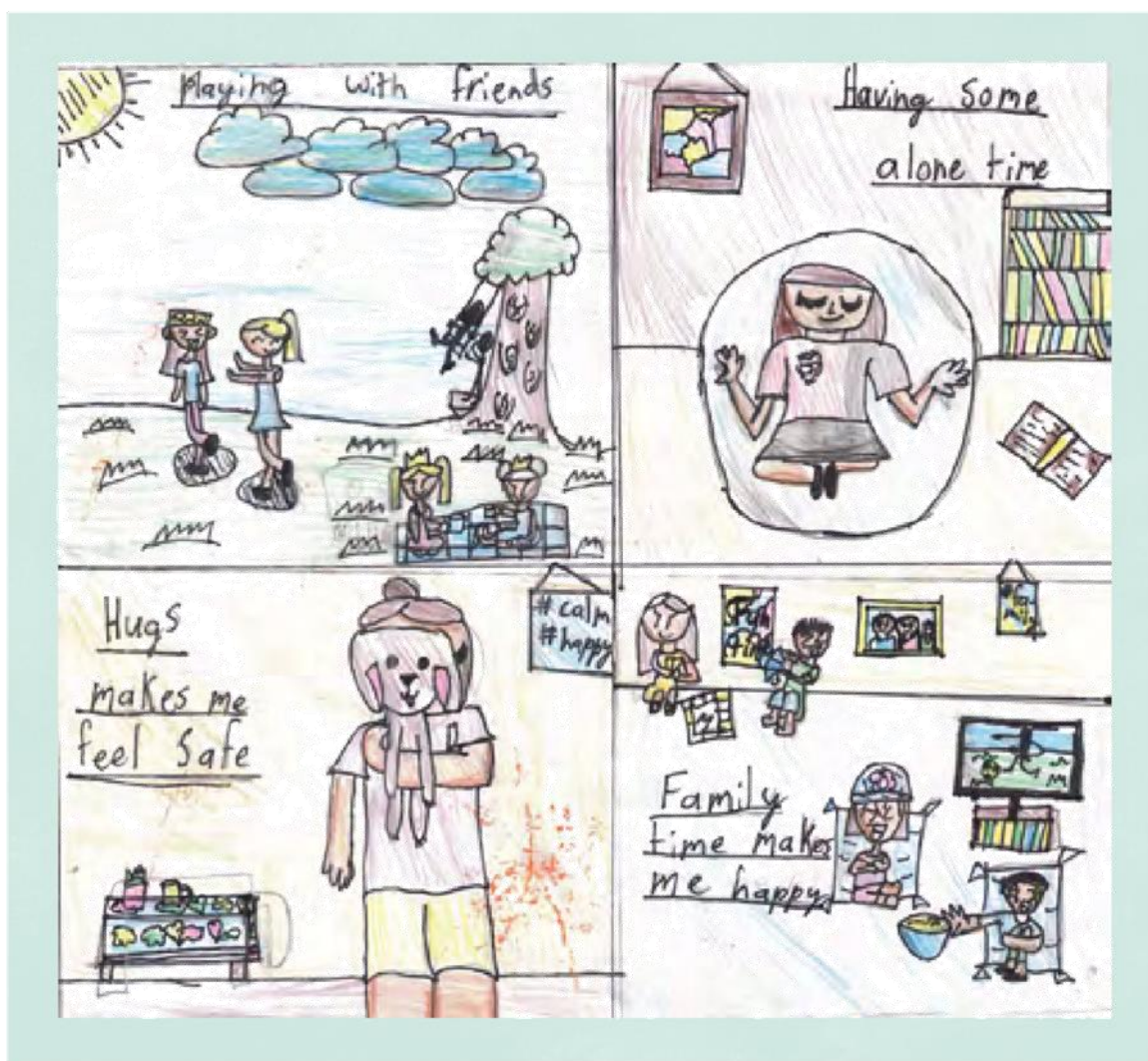
Due to privacy concerns, children were asked not to submit photos of people's faces. Children submitted a range of images including toys (lego, doll house), activities (ball, football boots), animals (paw prints in sand, chicken) and nature (flowers, river, beach, trees, sky). It was evident that children value outdoor spaces.

HOW WE APPROACHED A KIDS EYE VIEW



**Activity: Kids Eye View survey responses**

As another method of engagement, we used an online survey in which children could submit artwork or written responses in relation to the project themes of people, places and possibilities.





HOW WE APPROACHED A KIDS EYE VIEW





## Presentation

The artwork shared with us showed that when children are little, family, home, pets, objects (such as teddy) are important. The places they connected with and valued were more likely to be private spaces like their home. Older children seemed to be expanding into more public spaces and highlighted sporting groups, friendships and places they had visited as well as valuing the links to home and family. What we saw was that children, in general, focused on people and places. Younger children seemed focused in the here and now. We didn't see many children offer thoughts about possibilities.

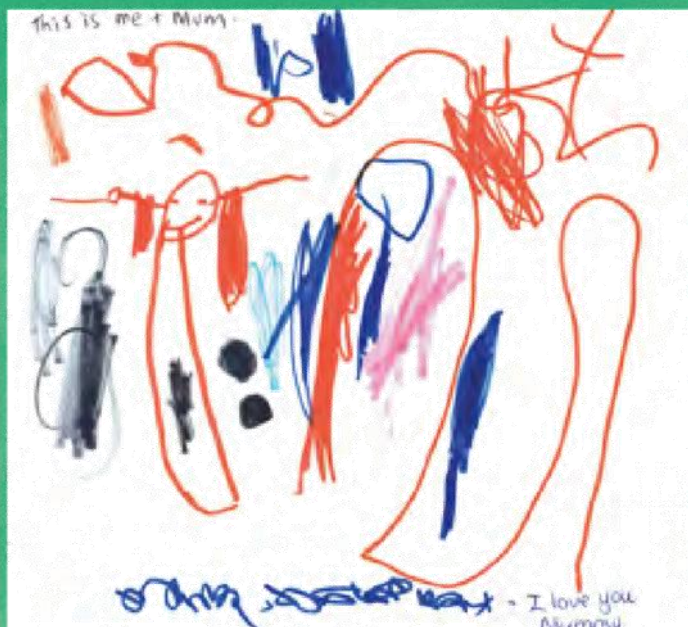


PRESENTATION

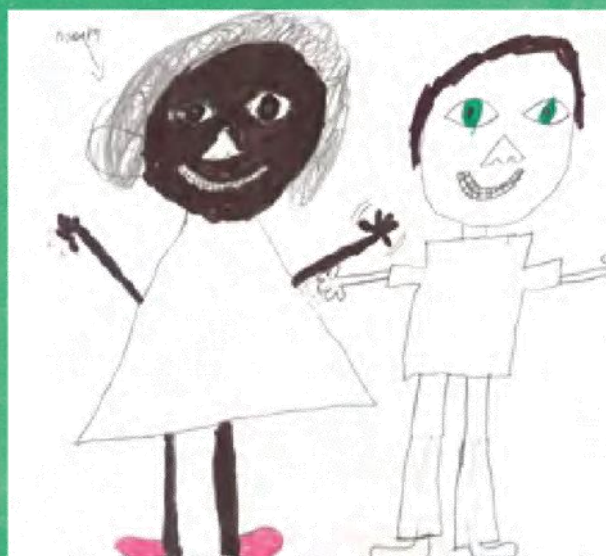


## People

People shape our local culture through their stories, values, creativity, generosity and passion<sup>vii</sup>. The *Kids Eye View* project sought to explore the theme of 'People' with children by using activities and discussions about identity (self-portrait work), about how children see themselves and about people of significance in their lives.



➤ Younger children tended to start with themselves and Mum...





PRESENTATION



➤ As they got older they often then included Dad, siblings, grandparents and other family members.





PRESENTATION



- Even for older children, family remained important. As does a hug from Mum.



PRESENTATION



➤ Strong supportive families are invaluable to a child's development.



➤ For some kids, step and blended families are part of their reality. This was expressed in a number of drawings.



PRESENTATION



➤ Pets also appear alongside much loved family members.





PRESENTATION

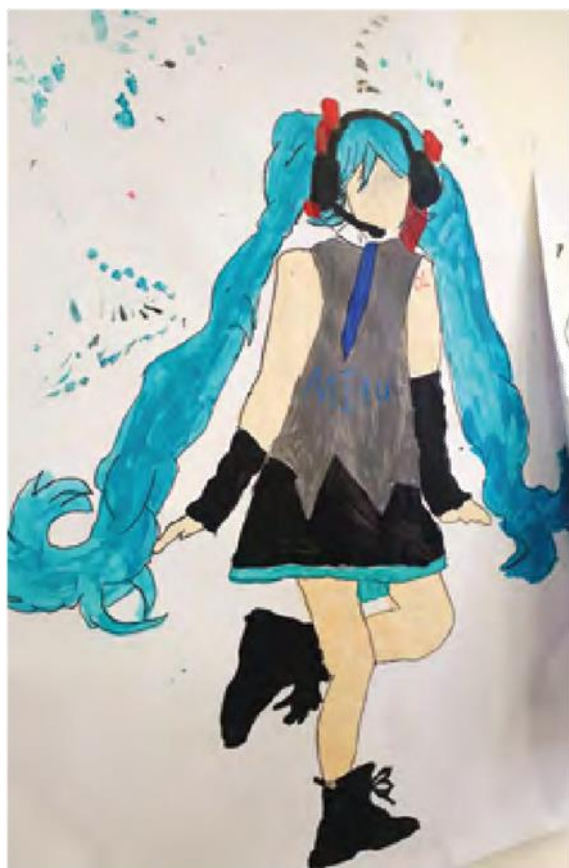


## How children and young people see themselves

The silhouette workshop allowed young people to express their views of themselves. The participants shared predominantly positive attributes and outlooks. Words like “strength” and “power” were featured.



PRESENTATION





PRESENTATION



PRESENTATION



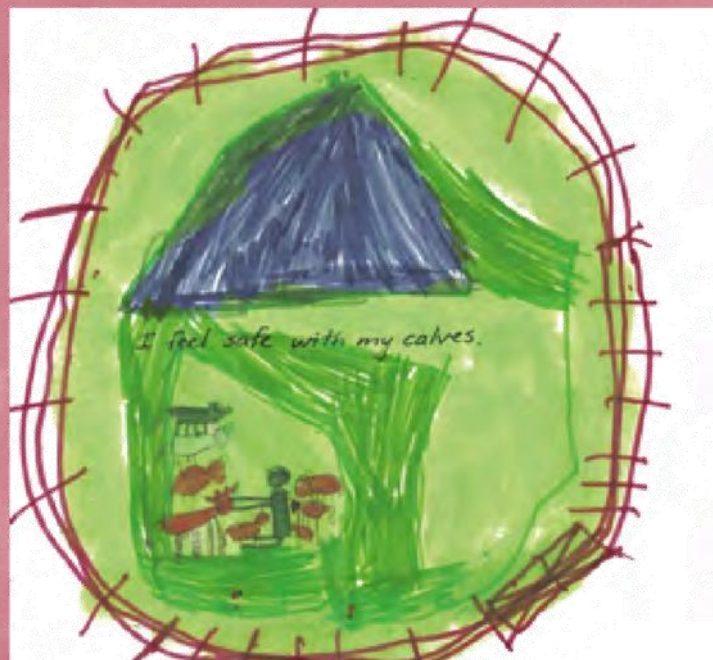
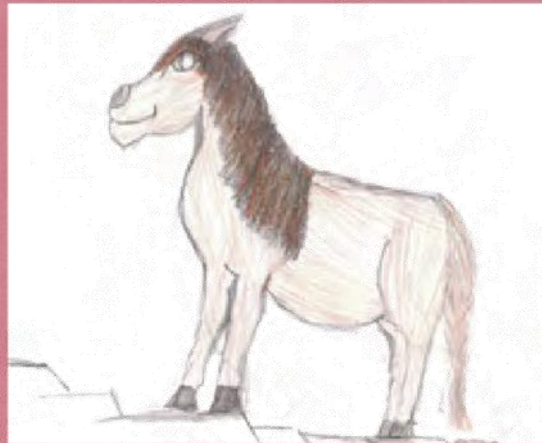


PRESENTATION

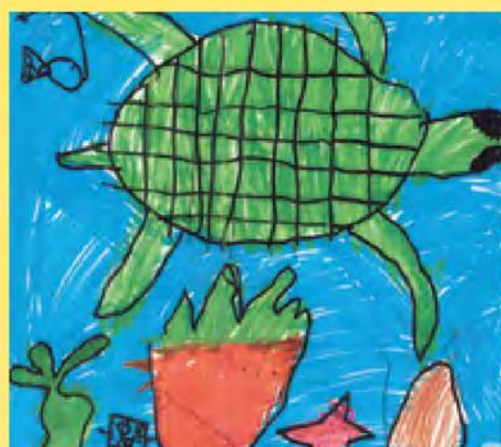


## Pets

Artwork including pets featured strongly in the responses from children. Perhaps indicative of our diverse region, in addition to dogs and cats, pets included cows, calves, horses, chickens, birds, a pig, goats, a turtle and fish. The range of animals and pets reflects children's love of animals. In many cases, pets were associated with children's comfort and safety.



PRESENTATION







## Places

This project fostered a strong connection to place by inviting children to share their views about their local community and aspects of community that are important to them.

Children were encouraged to take photographs of places of significance in their community and share their meaning.

The theme of place was also explored through questions such as: Where do children go in their everyday lives? What activities do they enjoy at these places? Who do they spend time with at these places? How do they feel at these places? What places would children like to visit and why?

From the responses received we were able to see places of interest through a child's eyes.

It was evident that children and young people of the region have a strong appreciation for the outdoors (parks, beach and bush camping) and the natural environment (koalas, lizards, gardens and flowers). For children of all ages home featured strongly. Other places included school and church.



PRESENTATION



GYMPIE REGION LOCAL LEVEL ALLIANCE  
*Focus on Gympie: A Kids Eye View 2022*

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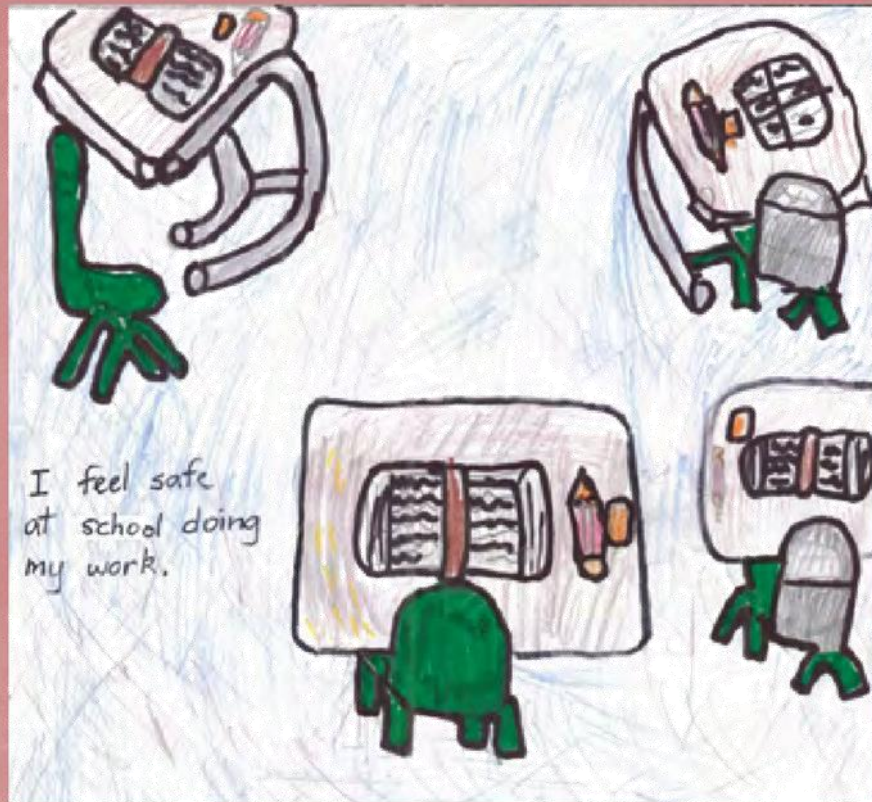


PRESENTATION





PRESENTATION

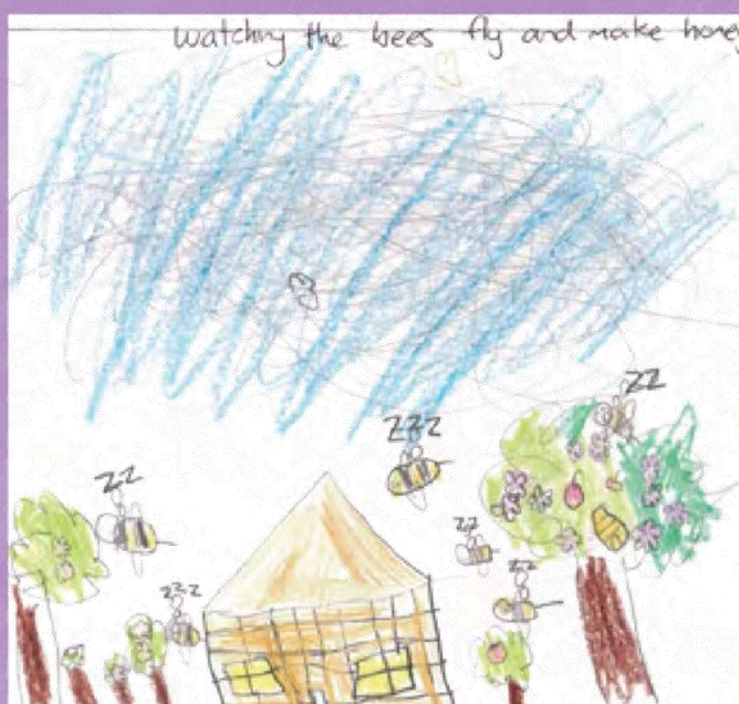




## Possibilities

Children expressed notions of possibilities and opportunities in different forms. While some showed an appreciation for their environment, nature and what was important to them, others used images of hopes and dreams.

Reflections, images and words were used to depict possibilities as well as images of play scenes in photographs.





PRESENTATION





PRESENTATION







# Where to from here? Opportunities?

The Gympie Region LLA is committed to including children's voices in our efforts to bring about positive change. Moving forward, we hope to share what children have told us through roadshow exhibitions through our local school and community networks. This will allow community members and children across the region to explore the experiences of others and find similarities and differences.

A PowerPoint presentation of images and this report will be publicly available on the Gympie Region LLA website. We will continue to use creative methods to ensure that children have a voice in our community.

As stated previously, children's relationships to family, friends, pets and others are significant in their lives. However, understanding the significance of the transformation of children's sense of place in their world is to also expand a community's understandings of what matters and what responses are required. The children's responses regarding places and activities present imperatives to support what children value in their community and how they can be maintained and improved to be child focused, for example, nature, sporting facilities, playgrounds, and parks.

## Endnotes

- i Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations: DEEWR (2009), *Belonging, Being and Becoming: The Early Years Learning Framework for Australia*, Canberra.
- ii McLachlan, R., Gilfillan, G. and Gordon, J. (2013), p. 2, *Deep and Persistent Disadvantage in Australia*, rev., Productivity Commission Staff Working Paper, Canberra.
- iii Goodhue, R., Dakin, P., Noble, K. (2021), *What's in the Nest? Exploring Australia's Wellbeing Framework for Children and Young People*. ARACY, Canberra.
- iv Harris, P., & Manatakis, H. (2013), *Children's Voices: A principled framework for children and young people's participation as valued citizens and learners*. University of South Australia in partnership with the South Australian Department for Education and Child Development, Adelaide.
- v Kraftl, P. (2019), Children's Geographies: encounters and experiences. In T. Schwanen & R. van Kempen (Eds.) *Handbook of Urban Geography*. Edward Elgar Publishing: London.
- vi Alnasuan, A. (2016), 'Developmental review on child art,' *American Research Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences* (ARJHSS). 2: pp1-8. DOI:10.21694/2378-7031.16017
- vii Gympie Regional Council Arts and Cultural Plan 2015-2025.





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**Gympie Region Studio Trails 2022**  
**Breakdown of Visitor Numbers**

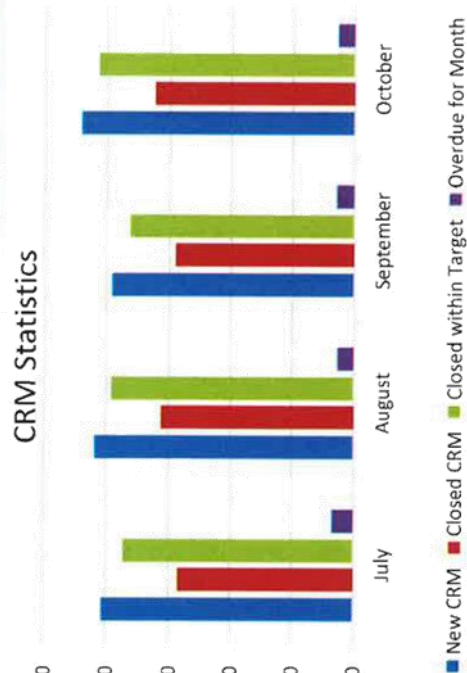
	Name of Studio/Artist	Number of Visitors
1.	Tin Can Bay Art – Jill McDonald	20
2.	Cooloola Coast Art Group	60
3.	* Rainbow Beach Pizza	-
4.	Rainbow Beach Community Hall	50
5.	The Dawn Pottery	10
6.	Sunrise Studio – Elly Stern	25
7.	Alpha and Omega Recording Studio – Steve Graham	6
8.	Bila Bakonyi Photographic Exhibition	50
9.	* The Mary River Scarecrow Festival	-
10.	* Kandanga Country Club	-
11.	Lizzie Connor Fine Art Studio	24
12.	PESART and Ceramics – Prue McLeod	113
13.	Des Spencer Studio	25
14.	Joolie Gibbs Studio	83
15.	Jaine Jackson Art	40
16.	Vista on Vista – Glenda Gilmore	30
17.	Art Down Under – Kathy Burdens' Art School	49
18.	Pine Street Collective	60
19.	RR Creations – Rhonda Rettke	24
20.	The Hobbit House	200
21.	Musgrave Street Studio – Sandra Ross and Keith Kuchenmeister	124
22.	Papernicus Fine Art Studio – Zela Bissett	22
23.	Cindy Vogels Studio	83
24.	Sam's Studio Space – Sam Keane	25
25.	Red Hill Road Studio – Jan Lawnikanis	30
26.	Blackfish Studio – Frankie Barloc	55
27.	Trish Callaghan	25
28.	The Veteran Services Centre, Gympie RSL Sub-branch	50
29.	CAGR Makers Market	100
30.	* Gympie Regional Gallery	-
31.	Firbrjules – Julia Kitto	6
32.	DIG Ceramics	6
33.	Curra Art Group	20
34.	Sandy Creek Studio – Kerrie Atkins	1
35.	Art + Art Goomeri	100
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1516</b>

\*Data not specific to Studio Trails

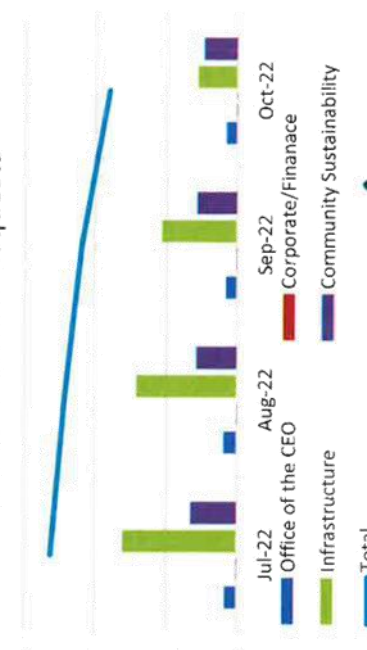
# Customer Request Monthly Statistics – October 2022

## Customer Action Request (CAR) Monthly Statistics 2022

	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Month on Month
New CAR	2,029	2,089	1,952	2,202	250
Closed within Target	1,858	1,957	1,811	2,067	256
Overdue for Month	171	131	141	135	6



## Overdue Customer Requests



## Open and Overdue Requests by Directorate 2022

	July	Aug	Sep	Oct
Office of the CEO	163	181	150	148
Corporate Financial Services	14	15	15	17
Infrastructure Services	1,604	1,414	1,062	553
Community Sustainability	651	575	566	471
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,432</b>	<b>2,185</b>	<b>1,793</b>	<b>1,189</b>

New CARs increased by 12.81% in the month of October, together with a 11.63% increase to the number CAR closed within target. Total open and overdue for October decreased by 604 overall with Infrastructure Services open and overdue CAR decreasing by 509 and Community Sustainability decreasing by 95.



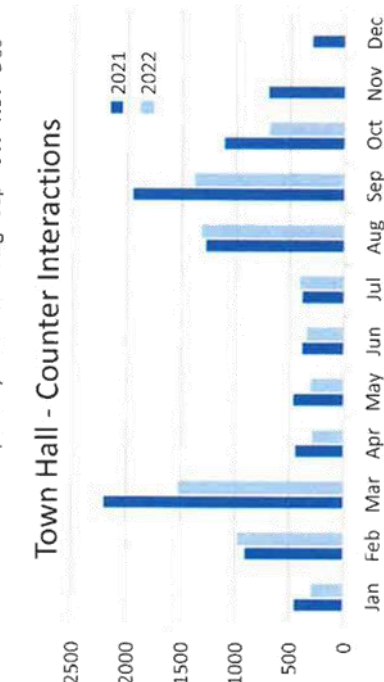
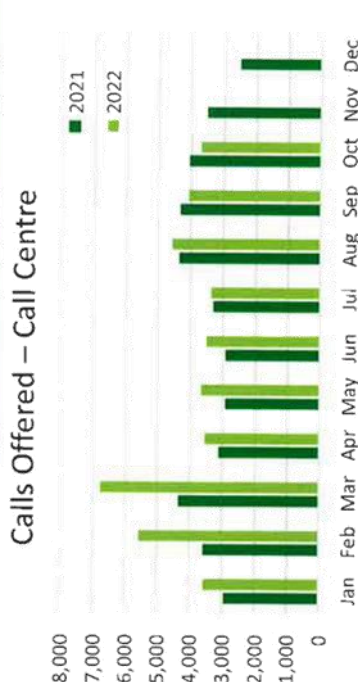
# Customer Contact – Monthly Statistics October 2022

All Incoming	Phone	Town Hall Counter	Online Requests	Email & Mail	Month on Month Commentary
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Incoming		Counter 	Requests 	Mail 	<b>Month on Month September to October:</b> calls presented decreased by 9.13% as well as counter enquiries by 50.04%. Increases of 19.77% for email and mail. Online requests increased by 232.14% which correlates with online change of details for dog registrations.
August 2022	4555	1310	174	430	
September 2022	4051	1371	140	344	
October 2022	3681	685	465	412	
Phone Targets – CC	Average Speed of Answer	Average Handling Time	Abandon Rate	Month on Month Commentary	

KPI Target	<60 seconds	<8min	<7%
August 2022	28 seconds	6m 30s*	3%
September 2022	50 seconds	6m 35s*	5%
October 2022	54 seconds	7m 02s*	6%

Top 3 Enquiries by contact method October		
Phone topics to 1300 307 800	Email, Mail and Online Request	Counter Topics
1 Enviro Health (EH) & Reg Services (RS) – 1030	Rates -120	Payments (Rates, EH, RS) – 607
2 Rates – 331	Roads- 100	Enquiry (Rates) – 31
3 Waste- 287	Enviro Health & Reg Services – 94	Enquiry (EH & RS) – 21



**Year on Year (Calendar):** Calls presented to 1300 307 800 have increased by 6416 to date, which can largely be attributed to the weather events in January, February and May. Counter interactions have decreased by 2,077 to date, with the largest reduction being in March, September and October which aligns with Rates due dates. Online Requests have increased by 839 and Email and Mail correspondence has increased by 1,497 to date, indicating there is a slight shift away from face –to–face interactions.



# Operational policy

## Natural Resource Management

### Revocation of QPWS managed areas

*Operational policies provide a framework for consistent application and interpretation of legislation and for the management of non-legislative matters by the Department of Environment and Science. Operational policies are not intended to be applied inflexibly in all circumstances. Individual circumstances may require a modified application of policy.*

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## Operational policy Revocation of QPWS managed areas

### Policy subject

When is it appropriate for QPWS to approve to revoke part of a QPWS managed area, and what compensation is payable.

### Purpose

This document outlines when QPWS management make a decision about the revocation of an area of national park, regional park, forest reserve, State forest and timber reserve (collectively referred to as Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS) managed areas<sup>1</sup>) may be considered, and the compensation payable for revocation actions.

### Application of policy

This policy applies from the date of endorsement. It does not apply retrospectively to any applications, compensation agreements or decisions made, or in place, prior to the date of endorsement or where another approach is specifically provided for.

### Background

Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service is responsible for managing approximately 12 million hectares of land on behalf of the State of Queensland. These lands include national parks, regional parks and forest reserves established under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*, (NCA) and State forests and timber reserves set aside under the *Forestry Act 1959* (FA).

The Department of Environment and Science (DES) has administrative responsibility to deliver tenure services associated with the NCA, as well as agreed responsibility to deliver tenure services associated with the FA and other general land tenure dealings on behalf of DES. DES is concurrently delivering the government's protected area estate acquisition election commitment and other ongoing tenure services, including revocations associated with the protected area estate.

National parks, regional parks and forest reserves are set aside in recognition of their high environmental and conservation values, and are managed in accordance with management principles that guide the types of activities that can occur within their boundaries.

State forests and timber reserves are set aside for the production of log timber and forest products, which include quarry material, protection of watersheds and soil as well as inherent natural and environmental attributes, and may allow for ongoing grazing, recreation and tourism.

All QPWS managed areas are preserved and managed in the public interest and, in addition to their inherent natural, environmental, cultural and social values, provide for a range of public benefits, including open space, tourism, recreation and cultural pursuits.

From time to time, requests to revoke all or part of a QPWS managed area are made.

Revocation actions may be initiated by an individual, State agency or other entity for purposes including the opening of a public road, other State government purposes (for example the creation of a rail corridor), and commercial / private purposes.

Revocation actions may also be initiated by QPWS to allow conversion from one QPWS tenure to another (for example from State forest to regional park), or to rectify errors in how land has been described, gazetted or used (including boundary adjustments).

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<sup>1</sup> Refer to 'Glossary of Terms' for definition of QPWS managed areas.

## Operational policy Revocation of QPWS managed areas

### Legislation

#### *Nature Conservation Act 1992*

Section 32 and 70E of the NCA establish that the Governor in Council may, by regulation, revoke the dedication of a protected area or forest reserve, in whole or in part. The regulation may be made only if the Legislative Assembly has, on a motion of which at least 28 days' notice has been given, passed a resolution requesting the Governor in Council to make the revocation.

#### *Forestry Act 1959*

The FA establishes that the Governor in Council may, by regulation, revoke the declaration of land as a State forest in whole or part. The legislative requirements for completing the revocation vary dependent on the purpose of the revocation:

1. If the future intent of the revoked area is for tourist purposes or for use as a public road, section 32 of the FA provides that the Governor in Council may, by regulation, revoke wholly or in part the setting apart and declaration of land as a State forest; or
2. If the future purpose of the revoked area is for a reason other than that described in (1) above, section 26 of the FA provides that a regulation may be made only if the Legislative Assembly has, on a motion of which at least 14 days' notice has been given, passed a resolution requesting the Governor in Council to make the revocation.

Section 28 of the FA establishes that the Governor in Council may, by regulation, revoke wholly or in part the setting apart and declaration of land as a timber reserve.

### Scope of policy

The policy does not apply to revocations of marine park or fish habitat areas. It does not apply to national parks and regional parks that are also Indigenous Joint Management Areas; national park (Cape York Peninsular Aboriginal Land); or State plantation forest under plantation licence.

### Policy statement

#### Revocation actions

The revocation of a QPWS managed area will only be considered when it is: in the interests of the specific tenure or where there is a net conservation or forest production benefit to the QPWS managed area as a result.

The revocation of a QPWS managed area may be initiated by QPWS, as the owner, or a person or another entity (the applicant) submitting an application.

An application to revoke a QPWS managed area (or part thereof) should only be made as a 'last resort' option, where no appropriate alternatives exist.

Applications to revoke a QPWS managed area may be considered by QPWS where there is a need to revoke small areas for legitimate purposes such as:

- rectifying historic errors in how land has been described, gazetted or used, including boundary adjustments;
- providing for more effective management (e.g. connectivity and access) of the QPWS managed area;
- risk mitigation and cost savings for QPWS due to incompatible infrastructure, such as a rubbish dump, that generally pre-dates the dedication or declaration of the current tenure;
- to enable land exchanges that provide for better conservation outcomes;
- where there is a mutual benefit to the State and applicant;

## Operational policy Revocation of QPWS managed areas

- to enable essential public infrastructure works to be undertaken; and
- to support delivery of a specific government commitment.

Revocations for commercial purposes will only be considered where there is no other suitable alternative site and there is a clear net conservation or net forest production benefit to QPWS and / or the Queensland Department of Agriculture, and Fisheries (DAF).

Generally, requests for the revocation of QPWS managed areas for private purposes will not be considered (e.g. a request by a neighbouring property owner to realign a drive way through the area for private access or conversion of a grazing lease to freehold).

Revocation of a QPWS managed area is not appropriate simply to facilitate development, activities or impacts that would otherwise be refused on the QPWS managed area or to avoid attracting an environmental offset.

### Compensation

The revocation of a QPWS managed area (in whole or in part) may result in the loss or reduction of the inherent natural, environmental, social or cultural values associated with the area being revoked, as well as the loss of an asset to the State and commercial attributes<sup>2</sup> of the area.

Consequently, the applicant will be required to provide compensation for the loss of land, and its inherent values, resulting from an approved revocation. This is the 'land component' of compensation for a revocation, and, unless otherwise mentioned, a reference to compensation in this document, is a reference to compensation for the 'land component'.

While this policy establishes the general position and methodology for determining compensation, the requirement for compensation, is ultimately at the discretion of the chief executive responsible for managing that specific tenure type of the QPWS managed areas on behalf of the State.

The type and amount of compensation must be agreed to by the applicant, in writing, for the revocation to proceed. Further detail on compensation types and amounts is provided in the following paragraphs.

In addition to compensation for the 'land component', the applicant will also be required to pay compensation for additional assets and third party interests that will be lost or affected as a result of the revocation. For the purposes of this policy, these are referred to as 'other compensation components' and include compensation for the loss of any QPWS assets on the land, such as roads or built infrastructure; to third parties with an interest in the land, such as licensees and lessees; and as may be required by DAF for commercial timber, quarry material and other forest products associated with the area of land to be revoked.

### Methodology for calculating compensation – land component

#### Multipliers

When calculating compensation, a multiplier ratio is applied to the land value or area (depending on the type of compensation) of the proposed revocation<sup>3</sup>. This accounts for the inherent and special attributes of QPWS managed areas, and the investments the State has made over time in acquiring and managing these areas.

<sup>2</sup> For example, for QPWS managed areas under the Forestry Act, commercial attributes may include timber and quarry materials.

<sup>3</sup> The multiplier ratios are consistent with those currently endorsed and applied to resource use activities and also established in the 'Queensland Environmental Offsets Policy' (QEOP).



## Operational policy Revocation of QPWS managed areas

Multipliers are as follows:

**Table A: Protected areas under the NCA:**

Tenure type	Ratio
National park	10:1
Regional park	5:1
Regional park (resource use area)	5:1

**Table B: Other areas under the NCA and FA:**

Tenure type	Ratio
Forest reserve	5:1
State forest	5:1
Timber reserve	5:1

### Compensation options

Compensation may be provided as:

- (1) cash payment (preferred);
- (2) land-exchange; or
- (3) combination of (1) and (2).

A cash payment is the preferred means for providing compensation for a revocation. However, other types of compensation may be considered where they are in the interests of QPWS and provide a benefit to the State or gain in inherent attributes.

#### (1) CASH PAYMENT

A cash payment is a monetary payment made to QPWS (the entity (land owner) responsible for managing these tenures) to compensate for the loss of QPWS managed areas and the inherent attributes of the land.

Cash payments are calculated by multiplying the land value of the area to be revoked by the applicable multiplier from Table A or B.

(For example, the ratio "10:1" indicates the compensation amount to be calculated at 10 times the land value. Likewise a compensation ratio "5:1" is calculated at 5 times the land value.)

#### Land value

Land value (the "1" in the ratio) is to be calculated using "market value" or "highest and best value" and must be determined by a qualified valuer<sup>4</sup>.

The calculated land value should not be less than DES's departmental 'Assets Register', (the "floor price") as this identifies the asset value, of the area, to the State in its current restricted value where applicable.

#### (2) LAND EXCHANGE

<sup>4</sup> The multipliers are consistent with those established in the 'Queensland Environmental Offsets Policy' (QEOP) for protected areas. However, the land value for revocation of a QPWS managed area differs from that under the QEOP, which, for reasons particular to environmental offsets, uses the "average unimproved land value for that local government area". The land valuation methodology applied to resource activities currently varies depending on the scale and potential impact of the activity.



## Operational policy Revocation of QPWS managed areas

A land exchange is a swap of land between the applicant or another party and the department managing these tenures.

A land exchange is only appropriate where it will result in a benefit to the State or gain in QPWS managed area attributes for that tenure type.

The land offered as compensation (the compensation land) does not necessarily need to have the same land value (per hectare dollar value) as the area of land subject to the revocation, provided the aforementioned benefit is achieved.

The compensation land must:

- achieve the ratio for the land type to be revoked (i.e. 10ha of national park to be revoked will be replaced by 100ha of equivalent quality land);
- provide attributes for that tenure type equivalent to or greater than those of the area being revoked;
- provide for similar or equivalent social attributes that may be lost through the revocation (i.e. recreational, cultural and public benefits);
- be considered complementary to the QPWS managed area being affected by the revocation;
- be owned by the applicant, unencumbered and free of any third party interests, including but not necessarily limited to mining, petroleum and gas tenements and native title interests and able to be immediately progressed to a suitable QPWS managed area tenure; and
- be supported by QPWS prior to accepting the land as compensation.

Financial compensation or management / maintenance arrangements for an agreed term that addresses land condition and future land management issues—such as fencing, firebreaks or pest control—thus ensuring QPWS doesn't receive a financial or resource burden<sup>5</sup>, may also be required before land can be accepted as compensation.

In addition, the applicant will be required to pay all survey, administrative and revocation costs, including any administrative fees or charges incurred by DES or other Government departments as part of the revocation process.

Any land provided in excess of the area required for the land exchange will not be considered as a credit against any other proposals to revoke.

### Multiplier

The ratio "10:1" indicates the compensation area to be calculated at 10 times the area of land proposed for revocation. Likewise a compensation ratio "5:1" is calculated at 5 times the area of land proposed to be revoked.

### (3) COMBINATION OF CASH PAYMENT (1) AND LAND EXCHANGE (2)

Where to the benefit of QPWS managed areas and agreed to by QPWS, compensation may be provided as a combination of land exchange and cash payment.

### Reduced compensation requirements

Generally, waiving of compensation requirements would not be appropriate, as in addition to the loss of inherent attributes, revocation results in the complete excision of land from QPWS managed areas and, subsequently,

<sup>5</sup> QPWS may also stipulate other conditions, such as pest control, rehabilitation or fencing, prior to the land being accepted as compensation.

## Operational policy Revocation of QPWS managed areas

the total loss of the potential conservation and / or commercial benefits of the land, along with the associated public interest, cultural and social attributes.

However, a reduction in compensation requirements could be appropriate in the following circumstances:

- (i) A reduced multiplier ratio may be negotiated where, as a result of previously authorised activities or infrastructure, inherent attributes usually associated with the particular tenure of the QPWS managed area have been greatly reduced or are non-existent in the location proposed for revocation and:
  - (a) the revocation is being proposed for a community benefit with a mutual benefit to QPWS; or
  - (b) the revocation will result in a significant conservation benefit and / or a significant strategic and management advantage for QPWS;
- (ii) A land exchange of 1:1 may be negotiated where the land offered provides significant conservation gains and / or strategic and management advantage for QPWS that far exceed those of the land being revoked.

Reductions in relation to (i) would not generally apply to unauthorised activities or infrastructure, and should be applied with caution to authorised activities. There is a risk of creating a perverse incentive to impact land or establish incompatible infrastructure, deliberately reducing the attributes of the land with the view to seeking a revocation in the future.

A complete waiving of compensation requirements would only be considered where revocation of an area is necessary to rectify errors (agreed to by QPWS) in the way land has been described, gazetted or used. For example, a boundary is misaligned.

### Calculating compensation – other components

Compensation for other components is calculated on a case by case basis.

The value of State owned timber and quarry assets are determined by DAF.

The value of QPWS assets and infrastructure will be determined by QPWS.

The value of assets owned by a third party (such as licensees and lessees) will be determined by negotiation between the applicant with any third party.

### Glossary of terms

**Applicant** is the person or entity (including another Government department/s, but excluding QPWS) who makes a formal application for revocation.

**Assets Register** is the list of the fixed assets owned by DES. The land value on this register is calculated using the current tenure status, i.e. with all restrictions / encumbrances for activities and development in place. The Assets Register value must be used as the “floor price” for compensation and is available on the SAP system or from Corporate Finance.

**Benefit to the State** means the action provides a net conservation benefit or net forest production benefit (as is applicable to the particular tenure of the land subject to the revocation proposal).

**Compensation** means the compensation amount (either cash or land) to be paid by the applicant. This does not include any statutory or additional costs that may be incurred for the revocation process to proceed.

**Department** means the Queensland Government department, current or former, with responsibility for the QPWS managed area.

**Development** means land supporting or for the purpose of supporting infrastructure, including road and rail.

## Operational policy Revocation of QPWS managed areas

**Floor price** is the lowest land value price that will be accepted for compensation. This is determined by the Assets Register.

**Land value** is the value of the land using a specific type of methodology.

**Market value** this is the highest and best land value methodology and is a reflection of what the land will become without any encumbrances and restrictions.

**Multiplier** means the ratio component that is multiplied to the value figure (as determined by using one of the methodologies above) to provide a QPWS value for that area. For example, ten times the land value (10:1) as is the case for national park tenure. If the value of the land is calculated at \$50 per hectare, when incorporating the multiplier of 10:1 the QPWS intrinsic value becomes \$500 per hectare. If the land area to be revoked is 3 hectares at a value of \$500/ha the compensation amount payable to QPWS is \$1500.

**QPWS managed area** includes:

- protected area tenure, including forest reserves, under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*; and
- State forests and timber reserves under the *Forestry Act 1959*.

**Protected area tenure** (for the purpose of this policy) is further defined as any of the following classes of protected area defined under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*:

- national park;
- regional park; and
- regional park (resource use area).

**Revoke** means repealing the dedication of all or part of the land tenure under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992* and / or repealing the declaration of all or part of the land tenure under the *Forestry Act 1959*.

### Abbreviations

**DAF** is the Department of Agriculture, and Fisheries

**DES** is the Department of Environment and Science

**FA** is the *Forestry Act 1959*

**LGA** is a Local Government Area

**NCA** is the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*

**DES** is the Department of Environment and Science.

**QEOP** is the Queensland Environmental Offset Policy

**QPWS** is the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service, a division of DES

### Relevant legislation

*Forestry Act 1959*

*Nature Conservation Act 1992*

## Operational policy Revocation of QPWS managed areas

### Disclaimer

While this document has been prepared with care it contains general information and does not profess to offer legal, professional or commercial advice. The Queensland Government accepts no liability for any external decisions or actions taken on the basis of this document. Persons external to the Department of Environment and Science should satisfy themselves independently and by consulting their own professional advisors before embarking on any proposed course of action.

### Approved by

Ben Klaassen

Signature

3 October 2014

Date

Deputy Director-General  
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# Council Policy



## Document Control

<b>Policy Title:</b>	Naming of Council Facilities	<b>Policy Type:</b> Council
<b>Responsible Directorate:</b>	Community Sustainability	<b>Doc Id No:</b>
<b>Date Review Due</b>		

Version <sup>1</sup>	Council/Executive Meeting Date (Date of Adoption/Endorsement)	Minute Number
1.0		

## 1. Purpose and Scope

This policy provides a framework for consistent and judicious decision making concerning the naming or re-naming of existing and new council facilities including areas of open space.

This policy is not intended to be applied retrospectively to existing named places. Proposals for the renaming of such, will be considered individually and the policy or part thereof, applied on a case by case basis.

The policy excludes:

- those places named by other naming authorities
- memorials covered under Gympie Regional Council's Monuments and Memorials Policy.

## 2. Related Legislation/Documents

Place Names Act 1994

Queensland Government Place Names Policy 2019

Place Names Regulation 2005

Queensland Heritage Register

ISDP204 Road & Street Naming Guidelines

Gympie Regional Council Monuments and Memorials Policy

Department of Transport and Main Roads Naming of Infrastructure Policy 2020

<sup>1</sup> The Version Number is direct from the Corporate Records Management System

# Council Policy



## 3. Definitions

To assist in interpretation of this policy the following definitions apply:

- *Facility or facilities* includes structures and areas of open space.
- *Gazetteer* means the Gazetteer of Place Names.
- *Open Space* refers to (but not limited to) outdoor areas, reserves, ovals, playing fields.
- *A Place* as defined in the Place Names Act 1994 means an area or geographical feature (whether natural or artificial).
- *Region* means any area as defined within the Gympie LGA, irrespective of planning zone and/or private ownership.
- *Required* means considered essential.
- *Should* means highly recommended.
- *Significant contribution* means a demonstrated dedication to community or achievement worthy of recognition.
- *Stakeholder/s* means any individual, group or organisation with an interest or stake in the Council decision being considered.
- *Structure/s* refers to (but not limited to) buildings or parts of buildings, skateparks, playgrounds and bridges (where not a gazetted State road).

## 4. Policy Statement

Gympie Regional Council recognises the value of naming the region's facilities for the purpose of fostering a sense of community and celebrating historic events and shared connections. Named places help orientate visitors to our region and can assist emergency services to specific areas.

### 4.1 Objectives

The main objectives of the policy are to:

- provide a mechanism for any person or organisation to propose the naming of a facility for consideration
- ensure the proposed name is appropriate for the facility
- ensure the name is recorded<sup>2</sup>.

### 4.2 Submitting a request

Any person or organisation may request that a facility be named. All requests for consideration shall be made in writing and addressed to the Chief Executive Officer. Submissions should include contact details of the applicant making the request and any required consent from family members or

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<sup>2</sup> In line with legislation set out in the Place Names Act 1994

## Council Policy



justification of cultural appropriateness (if applicable). Council officers in the course of their duties may also propose the naming of a facility through a submission to the Chief Executive Officer.

### 4.3 Naming Principles

Naming suggestions should adhere to a minimum of one of the following categories:

- a person (for posthumous consideration who has passed no less than six months prior to the naming request) or group who has made a significant contribution to the community
- an historic event relevant to the place
- an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander word
- a geographic reference including landscape features
- a relevant endemic flora and fauna.

Naming suggestions must not:

- be offensive or derogatory
- be in honour of a living person except in exceptional circumstances
- be a duplication of another name or be similar in sounding or spelling of another name (this requirement avoids confusion particularly for emergency services).

### 4.4 Assessment of a request

Council reserves the right to name or re-name facilities at its discretion in accordance with this policy. Following submission, council shall consider all suggestions generally in line with the following process and applicable internal procedures:

- officers undertake research/analysis to understand the appropriateness of the proposed name/s
- officers carry out relevant and meaningful community engagement
- officers provide a recommendation to Council for deliberation and endorsement
- Council resolve to adopt, alter or reject the proposed name
- officers advise the applicant and relevant stakeholders of the outcome.

Should a proposal for the naming of open space be accepted, the name will be entered into the Gazetteer and relevant authorities notified of the change.

## 5. Review

This policy will be reviewed when any of the following occur:

1. the related legislation/documents are amended or replaced
2. other circumstances as determined from time to time by a resolution of Council
3. as initiated by the Chief Executive Officer or Executive Leadership Team
4. periodic review – within four years from date of adoption.

## 6. Delegations

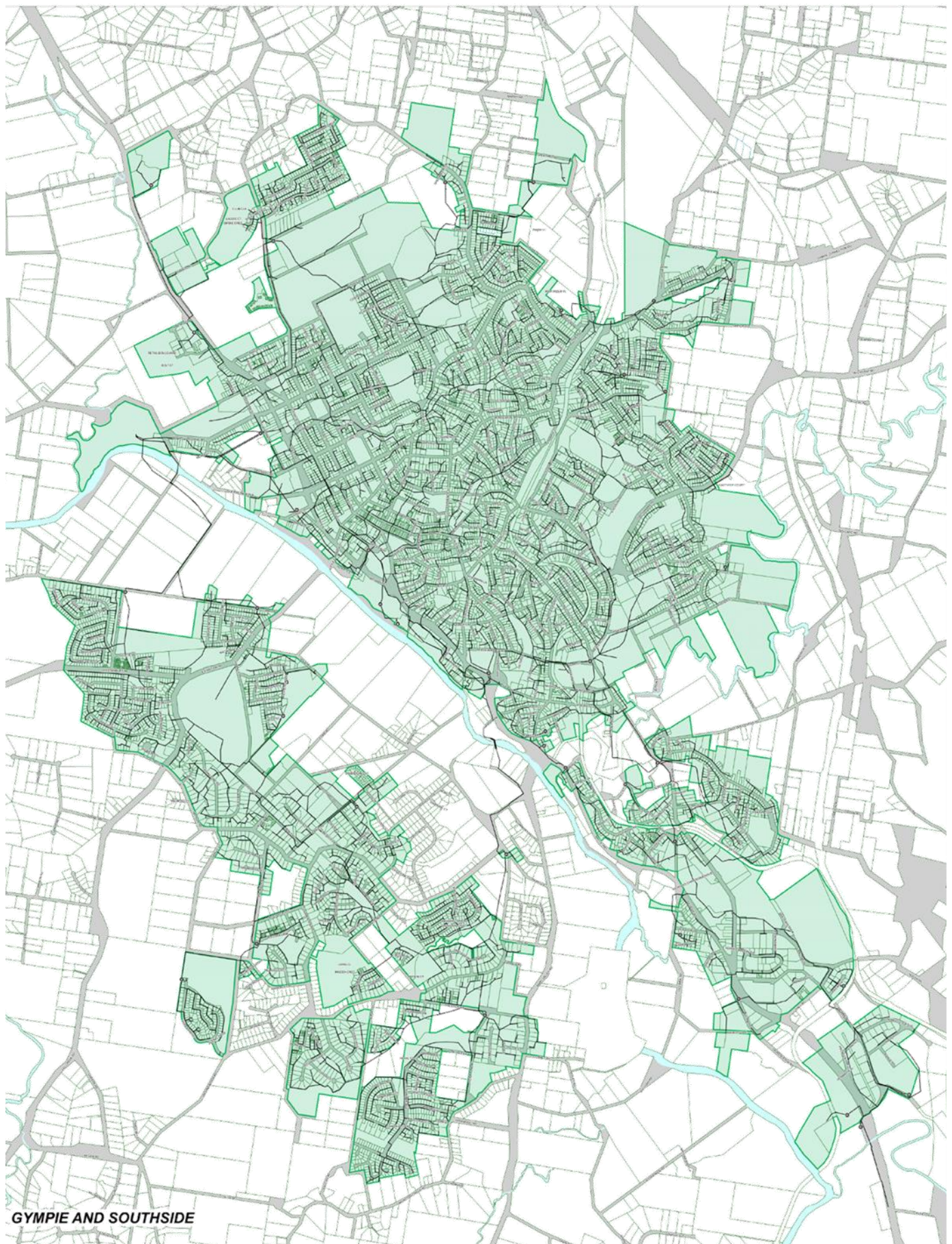
Nil

Policy: Naming of Council Facilities

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### SEWER SERVICE AREA AND INFRASTRUCTURE

As approved by Council Minute? on the 7 2021

#### Legend

- Sewer Service Area
- Sewer Network
- Sewer Infrastructure
- Private Property



10-11-2022  
Not to Scale

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