



# MINUTES

## Ordinary Meeting of Council

To be held on  
Thursday 12 December 2024  
At 4:38 PM



## **MISSION STATEMENT**

To provide regional economic opportunity and lifestyle choices through provision of a quality water supply by innovative leadership showing environmental responsibility in cooperation with the community, constituent councils and governments.

## **VISION**

To be innovative leaders in the supply and distribution of water through regional efficiency, technical excellence and customer service.

## **STATEMENT OF ETHICAL OBLIGATIONS**

Councillors are reminded of their Oath or Affirmation of Office made under Section 233A of the Local Government Act 1993 and their obligation under Council's Code of Conduct to disclose and appropriately manage Conflicts of Interest.

## **QUORUM**

To be innovative leaders in the supply and distribution of water through regional efficiency, technical excellence and customer service.

## COUNCILLORS



**Councillor Alan White**  
**Chairperson**  
Coolamon Shire Council



**Councillor Graham Sinclair**  
**Deputy Chairperson**  
Temora Shire Council



**Councillor Matt Austin**  
Junee Shire Council



**Councillor Rodney Crowe**  
Bland Shire Council



**Councillor Les Cooper**  
Cootamundra-Gundagai  
Regional Council



**Councillor Joanne Mackay**  
Hilltops Council



**Councillor Neil Langford**  
Hilltops Council



**Councillor Cameron Rouse**  
Narrandera Shire Council

## ORDER OF BUSINESS

<b>1</b>	<b>OPENING AND WELCOME</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>LEAVE OF ABSENCE/APOLOGIES</b> .....	<b>6</b>
	Nil	
<b>4</b>	<b>ATTENDANCE OF COUNCILLORS BY AUDIO VISUAL LINK</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>WEBCASTING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>PRESENTATIONS</b> .....	<b>6</b>
	No presentations are scheduled for this meeting.	
<b>7</b>	<b>CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>DISCLOSURES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>BUSINESS WITHOUT NOTICE – URGENT</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>CHAIRPERSON MINUTES</b> .....	<b>7</b>
	Nil	
<b>11</b>	<b>REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES</b> .....	<b>8</b>
	11.1 Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 31 October 2024 .....	8
<b>12</b>	<b>CORRESPONDENCE</b> .....	<b>9</b>
	Nil	
<b>13</b>	<b>CORPORATE SERVICES MANAGER</b> .....	<b>10</b>
	13.1 Council Investments Report - October 2024.....	10
	13.2 Council Investments Report - November 2024 .....	14
<b>14</b>	<b>OPERATIONS MANAGER</b> .....	<b>18</b>
	Nil	
<b>15</b>	<b>PRODUCTION AND SERVICES MANAGER</b> .....	<b>19</b>
	15.1 DRINKING WATER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM ANNUAL REPORT 2023/24 .....	19
	15.2 PURCHASE OF NEW WATER MAINS CLEANING TECHNOLOGY .....	21
	15.3 Water Production Report.....	25
<b>16</b>	<b>ENGINEERING MANAGER</b> .....	<b>35</b>
	16.1 Capital Works Progress Report .....	35
<b>17</b>	<b>GENERAL MANAGER</b> .....	<b>37</b>
	17.1 February Council Meeting Date Change .....	37
	17.2 Council Resolutions Update Report.....	38
	17.3 PP019 Code of Meeting Practice Policy .....	39
	17.4 2022-2024 State of our Water Report.....	40
	17.5 Community Engagement Strategy 2025.....	41
<b>18</b>	<b>BUSINESS WITH NOTICE</b> .....	<b>42</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>NOTICES OF MOTIONS</b> .....	<b>42</b>
	Nil	

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<b>20</b>	<b>CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS .....</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>REPORT OF CONFIDENTIAL RESOLUTIONS .....</b>	<b>44</b>
	20.1 Billing Update .....	44
	20.2 General Manager Performance Agreement.....	44
<b>22</b>	<b>NEXT MEETING .....</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>23</b>	<b>MEETING CLOSE .....</b>	<b>45</b>

**MINUTES OF GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY  
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT THE GOLDENFIELDS WATER TEMORA OFFICE  
ON THURSDAY, 12 DECEMBER 2024 AT 4:38 PM**

**PRESENT:** Cr A White, Cr G Sinclair, Cr C Rouse, Cr M Austin, Cr R Crowe, Cr L Cooper, Cr N Langford, Cr J Mackay

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr A Drenovski (General Manager), Mr G Veneris (Production and Services Manager), Mr A Dahlenburg (Operations Manager), Mrs M Carr (Corporate Services Manager), Miss A Burnett (Executive Assistant)

## **1 OPENING AND WELCOME**

The meeting commenced at 4:38pm.

## **2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

## **3 LEAVE OF ABSENCE/APOLOGIES**

At the time of preparation of the business paper no apologies have been received.

### **Leave of Absence**

Nil

### **Apologies**

Engineering Manager Sammy Jung

### **Application for Leave of Absence**

Nil

## **4 ATTENDANCE OF COUNCILLORS BY AUDIO VISUAL LINK**

Councils Code of Meeting Practice permits Councillors to attend and participate in meetings of the council with the approval of the council or relevant committee.

Clauses 5.19 - 5.30 of the Code of Meeting Practice provides the parameters for eligibility and requirements for remote attendance.

## **5 WEBCASTING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS**

Attendees of this meeting are reminded that:

- a) The meeting is being recorded and made publicly available on Council's website, and
- b) Persons attending the meeting should refrain from making any defamatory statements.

## **6 PRESENTATIONS**

No presentations are scheduled for this meeting.

**7 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES****8 DISCLOSURES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors and Senior Staff are reminded of their obligation to declare their interest in any matter listed before them.

Councillors may declare an interest at the commencement of the meeting, or alternatively at any time during the meeting should any issue progress or arise that would warrant a declaration.

Councillors must state their reason in declaring any type of interest.

**9 BUSINESS WITHOUT NOTICE – URGENT**

In accordance with clause 9.3 of Councils Code of Meeting Practice, business may be transacted at a meeting without due notice only if:

- a) A motion is passed to have the business transacted at the meeting, and
- b) The business to be considered is ruled by the chairperson to be of great urgency on the grounds that it requires a decision by the council before the next scheduled ordinary meeting of the council.

**10 CHAIRPERSON MINUTES**

Nil

**11 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES**

**11.1 MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 31 OCTOBER 2024**

**Author: Executive Assistant**

**Authoriser: General Manager**

**Attachments: 1. Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 31 October 2024**

**BOARD RESOLUTION 24/106**

**Moved: Cr C Rouse**

**Seconded: Cr N Langford**

**That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 31 October 2024 be received and the recommendations therein be adopted.**

**CARRIED**



**12 CORRESPONDENCE**

Nil

**13 CORPORATE SERVICES MANAGER**

**13.1 COUNCIL INVESTMENTS REPORT - OCTOBER 2024**

**Author:** Accountant  
**Authoriser:** Corporate Services Manager  
**Attachments:** Nil

**BOARD RESOLUTION 24/107**

**Moved:** Cr M Austin  
**Seconded:** Cr L Cooper

**That Council receive and note the report detailing Council cash and investments at 31 October 2024.**

**CARRIED**

**ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN**

Priority 1 High Quality, Secure and Efficient Water Supplies

**BACKGROUND**

A report on Council’s investments is required to be presented for Council’s consideration in accordance with Clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.

**REPORT**

Council’s cash and investment portfolio decreased by \$4,207,317.17 from \$32,355,483.03 at September 2024 to \$28,148,165.86 at October 2024.

**Cash and Investment Portfolio**

Type	LT Rating	ST Rating	Issuer	Frequency	Purchase	Maturity	Days	Rate	Percentage of Portfolio	Principal
TD	BBB-	A-3	Judo Bank	At maturity	9/05/2024	7/11/2024	182	5.20%	4%	\$1,000,000
TD	AA-	A-1+	NAB	Annually	16/08/2024	15/11/2024	91	4.90%	7%	\$2,000,000
TD	BBB	A-2	Defence Bank	Annually	1/12/2023	29/11/2024	364	5.50%	14%	\$4,000,000
TD	NR	NR	NT Treasury Corp	Annually	28/09/2020	15/12/2024	1539	1.10%	4%	\$1,000,000
TD	AA-	A-1+	NAB	At maturity	24/09/2024	2/01/2025	100	4.90%	11%	\$3,000,000
TD	BBB	A-2	AMP Bank	Annually	12/01/2023	13/01/2025	732	4.55%	7%	\$2,000,000
TD	AA-	A-1+	NAB	At maturity	25/07/2024	23/01/2025	182	5.28%	4%	\$1,000,000
TD	AA-	A-1+	NAB	Annually	24/02/2023	24/02/2025	731	4.93%	4%	\$1,000,000
TD	BBB	A-2	AMP Bank	Annually	1/09/2023	4/03/2025	550	5.05%	7%	\$2,000,000
TD	BBB	A-2	Police Financial Svcs	Annually	1/03/2023	13/03/2025	743	5.15%	4%	\$1,000,000
TD	BBB	A-2	Defence Bank	Annually	8/03/2023	27/03/2025	750	4.90%	4%	\$1,000,000
TD	AA-	A-1+	NAB	At maturity	2/10/2024	2/04/2025	182	5.00%	9%	\$2,500,000
TD	NR	NR	Summerland CU	Annually	22/03/2023	8/05/2025	778	4.80%	4%	\$1,000,000
TD	A+	A-1	Rabobank Australia	Annually	25/09/2024	26/09/2029	1827	4.70%	14%	\$4,000,000
CASH	AA-	A-1+	Commonwealth Bank	At Call		1/11/2024	1	4.20%	4%	\$1,016,308.00
CASH	AA-	A-1+	Commonwealth Bank	Cash Account		1/11/2024	1	0.01%	2%	\$631,857.86
<b>TOTAL:</b>										<b>\$28,148,166</b>

**Portfolio Performance**

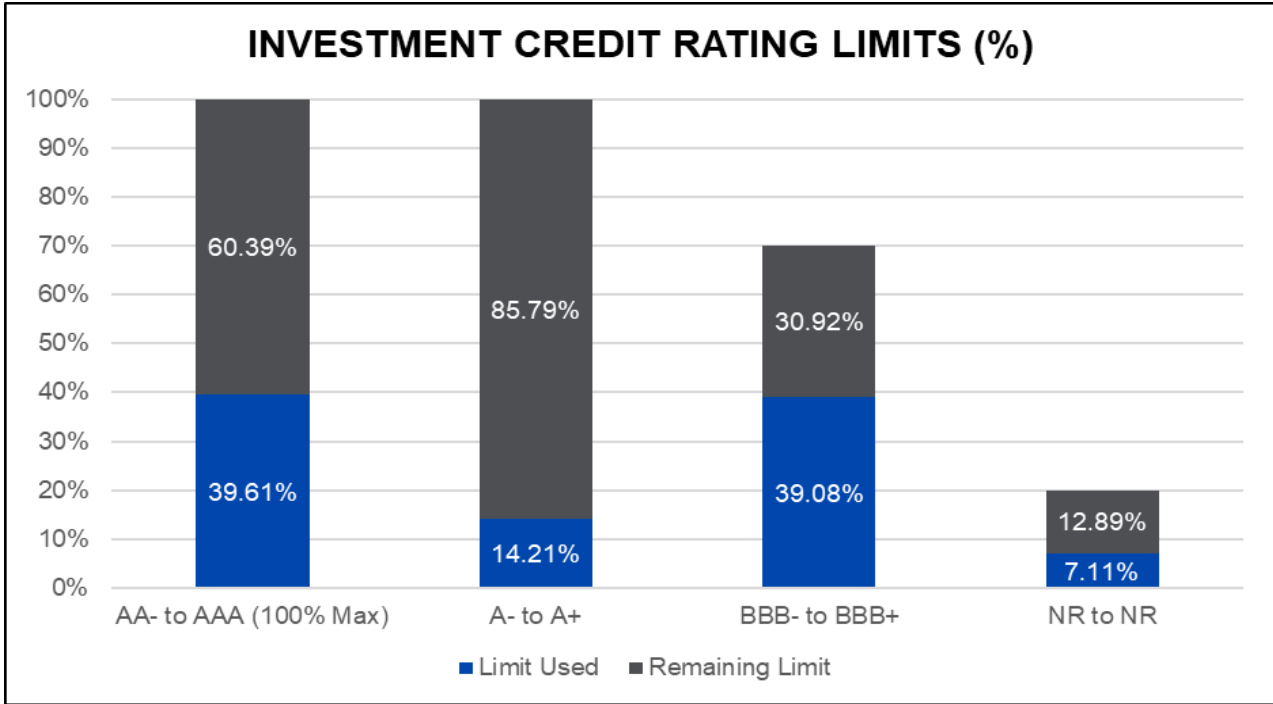
Goldenfields Water County Council’s investment portfolio weighted average interest for October 2024 was 4.55%. Performance indicators for comparison are:

- BBSW 4.42%                      RBA Cash Rate 4.35%                      AusBond Bank Bill 4.36%

Interest received to October 2024 totalled \$413,011.78.

**Credit Quality Compliance**

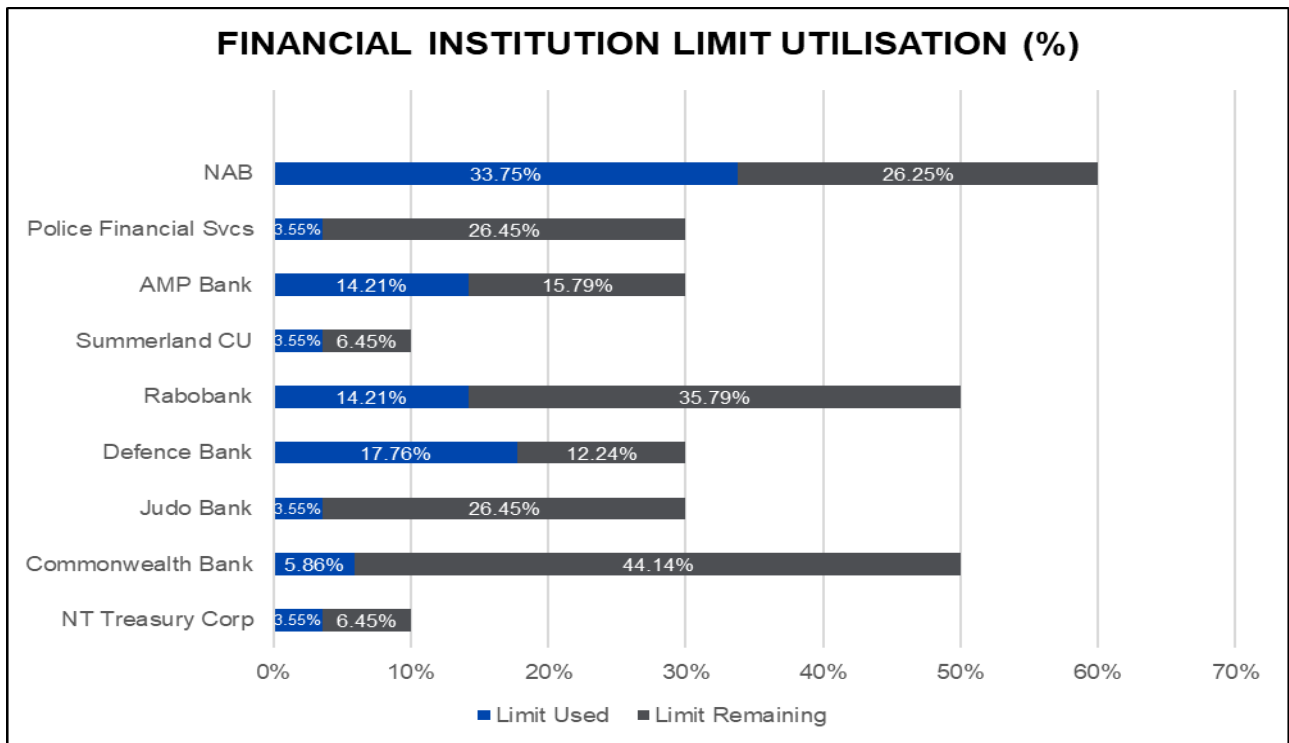
Council’s investment portfolio was compliant with policy in terms of S&P long term rating credit quality limits, as displayed below.



**Financial Institution Compliance**

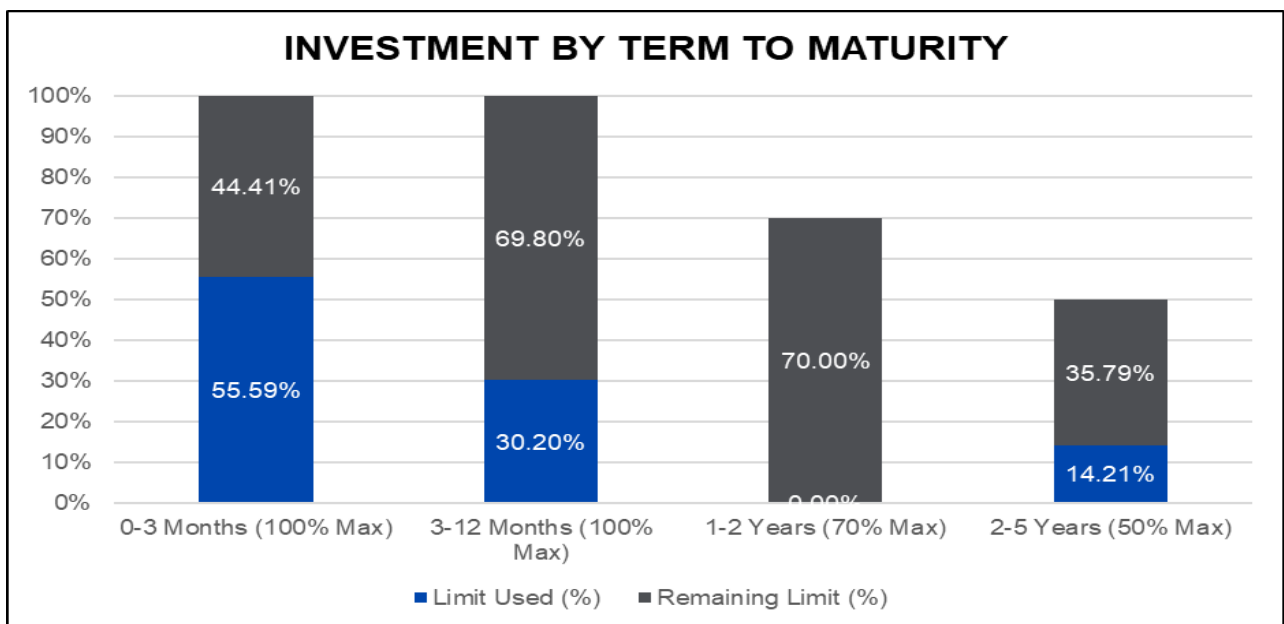
As at the end of October, Council was compliant with policy in terms of individual financial institution capacity limits. It is worth noting that capacity limits are affected by changes in the on-call account balance compared to the total portfolio balance.

Overall, the portfolio is diversified across a variety of credit ratings, including some exposure to unrated authorised deposit-taking institutions (ADIs).



**Term to Maturity**

Council’s investment portfolio maturities shown graphically below were also compliant with policy requirements.



**Application of Investment Funds**

The table below details the allocation of cash balances in terms of restricted funds, noting restrictions are all internal rather than external.

Restricted Funds:	
Employee Leave Entitlements	\$2,551,897
Plant & Vehicle Replacement	\$1,462,793
Infrastructure Replacement	\$1,349,640

Section 64 Developer Contribution Reserve	\$5,000,000
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	\$17,783,836
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$28,148,166</b>

**Declaration**

I hereby certify that investments listed in the report have been made in accordance with Section 625 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 and Council's Investment Policy PP004.

Signed

*Melody Carr*

Corporate Services Manager

**FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

Council's cash and investment portfolio decreased by \$4,207,317.17 from \$32,355,483.03 at September 2024 to \$28,148,165.86 at October 2024.

**13.2 COUNCIL INVESTMENTS REPORT - NOVEMBER 2024**

**Author:** Accountant  
**Authoriser:** Corporate Services Manager  
**Attachments:** Nil

**BOARD RESOLUTION 24/108**

**Moved:** Cr N Langford  
**Seconded:** Cr G Sinclair

**That Council receive and note the report detailing Council cash and investments at 30 November 2024.**

**CARRIED****ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN**

Priority 1 High Quality, Secure and Efficient Water Supplies

**BACKGROUND**

A report on Council's investments is required to be presented for Council's consideration in accordance with Clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.

**REPORT**

Council's cash and investment portfolio increased by \$1,441,782.15 from \$28,148,165.86 at October 2024 to \$29,589,948.01 at November 2024.

**Cash and Investment Portfolio**

Type	LT Rating	ST Rating	Issuer	Frequency	Purchase	Maturity	Days	Rate	Percentage of Portfolio	Principal
TD	BBB	A-2	Defence Bank	Annually	1/12/2023	29/11/2024	364	5.50%	14%	\$4,000,000
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CASH	AA-	A-1+	Commonwealth Bank	At Call						
CASH	AA-	A-1+	Commonwealth Bank	Account		1/12/2024	1	4.20%	15%	\$4,523,609.99
CASH	AA-	A-1+	Commonwealth Bank	Cash Account		1/12/2024	1	0.01%	5%	\$1,566,338.02
<b>TOTAL:</b>										<b>\$29,589,948</b>

**Portfolio Performance**

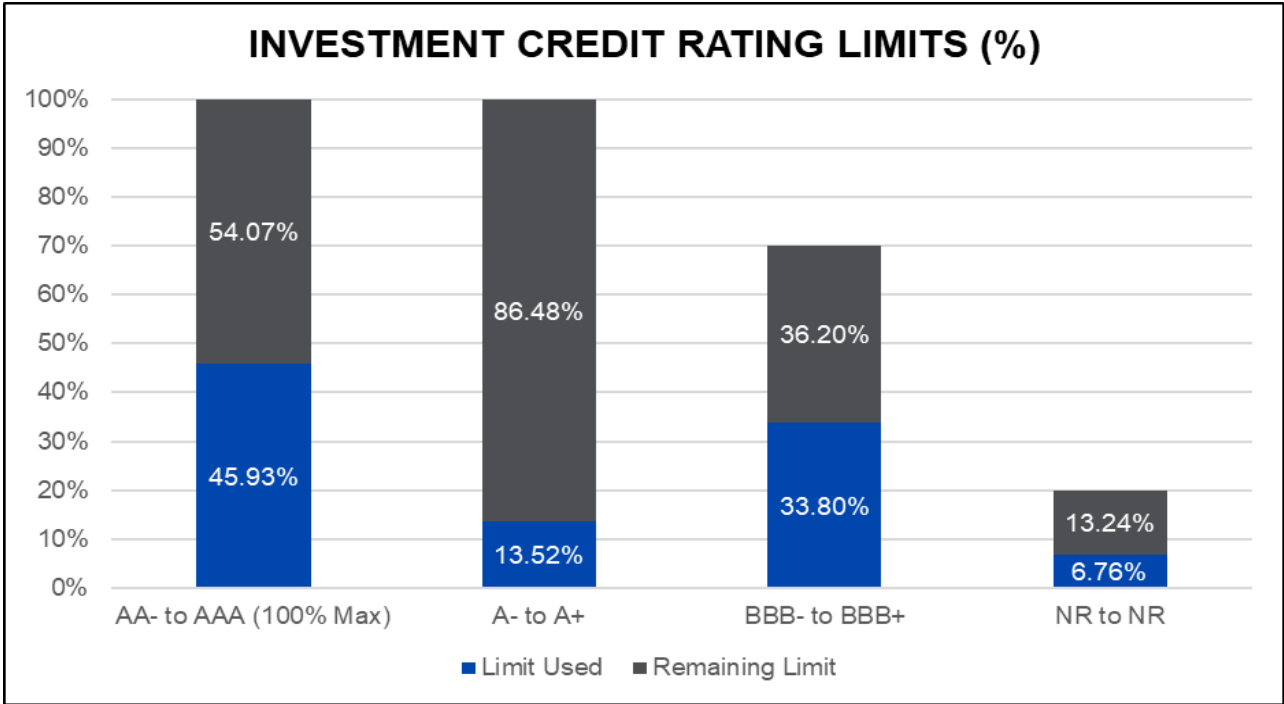
Goldenfields Water County Council's investment portfolio weighted average interest for November 2024 was 4.35%. Performance indicators for comparison are:

- BBSW 4.43%                      RBA Cash Rate 4.35%                      AusBond Bank Bill 4.36%

Interest received to November 2024 totalled \$682,770.69.

**Credit Quality Compliance**

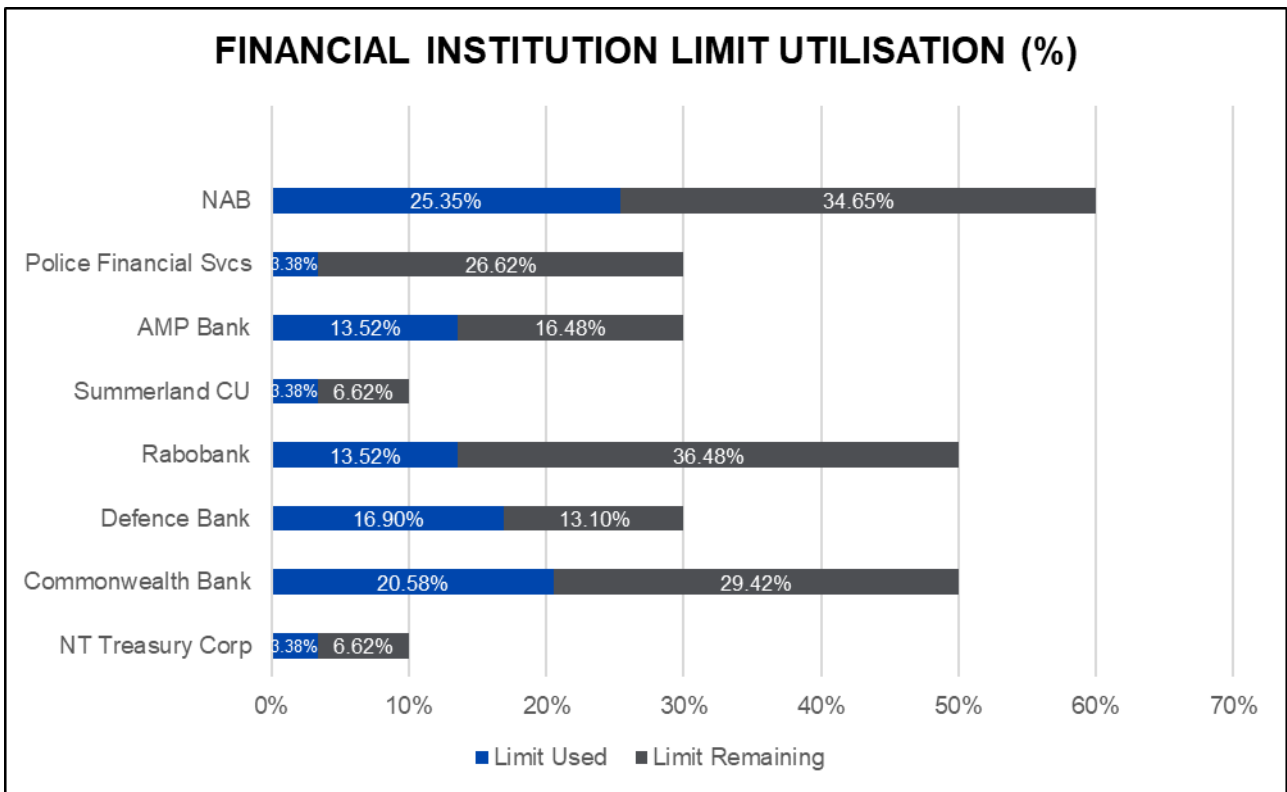
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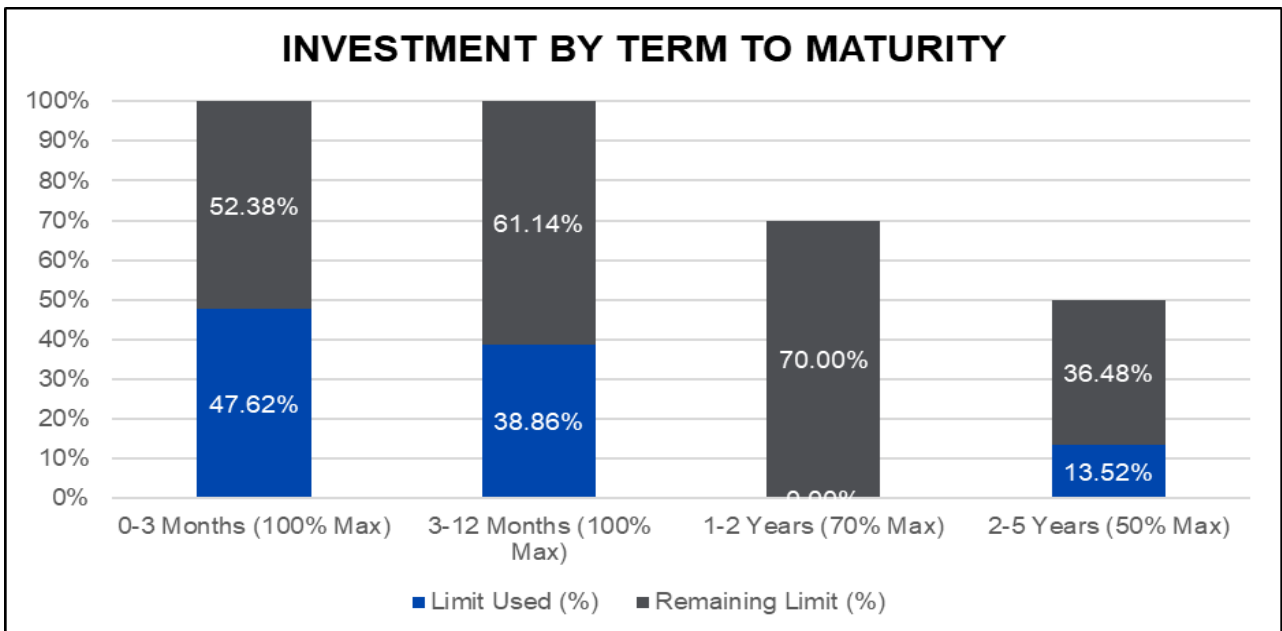
As at the end of November, Council was compliant with policy in terms of individual financial institution capacity limits. It is worth noting that capacity limits are affected by changes in the on-call account balance compared to the total portfolio balance.

Overall, the portfolio is diversified across a variety of credit ratings, including some exposure to unrated authorised deposit-taking institutions (ADIs).



**Term to Maturity**

Council’s investment portfolio maturities shown graphically below were also compliant with policy requirements.



**Application of Investment Funds**

The table below details the allocation of cash balances in terms of restricted funds, noting restrictions are all internal rather than external.

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Infrastructure Replacement	\$1,349,640
Section 64 Developer Contribution Reserve	\$5,000,000
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	\$19,225,618
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$29,589,948</b>

**Declaration**

I hereby certify that investments listed in the report have been made in accordance with Section 625 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 and Council’s Investment Policy PP004.

Signed

*Melody Carr*

Corporate Services Manager

**FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

Council’s cash and investment portfolio increased by \$1,441,782.15 from \$28,148,165.86 at October 2024 to \$29,589,948.01 at November 2024.

**14 OPERATIONS MANAGER**

Nil

**15 PRODUCTION AND SERVICES MANAGER****15.1 DRINKING WATER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM ANNUAL REPORT 2023/24****Author:** Production & Services Manager**Authoriser:** Production & Services Manager**Attachments:** 1. Drinking Water Management System 23\_24**BOARD RESOLUTION 24/109****Moved:** Cr L Cooper**Seconded:** Cr J Mackay**That the Board review and accept the Drinking Water Management System Annual Review****CARRIED****ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN**

Priority 1 High Quality, Secure and Efficient Water Supplies

**BACKGROUND**

Goldenfields Water developed and adopted a Drinking Water Management System (DWMS) and associated Policy in February 2018. The purpose of the DWMS Annual Report is to inform and update New South Wales Department of Health (NSW Health) and NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEW) of Goldenfields Water County Councils (GWCC) implementation and ongoing assessment of its Drinking Water Management System. It also demonstrates that GWCC is compliant with requirement s25 Public Health Act 2010 to develop a Quality Assurance Program (QAP) in line with the framework for Drinking Water Quality Management in the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines.

**REPORT**

The 2023/2024 DWMS Annual Report is the sixth annual review completed under the current adopted DWMS that has been undertaken by Goldenfields Water staff. This Annual Report has utilised the entire 2023/24 data for the Jugiong, Oura, Mt Arthur and Mt Daylight potable water supply systems. A majority of this data was made available from the implementation of WaterOutlook and ClearSCADA. Data is also utilised from NSW Health's Drinking Water Database and ASAM reservoir asset condition database where required.

Throughout the reporting period GWCC have undertaken numerous water samples for both operational and verification monitoring. These samples are tested at the GWCC laboratory and/or an external NATA accredited laboratory for operational monitoring or NSW Health's FASS lab for verification or compliance purposes. GWCC also conducted a number of onsite tests for operational purposes which are presented below.

Throughout the reporting period GWCC have conducted a total of 902 microbial water samples to be either tested by NSW Health or tested 'in-house' by GWCC Water Quality staff.

The drinking water is tested throughout the period by an independent party for chemical elements which may be present in the water. A total of 151 chemical water samples were carried out during the reporting period, and all were tested by NSW Health's FASS laboratory. From the 151 total samples collected and tested, 53 were treated water samples taken in the distribution system and 98 were raw or bore water samples.

GWCC also undertake pesticide sampling of the drinking water across the entire scheme. These samples are tested by a NATA accredited laboratory for the 2023/24 FY a total of 16 samples were

tested for the presence of pesticides. All sample results were compliant with parameters set in the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines (ADWG), all results indicating an 'Nil detections.

It is also a requirement for GWCC to test for Radiological characteristics in the ground water supplies every 2 years. For the 2023/24 FY, 4 Radiological samples were taken and tested by Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO). Results and locations can be seen in table 22.

Another initiative undertaken by GWCC is the monitoring of chlorine within the distribution system networks across the entire drinking water scheme. These tests are conducted routinely by the distribution and water quality staff and a total of 2450 chlorine tests were conducted onsite throughout the year. These tests include both Total and Free chlorine.

A running spreadsheet of results was previously updated by office staff once data was received from field sampling and is now located in GWCC's records management system 'Content Manager (doc 18/1344)'. WaterOutlook (WO) has also been rolled out to all fields staff allowing them to upload the results of the chlorine tests. Since the implementation of WO, there has been 13,444 chlorine test results uploaded into the database. With the implementation of WaterOutlook, the outdoor staff now directly upload the results of the chlorine tests via mobile platforms in order to eliminate double handling of data and direct registration within our water quality database.

The main obligations of Goldenfields Water managing their DWMS is to ensure that no breaches of Critical Control Points (CCP's) occur or if they do occur, that they are reported, reviewed, and corrected as part of a continual improvement process.

All results for 2023/24 year were within ADWG limits however, GWCC did record one incident of E. coli detected at the Wyalong school as detailed in the attached report in Table 26. This result was communicated at the time to NSW Public Health and retesting was completed. Internal testing, chlorine results and retesting validation results determined that the detection was due to human error in sampling techniques and not an actual occurrence of E-coli within the system.

GWCC maintains a register of customer complaints throughout the year. The below table provides an overview of these complaints and their volume. Please note that if the calls have been registered as a compliant but a notification, they will not appear within this table. However, all discoloured water calls received are registered as complaints.

Month	Total Complaints	Discoloured Water	Burst Main	Taste/Odour Related	No Supply/Low Pressure	Leaking Meter	Messy or unsafe jobsite	Unable to Isolate meter	Other
Jul-23	7	5				1	1		
Aug-23	22	21			1				
Sep-23	28	22	1	1	3		1		
Oct-23	19	14			5				
Nov-23	26	21			5				
Dec-23	38	31			3				4
Jan-24	17	16							1
Feb-24	33	25			4		1		3
Mar-24	23	20			2				1
Apr-24	18	15		1	1	1			
May-24	29	21			3	2			3
Jun-24	15	11	1						3

There was a total of 275 complaints throughout the year with 222 (80%) of these relating to aesthetic discoloured water events.

## FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The recommendation does not impact on Council's financial position.

**15.2 PURCHASE OF NEW WATER MAINS CLEANING TECHNOLOGY**

**Author:** Production & Services Manager  
**Authoriser:** Production & Services Manager  
**Attachments:** Nil

**BOARD RESOLUTION 24/110**

**Moved:** Cr M Austin  
**Seconded:** Cr J Mackay

**That Council**

1. Note the information detailed within this report.
2. Approve a project capital budget allocation of \$720,000 (gst excl).
3. Note and approve the additional annual operational budget allocation of \$200,000 required for two additional staff and consumables needed per annum commencing in the 2025/26 financial year.
4. Pursuant to s55(3)(i) of the Local Government Act 1993, the Board considers that due to the unavailability of competitive or reliable tenderers, that a satisfactory result would not be achieved by inviting tenders before entering into a contract for the purchase of a specialised water treatment mains cleaning unit. These extenuating circumstances are specifically due to:
  - (a) Detection Services being the only supplier within Australia that holds the rights to the technology, and
  - (b) Goldenfields Water is unable to develop the technology with another supplier due to Intellectual Property rights.
5. Approve the General Manager and/or their delegate to negotiate a supply agreement for the purchase of a Goldenfields Water owned and operated mobile treatment unit.
6. Report project results back to the Board on a regular basis and provide a final report on the permanent resourcing requirements during the 2026/2027 financial year.

**CARRIED**

**ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN**

Priority 1 High Quality, Secure and Efficient Water Supplies

**BACKGROUND**

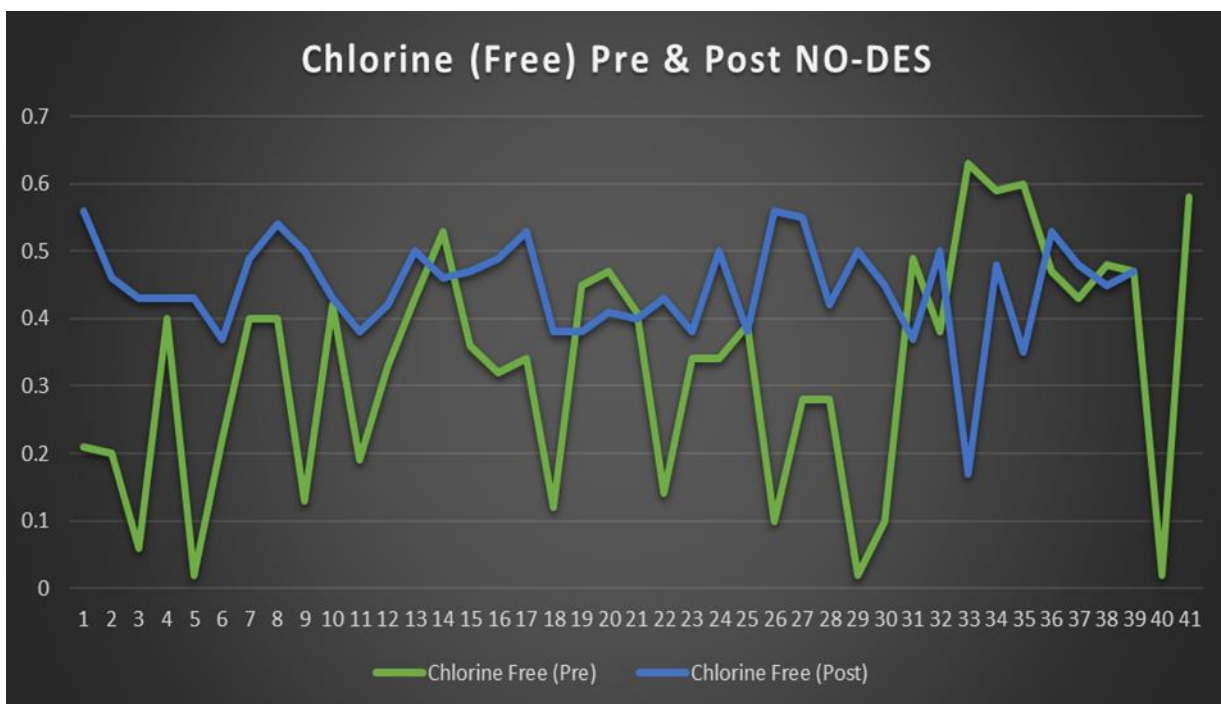
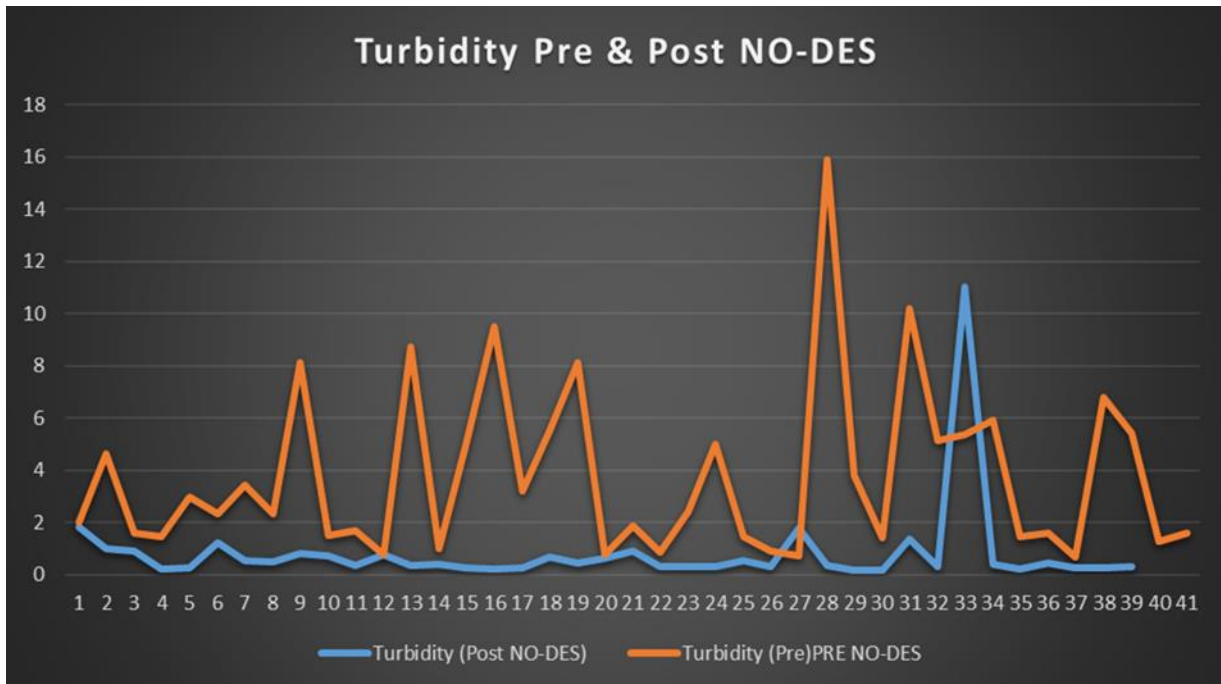
There was a total of 275 complaints made during the financial year 2023/24. The majority of complaints that were made, pertained to discoloured water totalling 222 complaints (80%).

These complaints have historically derived from the townships of Coolamon, Junee and Temora. Currently in order to mitigate against complaints, GWCC invests in cleaning reservoirs and flushing dead ends regularly on both a preventative and reactive cycle.

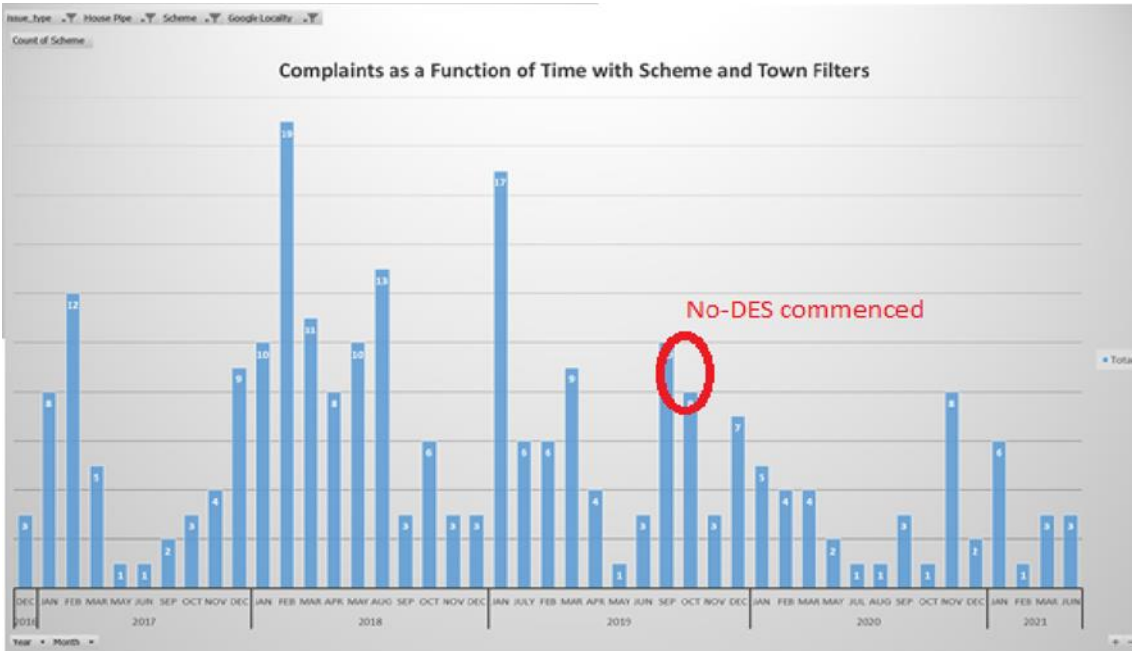
In previous years (2019 & 2022), GWCC had procured the services of No-Des, a contractor that had the ability to clear water mains with no loss of water to the environment and minimised disruptions to the customers. These contractors cleaned approximately 100 km of water mains in the Junee, Coolamon and nearby townships as part of trial process for staff investigating future options.

Whilst undertaking this flushing/cleaning, turbidity levels throughout the town were recorded as high as 171 NTU, with an average of approximately 25 NTU during the operation of the trial. Staff undertook a pre & post chemical analysis of the townships, in order to assess the effectiveness of the technology in resolving some of these issues.

As illustrated within the following graphics, pre and post water chemistry testing was undertaken to validate the utilisation of the system. As is depicted within the images below, the reduction in turbidity was significant after utilisation and the spike detailed from areas 32-34 was due to a burst that occurred at the time. This then correlated into the chlorine residual consistency detailed in lower graphic.



As you can see from the below customer complaint trends, a reduction in peak complaints during the period following cleaning achieved a significant reduction in complaints.



**REPORT**

With a successful trial of the system, Goldenfields Staff have previously workshopped with the Board to investigate the opportunity to purchase the technology. Staff have been working closely with Detection Services in order to try and negotiate the possibility of the purchase with the unit owned and operated by the County Council.

In mid-2024, staff visited Detection Services in Queensland where the design and manufacture of a new unit was currently underway and being commissioned for their New Zealand team.

Staff noted numerous modifications that it would require in order to purchase a unit at the satisfactory of Council. Namely larger filtration system, mechanical and electrical standardisation and separated generator system due to weight restrictions.

A price has been provided in principle for the system, which was within previous budgetary allocations, where \$500,000 was carried from previous years within Councils plant budget.

Staff have requested the removal of the generator and the purchase of the truck from the request to supply, as this will allow staff to tender/quote these provisions as per the requirements under the Local Government Act and associated regulation. However, as recommended in this report, an exemption from tendering will be required for the manufacture and supply of a No-Des unit.

Staff are currently working with Detection Services in how, Terms and Conditions of the purchase would need to be accommodated, noting the Intellectual Property rights and the potential limits of operating within our servicing footprint to our constituent councils and associated customers. Once the Board provides final approval for the project to proceed, staff will look to negotiate and finalise this process as soon as possible.

It is expected that the project will require two additional operational staff to run the unit under the current Production & Services structure for a two-year trial basis. Once the project has been proven successful, a permanent structure will be reported back to the Board for approval.

Noting previous costs to hire and engage contractors to undertake this work once per annum, the project is expected to provide a return on investment within 6-8 years. The asset purchase will have an associated minimum life of 15 years and has the additional value-added option of undertaking councils' mains disinfection process, saving additional costs on a separate chlorine dosing unit.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

The recommendation imposes an additional allocation of \$220,000 on top of the previously allocated \$500,000 in capital from the plant budget and an additional allocation of \$200,000 of operational costs per annum for resourcing and consumables commencing in the 2025/26 financial year.



**15.3 WATER PRODUCTION REPORT**

**Author:** Water Quality Technical Officer  
**Authoriser:** Production & Services Manager  
**Attachments:** Nil

**BOARD RESOLUTION 24/111**

**Moved:** Cr G Sinclair  
**Seconded:** Cr C Rouse

**That Council receive and note the Water Production Report.**

**CARRIED**

**ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN**

Priority 3 A Healthy Natural Environment

**BACKGROUND**

Goldenfields Water provides the essential water requirements of about 40,000 people spread over an area in excess of 20,000 square kilometres between the Lachlan & Murrumbidgee Rivers in the South West of NSW.

Goldenfields Waters' supply system consists of five separate water schemes, Jugiong, Oura, Mt Arthur, Mt Daylight and Hylands Bridge. Goldenfields Water carries out water supply functions within the Local Government areas of Bland, Coolamon, Cootamundra, Hilltops, Junee, Temora, and parts of Narrandera and Wagga Wagga.

Hilltops Shire Council, Cootamundra Gundagai Shire Council and Riverina Water County Council are retailers, who purchase bulk water from Goldenfields and supply the water to retail customers in their respective local government areas.

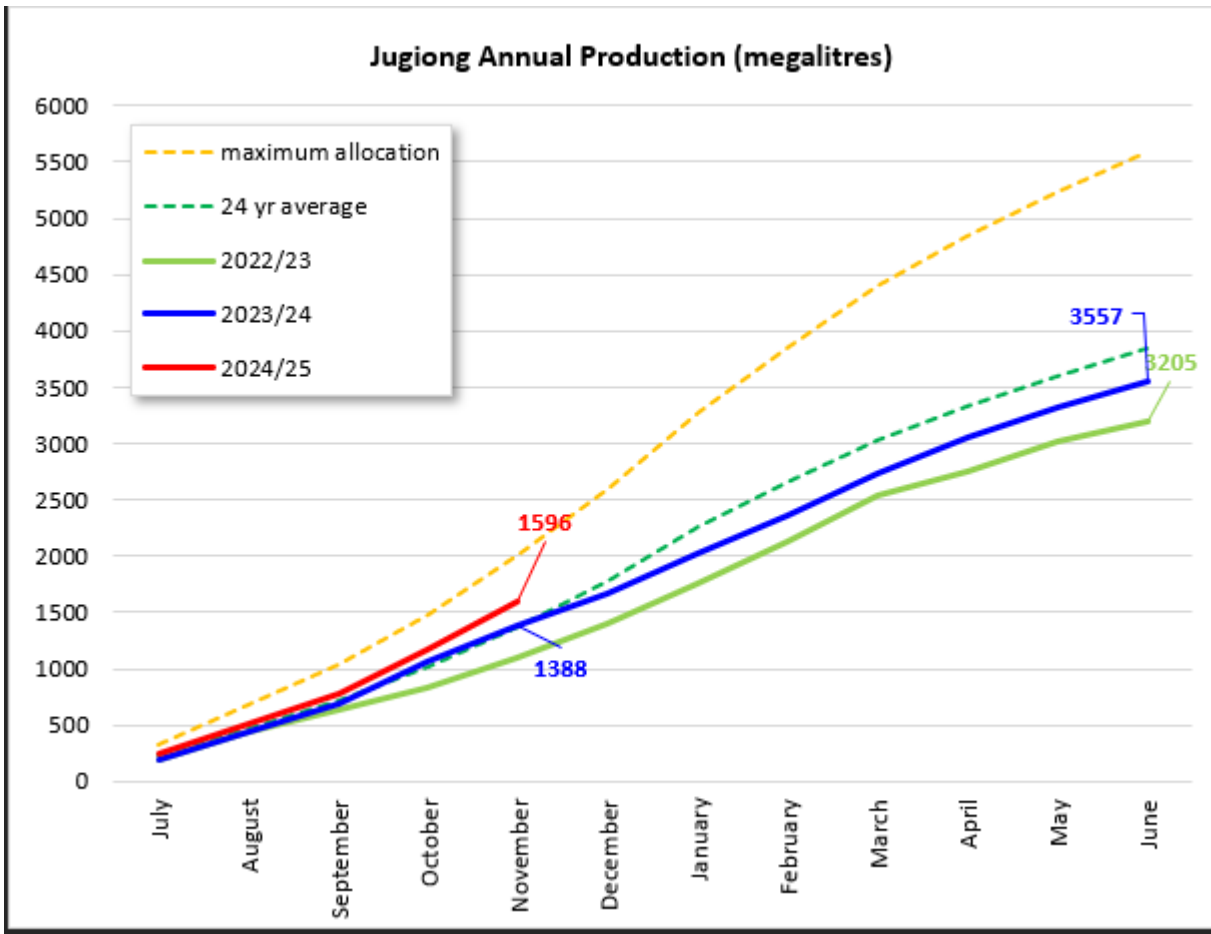
**REPORT****Jugiong drinking Water Scheme**

The Jugiong drinking water scheme sources water from the Murrumbidgee River and has an extraction licence entitlement of 5590ML per annum. Water from the Murrumbidgee River is treated through a 40ML/day, conventional Water Treatment Plant that consists of: Coagulation, Flocculation, Clarification, Filtration, Disinfection and Fluoridation.

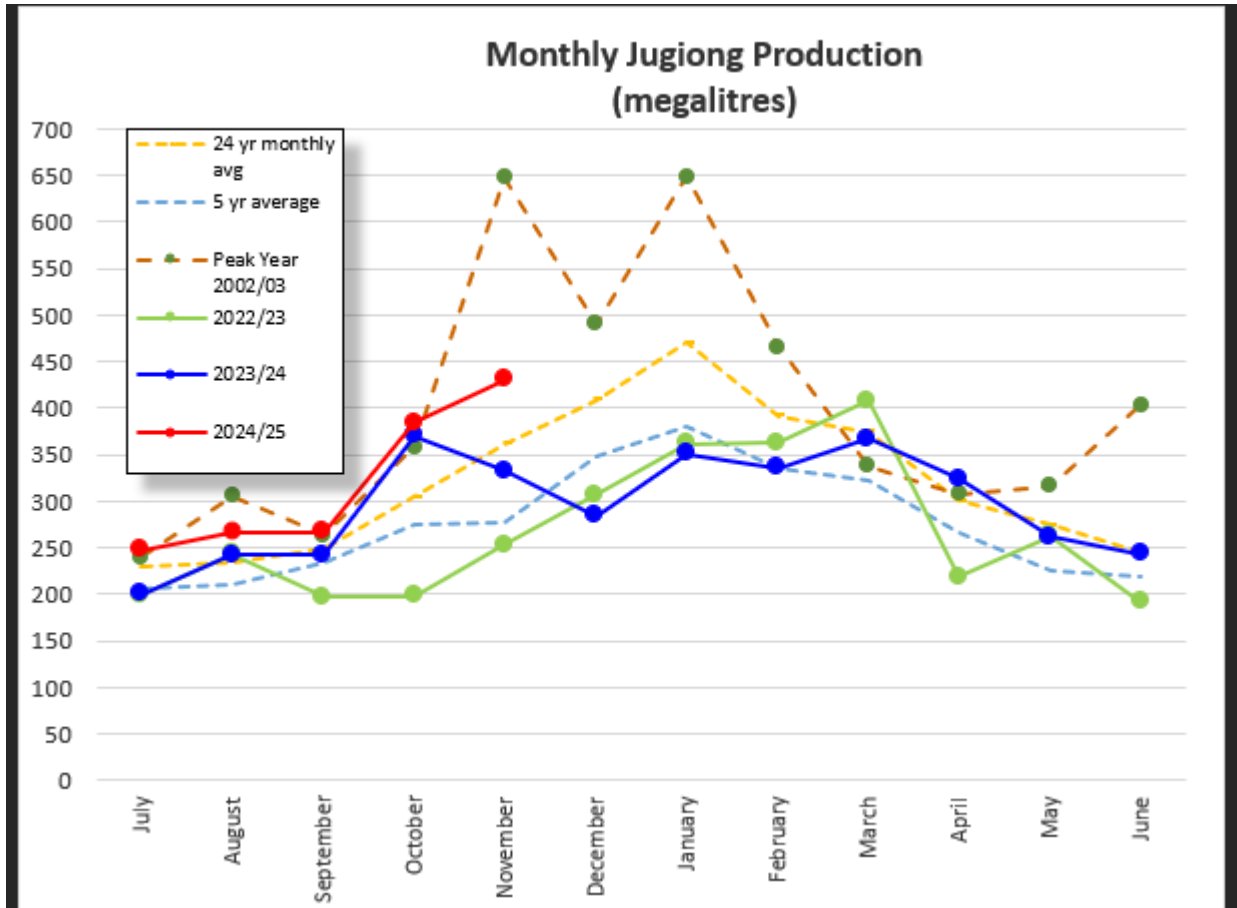
The Jugiong Scheme has 14 sets of reservoirs and 8 pumping stations. The Jugiong Scheme supplies bulk water to the Hilltops and Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Councils for supply to the townships of Cootamundra, Harden and Young with a population of approximately 6800, 2200 and 8000 respectively.

Goldenfields Water also provides additional retail supply to approximately 600 customers in the villages of Stockinbingal, Wallendbeen and Springdale.

For the first 5 months of the 2024/25 financial year, 1596ML of water had been extracted from the Murrumbidgee River and processed at the Jugiong Water Treatment plant. This is slightly higher than for the 2023/24 FY where 1388ML was extracted. An increase of 208ML. This is illustrated in the graph below.



Jugiong monthly production started slightly higher in July with 248ML extracted and treated for the month. August saw a further increase in production with 267ML and September was similar to August with 267ML extracted and treated. October saw a large increase in production with 385ML produced with a further increase in November with 430ML produced and treated.

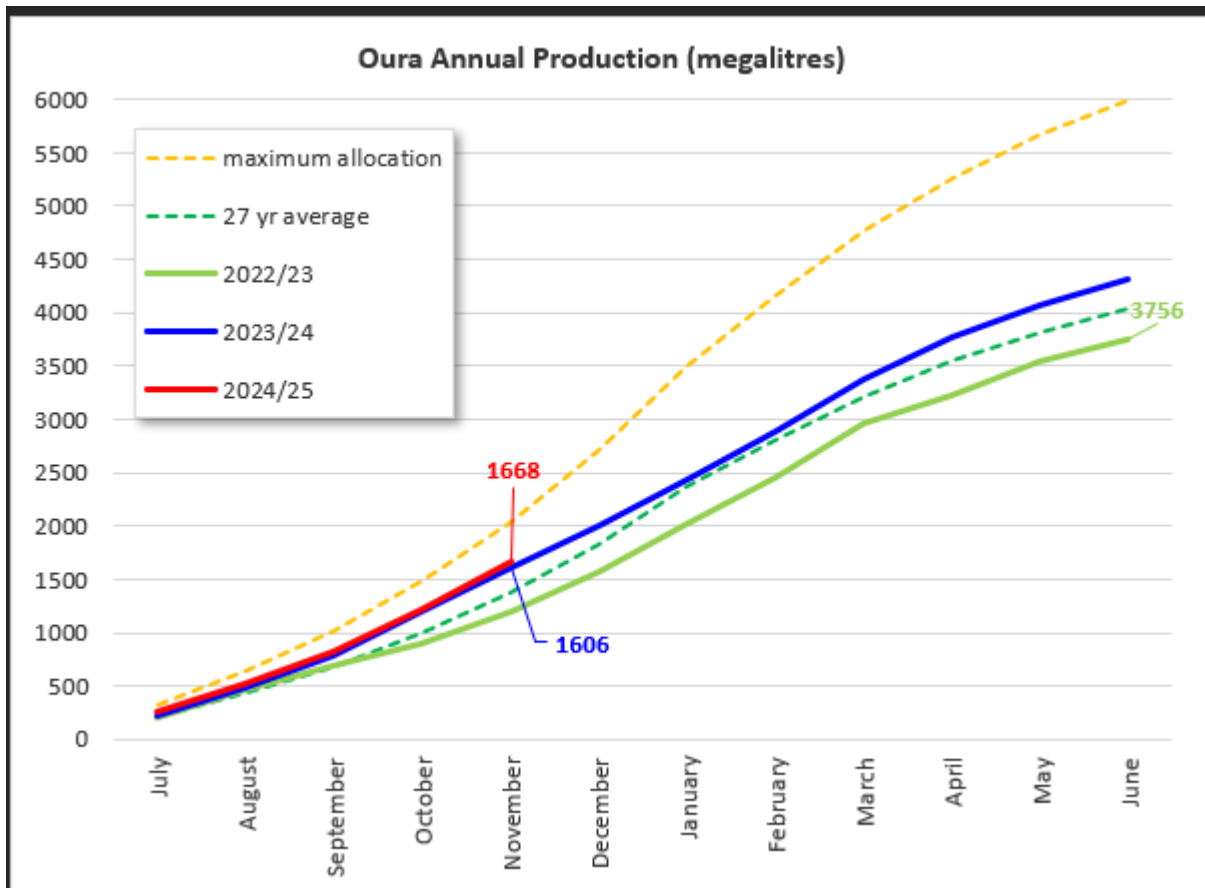


**Oura Drinking Water Scheme**

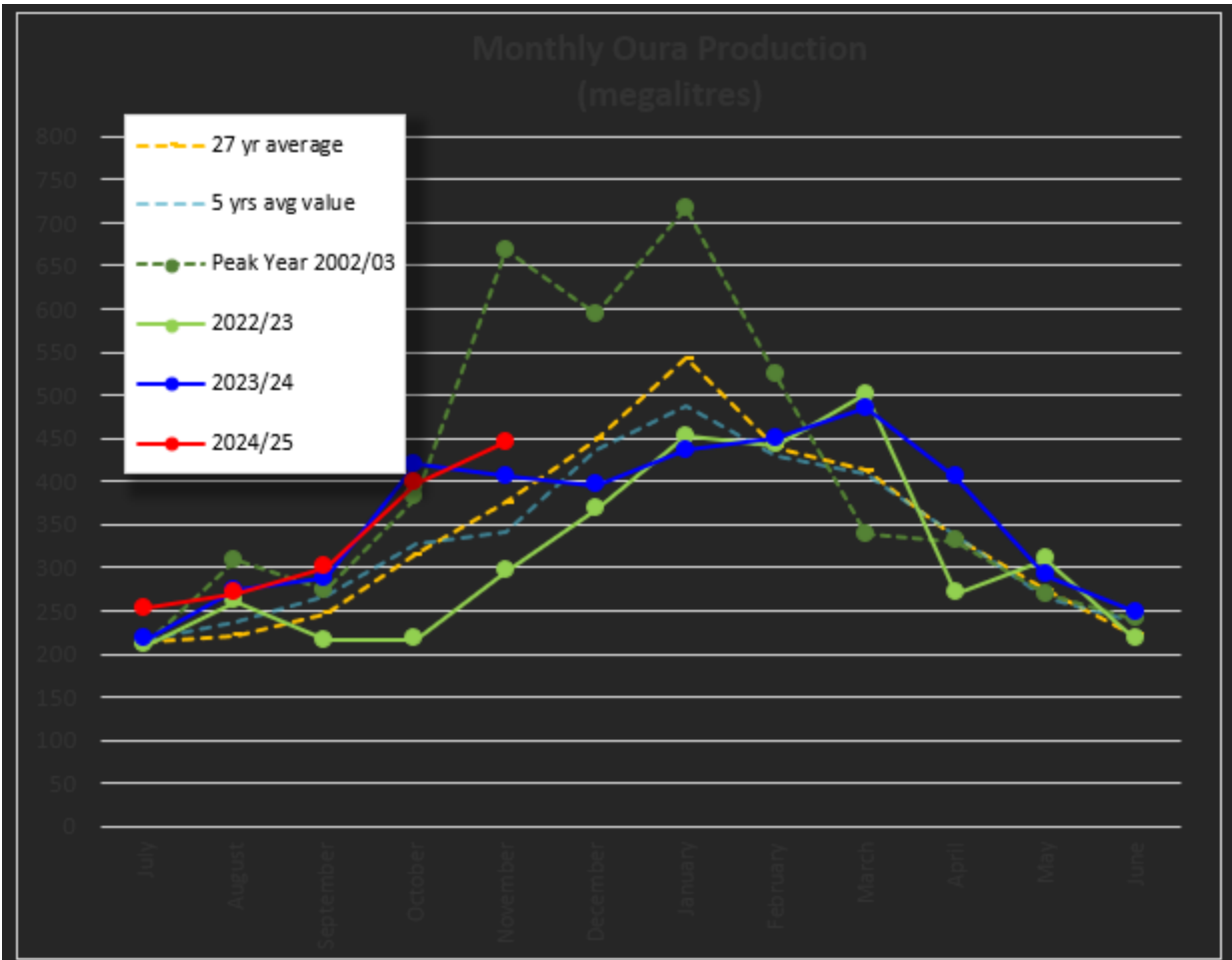
The water source at Oura is the Murrumbidgee inland alluvial aquifer, this water is extracted from 4 bores namely: Bores 2, 3, 4 and 6. The raw water then goes through a treatment process at the Oura Water Treatment Plant that includes Aeration, Disinfection and Fluoridation.

The Oura scheme has 33 sets of reservoirs, and 19 pumping stations, produces drinking water for approximately 14,600 people in the Bland, Coolamon, Junee, Narrandera and Temora Shires. The Oura scheme can also supply water to the Northern side of the rural area of Wagga Wagga City when required.

For the first 5 months of the 2024/25 financial year, 1668ML of water has been extracted from the Oura Borefield and processed at the Oura Water Treatment Plant. This is an increase in production compared to 2023/24 FY where 1606ML of water was extracted for the same period. An increase in production of 62ML. This is depicted in the graph below.



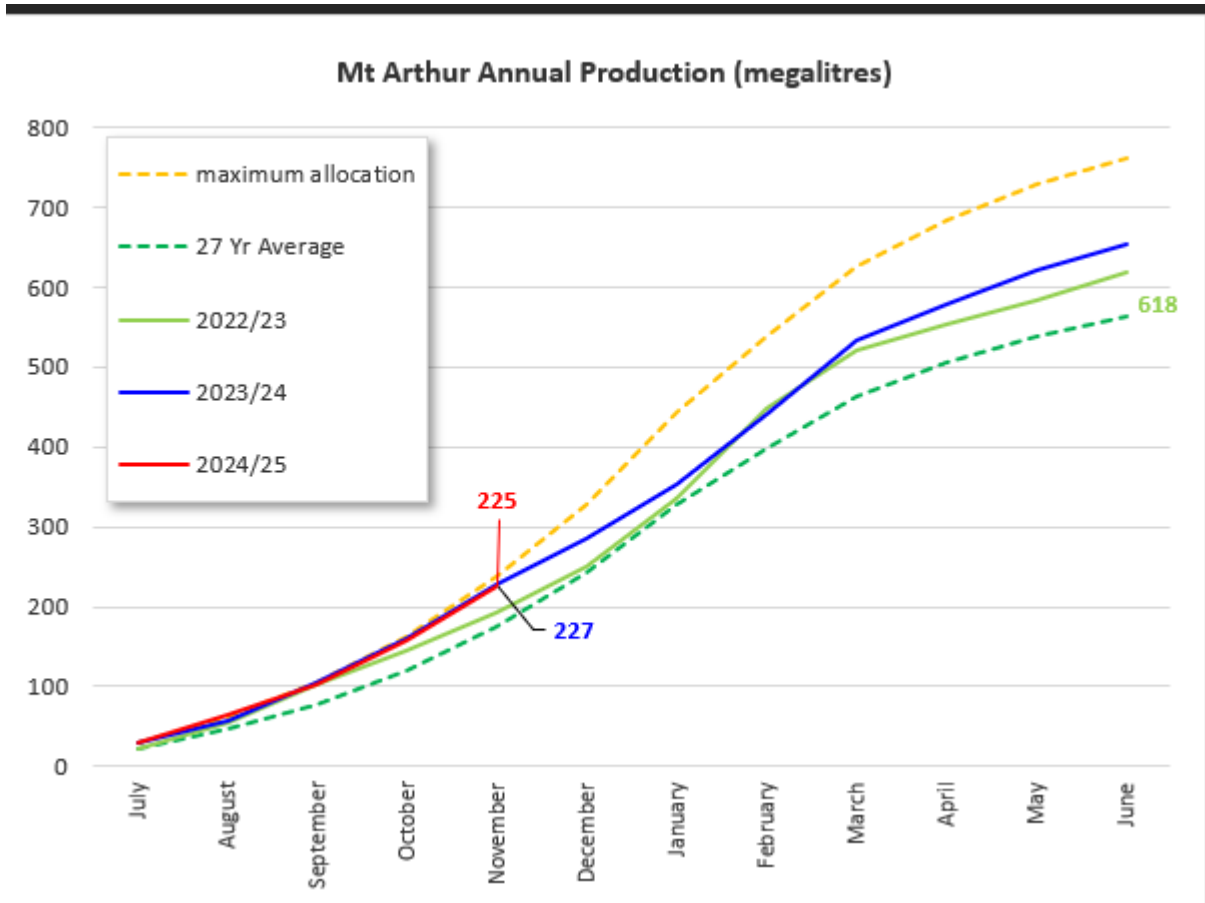
Oura monthly water production has started slightly higher in July where 253ML was extracted from the Oura bores. August saw an increase in production where 271ML was extracted, a further increase in production for September saw 300ML extracted, October saw a large increase with 398ML extracted and November also had a further increase with 446ML extracted and treated.



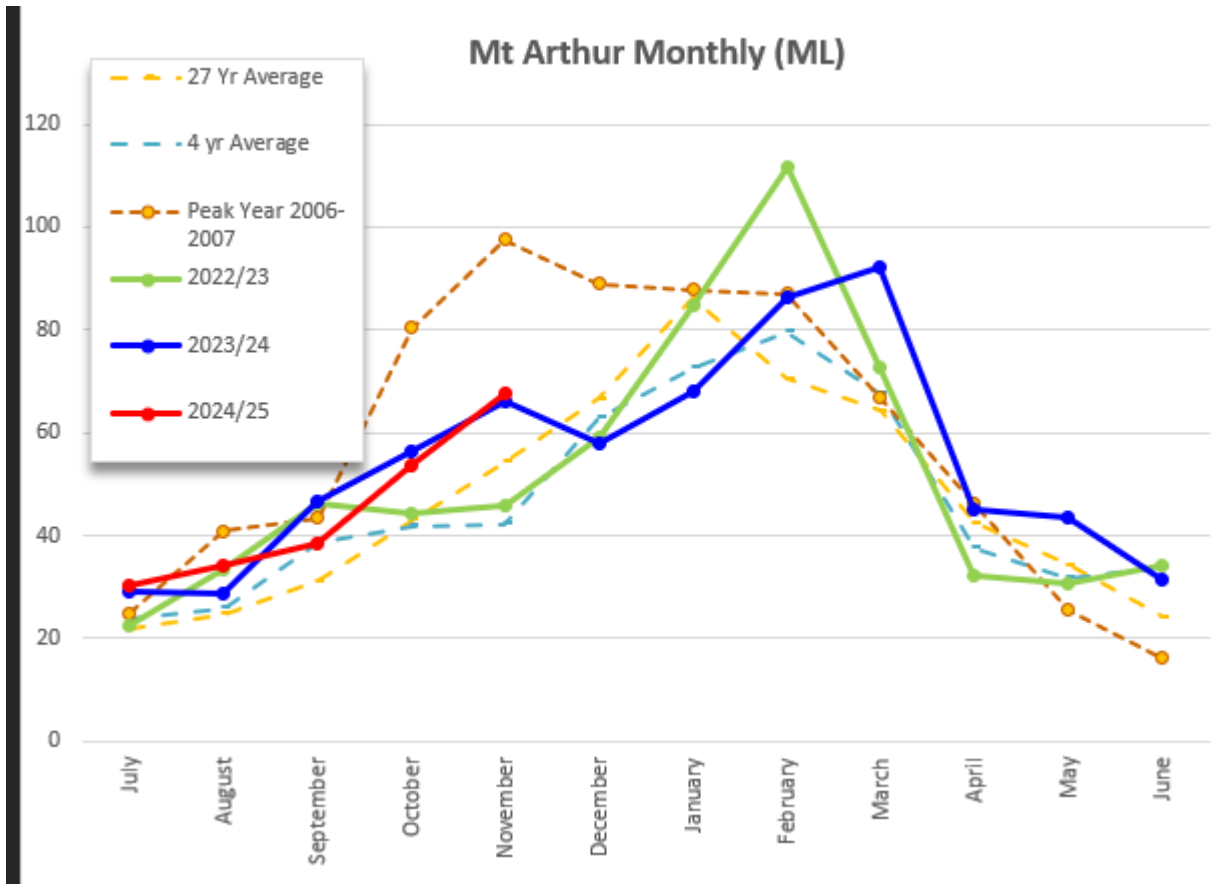
**Mount Arthur Drinking Water Scheme**

The Mount Arthur Water Source is from the Lachlan Fold belt Aquifer System. The water is extracted via two bores, bores 1 and 2 located in the Wagga Wagga City Council area South of Matong. The water is disinfected before distribution through 9 sets of reservoirs supplying approximately 2400 people with water in the Coolamon shire.

For the first 5 months of the 2024/25 financial year, 225ML of water has been extracted from the Mt Arthur Borefield. This is a slight decrease compared to the 2023/24 FY where 227ML was extracted from the Mt Arthur bores for the same period. A decrease of 2ML. As can be seen in the graph below, production is trending in similar fashion to previous years.



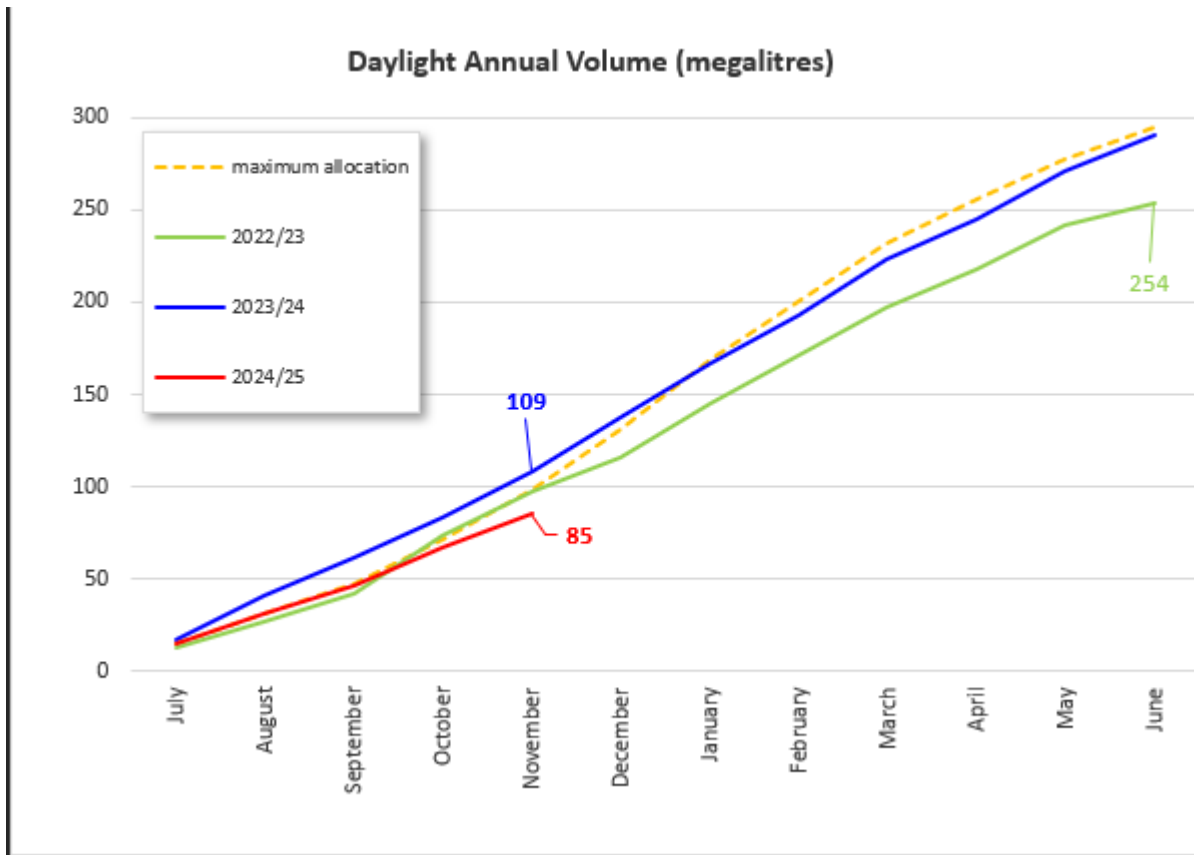
Mt Arthur monthly water production started slightly higher to previous years with 30ML of water extracted from the bores in July. August saw a slight increase in Production to 34ML extracted and September saw a further increase in production to 39ML extracted. Both October and November have seen further increases in production with 54ML and 68ML respectively extracted and treated.



**Mount Daylight Drinking Water Scheme**

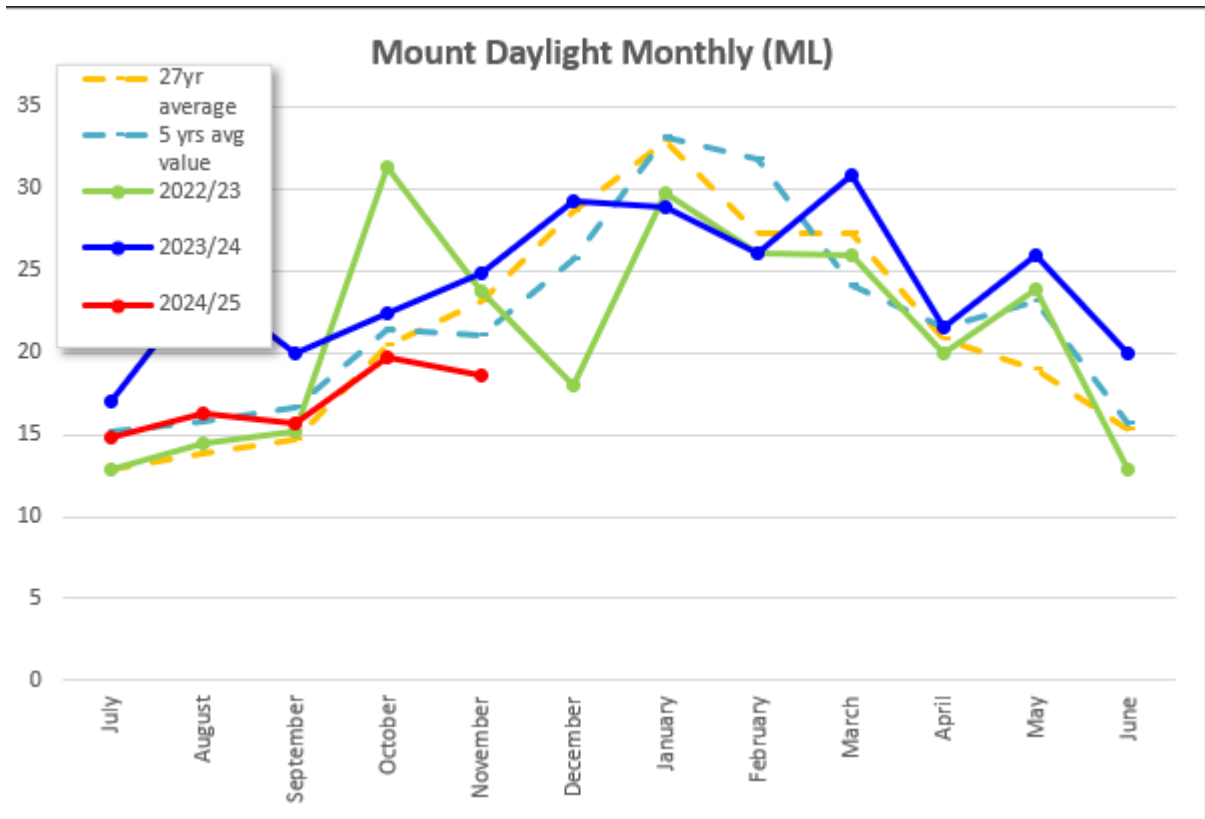
The Mount Daylight water source is from the Lower Lachlan alluvium aquifer. The Mount Daylight bores are jointly operated with Carathool Shire Council. Carathool Shire Council is responsible for bore management. There are 7 sets of reservoirs in the Mt Daylight scheme. Mt Daylight supplies water to approximately 125 people in the villages of Naradhan, Weethalle and Tallimba which is located within the Bland Shire.

For the first 5 months of the 2024/25 financial year 109ML of water has been extracted from the Mt Daylight Borefield. This is a decrease in volume of 24ML compared to the 2023/24 FY where 85ML was produced over the same period.





The monthly extraction totals for the Mt Daylight bores started very consistently with July seeing 15ML extracted with a slight increase in August with 16ML, September was slightly lower in production with 15ML extracted. October saw a further increase with 20ML extracted before a decrease in production only saw 19ML produced and extracted.

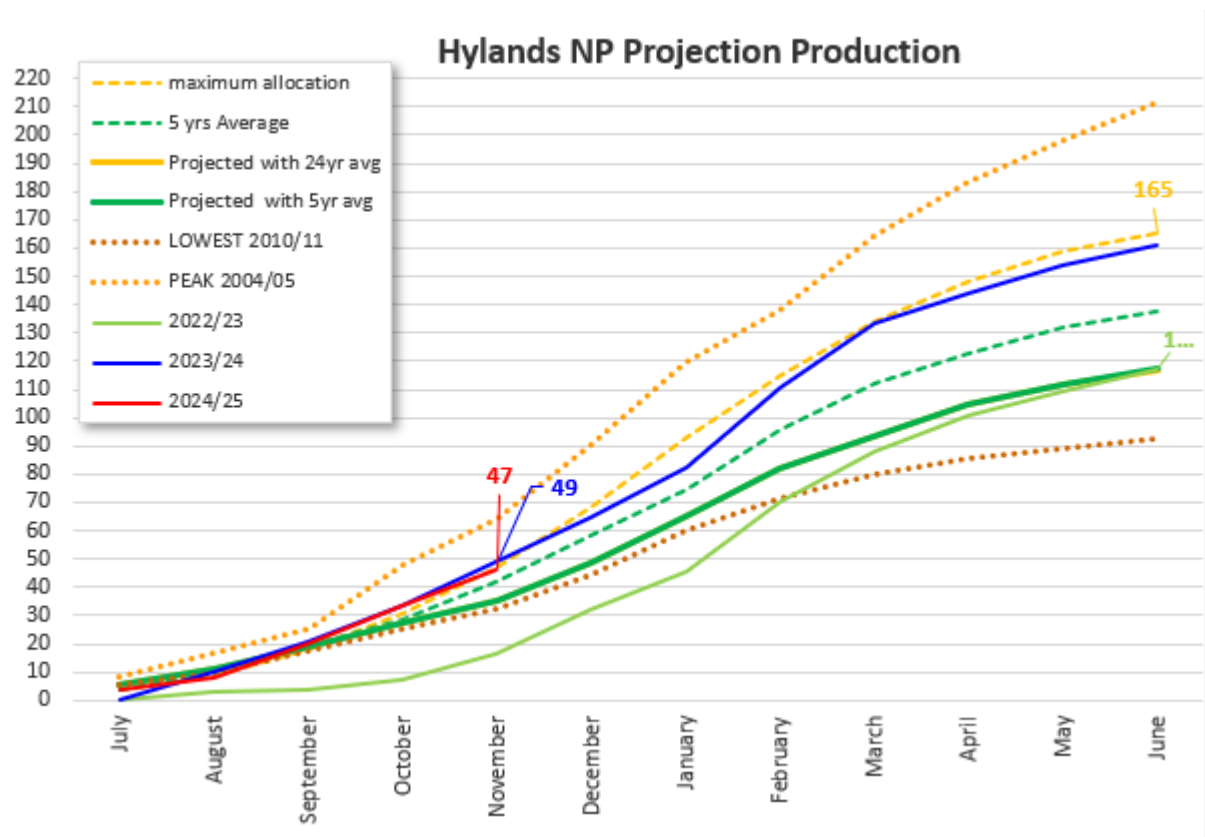


**Hylands Bridge - Non-Potable**

Hylands Bridge supplies Non-Potable water to Barellan and Binya. The water is sourced through the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area where Goldenfields Water holds 165ML shareholding for water entitlement.

For the first 5 months of the 2024/25 financial year 47ML of water has been extracted from the Hylands Bridge Raw Water Scheme. This is a small decrease compared to the same period last year where 49ML had been extracted.

Note: A comparison between GWCC Production meter and Murrumbidgee Irrigation (MI) Production meter has indicated that there is a discrepancy between the two meters. GWCC will replace our old meter with a new meter as soon as one becomes available. GWCCs meter is reading between 30-35% higher than MI meter. (GWCC have replaced the old meter with a new one, this work was carried out on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of July 2024).



**FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

The recommendation does not impact on Council’s financial position.

**LOCAL PREFERENCE**

N/A

**16 ENGINEERING MANAGER****16.1 CAPITAL WORKS PROGRESS REPORT****Author:** Engineering Manager**Authoriser:** General Manager**Attachments:**

1. Attachment A - Capital Works Report
2. Attachment B - Major Capital Projects Report

**BOARD RESOLUTION 24/112****Moved:** Cr J Mackay**Seconded:** Cr L Cooper**That Council receive and note the Capital Works Progress Report as of 30 November 2024.****CARRIED****ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN**

Priority 1 High Quality, Secure and Efficient Water Supplies

**BACKGROUND**

Capital works represents an important part of Council's activities and expenditure. This report details expenditure and progress for the year to date on programmed and emergent capital works.

**REPORT**Current Financial Year Progress

The financial year capital works is progressing well. We are approximately 40% of the way through the financial year and have spent 37% of the budget. The capital works report Attachment A includes the original budget and any subsequent budget variations previously approved and the actuals as of 30 November 2024. A few projects to note as follows:

- The urban construction crew has been working in Coolamon and recently moved to Temora to finish pipework improvements around Loftus Street and Milvale Road.
- The rural construction crew has recently finished works in Aria Park and Ardlethan and have been working on replacing a failing pipeline in old Junee. Early next year they will be heading out to south of Weethalle to replace failing pipelines in the area.
- The meter replacement program is well underway. Efficiencies are expected to be gained as processes and systems are further improved to meet the delivery capacity of the distribution staff members.
- Major capital works are progressing well as detailed further below.

Major Capital Works Projects

Major capital projects often span over multiple financial years. Attachment B provides details on the major capital works projects currently being delivered and compares their total project costs against the total project budget as well as commentary on the project progress.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

The recommendation does not impact on Council's financial position.

**17 GENERAL MANAGER****17.1 FEBRUARY COUNCIL MEETING DATE CHANGE**

**Author:** Executive Assistant

**Authoriser:** General Manager

**Attachments:** Nil

**BOARD RESOLUTION 24/113**

**Moved:** Cr M Austin

**Seconded:** Cr N Langford

**That Council adopt the February Ordinary Meeting be moved to Thursday 13 March 2025 to commence at 1:30pm at Jugiong Water Treatment Plant.**

**CARRIED**

**ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN**

Priority 2 Customer Service Focus

**BACKGROUND**

Goldenfields Water County Council meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of every second month at the Temora Office, commencing at 10.00am. The February ordinary Council Meeting has been resolved to be held 27 February 2025.

**REPORT**

It is proposed that the 27 February 2025 meeting being changed to Thursday 13 March 2025 at 1:30pm at the Jugiong Water Treatment Plant.

Councillor training has been scheduled to be included alongside the first meeting of council in 2025.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

The recommendation does not impact on Council's financial position.

**17.2 COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS UPDATE REPORT**

**Author:** Executive Assistant

**Authoriser:** General Manager

**Attachments:** 1. Council Meeting Resolutions Action Table

**BOARD RESOLUTION 24/114**

**Moved:** Cr C Rouse

**Seconded:** Cr M Austin

**That Council note the Council Resolutions Update Report.**

**CARRIED**

**ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN**

Priority 1 High Quality, Secure and Efficient Water Supplies

**BACKGROUND**

The General Manager is responsible for ensuring that Council's resolutions are implemented efficiently and in a timely manner.

**REPORT**

After a Council meeting is held, actions required from the resolutions made are listed and distributed to the Management Team for their attention. This list is included on the fortnightly Management meeting agenda to ensure timely completion of tasks.

The resolutions update table attached is provided to the Board to deliver an overview of the tasks completed since the previous meeting and to identify any outstanding tasks that still require action. This allows greater transparency for the Board into the actioning of the resolutions made and a timely reminder for Management to progress these actions.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

The recommendation does not impact on Council's financial position.

**17.3 PP019 CODE OF MEETING PRACTICE POLICY**

**Author:** Executive Assistant

**Authoriser:** General Manager

**Attachments:** 1. PP019 Code of Meeting Practice Policy

**BOARD RESOLUTION 24/115**

**Moved:** Cr N Langford

**Seconded:** Cr G Sinclair

**That Council adopt PP019 Code of Meeting Practice Policy.**

**CARRIED**

**ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN**

Priority 2 Customer Service Focus

**BACKGROUND**

Council is required to adopt a code of meeting practice that incorporates the mandatory provisions of the Model Meeting Code prescribed by the Regulation. Councils adopted meeting code must not contain provisions that are inconsistent with the mandatory provisions.

Councils adopted meeting code may also incorporate the non-mandatory provisions of the Model Code and any other supplementary provisions adopted by Council.

**REPORT**

The Order of Business on page 18 has been amended to reflect our current meeting practice whilst still meeting the Local Government Model Code of Conduct.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

The recommendation does not impact on Council's financial position.

**17.4 2022-2024 STATE OF OUR WATER REPORT****Author:** Executive Assistant**Authoriser:** General Manager**Attachments:** 1. 2022-2024 State of our Water Report - *Tabled Separately***BOARD RESOLUTION 24/116****Moved:** Cr M Austin**Seconded:** Cr R Crowe**That Council receive and adopt the 2022-2024 State of our Water Report.****CARRIED****ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN**

Priority 1 High Quality, Secure and Efficient Water Supplies

**BACKGROUND**

The Local Government Act 1993 requires that in the year in which an ordinary election of councillors is to be held Council must also provide a report detailing achievement in implementing the Business Activity Strategic Plan over the term, referred to as the State of the Region report. This report satisfies that requirement.

**REPORT**

Section 428 of the Local Government Act 1993, requires Council to prepare a State of our City Report (formally referred to as End of Term report), outlining the progress of implementation and effectiveness of the Business Activity Strategic Plan. It is required to be endorsed within two council meetings after the election.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

The recommendation does not impact on Council's financial position.



**17.5 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY 2025**

**Author:** HR Coordinator

**Authoriser:** General Manager

**Attachments:** 1. 2025 Community Engagement Strategy - *Tabled Separately*

**BOARD RESOLUTION 24/117**

**Moved:** Cr G Sinclair

**Seconded:** Cr C Rouse

**That Council receive and adopt the Community Engagement Strategy 2025.**

**CARRIED**

**ALIGNMENT WITH BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN**

Priority 2 Customer Service Focus

**BACKGROUND**

In accordance with Section 402A of the Local Government Act 1993, Goldenfields Water County Council is required to have a strategy (*called its Community Engagement Strategy*) for engagement with the local community when developing its plans, policies and programs and for the purpose of determining its activities (other than routine administrative matters).

**REPORT**

The Community Engagement Strategy 2022 was reviewed in line with IP&R guidelines

2.3 The Strategy must be reviewed by 31 December in the year of the local government elections as part of the broader review of the Community Strategic Plan (or Business Activity Strategic Plan for county councils)

The Community Engagement Strategy has been reviewed and updated for 2025.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

The recommendation does not impact on Council's financial position.

18 BUSINESS WITH NOTICE

19 NOTICES OF MOTIONS

Nil

**20 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS****BOARD RESOLUTION 24/118****Moved: Cr M Austin****Seconded: Cr G Sinclair**

**That Council considers the confidential report(s) listed below in a meeting closed to the public in accordance with Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993 at 5:19pm:**

**20.1 Billing Update**

**This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - (b) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with discussion in relation to the personal hardship of a resident or ratepayer.**

**20.2 General Manager Performance Agreement**

**This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - (a) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors).**

**CARRIED**

**BOARD RESOLUTION 24/121**

**Moved:** Cr M Austin  
**Seconded:** Cr G Sinclair

**That Council moves out of Closed Council into Open Council at 5:48pm.**

**CARRIED**

**21 REPORT OF CONFIDENTIAL RESOLUTIONS****20.1 BILLING UPDATE**

**Author:** Corporate Services Manager  
**Authoriser:** General Manager

*This report is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with Section 10A(2) (b) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following:*

- b discussion in relation to the personal hardship of a resident or ratepayer.*

**BOARD RESOLUTION 24/001**

**Moved:** Cr L Cooper  
**Seconded:** Cr R Crowe

**That Council receive and note the Billing Update.**

**CARRIED**

**20.2 GENERAL MANAGER PERFORMANCE AGREEMENT**

**Author:** Executive Assistant  
**Authoriser:** General Manager

*This report is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with Section 10A(2) (a) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following:*

- a personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors).*

**BOARD RESOLUTION 24/002**

**Moved:** Cr L Cooper  
**Seconded:** Cr M Austin

**That Council adopt the 2024/2025 General Manager Performance Agreement.**

**CARRIED**

**22 NEXT MEETING**

To be held at Jugiong Water Treatment Plant at 1:30 PM on Thursday 13 March 2025.

**23 MEETING CLOSE**

The Meeting closed at 5:49pm.