

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE LITCHFIELD COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 11th JULY 2013
AT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BEES CREEK ROAD, FRED'S PASS**

Present	Allan McKay Victor Statham Mike Bowman Mathew Salter Russell Anderson Diane Chellingworth Derrick Tranter Graeme Francis Will Green Glen Roberts Aisla Connolly	Mayor Deputy Mayor/South Ward Councillor/East Ward Councillor/North Ward Chief Executive Officer Corporate Services Manager Governance Manager Director Planning and Works Regulatory Services Manager Property Manager Acting Council Secretary
Public:	Christine Osborn Judy Cole Peter Cole Gerry Wood Kate Poole Maureen Peard Glen Lynch Carrol Lynch Maureen Thorpe Barbara Crane Tricia OHehir	Bees Creek Humpty Doo Humpty Doo Howard Springs Howard Springs Howard Springs Virginia Virginia Humpty Doo Howard Springs Virginia

1. OPENING OF MEETING:

The Mayor, Allan McKay opened the Meeting at 6.38 p.m. welcoming members of the public.

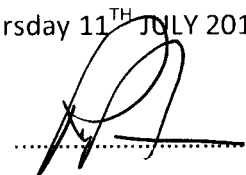
2. CONFLICT OF INTEREST: Nil

3. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE: Nil

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MAYOR

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

4. PUBLIC FORUM:

Ms Crane provided Council with positive feedback regarding information gained from Council staff.

Mr Connolly informed Council that he is required to obtain evidence regarding his neighbouring property smell and noise issues, he cannot afford the tools to do so. He asked Council if they work after hours to witness his issue.

CEO, Russell Anderson advised Mr Connolly to contact the Environment Protection Authority.

Ms Osborn informed Council that they missed out on a perfect opportunity to communicate with their constituents when the Municipal Plan was open for public comment, the public were not made aware, and more should be done in the future. The Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Russell Anderson stated that the municipal plan must be placed on the Council's website and also in the local paper. Ms Osborn queried why receipts are not provided from the Waste Transfer Station. CEO, Russell Anderson advised that he would look into the anomaly. Ms Osborn provided a written question from 13th June Council Meeting and asked that the minutes be altered to reflect that.

Mr Lynch advised Council that he shreds what green waste he can on his property, but takes the larger palm fronds and stumps to the Waste Transfer Station.

Mr Wood commented on:-

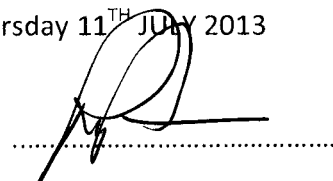
The \$5 charge to dump green waste – poor decision, implemented too quickly without public awareness. He suggested that the green waste be dumped on old gravel pits to rehabilitate them. He suggested that the cost be put into the rates not cash to the Gatekeeper at the Waste Transfer Stations.

The Council moving away from the flat rate – the flat rate keeps it simple, service to the community, all use roads and waste transfer station, reduce administration. Unimproved Capital Value requires more administration. Mr Wood stated that he is opposed to the UCV for urban areas such as Coolalinga. The larger properties cost more to maintain the road verges, drains, roads etc. CEO, Russell Anderson advised that Power Water Corporation is handing over the lights, poles, bulbs and power to Council, to maintain and there is the road verges to maintain and the underground drainage cost. Mr Wood suggested that as a rural Council regulation should be kept to a minimum. CEO Russell Anderson advised that costs have increased and Council is planning for the future. The Mayor stated that urbanisation is upon Litchfield.

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MAYOR

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

If a Commercial rate is put on businesses in the rural area they should not be charged extra to use the Waste Transfer Stations. CEO Russell Anderson advised that Council are yet to decide on rating commercial rural businesses. Property Manager, Glen Roberts advised that Howard Springs Waste Transfer Station is not licensed to take commercial waste and that commercial operators are directed to the Humpty Doo Waste Transfer Station.

A cost benefit analysis between slashing and ride on mowers cutting the road verges is required. Slashing is for safety reasons to see guideposts and around corners. Most residents that want beautification of their verge will mow it themselves.

The hydrology survey on Wadhams Lagoon was funded 5th December 2012, when will it commence? CEO Russell Anderson advised that the Department is waiting on aerial photos. The Mayor invited Mr Wood to a workshop regarding Knuckey Lagoon. Mr Wood stated that he would be happy to attend.

Mr Wood queried development on Noonamah and Hughes airstrips. The Mayor stated that Council was asked to comment on the concept and boundaries, no information regarding property sizes was provided.

Ms Thorpe stated her disappointment of the lack of communication regarding the new \$5 green waste charge; it is a big expense for Pensioners. Ms Thorpe advised that she had been provided with a receipt. Ms Thorpe advised Council of her issue with her footpath being removed and an extremely large drain being left outside her property. Director of Planning and Works, Graeme Francis advised that he would view the issue on Friday 12th July. Ms Thorpe asked who is responsible for speed limits. As Cypress Road is 60km/hr and others nearby such as Acacia and Power are 80km/hr the hoon do burnouts and rev their cars up on Cypress Road. Director of Planning and Works, Graeme Francis advised that the limits are set due to the environment not public opinion.

Mr Wood left the meeting at 8.00 p.m.

Mr Cole advised that street lights are regulated; they must have a specific high voltage illuminate. Council minutes are available on their website whereas the NT Government does not disseminate information, he found out from via an email from a friend that traffic infringements are increasing.

Mrs Cole asked if the Buddhist community are building a temple in Litchfield. The Mayor stated that the request has not officially been to Council.

The public, except Ms Osborn, left the meeting at 8.10 p.m.

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MAYOR

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

5. ACCEPTING OR DECLINING LATE ITEMS:

5.1 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Special Meeting held Monday 8th July, 2013.

It was **resolved** that Council accept the late item tabled being the Minutes of the Special Meeting held Monday 8th July, 2013 under the heading of 6.3 Confirmation of Minutes.

MOVED: M. BOWMAN
SECONDED: M. SALTER
CARRIED

5.2 PW13/DUMPS/002 LI Waste Infrastructure, Recycling Shed,
Regional Development Australia Fund

It was **resolved** that Council accept the late item tabled being the Waste Infrastructure, Recycling Shed, Regional Development Australia Fund under the heading of Planning and Works Matters Item 12.1.

MOVED: M. BOWMAN
SECONDED: M. SALTER
CARRIED

6. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

6.1 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held Thursday 13th June 2013

The Mayor called for confirmation of the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held Thursday 13th June 2013.

Mrs Osborn advised she had sent an email in relation to the questions she asked of Council at this meeting and would like the Minutes amended:-

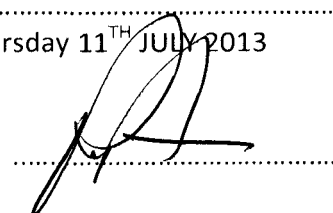
Minutes currently read:-

"Mrs Osborn asked the following questions:-

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MAYOR

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

- a) I previously tabled two documents, Palmerston City Council and Coomalie Community Government Councils Meeting Minutes?
- b) Will the financials be available each month?
- c) Is Council moving to Unimproved Capital Value across the board?
- d) Who defines commercial?
- e) Can signs be placed on one board at the entrance to the industrial area/commercial area to clean up the untidiness?

The Chief Executive Officer advised that:-

- a) The documents were misplaced and not given to the Council Secretary for recording and are available on the Palmerston and Coomalie's websites.
- b) A copy of the Financials – Actual against Budget will be provided each month.
- c) No, the changes are commercial and urban development only.
- d) The Governance Manager, Derrick Tranter advised that Council is in the process of deciding, the intent is that home based contracting will not be considered commercial e.g. hairdresser, earthmoving contractor. Whereas a mechanical workshop and nursery would be considered commercial, at this point we have caravan parks on RL zoned land. The Chief Executive Officer advised that a declaration and advertisement to clarify will take place.
- e) Councillor Bowman advised that the Highway Roads are owned by the Northern Territory Government and Council has no control. The Chief Executive Officer advised that Councils previously decided that if a sign is inside a property it is ok, but signs are not allowed on Councils roads."

Mrs Osborn would like the following recorded in relation to the signs **"I asked if Council had a policy or an opinion on roadside signage as seen inbound along the Stuart Highway near Coolalinga and out bound to Jabiru on the Arnhem Highway near Humpty Doo village area, and someone else mentioned outbound on Stuart Highway at Pinelands. And I mentioned how it was becoming very untidy, looked messy and could possibly be a distraction to drivers. I suggested that it may help to have all interested businesses grouped onto one structured signboard". (Councillor Bowman answered this question under e).**

It was **resolved** that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held Thursday 13th June 2013 are confirmed in full by full Council with Mrs Osborn's amendment.

MOVED: M BOWMAN
 SECONDED: M SALTER
 CARRIED

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MAYOR

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

6.2 Minutes of the Special Meeting held Wednesday 3rd July 2013

The Mayor called for confirmation of the Minutes of the Special Meeting held Wednesday 3rd July 2013.

It was **resolved** that the Minutes of the Special Meeting held at Wednesday 3rd July 2013 are confirmed in full by full Council.

MOVED: M BOWMAN
SECONDED: V STATHAM
CARRIED

6.3LI Minutes of the Special Meeting held Monday 8th July 2013

The Mayor called for confirmation of the Minutes of the Special Meeting held at Monday 8th July 2013.

It was **resolved** that the Minutes of the Special Meeting held at Monday 8th July 2013 are confirmed in full by full Council.

MOVED: M SALTER
SECONDED: V STATHAM
CARRIED

7. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES: Nil

8. DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND WORKS REPORT: JULY

The Director of Planning and Works tabled his June Report.

Planning and Works Report for June 2013

Capital works report end June 2013

- ❖ Kentish Road complete
- ❖ Acacia Gap Road complete.

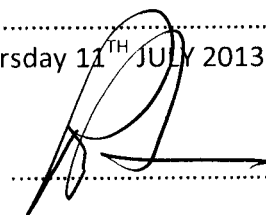
Following roads resealed June 2013

- ❖ Kentish Rd Complete

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MAYOR

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

- ❖ Evelina Court
- ❖ Raintree Court
- ❖ Bugle Court
- ❖ Centro Rd

Maintenance Works Completed

- ❖ Various patrol patching and asphalt repairs to 5 roads
- ❖ Repairs and replacement of several signs and installation of 21 new ones, 14 reinstalls 6 of w/s carried out
- ❖ Repairs to shoulders and clean culverts and drains, stow rd complete both sides
- ❖ Stow road shoulder repairs and side drain cleaning

Mobile Work Force

- ❖ Slashing Drainage reserves @ Howard Springs, off Bronzewing Rd.
- ❖ Cleared several large firebreaks on Hicks Rd, Girraween Rd @ Churchers Estate, Hutchinson Crt, Lambells Lagoon Rd, Duff Rd, Goode Rd and Townend Rd
- ❖ Slashed Monck Rd Area including Affleck Rd and fire breaks on large drainage reserves in the area.
- ❖ Slashed Girraween Rd East of Anglesey Rd, Hutchinson circuit and Herbert area
- ❖ Front deck mowing and whipper snipping of culverts around Howard Springs Area
- ❖ Extensive litter collection also conducted in Howard Springs Area
- ❖ Front deck mowers and whipper snipping around the Grange and Bees Creek area including litter collection.
- ❖ Fire truck accompanied tractors and front deck mowers everyday during these operations, due to high fire conditions.

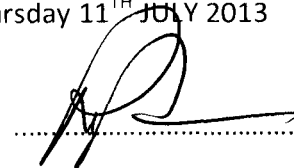
Development Applications Last Month – June Council has submitted comments

ID	ADDRESS	PURPOSE
PA2013/0284 – EDP	20 Morgan Rd, Virginia	For the purpose of a caravan park
PA2013/0355	1000 Channel Island Rd, Wickham	To construct and operate a gas export pipeline
PA2013/0364	85 Whitewood Rd, Howard Springs	Subdivision for a lease in excess of 12 Years
PA2013/0373	465 Stuart HWY, Coolalinga	Shops and Caretakers Residence in excess of 50m2 in a two storey building
PA2013/0380	135 McMinns Lagoon, McMinns	Home Based Contracting

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MAYOR

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

	Lagoon	
PA2013/0390	10 Nolan Rd, Lambells Lagoon	Third Multiple Dwelling
PA2013/0383	70 Wallaby Holtze Rd, Holtze	Dependant Unit in excess of 50m2
PA2013/0401	55 Ewart Rd, Lambells Lagoon	Subdivision for a lease in excess of 12 Years
PA2013/0395	275 Elizabeth Valley Rd, Noonamah	Subdivision for a lease in excess of 12 Years
PA2013/0393	1130 Kentish Rd, Berry Springs	Subdivision for a lease in excess of 12 Years
PA2013/0428	11 Constant St, Coolalinga	Unit Titles Scheme Subdivision to create 2 units and common property.
PA2013/0427	21 Havelock St, Coolalinga	Unit Titles Scheme Subdivision to create 2 units and common property.

Awaiting response from Council

ID	ADDRESS	PURPOSE
PA2013/0450	1 Phoebe Crt, Knuckey Lagoon	Shed addition to existing single dwelling
PA2013/0437	45 Cherry St, Southport	Single Dwelling with reduced side setback
PA2013/0482	135 Southport Rd, Tumbling Waters	Subdivision for the purpose of a lease in excess of 12 years.
PA2013/0469	595 Goode Rd, Humpty Doo	Subdivision to create 2 lots

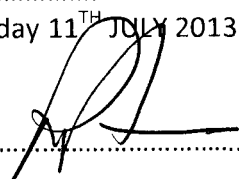
June 2013 Waste Transfer Station Report

Waste types	Howard Springs	Humpty Doo	Berry Springs
Batteries	0	0	Not Accepted
Cardboard	26 x 3m3	39 x 3m3	
Co-mingle	11 x 3m3	24 x 3m3	
Construction Waste	Not Accepted	54.11 tonnes	Not Accepted
Mulch Sales	114 m3	292 m3	Not Accepted
Non Litchfield Residents	27	27	Not Accepted
Scrap Metals	5 x 30 m3	42.42 tonnes (12 bins)	
Used Oil	1200 litres	1454 litres	Not Accepted
Waste	183.98 tonnes	401.57 tonnes	140.79 tonnes
White Goods	1 x 30 m3	5.76 tonnes (2 bins)	

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MAYOR

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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Graeme Francis provided an overview on the visit to Waste Depots in South Australia
Integrated Waste Services Wingfield SA, SA Landfill \$100 to \$128 per tonne into EPA landfills.
Baled into polypropylene webbed bags. 1.2 tonne domestic waste equals 1m3 into landfill, like building bricks with loose domestic waste over the top, compacted, handling 200,000 tonnes per year.
The market for cardboard is via Visy to South East Asia.
Cavan buy HDPE and LDPE plastics e.g. Plastic bags and milk bottles at \$200 to \$600 per tonne then sell Granules at \$600 - \$1200 per tonne. Plastic is shredded into 10mm squares then extruded into droplets that fall into water to create granules 6 mm in diameter.
The Baler cost \$750K and produces 3000 tonne per week.
High density and low density polypropylene buying \$600 per tonne, selling at \$600 to \$1200 per tonne after processing.
Cavan also have an incinerator for medical waste.
The Fleurieu Regional Waste Authority (FRWA), is made up of 4 Councils the main transfer station being Goolwa Waste Transfer Station. One district costs 85c per bin lift whilst in another district the cost is \$1.33 per bin lift. FRWA are using contractors and advised not to use contractors. They have 12 trucks. They are trialling removing domestic waste by recycling everything putrescibles.

It was **resolved** that Council note the Director of Planning and Works tabled report.

MOVED: M BOWMAN
SECONDED: V STATHAM
CARRIED

8a BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND WORKS REPORT - JUNE

Councillor Salter queried the difference between road patching, the last report had 38 and this months report had 5, was there a backlog? Director of Planning and Works Graeme Francis advised that it is a cycle and the contract is now finished.

Councillor Bowman queried:-

Whether the waste statistics was waste going out of the waste transfer stations. Director of Planning and Works, Graeme Francis advised yes.

What that is worth to Veolia. Director of Planning and Works, Graeme Francis advised as we don't have scales to determine the weights we do not know.

Why have the tractors stopped slashing? Director of Planning and Works, Graeme Francis advised due to the total fire ban.

Is there an approval to how much verge work is required by the mobile work force? There is no resource issue; the crew has completed the works.

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MAYOR

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

We have received many thank you emails from a lot of ratepayers regarding the mobile work force using ride on mowers.

9. POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION MATTERS:

9.1 PA13/DMRC/004: DOGS MANAGEMENT BY-LAWS - AMENDMENTS

It was **resolved** that Council:

- a) approves the draft amendments to the by-laws;
- b) approves the advertisement for public comment and submission in regard to the amendments,
- c) approves for Council staff to set the dates for public meetings at various locations; Howard Springs, Knuckey Lagoon, Humpty Doo, Berry Springs, Livingstone and Freds Pass.

MOVED: V. STATHAM
SECONDED: M. BOWMAN
CARRIED

10. COMMUNITY ISSUES – PETITIONS/REQUESTS

Nil

11. FINANCE AND RECREATION MATTERS:

11.1 FR13/FIN/006 JUNE 2013 FINANCIALS

Council noted the June 2013 Financial Reports.

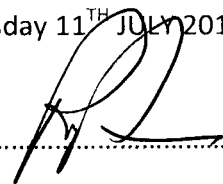
MOVED: M. BOWMAN
SECONDED: V. STATHAM
CARRIED
Councillor Salter abstained

11.2 FR13/SPG/015 GRANT ACQUITTAL SPECIAL PURPOSE GRANT – LIVINGSTONE RECREATION RESERVE REAR VERANDAH

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MAYOR

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

It was **resolved** that Council:-

- a) approves the acquittal of \$80,695.00 Special Purpose Grant for the upgrade of the Livingstone Recreation Reserve hall rear verandah from the Department of Housing and Local Government and Regional Services, and
- b) express appreciation to the Livingstone Recreation Reserve Management Board for its excellent management of the project.

MOVED: M. BOWMAN

SECONDED: V. STATHAM

CARRIED

12. PLANNING AND WORKS MATTERS:

12.1 PW13/DUMPS/002 LI WASTE INFRASTRUCTURE, RECYCLING SHED, REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUSTRALIA FUND

It was **resolved** that Council:-

- a) apply for funds through the Regional Development Australia Fund Round 5 to contribute towards infrastructure required for the new Recycling Shed at the Humpty Doo Waste Transfer Station, and
- b) include in the application the provision of a glass crusher unit and a baling unit to be used within the facility.

MOVED: M. BOWMAN

SECONDED: V. STATHAM

CARRIED

9.45 p.m. Will Green left the meeting.

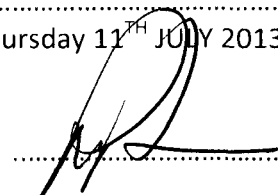
13. MAYOR'S REPORT: JULY

Public Relations Officer Sally Clayton and I attended the Australia Day Conference in Canberra on the 13th and 14th of June. The conference work-shopped 'how to organise Australia Day Events'. The presenters explained how they had organised Australia Day Events previously. The Barkly Shire representative from Tennant Creek spoke on what they done and how they got the people involved. It's the involvement by the community that makes the Australian Day Event special. What I did learn, is that the amount of money that Councils put's towards

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MAYOR

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Australia Day is relevant to their population, and the rest of the money needed for the events is obtained by donations and volunteers put in a fair bit of work. It was important to see the events that other Councils organise and assess if we can do the same. Australia Day is about bringing the community together to share, care and enjoy the day.

While in Canberra I attended the National General Assembly of Local Government of Australia. Attendance included Mayors, Presidents and CEO's from the five hundred and sixty Council's in Australia. This year was the largest attendance as there was over a thousand of us turning up for the event. It was very informative with lots of networking and discovering how local government services are provided by other Council's. The Honourable Anthony Albanese MP was a speaker and also Senator Barnaby Joyce. Both spoke why the community should say "YES" to the local government referendum that is coming up at the next election. They explained how Council's should engage with the community, letting them know why it is needed. In the last four years Litchfield Council has received approximately \$5million of direct funding from the Federal Government to maintain our roads and upgrade facilities. It is this direct funding from the Federal Government that is jeopardised if there is a "NO" vote at the referendum. I attended the official dinner functions at Parliament House and was a little disappointed that we did not have a lot of politicians attend and actually sit at our tables and talk with us. The then Prime Minister, Julia Gillard spoke at the dinner and asked us to think about the cars that Councils around Australia buy and to buy Australian made cars instead of imported cars to keep Australian jobs.

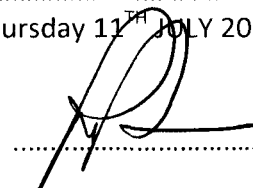
After the conference I visited the nearby Snowy River Shire Council to see how they implemented their waste bin collection in the rural area. Their area is similar in size and set up as to what we have in Litchfield. The Municipality has the same problems we do with two seasons, wet season and they have the snow season. This means it is difficult for them to get around the Council area like it is for us in the wet season. One of the good ideas they have, that would work well here is a bin bank at the end of the roads so the trucks do not have to go all the way down some difficult roads in their area. Another innovative system we looked at was the computer program and how they managed the whole waste system. This will help if we go down that same path of a roadside pickup of our waste and recycling.

Currently the NT Government has provided funding to the six Top End Councils (TOPROC) to research and develop a governance system for the Councils to fund and manage waste. It is this reason I stopped in Adelaide on the way back to speak to the Executive Officer, Marina Wagner of the Fleurieu Regional Waste Authority on the outskirts of Adelaide. They are a regional group of four councils similar to our TOPROC group, that have come together to deal with their waste problems. The Fleurieu Regional Waste Authority provides a waste service to an area similar to the six Northern Territory Council's. Veolia, our current waste contractor also invited us to look at their recycle centre and incinerator while in Adelaide. The shed we visited

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MAYOR

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

had a materials recovery plant in it and Veolia explained how it worked. All up, I gathered a lot of information on what we could, should or shouldn't be doing in waste management.

I have also conducted two Australian Citizenship Ceremonies this month and it is lovely to see new Australians walking out of the office with a smile on their face.

Last Saturday Brett Overend and I sat on the side of Morgan Road, Virginia for four hours, approximately thirty people stopped to talk to us. A signed petition on lifting the speed limits from 60km per hour to 80km per hour is currently in the hands of the Engineer for a decision.

It was **resolved** that Council note the Mayor' Report.

MOVED: V. STATHAM

SECONDED: M. BOWMAN

CARRIED

14. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT: JULY

The Chief Executive Officer advised that the Reserve Management Boards are concerned with insurance. A meeting was held here in June with the Management Boards informing them that they are required to maintain their own insurance. Some confusion was raised regarding public liability and fixed assets cover. Council will continue to cover these costs. The Management Boards must obtain association indemnity insurance. To reduce the cost all Management Boards could obtain a common policy for association indemnity as they are individual Incorporated Associations (not affiliated with Council) as per the Associations Act.

It was good to network with the other Councils at the National General Assembly as we have common issues. I have a copy of the 2013/2014 Regions National Economics Report; which I will make available to the Councillors. For example 64 motions were put to the assembly debating water storage (dams). Roper Gulf Shire put forward a motion regarding the Container Deposit Scheme.

It was **resolved** that Council note the Chief Executive Officer's Report.

MOVED: M. BOWMAN

SECONDED: V. STATHAM

CARRIED

15. URGENT GENERAL BUSINESS: JULY

Nil

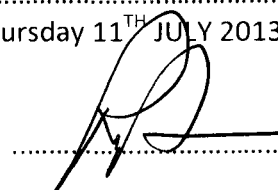
16. NOTICE OF MOTION: JULY

Nil

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MAYOR

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

17. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC GALLERY: JULY Nil
18. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS: JULY Nil
19. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS: JULY

Councillor Salter asked the Director of Planning and Works, Graeme Francis if he had seen a development application for a second dwelling on Mango Road, Girraween. The Director of Planning and Works, Graeme Francis answered that he did not recall but would follow up.

20. CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS:

ADJOURNMENT OF PUBLIC MEETING:

That pursuant to Section 65 (2) of the Local Government Act and Regulation 8 of the Local Government (Administration Regulations) the meeting is closed at 10.13 p.m. to the public to consider the Confidential Items of the Agenda.

Christine Osborn left the meeting at 10.13 p.m.

The Meeting reconvened at 10.20 p.m.

ACCEPTING OR DECLINING LATE ITEMS:

20.1 FR13/CRR/001LI **RATING COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY ON LAND ZONED FOR OTHER USE (20.3)**

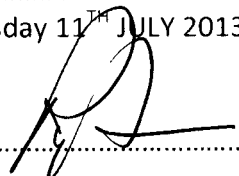
It was **resolved** that Council accept the late item tabled being rating commercial activity on land zoned for other use.

MOVED: M. BOWMAN
SECONDED: V. STATHAM
CARRIED

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MAYOR

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

20.2 FR13/RTP/197: **RATES – FINANCIAL HARDSHIP – CONFIDENTIAL - 10053163**

It was **resolved** that Council:-

- a) waiver interest on rates incurred since 6th February 2012, and
- b) do not charge interest on rates owing until the estate is settled.

MOVED: M. SALTER
SECONDED: M. BOWMAN
CARRIED

20.3 FR13/CRR/001LI **RATING COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY ON LAND ZONED FOR
OTHER USE**

Council **deferred** this matter pending further investigations.

MOVED: A MCKAY
SECONDED: M SALTER
CARRIED

Councillor Bowman and Deputy Mayor Statham voted against the motion.
Mayor McKay used his casting vote for the motion.

21. CLOSE OF MEETING The Meeting closed at 10.40 p.m.

22. NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY 8th AUGUST 2013

MINUTES CONFIRMED
8TH AUGUST 2013

.....
MAYOR

.....
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

.....
This is page **15** of **15** of the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held Thursday 11TH JULY 2013

.....
MAYOR

.....
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



LITCHFIELD COUNCIL MUNICIPAL PLAN 2013/2014



Contact:
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Corporate Service Manager
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Appendix 1 Fees and Charges 2013/2014

INTRODUCTION AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Litchfield Council has developed the Strategic Plan, Budget and Municipal Plan with consultation and numerous workshops. This Council is committed to providing a cost efficient, open and accountable system of local government for ratepayers.

The Municipal Plan for 2013-2014 incorporates the Five Goals from Council's "Strategic Plan 2013 - 2016". This requires Council to exercise sound business acumen in ensuring sustainable service levels are provided within the Municipality that safeguard councils amenity and provide necessary infrastructure.

This includes maintaining a rating methodology of a fixed charge for residential, a new rate for the urban type sub-divisions with a (0.0007880%) valuation-base charged for Commercial. (See pages 12 to 14)

The budget includes the following cost increases:

- 20 % Power increase,
- 5.5% City of Darwin landfill cost for dumping waste at Shoal Bay,
- 20 % increase cost to the road seal.

Highlights

This year Council approved that rates are to be paid in two instalments dates being 28th September 2012 and 28th February 2014.

Council Infrastructure Program for 2013-2014 total \$8,115,312.
comprising of

- **Repairs and Maintenance** **\$3,220,312.**
(Infrastructure Operation, Mobile workforce, Street Lighting, Culvert, Easement, Drainage, Patching, Shoulders, Grading, Tree lopping, Kerbing, Signage and Road sweeping)
- **Capital Works** **\$3,195,000.**
(New Road Seal, Reseals, Regravelling, Pavement Rehabilitation, and a new Cycle path.)
- **New Recycle Shed** **\$1,700,000.**
(Stage 2 of the Humpty Doo Waste Transfer Station Project)

In 2009/2010 Council introduced a special rate levy of \$50 per rate payer for 10 years for Stage 1 of the Humpty Doo Waste Transfer Station project for

\$3m. Stage 2 will commence in 2013-2014, extending this special rate levy of \$50 for an additional 3 years.

- Recreation Reserves \$950,450.
(Operational, Repairs and Maintenance)

The *Local Government Act* provides Council with the means to sell land in order to recover long term unpaid rates. Currently the total amount outstanding is in the order of \$3,800,000. Council will continue to register unpaid rates as a debt on land and sell land to recover unpaid rates. This process also assists in ensuring future rate increases remain at a sustainable level.

The 2013-2014 Draft Litchfield Council Municipal Plan will be exhibited for public consultation for 21 days as prescribed by the *Local Government Act*. During this time the public is invited to comment on the Draft Plan. The period for comment closes on the 24 June 2013.

Comments can be made via council's email – diane.chellingworth@lc.nt.gov.au or by written submission to Ms Diane Chellingworth, Corporate Services Manager, Litchfield Council, PO Box 446, Humpty Doo NT 0836.

Allan McKay
Mayor

Russell Anderson
Chief Executive Officer

LITCHFIELD COUNCIL VISION AND VALUES

Our MOTTO

"Community Effort is Essential"

Our VISION

"To promote and support our rural lifestyle"

Our MISSION

"Provision of services of an acceptable standard and level of bureaucracy from a minimum rate levy."

Our VALUES

We believe in:

Accountable local government.

A safe environment.

Quality rural amenities and services.

Rural sports and recreation reserves.

Communication.

Promotion.

We will strive to:

Provide a system of local government for the ratepayer that is open, accountable and accessible and has a positive public image.

Create a safe environment that meets community needs.

Ensure a level of service based on a sustainable level of rates that protects rural amenities and essential services. Actively engage with the NT Government to plan for future expansion and provision of services.

Maintain and promote our sports and recreational reserves whilst identifying new areas to be established. Engage with the NT and Federal Governments to assist with infrastructure upgrades within all Municipal Sports Centres & Reserves

Communicate effectively with residents concerning the services we provide as Local Government and actively seek feedback. Engage with the NT Government to maintain close open and effective lines of communication.

Actively promote the role and activities of the Litchfield Council.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES OF COUNCIL

<u>PROGRAM</u>	<u>SERVICE OR FUNCTION</u>
1) Governance	Provision of support and governance to Council incorporating the areas of the CEO, Elected Members, Public Relations, Community Support, Information Management, and providing services in relation to Governance and the conduct of Civic functions.
2) Corporate Services	Provision of general administration support to Council including Rates, Human Resources, Financial Services, Record Management, and corporate relations.
3) Regulatory Services	Implementing the Council by-laws for dog management and provide support to landowners to control feral dogs.
4) Infrastructure	<p>Provide for the maintenance of Council's road network comprising 571km of sealed roads, 179km of unsealed roads and drainage systems and 7.1km of cycle path.</p> <p>Provide slashing and weed control for Council's land, road reserves and easements.</p>
5) Waste Management	Provide a waste management service to the Litchfield Municipality by making available three waste transfer stations for the disposal of domestic garbage and at each transfer station site provide an area for the disposal of green waste and resource recovery.
6) Community Services	<p>Provide financial assistance for the on-going maintenance and preservation of the Litchfield Collection at the Taminmin Library.</p> <p>Provide encouragement and financial assistance to senior students within the Municipality by the provision of an annual scholarship.</p> <p>Assist Litchfield Municipality families with infant burial costs.</p>

7) Property Management

Provide financial and strategic support to the seven Council recreational reserves to assist with the provision of both active and passive recreation facilities.

Provide ongoing maintenance to recreational areas under Council's responsibility outside the seven designated recreation reserves.

8) Thorak Regional Cemetery

Manage and maintain Thorak Regional Cemetery to the highest standard.

Provide a service for local residents and those from outside the Litchfield Municipality for the use of the burial and cremation facilities at Thorak Regional Cemetery.

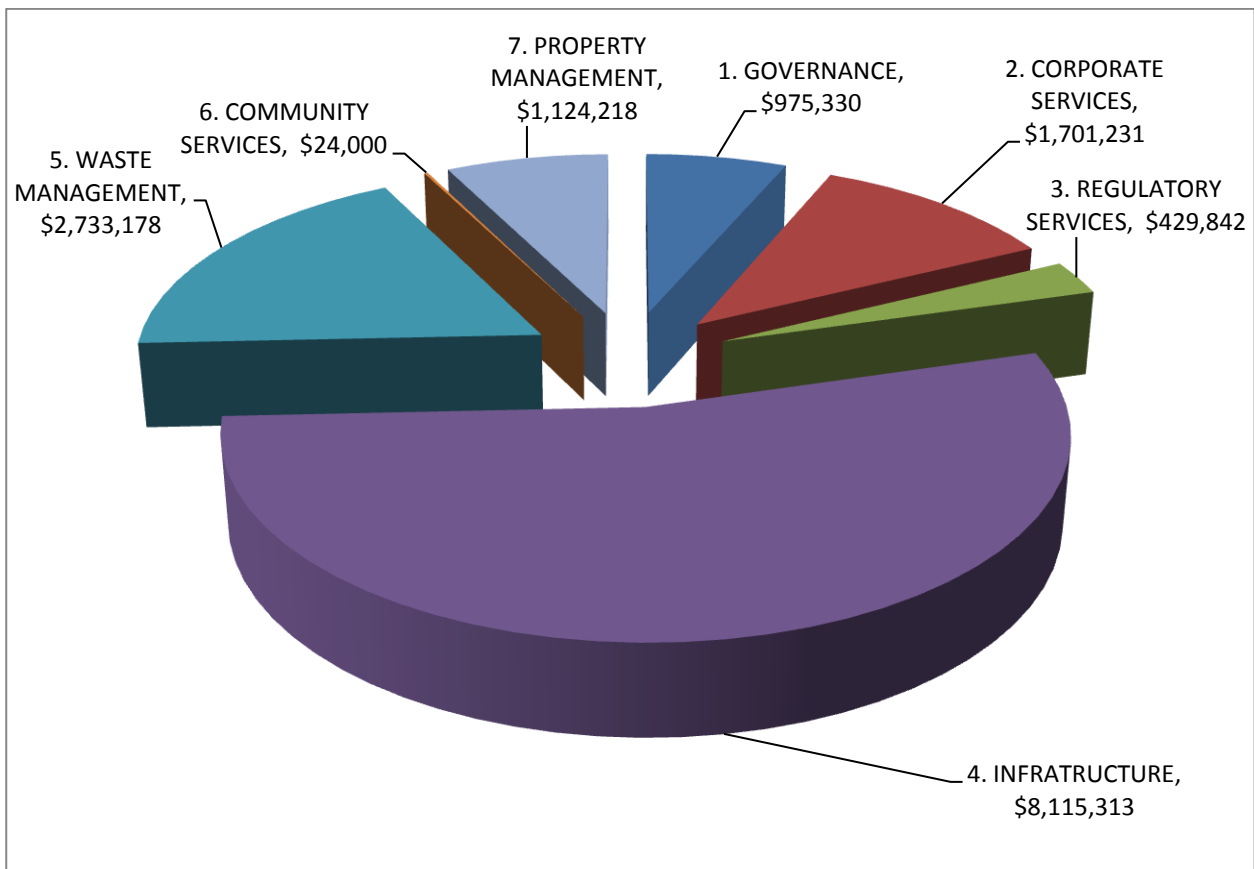
PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES OF COUNCIL

The operations of Council incorporate two principal activities “**Council**” and “**Cemetery**”

The “Council” program includes:

- Governance
- Corporate Services
- Regulatory Services
- Infrastructure
- Waste Management
- Community Services
- Property Management

Total estimated expenditure for the above programs for 2013-2014 is \$15,103,111



Thorak Regional Cemetery - Litchfield Council was entrusted with sole management and operation of the cemetery in 2008.

The “Cemetery” program includes:

- Burials and Cremations
- Chapel Hire
- Grounds Maintenance
- Total estimated expenditure for the Cemetery program for 2013-2014 is \$911,973.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT

This Plan is prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Northern Territory Local Government Act. Relevant sections of the Act are:

Part 3.2 Municipal or shire plans

22. Municipal or shire plans

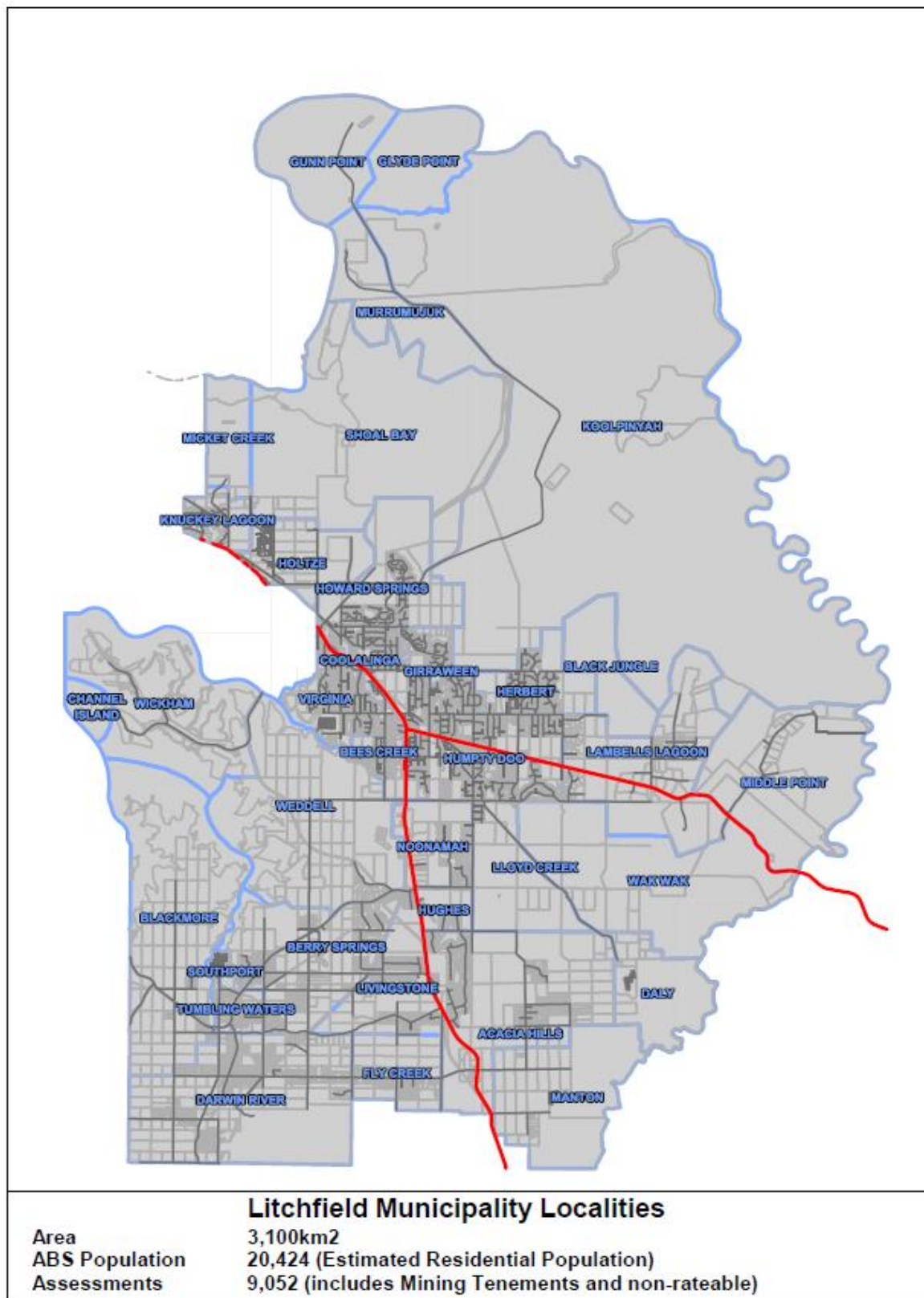
- (1) Each council must have a plan for its area.
- (2) The plan for a municipal council is called the municipal plan and for a shire council, the shire plan.
- (3) A council's municipal or shire plan:
 - (a) must be accessible on the council's website; and
 - (b) must be available for inspection at the council's public office; and
 - (c) must be available for purchase at a fee fixed by the council from the council's public office.

23. Contents of municipal or shire plan

- (1) A municipal or shire plan:
 - (a) must contain:
 - (i) a service delivery plan for the period to which the municipal or shire plan relates prepared in accordance with planning requirements specific in a relevant regional management plan; and
 - (ii) the council's budget; and
 - (b) must contain, or incorporate by reference:
 - (i) any long-term community or strategic plans adopted by the council or a local board and relevant to the period to which the municipal or shire plan relates; and
 - (ii) the council's long-term financial plan; and
 - (c) must contain, or incorporate by reference, the council's most recent assessment of:

- (i) the adequacy of constitutional arrangements presently in force for the council under this Act and, in particular, whether they provide the most effective possible representation for the area; and
 - (ii) the opportunity and challenges for local government service delivery in the council's area; and
 - (iii) possible changes to the administrative and regulatory framework for delivering local government services in the council's area over the period to which the plan relates; and
 - (iv) whether possibilities exist for improving local government service delivery by co-operation with other council's, or with government agencies or other organisations; and
 - (d) must define indicators for judging the standard of its performance.
- (2) A council must make or revise an assessment of the matters mentioned in subsection (1)(c) at least once in the council's term and, until the council makes or revises the assessment, the municipal or shire plan is to include the assessment (if any) made during the previous term of the council.

LITCHFIELD COUNCIL MUNICIPALITY



RATES

Rating Strategies

Litchfield Council has adopted a Rating Policy pursuant to Section 148 of the Local Government Act in which it will apply

- (a) a fixed amount (a **fixed charge**) for each allotment; or
- (b) an amount (a **valuation-based charge**) calculated as a proportion of the assessed value of each allotment; or
- (c) a combination of:
 - (i) fixed charges (for different purposes); or
 - (ii) a fixed charge (or fixed charges) and a valuation-based charge.

If rates consist of, or include, a valuation-based charge, the charge may be subject to a specified minimum (a minimum charge).

Pursuant to Section 149 of the Act, the Council adopts the Unimproved Capital Value method as the basis of the assessed value of allotments within the council area.

Council's rate setting and charging structures are based on the following principles:

- Equity**; defined as broad based and reasonable stakeholder acceptance of each rate or charge structure, derived from an appropriate balance of the principles of user pays versus capacity to pay or deemed capacity to pay on a case-by-case basis.
- Effectiveness/Efficiency**; defined as meeting the financial, social, economic, environmental or other corporate objectives of the Council as stated in its long term plans and policies.
- Simplicity**; to ensure widespread community or stakeholder understanding, and minimise perceived inequities and hidden costs, in a complex system.
- Sustainability**; revenue decisions support the financial strategies for the delivery of infrastructure and services identified in Council's long term planning.

Council's rates and charges will include:

Fixed Amount Rates on all residential allotments (excluding urban development's);

Fixed Amount Rate on all residential allotments within an urban development with a charge of \$1,060.

Valuation-based charge (0.0015769 to be applied in full over the next two years) for all allotments zoned, (C,CB,SC,TC,LI,GI and DV) with a minimal charge \$1,050.

Valuation based charge (0.0015769) on properties on which a Gas Plant is located

Valuation based charge (0.003154) on properties on which a Workers Village is located

Fixed Amount Rates: pastoral leases and mining tenements as approved by the Minister.

Other Rates; there are other rates which apply to the sealing of roads or to the provision of other services;

Annual Charges; these apply in relation to waste management, namely the operational costs of the three waste transfer stations

Council's key proposals for 2013/2014 are:

Planning Zone	Code
Single Dwelling Residential; Rural Residential; Rural Living; Rural	SD; RR; RL; R
Multiple Dwelling Residential; Medium Dwelling Residential; High Density Residential	MD; MR; HR
Central Business	CB
Future Development, Specific Use; Community Purposes; Restricted Development; Utilities; Community Living	FD; SU; CP; RD; U; CL
Tourist Commercial; Heritage	TC; HT
Commercial; Service Commercial	C; SC
Caravan Parks	CV
Public Open Space; Conservation	PS; CN
Organised Recreation	OR
General Industry; Development	GI; DV
Light Industry	LI
GI Special Minimum	

- 1) Indicate on the rate notice the components that apply to the various sections of revenue that are applied to each allotment.

a) General Rate residential zoned allotments	\$ 636.00
b) General rate for urban type sub-divisions	\$1,060.00
c) Mining Tenements	\$ 815.30
d) Valuation-based charge of (0.0007880) on all allotments within the(C,CB,SC,TC,LI, GI and DV zoning), with a minimal charge	\$1,050.00
e) Valuation-based charge of (0.0007880) on all residential land on which a commercial activity is undertaken, with a minimal charge	\$1,050.00
f) Pastoral lease	\$ 344.49

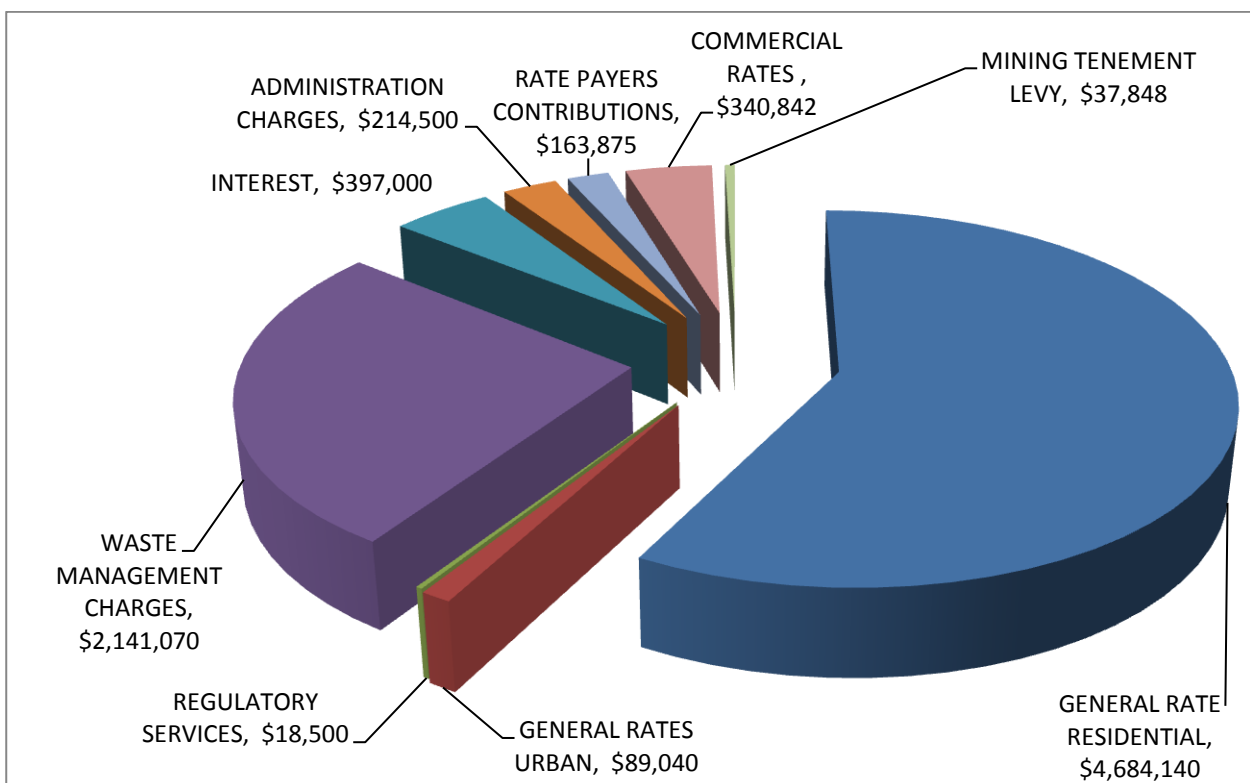
g) Special Rate (where applicable)

h) Waste Management Charge \$ 290.00

i) Special Rate – Waste Transfer Station \$ 50.00

2) An overall increase in rate by 6% and no increase to fees and charges.

The total revenue of \$8,086,816 generated in 2013/2014 through rates and fee charges is summarised below by major category.



Waste Management Charges

A single service charge of \$290.00 per annum will be applied to each allotment, other than Commercial, for the management of the three waste transfer stations within the Municipality. Council has estimated 11,000 tonnes will be transported to Shoal Bay in 2013-2014 at a cost of \$75.50 per tonne thus dumping fees will total \$830,500. The transport costs to Shoal Bay are estimated to be \$453,000. Other operating costs at the three transfer stations have been estimated as \$962,678.

Social and Economic Impacts

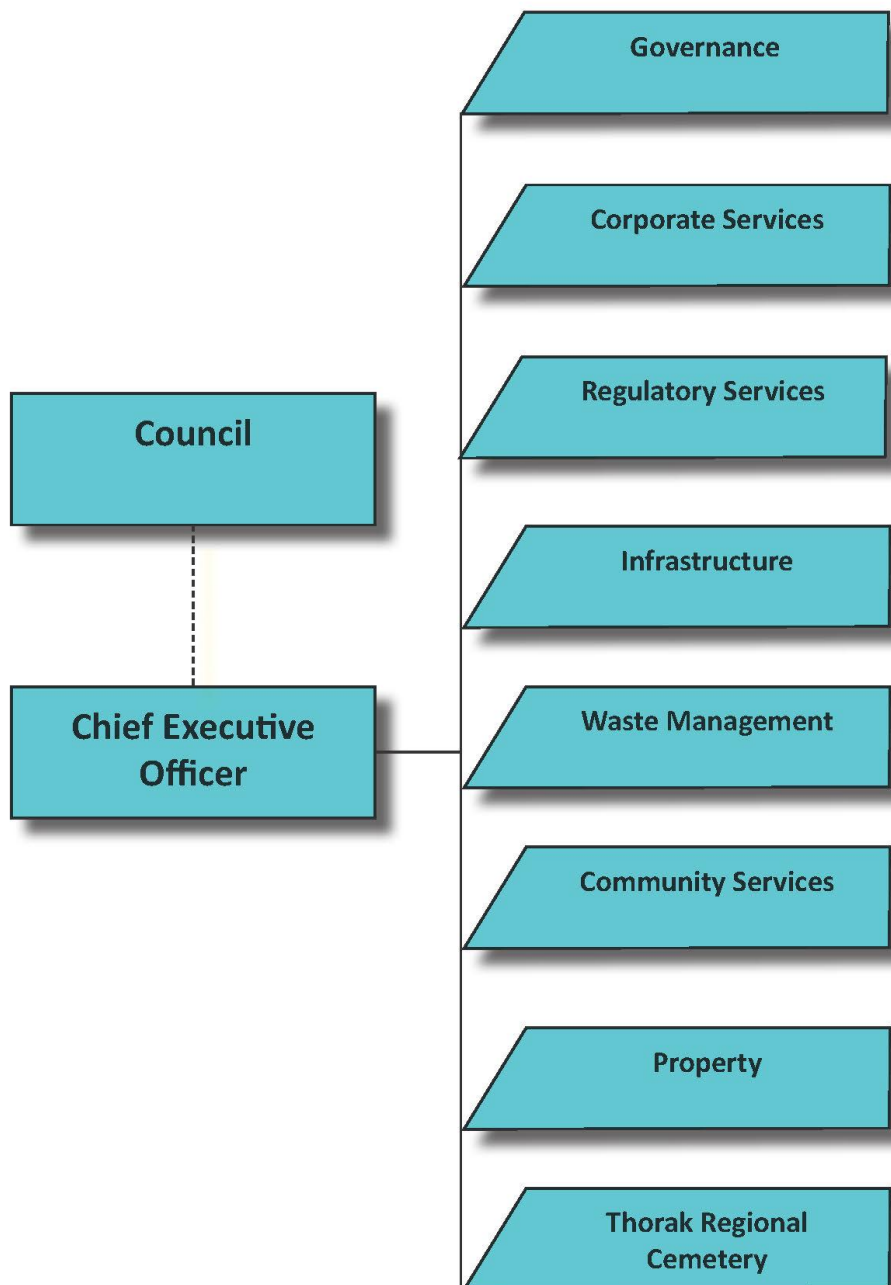
Council's rates and fees are set each year with regard to a number of factors including increases in the cost of providing services, proposed capital works and increases in service levels or other Council initiatives. Council also considers statistical indicators such as the Consumer Price Index and the Tender Price Index.

Council aims to keep the increase in rates to a minimum in order to lessen the financial impact on ratepayers, but at the same time, generate sufficient income to provide adequate levels of service and achievement of its objectives.

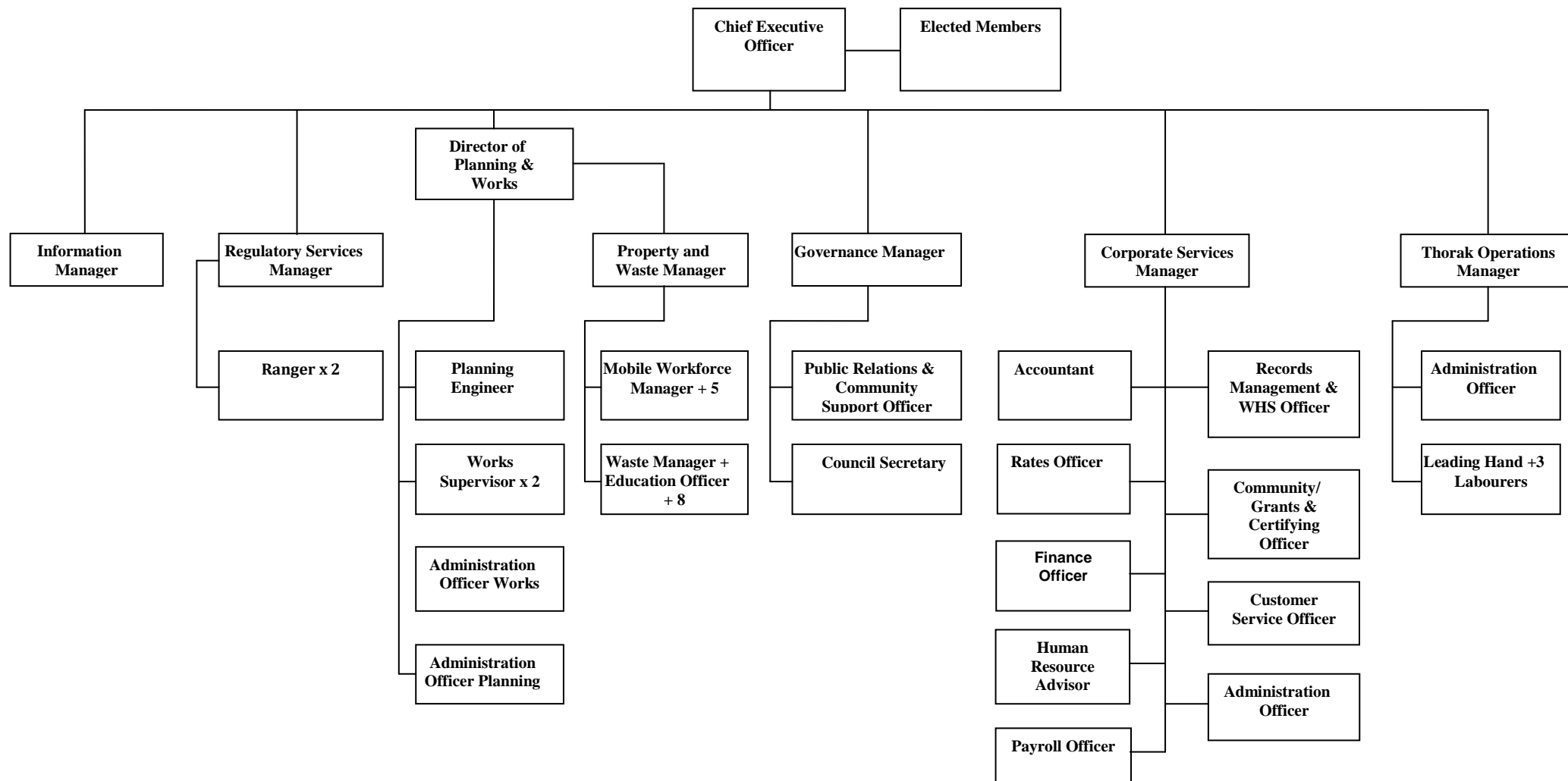
Litchfield Council's outstanding rates have been reduced by the sale of land for unpaid rates. Litchfield Council will continue this process during the 2013/2014 financial year in conjunction with other recovery initiatives.

Litchfield Council

Business Structure



ORGANISATION CHART



ELECTED MEMBER ALLOWANCES

In accordance with Section 71(3) of the Local Government Act, Litchfield Council will adopt the Ministerial guidelines for maximum fees and allowances in 2013/2014.

Council at its meeting on Tuesday 8th May 2012 resolved to:

- a) Council to adopt the Ministerial guidelines for maximum fees and allowances.

Title	Base Allowance	Electoral Allowance	Professional Development Allowance	Max extra meeting allowance	Total Claimable
Mayor	\$68,395.47	\$18,002.23	\$3,417.35		\$89,815.05
Deputy	\$25,290.82	\$4,501.38	\$3,417.35		\$33,209.55
Councillor	\$12,301.14	\$4,501.38	\$3,417.35	\$8,200.76	\$28,420.63
Councillor	\$12,301.14	\$4,501.38	\$3,417.35	\$8,200.76	\$28,420.63
Councillor	\$12,301.14	\$4,501.38	\$3,417.35	\$8,200.76	\$28,420.63

The total amount budgeted for the above is \$208,286.49

Base Allowance

The base allowance covers those activities required of a council member in the performance of his or her role as an elected representative. Without limiting the generality of the preceding sentence, the base allowance covers:

- (a) agenda study and meeting preparation;
- (b) attendance at regular council meetings;
- (c) attendance at social functions as a council representative;
- (d) constituency responsibilities; and
- (e) council representation outside the Municipality area, including delegations interstate and overseas, unless such representation has extra meeting approval.

Regular meetings are Litchfield Council Ordinary Meetings.

Electoral Allowance is provided to assist Elected Members with electoral matters. It may be used at the discretion of individual Elected Members. .

Extra Meeting Allowance covers attendance at those activities required of an Elected Member that are not covered by the Base Allowance. The following activities are eligible for the Extra Meeting Allowance:

- a) Council Committee meetings;
- b) Council Advisory Committee meetings;
- c) Special meetings, including meetings of Council, Council Committees and Council Advisory Committees;
- d) Council workshops;

- e) Meetings of external agencies or organisations to which Council has formally appointed, or nominated through or with LGANT, a representative; and
- f) Professional development courses and conferences.

The Principal Member, Deputy Principal Member and Acting Principal Member are not eligible for the Extra Meeting Allowance. In accordance with the Guidelines, this is provided for and included in the Base Allowance.

Extra Meeting Allowance shall be \$163.00 for meetings less than 2 hours and \$270.00 for meetings over 2 hours and may be claimed for up to two meetings per day.

Extra Meeting Allowance is capped for each financial year pursuant to the Table of Maximum Allowances provided by the Minister for Local Government for the applicable financial year.

Professional Development Allowance is payable to Elected Members to attend approved conferences and training courses which sustain a member's professional competence and able to comply with professional standards applicable to their role as a member of council.

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACTS

Council's rates and fees are set each year with regard to a number of factors including increases in the cost of providing services, proposed capital works and increases in service levels or other Council initiatives. Council also considers statistical indicators such as the Consumer Price Index and the Tender Price Index.

Council aims to keep the increase in rates to a minimum in order to lessen the financial impact on ratepayers, but at the same time, generate sufficient income to provide adequate levels of service and achievement of its objectives.

Litchfield Council's outstanding rates have been reduced by the sale of land for unpaid rates. Litchfield Council will continue this process during the 2013/2014 financial year in conjunction with other recovery initiatives.

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Performance against the Municipal Plan will be monitored by Council on a quarterly basis. Performance is also monitored through monthly reports to Council by the Chief Executive Officer and Director Planning & Works measuring against Program statements.

As required by the Local Government (Accounting) Regulations, a finance report is presented monthly to Council which compares actual to budgeted estimate revenue and expenditure.

COUNCIL'S OBJECTIVES, MEASURES AND INDICATORS

OBJECTIVES	MEASURES	INDICATORS	
Support for the operations of the Elected Members of Council. Maintain meaningful involvement with relevant local government and other associations and ensure Council's views to relevant issues are presented to representative bodies	Provision of organisational administrative support for the Mayor and Elected Members of Council by way of compliance with legislation, effective and cordial communication with the public, government and private sector organisations.	Compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements Councillors meeting attendance	100% >10 meetings
Provision of strategic leadership and direction of Council's corporate programs and activities ensuring efficient and effective service delivery to all internal and external customers of the Corporate Services Department. Management through the Corporate Services Team of the human, physical and financial resources, and the risks of Council	Provision of strategic and operational leadership in relation to customer services, staff issues and the management of revenue functions of Council in relation to the collection of rate revenues and the management of Council's debtors. In addition the implementation of audit recommendation and compliance with Australian Accounting Standards and Local Government Regulations.	Reduce balance of outstanding rates Compliance with acquittal procedure for Grants and allocated funding Council operating within budget of a variance less than	>30% 100% 5%
Management of domestic animals through the implementation and enforcement of the Litchfield Council Rural Dog Management By-laws, including population control and management of feral dogs within the Municipality	Provide dog management services and enforcement of Dog By-laws for Litchfield residents with regard to the impounding of stray dogs, micro-chipping of dogs, investigation of reports by residents of aggressive or nuisance animals, removal of aggressive dogs, provision of dog traps, education of dog owners and a primary school dog safety program. Maintain the Feral Dog Management Program to reduce the number of attacks against domestic animals and the population management of feral dogs within the Litchfield Municipality.	Provide Dog Safety program to schools within the Municipality Dog microchip records on Council's registration data base	>4 schools 1500 records
Provision of leadership and direction in relation to Council's works, core services, asset management and planning responsibilities with special emphasis on the efficiency of capital works, condition of the existing road infrastructure, drainage, opening new roads, the review of the development levy and the ongoing progress of Council's road sealing program.	Efficient implementation of Council's policies in relation to all planning and works matters, the conduct of contract and tender procedures and adherence to the requirements of the <i>Planning Act</i> as it affects the Municipality. Provision of quality technical planning advice to Council, residents and developers and provision of efficient financial progress reports.	Provide safe unsealed roads within the Municipality by grading all unsealed roads. Clearing and rehabilitation of open unlined Drains and culverts Effective weed management program to minimise spread of noxious weeds within the Municipality	>4 rounds grading >80% Serviceable >2 rounds spraying

OBJECTIVES	MEASURES	INDICATORS	
Implementation of an environmentally sustainable waste management system for Council's waste disposal facility, transfer stations and recycling operations	Provision of effective and efficient waste disposal and recycling services for the Municipality. Implementation of an effective education program in relation to the operation of the new recycling and transfer facility, its relationship with existing transfer stations, charges to be introduced and limitations imposed on domestic and commercial waste quantities. In addition, the provision of viable recycling opportunities and investigations	Reduce tonnage of waste transferred to Shoal Bay by recycling Mulch and sell green waste	> 10 % > 80 %
Progress Council's ongoing role in facilitating recognition of the needs of a Rural Community in relation to maintaining a rural lifestyle, provision of financial support to community organisations and programs, with special emphasis on youth, arts and civic activities. In addition, encouragement of students, within the Municipality by the provision of an annual scholarship. Support and funding for the Litchfield Collection at Taminmin Community Library	Provision of support and participation in community activities and programs, civic events, the enhancement of Council's profile in relation to the conduct of youth, art and leisure activities	Providing active support and participation in Community generated events Community organisation access and usage of Council's website	>12 attendances > 12 organisations
To provide and maintain Council assets including recreational areas and facilities in accordance with existing and developing needs. Assessment and recognition of Council asset and their benefit to the public	Maintenance of Council's property assets, passive and active recreational facilities in the Municipality with emphasis on community participation. Continued support of the seven sporting and recreation reserves managed by Council. Recognition of future needs in relation to their improvement and development. Ensuring effective operation by community based management boards.	To ensure Council's seven reserves are supported with adequate assistance to the Boards with minor new works to be compliant The maintenance of Council properties to meet all legislation requirements.	100% >50%
Conduct interments and cremations in accordance with the <i>Cemeteries Act</i> and Council policy. Provide quality maintenance and upkeep of the cemetery ensuring good access and an aesthetically pleasing environment	Provision of an appropriate seasonal ground upkeep cycle. The ongoing efficient management of the cremation and chapel facilities and installation of memorials and headstones in accordance with Council policies. Maintain accurate records of all cremations and interments	Increase new revenue services Community Satisfaction with the Operations, Grounds and Services	> 2 new Services >75%

Litchfield Council Municipal Financial Plan 2013- 2018 OPERATION - PROGRAMS	Budget 2013 / 14	Forward Estimate 2014 / 15	Forward Estimate 2015 / 16	Forward Estimate 2016/17	Forward Estimate 2017/18
1. GOVERNANCE	\$ 947,029.97	\$ 986,805.23	\$ 1,028,251.05	\$ 1,071,437.60	\$ 1,116,437.98
2. CORPORATE SERVICES	\$ 1,651,230.61	\$ 1,720,582.30	\$ 1,792,846.75	\$ 1,868,146.32	\$ 1,946,608.46
3. REGULATORY SERVICES	\$ 381,841.99	\$ 397,879.35	\$ 414,590.29	\$ 432,003.08	\$ 450,147.21
4. INFRASTRUCTURE	\$ 3,395,312.76	\$ 3,537,915.89	\$ 3,686,508.36	\$ 3,841,341.71	\$ 4,002,678.06
5. WASTE MANAGEMENT	\$ 2,566,178.00	\$ 2,673,957.48	\$ 2,786,263.69	\$ 2,903,286.76	\$ 3,025,224.81
6. COMMUNITY SERVICES	\$ 24,000.00	\$ 25,008.00	\$ 26,058.34	\$ 27,152.79	\$ 28,293.20
7. PROPERTY MANAGEMENT	\$ 1,124,218.00	\$ 1,171,435.16	\$ 1,220,635.43	\$ 1,271,902.12	\$ 1,325,322.01
OPERATION TOTAL	\$ 10,089,811.33	\$ 10,513,583.41	\$ 10,955,153.91	\$ 11,415,270.37	\$ 11,650,483.25

REVENUE - PROGRAMS					
1. GOVERNANCE	\$ 17,400.00	\$ 18,130.80	\$ 18,892.29	\$ 19,685.77	\$ 20,512.57
2. CORPORATE SERVICES	\$ 965,348.29	\$ 1,005,892.92	\$ 1,048,140.42	\$ 1,092,162.32	\$ 1,138,033.14
3. REGULATORY SERVICES	\$ 18,500.00	\$ 19,277.00	\$ 20,086.63	\$ 20,930.27	\$ 21,809.34
4. INFRASTRUCTURE	\$ 3,968,104.00	\$ 4,134,764.37	\$ 4,308,424.47	\$ 4,489,378.30	\$ 4,677,932.19
5. WASTE MANAGEMENT	\$ 2,701,920.00	\$ 2,815,400.64	\$ 2,933,647.47	\$ 3,056,860.66	\$ 3,185,248.81
6. COMMUNITY SERVICES	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
7. PROPERTY MANAGEMENT	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
REVENUE TOTAL	\$ 7,671,272.29	\$ 7,993,465.73	\$ 8,329,191.29	\$ 8,679,017.32	\$ 9,043,536.05

Surplus (Deficit) on Council Operations for the year

\$ (2,418,539.04)

LESS - CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

1. GOVERNANCE	\$ 28,300.00	\$ 29,488.60	\$ 30,727.12	\$ 32,017.66	\$ 33,362.40
2. CORPORATE SERVICES	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 52,100.00	\$ 54,288.20	\$ 56,568.30	\$ 58,944.17
3. REGULATORY SERVICES	\$ 48,000.00	\$ 50,016.00	\$ 52,116.67	\$ 54,305.57	\$ 56,586.41
4. INFRASTRUCTURE	\$ 4,720,000.00	\$ 4,918,240.00	\$ 5,124,806.08	\$ 5,340,047.94	\$ 5,564,329.95
5. WASTE MANAGEMENT	\$ 167,000.00	\$ 174,014.00	\$ 181,322.59	\$ 188,938.14	\$ 196,873.54
6. COMMUNITY SERVICES					

7. PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Surplus(Deficit) on Council Operations and Capitals for the year

\$ (7,431,839.04)

transfer to Reserves IDL 2013/2014

\$ (300,000.00)

transfer from Reserves IDL Monies for Works 2013/2014

\$ 743,482.63

transfer to Reserve - Waste Levy \$50 - 7677

\$ (383,850.00)

transfer from Reserves funding for Infrastructure Capital - Loan

\$ 2,260,000.00

Amount required from Rates

\$ (5,112,206.41)

2013/2014 Rates based on (7,365) properties at a rate of \$636

\$ 4,684,140.00

2013/2014 Rates - Urban properties 84 at a rate of 1060

\$ 89,040.00

2013/2014 Commercial Rates properties 236

\$ 340,842.48

Surplus(Deficit) of Budget 2013/2014

\$ 1,816.07

Program 1 Profile: Governance

Department: Governance

Responsible Officer: Chief Executive Officer

Strategic Goal: 1. Effective leadership and governance

Primary Outcome: 1.1 Lead within the mission of provision of services of acceptable standard and level of bureaucracy from minimal rate levy.

Description:

Support for the operations of the Elected Members of Council. Maintain meaningful involvement with relevant local government and other associations and ensure Council's views to relevant issues are presented to representative bodies.

Outputs/Service Levels:

Provision of organisational administrative support for the Mayor and Elected Members of Council by way of compliance with legislation, effective and cordial communication with the public, government and private sector organisations.

2013/2014 Budget:

Operational Income:	(\$1,000)	Capital Income:	(\$16,400)
Operational Expenditure:	\$947,030	Capital Expenditure:	\$28,300
Net Operating Cost:	\$946,030	Net Capital Cost:	\$11,900

Key Performance Indicators:

Target

Compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements

100%

Councillors meeting attendance

> 10 meetings

Program 2 Profile: Corporate Services

Department: Corporate Services

Responsible Officer: Corporate Services Manager

Strategic Goal: 5-Effective Council Management

Primary Outcome: 5.1 Sustainable financial management within our mission

Description:

Provision of strategic leadership and direction of Council's corporate programs and activities ensuring efficient and effective service delivery to all internal and external customers of the Corporate Services Department.

Management through the Corporate Services Team of the human, physical and financial resources, and the risks of Council.

Outputs/Service Levels:

Provision of strategic and operational leadership in relation to customer services, staff issues and the management of revenue functions of Council in relation to the collection of rate revenues and the management of Council's debtors. In addition the implementation of audit recommendation and compliance with Australian Accounting Standards and Local Government Regulations.

2013/2014 Budget:

	\$		\$
Operational Income:	(\$965,348)	Capital Income:	
Operational Expenditure:	\$1,651,231	Capital Expenditure:	\$50,000
Net Operating Cost:	\$685,883	Net Capital Cost:	\$50,000

Key Performance Indicators:

Target

Reduce balance of outstanding rates

>30%
Reduction of value.

Compliance with acquittal procedure for
Grants and allocated funding

100%

Council operating within budget of a variance less than

5%

Program 3 Profile: Regulatory Services

Department: Regulatory Services

Responsible Officer: Regulatory Services Manager

Strategic Goal: 3-Efficient Service Delivery

Primary Outcome: 3.2 Maintain an effective animal management policy.

- 3.2.1 Continue a program of broad community education on dog management.
- 3.2.2 Implement a program for feral dog management
- 3.2.3 Review the dog bylaws to enforce Council policy.

Description:

Management of domestic animals through the implementation and enforcement of the Litchfield Council Rural Dog Management By-laws, including population control and management of feral dogs within the Municipality.

Outputs/Service Levels:

Provide dog management services and enforcement of Dog By-laws for Litchfield residents with regard to the impounding of stray dogs, micro-chipping of dogs, investigation of reports by residents of aggressive or nuisance animals, removal of aggressive dogs, provision of dog traps, education of dog owners and a primary school dog safety program. Maintain the Feral Dog Management Program to reduce the number of attacks against domestic animals and the population management of feral dogs within the Litchfield Municipality.

2013/2014 Budget:

	\$		\$
Operational Income:	(\$18,500)	Capital Income:	(\$12,000)
Operational Expenditure:	\$381,842	Capital Expenditure:	\$48,000
Net Operating Cost:	\$363,342	Net Capital Cost:	\$36,000

Key Performance Indicators:

Target

Provide Dog Safety program to schools within the Municipality	>4 schools
Dog microchip records on Council's registration data base	>1500 records

Program 4 Profile: Infrastructure

Department: Infrastructure

Responsible Officer: Director Planning & Works

Strategic Goal: 3-Efficient Service Delivery

Primary Outcome: 3.1 Provision of core services and works program

Description:

Provision of leadership and direction in relation to Council's works, core services, asset management and planning responsibilities with special emphasis on the efficiency of capital works, condition of the existing road infrastructure, drainage, opening new roads, the review of the development levy and the ongoing progress of Council's road sealing program.

Outputs/Service Levels:

Efficient implementation of Council's policies in relation to all planning and works matters, the conduct of contract and tender procedures and adherence to the requirements of the *Planning Act* as it affects the Municipality. Provision of quality technical planning advice to Council, residents and developers and provision of efficient financial progress reports.

2013/2014 Budget:

	\$		\$
Operational Income:	(\$2,640,869)	Capital Income:	(\$1,327,235)
Operational Expenditure:	\$3,395,313	Capital Expenditure:	\$4,720,000
Net Operating Cost:	\$754,444	Net Capital Cost:	\$3,392,765

Key Performance Indicators:

Target

Provide safe unsealed roads within the Municipality by grading all unsealed roads.

> 4 rounds grading

Clearing and rehabilitation of open unlined drains and culverts

>80% serviceable

Effective weed management program to minimise Spread of noxious weeds within the Municipality

>2 rounds spraying

Program 5 Profile: Waste Management

Department: Infrastructure

Responsible Officer: Director Planning & Works

Strategic Goal: 3-Efficient Service Delivery

Primary Outcome: 3.3 Develop and implement a safe, effective and integrated approach to waste management

Description:

Implementation of an environmentally sustainable waste management system for Council's waste disposal facility, transfer stations and recycling operations.

Outputs/Service Levels:

Provision of effective and efficient waste disposal and recycling services for the Municipality. Implementation of an effective education program in relation to the operation of the new recycling and transfer facility, its relationship with existing transfer stations, charges to be introduced and limitations imposed on domestic and commercial waste quantities. In addition, the provision of viable recycling opportunities and initiatives.

2013/2014 Budget:

	\$		\$
Operational Income:	(\$2,306,070)	Capital Income:	(\$ 12,000)
Operational Expenditure:	\$2,611,178	Capital Expenditure:	\$167,000
Net Operating Cost:	\$ 305,108	Net Capital Cost:	\$155,000

Key Performance Indicators:

Target

Reduce tonnage of waste transferred to Shoal Bay by recycling

> 10 %

Mulch and sell greenwaste

> 80%

Program 6 Profile: Community Services and Support

Department:	Community and Cultural Services
Responsible Officer:	Property Manager
Strategic Goal:	4-Strong Community.
Primary Outcome:	4.1 Support and promote our Rural Lifestyle 4.2 Invest in Education

Description:

Progress Council's ongoing role in facilitating recognition of the needs of a Rural Community in relation to maintaining a rural lifestyle, provision of financial support to community organisations and programs, with special emphasis on youth, arts and civic activities. In addition, encouragement of senior students, within the Municipality by the provision of an annual scholarship. Support and funding for the Litchfield Collection at Taminmin Community Library.

Outputs/Service Levels:

Provision of support and participation in community activities and programs, civic events, the enhancement of Council's profile in relation to the conduct of youth, art and leisure activities.

2013/2014 Budget:

	\$		\$
Operational Income:		Capital Income:	
Operational Expenditure:	\$24,000	Capital Expenditure:	
Net Operating Cost:	\$24,000	Net Capital Cost:	

Key Performance Indicators:

Target

Providing active support and participation in
Community generated events

>12 attendances

Community organisation access and usage
of Council's website

> 12 organisations

Program 7 Profile: Property and Recreational Management

Department: *Property Management*

Responsible Officer: Property Manager

Strategic Goal: *4-Strong Community*

Primary Outcome: 4.1 Support and promote our Rural Lifestyle

Description:

To provide and maintain Council assets including recreational areas and facilities in accordance with existing and developing needs. Assessment and recognition of all Council assets and their benefit to the public.

Outputs/Service Levels:

Maintenance of all Council's property assets, passive and active recreational facilities in the Municipality with emphasis on community participation. Continued support of the seven sporting and recreation reserves managed by Council. Recognition of future needs in relation to their improvement and development. Ensuring effective operation by community based management boards.

2013/2014 Budget:

	\$		\$
Operational Income:		Capital Income:	
Operational Expenditure:	\$1,124,218	Capital Expenditure:	\$nil
Net Operating Cost:	\$1,124,218	Net Capital Cost:	\$nil

Key Performance Indicators:

Target

To ensure Council's seven reserves are supported with adequate assistance to the Boards with minor new works to be compliant with legislation.

100%

The maintenance of Council properties to meet all legislation requirements.

>50%

Program 8 Profile: Thorak Regional Cemetery

Department: Cemetery

Responsible Officer: Thorak Operations Manager

Strategic Goal: 3-Efficient Service Delivery

Primary Outcome: 3.4 Operate the Thorak Regional Cemetery in accordance with the approved management plan.

Description:

Conduct interments and cremations in accordance with the *Cemeteries Act* and Council policy. Provide quality maintenance and upkeep of the cemetery ensuring good access and an aesthetically pleasing environment.

Outputs/Service Levels:

Provision of an appropriate seasonal grounds upkeep cycle. The ongoing efficient management of the cremation and chapel facilities and installation of memorials and headstones in accordance with Council policies. Maintain accurate records of all cremations and interments.

2013/2014 Budget:

	\$		\$
Operational Income:	(\$842,000)	Capital Income:	
Operational Expenditure:	\$856,973	Capital Expenditure:	\$55,000
Net Operating Cost:	\$14,973	Net Capital Cost:	\$55,000

Key Performance Indicators:

Target

Increase new revenue services

> 2 new services

Community Satisfaction with the Operations, Grounds and Services

>75%

CAPITAL WORKS EXPENDITURE PLANNED

Principal Activity – Council

Program 2 – Corporate Services

Communication - Radio Towers

Program 4 – Infrastructure

Road Sealing Program

Meade Road – Stage 1

Southport – Cherry Street (from Ringwood Street to Kersley Street)

Southport – Kersley Street (from South Terrace to Cherry Street)

Reseal Program

Lowther Road

Ti Tree Road

Havlik Road

Gunn Road

Parakeet Place

Callistemon Road

Francesca Circuit

Melaleuca Road

Challoner Circuit

Cavalcade Road

New Culvert Program

Darwin River – Leonino Road

New Cycle Path

Challoner Circuit 1.4km

Pavement Rehabilitation

Phoebe Court

Macatto Road

Duddell Road

Program 5 – Waste Management

Humpty Doo Waste Transfer Station – Roof over gatekeeper office

Howard Springs Waste Transfer Station – Roof over gatekeeper office

Howard Springs Waste Transfer Station – Rails mounted bin guides x 3

Berry Springs Waste Transfer Station – Rails mounted bin guides x 3

Program 8 – Thorak Regional Cemetery

Section E – extension

Beam expansions

Muslim section upgrade

Audio upgrade

Marquee, benches and chairs

Landscaping Columbaria

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION as Required by Local Government Act

The following information is required under the *Local Government Act*, to be contained or incorporated by reference in the Litchfield Council Annual Municipal Plan and Budget:

a) Constitutional Arrangements

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 23(1) (c) of the Northern Territory Local Government Act and the Local Government (Electoral) Regulations Part 6 (63), Council undertook a review of constitutional (electoral) arrangements which were formalised in 2011.

b) Opportunities and Challenges for Service Delivery

Council annually reviews the community's concerns by way of a questionnaire then considers opportunities and challenges for service delivery annually as part of its budget process. The Program Profiles provide information on the services delivered by Council and the budget allocation required to implement them.

Opportunities exist to better utilise technology and achieve greater efficiencies, particularly in the administrative areas, building on the relationships that Council has achieved between government, business and the community to improve service delivery.

Challenges exist in maintaining service levels in the face of decreasing investment income, rising costs and community expectations, climate change and environmental issues, cost shifting from other tiers of government and constantly increasing maintenance costs for Council's infrastructure assets whilst planning on new infrastructure required meeting the needs of a growing population.

c) Possible Changes to the Regulatory and Administrative Framework

Council regularly reviews its regulatory and administrative framework. A revision of Council's policies was conducted in 2012 with new policies being developed and existing policies reviewed and updated as appropriate.

d) Possibilities for Improving Service Delivery through Co-operation with Other Organisations

Council is a part of Top End Regional Organisation of Councils (TOPROC). TOPROC is committed to the sustainable development of the Greater Darwin Region including Litchfield and meets on a regular basis to discuss and progress common issues that impact all committee member councils.

The committee membership comprises Mayors and CEO's representing:

- City of Darwin
- City of Palmerston
- Litchfield Council
- Belyuen Council
- Coomalie Council
- Wagait Shire Council

e) Additional Information – Web Links

Further information is provided on Council's website and can be found by following this link:

www.litchfield.nt.gov.au

f) Council's Strategic Plan – 2013 to 2016

The current Strategic Plan was endorsed by Council on 15th May 2013. Regular progress reports against the Strategic Plan are presented to Council. For a copy of the current plan refer to:

[Strategic Plan](#)

g) Council's Policies

COUNCIL ASSET REPLACEMENT POLICY:

Council vehicles are replaced on a regular basis, dependant on the type and model:

2 Wheel Drive vehicles every two years or 40,000km s (which ever comes first);

4 Wheel Drive vehicles every three years or 70,000 km's (which ever comes first);

Plant with hour metres when register 5,000 hours or five years (which ever comes first);

Trucks every five years or based on condition and distance travelled;

Mowers every two years or based on condition and distance travelled;

Quad bike every three years or based on condition and distance travelled.

In order to maximise trade-in values and thus minimise maintenance costs.

Council office furniture and equipment is replaced on a needs basis and also on a need to meet ergonomic, work health and technological requirements.

Provisions are made for these occurrences on an annual basis.

ACTIVITIES OF A BUSINESS OR COMMERCIAL NATURE TO BE UNDERTAKEN BY COUNCIL:

Council is considering Business plans to undertake Commercial or Business activities in the 2013/2014 year.

BORROWINGS:

Council has no loans and/or plans to borrow any funds in 2013/2014.

REVENUE POLICY PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to promote consistent administration of rating pursuant to the *Local Government Act* in the community, to ensure equity with respect to demand for services, and regard to the needs of those ratepayers effected by financial hardship.

PERIOD COVERED BY THE REVENUE POLICY

The Revenue Policy was adopted as part of the Municipal Plan and applies to the financial year ended 30 June 2013.

USE OF RESERVE FUNDS

The Council, through effective fiscal management, has over the years, accumulated reserve funds which have been set aside for future use. Some of these reserves are held in “trust” and can only be used for specific purposes whilst, with others, the Council has some discretion as to how these funds are utilised.

Currently the various reserves total \$15 million including liabilities for Long Service Leave, Asset Replacement, and Trust Funds for specific purposes and funds committed for projects still under way at the end of the financial year.

REVENUE OF COUNCIL

Council's revenue comes from the following sources:

(1) RATES:

RATE TYPE	CATEGORY	BASIS OF CALCULATION	MIN. RATE	ESTIMATED INCOME 2013/2014
General Rate	Chapter 11 of Local Government Act	Flat Rate/Parcel	\$636	\$4,662,516
General Rates Urban	Chapter 11 of Local Government Act	Urban Properties	\$1060	\$85,860
Commercial	Chapter 11 of Local Government Act	Zoning CB,SC,TC,LI, GI and DV,C		\$354,950
Special Rate	Chapter 11 of Local Government Act	Cost to Seal		
		RR Zone	\$3,000	
		R Zone	\$4,125	
		RL Zone	\$5,500	\$163,875
		H Zone	\$13,860	
Imposition of charge	Chapter 11 of Local Government Act	Waste Transfer Station Levy	\$50	\$382,950
Imposition of charge	Chapter 11 of Local Government Act	Waste Management	\$290	\$2,246,178

(2) FEES AND CHARGES

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITY& SERVICE PROGRAM	TYPE OF CHARGE	FEE/CHARGE DESCRIPTION	MIN. RATE	ESTIMATED INCOME 2013/2014
Corporate Services	Rate Search	Information from Rate Book	\$62.50	\$25,000
Corporate Services	Change of Ownership Fees	Change of Ownership	\$63.00	\$25,000
Waste Management	Commercial waste		\$120.00 Per tonne	\$260,000
	Green waste		\$40.00 Per tonne	\$5,000
	Sale of Mulch	Mulch	\$10.00 Per cubic metre	\$100,000
Infrastructure				
Regulatory Services	Fees and Infringements			\$18,500

(3) INCOME FROM PRIVATE WORKS

As a general policy Council does not undertake works on private land or on behalf of landowners. Where, in extreme cases, Council needs to undertake such works a surcharge of 30% in addition to the actual cost to undertake the works will be levied.

(4) INCOME FROM GOVERNMENT SOURCES

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITY& SERVICE PROGRAM	DESCRIPTION AND SOURCE	SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS	ESTIMATED INCOME 2013/2014
General Public Services	Financial Assistance Grant - NT Grants Commission	Untied (General Revenue)	\$ 420,088
	Australia Day Council	Australia Day Activities	\$ 1,000
Infrastructure (Road Transport)	Federal Road Funding – NT Grants Commission	Road Maintenance	\$2,236,869
	Federal Government Roads to Recovery Program	Road Maintenance and/or construction	\$1,143,360

(5) INCOME FROM OTHER SOURCES:

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITY& SERVICE PROGRAM	DESCRIPTION AND SOURCE	SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS	ESTIMATED INCOME 2013/2014
Corporate Services	Bank Interest	To specific Accounts	\$312,000
Infrastructure (Road Transport)	Developer Contributions	Roads Expenditure	\$300,000

**Litchfield Council****Rates Declaration for 2013/2014**

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 158 of the Local Government Act that the following rates and charges were declared by Litchfield Council at the Special Meeting held on Thursday 18th July 2013.

Rates

Litchfield Council ("**the Council**") makes the following declaration of rates pursuant to Chapter 11 of the *Local Government Act* ("**the Act**").

1. Pursuant to Section 149 of the Act, the Council adopts the Unimproved Capital Value method as the basis of the assessed value of allotments within the council area.
2. The Council intends to raise, for general purposes by way of rates (excluding commercial , industrial, pastoral leases and mining tenements), the amount of \$4,773,180.00 which will be raised by the application of:
 - (a) differential fixed charges; and
 - (b) differential rates with a minimum amount being payable in application of each of those differential rates.

The Council intends to raise, for general purposes by way of commercial and industrial rates, the amount of \$340,842.48 which will be raised by the application of:

- (a) differential valuation-based charges.
3. The Council hereby declares the following rates ("**the General Rates**"):
 - (a) with respect to those classes of allotments within the council area of Coolalinga zoned SD, MD, MR and HR (excluding land similarly zone in Humpty Doo and Howard Springs) under the *NT Planning Scheme* (other than conditionally rateable land), being allotments that are divided into separate parts or units that are adapted for separate occupation or use, a fixed charge calculated by multiplying \$1,060.00 by the number of parts or units on those allotments that are adapted for separate occupation or use;
 - (b) with respect to all other rateable land within the council area zoned SD MD MR HR (excluding land in the area of Coolalinga zoned SD, MD, MR and HR) under the *NT Planning Scheme* (other than conditionally rateable land), a fixed rate of \$636.00;
 - (c) with respect to those classes of allotments within the council area zoned CL, PS, OR, H, A, RR, RL, R, CP, CN, HT, RD, WM, T, SU, M, PM, RW, and U under the *NT Planning Scheme* (other than conditionally rateable land) being allotments that are divided into separate parts or

units that are adapted for separate occupation or use, a fixed charge calculated by multiplying \$636.00 by the number of parts or units on those allotments that are adapted for separate occupation or use;

- (d) with respect to all other rateable land within the council area zoned CL, PS, OR, H, A, RR, RL, R, CP, CN, HT, RD, WM, T, SU, M, PM, RW and U under the *NT Planning Scheme*, a fixed rate of \$636.00;
- (e) with respect to those classes of allotments within the council area zoned CB, C, CV, SC, TC, LI, GI, DV and FD under the *NT Planning Scheme* (other than conditionally rateable land) differential valuation-based charge calculated on the unimproved capital value of the land at a rate of 0.0788% this financial year and 0.15769% for the next and subsequent years) with a minimum charge of \$1,050.00)
- (f) with respect to those allotments within the council areas outlined in red, as shown on the map below, a differential valuation-based charge calculated on the unimproved capital value of the land at a rate 0.15769%



- (g) with respect of the allotment, outlined in red, as shown on the map below a valuation-based charge calculated on the unimproved capital value of the land at a rate 0.3154%.

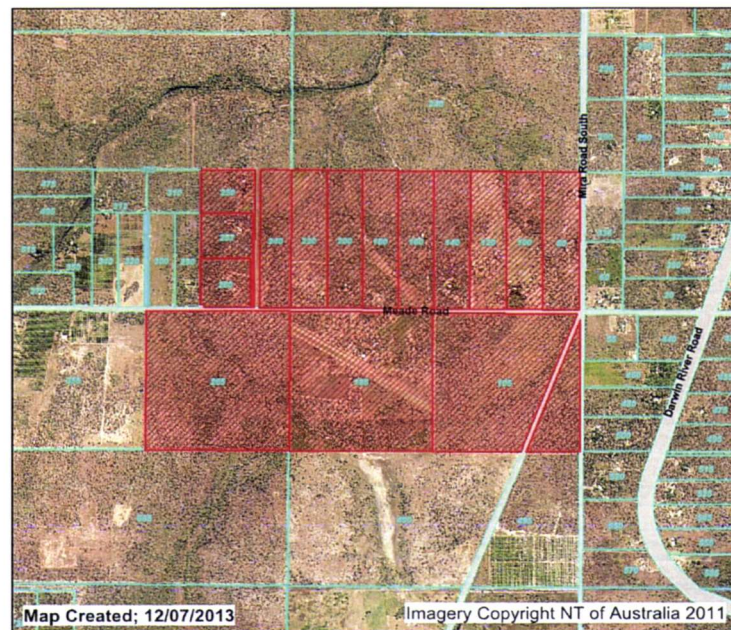


- (h) with respect to every allotment of conditionally rateable land within the council area not otherwise described above and approved by the Minister pursuant to Section 142 of the Act :
- i. a differential rate of 0.0689% of the assessed value (being the Unimproved Capital Value) of all land held under a pastoral lease, with the minimum amount being payable in the application of that differential rate, being \$344.49.
 - ii. a differential rate of 0.326% of the assessed value of all land occupied under a mining tenement (excluding exploration leases and licenses), with the minimum amount being payable in the application of that differential rate, being \$815.30.

4. Pursuant to Section 155(2) of the Act, the Council declares the following special purpose rates ("the **Special Purpose Rates**"):
- a. Special Rate – Waste Transfer Station ("**Special Purpose Rate WTS**");
 - i. The purpose for which Special Purpose Rate WTS is to be imposed is to defray the expense of constructing a Waste Transfer Station for the benefit of the ratepayers in the council area.
 - ii. The amount to be raised by Special Purpose Rate WTS for 2013/2014 is \$383,850.00.
 - iii. Special Purpose Rate WTS is to be an amount of \$50.00 per year until the full amount is recovered.
 - iv. The special Purpose Rate WTS will be levied on all rateable land within the council area.
 - b. Special Purpose Rate Area A Roads ("**Special Purpose Rate AAR**");
 - i. The purpose for which Special Purpose Rate AAR is to be imposed is to defray the expense of sealing roads within the area outlined in red on the map below("Area A"), it being the

opinion of the Council that such purpose is and will be of special benefit to the ratepayers of Area A.

- ii. The amount to be raised by Special Purpose Rate AAR will be \$61,875.00
- iii. Special Purpose Rate AAR is to be an amount of \$4,125.00
- iv. Special Purpose Rate AAR will be levied on that rateable land within Area A as identified in paragraph v.
- v. For the purpose of paragraph 4(b)i, the rateable land within Area A that is subject to the Special Purpose Rate AAR are those lots which are hatched on the plan below namely 105, 185, 265, 220, 200, 180, 160, 140, 120, 100, 80, 260, 252, 250, and 240 Meade Road.



- c. Special Purpose Rate Area A Roads (“**Special Purpose Rate ABR**”);
 - i. The purpose for which Special Purpose Rate ABR is to be imposed is to defray the expense of sealing roads within the area outlined in red on the map below (“Area B”), it being the opinion of the Council that such purpose is and will be of special benefit to the ratepayers of Area B.
 - ii. The amount to be raised by Special Purpose Rate ABR will be \$102,000.00
 - iii. Special Purpose Rate ABR is to be an amount of \$3,000.00 per lot.
 - iv. Special Purpose Rate ABR will be levied on that rateable land within Area A as identified in paragraph 5.

- v. For the purpose of paragraph 4(c)i, the rateable land within Area B that is subject to the Special Purpose Rate ABR are those lots which are hatched on the plan below namely 1 to 48 (excluding 3 to 12) Kersley Street (including 38A), 45 and 47 Cherry Street, Southport.



5. Pursuant to Section 157 of the Act, the Council declares the following charge ("**Imposition of Charges**"):
- a. Waste Management Charge
 - i. The purpose for which this Charge is to be imposed is to defray the management and operational cost of the three transfer stations, it being the opinion of the Council that such purpose is and will be of special benefit to the ratepayers of the entire municipality.
 - ii. The amount to be raised by this Charge is \$2,141,070.00.
 - iii. The Charge levied is an amount of \$290.00.
 - iv. The Charge will be levied on all rateable land within the council area with the exception of allotments zoned CB, C, SC, TC, LI, GI and DV under the *NT Planning Scheme*.

Relevant interest rate

6. The Council fixes the relevant interest rate for the late payment of rates and charges in accordance with Section 162 of the Act at the rate of 17 % per annum which is to be calculated on a daily basis.

Payment

7. The Council determines that the declared;

Rates and charges (excluding Special Purpose Rates AAR and ABR) declared under this declaration may be paid by two (2) approximately equal instalments on the following dates;

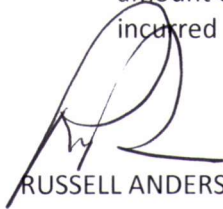
28 September 2013; and

28 February 2014

Instalments falling due on a weekend or public holiday may be paid by the following business day, without incurring any penalty

Special Purpose Rate AAR and ABR must be paid within 24 months of the issue of a rates notice under Section 159 of the Act.

8. A ratepayer who fails to pay the rates and charges notified under the relevant rates notice under Section 159 of the Act may be sued for recovery of the principal amount of the rates and charges, late payment penalties, and costs reasonably incurred by Council in recovering or attempting to recover the rates and charges.



RUSSELL ANDERSON

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

LITCHFIELD COUNCIL

23/7/2013 FROM P CONNOLLY
LOT 415 BEES CREEK RL

6 Litchfield Council

NUISANCE LOUD WOPPER SPEAKERS AND LAZER LIGHTING
AIMED DIRECTLY AT OUR HOUSE LOT 415 BEES CREEK RL
BY BACK NEIGHBOUR ON LOT 425 BEES CREEK RL. ON 19-20
JULY ALSO 21 JULY.

ON 19-20 NEIGHBOUR AT REAR ON LOT 425 BEES CREEK
STARTED LOUD WOPPER NOISE-MUSIC WITH LAZER AR ABOVE
STATED THEN WENT OFF + ON ALL NIGHT TO 2.10AM TO 20/7
ALSO THIS PERSON MADE 4-5 PM CALL THROUGH OUT
LAND PH NUMBER TRY TO STOP MY GONG BANGING
IN REPLY TO HOUSE DOGS BARKING, WHICH I QUICKLY
TOLD HIM IT HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH HIM SO
HUNG UP MY PHONE THE NAME OF PERSON INVOLVED
JOSH RIDGES ON MOBILE 04 99996630, THESE HARASSING
CALL CAUSED MY WIFE TO BURST OUT CRYING + NEEDED
CARRYING HELP FROM MY DAUGHTER. BY 2.10AM NEXT DAY
VOICE STOPPED

ON THE 21 JULY SAME THING HAPPENED WHICH STARTED 6.30PM
AND GOT LOUDER, BY 8.03 IT GOT EVEN LOUDER SO I
RANG 131444 LOUD NUISANCE JOB NUMBER 13175485 THEN RANG
31444 1 HR LATER NOISE STILL V LOUD THE TIME HE WAS
OFF + ON MUSIC-NOISE, AT 10.25PM POLICE ARRIVED AND CAUGHT
NEIGHBOUR WITH V LOUD NOISE PLAYING AFTER FIRST WARNING AT 8.5pm
AND BROKE HIS CARFEN SO 8.45 PM FINE WAS WRITTEN ON
THE SPOT BECAUSE CARFEN WAS TILL 10.40 PM 21/7/2013

PS NOTE THIS OVER NUISANCE + UNCONTROLLABLE.

DOG regards Peter Connolly
CONTACT PH NUMBER 89881378

Marlene Watt

From: Brett Overend [brettandmegan@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, 8 August 2013 2:29 PM
To: Marlene Watt
Subject: dot point brief for council
Attachments: DOT POINT BRIEF FOR MORGAN ROAD SPEED INCREASE TO 80KM.docx

Hi Marlene,

I am not sure if I am going to be able to make the meeting tonight (I am trying to get there) but as an interim, I have drafted a dot point brief as a representative of the residents. It would be appreciated if you could forward this to the council members so that they can become familiar of the issues from our perspective before (if) they vote. As I have previously mentioned, I am not familiar with council proceedings and if absentee input can be included or presented.

regards
Brett Overend

DOT POINT BRIEF FOR MORGAN ROAD SPEED INCREASE TO 80KM

- Morgan Road is current a 5km road that services both upper Morgan Road and the sub-divisions of Morgan Heights (stage 1 and stage 2). This road also provides access to the Oasis caravan park approx. 50m from the Stuart Highway turnoff
- Morgan Road is currently zoned 60km for 2km from the Stuart Highway turn off with the speed limit extending approx. 700m past the last house on the road and well in the Brooking Creek bush. This excess and overly cautious speed zoning is a consistent source of frustration and inconvenience for those that live further up Morgan Road i.e. Morgan Heights sub-division. Morgan Road is the only reasonable way to access the Stuart Highway for Morgan Heights residents and most residents travel this road many times a day.
- In comparison , similar feeder roads such as Virginia Road and Bees Creek road are zoned more appropriately to service both local residents and the greater users of the road with the following examples:
 - Virginia Road is zoned 60km approx 1km from the Stuart Highway however within this zone is the Virginia Store/Tavern complex and the Virginia Childcare centre. It reverts immediately after the childcare centre to 80km. Virginia Road is approx. 4.4 km long.
 - Bees Creek Road is zoned 60km approx. 500m from the Stuart Highway however within this zone is Fred's Pass, Bees Creek School area and Bees Creek childcare. It reverts immediately after the childcare centre to 80km. Bees Creek road is approx. 5km long
 - Morgan road is zoned 60km for 2km from the Stuart Highway. The only similar complex to Virginia/Bees Creek roads is the Oasis caravan park which is located approx. 50m from the Stuart Highway yet the 60km zone continues for a further 1.9km. All other properties in this 60km zone are private properties consistent with all other properties within the shire.
- The residents of Morgan Heights have asked for consistency for the zoning of speed in the area and have requested Morgan Road be changed to 80km a safe distance from the Caravan park approx. 200m from the Stuart Highway. The upper Morgan Heights area is no more densely populated than other rural areas or the stage one area of Morgan Heights i.e. all 5 acre blocks and Morgan Road has excellent visibility and is well maintained.
- Morgan Heights is a council approved sub-development with stage one released in 2001 and stage two currently development but not released. Stage has over 60 residences. Stage two has approx. the same. It is reasonable to expect that as part of the sub-division approval process that adequate road access and/or upgrades would have been required before approval to allow residents reasonable access to their properties, at a speed consistent with other areas.
- Road use is expected to increase dramatically following the release of stage 2 of Morgan Heights and any future buying would expect adequate access.
- From council documents, Morgan Road was initially assessed by Council Consulting Traffic Engineer in accordance with Australian Standard AS1742 part 4 Speed Controls, whom recommended a speed zone of 80kph.
- Upper Morgan Road consists of approx. 30 residences and a caravan park. Morgan Heights consists of approx 60 properties, most occupied.

- The speed limit was sign posted 60km in 2012 at the request of an individual on upper Morgan Road without notification or consultation of road users of Morgan Road who use this road as their primary road to gain access to their properties i.e. Morgan Heights residents. The only other way out is to backtrack to Virginia Road at travel an extra 6 km to arrive at the Stuart Highway 1.5 further back from Darwin.
- Walkers on Morgan Road are a continual traffic hazard for road users, particularly during the peak road use period of early morning and late afternoon when residents are departing for, or returning from work. All road users, including the objector to the speed limit changing, have indicated walkers have almost caused several accidents by not moving off the road even when two vehicles are approaching.
- During the petition on 6 July, walkers were questioned why they walk on the road and not the side of it and Mayor McKay was advised by one couple that 'we walk on it because it is 60km, if it was 80km we wouldn't'.
- Almost all walkers are transient visitors to the caravan park and the failure of the caravan park to take ownership of the problem and acknowledge the danger their visitors are presenting to rate payers who are using their access road is irresponsible and unacceptable. It is equally irresponsible for council to maintain the speed limit of a road assessed as safe for road users at 80km by engineers at 60km to appease transient walkers, particularly when the speed limit is maintained 24/7 for rate paying residents and walkers only are present briefly in the morning and evenings. Again this is during the peak time for road users.
- Walkers are not unique to upper Morgan Road and are common in all other Litchfield shire roads which are zoned 80km. Education of walkers would be a more practical solution to the problem than to reduce speed limits to rate paying road users.
- Two police officers that are residents in the area attended the petition and provided their thoughts to Mayor McKay on the safety of the road and support the increase to standardize all feeder roads in the area. They raised no safety concerns if the road was standardized with Virginia Rd/Bees Creek road.
- 71 names and signatures were presented to council to support the increase to 80km.
- 1 name was presented to council that objected to the increase.
- The individual that requested the 60km sign posting in 2012 attended the petition and requested the speed limit be increased to 80km.
- Speed in excess of 100km+ by random vehicles has been raised as a concern by residents in upper Morgan Rd. Morgan Heights residents speed increase is to 80km and support activities such as request for Police enforcement of the road as these vehicles are unlikely to slow down further up the road.
- Recommendation made to council are that the caravan park be approached and signage be placed to inform Park residents that the road is a heavy use 80km zone and not to walk on the road as this poses a safety risk to themselves and to road users.
- That if walkers ignore this warning that police enforcement be requested as this presents a clear danger to rate paying road users and the walkers own safety.
- That consideration be given to the 'greater community' for adequate access to properties in the shire and not just the first 1km of the road when there are no significant community after the caravan park when it is engineered safe to do so.

Gerry Wood

Alc Cunningham

Re Amendment to NT Planning Scheme – 110 Freds Pass Road Humpty Doo

I would like to make the following submission re the above proposed amendment.

The argument put forward by the developer is substantially based on two documents that have no legal status – the Greater Darwin Plan and the Rural Village Discussion Paper.

The only document that is relevant is the Litchfield Planning Concept and Land Use Objectives. This proposal does not fit in with these objectives.

Under 3.1 Residential

The concepts for future residential development in Litchfield Shire accommodate future population growth, maintain minimum lot sizes within existing subdivisions in established rural living areas and create opportunities to cater for various aspirations in relation to rural lifestyle. The concepts incorporate:

- *continuation of 2 ha subdivision predominantly for residential purposes generally in the Howard Springs, Bees Creek and Humpty Doo locality;*
- *continuation of 8 ha subdivision for a range of uses including rural living and agriculture (includes horticulture and aquaculture) in the southern part of the shire;*
- *provision for future rural residential subdivision of lots less than 2 ha in specific localities;*
- *the creation of opportunities for alternative rural living lifestyles; and*
- ***further provision of urban sized lots within appropriately serviced district centres.***

This proposal should not be considered, even if it has some merit, at least, until the Planning Commission considers a study of the greater Darwin area.

Development of the rural area needs to be done in a logical and sustainable manner with the underlying principle that rural living is supported and protected through zoning and that District Centres are designed for denser development and also protected by zoning.

This development is outside of those principles and is using the fact that the owners have a large rural block, is close to the District Centre, there is a need more accommodation and some neighbours support the proposal as the underlying reason why it should be supported.

There is land presently available in the Humpty Doo District Centre suitable for urban development and that should be the appropriate place to develop before the consideration of the possible expansion of the Centre is considered.

It is also concerning that this proposal is being sold using the possibility of it being a retirement village. This is simply a sales pitch. Retirement villages have to be designed specifically for the purpose not just set up as part of a medium density development. There is a need for a retirement village but the rural area previously had a proposed development similar to this one and it was nothing of the sort when it went to the Development Consent Authority.

- H Springs

There are other issues which would need addressing such as water, sewerage, storm water drainage and flooding of neighbours. As well footpaths, upgrading of Freds Pass Road to an urban standard, adequate road widths all need to part of the development proposal.

Development of urban areas outside of District Centres should not be considered. This development is outside the existing Humpty Doo District Centre and unless there is a change to the Litchfield Concept Plan and Land Use Objectives it should not be approved.



Christine Osborn

From: Darren On <darren@ironstonerealty.com.au>
Sent: Thursday, 8 August 2013 1:00 PM
To: Christine Osborn
Subject: Darren On- Litchfiled Council

Hi Christine,

As per my call today, I won't be able to attend tonight's Council meeting. There is an issue that concerns me if you can please put it to Council. I have noticed on two occasion that council workers have been pruning unnecessarily, tree branches on the fence boundaries- corner of Kennedy Road/ Pioneer Drive and Hillier Road. These branches are not affecting the road or road verges. I believe this is a waste of rate payers money. I wonder what other money wasting work is being carried out as well?.

Regards Darren On
0417845947



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8 August 2013, 6.19am AEST

Sewerage systems can't cope with more extreme weather

AUTHOR



Jenny Davis

Professor of Freshwater Ecology at Monash University

DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Jenny Davis does not work for, consult to, own shares in or receive funding from any company or organisation that would benefit from this article, and has no relevant affiliations.



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Dredging of Tasmania's Tamar Estuary reveals our sewerage systems aren't coping so well.

Anyone flushing a toilet in urban Australia today does so confident that they'll never again see the thing they've flushed. They probably also think they are causing minimal environmental harm, thanks to our well-designed wastewater treatment plants. But is our lack of concern for sewage pollution well founded? Recent events in northern Tasmania suggest not.

Launceston sits on the Tamar River estuary, in northern Tasmania. Residents have long been concerned about poor water quality and excessive sedimentation in the estuary. A [recent study](#) suggests the problem could be solved – or at least ameliorated – by releasing environmental flows from a hydroelectric dam and restoring wetlands to help the tide flush away sediment.

But meanwhile, the local government has decided to rake the Tamar's silt as a stop-gap measure. This involves dragging a large rake from the stern of a fishing boat, stirring up the fine sediments that are then washed downstream on an ebb tide.

But the raking has brought unexpected consequences: it has exposed the size of Launceston's sewage problem. Photos taken after a recent raking session on July 7, 2013, reveal a rake clogged with tampon strings. It's been happening so often the rake operator has had to come up with a novel means of disentangling

the strings from his equipment. He takes the rake home and burns the strings off in a fire in his backyard.

Old sewerage infrastructure can't cope with changing conditions.

lick to enlarge

Why is there layer of tampon strings on the bed of the Tamar River estuary? The answer lies in ageing urban infrastructure. Launceston was established in 1806 – it is Australia's third oldest city – and it now supports a regional population of 90,000. The sewage and stormwater runoff from older parts of the city are combined.

During high rainfall the secondary treatment plants cannot cope with the sudden increase in stormwater. So all wastewater (stormwater and raw sewage) is released directly into the estuary.

The old mantra "the solution to pollution is dilution" cannot be applied here: heavy rain does not make things better. Without intervention, wastes will continue to slosh backwards and forwards on the estuary's tides, continuing to create the problems now so evident on Launceston's doorstep.

The problem is made worse by the lack of tertiary treatment. Launceston has long needed a tertiary treatment plant but the cost, which will be borne by Tasmanian ratepayers, is large.

The tampon strings are not the major issue here – rather they are indisputable, *physical evidence of the extent of sewage pollution*. Normally such large amounts of decomposing organic material in the upper estuary would trigger toxic cyanobacterial blooms during warmer summer months.

But the low level of light in the estuary, caused by the naturally turbid waters, may be preventing this – the algae needs light to grow. However, cyanobacterial blooms are now becoming common in the clear waters of Trevallyn Lake further upstream on the South Esk River.

The problem of sewage overflows into natural waterways and wetlands is not restricted to Launceston. Sewage pumping stations throughout Australia are often close to streams or wetlands. The waterways are meant to be emergency receiving points when pumps fail or systems become overloaded.

As a freshwater ecologist I have worked on wetlands in both Perth (North Lake) and Melbourne (Huntingdale Lake) degraded by sewage spills. This form of organic pollution results in massive de-oxygenation, fish kills, bird deaths and *swarms of nuisance insects (mosquitoes and midges)*.

The issue of how we deal with our waste products is one of the most pressing problems facing our planet. Under the global climate scenarios of increasing temperatures and more extreme events such as floods and droughts, the

pollution caused by floods may cause more harm than previously recognised. The Launceston issue is a timely warning.

We have to ensure that urban wastewater infrastructure is designed to cope with extreme conditions. We need to understand how bad water quality can get if you combine organic pollution and a warming climate. If we don't, the important biodiversity, recreational and aesthetic values of urban wetlands will disappear and the risk of water-borne and mosquito-borne diseases will increase.

These are scenarios we must not ignore.