



## **Agenda** **Central NSW Joint Organisation** **Board** **Meeting** **27 February 2020**

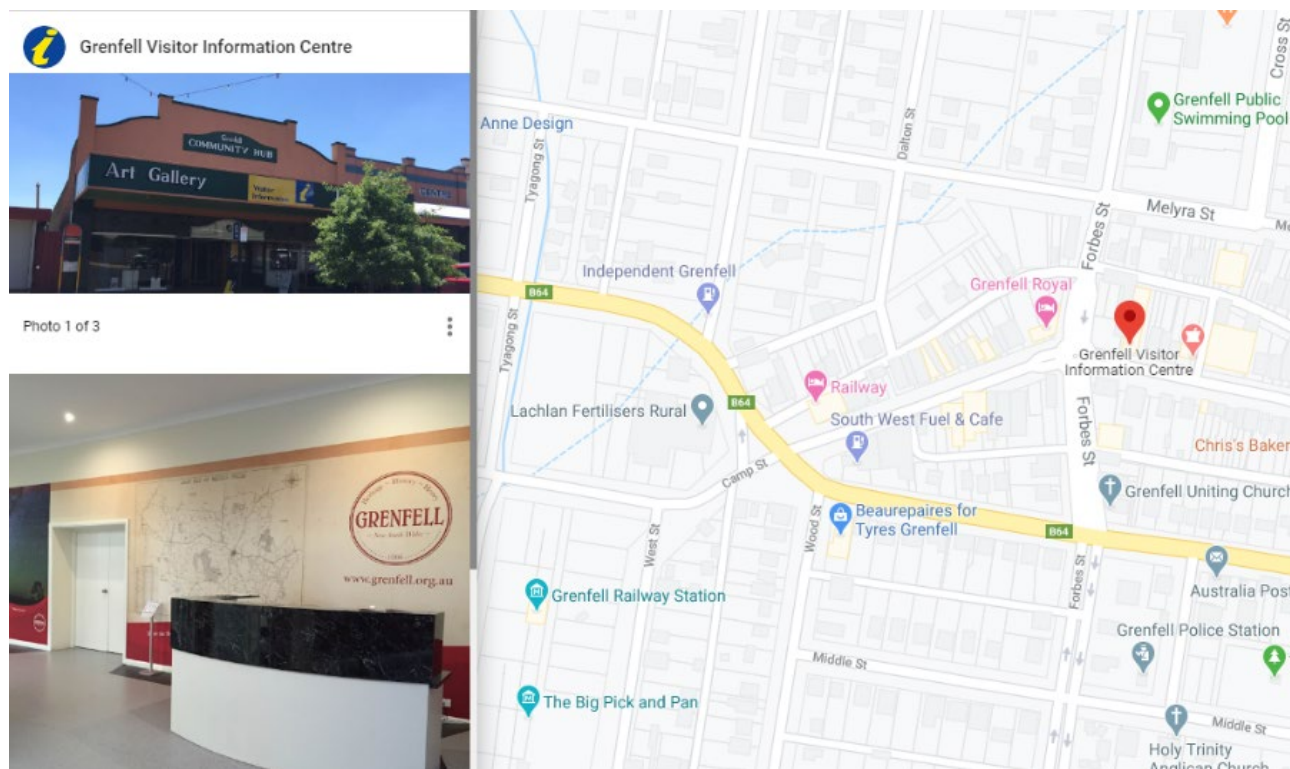
**Attendees, voting members in bold.**

<b>Cr B Bourke</b>	Bathurst Regional Council	<b>Cr J Medcalf</b>	Lachlan Shire Council
<b>Cr S Ferguson</b>	Blayney Shire Council	<b>Cr K Sajowitz</b>	Oberon Council
<b>Cr K Beatty</b>	Cabonne Council	<b>Cr R Kidd</b>	Orange City Council
<b>Cr B West</b>	Cowra Shire Council	<b>Cr K Keith</b>	Parkes Shire Council
<b>Cr P Miller</b>	Forbes Shire Council	<b>Cr M Liebich</b>	Weddin Shire Council

Mr D Sherley	Bathurst Regional Council	Cr D Somervaille	Central Tablelands Water
Ms R Ryan	Blayney Shire Council	Mr G Rhodes	Central Tablelands Water
Mr B Byrnes	Cabonne Council	Ms C Weston	RDA CW
Mr P Devery	Cowra Shire Council	Mr S Harma	RDA CW
Mr G Tory	Lachlan Shire Council	Ms A Albury	DPC
Mr S Loane	Forbes Shire Council	Mr P Evans	OLG
Mr G Wallace	Oberon Council	Ms J Bennett	Central NSW JO
Mr D Waddell	Orange City Council	Ms K Barker	Central NSW JO
Mr K Boyd	Parkes Shire Council		
Mr G Carroll	Weddin Shire Council		

It is advised that the next Board meeting of the Central NSW Joint Organisation will be held Thursday 27 February 2020 in the **Community Hub Weddin Shire Council, 88 Main Street Grenfell** commencing at 10.00am.

Tea and coffee on arrival and all refreshments will be provided. Please contact Jenny Bennett on 0428 690 935 with any queries.

**Community Hub Weddin Shire Council****88 Main Street Grenfell****Reports**

## Agenda


1. Welcome
2. Apologies
3. Speakers
  - David West – Sourced Energy – Market update and renewable opportunities
4. Minutes of the Central NSW Joint Organisation meeting 27 November 2019 held at ACT House in Canberra. .... 4
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8. Report to the Central NSW JO Strategic Plan and Statement of Regional Strategic Priority 2019/2020..... 45
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10. Matters raised by members – Forbes – Murray Darling Irrigation Desalination Proposal..... 71
11. Confidential Report – Energy Savings Certificates for Streetlighting ..... 75
12. Late Reports
13. Speakers to the next meeting
14. The next Board meeting dates are Wednesday 3 June in Penrith and Thursday 4 June in Sydney.
 

Preparation is underway with the Member for Cootamundra's Office for discussions with various State Ministers on Thursday 4 June.

A meeting will be held on the Wednesday afternoon on the way through to Sydney at the Chair's Sister City, Penrith City Council, additional presentations are being sought on

- Western City Airport
- M4 corridor
- Lachlan and Penrith City Council friendship agreement.

Dinner will be held in the Sydney CBD on the Wednesday night at a venue TBC.



**Ms J Bennett**  
Executive Officer

## Reports

## Central NSW JO Board Meeting 27 February 2020

**4. Minutes of the Central NSW Joint Organisation meeting 27 November 2019 held at ACT House in Canberra.****Attendees, voting members in bold.**

<b>Cr S Ferguson</b>	Blayney Shire Council	<b>Cr M Kellam</b>	Oberon Council
<b>Cr K Beatty</b>	Cabonne Council	<b>Cr R Kidd</b>	Orange City Council
<b>Cr B West</b>	Cowra Shire Council	<b>Cr K Keith</b>	Parkes Shire Council
<b>Cr J Webb</b>	Forbes Shire Council	<b>Cr M Liebich</b>	Weddin Shire Council
<b>Cr J Medcalf</b>	Lachlan Shire Council		

Mr D Sherley	Bathurst Regional Council	Cr D Somervaille	Central Tablelands Water
Ms R Ryan	Blayney Shire Council	Mr G Rhodes	Central Tablelands Water
Mr B Byrnes	Cabonne Council	Mr D Waddell	Orange
Mr D Wymer	Cowra Shire Council	Mr P Evans	OLG
Mr G Tory	Lachlan Shire Council	Ms J Bennett	Central NSW JO
Mr S Loane	Forbes Shire Council	Ms Meredith Macpherson	Central NSW JO
Mr G Wallace	Oberon Council	Ms A Thomas	Central NSW JO
Mr K Boyd	Parkes Shire Council	Ms K Barker	Central NSW JO
Mr G Carroll	Weddin Shire Council	Ms V Page	Central NSW JO

1. **Opening meeting 1.55pm**
2. **Acknowledgement to Country by Chair**

**3. Apologies applications for a leave of absence by Joint Voting representatives**

Cr B Bourke, Cr K Sajowitz, Cr P Miller, Mr P Devery, Ms C Weston, Mr S Harma, Mr A Albury

<b>Resolved</b>	<b>Cr K Keith/Cr J Webb</b>
That the apologies for the Central NSW Joint Organisation Board meeting 22 August 2019 listed above be accepted.	

**4. Minutes****4a Noting of the Minutes of the GMAC meeting 24 October 2019 held in Orange**

<b>Resolved</b>	<b>Cr R Kidd/Cr M Kellam</b>
That the Central NSW Joint Organisation Board confirm the Minutes of the GMAC meeting 24 October 2019 held in Orange.	

**4b Confirmation of the Minutes of the Central NSW Joint Organisation meeting 22 August 2019 in Parkes**

<b>Resolved</b>	<b>Cr S Ferguson /Cr R Kidd</b>
That the Central NSW Joint Organisation Board confirm the Minutes of the meeting 22 August 2019 held in Parkes	

**5. Business Arising from the Minutes – Matters in Progress**

<b>Resolved</b>	<b>Cr B West/Cr K Keith</b>
That the Central NSW Joint Organisation Board note the Matters in Progress, making deletions as suggested.	

## Reports

**6. Reports to Statement of Regional Strategic Priority****Priority One: Inter-council Co-operation****a. Procurement Report**

<b>Resolved</b>	<b>Cr K Beatty/Cr B West</b>
That the Board note the Procurement Report and	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. approve the 12-month extension of the road signs contract (S1 2018) with Artcraft, Barrier Signs and DeNeefe until 31 December 2020;</li> <li>2. approve the 12-month extension of the bitumen emulsion contract (S2_2018) with Boral Asphalt until 31 March 2021;</li> <li>3. approve the 12-month extension of the linemarking services contract (R2_2018) with Avante, Central West Linemarking, Complete Linemarking, Oz Linemarking and Red Squirrel;</li> <li>4. approve a 6-month extension of the contract with Common Thread Consulting for the Procurement Support for Water Main Condition Assessment;</li> <li>5. approve the Water Main Condition Assessment Pilot contract to include a management fee of 1.5% of the total value of the contract, which will be payable by the successful Contractor/s;</li> <li>6. note that the structure of contract management fees to CNSWJO will remain as is until the Best Practice in Aggregated Procurement Program is completed, at which time a report will be provided to GMAC and the Board on the recommendations for aggregated procurement by the JO, including a report on options on fees and funding of aggregated procurement;</li> <li>7. note the contract management fees being charged for current contracts; and</li> <li>8. receive reports regarding management fees for any upcoming procurement processes for approval of the percentage contract management fee to be charged.</li> </ol>	

**b. Energy Programming Report**

<b>Resolved</b>	<b>Cr R Kidd/Cr B West</b>
That the Board note the Energy Programming Report and	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Vary the existing contract with Sourced Energy to raise the management fee from the large market retailer by 0.25% which will be payable to CNSWJO;</li> <li>2. Note the cost savings of \$2.37m over 3 years achieved through the procurement process for the supply of electricity for large market sites;</li> <li>3. Draft a media release to voice frustration with the delays of the LED roll outs; and</li> <li>4. Investigate the opportunities of the recently announced renewable energy zone.</li> </ol>	

**c. Internal Audit and Risk Management Report**

<b>Resolved</b>	<b>Cr B West/Cr S Ferguson</b>
That the Board note the new Internal Audit and Risk Management Guidelines advice from the Office of Local Government and	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. provide a response that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Is supportive of a strategic approach to internal audit and risk management;</li> <li>b. Suggests a less prescriptive approach, than that suggested in the guidelines;</li> <li>c. Is not supportive of leveraging Section 377 of the Local Government Act where Councils delegate internal audit and risk management functions to the JO;</li> <li>d. Notes the diversion of resource required for a Joint Organisation to fulfill these guidelines will be counterproductive and is at risk of contributing to JO network failure;</li> <li>e. Request that JOs be exempt from the new Internal Audit and Risk Management Framework for NSW; and</li> <li>f. Includes Member Councils concerns; and</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Members are encouraged to write their own responses.</li> </ol>	

## Reports

**d. Administration Update**

<b>Resolved</b>	<b>Cr B West/ Cr K Keith</b>
That the Board note the timeline for the implementation of the JO.	

**Priority Two: Regional Prosperity****a. Central West and Orana Food and Fibre Strategy report**

<b>Resolved</b>	<b>Cr B West/Cr J Webb</b>
That the Board note the report on the Central West Food and Fibre Strategy and	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. endorse the Strategy; and</li> <li>2. note that advice on implementation is being progressed through the Regional Prosperity Subcommittee.</li> </ol>	

**b. Regional Prosperity and Advocacy Plan**

<b>Resolved</b>	<b>Cr B West/Cr K Keith</b>
That the Board note the report on the Regional Prosperity Advocacy Plan;	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Adopt the Plan; and</li> <li>2. Share the policy position with LGNSW.</li> </ol>	

**c. Tourism Data Tool by WRI and support for a collaborative project with Arts Out West delivering arts and culture journeys**

<b>Resolved</b>	<b>Cr B West/Cr J Webb</b>
That the Board note the report on the Tourism Data Tool and support for a collaborative project with Arts Out West delivering arts and culture journeys and;	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. encourage members to support providing data into the program including promoting the visiting friends and relatives (VFR) survey through the community and through Council staff; and</li> <li>2. amend the Tourism Budget transferring the \$5000 for the second round of the Regional Passport Project to a collaborative project with Arts Out West for arts and culture journeys.</li> </ol>	

**Priority Three: Regional Transport and Infrastructure****a. Regional Transport Advocacy Policy, Prioritisation and Freight Links Mapping.**

<b>Resolved</b>	<b>Cr K Keith/Cr B West</b>
That the Board	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Endorse the changes to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment regional network map;</li> <li>2. Note the "Central West and Orana Transport Issues &amp; Insights" report and that while it is complete, the transport planning process in region welcomes feedback through the JO;</li> <li>3. Provide a submission to the consultation on the Lithgow to Katoomba Corridor for the upgrade of the Great Western Highway within existing policy;</li> <li>4. Adopt the CNSWJO Transport Advocacy Plan noting the need to update the Matrix in line with advice below;</li> <li>5. Endorse the 58 projects listed on the Matrix with the exception of priority 1;</li> <li>6. Note priority 1 of the Matrix is under review to align it with the Transport Advocacy policy;</li> <li>7. Note that a review of the Matrix is underway;</li> <li>8. Write to the Minister seeking advice on the update of the Bells Line of Road Corridor;</li> <li>9. Provide updated mapping to the Board; and</li> <li>10. Provide a reviewed Advocacy Plan that identifies one or two priorities for the Board to focus its advocacy efforts.</li> </ol>	

## Reports

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**Priority Four: Regional Water**

**a. Regional Water, Advocacy Plan**

<b>Resolved</b>	<b>Cr D Somerville/Cr K Beatty</b>
That the Board note the report on the Regional Water Advocacy Plan (the Plan) and	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Adopt the Plan; and</li> <li>2. Share the policy position with LGNSW.</li> </ol>	

**a. Regional Water Report**

<b>Resolved</b>	<b>Cr B West/Cr M Liebich</b>
That the Board:	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Note advice provided in the Confidential Briefing Note No. 3 regarding water security for urban water utilities in the current unprecedented drought;</li> <li>2. Note that GMAC have agreed to form a strategic subcommittee including the sponsoring GMs, other interested GMs, the Portfolio Mayor and Chair to provide a higher level of strategic support for a regional response to emergency town water needs and long-term planning in the short term;</li> <li>3. Agree arrangements be developed with the strategic subcommittee and in consultation with member Councils for emergency water management between towns across the region that (based on previous Board policy) address the following heads of consideration:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Arrangements for the sharing of water for emergency water needs between towns across the region so that the burden of providing infrastructure for critical urban water transfers is borne equitably by the region (for example through the development of instruments and agreements not structures);</li> <li>b) Ownership and management by LG of any such infrastructure built to transfer emergency water between towns across the region for critical human needs;</li> <li>c) On-going operational costs for emergency water infrastructure;</li> <li>d) A multi-source approach to the supply of emergency water that enables options to be switched on or off as needed with these to be linked to State and local based triggers; and</li> <li>e) Receive a report to the February 2020 Board meeting.</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. Undertake advocacy seeking early engagement in the Wyangala Dam wall raising and Lake Rowlands to Carcoar Dam projects with a view to being able to influence outcomes;</li> <li>5. Adopt the response to the Lachlan Regional Water Strategy provided under the hand of the Chair;</li> <li>6. Note the report to the JO Executive Officer network on a potential cross JO project for the development of Regional Town Water Strategies;</li> <li>7. Adopt the response to the State Water Strategy provided under the hand of the Chair;</li> <li>8. Note that a copy of the CNSWJO's input to the Lachlan Regional Water Strategy has been provided to the Independent Panel assessing the social and economic conditions in the Murray Darling Basin;</li> <li>9. Commend to members that they become members of the Murray Darling Association;</li> <li>10. Endorse the response provided to LGNSW for the NSW Legislative Assembly Committee on Investment, Industry and Regional Development inquiry into support for drought affected communities in NSW noting that the CNSWJO response will be provided based on this;</li> <li>11. Advocate strongly that Councils are responsible and experienced water utilities managers that seek to work collaboratively with all levels of Government on water security solutions; and</li> <li>12. Commend to members that they include this messaging in their media releases and advocacy.</li> <li>13. Thank Minister Pavey for visiting the region Tuesday 26 November 2019;</li> <li>14. Seek to work through the Minister's office on developing a collaborative approach to water security in Central New South Wales within existing policy;</li> <li>15. Noting that existing policy is for the sharing of water to be through instruments rather than structures seek funding from and engagement with the state on progressing such an approach; and</li> <li>16. Reaffirm the region's policy position of councils including county councils retaining control of their water utilities assets.</li> </ol>	

## Reports

## Central NSW JO Board Meeting 27 February 2020

**7. Supplementary motion on water policy**

<b>Resolved</b>	<b>Cr K Keith/Cr R Kidd</b>
That the Board seek advice on the correlation between surface and bore water and meet with the Minister as required.	

**8. Suspension of standing orders to receive a presentation from Canberra Airport at 3:30pm**

<b>Resolved</b>	<b>Cr K Beatty/Cr S Ferguson</b>
That the Board suspend standing orders.	

**9. Resumption of the meeting at 4:20pm**

<b>Resolved</b>	<b>Cr B West/Cr S Ferguson</b>
That the Board resume the meeting.	

**10. Report to the Central NSW JO Strategic Plan and Statement of Regional Strategic Priority 2019/2020**

<b>Resolved</b>	<b>Cr K Beatty/Cr S Ferguson</b>
That the Board note the report to the Central NSW JO Strategic Plan and Statement of Regional Strategic Priority.	

**11. Compliance, policy review and dates for 2020**

Resolved					Cr K Keith/Cr K Beatty
That the Board note the Compliance report and;					
1. Adopt the 2019 Annual Performance Statement and place it the website;					
2. Note the Pecuniary Interest Returns under s450a of the Local Government Act 1993;					
3. Adopt the Joint Organisation Policy and Procedure Manual; and					
4. Determine the dates for GMAC and Board meetings for 2020 be:					
Board	27 February	28 May	27 August	26 November	
GMAC	30 January	7 May	23 July	22 October	

**12. Adoption of Audited General Purpose Statements for period 11 May 2018 to 30 June 2019**

<b>Resolved</b>	<b>Cr B West/Cr R Kidd</b>
That the Board adopt the CNSWJO Joint Organisation General Purpose Financial Statements for the period 11 May 2018 to 30 June 2019.	

**13. Financial Report**

<b>Resolved</b>	<b>Cr K Keith/Cr J Webb</b>
That the Board note the Financial and compliance report and accept the transfer of the reserves from Centroc in the following form:	
CNSW Regional Tourism Group + Regional Marketing	138,366
CWUA Best Practice Program	31,569
CWUA - Asset Management Maturity Audit (NAMAF)	80,775
CWUA - Developer Services Plans	47,930
Energy Project + Energy Workshops matching contribution	66,842
Energy Workshops - Office of Environment & Energy Grant	1,770
Growing Local Economies Grant Funding	73,400
Inter-Council Co-operation Reserve (IT Unified communications + Best Practice in Aggregated Procurement)	54,221

## Reports

Roads Transport Technical Committee + BLEG	32,514
	<b>\$527,387</b>

#### 14. Other Reports

##### a. Prioritisation of \$150K Joint Organisation Capacity Building Fund

<b>Resolved</b>	<b>Cr K Beatty/Cr S Ferguson</b>
That the Board note the report regarding the prioritisation of the 150K Joint Organisation Capacity Building Fund and	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. approve the funding application for the following under the Joint Organisation Capacity Building Fund: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Best Practice in Aggregated Procurement budgeted at \$35K; and</li> <li>b. Understanding and supporting the new role of our CBDs – a project of the Regional Prosperity Subcommittee budgeted at \$50K;</li> <li>c. Regional Capacity Building in Energy Innovation budgeted at \$65K; and</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Commend to members they give consideration to co-investment in the CBD project.</li> </ol>	

##### b. Logo Report

<b>Resolved</b>	<b>Cr R Kidd/Cr B West</b>
That the Board note the logo report and adopt Option 2 and 3 combined.	

Note: the amended logo to be circulated for review.

##### c. Executive Officer Performance Review

<b>Resolved</b>	<b>Cr K Beatty/ Cr S Ferguson</b>
That the Board note the report regarding the performance management of the Executive Officer and	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Delegate the entirety of the performance review function to a Performance Review Panel that is: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Developing a Performance Agreement in consultation with the Executive Officer</li> <li>b. Undertaking a performance assessment of the Executive Officer in</li> <li>c. December/January each year</li> <li>d. Determining the following in relation to the Performance Agreement: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. A final list of projects to be included in the Performance Agreement; and</li> <li>ii. Any managerial or behavioural actions that they would like the Executive Officer to address during the review year.</li> </ol> </li> <li>e. Reviewing and determining salary and any bonus arrangements</li> <li>f. Providing a report to the Board facilitated by the Chair of GMAC</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Determine that the Performance Review Panel be the Chair, Deputy Chair a Mayor nominated by the Executive Officer to be facilitated by the Chair of GMAC.</li> </ol>	

#### 15. Confidential Reports

##### a. Regional Bridge Assessment Report

<b>Resolved</b>	<b>Cr K Beatty/Cr M Liebich</b>
That the Board note the confidential report on bridge assessments and	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I. endorse the Regional Bridge Assessment Report to be used to access further funding;</li> <li>II. receive a report on options for a collaborative approach within three months to the repair and replacement of identified bridges; and</li> <li>III. members give consideration to their participation in a collaborative approach and advise CNSWJO accordingly.</li> </ol>	

## Reports

**b. Regional Smart Approved Water Mark Subscription**

<b>Resolved</b>	<b>Cr K Beatty/Cr S Ferguson</b>
That the Board note the confidential report on the Regional Smart Approved Water Mark Subscription and approve the regional subscription for Smart Approved Water Mark and the JO sign the agreement and invoice member councils accordingly.	

16. Next Meeting 27 February 2020 in Weddin.

17. Conclusion of the meeting - Meeting closed at 4.31pm

Page 7 is the last page of the Central NSW Joint Organisation meeting 27 November 2019

## Central NSW JO Board Meeting 27 February 2020

## 5. Matters in Progress

CENTRAL NSW JOINT ORGANISATION		
Action	By	Update
<b>290519-9e-Structural, reporting and other arrangements to progress the Joint Organisation (JO) Strategic Plan</b> 1. Seek updated advocacy plans from each Portfolio Spokesperson, subject to feedback from members, regarding their priority; 2. Receive a report on delegations to optimise the administration and leadership of the Joint Organisation;	JB	1– A revised advocacy plan on transport will be provided to the Board in February based on discussion at the November meeting. See resolve below.  <b>Suggest deletion.</b>  2- Underway – legal advice is being sought on best practice in aggregated procurement as part of a consortia of JOs to inform this advice. This project forms part of the application to OLG for the Capacity Building Program.
<b>290519-9j-Report to the Central NSW JO Strategic Plan and Statement of Regional Strategic Priority 2019/2020</b> 1. Nominate members to form the working group reviewing tourism; 2. Nominate members to form the working group reviewing the Matrix and developing policy going forward.	JB	1. A date has been scheduled for the Tourism meeting on the 11 March – Cr Bill West, Rebecca Ryan, Megan Rodd, Dan Cove, Dave Waddell, Christine Weston, Cr Ray Walsh and Cr Ian Davison. Terms of reference are being developed in consultation with the tourism group. 2. A Meeting was held 22 November A follow up meeting has been scheduled for 9 March where key state stakeholders have been invited. Please request all associated documentation.
COMMITTEE REPORTS		
Action	By	
<b>290519-8b-Drought Sub-committee - Progressing the recommendations of the Drought Issues Paper</b> 1. Work with requisite State agencies and other peak regional bodies regarding drought preparedness with a report to be provided to the Board on options for resourcing better drought support and coordination at the local and regional level.	JB and MM	There continues to be a lot of activity in this space. CNSWJO staff attended the first RLE Central West and Orana Drought Taskforce meeting on 24 September. The date for the next meeting is advised as 11 March 2020.
WATER		
Action	By	Update
<b>281113 - 8b - Water Infrastructure</b> Develop a MoU with NSW Health.	MM	<i>November 2013- January 2019</i> – continuous efforts to progress this matter.  Building on the outcomes of the <i>Drinking Water Incident Workshop</i> it is proposed

## Reports

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		that an Incident Agreement with NSW Health be pursued through the Regional Water Committee to be formed as part of the JO strategic process.
<b>280219-7b-Board-Water Infrastructure Report</b> Commend to the CWUA that it investigates the potential for a regional application to stream 2 of the revised Safe and Secure program for funding to procure consulting services to update CWUA member Council's Integrated water cycle management (IWCM) strategies.	MM	Underway. Discussions have been held with DPIE Water and a report was discussed at the JO EOs Network Meeting on 31 October on opportunities for JOs to work collectively and collaboratively with the State Government to enable an alternative approach to IWCM. Further follow-up in January with interest across 5 JOs.
<b>220819-Reports to Joint Organisation- 11a-Regional Water</b> 1. Endorse the development of policy and advocacy on the identified emergency water security projects (short-term and long term); 2. Endorse the Chairs of the Regional Prosperity and Regional Water portfolios working together to optimise opportunities from the Wyangala Dam wall investigations for economic development and urban water security across the Lachlan catchment and develop further policy in this regard; 3. Receive a report on the IPART recommendations in the Review of reporting and compliance burdens on Local Government; 4. Note work with DPIE-Water and the RLE to integrate town water into the Regional Water Strategy; and 5. Circulate advice to members monitoring the current opportunities and risks;	MM	Please see Confidential Briefing on Water #4 as an attachment to 1, 2 and 5 – attachment 14.  3. OLG requested comments on IPARTs recommendations in the Review of Reporting and Compliance Burdens on Local Government –Final Report April 2016. In regards to the recommendations 11 and 12 on water utility regulation, OLG have deferred to DPIE Water's on-going regulatory reform process noting that they are not taking submissions on these two recommendations at this time. A key aspect of the IPART recommendations is an outcomes focused, multi-agency approach to water where currently there are significant gaps and overlaps in regulatory responsibility in water. A submission was not required, though a watching brief will be maintained over the progress of DPIE Water's regulatory reform process and advice provided to a future meeting.  4. Roundtable discussions have been held on the development of the Regional Water Strategies for the Lachlan Valley and the Upper Macquarie. Consultations have also been held with individual member Councils.
<b>OPERATIONAL</b>		
<b>Action</b>	<b>By</b>	<b>Update</b>
<b>271119-6-P1a-Procurement Report</b>	KB	All items have been actioned. <b>Suggest deletion.</b>

## Reports

## Central NSW JO Board Meeting 27 February 2020

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. approve the 12-month extension of the road signs contract (S1 2018) with Artcraft, Barrier Signs and DeNeefe until 31 December 2020;</li> <li>2. approve the 12-month extension of the bitumen emulsion contract (S2_2018) with Boral Asphalt until 31 March 2021;</li> <li>3. approve the 12-month extension of the linemarking services contract (R2_2018) with Avante, Central West Linemarking, Complete Linemarking, Oz Linemarking and Red Squirrel;</li> <li>4. approve a 6-month extension of the contract with Common Thread Consulting for the Procurement Support for Water Main Condition Assessment;</li> <li>5. approve the Water Main Condition Assessment Pilot contract to include a management fee of 1.5% of the total value of the contract, which will be payable by the successful Contractor/s;</li> </ol>		
<p><b>271119-6-P1b-Energy Programming Report</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Vary the existing contract with Sourced Energy to raise the management fee from the large market retailer by 0.25% which will be payable to CNSWJO;</li> <li>2. Draft a media release to voice frustration with the delays of the LED roll outs; and</li> <li>3. Investigate the opportunities of the recently announced renewable energy zone.</li> </ol>	KB and JB	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Complete. <b>Suggest deletion.</b></li> <li>2. This was raised at a meeting with Essential Energy in Bathurst on 11 February. Please see advice elsewhere in the agenda regarding this meeting. Given the positivity of this meeting and upcoming presentation to GMAC it is suggested that a media release is not timely. <b>Suggest deletion</b></li> <li>3. CNSWJO staff have been invited to attend a workshop with DPIE on the Central West REZ in Dubbo on 25 March and will provide an update in due course.</li> </ol>
<p><b>271119-6-P1c-Internal Audit and Risk Management Report</b></p> <p>Internal Audit and Risk Management Guidelines advice from the OLG</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. provide a response that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Is supportive of a strategic approach to internal audit and risk management;</li> <li>b. Suggests a less prescriptive approach, than that suggested in the guidelines;</li> <li>c. Is not supportive of leveraging Section 377 of the Local Government Act where Councils delegate internal audit and risk management functions to the JO;</li> <li>d. Notes the diversion of resource required for a Joint Organisation to fulfill these guidelines will be counterproductive and is at risk of contributing to JO network failure;</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	JB	<p>Feedback sought from members and submission was lodged and is available on the website. Attached to Report number 8 to the Central NSW JO Strategic Plan and Statement of Strategic Regional Priority.</p> <p><b>Suggest deletion</b></p>

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e. Request that JOs be exempt from the new Internal Audit and Risk Management Framework for NSW; and f. Includes Member Councils concerns; and 2. Members are encouraged to write their own responses.		
<b>271119-6-P2b-Regional Prosperity and Advocacy Plan</b> 1. Adopt the Plan; and 2. Share the policy position with LGNSW.	JB	This plans policy has been sent to LGNSW at the end of 2019. <b>Suggest deletion</b>
<b>271119-6-P2c-Tourism Data Tool by WRI and support for a collaborative project with Arts Out West delivering arts and culture journeys</b> 1. encourage members to support providing data into the program including promoting the visiting friends and relatives (VFR) survey though the community and through Council staff; and 2. amend the Tourism Budget transferring the \$5000 for the second round of the Regional Passport Project to a collaborative project with Arts Out West for arts and culture journeys.	JB	This was included in the Mayoral Board report provided to Council. AOW advised. <b>Suggest deletion</b>
<b>271119-6-P3a-Regional Transport Advocacy Policy, Prioritisation and Freight Links Mapping.</b> 1. Endorse the changes to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment regional network map; 2. Provide a submission to the consultation on the Lithgow to Katoomba Corridor for the upgrade of the Great Western Highway within existing policy; 3. Adopt the CNSWJO Transport Advocacy Plan noting the need to update the Matrix in line with advice below; 4. Endorse the 58 projects listed on the Matrix to the with the exception of priority 1; 5. Write to the Minister seeking advice on the update of the Bells Line of Road Corridor; 6. Provide updated mapping to the Board; and 7. Provide a reviewed the Advocacy Plan that identifies one or two priorities for the Board to focus its advocacy efforts.	JB	1. DPIE Planning have provided further advice for member feedback. Member feedback is being followed up with DPIE Planning. The next scheduled meeting is 26 February 2020. 2. A Regional response was lodged. Pleased see Transport Report. <b>Suggest deletion.</b> 3. The plan's policy has been sent to LGNSW at the end of 2019. <b>Suggest deletion.</b> 4. Noted. A review is underway. 5. Correspondence has been sent. <b>Suggest deletion.</b> 6. This will be undertaken at the completion of the State mapping process. 7. See Chairperson's Minutes as a starting point. Further work is underway assuming the Freight to Port priority.
<b>271119-P4a-Regional Water, Advocacy Plan</b> 1. Adopt the Plan; and 2. Share the policy position with LGNSW.	MM	The plans policy has been sent to LGNSW at the end of 2019. <b>Suggest deletion</b>

## Reports

<p><b>271119-P4-b-Regional Water Report</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Agree arrangements be developed with the strategic subcommittee and in consultation with member Councils for emergency water management between towns across the region that (based on previous Board policy) address the following heads of consideration:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Arrangements for the sharing of water for emergency water needs between towns across the region so that the burden of providing infrastructure for critical urban water transfers is borne equitably by the region (for example through the development of instruments and agreements not structures);</li> <li>b. Ownership and management by LG of any such infrastructure built to transfer emergency water between towns across the region for critical human needs;</li> <li>c. On-going operational costs for emergency water infrastructure;</li> <li>d. A multi-source approach to the supply of emergency water that enables options to be switched on or off as needed with these to be linked to State and local based triggers; and;</li> <li>e. Receive a report to the February 2020 Board meeting.</li> </ol> </li> <li>1. Undertake advocacy seeking early engagement in the Wyangala Dam wall raising and Lake Rowlands to Carcoar Dam projects with a view to being able to influence outcomes;</li> <li>2. Adopt the response to the Lachlan Regional Water Strategy provided under the hand of the Chair;</li> <li>3. Adopt the response to the State Water Strategy provided under the hand of the Chair;</li> <li>4. Commend to members that they become members of the Murray Darling Association;</li> <li>5. Endorse the response provided to LGNSW for the NSW Legislative Assembly Committee on Investment, Industry and Regional Development inquiry into support for drought affected communities in NSW noting that the CNSWJO response will be provided based on this;</li> <li>6. Advocate strongly that Councils are responsible and experienced water utilities managers that seek to work collaboratively with all levels of Government on water security solutions; and</li> </ol>	MM	Underway. Please see Confidential briefing #4 as an attachment for an update (this can be found as Attachment 14 of this agenda).
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## Reports

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<p>7. Commend to members that they include this messaging in their media releases and advocacy.</p> <p>8. Thank Minister Pavey for visiting the region Tuesday 26 November 2019;</p> <p>9. Seek to work through the Minister's office on developing a collaborative approach to water security in Central New South Wales within existing policy;</p> <p>10. Noting that existing policy is for the sharing of water to be through instruments rather than structures seek funding from and engagement with the state on progressing such an approach; and</p> <p>11. Reaffirm the region's policy position of councils including county councils retaining control of their water utilities assets.</p>		
<p><b>271119-Supplementary motion on water policy</b> That the Board seek advice on the correlation between surface and bore water and meet with the Minister as required.</p>	MM	Underway.
<p><b>271119-14a-Prioritisation of \$150K Joint Organisation Capacity Building Fund</b></p> <p>1. approve the funding application for the following under the Joint Organisation Capacity Building Fund:</p> <p>a. Best Practice in Aggregated Procurement budgeted at \$35K; and</p> <p>b. Understanding and supporting the new role of our CBDs – a project of the Regional Prosperity Subcommittee budgeted at \$50K;</p> <p>c. Regional Capacity Building in Energy Innovation budgeted at \$65K; and</p> <p>2. Commend to members they give consideration to co-investment in the CBD project.</p>	JB	<p>Lodged.</p> <p><b>Suggest deletion</b></p>
<p><b>271119-14c-Executive Officer Performance Review</b></p> <p>1. Delegate the entirety of the performance review function to a Performance Review Panel that is:</p> <p>a. Developing a Performance Agreement in consultation with the Executive Officer</p> <p>b. Undertaking a performance assessment of the Executive Officer in</p> <p>c. December/January each year</p> <p>d. Determining the following in relation to the Performance Agreement: A final list of projects to be included in the Performance Agreement; and</p>	DS and JB	Underway. A verbal update can be provided.

## Reports

## Central NSW JO Board Meeting 27 February 2020

<p>Any managerial or behavioural actions that they would like the Executive Officer to address during the review year.</p> <p>e. Reviewing and determining salary and any bonus arrangements</p> <p>f. Providing a report to the Board facilitated by the Chair of GMAC</p> <p>2. Determine that the Performance Review Panel be the Chair, Deputy Chair a Mayor nominated by the Executive Officer to be facilitated by the Chair of GMAC.</p>		
<p><b>271119-15a-Confidential Reports Regional Bridge Assessment Report</b></p> <p>1. endorse the Regional Bridge Assessment Report to be used to access further funding;</p> <p>2. receive a report on options for a collaborative approach within three months to the repair and replacement of identified bridges; and</p> <p>3. members give consideration to their participation in a collaborative approach and advise CNSWJO accordingly.</p>	JB	<p>1. Noted. <b>Suggest deletion.</b></p> <p>2. A meeting was held in Bathurst on 13 February with Public Works Advisory and Transport for NSW to discuss options for collaboration. A scoping report is underway.</p> <p>3. Members will be provided with more information in due course to enable them to make a more informed decision around participation in a collaborative approach.</p>
<p><b>271119-15b-Regional Smart Approved Water Mark Subscription</b></p> <p>approve the regional subscription for Smart Approved Water Mark and the JO sign the agreement and invoice member councils accordingly.</p>	KB	<p>Complete.</p> <p><b>Suggest deletion.</b></p>

## Reports

## 6. Chairperson's Minute

Report by Cr John Medcalf, 17 February 2020

Recommendation/s
<p><b>That the Board adopt the Chairperson's Minute on the advocacy approach for 2020 and</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Adopt the over focus for the years to align with the Federal vision to grow the agricultural sector to \$100bn by 2030;</b></li> <li><b>2. Note that this includes two priority areas of activity – these being:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>i. Watering the West – leveraging raising the wall at Wyangala and assuring urban water security in the CNSW region; and</b></li> <li><b>ii. Freight links to ports;</b></li> </ol> </li> <li><b>3. Adopt the priorities for inter-council cooperation as:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>i. Reporting value to members of the operational support program; and</b></li> <li><b>ii. Supporting the sustainability of the broader JO network;</b></li> </ol> </li> <li><b>4. Adopt the priorities for regional prosperity as:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>i. Progressing support for the visitor economy; and</b></li> <li><b>ii. Developing and monitoring the progress of the Regional Prosperity Subcommittee noting the agricultural focus;</b></li> </ol> </li> <li><b>5. Adopt the changes to the Board calendar as follows:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>i. 3 June Board meeting in Penrith and 4 June meeting with State representatives at Macquarie Street, Sydney including launch of the Central West NSW Food and Fibre Strategy;</b></li> <li><b>ii. August Board meetings in Canberra at a venue TBA; and</b></li> <li><b>iii. The November meeting be part of a Summit, again retaining the agricultural focus;</b></li> </ol> </li> <li><b>6. Encourage members to form or activate friendship agreements with Councils in Western Sydney; and</b></li> <li><b>7. Seek feedback from members to inform policy with regard to a regional response to Climate Change.</b></li> </ol>

## Reason for report

Members will recall discussion at the last Board meeting seeking a more focussed approach to advocacy at meetings with Ministers in Sydney and Canberra. As Chair, I have asked the Executive Officer to prepare this Minute for me. As you know, my catch cry is "its all about communication and collaboration" and I hope we can have a robust discussion about this Minute.

I have also asked that we include deliberation on climate change. Drought, floods and fire have been the overwhelming conversation across our nation for the last few months. As leaders I believe we need to give consideration to a response to climate change as we refocus our efforts on behalf of our communities this year. A number of our Councils are well into policy and action regarding climate change and I have asked Cr Ken Keith to speak about work in Parkes and its Climate Change Forum on 30-31 July. Please find more details attached.

The purpose of the Chairperson's Minute is to stimulate discussion on how we can build on the good work done in our advocacy especially at our meetings in Sydney and Canberra. This to be in the context of the current challenges being experienced in the region and across the nation as a result of climate change and the election period for local government in 2020.

# Reports

If adopted, this Minute will provide direction to the CNSWJO on activities and priorities for the year in the context of the broader JO Statement of Strategic Priorities.

This report includes advice from consultation with various stakeholders and feedback from the January General Managers' meeting.

As Chair, I make the above recommendations with a view to these being amended after a robust discussion by members.

### **Legislative, policy and risk considerations**

Members will recall discussion at the Board meeting in November in Canberra on taking a more focussed approach to advocacy; in particular optimising the time spent with Ministers in Sydney and Canberra. The following is suggested in terms of focus and for the program of Board meetings for the year to support this focus. Please note that the advice below aligns with the existing Central NSW JO Strategic Plan where for example the vision says *Central NSW is a vibrant, prosperous and welcoming place of seasonal landscapes that is recognised by the nation for its agricultural heart.*

- An overall focus for the year being alignment with the Federal vision to grow the agricultural sector to \$100bn by 2030 – “what needs to happen in this region to enable our contribution to this target?” This to include water supply, freight links and our agricultural communities in a changing climate.
- While there is a multiplicity of things that need to change to enable this growth in the agricultural sector, including energy policy, activation precincts, telecommunications, removing red tape, the focus in this region be;
  - i. Watering the west – leveraging raising the wall at Wyangala and assuring urban water security in region; and
  - ii. Freight links to ports.

Please find advice below under “options” for other potential priorities for the region members might like to consider for the focus for this region.

- This region has four priorities in its Statement of Strategic Priorities, attached, of which transport and water are two. Given the priorities for the year above include water and transport and that there is a separate report on transport advocacy focusing its advocacy efforts under development, it is further suggested that there be a maximum of two headline priorities for the areas of Intergovernmental Cooperation and Regional Prosperity. Having discussed this with the Portfolio Mayors it is suggested that these be:

#### Intergovernmental Collaboration

1. Reporting value to members through the operational support program

Reporting actions that deliver the value to members of the operational support program ensures both member control and is an important part of managing member perception of the JO. Where the JO saves time and money for its members which can be measured as return on investment, it has a demonstrable value proposition which Councillors in the region can point to when deliberating on JO matters.

## **Reports**

## 2. Supporting the sustainability of the broader JO network

The failure of the broader network is the greatest risk to the success of this JO. Should the broader network fail, the State will not have the structural arrangements in place in region to progress intergovernmental collaboration with local government in any profound way. This will have the effect of JOs devolving into ROCs with a bigger compliance burden. This region has been very active in managing this risk. Please request more detail in this regard where it has been reported elsewhere in this agenda.

## Regional Prosperity

### 1. Progressing support for the visitor economy

Given the impacts of drought and fire, the visitor economy becomes even more important to regional economies. As directed in the JO Strategic Plan, this region continues to work collaboratively in the tourism space while reviewing its regional approach. Please see advice elsewhere in this agenda on the review. I would like to acknowledge the work done by all of our tourism managers working collaboratively. As Chair, I am suggesting that members consider building stronger relationships with Western Sydney councils through arrangements similar to the one between Penrith and Lachlan. Given that preliminary advice from WRI on this region's visitor demographic where Western Sydney is critical, this is an opportunity for the region to build our resilience through our relationships with a view to all of their potential cross benefits but including the visitor economy. Please find attached advice on current inter-Council arrangements.

### 2. Developing and monitoring the progress of the Regional Prosperity Subcommittee noting the agricultural focus

Given that the significant new opportunity for member Councils and their communities offered by the JOs is intergovernmental collaboration, the Regional Prosperity Subcommittee is exploring a new way of doing business with the NSW government. Please request previous advice and find the updated Terms of Reference elsewhere in this agenda. While early days for this Subcommittee, it has an agricultural focus and of the committee overseeing the progress of the Central West Food and Fibre Strategy.

- Moving the Federal meeting to August and changing the format to include a round table in the Deputy Prime Minister's office seeking to progress the above. At the time of writing, Cr Ken Keith is broaching support for this with the Deputy Prime Minister's Office. The idea here is to have a more in-depth discussion to progress the region's direction with a view to various Ministers making commitments and announcements at the Ministerial session on the following day. Pre-meetings and briefings will hopefully lead to more targeted outcomes. The suggested format is:
  - Wednesday morning – round table with the Deputy Prime Minister on the region's two key priorities. Some background meetings and briefings with key Federal personnel would be required leading up to the meeting.
  - Wednesday afternoon – Board meeting.
  - Thursday morning – meeting between Board and various Ministers.
- Launching the Food and Fibre Strategy at the mid-year Board meeting in Parliament House at a lunch being hosted by the member for Cootamundra, Steph Cooke MP where we showcase local produce. Members will recall advice to the Board meeting that the suggested

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dates would need to change to fit with the State Parliament sitting calendar. Steph Cooke's Office has confirmed 4 June 2020.

- A Summit held on the date of the last Board meeting of the year. This will launch the next round of strategic consultation as the current plan is only until 2020. The Summit would again retain the agricultural focus.

### Options

Board members may have a different view on the priorities for the focus the region. They may also have other ideas regarding the suggested format for Board meetings for the year. Other options for priority include the following, where the Board might prefer any of these or some other option. Please note that the JO is nimble and opportunistic and should any of the options below show greater potential than they appear to at present, advice can be provided to redirect resources.

- Telecommunications – the State Government is making a significant investment in telecommunications. Where this region has been active with regard to consultation and opportunities to date, there may be some merit in adding resource to this effort. Opportunities are being monitored both through the MoU with RDA Central West and the Regional Prosperity Subcommittee;
- Renewable energy and energy policy – where this region has been primarily focussed on providing operational support to members in the energy space and there is policy churn on energy at the Federal level, it may be that given the groundswell across the nation on climate change that this is a good time to direct more resource in this regard;
- A safe swift link between Sydney and Central NSW – historically the highest priority for this region, this will continue to be addressed in a broader approach on freight to port. Noteworthy is the Board meeting in Penrith on 4 June which will allow further advocacy in this regard;
- Drought management beyond urban water security– it may be that this region sees drought and its adaptation as being the priority for the year. Arguably this will occur to some degree through the agricultural focus suggested above, however we may be able to do more with the Drought Issues Paper and more advocacy. There may be possibilities of members pooling further drought funding to take a regional approach. The Drought Issues Paper identifies a number of activities this region could progress with more resource going to this priority.
- Health is always an issue for members including both health infrastructure and health workforce. The current effort is around monitoring and adding value where possible to the health precinct activity by the Regional Leadership Executive and supporting the interagency activities in health workforce. Please request more detail.

### Resourcing implications

At this stage no further resource would be required for the change in approach as outlined in this report. It should be noted however that other actions in the Strategic Plan may slip and at the Board's request an update can be provided.

### Attachment/s:

1. Central NSW JO Statement of Regional Strategic Priorities
2. Parkes Climate change forum 30/31 July
3. 2020 Directory of Australian Sister City and Friendship City Affiliations

## Reports

## 7. Reports to Statement of Regional Strategic Priority

### Priority One: Inter-council Co-operation

#### a. Procurement Report (Priority 1.1a)

Report by Kate Barker, 17 February 2020

<b>Regional Strategic Priorities</b>	<b>1.1 Deliver cost savings and other value to member councils through aggregated procurement</b>
<b>Portfolio Mayor</b>	<b>Cr John Medcalf</b>
<b>Sponsoring General Manager/s</b>	<b>Mr Brad Byrnes and Mr Greg Tory</b>

<b>Recommendation/s</b>
<p><b>That the Board note the Procurement Report and</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. approve the 12-month extension of the coldmix asphalt contract (S3_2018) with Boral Asphalt and Civil Independence until 31 May 2021;</b></li> <li><b>2. approve the 12-month extension of the compliance training contract (WHS1_2015) with Allens Training, ATAC, Mines Rescue and TAFE until 31 March 2021;</b></li> <li><b>3. approve the 6-month extension of the Asset Management Maturity Audit contract with University of Technology, Sydney; and</b></li> <li><b>4. approve a procurement process for the revaluation of water and sewer assets, including a 5% contract management fee payable to CNSWJO.</b></li> </ol>

### Reason for the Report

Members currently procure varying goods and services through regional contracts administered by CNSWJO. It is recommended that the Board approve a 12-month extension of the coldmix asphalt contract with Boral Asphalt and Civil Independence, a 12-month extension of the compliance training contract with Allens Training, ATAC, Mines Rescue and TAFE, a 6-month extension of the asset management maturity audit with University of Technology Sydney, and a procurement process for the revaluation of water and sewer assets.

### Legislative, Policy and Risk Considerations

Given procurement is an operational support program designed to bring cost savings and other benefits from aggregation, prior to commencing a procurement process a report is considered by GMAC where they are notified of the background and asked to approve the process. All procurement processes are conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act and the CNSWJO procurement policy.

The region is progressing a best practice in aggregated procurement program collaboratively with neighbouring JOs to inform optimal processes that can be leveraged by the changes in legislation enabling the JO.

Related risks from the Strategic Plan include:

- 27 – Procurement charging processes not universally supported
- 28 – Ensuring services are relevant to all members, and providing value for money
- 32 – Long term viability and financial sustainability

# Reports

## Discussion

### Contract Extensions

#### Coldmix Asphalt

The current contract for the supply and delivery of coldmix asphalt, held by individual councils, commenced on 1 June 2018 and expires on 31 May 2020, with the option of a 12-month extension. The service providers are Boral Asphalt and Civil Independence.

It is recommended that the Board approve the 12-month extension of the coldmix asphalt contract with Boral Asphalt and Civil Independence until 31 May 2021.

Advice has been sought from Council staff regarding this proposed contract extension where those who responded advised they were supportive of the extension.

The spend for the contracts is as follows:

Council	Spend from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019	Spend from 1 July 2019 to 31 December 2019 (6 months)
Bathurst	\$70,793	\$37,053
Blayney	\$0	\$0
Cabonne	\$82,599	\$5,470
Central Tablelands Water	\$0	\$0
Cowra	\$0	\$0
Forbes	\$23,275	\$10,182
Lachlan	\$39,248	\$32,657
Oberon	\$0	\$0
Orange	\$0	\$0
Parkes	\$21,714	\$2,026
Weddin	\$0	\$0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$237,628</b>	<b>\$87,389</b>

#### Compliance Training

The contracts for compliance training, held by CNSWJO, are due to expire on 31 March 2020 with the option for a further 12-month extension. The contracts are with Allens Training, ATAC, Mines Rescue and TAFE and cover various compliance-based training courses such as load-shifting, confined spaces and working at heights.

It is recommended that the Board approve the 12-month extension of the compliance training contracts with Allens Training, ATAC, Mines Rescue and TAFE until 31 March 2021.

Advice has been sought from Council staff regarding this proposed contract extension where those who responded advised they were supportive of the extension.

The spend for the contracts is as follows:

Council	Spend from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019	Spend from 1 July 2019 to 31 December 2019 (6 months)
Bathurst	\$0	\$4,400
Blayney	\$6,400	\$0
Cabonne	\$4,550	\$0
Central Tablelands Water	\$0	\$0
Cowra	\$3,000	\$3,610

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Forbes	\$600	\$2,200
Lachlan	\$4,136	\$0
Oberon	\$0	\$0
Orange	\$30,415	\$5,060
Parkes	\$33,600	\$0
Weddin	\$0	\$0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$82,701</b>	<b>\$15,270</b>

**Asset Management Maturity Audit**

Nine member councils are involved in a regional contract for an asset management maturity audit using University of Technology, Sydney. There have been delays in the delivery of the project for two councils and as such, it is recommended that the contract be extended for a period of 6 months from 1 March 2020 to 31 August 2020.

**New Procurement**

The Water Utilities Alliance has expressed interest in an aggregated procurement process for the revaluation of water and sewer assets. A regional approach has occurred twice in the past, both of which were very successful and good feedback was received from members. Regarding management fees, the previous contract included a 5% contract management fee payable to Centroc by the contractor, which saw an income stream of \$6,000 to Centroc.

It is recommended that the Board approve a new procurement process for the revaluation of water and sewer assets to be conducted through the Water Utilities Alliance, and that includes a contract management fee of 5% payable to CNSWJO.

**Attachment/s:**

4. CNSWJO 5 Year Procurement Plan

## Reports

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**b. Administration Update (Priority 1.2)**

<b>Regional Strategic Priorities</b>	<b>1.2 Governance arrangements enable inter-council co-operation</b>
<b>Portfolio Mayor</b>	<b>Cr John Medcalf</b>
<b>Sponsoring General Manager/s</b>	<b>Mr Brad Byrnes and Mr Greg Tory</b>


Report by Jennifer Bennett, 6 February 2020

<b>Recommendation/s</b>
<b>That the Board note the timeline for the implementation of the JO and give final approval for the new CNSWJO Logo.</b>

Action	By	Update
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Obtain relevant insurances and workers compensation coverage</li> <li>Hold the first meeting of the joint organisation board</li> <li>Adopt a code of conduct</li> <li>Appoint an interim executive officer</li> <li>Obtain an ABN and TFN</li> <li>Reserve a domain name</li> <li>Establish a phone number and email address</li> </ul>	First month	√
Return signed funding agreement to OLG	29 June 2018	√
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adopt a charter—and publish on website</li> <li>Adopt an expenses and facilities policy</li> </ul>	First three months	√
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepare a communication and engagement plan</li> <li>Organise for any relevant regional organisation of councils grants and contracts to be transferred to the joint organisation</li> </ul>	First three months	√ Awaiting all copies to be returned.
Adopt a statement of revenue policy for 2018/19, including budget	31 August 2018	√
Funding report, noting key milestones to be met	28 September 2018	√
Adopt a statement of regional strategic priorities	30 December 2018	√
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adopt a logo and other key elements of visual identity</li> <li>Deliver a website featuring the adopted visual identity</li> </ul>	First six months	√ A logo combination was resolved at the November meeting. This has been progressed with Cr Ken Keith who had the design change idea and subsequently looks like this:

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Action	By	Update
		 <p><b>CENTRAL NSW JOINT ORGANISATION</b></p> <p>Website is now live <a href="https://www.centraljo.nsw.gov.au/">https://www.centraljo.nsw.gov.au/</a></p>
Submit six-monthly progress and expenditure report to OLG on the Establishment Funds	28 February 2019	√
Adopt statement of revenue policy for 2019/20, including Budget	30 July 2019	√
Submit six-monthly progress and expenditure report to OLG on the Establishment Funds	31 August 2019	√
Prepare an annual performance statement	30 November 2019	√
Prepare audited financial reports for the period ending on the last day of the financial year after the year in which the joint organisation is established	31 October 2019	√

Attachment/s: Nil

## Reports

**c. Energy Programming Report (Priority 1.3)****Report by Kate Barker, 17 February 2020**

<b>Regional Strategic Priorities</b>	<b>1.3 Members are provided with value for money from collaboration on energy related projects</b>
<b>Portfolio Mayor</b>	<b>Cr John Medcalf</b>
<b>Sponsoring General Manager/s</b>	<b>Mr Brad Byrnes and Mr Greg Tory</b>

<b>Recommendation/s</b>
<b>That the Board note the Energy Programming Report and</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. note the progress of the Southern Lights rollouts in Bathurst and Orange;</b></li> <li><b>2. note the cost savings to members of \$2.9m over 3 years achieved through the procurement process for the supply of electricity for large market and small market sites.</b></li> </ol>

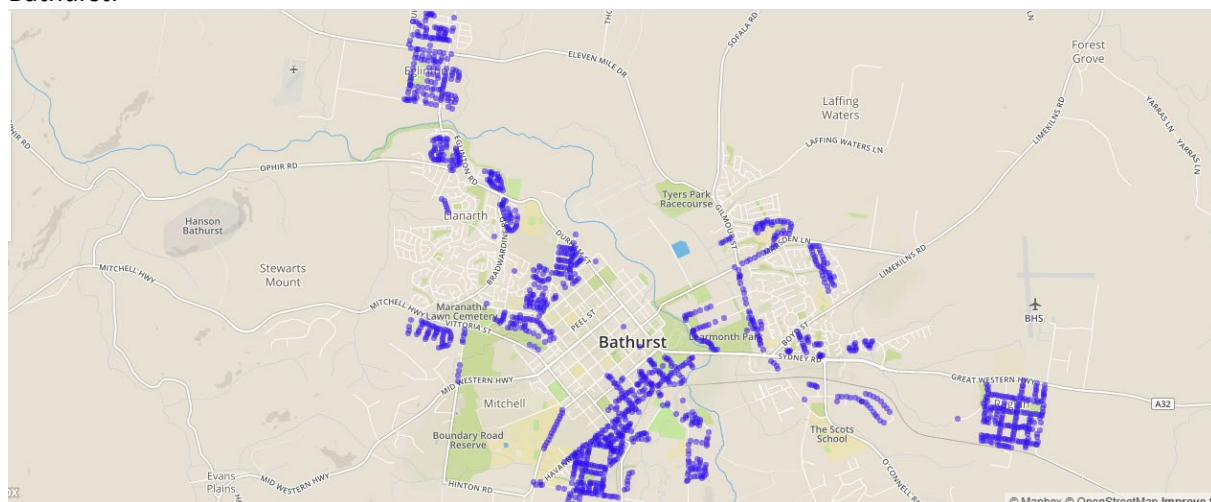
**Reason for the Report**

This report provides an update on varying energy programming activities regarding streetlighting and electricity procurement.

**Discussion****Southern Lights****LED Roll-Out**

The rollouts of LEDs in Bathurst and Orange are progressing well where over 1,000 lights have been installed in both towns to date. The maps below show the status of the rollouts as at 17 February 2020 where the blue dots represent the new lights.

Bathurst:

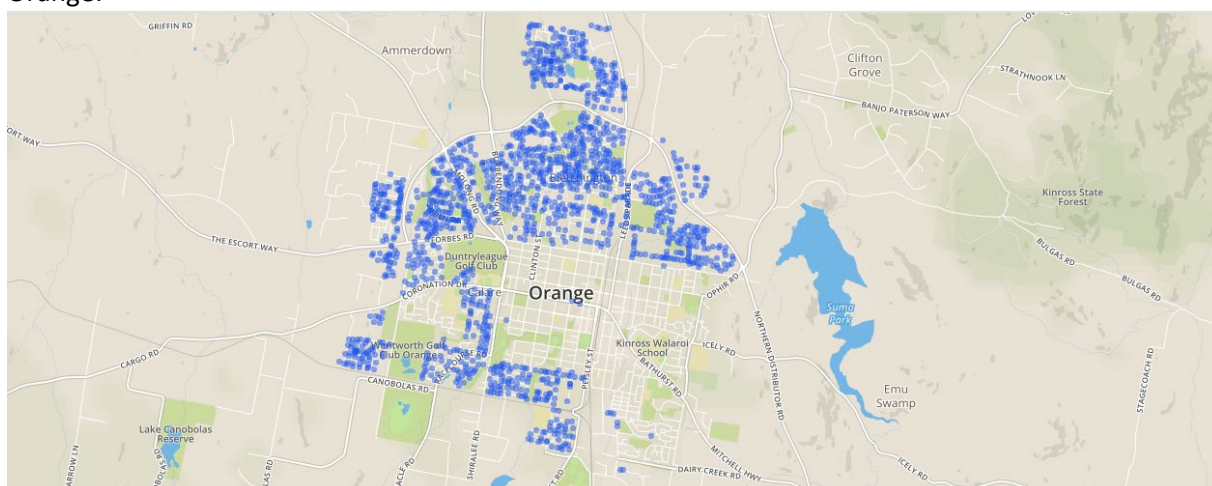


This map is updated weekly by Essential Energy and can be viewed using this link - <https://engage.essentialenergy.com.au/led-upgrade/maps/bathurst-led-upgrade>.



*Photo: Essential Energy streetlights manager Waide Elliott with Bathurst Mayor Bobby Bourke (Sam Bolt, Western Advocate).*

Orange:



This map is updated weekly by Essential Energy and can be viewed using this link - <https://engage.essentialenergy.com.au/led-upgrade/maps/orange-city-council>

It is understood that these maps will be available for each council as their LED rollout occurs.



*Photo: Orange Mayor Reg Kidd and Essential Energy Streetlights manager Waide Elliott check progress with the installation project in Claremont Way (Orange City Council).*

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Essential Energy (EE) are in discussions with Cabonne Council regarding the details of the roll-out which is expected to commence in the coming months.

The indicative replacement schedule proposed by Essential Energy is as follows:

Council	Timing
Bathurst	Underway
Blayney	21/22 – Q3 (to commence in coming months)
Cabonne	19/20 – Q4
Cowra	20/21 – Q4
Forbes	20/21 – Q4
Lachlan	21/22 – Q1
Oberon	20/21 – Q4
Orange	Underway
Parkes	21/22 – Q3
Weddin	20/21 – Q4

As per discussions at the October GMAC meeting during the presentation with Graham Mawer from Next Energy, Essential Energy has been asked to model the numbers for Blayney and Parkes if they were to deploy now rather than waiting for their scheduled BLR. The comparative numbers have been received and at first analysis appear to be strongly in councils' interest to request an accelerated deployment. Essential Energy has been requested to confirm the outcome of the analysis undertaken by Next Energy prior to providing the details to councils. A late report to the Board will be provided if Essential Energy are able to confirm the analysis prior to the meeting.

### Energy Savings Certificates

In 2016, Centroc conducted a procurement process to identify a suitable Accredited Certificate Provider (ACP) for the creation of Energy Savings Certificates (ESCs) for the LED upgrades, where National Carbon Bank of Australia (NCBA) was the successful provider. In late 2019 Essential Energy advised that they had run a Request for Tender for an ACP for ESCs and that NCBA was the successful provider.

Councils now have the option to choose between the existing arrangement and the new Essential Energy arrangement. More details can be found in the confidential report.

### Funding for Consulting Support

Next Energy has been engaged through REROC for the past 18+ months to provide consulting support for the Southern Lights Project, where the total costs are split amongst the participating JOs/ROCs on a per light basis. This has been funded through the CNSWJO energy budget in the past; however, the funding application for Joint Organisations through the Office of Local Government requested to utilise \$25k of the \$150k funding available to continue to engage Next Energy into the future, and to offset costs associated with staff attendance at Southern Lights meetings in Sydney. On 13 February, the OLG announced the funding application was successful.

### Essential Energy

The Board resolved in their August 2019 meeting to write to Essential Energy to express members' concerns regarding the levels of service being provide in regional NSW. Ongoing follow-up has been provided and please request all correspondence.

A meeting was held in Bathurst on 11 February 2020 with Mr David Salisbury and Mr Geoff Burgess from Essential Energy, and attended by Ms Jenny Bennett, Ms Kate Barker and representatives from

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## Central NSW JO Board Meeting 27 February 2020

Bathurst Regional Council. The meeting was quite positive, with Essential Energy providing an update on various aspects where they are working to improve the relationships with councils, as well as streamlining some of their own internal processes which can currently take many months.

Councils will now have a dedicated contact person at EE, Mr Geoff Burgess, Head of Strategic Council Partnerships. Mr Burgess has been invited to present to the GMAC meeting on 7 May 2020 in Bathurst.

### Electricity Procurement

A report was received by the Board at their November meeting regarding the procurement process, including the successful retailers and the reasons for councils not being able to incorporate renewable energy.

Mr David West from Sourced Energy has been invited to present to this February Board meeting to discuss other renewable energy options available for councils.

### Cost Savings

Sourced Energy has calculated the cost savings that councils have achieved through the procurement process and the associated contracts with Energy Australia (large market sites) and Origin Energy (small market sites). The cost savings are calculated by multiplying the existing incumbent rates by the 3 years of forecast load, compared to the new contract rates multiplied by the 3 years of forecast load.

Please note that the savings are based on forecast loads provided by councils, inclusive of energy efficiency upgrades (e.g. Southern Lights) and the installation of planned solar installations. The reduction in load from the Southern Lights Project is based on the existing Bulk Lamp Replacement schedule provided by Essential Energy, current at November 2019.

The network charges for 2020, 2021 and 2022 have been used to calculate both the 'total cost (using contracted rates)' and the 'total cost (using incumbent rates)', i.e. no savings shown for network charges. These rates are pass-through rates and cannot be negotiated through the procurement process.

The estimated cost savings are shown in the tables below. A per council breakdown can be provided on request. If there are questions regarding the cost savings, please request advice prior to the meeting.

Please note that these cost savings are not in addition to those reported to the November Board meeting. At time of writing the November Board report, only large market sites had been analysed to identify cost savings, whereas the table below includes cost savings for both small market and large market sites.

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Council	Total Spend (new contract rates)	Total spend (incumbent rates)	Total Savings (3 year contract)	Percentage saving
Bathurst	\$ 8,472,923	\$ 9,172,125	\$ 699,202	7.62%
Blayney	\$ 666,006	\$ 723,328	\$ 57,323	7.92%
Cabonne	\$ 1,202,279	\$ 1,310,767	\$ 108,487	8.28%
Central Tablelands Water	\$ 1,170,785	\$ 1,259,334	\$ 88,549	7.03%
Cowra	\$ 3,171,958	\$ 3,425,587	\$ 253,629	7.40%
Forbes	\$ 2,390,367	\$ 2,596,278	\$ 205,911	7.93%
Lachlan	\$ 2,313,239	\$ 2,498,470	\$ 185,231	7.41%
Oberon	\$ 477,126	\$ 512,496	\$ 35,370	6.90%
Orange	\$ 9,041,638	\$ 9,813,148	\$ 771,511	7.86%
Parkes	\$ 5,568,979	\$ 6,053,297	\$ 484,318	8.00%
Weddin	\$ 395,755	\$ 431,136	\$ 35,381	8.21%
<b>CNSWJO Total</b>	<b>\$ 34,871,054</b>	<b>\$ 37,795,966</b>	<b>\$ 2,924,912</b>	<b>7.74%</b>

Attachment/s: Nil.

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**d. Report on JO Chairs Forum progress including feedback to the Minister on JO sustainability (Priority 1.4a)**

**Report by Jenny Bennett, 28 January 2020**

<b>Regional Strategic Priorities</b>	<b>1.4 Co-operation between JO and stakeholders that adds value for members</b>
<b>Portfolio Mayor</b>	<b>Cr John Medcalf</b>
<b>Sponsoring General Manager/s</b>	<b>Mr Brad Byrnes and Mr Greg Tory</b>

<b>Recommendation/s</b>
<p><b>That the Board note the feedback to the Minister for Local Government's Joint Organisation (JO) Advisory Committee (the Committee) and</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Recognises the serious risk of JO network failure due to sustainability;</b></li> <li><b>2. Endorses the advice provided to the Minister for Local Government's Advisory Committee;</b></li> <li><b>3. Commends to the Chairs of JOs Forum that the focus of effort for JO sustainability be working, through the Minister's Office, with State agencies on a funding framework that offers value to both JO members and the State where the value to the State is recognised by remuneration;</b></li> <li><b>4. Reiterates its position that JOs should not be a fourth tier of government;</b></li> <li><b>5. Notes that taking on a compliance burden has significant risks to JOs and is not supported;</b></li> <li><b>6. Adopt the definition of Financial Sustainability for Joint Organisations as "A Joint Organisation will be financially sustainable over the long term when it is able to generate sufficient funds and deliver on the Strategic Regional Priorities agreed with its members and stakeholders";</b></li> <li><b>7. Approves an amendment to the JO Chairs' Forum's Terms of Reference to allow for the election of a Chair and Deputy Chair for a period of 12 months; and</b></li> <li><b>8. Provides feedback regarding the above to the Chairs of Joint Organisation Forum.</b></li> </ol>

### **Reason for report**

This report seeks endorsement of actions between meetings regarding sustainability of the broader JO network. The Chairs of Joint Organisation Forum is also seeking adoption of a definition of JO sustainability and endorsement of their most recent Terms of Reference.

### **Legislative Policy and Risk Considerations**

#### **Feedback to the Minister for Local Government's Joint Organisation Advisory Committee**

Members will recall ongoing reporting regarding the challenges for JO network sustainability. This has been identified in this region as very high, likely and with severe consequences.

The JO Chairs' Forum has advocated strongly for funding and ongoing sustainability. Please request previous reports in this regard. The Minister for Local Government responded positively and provided \$150,000 to assist in the short term, though notably this funding has not supported sustainability but sought to demonstrate and support JO capability. The Minister also requested the

## **Reports**

## Central NSW JO Board Meeting 27 February 2020

support of a group of JOs to provide advice on models for sustainability. This support is provided by the Minister for Local Government's Joint Organisation Advisory Committee, made up of four JOs.

This Committee sought feedback from JO Chairs on advice to the Minister regarding JO sustainability with a deadline of 13 February 2020. Advice was sought from members and please find the final response to the Committee attached. Feedback from members was fairly strong regarding in particular the potential of JOs to take on some type of compliance role. Please request all correspondence in this regard.

The Chair has also undertaken follow-up advocacy with other JO Chairs and it is noteworthy that RivJO have a similar view to this region.

### Definition of sustainability for JOs

The JO Forum has requested that each JO adopt the following definition with regard to sustainability. The Minutes of the JO Chair Forum Meeting 31 October are attached. "A Joint Organisation will be financially sustainable over the long term when it is able to generate sufficient funds and deliver on the Strategic Regional Priorities agreed with its members and stakeholders." This is recommended.

### Terms of Reference for the Chairs of Joint Organisations' Forum

At the meeting 31 October of the Chair's Forum it as resolved as follows:

#### 3. NSW JO Chairs' Forum Terms of Reference

*The JO Chairs recognised the advantage in having a consistent forum Chair and Secretariat to carry forward the Chairs' decisions, intent and advocacy.*

**RESOLVED:** *That the draft Terms of Reference for the NSW Joint Organisations (JO) Chairs' Forum, with the inclusion of a Chair and Deputy Chair being appointed for a 12- month period, be considered and endorsed by each individual JO and reported back next forum*

*Moved: Clr R Abbey*

*Seconded: Clr D Mulholland*

*Carried Unanimously*

#### 4. Ballot - Interim Forum Chair

*Clr R Abbey, Canberra Region JO, nominated by Clr D Mulholland NRJO, was unopposed for the Interim Chair of the NSWJO Forum.*

*Nominations received for Deputy Chair were*

- *Clr R Firman Riverina - nominated by Clr J Medcalf Central,*
- *Clr D Mulholland NRJO - nominated by J Chaffey Namoi Unlimited*

*Carried: 6/4 in favour of Clr R Firman, Riverina*

Please find attached minutes from the Chair's Forum 31 October 2019 for further reference.

The Terms of Reference (TOR) for the Joint Chairs' Forum (see following) require an amendment that allowed the for election of a Chair and a Deputy Chair. A revised TOR has been requested but at the time of writing has not been provided. In order to facilitate the resolution of the issue it is suggested that the JO Board adopt a resolution that will provide broad support for the required amendment. Cr Medcalf can then take the resolution to the next meeting of the JO Chairs when the matter comes up for discussion.

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**Financial implications**

While this JO is under less financial stress than others, the reduction in members from the ROC and the increased compliance burden will result in an ongoing deficit budget position unless more income can be identified.

**Attachment/s:**

5. Response to the Minister's Advisory Committee request for feedback
6. Minutes of the Chair's Forum Meeting October 2019

**NSW JOINT ORGANISATIONS (JO) CHAIRS FORUM****TERMS OF REFERENCE (GOVERNANCE AND OPERATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS)****1. Preamble**

Any meetings of the NSW Joint Organisations (JO) Chairs' Forum are to be guided by this Terms of Reference.

**2. Objective**

To meet as regional representatives of Joint Organisations to engage and exchange information on best practice and excellence in the pursuit of strategic regional priorities and collaboration activities to achieve value for the Joint Organisation network.

**3. Role**

- To monitor implementation of the three statutory core functions of NSW Joint Organisations as being:-
  - (i) Strategic planning and priority setting
  - (ii) Intergovernmental relations
  - (iii) Shared successes, leadership and advocacy
- To identify opportunities for best practice, excellence and potential collaboration between the thirteen Joint Organisations

**4. Membership**

The JO Chairs' Network comprises the Chairs of the following thirteen (13) Joint Organisations proclaimed by the NSW Government during 2018:-

- |                              |                              |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| (i) Canberra Region JO       | (viii) Namoi JO              |
| (ii) Central NSW JO          | (ix) New England JO          |
| (iii) Far North West JO      | (x) Orana JO                 |
| (iv) Far South West JO       | (xi) Northern Rivers JO      |
| (v) Hunter JO                | (xii) Riverina and Murray JO |
| (vi) Illawarra Shoalhaven JO | (xiii) Riverina JO           |
| (vii) Mid North Coast JO     |                              |

**5. Meetings**

- The Joint Organisations Chairs' Forum will meet at least three times per year or as required from time to time;
- Meetings of the Forum shall be scheduled for March, August and November of each year and coincide with other Local Government related meetings or events
- Meetings shall be held if possible at Parliament House in Macquarie Street, so as to facilitate engagement with the Premier, Deputy Premier, Ministers and Government Officials.
- If a Parliament House meeting facility is not available, the Secretariat will arrange an alternative Sydney CBD venue;
- For each meeting of the Forum, the Secretariat shall endeavour to arrange attendance by Parliamentarians and Government Officials relevant to the meeting's business agenda;
- The Secretary of the Department of Premier and Cabinet and the Chief Executive of the

## Reports

Office of Local Government (or their representatives) shall be invited to attend all meetings of the JO Chairs' Forum.

**6. Convenor**

- The JO Chairs' Forum shall appoint a Convenor for a period of up to twelve months, with the role being rotated annually;
- The Convenor shall chair the meeting of the JO Forum.

**7. Secretariat**

- The Executive Officer of the Joint Organisation from which the Convenor has been appointed shall carry out the administrative functions on behalf of the Forum for the annual term, in liaison with the Office of Local Government.

**8. Financial arrangements**

- Each Joint Organisation shall meet any expenses of its Chairs in attending meetings and other events associated with the conduct of the JO Chairs' Forum.
- Costs associated with room hire and catering for the Forum will be paid by the Office of Local Government.

End of JO Chairs Forum - Terms of Reference

**Priority Three: Regional Transport and Infrastructure****a. Regional Transport Advocacy Policy, Prioritisation and Freight Links Mapping.****Report by Jennifer Bennett, 14 January 2020**

<b>Regional Strategic Priorities</b>	<b>3.1 Transport connectivity planning 3.2 Infrastructure planning</b>
<b>Portfolio Mayor</b>	<b>Cr Ken Keith</b>
<b>Sponsoring General Manager/s</b>	<b>Kent Boyd, Gary Wallace and Steve Loane</b>

<b>Recommendation/s</b>
<p><b>That the Board note the Transport and Infrastructure Report and</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. commend to members they provide feedback on the Central West and Orana Future Transport Regional Plan (the Plan);</b></li> <li><b>2. provide the feedback to the Plan as described in the report;</b></li> <li><b>3. endorse the Lithgow to Katoomba Corridor submission;</b></li> <li><b>4. invite the independent panel for Regional Road Transfer and NSW Road Classification Review to meet with the JO;</b></li> <li><b>5. endorse the CNSWJO response to the Regional Road Transfer and NSW Road Classification Review Terms of Reference;</b></li> <li><b>6. adopt the Terms of Reference for the Regional Strategic Transport Group; and</b></li> <li><b>7. provide the petition from the Vital Infrastructure and Transport Links group to member Councils for individual response.</b></li> </ol>

**Reason for this report**

This report provides advice on

1. The GWH Upgrade Program Response;
2. The revised Transport Advocacy Plan;
3. Progress on Board resolve regarding freight route mapping;
4. Update on the TfNSW Central NSW and Orana Land Use and Transport Plan;
5. The updated Terms of Reference for the Regional Strategic Transport Group to reflect machinery of government and other minor changes;
6. The Roads of Strategic Importance consultation;
7. The CNSWJO response to the Road Classification Review Terms of Reference; and
8. The request from Vital Intermodal Transport Links (VITL) [vital.org.au](http://vital.org.au) regarding support for both a petition and a social media campaign in support of a safe swift link between Sydney and Central NSW.

Further, the report seeks to progress the Central West and Orana Transport Issues and Insights report and for a submission to be developed to go to the Lithgow to Katoomba Corridor consultation for the upgrade of the Great Western Highway.

For other advice regarding progress by the Technical Committee, Strategic Committee and other matters, please see the Strategic Plan Update report.

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## Legislative Policy and Risk Considerations

### GWH Upgrade Program

A response was provided to the consultation on the Lithgow to Katoomba Corridor for the upgrade of the Great Western Highway within existing policy. The full submission is attached and seeks endorsement. The submission recommends that the corridor delivers a road design that enables a safe journey for high productivity vehicles travelling at 100kph. Consideration should also be given to a corridor that reduces journey time.

It also recommends that Corridors in Western Sydney supporting east-west linkages be preserved including the Bells Line of Road Castlereagh Connection.

Some input to the submission came from the Advocacy and Government Relations Officer at Penrith City Council with our joint aspirations for a safe, swift connection across the mountains.

### Revised Transport Advocacy Plan

Members of the Board may recall a discussion at the November Board meeting in Canberra looking to focus on only two key projects from a transport advocacy perspective.

Accordingly, a report is under development. At the time of writing discussion with various stakeholders including the Regional Strategic Transport Group is being held using the agreed priorities below as a starting point and using an impact/complexity matrix approach. Members may have a view in this regard and are encouraged to provide feedback.

*CNSWJO advocacy priorities for the period of this plan are;*

1. *A safe swift link between Central NSW and Sydney for both passenger and freight:*
  - 1.1. *Supporting the NSW government in its \$2.5b expenditure on the GWH seeking to have speeds of 100k along the route and able to service High Productivity Vehicles.*
  - 1.2. *Seeking have the corridor sequestered for a future upgrade of a safe swift link between Sydney and Central NSW along the Castlereagh Corridor alignment.*
  - 1.3. *Seeking a multi modal approach to shorter journey times including faster rail.*
2. *To focus on the potential of Inland Rail for this region including leveraging linkages from the region to ports including airports and the Special Activation Precinct in Parkes.*
3. *To seek funding for the Transport Infrastructure identified in the Priority Infrastructure Multi Criteria Analysis Matrix (the Transport Matrix) and associated Plans.*
4. *To lobby Federal and State representatives and other key stakeholders as appropriate in the areas of road deficiencies, rail infrastructure and intermodal facilities. This is to include*
  - *the Blayney/Demondrille Line*
  - *Maldon Dombarton*
  - *branch lines and*
  - *road and rail upgrades as identified in the Transport Matrix and associated Plans.*
5. *Maintaining the CNSWJO Policy for responding to issues relating to regional services remaining at Kingsford Smith Airport (KSA).*
6. *Supporting the current air services to Parkes, Orange and Bathurst and encourage any future expansion either of these services or into other LGAs.*
7. *Ensuring the connectivity of the region through early understanding and adoption of new technology that adds value to the lives of our communities.*

It is noteworthy that the Chairperson's Minute calls for one of the two overall regional priorities to be freight to port. While this could include a multiplicity of projects, work is being progressed with TfNSW, Public Works Advisory and Riverina JO on progressing a collaborative approach to freight

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links leveraging the JO using advice from the fully funded bridges program as a starting point. At the time of writing a scoping paper is underway. Please request this advice.

### **Freight Network Map**

The Freight network mapping project led by the Department of Planning Industry and the Environment (DPIE) was identified in the Central West and Orana Plan as a priority activity to be undertaken across a number of JOs in western NSW. Mapping advice has been provided by DPIE to the recent Transport Technical meeting. Based on feedback from various stakeholders including member Councils, please find attached the final version seeking feedback until 31 January. These have been provided to members of the Roads and Transport Technical Committee and include a number of suggested changes, mostly deletions, of priorities as identified in the region.

Members may recall the Board seeking to have these freight routes simplified. It is intended that once the maps from DPIE (Planning) have been finalised, a simplified version will be commenced.

### **Central West and Orana Future Transport Regional Plan (the Plan)**

A key activity in the CNSWJO Strategic Plan is monitor and actively engage in the Plan. Where members reviewed the Insights and Issues Paper at the last meeting, please find attached the current version of the Plan noting it is an iterative document. The Plan was circulated to Board members 17 January 2020. Please note it is a Sensitive for Government Document and is therefore not for broader circulation.

Please find below the suggested regional feedback to the Plan. At the time of writing this further advice will be circulated to the Board.

- The priority for the region is assuring the implementation plan of agreed actions and the governance structures to deliver them;
- This region welcomes the recognition of the Central West and Orana Regional Plan (CWORP). Page 10 of the Plan says that it will deliver on all 4 goals identified in the CWORP. A statement needs to be made on how this will happen;
- On page 11 under 'Related Plans and Strategies' there is a table referring to relevant plans and strategies. A fourth column to the right should make some commentary on why it is relevant and how it integrates it into the balance of the Plan; and
- The graphic on page 14 'A shared direction for transport in Central West and Orana' seems to be floating in nowhere - it needs context.
- Please see suggested text for the regional overview (page 16).

*The Central West and Orana is one of NSW's most diverse regional economies, increasingly connected with cities to the east and building the capacity of its freight and logistics infrastructure. (CWORP)*

*The Central West and Orana sits at the heart of NSW, with access to all corners of the State and beyond. Its varied landscapes across XXXXSQkms support a diverse and productive economy that leverages connections to Sydney, Canberra and, increasingly, Newcastle. These connections – along with domestic and international supply chains to the north, south and west – create a diverse and productive economy.*

*Investment in roads, rail networks and telecommunications will boost opportunities for agribusiness, advanced and value-added manufacturing, mining and tourism sectors.*

*Infrastructure Australia projected that Central NSW will be in the top 7 contributors to GRP in 2031.*

*By 2056, the region's population will increase to more than 322,000 people, who will mainly live in the regional cities of Bathurst, Orange and Dubbo, the strategic centres of Lithgow, Mudgee and Cowra, and the twin*

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*centres of Parkes and Forbes. These places will provide new options and opportunities for surrounding networks of communities.*

*Internationally recognised environmental assets, such as the Macquarie Marshes and Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area, along with major attractions, including the Taronga Western Plains Zoo and festivals and events, will attract increasing numbers of visitors.*

*This makes for an exciting future for the region, and this Plan aligns with the Central West and Orana Regional Plan 2036 is the blueprint for that future.*

- Regarding page 17 this region sees the importance of the connection to Canberra and indeed the Hume to new linkage this brings in the convergence at Cowra which we would recommend as an inclusion especially given Gilgandra has been included, and in our view does not play as big a role as Cowra. While Canberra is mentioned in the fourth paragraph it should be mentioned in the first paragraph.
- Regarding the population pages it is suggested these projections are based on a business as usual growth model out of DPIE (Planning) and for example do not include the potential role of the Parkes Special Activation Precinct.
- Regarding the commentary on page 22 for sub-regional transport catchments is it worth making some comment about how there are other significant size communities in the region for example Forbes, Cowra, Mudgee and Lithgow that that have a smaller role.
- Regarding the sub-regional catchments for Bathurst, this should include Cowra. Regarding the sub-regional catchment for Orange - Forbes, Grenfell and Parkes should be included in the sub-catchment information.
- Regarding tourism page 55, consultation has been undertaken by TfNSW on improving the public transport experience for tourists. Could the document reflect some of that background reading and reflect some of that advice and recommendations. Further could the document include more advice on visitation by car and some potential strategies to improve the car journey experience.
- Regarding page 55 'Safety and Performance' – there is a potential activity optimising the rollout of Smart LED lighting on TfNSW owned roads for safety purposes.
- Regarding page 58 'Network Resilience' - all councils have to have some type of plan around mitigating climate change risk. There may be value in a workshop with TfNSW on mitigation.

The Regional Integrated Transport Group who are developing the Plan met on 10 December 2019 at the GATE in Orange. The challenge will be ensuring implementation of the Plan and progressing the ongoing work on a variety of quick-win projects during the structural and personnel changes in TfNSW. Please request a verbal update.

### **Updating the Terms of Reference for the Regional Strategic Roads Group**

Members will be aware that the JO structure includes a Regional Strategic Roads Group. Centroc and now Central NSW JO have been Chairing and administering this group for some years to provide better communication and strategic alignment during this period of significant activity in the roads and transport space.

Given machinery of government changes the TOR have been updated. No material changes have been made. The TOR seek adoption.

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### **Roads of Strategic Importance (ROSI) consultation**

In the 2019-20 Budget, the Australian Government committed \$300 million through ROSI to upgrade the NSW section of the Toowoomba to Seymour Corridor, including the Newell Highway Corridor. This funding is available for smaller projects, and in particular to upgrade feeder roads that support greater access to the main freight routes, such as the Newell Highway, or improve the first and last mile of freight journeys.

The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Cities and Regional Development (the Department) would like to consult with Central NSW Joint Organisation early in the New Year to establish a project priority list.

The projects should align with the ROSI principles, and be consistent with the findings of the Australian Government's Newell Highway Corridor Strategy as follows:

#### ROSI principles

- Delivering via a corridor approach
- Deliver improvements to freight movements
- Support regional economic growth
- Improve safety for all road users
- Support partnerships between Commonwealth and state governments with local government and industry
- Where appropriate, support targeted freight road reforms
- Support wider national reforms

#### Newell Highway Corridor Strategy findings

Projects should address one or more of the following key themes of the strategy:

- safety concerns;
- barriers to the wider adoption of heavy productivity vehicles;
- flood immunity; and/ or
- lack of timely information for road users (i.e. Electronic Variable Message Signs or other signalling).

In addition, preference will be given to projects where planning is complete and the project is close to being construction ready.

A summary report of the Newell Highway Corridor Strategy can be found on the Department's website at <https://www.infrastructure.gov.au/roads/newell-highway/>.

Information on the Australian Government's ROSI program is also provided on the Department's website at [https://investment.infrastructure.gov.au/key\\_projects/initiatives/roads\\_strategic\\_importance.aspx](https://investment.infrastructure.gov.au/key_projects/initiatives/roads_strategic_importance.aspx).

Advice has been provided back to the Department regarding current priority projects however there may be other projects that have a better fit with the Guidelines above.

At the time of writing a meeting has been confirmed for 19 February in Parkes where Minister Coulton has indicated he would like to be present. Members with an interest in linkages into the Newell have been encouraged to attend. A verbal update can be provided to the Board.

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## Request from the Vital Intermodal Transport Links (VITL) vital.org.au regarding support for both a petition and a social media campaign in support of a safe swift link between Sydney and Central NSW

Mr Stephen Stead of VITL has contacted the JO with a view to progressing support for a petition in support of the \$2.5b spend on the Great Western Highway west of Katoomba. Please find attached the petition. This has been forwarded to the Chair, Deputy Chair and Portfolio Mayors of Transport and Regional Prosperity who have suggested it go to the Board.

This region is supportive of a safe swift link between Central NSW and Western Sydney with carriage of high productivity vehicles.:

1. A safe swift link between Central NSW and Sydney for both passenger and freight:
  - 1.1. Supporting the NSW government in its \$2.5b expenditure on the GWH seeking to have speeds of 100k along the route and able to service High Productivity Vehicles.
  - 1.2. Seeking have the corridor sequestered for a future upgrade of a safe swift link between Sydney and Central NSW along the Castlereagh Corridor alignment.
  - 1.3. Seeking a multi modal approach to shorter journey times including faster rail.

The wording in the petition does have some alignment with CNSWJO policy and is as follows:

*The Petition of concerned residents of New South Wales, brings to the attention of the House our strong and enduring support for **a safe, swift 100km/hr road connecting Western Sydney and the Central West.***

*This is a project the people of NSW **deserve** and strongly supports the aspirations of the NSW 2040 Economic Blueprint for vibrant, well-connected cities and productive, vibrant regions.*

*We fully endorse the NSW Regional Roads & Transport Minister Paul Toole's desire for **"a safe and fast road from Lithgow to Penrith where you can travel at 100km/h"***

*We strongly support and commend the commitment by the NSW Liberals & Nationals Government to duplicate the full 31km stretch of the Great Western Highway, from Katoomba to Lithgow, by 2028.*

*The undersigned petitioners therefore ask the Legislative Assembly to proceed without delay with the process leading to **construction** of such a road, not just years of red tape.*

Also noteworthy is the loud anti safe swift link petition being proffered at the moment. Please find attached media from the Blue Mountains Gazette. The Blackheath Action Group have lodged a submission to the Lithgow to Katoomba Corridor for the upgrade of the Great Western Highway. They have approached the Mayor of Cowra, Cr Bill West and have been in region seeking support for their approach. In a nutshell this rejects all options provided by TfNSW. Please find their submission attached.

Where the recommendation is for member Councils to consider their support for the petition, the Board may wish to either more strongly support the petition, not support the petition or develop and disseminate a petition with different wording.

### Value for members

A strategic approach to advocacy and prioritisation for transport infrastructure enables a greater likelihood of funding.

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**Financial Implications**

Nil at this time.

**Attachment/s:**

7. Central West and Orana Future Transport Regional Plan- Future Transport 2056
8. Petition from Stephen@ Vital Intermodal Transport Links – a safe swift 100km/h road
9. Submission to the consultation on the Lithgow to Katoomba Corridor for the upgrade of the Great Western Highway.
10. Media about the Blue Mountains consultation
11. Blackheath Highway Action Group Submission - Proposed Duplication of the Great Western Highway Katoomba to Lithgow
12. CNSWJO response to the Regional Road Transfer and NSW Road Classification Review Terms of Reference
13. TOR – Strategic Transport Group

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**Priority Four: Regional Water****a. Regional Water Report**

<b>Regional Strategic Priorities</b>	<b>4.1 Regional water network planning and best practice skills development</b>
<b>Portfolio Chairman</b>	<b>Cr David Somervaille</b>
<b>Sponsoring General Manager/s</b>	<b>Gavin Rhodes, Kent Boyd and David Sherley</b>

**Report by Jennifer Bennett dated 20 January 2020**

<b>Recommendation/s</b>
<p><b>That the Board note the Regional Water Report and</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Seek advice from DPIE Water on project status and what the issues are holding up emergency water projects;</b></li> <li><b>2. Develop advocacy material identifying the problems and solutions in assuring urban water supply during the unprecedented drought; and</b></li> <li><b>3. Advocate to the Premier, Deputy Premier, Minister for Water and respective agencies providing advice on the challenges and solutions for this region in securing water.</b></li> </ol>

The Board will be aware that there is a significant amount of effort being undertaken in both the strategic space and towards assuring urban water security in the current drought.

A confidential briefing note was circulated in late January and is attached to this report. Based on discussion regarding this briefing note and the ongoing challenges being experienced by members, General Managers commended to the Board the above resolution.

**Attachment/s:**

14. Confidential Briefing Note No. 4 Advice to the JO Board on Urban Water Security

## 8. Report to the Central NSW JO Strategic Plan and Statement of Regional Strategic Priority 2019/2020

<b>Regional Strategic Priorities</b>	<b>1.2 Governance arrangements enable inter-council co-operation</b>
<b>Portfolio Mayor</b>	<b>Cr John Medcalf</b>
<b>Sponsoring General Manager/s</b>	<b>Mr Brad Byrnes and Mr Greg Tory</b>

**Report by Jennifer Bennett, Meredith Macpherson, Kate Barker & Carolyn Griffin, 19 February 2020**

<b>Recommendation/s</b>
<p><b>That the Board note the report to the Central NSW JO Strategic Plan and Statement of Regional Strategic Priority and</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. thank the Minister for Local Government regarding the \$150K funding for CNSWJO;</b></li> <li><b>2. adopt the Equal Opportunity Management Plan;</b></li> <li><b>3. note the changes to the Risk Management Plan reflecting the ongoing challenges for Joint Organisations given the increased regulatory burden and resourcing implications; and</b></li> <li><b>4. approve the Alliance between SafeWork NSW and the Central NSW Joint Organisation WHS Group for 2020 – 2022.</b></li> </ol>

### Reason for this report

The Central NSW JO approved its Strategic Plan (the Plan) and Statement of Regional Strategic Priority 2 May 2019. Four priorities were identified for action. This report provides advice on progress on the Plan. Reports requiring more detailed advice to inform decision making are provided separately. These reports would include those reporting on challenges and opportunities identified as the Plan is delivered. Advice on progress of past resolve can be found in Matters in Progress.

The report recommends the Equal Opportunity Management Plan be adopted as this a requirement under the Local Government Act. Further, given the ongoing compliance burden with its corollary resourcing and the challenges for many JOs in sustainability, recommendations for changes to the risk management plan are suggested.

### Legislative, Policy and Risk Considerations

Regarding risk, where risks are reviewed each quarter please request the risk register, where following there are six Very High Risks identified of 38 risks overall. These six Very High Risks follow where it suggested that the risk to the JO from network sustainability as outlined in Risks 17 and 18 is now more likely and will have greater impact despite the mitigations in place. Arguably there is not much more this JO can do to mitigate the risk and it is noteworthy that the Chairs of JOs Forum is tackling the issue.

On the positive side, Joint Organisations are increasingly recognised as a useful tool particularly to support State and Federal consultations. Some State agencies, for example TfNSW are keen to do business differently with Local Government using the JO footprint. The Regional Leadership Executive and Regional Plan for Central NSW have been very supportive of the JO and while early

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days discussions are being held on opportunities in the funding framework for Councils and the JO through the JO for example leveraging the Bridge Assessment program.

However, the growing regulatory burden, patchiness of JO capacity and lack of State funding for core business is likely to significantly impact the sustainability of the broader network. Central NSW continues to put up business cases for funding, provide advice on the value proposition of JOs to State entities and work with other JOs to provide support for their sustainability. However, the risk needs to be acknowledged and it may be that members should start giving consideration to a plan for network failure.

Happily, the Minister for Local Government attending the JO Forum 1 August 2019 announced \$150,000 per Joint Organisation. Recently the Minister provided advice on 15 February 2020:

*The \$150 000 Capacity Building Funding your JO will receive from the NSW Government will enable your JO to actively address your regional priorities and demonstrate your increased strategic capability. The NSW Government received applications from all 13 JOs. I have read with interest the broad range of innovative projects identified across the state.*

*In order to progress this program, you will need to sign a funding agreement with the Office of Local Government (OLG). OLG will be in contact with you shortly to organise this.*

At the time of writing a funding agreement is anticipated.

Regarding risk 35, the risk perceived by members of an asset strip of water utilities is exacerbated by the drought as the State steps in to try and support Councils. Every effort is being undertaken to work with the State in a positive manner reflecting the capacity and capability of members working collaboratively in the Water Utilities' Alliance. Please find advice on water provided separately.

Regarding risk 36 relating to member management, the policy of the Joint Organisation is that it is a creature of its members. Where the Communication Plan identifies a series of tactics including holding a Summit in the near future, members are welcome to seek presentations or other engagement with the JO Executive Officer.

### **Alliance with SafeWork NSW**

The Alliance between the Centroc WHS Group and SafeWork NSW has expired and is due for renewal. At the January GMAC meeting, it was resolved to commend to the Board that a new two-year Alliance be entered into.

The Alliance aims to improve work health and safety, injury management and return to work performance in the region. This will be achieved through communication, consultation and cooperation between both parties. Liaisons will improve and the Alliance has, in the past, positively impacted better planning of projects and upcoming events in regional areas and positive improvements in the safety culture in regional councils.

There has been an Alliance in place with SafeWork NSW during 2015 – 2016 and 2017 – 2019. Draft documentation for the 2020 – 2022 timeframe has been prepared and forms an attachment to this report. The Sponsoring General Manager of the WHS Group, Mr Paul Devery of Cowra Council, has expressed his support.

If approval from the Board is granted, the Alliance paperwork will be finalised and arranged to be signed, either at the Group's meeting in early March 2020 or on a separate occasion.

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Risk Number	Risk category	Risk	Risk Owner	Consequence	Inherent risks			Controls	Residual risks		
					Likelihood	Consequence	Rating		Likelihood	Consequence	Rating
17	Political	NSW Government underfunding JOs, heavy requirements for JO to deliver	Board	Unable to continue to operate JO	Likely	Severe	Very High	Early engagement with NSW Government about funding needs. Business case approach to determining funding level.	Possible Likely	Major Severe	Very High
18	Political	Miss opportunity to see how collaborations could work effectively	Board	Opportunity to engage differently with the NSW and Federal Government on how they want to engage may compromise the effectiveness of the JO. Use the process as a means to refresh engagement and understand stakeholder business better.	Likely	Major	Very High	Communications Plan in place. Specific program to determine how stakeholder WANT to be engaged and to learn about their strategies in order to see how they align with the JO's objectives.	Possible Likely	Major Severe	Very High
32	Performance	Long term viability and financial sustainability	Board	JO can't get sufficient funding to be able to meet liabilities.	Possible	Severe	Very High	Work with other JOs and relevant State agencies on a sustainable funding framework for the JO network and advocate as necessary.	Possible	Major	Very High
34	Performance	Allowing more cost shifting	Board	JO becomes a vehicle for the NSW Government to dictate via legislation more duties	Possible	Severe	Very High	Board considers all requests to undertake additional tasks and assesses against a	Possible	Severe	Very High

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								business case that shows costs and value for money considerations before agreeing to take on extra duties/responsibilities			
35	Performance	Privatisation of Water utilities – is it just another step on that process?	Board	Water Utilities Alliance is used by NSW Government to take over or to privatised water services compromising skills in member councils and revenue streams.	Possible	Severe	Very High	Board ensures relationships with NSW Government is developed to enable frank conversations on the transfer of any assets.	Possible	Severe	Very High
36	Member management	Managing members expectations, remember is a "child" of the members	Board	Members become dissatisfied with services or the role being taken by the JO.	Possible	Major	Very High	Board ensures it is aware of the members' satisfaction levels. Member involvement in development of the Strategic Plan and the services and projects approval processes for JO to deliver.	Possible	Major	Very High

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## Value to members

Value for members	Activity FYTD	Activity this Quarter
Submissions	11	041119 -Inquiry into Regional Australia 221119- Request for issues for the NSW State Water Strategy 221119- Response to the Discussion Paper Kickstarting the Productivity Conversation 281119 - Inquiry into growing Australian agriculture to \$100 billion by 2030 291119 - Inquiry into the impacts of drought on regional NSW 161219 – Submission Katoomba to Lithgow - GWH upgrade program 181219 – Submission, A New Risk Management and Internal Audit Framework for Local Councils in NSW
Plans, strategies and collateral	20	Three Advocacy Plans adopted at the Nov Board and have been provided to LGNSW. (Regional Prosperity and Advocacy Plan; Regional Transport Advocacy Policy; and Regional Water, Advocacy Plan and Drought Advocacy Plan) Three JO building capacity applications lodged with OLG for project funding
Grants	3	This quarter is \$2112 where the YTD total for this program is \$16,706 including training delivered under funding by TAFE NSW to Parkes Shire Council in the October – December 2019 quarter.  Application to OEH for funding for the Southern Lights Project – Funding has been received for high residual, the exact amount will be reported once known.  \$150K being negotiated for the JO with OLG.
Compliance	10	Compliance training courses delivered across the region: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Traffic Control Training (PWZTMP x 1 day refresher) – 8 participants</li> <li>• Consultative Committee x 2 courses – 25 participants in total</li> <li>• Confined Spaces – 11 participants</li> <li>• Chain Saw Operations – 12 participants</li> </ul> Mandatory Independent Audits of DPIE Water Performance Monitoring Data completed for Orange and Bathurst and reports provided.  Dam Surveillance inspections completed for dams owned by Parkes, Cowra, Weddin, Cabonne, Hilltops, Orange, CTW and Bathurst.
Data	4	Tourism data project through WRI DPIE Water Performance Monitoring Data currently being collated for benchmarking the region's LWUs. Please note CWRDA data using REMPLAN now available through their website. REDS data packs being reviewed by the Regional Prosperity Subcommittee.
Media including social media	8  <b>please request the full Excel Spreadsheet on tourism publications</b>	041019 - Getting smart about street lighting 251019 - Water NSW Media Release, Wyangala storage volume offers drought options in Lachlan 301019- Less blame and more whole of Government work on solutions 151119 - Tourism Awards, Nothing but Gold! 151119 – Host Survey Visitors who come to stay contribute to the local economy  <u><b>Festivals across the region are helping to boost visitor numbers</b></u>  An article written in the Cootamundra Herald on 13 February 2020 highlighted that festivals across Central NSW are helping to boost visitor

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Value for members	Activity FYTD	Activity this Quarter
		<p>numbers. This article (mentioned above) has been shared through social media channels and although the region is suffering through the drought, visitor numbers have increased and that the benefit of increased visitors to the region was unquestionable.</p> <p><b><u>Tourism PR update</u></b></p> <p>Gabrielle Brewer has advised that the exposure for Central NSW Tourism regions and experiences in major media outlets are to the advertising value of approx \$1million+ for 2019 (final evaluation is expected to be provided in the coming weeks) .</p> <p>The following PR update has been provided by Ms Brewer as at November 2020; PR updates for 2020 have not yet been provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incredibly busy and successful media visits program with 16 media touring the region on 2-7 day famils. Supported by local tourism industry, and a few times by Destination NSW, each journalist 'unearthing' the region's unique cultural attractions within their stories.</li> <li>• Wrote and issued 8 media releases with a news or thematic angle, distributed to 400+ media and industry contacts</li> <li>• Over 150 articles in digital news and travel media, newspapers, magazines, radio, TV and blogs</li> <li>• Featured events, accommodation, retail, art and culture, food and wine, history and heritage, nature, tours and attractions</li> <li>• Targeted couples and family market in Sydney and NSW</li> <li>• Articles driving people to the website <a href="http://www.visitcentralnsw.com.au">www.visitcentralnsw.com.au</a></li> </ul> <p><b>Media releases</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'Canola, camels and characters: head to Central NSW for events in 2019'</li> <li>• 'Oberon as a foraging, foodie hotspot'</li> <li>• 'Top 10 Romantic Escapes in Central NSW'</li> <li>• 'Families explore and win with new Central NSW Discovery Passport'</li> <li>• 'An Art-tripping Journey through Central NSW'</li> <li>• 'A Photographers Dream: Spring in Central NSW'</li> <li>• 'Restoration glory in Central NSW with new places to eat, drink and stay'</li> <li>• 'Plan a 'Shop-cation' road-trip to Central NSW before Christmas'</li> <li>• 'Toast to Historic Cowra' (please see images below)</li> </ul> <p><b>Media Visits</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Not Quite Nigella, leading food influencer and blogger</li> <li>2. Fairfax Traveller at The Sydney Morning Herald and The Age</li> <li>3. Wine Selectors Food Wine Life Magazine</li> <li>4. Broadsheet.com</li> <li>5. Central West/Regional Lifestyle Magazine</li> <li>6. Discover Magazine</li> <li>7. Libby Moffatt, The Weekend Australian</li> <li>8. Angela Saurine, Out and About with Kids</li> <li>9. Kris Ashton, NRMA's Open Road Magazine</li> <li>10. Marj Osborne, Gold Coast food and wine writer</li> </ol>

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Value for members	Activity FYTD	Activity this Quarter
		<p>11. Channel 7s Weekend Sunrise  12. Channel 7s Sydney Weekender  13. Delphine Mignon, LesterLost  14. Sally Whyte, The Canberra Times  15. Victoria Carey, Country Style Magazine  16. Dorothy Woodgate, The Australian Financial Review  17. Zora Regulic, Oberon Field to Forest media trip (please see image below printed in the Regional Lifestyle Magazine)</p> <p>26 <i>Wonderlust</i> DECEMBER, 2019// SENIORS</p> <h2>Toast to historic Cowra</h2> <p><b>MARU OSBORNE</b></p> <p>IF THERE'S one town in New South Wales that proclaims peace, it's Cowra. When we visit, it's tranquil, the Lachlan Valley stretching out before our view, the town surrounded by vineyards, farmland and waterways.</p> <p>But this land holds a more troubled history. On a gentle slope overlooking the town, a camp was set up during World War II to hold Japanese, Italian, Korean, Chinese and Indonesian prisoners of war. It was an extensive camp holding more prisoners than the number of Cowra residents at the time.</p> <p>About 2am on August 5, 1944, more than 1000 Japanese war prisoners attempted to escape, in the largest POW breakout in modern military history. During the escape and ensuing firefight, four Australian soldiers and 231 Japanese were killed. The remaining escapees were recaptured.</p> <p>It's chilling to stand on the site today, picturing the scenes of chaos in the darkness of night, as a replay of the events unfolds, broadcast by loudspeaker from the guard tower beside it. It's a tale of desperate men striving to maintain their honour and the few brave soldiers who tried to withstand the attack.</p> <p>Not far away, the only Japanese war cemetery in Australia houses the graves of those pioneers who perished, now lying in peace beside the graves of Australian soldiers. It's a place of tranquility, a light breeze blowing as we wander beneath the Japanese maples. The site, tended by the RSL, is often visited by Japanese dignitaries on their visits to Australia.</p> <p>The area's significance to Japanese-Australian relations was further reinforced when the Cowra Japanese Garden and Cultural Centre was later built on Bellevue Hill to commemorate these events. Initially viewed as a tourist attraction, the gardens have become a symbol of reconciliation between Japan and Australia.</p> <p>Funded largely by the Japanese Government as a sign of thanks for the respectful treatment of their war dead, with further funding from the Australian Government and private entities, the garden was designed by world-renowned designer Ken Nakajima and opened in two stages, in 1979 and 1986.</p> <p>The "strolling" gardens were designed in the style of the Edo period when Japan was united under one shogun.</p> <p>Nakajima opened in two stages, in 1979 and 1986. The "strolling" gardens were designed in the style of the Edo period when Japan was united under one shogun.</p> <p>We have just missed the annual Sakura Matsuri (cherry blossom festival) held each September, a major event in Cowra's tourism calendar, but the springtime gardens are resplendent with foliage, their rocky hilltops, manicured hedges, waterfalls, lakes and streams representing the Japanese landscape.</p> <p>Mr Nakajima said it was the best garden he had ever made, and upon his death his ashes were placed at the top of the garden overlooking his masterpiece.</p> <p>Today, visitors to Cowra seek not only to learn about its war history and gardens, they also come to taste food and wine from the area.</p> <p>The Quarry Restaurant is the only Cowra restaurant situated among the vines. Settle in and enjoy a glass of local wine with good food.</p> <p>The first vines had been planted in Cowra when the first settlers arrived, however, many early settlers moved to Mudgee as it was a more prosperous town. Although you can visit cellar doors by yourself, we took the Cowra Wine &amp; Forage Tour to enjoy a carefree taste of the region's wines. Without the hassle of driving on country roads, the group tour ensured that we met producers at the farm gate. Whether you visit Cowra to enrich your knowledge of history or to further your enjoyment of food and wine, the town is only a four-hour drive from Sydney.</p> <p>For more information, check out <a href="http://visit.cowra.com.au">visit.cowra.com.au</a>.</p> <p><b>SENSEI/UTAS/BOB/OWEN</b> The site of the World War II POW camp at Cowra, where chain fences played out the best garden he had ever made, and upon his death his ashes were placed at the top of the garden overlooking his masterpiece. Today, visitors to Cowra seek not only to learn about its war history and gardens, they also come to taste food and wine from the area.</p> <p><b>THE QUARRY RESTAURANT</b> The Quarry Restaurant is the only Cowra restaurant situated among the vines. Settle in and enjoy a glass of local wine with good food.</p> <p><b>THE FIRST VINES</b> The first vines had been planted in Cowra when the first settlers arrived, however, many early settlers moved to Mudgee as it was a more prosperous town. Although you can visit cellar doors by yourself, we took the Cowra Wine &amp; Forage Tour to enjoy a carefree taste of the region's wines. Without the hassle of driving on country roads, the group tour ensured that we met producers at the farm gate. Whether you visit Cowra to enrich your knowledge of history or to further your enjoyment of food and wine, the town is only a four-hour drive from Sydney.</p> <p>For more information, check out <a href="http://visit.cowra.com.au">visit.cowra.com.au</a>.</p> <p><b>The resplendent Japanese Garden at Cowra.</b></p>

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Value for members	Activity FYTD	Activity this Quarter
		111219- WSAA Workshop - Recycled Water 121219 – CNSWJOWUA meeting 131219- Southern Lights -Essential Energy meeting 191219- Meeting with Lachlan Valley Water on Regional Water Strategy 150120 -6 JOs collaborating on better outcomes from the Safe and Secure Water Program 160120 DPIE and Orana – optimizing outcomes through the Safe and Secure Water Program and Drought funding 300120-GMAC 310120 - Lachlan Water Strategy follow up meeting 060220 – CW Leadership Executive Meeting 070220 – Regional Prosperity Subcommittee Meeting 070220 – Public Hearing for Inquiry into for Agriculture Committee's \$100 Billion by 2030 110220 – Essential Energy Level of Service meeting in Bathurst 120220 – SAP Skills working group meeting in Parkes 130220 – Strategic Approach to Bridges - Bathurst 140220 - Upper Macquarie Water Strategy follow up meeting 190220 – Government's Roads of Strategic Importance (ROSI) initiative consultation – Parkes 200220 – CWUA meeting in Cowra– NSW Audit Office in attendance
Opportunities councils have been afforded	23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Feedback to the Internal Audit Framework for Local Councils in NSW</li> <li>• DPE Freight mapping</li> <li>• WRI Data Program</li> <li>• Australian Traveller Promotional Campaign</li> <li>• Consultations with individual councils and water strategy</li> <li>• Review of Central West and Orana Future Transport Regional Plan</li> <li>• Workshop on Recycled Water for Drinking</li> <li>• Water Strategy Follow up meetings for both Lachlan and Upper Macquarie</li> <li>• Government's Roads of Strategic Importance (ROSI) initiative consultation</li> <li>• Feedback to Audit Office on the Audits being undertaken in the water space.</li> </ul>

## Reports

## Central NSW JO Board Meeting 27 February 2020

**Spend, Cost Savings and Funding**

The following tables have been updated to reflect the spend, cost savings and grant funding through the Joint Organisation between 1 July 2019 and 31 December 2019. The statistics are updated on a quarterly basis and are reported for the current financial year. Cumulative spend and cost savings are available on request.

There are non-member councils who purchase through the contracts, or have received funding through a regional program, however their statistics are not included in this reporting.

The spend and statistics for the current financial year can be found on the following page.

**Spend**

The following table reflects the spend by each member council under the various JO contracts for the current financial year. The statistics for the October – December 2019 quarter have been requested; however as at 19 February 2020, 2 suppliers were yet to provide their quarterly spend reports.

SPEND	Water Utilities Alliance Contracts	HR Contracts	WHS contracts	IT contracts	Supply contracts	Roads/ Transport contracts	Energy contracts	RDOCS contracts	Other contracts	Training	Total
Bathurst	\$13,440	\$67,925	\$4,400	\$0	\$574,393	\$0	\$1,632,505	\$14,512	\$0	\$5,177	<b>\$2,312,352</b>
Blayney	\$0	\$4,939	\$0	\$0	\$276,215	\$6,695	\$102,365	\$2,964	\$0	\$0	<b>\$393,178</b>
Cabonne	\$5,640	\$26,210	\$38,665	\$0	\$668,174	\$20,085	\$258,166	\$921	\$0	\$0	<b>\$1,017,861</b>
Central Tablelands Water	\$10,200	\$755	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$190,015	\$552	\$0	\$0	<b>\$201,523</b>
Cowra	\$0	\$29,916	\$14,683	\$0	\$473,389	\$28,665	\$598,702	\$921	\$0	\$0	<b>\$1,146,277</b>
Forbes	\$5,640	\$19,753	\$2,200	\$0	\$396,757	\$114,660	\$402,344	\$4,930	\$0	\$0	<b>\$946,285</b>
Lachlan	\$5,640	\$15,015	\$0	\$0	\$564,899	\$6,695	\$432,447	\$921	\$0	\$390	<b>\$1,026,008</b>
Oberon	\$0	\$12,949	\$0	\$0	\$286,041	\$0	\$131,713	\$3,963	\$0	\$1,560	<b>\$436,225</b>
Orange	\$6,640	\$87,790	\$14,098	\$0	\$383,488	\$13,390	\$1,841,341	\$11,580	\$0	\$4,123	<b>\$2,362,449</b>
Parkes	\$5,640	\$18,475	\$0	\$0	\$416,833	\$0	\$1,190,093	\$1,418	\$0	\$1,950	<b>\$1,634,408</b>
Weddin	\$180,668	\$364	\$0	\$0	\$97,574	\$46,865	\$65,774	\$738	\$0	\$0	<b>\$391,984</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$233,508</b>	<b>\$284,091</b>	<b>\$74,046</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$4,137,762</b>	<b>\$237,055</b>	<b>\$6,845,465</b>	<b>\$43,421</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$13,200</b>	<b>\$11,868,549</b>

**Savings**

The following table shows the savings achieved by member councils through aggregated procurement and programming. An explanation of the meaning of each column has been reported previously and is available on request. The table reflects savings in the current financial year.

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SAVINGS	Water Utilities Alliance Contracts	HR Contracts	WHS contracts	IT contracts	Supply contracts	Roads/ Transport contracts	Energy contracts	RDOCS contracts	Other contracts	Training	Legal advice re Procurement	Participation in regional procurement	Total
Bathurst	\$0	\$35,105	\$0	\$0	\$12,013	\$0	\$127,897	\$571	\$0	\$45	\$0	\$1,000	\$176,631
Blayney	\$0	\$12,754	\$0	\$0	\$16,473	\$0	\$17,586	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,000	\$47,813
Cabonne	\$0	\$15,066	\$6,823	\$0	\$32,028	\$0	\$22,366	\$318	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,000	\$81,601
Central Tablelands Water	\$0	\$133	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$481	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,000	\$5,614
Cowra	\$0	\$14,464	\$1,954	\$0	\$19,247	\$0	\$35,895	\$293	\$0	\$45	\$0	\$5,000	\$76,898
Forbes	\$0	\$11,759	\$0	\$0	\$25,777	\$0	\$28,877	\$417	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,000	\$71,830
Lachlan	\$0	\$24,388	\$0	\$0	\$37,472	\$0	\$28,889	\$434	\$0	\$1,675	\$0	\$5,000	\$97,858
Oberon	\$0	\$16,518	\$0	\$0	\$8,589	\$0	\$12,353	\$517	\$0	\$3,120	\$0	\$5,000	\$46,097
Orange	\$0	\$52,443	\$1,595	\$0	\$20,000	\$0	\$141,907	\$500	\$0	\$1,700	\$0	\$5,000	\$223,145
Parkes	\$0	\$10,560	\$0	\$0	\$20,131	\$0	\$41,023	\$284	\$0	\$4,738	\$0	\$1,000	\$77,735
Weddin	\$0	\$64	\$0	\$0	\$4,684	\$0	\$15,241	\$538	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,000	\$25,528
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$193,255</b>	<b>\$10,372</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$196,414</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$472,035</b>	<b>\$4,351</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$11,323</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$43,000</b>	<b>\$930,750</b>
												Cost to members	\$109,617
												<b>Total</b>	<b>\$821,134</b>

The cost to members is calculated on a percentage of each CNSWJO staff member and their corresponding workload on procurement and contract management. This figure will be updated quarterly in line with the cost savings.

### Financial implications

Nil

### Reporting to the Strategic Business Plan

Please find following an update on progress on the Strategic Business Plan adopted 22 May.

#### Attachment/s:

15. Central NSW JO 5-year Procurement Plan, as at February 2020
16. Draft EEO Management Plan
17. Statement of Alliance between the Central NSW Councils WHS Group and Safe Work NSW
18. 3 December 2019, WHS Group Minutes
19. 10 December 2019, HR Minutes
20. 6 November 2019, Tourism Group Minutes
21. Draft TOR Regional Prosperity Subcommittee
22. 7 February 2020 Draft Minutes of the Regional Prosperity Subcommittee

## Reports

## Priority One: Inter-council co-operation

### 1.1 Deliver cost savings and other value to member councils through aggregated procurement

No.	Activity	By	Time Frame	Key performance indicators	Update
a)	Determine the regional procurement activities of the JO	EO	August 2019	Board determines procurement functions.	The 5 Year Procurement Plan is attached to this report and feedback from the Board is sought for procurement activities of the JO on an ongoing basis.
b)	Develop best practice in aggregated procurement to share with other JOs	EO	May 2020	Best practice procurement framework adopted by Board.	<p>The first stage of the Best Practice in Aggregated Procurement (BPAP) has commenced with an RFQ for legal advice for enablement through the legislative framework. The RFQ is a collaborate approach between CRJO, CNSWJO, RAMJO and RivJO. The collaborators have requested a quotation from LTL for a further piece of work resulting from the initial work.</p> <p>The funding application to the OLG for the next stage of BPAP has been approved and work will commence shortly.</p>

### 1.2 Governance arrangements enable inter-council co-operation

No.	Activity	By	Time Frame	Key performance indicators	Update
a)	<p>Design and implement a robust governance framework that includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. JO organisational structure</li> <li>2. Strategic Plan and Statement of Regional Priorities</li> <li>3. Staff transferred to JO</li> <li>4. Policies for organisational management</li> <li>5. Financial processes and systems that offer controls, payroll, monitoring of expenditure and reporting outputs sufficient for the NSW Audit Office annual audit</li> <li>6. Records management processes compliant with legislation</li> <li>7. Risk Management Plan</li> <li>8. Compliance reporting framework– calendar of reporting requirements to enable easy tracking of deliverables</li> <li>9. Delegations register</li> <li>10. Declarations of interest processes</li> <li>11. Designated persons identified and declarations secured</li> </ol>	EO	From May 2019	<p>Board approves policies. Board adopts Strategic Plan and Statement of Regional Priorities. Staffing management systems in place and staff transferred to JO. Board advised financial systems in place. Board receives financial information and is able to resolve the organisation's viability on a quarterly basis. Board advised records management is compliant. Board adopts risk plan and considers corporate risks at each Board meeting. Compliance framework developed and reported to Board on quarterly basis to provide assurance of process compliance. Declarations of interest made in format and</p>	<p>1 and 2 complete Regarding 3 and 5- After extensive consultation with Civica and Forbes it is too complex and so this approach will be unable to be facilitated within a member Council using Civica as is currently the case. Quotes have been sought for external provision and a report will be provided as part of budget considerations including an internal and external option for this function. 4. Policies have been approved by the JO Board in November 2019. Please find attached an EEO Management Plan that is a requirement of the JO. It is provided for commendation to the Board. Members will be aware that mandatory annual reporting in Local Government includes reporting on progress of the EEO Management Plan. The EEO Management Plan attached has been adapted from the Orange EEO Management Plan and reflects an acceptable level of resourcing for the JO. 6. Policy review underway.</p>

## Reports

## Central NSW JO Board Meeting 27 February 2020

12. Related parties reporting framework applied for annual statements processes			timeframe that is compliant.	7. See advice above on risk management in this report and please find attached.
13. Prepare format and processes for the annual reporting required for operational and financial issues.			Related parties reporting processes in place	8. See Finance and Compliance Report – all good. 9. Underway 10. Complete 11. Complete 12. Complete 13. An Annual Performance Statement due November 2019 is available on the website.

**1.3 Members are provided with value for money from collaboration on energy related projects**

No.	Activity	By	Time Frame	Key performance indicators	Update
a)	Southern Lights	EO	May 2020	Rollout of LEDs well progressed in the region commencing with Orange and Bathurst	A Southern Light project update is provided in the Energy Programming report.
b)	Energy Management Program	EO	Ongoing	Quarterly reports to Board	A detailed report on the procurement of electricity can be found in the Energy Programming report.
c)	Electric Vehicles policy and toolkit	EO	Aug 2019	Members resolve policy and procedure	An EV policy has been drafted and is being discussed by the working party, consisting of staff from Bathurst, Blayney and Parkes.  The JO has engaged Everergi to develop a toolkit to assist Council staff and tourism operators to determine the type, size and location of electric vehicle (EV) charge stations.  Training will be conducted by Everergi on the toolkit which will be held in the region in the coming months with Council staff and local businesses.
d)	Solar Panel and Battery Innovation	EO	Aug 2019	Board receives report regarding this opportunity for consideration	Interest has been expressed in taking a regional approach to a solar panel and battery project. This project will be progressed by JO staff with direction from the Sponsoring General Managers, Mr B Byrnes and Mr G Tory. Most councils participated in a project with Prendergast Projects in 2018 which identified suitable Council sites to install solar and in some cases batteries. Members will be invited to include other sites that may benefit also. It should be noted that LGP have recently established a panel

## Reports

## Central NSW JO Board Meeting 27 February 2020

					contract which includes solar and battery suppliers. An alternate approach to the delivery of the regional energy program has been proposed, including the formation of an Energy Working Party, which would have carriage of this project. Work will progress once the structure of the working parties is finalised through the Sponsoring General Managers.
e)	Innovation in the energy market emergent opportunities	EO	Ongoing	Board receives reports on innovative approaches to the energy market for consideration	A detailed report on electricity procurement, including the reasons for why renewable energy was not able to be incorporated into the contract, was provided to the November Board meeting.  CNSWJO and Sourced Energy will continue to look for other opportunities to include renewable energy for member councils. Mr David West from Sourced Energy will present to the February Board meeting in Grenfell to discuss renewable energy opportunities.

**1.4 Co-operation between JO and stakeholders that adds value for members**

No.	Activity	By	Time Frame	Key performance indicators	Update
a)	Involvement in the Chairs of Joint Organisations forum	Chair EO	Ongoing with review at June 2020	Board reports following meetings	Please find the dates for the 2020 EO Network meeting and Chair of Chairs meetings to be held in Sydney. 1. Thursday 5 March 2020 2. Thursday 28 May 2020 3. Thursday 6 August 2020 4. Thursday 5 November 2020 More fulsome advice is provided elsewhere in this agenda on current considerations of the Chair of JOs Forum.
b)	Involvement in the Joint Organisations Executive Officers Group	EO	Ongoing with review at June 2020	Board reports following meetings	CNSWJO is working collaboratively with other JO EOs on three projects at the moment, Southern Lights, Best Practice in Aggregated Procurement and opportunities for JO's in the funding framework where this region has the lead in the urban water space. Please request all associated documentation.
c)	Involvement in the Joint Organisations Executive Officers Group and Department of Premier Cabinet	EO	Ongoing with review at June 2020	Board reports following meetings	With machinery of govt. Changes, DPC no longer provided support to JO EO Group. Now being supported by OLG.

## Reports

## Central NSW JO Board Meeting 27 February 2020

d)	Engagement with Local Government NSW and Australian Local Government Association on priorities for local government	Board	Ongoing	Board reports following meetings	CNSWJO a member of the steering committee providing advice on collaboration between LGNSW and the JO network. Please request a verbal update where little has happened with the change of CEOs.
<b>1.5 Deliver cost savings and other value to member councils through co-ordinated training</b>					
<b>No.</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>By</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>	<b>Key performance indicators</b>	<b>Update</b>
a)	Co-ordinate training for courses in the Region	EO	Ongoing with review at June 2020	Number of Courses Number trained Savings provided to members	During the October – December 2019 quarter no public courses were delivered however assistance was provided to Orange City Council & Bathurst Regional Council to have Consultative Committee training & traffic control training delivered. Approx. \$1,610 in savings has been identified for both Orange City Council & Bathurst Regional Council.
b)	Collaborate with State agencies to deliver funded, tailored accredited training in Region with a focus on water.	EO	Ongoing with review at June 2020	Number of staff trained to accreditation level Number of courses Number of state agencies engaged Amount of funding	Funding discussions have commenced with both Training Services NSW and TAFE regarding the options available for the 42 staff from 9 member councils plus Hilltops who have expressed interest in participating in the wastewater training project. This project includes the delivery of around 450 units of competency from the National Water Package. It is anticipated that this project will be delivered through 2020 and 2021.
c)	Administer and review the Online Training Program	EO	Ongoing with review at June 2020	Number of staff trained Number of courses Savings provided to members	Members are currently implementing additional modules including Onboarding, Recruitment and Performance.  During mid-January 2020, the ELMO Account Manager provided usage statistics of the online modules available on the ELMO platform that had not been provided in the past by previous Account Managers. It was detailed that approx. 12,000 courses have been completed across the region since the beginning of the contract. A range of courses completed include Microsoft courses, time & priority management modules, mental health awareness modules together with online compliance-based modules.  General Managers may be aware of some negative feedback from

## Reports

## Central NSW JO Board Meeting 27 February 2020

					<p>some councils regarding the Recruitment module. In October 2019, CNSWJO wrote to the provider on behalf of councils, detailing the issues being experienced by members regarding the Recruitment module, implementation of the Performance module, and overall account management.</p> <p>On 20 November 2019, Mr David Sherley, Ms Jennifer Bennett, Ms Kate Barker and Ms Tiffany Kent (Cowra Council) met with the provider in Sydney to work through the issues raised in the letter. The outcome of the meeting has been quite positive with the following outcome being negotiated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Key Account Manager for CNSWJO member councils;</li> <li>• Termination of the Recruitment module for 5 councils from 1 July 2020 with no financial penalty; and</li> <li>• Extension of the term of the Performance module which enables councils to use the system for an extra 11 months for 4 councils and an extra 7 months for 2 councils, at no further cost to account for the delays experienced in the implementation of the system.</li> </ul>
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## Priority Two: Regional Prosperity

### 2.1 Initiatives to grow population and increase the visitor economy

No.	Activity	By	Time Frame	Key performance indicators	Update
a)	Review CNSW Tourism service provided by JO with consideration of future services in light of the offerings from Destination NSW Country and Outback	Tourism Working Party	Nov 2019	Tourism Working Party review report.	<p>Membership advice provided in Matter in Progress. A meeting of the Working Party is being sorted.</p> <p>A meeting will be held 11 March 2020 in Orange with the Central NSW Councils Tourism Review Group. At the time of writing TOR are under development.</p>
b)	Visitor economy statistics at LGA level in place and longitudinal reporting provides key data for regional tourism development	EO	Dec 2019 and then Aug annually	Visitor economy statistics developed.	WRI engaged and attend Tourism Group meetings. GMAC received first year of statistics – more effort is required

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## Central NSW JO Board Meeting 27 February 2020

					across the region for statistically valid data.
c)	Outputs from the MoU with RDA Central West (RDACW) are delivered including policy development on NBN, business retention and new entrants monitoring and regional data collation	EO	Nov 2019 and ongoing	Board receives reports on MoU outcomes achievements on quarterly basis.	MoU was signed at the May 2019 Board meeting. The Hon Adam Marshall was a witness to the signing. The two EOs meet regularly to progress matters.
d)	Regional promotion plans for opt in by members developed to advertise regional attributes for business relocation and liveability of the Region	EO	Nov 2020	Liveability promotional campaign for relocation for participating members delivered.	A scoping report will be provided in due course.

**2.1 Initiatives to grow population and increase the visitor economy**

No.	Activity	By	Time Frame	Key performance indicators	Update
e)	<p>Advocacy Plan to engage on key regional service and utility areas is undertaken including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Health: ensuring the needs of services across the region are known to the NSW and Federal Governments, supporting a medical school in the Region, improvement to regional service levels</li> <li>Education</li> <li>Telecommunications: delivered in collaboration with RDACW</li> <li>Energy</li> <li>Transport and Infrastructure</li> <li>Regional Growth</li> <li>Water: including urban water management and funding</li> <li>Policing</li> <li>Agriculture</li> </ul>	Board	Aug 2019 for Advocacy Plan and then implementation ongoing	Board adopts Advocacy Plan. Board receives regular reports on activities in the Advocacy Plan.	<p>Advocacy plan adopted November 2019.</p> <p>Key messaging being used in all submissions and correspondence.</p> <p>Please see a separate report on the broader approach to advocacy as requested at the last meeting of the Board.</p>
f)	Develop policy regarding the use of the Central NSW Infrastructure Matrix	Transport and Infrastructure Working Party	Nov 2019	Board receives report.	Group had its first meeting 22 November. Please request any notes. TOR for the group will be finalized at its next meeting and then will go to the Board.

**2.2 Regional industry and population sustainability and growth planning across the Region**

No.	Activity	By	Time Frame	Key performance indicators	Update
a)	Review progress of the implementation of the Central West and Orana Regional Plan	Planners Group	July 2019	Regional Prosperity Committee receives regular reports on progress against the Regional Plan.	Mr D Waddell has agreed to take on the role of sponsoring GM for planning including engagement in the Central West and Orana Regional Plan. There was a Planners Group meeting held 23 October. The next meeting of the monitoring committee for the implementation of the Central

# Reports

## Central NSW JO Board Meeting 27 February 2020

					West and Orana Regional Plan (CWORP) is to be advised. This region has provided feedback into the review process for the CWORP and advice on its status is being sought. Mr D Waddell, Mr M Dicker and Ms J Bennett met 15 January 2020 to consider current CWORP status with a view to providing more in depth advice to the Board. This is underway. The next meeting of the monitoring committee is 26 February 2020.
b)	<p><b>Codesigned Regional Plan for Prosperity with priorities to include:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Services, particularly health and education</li> <li>• Agriculture</li> <li>• Land Use Planning</li> <li>• Special Activation Precincts</li> <li>• Tourism</li> <li>• Energy</li> <li>• NBN</li> <li>• Transport</li> <li>• Water</li> <li>• Quality data on population, transport, water, tourism</li> </ul>	Regional Leadership Executive sub committee – chaired by Central NSW Mayor Planners Working Party	May 2020	Sub- committee formed. Codesigned Plan reported to Board.	Please find the Draft Minutes of the meeting 7 February 2020 and revised TOR as attachments.
c)	<p><b>In light of the size and impact of the agriculture sector across all member areas the regional support needs for sustainability of the Agricultural sector are monitored including:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Consideration of drought preparedness capacity building processes</li> <li>1. Report on program opportunities to Board subsequent to the delivery of the Central West Food and Fibre Plan</li> <li>1. Grant opportunities</li> </ol>	Executive Officer	August 2019 and ongoing	Board receives report on the sustainability issues impacting on the Agriculture sector.	The Central West Food and Fibre Plan has been finalised and out before the Board in November 2019. Its implementation is through the Regional Prosperity Subcommittee. A launch of the Plan is currently under development. Please request all documentation.
<b>2.3 Heritage, cultural advantages and land use regional planning processes</b>					
No.	Activity	By	Time Frame	Key performance indicators	Update
a)	Regional land use planning strategic needs to support key attributes of the Region including heritage and culture	Planners Group	Jul 20	Quarterly reports to the Regional Prosperity Committee	This is being progressed through the regional plan at this time.
b)	Identification and reporting on Regional planning matters.	Planners Group	As issues arise	Quarterly reports to the Regional Prosperity Committee	No advice at this time – the focus of the group has been the review of Central West and Orana Regional Plan and the development of Local Strategic Planning Statements.

## Reports

## Priority Three: Regional Transport and Infrastructure

### 3.1 Transport connectivity planning

No.	Activity	By	Time Frame	Key performance indicators	Update
a)	<p>Monitor and actively engage in the TfNSW Central NSW Landuse and Transport Plan and other strategic opportunities – seeking:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assessment of neighbouring regional transport networks and connections</li> <li>Regional air services needs: including service levels and access to/from Kingsford Smith Airport, access to Canberra Airport for export to international market opportunities and monitoring of opportunities with Badger's Creek airport development, growing role for airports in region for passenger and freight</li> <li>Regional rail network needs: including Blayney- Demondrille line and leveraging the Inland Rail</li> <li>Regional road network needs: including connectivity to the National Logistics Hub in Parkes, safe and swift access to Sydney/ ports/Canberra</li> </ul>	TfNSW Transport and Infrastructure Working Party	July 2019 and ongoing	Review of Terms of Reference Number of regional priorities recognised in the TfNSW Central NSW Landuse and Transport Plan Board reports on advocacy activities on transport initiatives.	<p>Meetings are being scheduled in and out of the region working closely with Mr L Homann of TfNSW which is facilitating not only the strategic strategy but short term opportunities such as Councils accessing the Live traffic platform and the EV opportunities.</p> <p>Please find more detailed advice in a report elsewhere in this business paper regarding the Issues Paper and progress on the Plan.</p>
b)	Provide regional transport planning analysis with a focus on freight	Transport and Infrastructure Working Party	Feb 2020	Report to the Transport and Infrastructure Committee.	Mr J Zannes has had the lead for a request for this region to pilot the CSIRO freight data project at no cost to members. This will be progressed through the Roads and Transport Technical Committee as Mr Zannes has accepted a position working for Inland Rail.
c)	Identify opportunities for regional program funding and report on emergent transport issues	Transport and Infrastructure Working Party	Ongoing	Reports to the Transport and Infrastructure Committee.	The Strategic Transport Group met 9 December 2019. Please request associated documentation. The next meeting is Monday 9 March please request all documentation.
d)	Review the Roads and Transport Technical Committee Plan	Transport and Infrastructure Working Party	May 2020	Report to Transport and Infrastructure Committee.	Given the status of the TfNSW regional transport plan, work in this regard is anticipated in the third quarter of this Calendar year.

### 3.2 Infrastructure planning

## Reports

## Central NSW JO Board Meeting 27 February 2020

No.	Activity	By	Time Frame	Key performance indicators	Update
a)	Maintain the transport and infrastructure priority matrix	Transport and Infrastructure Working Party	1 workshop per year with quarterly review	Report to the Transport and Infrastructure Committee.	List adopted at the November 2019 Board meeting.
<b>Priority Four: Regional Water</b>					
<b>4.1 Regional water network planning and best practice skills development</b>					
No.	Activity	By	Time Frame	Key performance indicators	Update
a)	Form a Regional Water Committee from member council and Regional Leadership Executive Group participants.	Board	July 2019	Formation of the Regional Water Committee.	<p>A report was tabled at the RLE meeting 1 August seeking membership and including a draft TOR.</p> <p>Following discussion with Ken Harrison, Deputy Director, Regional Resources- Central West &amp; Far West Regional NSW, given the level of activity currently underway in the water space it is proposed that strategic engagement with State agencies be undertaken through the various consultative and strategic processes already in train with a view to revisiting the formation of a Regional Water Committee in the first half of 2020.</p>
b)	Regional water infrastructure planning developed to improve urban water quality and security.	Regional Water committee	Mar 2020	Report to Board.	<p>There is a significant amount of consultation being progressed in region for the Regional Water strategies for both the Lachlan and Upper Macquarie.</p> <p>An offer has been made to the JO for 75% funding for a Regional Water Strategy and this is currently under negotiation.</p> <p>Please request all documentation.</p> <p>Otherwise there is a substantial amount of work being undertaken individually and collaboratively in region on urban water security.</p>
c)	Deliver best practice compliant drinking water	Water Utilities Alliance	Ongoing	Report to the Regional Water Committee.	<p>Independent Audit of Performance Monitoring data for all member Councils including mandatory audits for Orange and Bathurst Councils have now been completed with final reports for Councils Audited in December and a regional summary to be provided shortly.</p> <p>NAMAF – workshops have been held and final reports provided to all tranche 1 and 2 Councils including Blayney, Cowra, Forbes,</p>

## Reports

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					<p>Parkes, Cabonne, Bathurst and Oberon. Audits for Orange and Lachlan completed week beginning 20 and 27<sup>th</sup> January following which a regional report will be finalised. A separate report will be provided to GMAC on findings and potential opportunities for further programming.</p> <p>Dam surveillance inspections have been completed for dams owned and managed by Bathurst, Cabonne, Cowra, CTW, Orange, Parkes, Weddin and Hilltops. Final reports are being provided to councils progressively. Changes to the Dam Safety Act were discussed at the December Alliance meeting and work is underway with Public Works Advisory under the existing dam surveillance contract to inform a scope of works for a separate regional procurement exercise noting that Operations and Maintenance Plans and Emergency Plans need to be prepared and provided to the Dam Safety NSW by 8 May 2020. Further advice will be provided shortly.</p>
d)	Review and update the Water Strategic Business Plan and include identification of cost savings achieved	Water Utilities Alliance	July 2020	Report to the Regional Water Committee.	See Matters in progress where this will be undertaken under the auspices of a strategic group including sponsoring Chair/Mayors and GMs.
e)	Better preparedness for climate impacts by implementing the actions in the Drought Issues paper	Regional Water Committee	Dec 2019 and ongoing	Report to Board.	<p>The draft TOR for the Regional Water Committee includes providing an on-going forum for inter-governmental cooperation to implement the actions in the Drought Issues Paper. See Matters in Progress where the formation of the Regional Water Committee is on hold pending other processes underway.</p> <p>Drought issues for this region have been provided to LGNSW and included in the motions from the LGNSW Annual Conference for further advocacy. A submission was provided to the State Legislative Committee Inquiry into the impacts of drought on regional NSW on 29 November and other inquiries including the Independent Panel assessing the</p>

## Reports

## Central NSW JO Board Meeting 27 February 2020

					<p>social and economic conditions in the Murray-Darling Basin.</p> <p>The progress report can be found on the Panel's website at <a href="http://www.basin-socio-economic.com.au/stay-informed/documents">www.basin-socio-economic.com.au/stay-informed/documents</a>.</p> <p>On-going advice is provided to the new State Government Office of Drought Response.</p>
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## Reports

## 9. Financial Report

<b>Regional Strategic Priorities</b>	<b>1.2 Governance arrangements enable inter-council co-operation</b>
<b>Sponsoring Chair</b>	<b>Cr John Medcalf</b>
<b>Sponsoring General Manager/s</b>	<b>Mr Brad Byrnes and Mr Greg Tory</b>

### Report by Ann Thomas, 12 February 2020

<b>Recommendation/s</b>
<b>That the Board note the Financial Report.</b>

This report presents the financial accounts at 12 February 2020. This report anticipates a full year loss of \$60,601 at 30 June 2020 against a budgeted loss of \$52,128.

The increase in the anticipated loss against the budget is due to the reduction in expected interest income and the lesser LGP rebate income.

This report includes all staff wages and costs for the first two quarters of the financial year and are tracking to budget.

Grant funding received and yet to be expended includes:

Growing Local Economies	\$73,400
Office of Environment & Energy	\$ 1,770
Orange 360	\$34,300
Destination Country & Outback	\$15,000

As resolved at the Board meeting 27 November 2019 the Centroc reserves of \$527,387 have been transferred across to the Joint Organisation. The remaining Centroc assets and accumulated surplus at 30 June 2019 will be transferred across to the Joint Organisation as further winding up of Centroc occurs.

**Attachment/s:** Nil

## Central NSW Joint Organisation Financial Position at 12 February 2020

	Budget 2019/2020	Actual 12/02/2020	Anticipated 30/06/2020
<b>Income</b>			
CNSWJO Membership Fees	255,172	255,172	255,172
CWUA Best Practice Program	234,937	234,937	234,937
Regional Tourism Group Membership	133,956	126,077	133,956
CNSWJO Operational Membership	100,000	100,000	100,000
WRAS Contributions	8,966	7,056	7,056
	<b>\$733,031</b>	<b>\$723,242</b>	<b>\$731,121</b>
Grant - Orange 360		34,300	34,300
Grant - Destination Country and Outback		15,000	15,000
	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$49,300</b>	<b>\$49,300</b>
CWUA -NAMAF Program	60,000		60,000
	<b>\$60,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$60,000</b>
Energy - Mgt Aggregated Electricity Procurement	0	44,250	44,250
Energy - Energy Saving Certificates	0	2,270	2,270
	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$46,520</b>	<b>\$46,520</b>
HR - Regional Training Service Income	100,000	49,175	100,000
HR - Online Training & Other HR Modules	245,173	227,116	245,173
	<b>\$345,173</b>	<b>\$276,291</b>	<b>\$345,173</b>
Management Fees from Contracts	110,000	34,599	110,000
Management Fee from LGP	75,000	69,623	69,623
	<b>\$185,000</b>	<b>\$104,222</b>	<b>\$179,623</b>
Copyright Licence		17,574	17,574
Vehicle Lease Back EO	4,200	2,207	4,200
Vehicle Lease Back CWUA	5,000	2,759	5,000
Vehicle Lease Back Operational Program Mgr	4,200	2,691	4,200
Interest	4,000	487	1,000
Member Council/Consultant Expenses to be Reimbursed		9,908	9,908
Regional Tourism Group Council Reimbursements		17,044	17,044
	<b>\$17,400</b>	<b>\$52,670</b>	<b>\$58,926</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$1,340,604</b>	<b>\$1,252,246</b>	<b>\$1,470,663</b>

## Reports

**Expenditure**

Executive Officer Costs	225,000	112,485	225,000
Executive Officer Vehicle Costs & Depn	13,000	1,049	13,000
Operational Program Manager	95,000	63,674	95,000
Operational Program Manager - Vehicle costs	13,200	6,500	13,200
Finance Manager	63,000	35,424	63,000
Training & Program Support Officer	47,000	28,164	47,000
Executive & Programs Assistant	63,000	35,209	63,000
CWUA Program Manager & Program costs	119,612	36,573	119,612
CWUA Membership Program	39,325	30,100	39,325
CWUA Benchmarking Program	76,000	35,840	76,000
CWUA - NAMAF Program	60,000		60,000
Regional Tourism Group	133,956		133,956
Regional Tourism Group Councils to Reimburse		17,044	17,044
Grant - Orange 360			34,300
Grant - Destination Country and Outback			15,000
Energy - Mgt Aggregated Electricity Procurement	0	38,250	44,250
HR - Training Service Costs	95,000	47,452	95,000
HR - Online Training & Other HR Modules	245,173	210,526	245,173
WRAS	8,966	7,056	7,056
Advocacy	10,000	5,228	10,000
Accounting/Audit/Payroll	21,000		21,000
Bank Fees and Sundry costs	2,500	757	2,500
Computer Software/Licences	5,000	354	5,000
Copyright Licence			17,667
Depreciation (excl vehicles)	2,000		2,000
Internet Cloud	10,000	4,291	10,000
Legal	7,500		7,500
Member Council/Consultant Expenses to be Reimbursed		9,908	9,908
Printing/Stationery/Postage	2,000	76	2,000
Sponsorship	0	2,273	2,273
Summit	20,000		20,000
Supply Management Administration	10,000	366	10,000
Zoom Conferences	1,500	491	1,500
Website Hosting and costs	4,000	55	4,000
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>\$1,392,732</b>	<b>\$729,144</b>	<b>\$1,531,264</b>
<b>Net Profit/Loss</b>	<b>-\$52,128</b>	<b>\$523,102</b>	<b>-\$60,601</b>

**Reports**

## Central NSW JO Board Meeting 27 February 2020

**Non-Budgeted Income**

Transfer of Centroc Reserves @ 30/6/19

	<b>\$527,387</b>	<b>\$527,387</b>
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**Non-Budgeted Expenditure****Centroc Reserves from 2018/2019 and previous years**

Centroc Regional Tourism Group + Regional Marketing

CWUA Best Practice Program

CWUA - Asset Management Maturity Audit (NAMAF)

CWUA - Developer Services Plans

Energy Project + Energy Workshops matching contribution

Energy Workshops - Office of Environment &amp; Energy Grant

Growing Local Economies Grant Funding

Inter-Council Co-operation Reserve

Roads Transport Technical Committee + BLEG

138,366	57,776	138,366
31,569	31,569	31,569
80,775	46,165	80,775
47,930		47,930
66,842	12,180	66,842
1,770		1,770
73,400		73,400
54,221	5,803	54,221
32,514	4,686	32,514
<b>\$527,387</b>	<b>\$158,178</b>	<b>\$527,387</b>

**Net Profit/Loss after Non-Budgeted Income and Expenditure**

<b>\$892,311</b>	<b>-\$60,601</b>
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**CNSWJO Accumulated Surplus at 30 June 2019****\$72,631****CENTROC Accumulated Surplus at 30 June 2019****\$904,047****Less Centroc Surplus transferred to date****\$527,387****Anticipated Surplus at 30 June 2020****\$388,690****Reports**

**10. Matters raised by members – Forbes – Murray Darling Irrigation Desalination Proposal****Recommendation/s**

**That the Board Note the advice from Forbes and include the option of linking desalinated water into considerations of priority for future water security for the region.**

Please find advice from Forbes attached.

Board policy is to take a multi sourced approach to water security for the region. Notably there are already linkages into the region from the Sydney town water supply and there may be some potential to improve water security in the region giving consideration to desalination.

**Subject: Murray Darling Irrigation using Sydney Desalination Plant**

Dear Jenny

Forbes Shire Council at its December 2019 Ordinary Meeting considered a report on the Murray Darling Desalination Proposal following an email sent to Council by Grant Dewar. A copy of the report presented to Council is attached for your information.

**459 RESOLVED That Council:**

- 1) *move into open discussion. (Cr C Roylance/Cr S Chau)*
- 2) *move out of open discussion. (Cr C Roylance/Cr G Clifton)*
- 3) *refer the Murray Darling Proposal/Sydney Desalination Plan concept proposal to Central NSW Joint Organisation for consideration in line with other water supply initiatives for the Centroc region; and*
- 4) *write to the author to advise Council's resolution and commend him on the initiative. (Cr C Roylance/Cr G Clifton)*

From the above resolution, Council would you include the above matter to be considered by the Central NSW Joint Organisation to consider the "Murray Darling Irrigation using Sydney Desalination Plant" proposal as a water supply initiative along with the other water supply initiatives already put forward.

Water security for essential human consumption has become critical in a number of Central NSW towns and Council has commended Mr Dewar on his initiative.

Yours sincerely



Richard Jane  
**DIRECTOR**  
**ENGINEERING**

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MONTHLY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE SHIRE OF FORBES HELD IN THE SHIRE CHAMBER FORBES ON THURSDAY 12 DECEMBER 2019**

That Council receive and note the précis of the 2019 National Local Roads and Transport Congress. *(Cr C Roylance/Cr J Webb)*

**4.2 R2R – PROJECTS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE FUNDING SPEND**

**456 RESOLVED**

That Council:

1. apply \$500,000 of the R2R supplementary funding to rural road reseals and that the remaining amount to be applied to the following projects: Haynes Bridge, Mulguthrie Bridge, Racecourse Road, Warrul Road, Forrest Road and Farnell Street;
2. reconvene the Transport Focus Group and test the waters on how Council is travelling with our roads and transport. *(Cr J Webb/Cr M Herbert)*

**4.3 FIXING LOCAL ROADS – PROJECTS TO BE INCLUDED**

**457 RESOLVED**

That Council receive and note the projects being submitted for funding under Round 1 of the Fixing Local Roads program. *(Cr C Roylance/Cr G Clifton)*

**4.4 LAKE FORBES AQUATIC AREA**

**458 RESOLVED**

That Council obtain cost estimates to undertake dredging of the Aquatic Area and consider the project for the 2020/21 Budget. *(Cr C Roylance/Cr G Clifton)*

**4.5 MURRAY DARLING DESALINATION PROPOSAL**

**459 RESOLVED**

That Council:

1. move into open discussion. *(Cr C Roylance/Cr S Chau)*
2. move out of open discussion. *(Cr C Roylance/Cr G Clifton)*
3. refer the Murray Darling Proposal/Sydney Desalination Plan concept proposal Central NSW Joint Organisation for consideration in line with other water supply initiatives for the Centroc region; and
4. write to the author to advise Council's resolution and commend him on the initiative. *(Cr C Roylance/Cr G Clifton)*

**5. DIRECTOR PLANNING AND GROWTH REPORT TO COUNCIL**

**5.1 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS**

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**5.5 MURRAY DARLING DESALINATION PROPOSAL**

**Report Author:** Manager Water and Senior Governance Officer

**Responsible Officer:** Acting Director Engineering

***Executive Summary***

The report provides an overview and preliminary assessment of the Murray Darling Proposal (the Proposal) to use and supply desalinated water, via the Sydney Desalination Plant (SDP), to the heads of the Lachlan and Macquarie rivers systems.

***Detailed Report*****Background**

Council has received correspondence from an individual requesting Council lobby State or Federal Government to undertake a feasibility study for the use of desalinated water to supplement water inflows to the Murray Darling Basin via the Lachlan and Macquarie rivers.

Further information supplied by is the applicant can be found in the following Youtube Video:  
<https://youtu.be/lotDEP442yg>

**Commentary**

Council Officers have undertaken a preliminary review of the information supplied and provide the following commentary following the review and discussions with Sydney Water.

**General**

The proposal is conceptual in nature and would require a greater understanding of the Sydney water system and the complexity of a project of this magnitude. The author should be commended on his initiative in pursuit of water security in the Murray Darling Basin.

**Technical**

Sydney Water currently used the SDP for their own water supply at a peak capacity of 250ML/day. The proposal suggests that the SDP produces 500ML/day and would be able to supply the Murray Darling basin. The SDP was constructed to provide Sydney with water during drought periods and becomes operational once Sydney's water supply drops below 60% and stays in operation until supply levels increase above 70%. Currently, the SDP has been in operation since January 2019 with Sydney's water supply continuing to decline to approximately 45%.

The proposal notes that existing pipelines would be used to send water from the SDP to Warragamba Dam. Sydney Water has advised that there are no pipelines to get the water from the SDP to Prospect Reservoir. Water supplied by the SDP uses existing supply infrastructure in the Sydney region which is part of Sydney's water supply system. To send water from the SDP to the Prospect Reservoir would require a dedicated set of pipes and pump stations. Currently water flows by gravity from Warragamba to Prospect but would need to be pumped from Prospect Reservoir to Warragamba dam, due to an elevation difference of around 50m. The cost to construct pipelines and pump stations is likely to be into the hundreds of millions; the cost to pump the water would also be significant.

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**ACTING DIRECTOR ENGINEERING REPORT TO COUNCIL – PART I – CONT'D**

Treatment of sea water to potable quality is expensive. The estimated final cost associated with water from the proposal would be in the order of \$5/kL (or \$5,000/ML) which would make use cost prohibitive for most forms of agriculture. As a comparison, Council's current treated water costs \$1.40/kL.

Given that this concept proposal is regional in nature it is suggested that the matter be referred to Central NSW Joint Organisation as it would be more appropriate for it to be considered in line with other water supply initiatives for the region.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council:**

1. refer the Murray Darling Proposal/Sydney Desalination Plan concept proposal Central NSW Joint Organisation for consideration in line with other water supply initiatives for the Centroc region; and
2. write to the author to advise Council's resolution and commend him on the initiative.

**Alignment with Strategic Plan**

GR1: Ensure open, accountable and inclusive decision-making processes in government and private sector entities at all levels where decisions have potential to impact local communities.

**Financial and Resource Implications**

Unknown but significant.

**Policy Implications**

Nil

**Risk Considerations**

Nil

**Statutory/Regulatory Implications**

Nil

**Consultation conducted**

Nil

**Attachments**

Nil

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# Reports