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**NARROMINE SHIRE COUNCIL**  
**ORDINARY MEETING BUSINESS PAPER – 11 DECEMBER 2019**  
**NOTICES OF MOTION/QUESTIONS ON NOTICE REPORT**

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**Questions on Notice**

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**Questions Received From Cr Jablonski:-**

1. *With the latest round of funding from the Federal Government will it enable Council to employ staff, if so, will farmers be able to apply for jobs? If they do and it rains will they be able to leave and farm their ground and then come back to council employment?*

**Response from Director Community and Economic Development:-**

At this time, providing increased work for local contractors and their employees is a priority of the drought communities programme. Just as in the last round, this will be preferenced by Council allocating funding to the community infrastructure projects (as per Council's report). Given the short term nature of many of the proposed projects, as well as Council's existing workforce having limited capacity to supervise additional casual employees, this is the best way to ensure that local trades and suppliers gain increased work.

2. *When Council Management present documents in the Business Paper do Council staff create them from scratch or are some of them, such as the Council Meeting Code of Practice, templates allowing each individual Council to insert their Council name etc. Just how much of these documents are the original thinking of the Council?*

**Response Executive Manager Corporate Governance:-**

Council staff often write reports from scratch based on their expertise and department area. However for some reports, Council is also required to adopt policies based on best practice models and local government guidelines. Council needs to consider the implications of not adopting OLG best practice. As such the reports to Council provide an indication of what can be changed versus what is mandatory.

3. *If a facility is built to cover the history of Narromine will all the Aboriginal artefacts come back from Trangie and be placed in an appropriate facility?*

**Response Director Community and Economic Development:-**

Council understands that the items which have been relocated to the Wungunja Cultural Centre were donated to the Ngarru Mayin Elders Corporation for display. As such it will be a matter between the relevant parties as to where the artefacts are displayed.

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**Questions on Notice (Cont'd)**

4. *What Council requirements and procedures are currently in place to ensure aerial operations, emanating from Council approved facilities, are avoiding impacts on sensitive areas and are they aligned with State and Federal regulatory outcomes?*

**Response General Manager:-**

Aerial operators are required to have Environment Protection Authority licences, and must hold special qualifications to meet legislative requirements under the Pesticides Act and Regulations. Pesticides can only be applied from aircraft which are endorsed by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) as being suitable for agricultural operations.

If Council is made aware of pollution incidents, the matter is notified to the EPA and is investigated in accordance with their directions.

In essence the EPA are the regulatory authority not Council.

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**Questions Received From Cr McCutcheon:-**

1. *When does Council proposed to reconvene the NSC Flood Management Committee?*

**Response from General Manager:-**

The next meeting is scheduled for 22 January 2020.

2. *Has a business case for the proposed freight hub on the inland route been completed as per Council resolution 2019/245 and will this be available for Councillors consideration before proceeding?*

**Response from Director Community and Economic Development:-**

The proposal was further outlined at the recent workshop. Information is still being obtained to complete the business case and it will be presented to Council before proceeding further.

3. *Does Council have a timeline for a review of the Council LEP?*

**Response from General Manager:-**

Council intends to review the LEP prior to 30 June 2020. Prior to the December Council Meeting representatives from the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment will be providing Council with a overview of the LEP review process.

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**Questions on Notice (Cont'd)**

4. *Have we responded to Notice of Motion, resolution 2019/30 from February 2019?*

**Response from Executive Manager Corporate Governance:-**

A letter was sent to the Trangie Health Council indicating support of their application for an increase in the number of aged care beds at the Trangie Multipurpose Health Centre as resolved by Council. The letter was dated 28 February 2019 and signed by the Mayor.

5. *Were we able to meet with quarry operators as per resolution for Section 7.11 Contributions 2019/294 and could Councillors be provided with feedback (not to be confused with 2<sup>nd</sup> resolution of Temporary Water Treatment Plant 2019/294 of the same resolution number)?*

**Response from Director Community and Economic Development:-**

Notification of Council's draft Section 7.11 Contributions Plan 2019 has been provided to all known quarry operators in the Shire as per Council's resolution. To date, no submissions have been received.

6. *Can Council be further updated on Burns Oval fencing risk assessment investigations, solutions and progress with defects?*

**Response from Acting Director Infrastructure and Engineering Services:-**

A risk assessment was undertaken by Council staff. The fencing has been installed to industry standard. There is minimal risk to patrons however, Council staff will periodically inspect and reposition the ties if and when required. The residual risk has been determined to be low.

7. *Does Council conduct an exit survey when employees resign and if so could Councillors receive feedback?*

**Response from Executive Manager Corporate Governance:-**

An optional and confidential exit interview is conducted when employees resign to gain feedback and suggestions for improvements. The interview is undertaken with the Executive Manager Human Resources, or another nominated Manager. Information is then considered by the General Manager in line with resourcing requirements, and the employee has the choice of whether or not their manager is informed. If required, suggested amendments will be made to Council's Workforce Management Plan to be considered by the Governing Body of Council.

8. *Are the repairs to Tink's Lane being funded by Inland Rail and did Council have an agreed position on the condition of local roads prior to Inland Rail commencing work?*

**Response from Acting Director Infrastructure and Engineering Services:-**

Dilapidation surveys were undertaken of haulage routes identified by Inland Rail prior to construction works commencing, with an undertaking provided that roads would be returned to pre-construction conditions.

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Concerns with road deterioration in the interim have been raised with Inland Rail who have been advised that maintenance works must be carried out at the expense of the Inland Rail project. Should Council be required to undertake any maintenance works, e.g. to Tinks Lane, costs will be recovered from Inland Rail.

9. *Does Council intend to clean up the Tomingley Road etc of rubbish blown from the tip?*

**Response from Acting Director Infrastructure and Engineering Services:-**

A CRM has been lodged for action.

10. *Is there a plan to to rehabilitate holding ponds at the old sewerage treatment works?*

**Response from Acting Director Infrastructure and Engineering Services:-**

There are no rehabilitation works programmed in the short term. An environmental assessment may need to be undertaken prior to any future works being budgeted for in the long term.

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**NOTICES OF MOTION**

The following Notices of Motion have been received from Cr McCutcheon:-

1. **That Council actively pursue more jobs for locals with Inland Rail, including relocating main and office sites from Parkes to Narromine (not Dubbo) prior to construction of the Narwonah to Narrabri section.**

**Notes from General Manager:-**

The Orana Joint Organisation is working to establish a portal of local/regional business entities that will be able to supply product and services.

Monthly catch up meetings are held with Inland Rail where local procurement targets are discussed and advocated for.

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**NOTICES OF MOTION (Cont'd)**

- 2. That a business case study be made and presented to Councillors prior to any further expenditure of funds from the restricted assets business initiatives fund (other than using the sale proceeds to prepare any business cases).**

**Notes from General Manager:-**

The intent of this fund is to support economic projects in general, for example preparation of business cases where Council does not have required expertise or internal resources, provision of financial contributions towards identified development projects, etc. Any expenditure from this fund would be reported to Council as part of the quarterly budget review process as was outlined in the discussion at the Council Meeting.