



Council briefs

From meeting on 22 February 2012

Section 94 Plan adopted

Following a five-week community consultation period, Council has adopted the Queanbeyan Section 94 Development Contributions Plan 2011. The draft plan was exhibited from 18 November 2011 until 23 December 2011 and resulted in three submissions being made, two external and one internal. The plan covers both rural and urban areas of the Local Government Area excluding the soon-to-be constructed town of Googong.

Cricket pavilion contractor appointed

Council appointed Beasec Enterprises Pty Ltd to construct a cricket pavilion at Freebody Oval. Council received \$1.3 million in funding from the Federal Government for the pavilion and has been working in consultation with the Queanbeyan Cricket Club and Kangaroos Football Club to finalise the design and gain development approvals. Council called for expressions of interest from prospective tenderers and five selective tenders were invited in January 2012. Beasec Enterprises Pty Ltd has proposed a 26-week construction schedule, with the pavilion expected to be complete in September 2012. Beasec Enterprises Pty Ltd constructed the Queanbeyan Whites' Clubhouse which is located in Taylor Park. Council also agreed to provide funding for two moveable sightcreens at the ground. Council will provide 50% of funding providing the Queanbeyan Cricket Club gains further funding from NSW Cricket.

Council to apply for infrastructure funds

Council will make an application under the NSW Government's Local Infrastructure Renewal Scheme. As identified in the preparation of Council's Community Strategic Plan in 2009, Queanbeyan has a significant backlog of infrastructure maintenance. This backlog has already resulted in Council gaining approval for a Special Rate Variation of 5.8% for an initial period of three years to fund maintenance and renewal of the city's roads, footpaths and parks and sportsfields. In November 2011 Council agreed to seek an ongoing extension of that Special Rate Variation. During the original community engagement exercise Council clearly stated that it would be applying for an ongoing rate increase, however the Minister of Local Government only approved the application for three years. Council presented the community with a detailed 10-year works program. Council agreed to hold a workshop to discuss what the application should include.

Safety Strategy endorsed

Council has endorsed the Queanbeyan Community Safety Strategy which will now be forwarded to the NSW Attorney General's Department for ratification. The draft plan was placed on public exhibition in November-December 2011 and four submissions were received. These submissions were considered and the plan was amended accordingly. Following ratification from the NSW

Attorney General's Department, Council will be eligible to apply for up to \$50,000 annually from the Safer Compact funding from the Department to implement the strategy.

Macedonian group gains funding

Council agreed to provide the Queanbeyan Macedonian Pensioners Group St Ilija with funding of \$750 under its Cultural Assistance Scheme. The Group will use the funding to hold an open day in the Macedonian Community Centre in Crawford St on Saturday 24 March 2012. The aim of the open day is to raise awareness of the Macedonian community in Queanbeyan and will be an opportunity for members of the general community to visit the centre and find out more about Macedonian culture, history, music, dance and food.

Community representatives appointed to committees

Council appointed a number of community members as representatives on committees. Nominations for committee members were called for in November 2011 and a number of committee positions were filled. However, three committees failed to fill the vacant positions, therefore Council again advertised for representatives.

The following residents were appointed representatives of the following committees:

QCC Consultative Committee on Aboriginal Issues

- Fran Garbutt
- Carmen Broderick

Queanbeyan Development Board

- Josephine Cornell
- Simone Reading

Sister City Committee

- Jessie Whichelo
- Norman Abjorensen

Rotary gains Seniors Week funding

Council agreed to provide the Rotary Club of Queanbeyan West with a donation of \$700 under its General Donations Scheme. The funding will be used to support the club's activities during NSW Seniors Week which runs from 18-25 March.