



Trading as:

NEW ENGLAND WEEDS AUTHORITY

ABN 35 514 007 354

129 RUSDEN STREET, ARMIDALE NSW 2350 • PO BOX 881, ARMIDALE NSW 2350
Telephone: (02) 6770 3602 • Fax: 02 6771 1893 Email: newa@newa.nsw.gov.au

8th August 2017

Dear Councillors,

You are requested to attend the Ordinary Meeting of the New England Tablelands (Noxious Plants) County Council to be held in the Armidale Office of the Authority at 129 Rusden St, Armidale on

Tuesday, 22 August 2017 at 8.30 am

Please note that the annual performance review of the General Manager will take place prior to the meeting at 8.30am, documentation for which has been forwarded to you separately.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Wayne Deer'.

Wayne Deer
GENERAL MANAGER

AGENDA

ORDINARY MEETING – Commencing at 8:30 am

1	PRESENT	4
2	APOLOGIES	4
3	DECLARATION OF INTEREST	4
4	CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 20 JUNE 2017	4
5	MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 20 JUNE 2017	4
6	CHAIRMAN’S REPORT	4
7	GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT	10
7.1	ORGANISATIONAL MATTERS	10
7.1.1	INVESTED FUNDS REPORT as at 31 st July 2017	10
7.1.2	PECUNIARY INTEREST RETURNS FOR 2016/2017	13
7.1.3	NEW ENGLAND WEEDS AUTHORITY - COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT POLICY 03/17	14
7.1.4	NSW WEEDS ACTION PROGRAM 2015-2020 AMENDED GUIDELINES-COUNCIL’S LEAD ORGANISATION ROLE	15
7.1.5	ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2016/2017	17
	WEED CONTROL MATTERS	18
7.1.2	2017/2018 WEEDS ACTION PROGRAM	18
8	MATTERS OF URGENCY	25

9	NEXT MEETING WEDNESDAY 24TH OCTOBER 2017	
	AT 8.30 AM	25
10	ATTACHMENTS	25
10.1.1	Compliance and Enforcement Policy 03/17	25
10.1.2	Annual Financial Statements 2016/2017.	25

1 **PRESENT**

2 **APOLOGIES**

3 **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

4 **CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 20 JUNE 2017**

5 **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 20 JUNE 2017**

6 **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE NEW ENGLAND TABLELANDS (NOXIOUS PLANTS) COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN THE ARMIDALE OFFICE, 129 RUSDEN STREET, ARMIDALE ON TUESDAY 20 JUNE 2017 COMMENCING AT 8:40 AM

PRESENT Councillor M. Dusting (Chair), and Armidale Regional Council Administrator, Dr Ian. Tiley.

IN ATTENDANCE: General Manager, Mr W. Deer

APOLOGIES: Councillor S Kermode.

21/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Tiley and Dusting that the apology be accepted.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 26 APRIL 2017

22/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Tiley and Dusting that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the New England Tablelands (Noxious Plants) County Council held on 26 April 2017 copies of which have been distributed to all members are taken as read and confirmed a true record.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 26 APRIL 2017

There were no matters arising.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

The Chair advised of the following:

- Reported on the meeting of the Organizing Committee held on 29 May 2017 for the forthcoming 19th NSW State Weeds Conference to be held in Armidale from the 16 -19 October 2017 advising that the draft program has been confirmed, with many excellent speakers and the field trips are close to being finalised. Sponsorship targets are on track with budget expectations and the conference will also feature a debate. Registrations for the conference have been advertised. The next meeting of the Committee will be held on 31 July 2017.
- Attended the Northern Tablelands Regional Weeds Committee April 2017 meeting as Council's representative along with Council officers where the responses to the recent call for submissions on the draft Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan were discussed. The Committee endorsed the document and referred it to the Board of the Northern Tableland Local Land Services for ratification prior to forwarding to the Minister for Primary Industries.

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE NEW ENGLAND TABLELANDS (NOXIOUS PLANTS) COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN THE ARMIDALE OFFICE, 129 RUSDEN STREET, ARMIDALE ON TUESDAY 20 JUNE 2017 COMMENCING AT 8:40 AM

- Mentioned the impending changes to legislation whereby the new Biosecurity Act 2015 and Biosecurity Regulation 2017 will replace the Noxious Weeds Act 1993 as from 1 July 2017, and that on advice from the General Manager all staff have completed the required training to be Authorised Officers under the new legislation.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

1. NEW ENGLAND WEEDS AUTHORITY BUSINESS ACTIVITY STRATEGIC PLAN 2017-2027, 4 YEAR DELIVERY PLAN 2017-2021 AND ANNUAL OPERATIONAL PLAN 2017-2018 (ITEM 7.1.1)

23/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Tiley and Dusting that:

1. That the Annual Operational Plan 2017-2018, 4 Year Delivery Plan 2017 – 2021 and New England Weeds Authority Business Activity Strategic Plan 2017- 2027 be amended to reflect the decision of the North West Local Land Services to take over the role of Lead Organisation within the North West Local Land Services region for the NSW Weeds Action Program 2015-2020 as provided for in the amended NSW Weeds Action Program 2015-2020 Guidelines – Year 2.
2. Council in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993 and Regulations thereunder, adopt the New England Weeds Authority Business Activity Strategic Plan 2017- 2027 and Resourcing Strategy, the 4 Year Delivery Plan 2017 - 2021 and the Annual Operational Plan 2017 – 2018, noting the amendment.

2. LOCAL GOVERNMENT REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL (ITEM 7.1.2)

24/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Tiley and Dusting that the annual fees for Councillors for the 2017/2018 financial year be increased by 2.5% over the allowances for 2016/2017. Councillors will be remunerated \$2,377.00 and for the Chair, \$5,942.00.

3. AUDIT OFFICE OF NSW-AUDIT FOR YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2017 (ITEM 7.1.3)

25/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Dusting and Tiley that the report on the audit process of Council's financial statements for the year ending 30 June 2017 be received and noted.

4. PUBLIC INTEREST DISCLOSURES REPORT (ITEM 7.1.4)

26/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Tiley and Dusting that:

1. That the six- monthly report on Council's compliance with their obligations under the Public Interest Disclosures Act 1994 be received and noted.
2. That a copy of the report be forwarded to the NSW Ombudsman.

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE NEW ENGLAND TABLELANDS (NOXIOUS PLANTS) COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN THE ARMIDALE OFFICE, 129 RUSDEN STREET, ARMIDALE ON TUESDAY 20 JUNE 2017 COMMENCING AT 8:40 AM

5. GOVERNMENT INFORMATION (PUBLIC ACCESS) ACT 2009 (GIPA) – PUBLICATION GUIDE REVIEW (ITEM 7.1.5)

27/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Dusting and Tiley that under the provisions of Section 21 of the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009, Council adopts the revised New England Tablelands (Noxious Plants) County Council Publication Guide, as attached to the report.

6. REVIEW OF COUNCIL POLICIES (ITEM 7.1.6)

28/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Dusting and Tiley that Council reaffirms the adoption of the following Policies, as attached to the report.

- Investment Policy No: 01/11
- Drug and Alcohol Policy No: 03/11
- Engagement of Contractors Policy No: 04/11
- Procurement of Goods and Services Policy No: 05/11
- Annual Leave Policy No: 02/12
- Gifts and Benefits Policy No: 03/12
- Records Management Policy No: 01/13

7. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES (ITEM 7.1.7)

29/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Tiley and Dusting:

1. That the report on the Related Party Disclosures be received and noted.
2. That Council adopt the Key Management Personnel as being the Councillors (including the Chairman), General Manager and Senior Weeds Officer.
3. That Council adopt the New England Weeds Authority Related Party Disclosures Policy 02/17, as attached to the report.

8. REVIEW OF DELEGATIONS OF AUTHORITY (ITEM 7.1.8)

30/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Tiley and Dusting:

1. That Council make and endorse the delegations of authority to the Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, General Manager and various staff as contained within the New England Weeds Authority Delegation of Authority Register attached to the report, in accordance with the provisions of Section 377 of the Local Government Act 1993 and Section 372 of the Biosecurity Act 2015.
2. That Council appoint the General Manager, Mr W Deer as an Authorised Officer for the purpose of administering the relevant provisions of the Biosecurity Act 2015. This authorisation shall extend to the service of penalty notices and instigation of legal action in relation to the Biosecurity Act 2015.

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE NEW ENGLAND TABLELANDS (NOXIOUS PLANTS) COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN THE ARMIDALE OFFICE, 129 RUSDEN STREET, ARMIDALE ON TUESDAY 20 JUNE 2017 COMMENCING AT 8:40 AM

9. LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW ANNUAL CONFERENCE (ITEM 7.1.9)

31/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Tiley and Dusting that Council:

1. Approve the attendance of two representatives at the 2017 Local Government Annual Conference, those representatives being the Chair as Voting Delegate and the General Manager.
2. Approve payment of all expenses associated with the attendance at the Conference in accordance with the Payment of Expenses Policy.

10. NSW WEEDS ACTION PROGRAM 2015-2020 AMENDED GUIDELINES (7.1.10)

The General Manager tabled a letter dated 15 June 2017 from Mr J Hutchinson-Smith, General Manager, North West Local Land Services advising that as from 30 June 2017 that New England Weeds Authority will cease as the lead organisation for the North West Local Land Services Weeds Action Program 2015-2020 as provided for in the *NSW Weeds Action Program 2015-2020 Guidelines – Year 2*, as the North West Local Land Services will be assuming this role.

32/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Dusting and Tiley:

1. That the report on amendments to the NSW Weeds Action Program 2015 -2020 Guidelines by received and noted.
2. That a further report be presented to Council on the implications for Council as lead organisation for the Northern Tablelands and North West Local Land Services, NSW Weeds Action Program 2015 – 2020.

11. INVESTED FUNDS REPORT (ITEM 8.1.1)

33/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Tiley and Dusting that:

1. The report indicating Council's Fund Management position be received and noted.
2. That the Certificate of the Responsible Accounting Officer be noted and the report adopted.

12. WEED CONTROL MATTERS (ITEM 9.1.1)

34/17 RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Dusting and Tiley that Council adopt the quarterly report on the 2016/2017 Weeds Action Program.

MATTERS OF URGENCY

Nil

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE NEW ENGLAND
TABLELANDS (NOXIOUS PLANTS) COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN THE
ARMIDALE OFFICE, 129 RUSDEN STREET, ARMIDALE ON TUESDAY
20 JUNE 2017 COMMENCING AT 8:40 AM**

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 22 August 2017, commencing at 8.30am.

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIR DECLARED THE
MEETING CLOSED AT 9.20 AM**

REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER TO THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON THE 22 AUGUST 2017

7 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

7.1 ORGANISATIONAL MATTERS

7.1.1 INVESTED FUNDS REPORT as at 31st July 2017

Introduction

The Local Government (General) Regulation, Clause 212, requires that the Responsible Accounting Officer must provide Council with a written report setting out all money Council has invested under Section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993, up to the last day of the Month immediately preceding the meeting.

Report

Included in this report are the following items that highlight Council's Investment Portfolio Performance for the period ending 31 July 2017 and an update of the investment environment:

- a) Councils Investments for reporting period 1 July 2017 – 31 July 2017;
- b) Investment Portfolio Performance and
- c) Investment Commentary.

Financial Impact

The actual interest earned for the July 2017 period is \$2,309.18.

a) Council's Investments for reporting period 1 July 2017 – 31 July 2017

Commonwealth Bank Business Online Saver:

As at	Rate	Balance	Interest
31 st July 2017	0.06%	\$557,343.54	\$50.28

Bank Term Deposits:

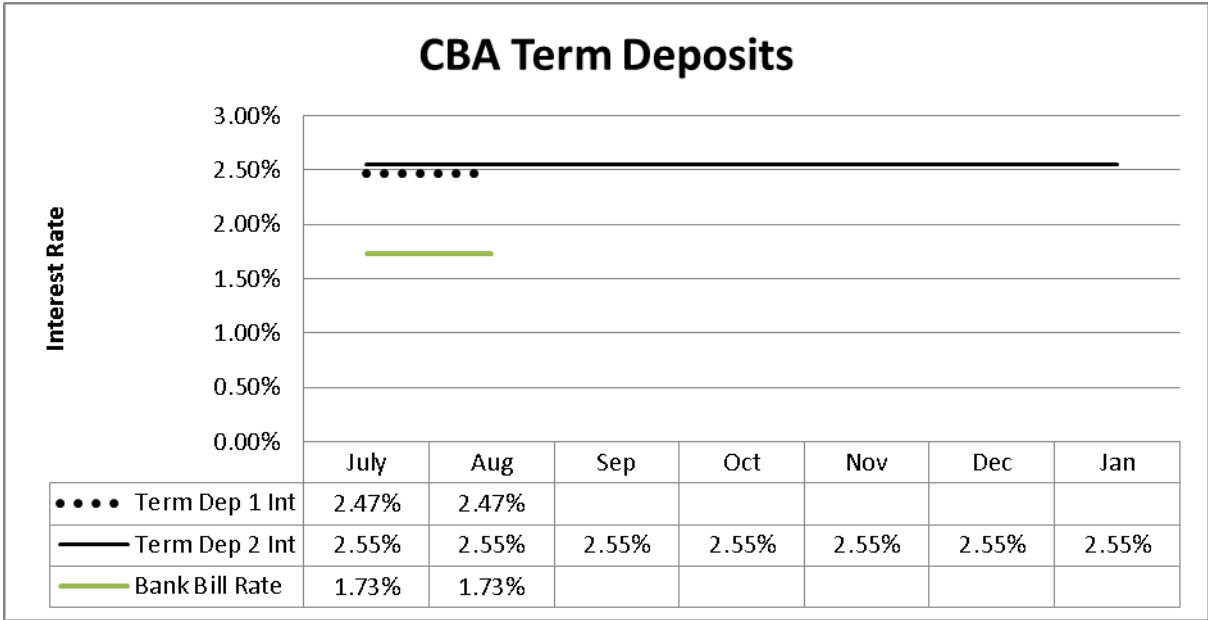
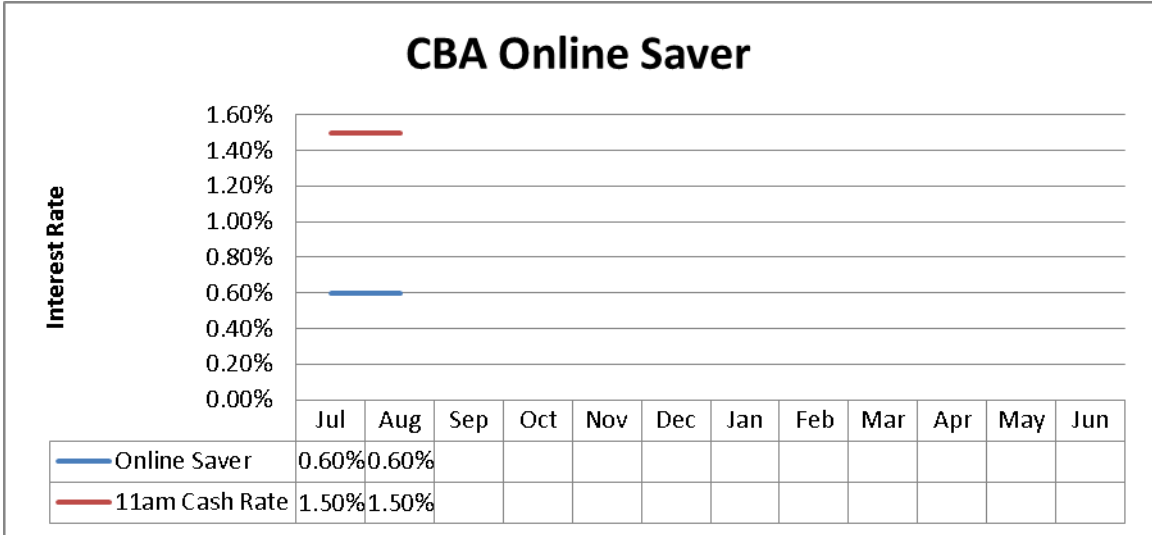
Commonwealth Bank Term Deposits

Term Deposit	Opened	Due	Rate	Term Deposit	Balance at 31 July 17	Interest accrued July 2017
1	11 Apr 2017	9 August 2017	2.47%	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$634.59
2	27 June 2017	27 Feb 2018	2.55%	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$1,624.31
TOTAL				\$1,050,000	\$1,050,000	\$2,258.90

REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER TO THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON THE 22 AUGUST 2017

b) Investment Portfolio Performance

Council’s Investment Policy provides for the benchmarking of its investments against the 11am Cash Rate and the Australian Financial Markets Association Bank Bill Rate. The following tables detail Council’s Investment Portfolio Performance.



c) Investment Commentary

The Investment Portfolio continues to reflect the Reserve Bank’s current hold on interest rates at 1.5%.

**REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER TO THE ORDINARY MEETING OF
COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON THE 22 AUGUST 2017**

Certification – Responsible Accounting Officer.

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

Responsible Accounting Officer: Wayne Deer

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1. That the report indicating Council's Fund Management position be received and noted.**
- 2. That the Certificate of the Responsible Accounting Officer be noted and the report adopted.**

REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER TO THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON THE 22 AUGUST 2017

7.1.2 PECUNIARY INTEREST RETURNS FOR 2016/2017

Introduction

The General Manager is required to report annually on the receipt of pecuniary interest returns.

Report

Section 449 (3) of the Local Government Act 1993, requires that Councillors and designated persons who hold those positions at the 30 June each year, must lodge a completed Ordinary Pecuniary Interest Return by the following 30 September.

Section 450A of the Act places specific statutory responsibilities on the General Manager in relation to the submission and recording of Pecuniary Interest Returns:

- The General Manager must keep a Register of Returns containing the completed and lodged Returns of Councillors and Designated Persons. The returns must be available for inspection by members of the public.
- The General Manager must arrange for the tabling of the returns lodged, at the first meeting of the Council after the last day of the period of lodgement.

As councillors are aware, returns are already completed for your constituent Councils. However, it is also necessary for Returns to be submitted and held by the New England Tablelands (Noxious Plants) County Council.

All Returns for the period ended 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017 have been lodged with the General Manager within the statutory timeframe and are now tabled as required.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council formally records that the Ordinary Returns of Pecuniary Interest required to be submitted by Councillors and the General Manager, for the period 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017 have been submitted as required and have been tabled in accordance with the provisions of Section 450A of the Local Government Act, 1993.

REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER TO THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON THE 22 AUGUST 2017

7.1.3 NEW ENGLAND WEEDS AUTHORITY - COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT POLICY 03/17

Introduction

In the report on the Review of Council Policies to the June 2017 Council meeting, Council was advised that the new Biosecurity Act 2015 and Biosecurity Regulation 2017 would come into force on 1 July 2017, replacing amongst other pieces of legislation the Noxious Weeds Act 1993. As a result this has necessitated the development of a new Compliance and Enforcement Policy to replace Council's existing Enforcement Policy.

Report

The Compliance and Enforcement Policy 03/17, a copy of which is attached to the report for the information of Councillors, sets out the regulatory functions of Council as they relate to the obligations placed on Council by the Biosecurity Act 2015 (the Act) and Biosecurity Regulation 2017. This compels Council to use any or all of the powers conferred upon it by the Act to prevent, eliminate, minimise and manage the biosecurity risk posed or likely to be posed by weeds in relation to land for which it is the local control authority.

The Policy explains the approach Council will take in conducting its regulatory functions to achieve compliance with the Act and drive continual improvement. In addition, it will guide the most effective and efficient use of Council's staff to achieve the best outcomes for Council, our landholders and the wider community.

The Policy amongst other items sets out Council's purpose, outcomes, responses, procedural fairness, rights of appeal, transparency and response to complaints. It will be noted from the Policy that Council will take a "*graduated and proportionate response*" to compliance and enforcement applying the range of provisions available to it in accordance with the Act.

This Policy is a significant shift away from Council's previously adopted Enforcement Policy under the now repealed Noxious Weeds Act 1993 as it allows Council's Authorised Officers the ability to apply a number of different enforcement tools from voluntary compliance requests all the way through to prosecution to achieve the desired result.

The Policy has been reviewed by staff and consultation has been undertaken with locally based NSW Department of Primary Industries, Invasive Species Officer, Mr P. Blackmore.

Submitted for Council's consideration.

Attachments – NEWA Compliance and Enforcement Policy 03/17.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council adopt the New England Weeds Authority, Compliance and Enforcement Policy 03/17, as attached to the report.

REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER TO THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON THE 22 AUGUST 2017

7.1.4 NSW WEEDS ACTION PROGRAM 2015-2020 AMENDED GUIDELINES- COUNCIL'S LEAD ORGANISATION ROLE

Introduction

Council at its meeting held on 20 June 2017 received a report on changes to the NSW Weeds Action Program 2015-2020 (WAP1520), Amended Guidelines May 2017, whereby Council as of 1 July 2017 would no longer be the lead organisation for the North West Local Land Services WAP1520 program. Council was further advised that following discussions with officers of the Northern Tablelands Local Land Services that we will retain the lead organisation role on behalf of that organisation.

Consequently, Council at its June 2017 meeting resolved as follows: *“that a further report be presented to Council on the implications for Council as lead organisation for the Northern Tablelands and North West Local Land Services, NSW Weeds Action Program 2015-2020.”*

Report

Council received a letter dated 15 June 2017 from the North West Local Land Services, General Manager, Mr J. Hutchinson – Smith that as of 1 July 2017 that their organisation opted to take over the role as lead organisation for the remaining three (3) years of the NSW WAP1520 for the North West Local Land Services region. As Councillors will recall this letter was tabled at the June 2017 Council meeting.

As a result of this advice Council's Annual Operational Plan 2017-18, Four Year Delivery Plan 2017 – 2021 and the 10 Year Financial Plan contained in the Business Activity Strategic Plan 2017-2027 have all been changed to reflect this decision by the North West Local Land Services.

As a consequence of the loss of the lead organisation role previously undertaken on behalf of the North West Local Land Services the income expected to be received this financial year under the WAP1520 program amounting \$118,000 for the salary towards the Regional Project Officer's position, administration and reporting costs, shared services costs, training and office expenses which was offset by the expenditure of \$118,000 to cover the costs of the aforementioned has been removed from the 2017-18 Budget as well as from the Four Delivery Plan summary budgets and the forecasts under the 10 Year Financial Plan.

A further impact of the abovementioned decision has been the necessity to reduce the paid work hours of the Regional Project Officer who is also engaged on a part-time basis as Council's Administration Officer. The hours have been reduced from 38 to 29 hours per week, so as to meet budget estimates for this financial year. The working hours and duties for this position will be further reviewed when preparing the budget for the 2018-19 financial year.

**REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER TO THE ORDINARY MEETING OF
COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON THE 22 AUGUST 2017**

Whilst this is a less than desired outcome taking into account the considerable work undertaken on behalf of the North West Local Land Services in the past it does however, allow staff to now have a more concentrated focus on the NSW WAP1520 program within the Northern Tablelands region of which our Council is a part of.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the report on the implications for Council as the lead organisation for the North West and Northern Tablelands Local Land Services, Weeds Action Programs 2015-2020 be received and noted.

REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER TO THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON THE 22 AUGUST 2017

FINANCIAL MATTERS

7.1.5 ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2016/2017

The Draft Annual Financial Statements as at 30 June 2017 have been completed and forwarded to Council's Auditors, the Audit Office of NSW who engaged the local firm, Forsyths Chartered Accountants to carry out the preliminary audit. A copy of the Statements is attached to the report for the information of Councillors. It should be noted there are some formatting issues that are being addressed at the time of writing this report. These issues will be rectified prior to submission to the Office of Local Government. It is anticipated that the Draft Independent Audit Report and Conduct of the Audit will be available following inclusion of Note 28 Related Party Disclosures in the Financial Statements.

Mr J. Duggan, Program Leader Financial Accounting, Armidale Regional Council will be in attendance at the meeting to provide additional advice in relation to the Statements.

It is pleasing to note that Council recorded an operating surplus of \$73,000 for the year ended 30 June 2017, which well exceeds the original budget estimate of \$1,700.

However, this result needs to be taken in context, as the surplus is primarily related to the fact that the Northern Tablelands Local Land Services provided Council with a grant amounting to \$93,866 for the "*Priority Weeds Program – Implementation of 2017 – 2018 Regional Weeds Committee Priorities*". These funds were received by Council late in June 2017 and therefore were included in Council's Annual Financial Statements in accordance with the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice.

Council again, took a proactive approach to carrying out private works for adjoining Local Control Authorities as well as being successful in obtaining grant funding that exceeded expectations which also contributed significantly to the operating surplus.

A Certificate under Section 413(2) (c) of the Local Government Act is required to be signed by the Chairperson and at least one other Councillor, as well as the General Manager/Responsible Accounting Officer, indicating that the Annual Financial Statements fairly represent the position of Council to allow the Auditor to carry out the audit process.

Attachments - Annual Financial Statements 2016/2017.

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1. That the report on the Annual Financial Statements as at 30 June 2017 be received and adopted.**
- 2. That the signing of the Certificate under Section 413(2) (c) of the Local Government Act 1993, as detailed in the Attachments to the report, by the Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson and the General Manager/Responsible Accounting Officer be endorsed.**

**REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER TO THE ORDINARY MEETING OF
COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON THE 22 AUGUST 2017**

WEED CONTROL MATTERS

7.1.2 2017/2018 WEEDS ACTION PROGRAM

Private Property Inspections – Nominated Division 2017/2018

Inspections have commenced in the new nominated areas in July. Serrated Tussock inspections will be carried out during the winter period in all regions.

Inspections will then progress to principally Blackberry properties and move to St Johns Wort, Giant Parramatta Grass and Nodding Thistle properties as they emerge during the warmer months.

Privet re-inspections will continue to be carried out this year on a complaint basis within urban areas.

Tropical Soda Apple inspections will be continued to ensure regulatory compliance.

As part of Council's education and extension program for landholders in conjunction with the property inspection notification letters, information will be provided in relation to compliance with the new Biosecurity Act 2015 and Regulation as it relates to weeds.

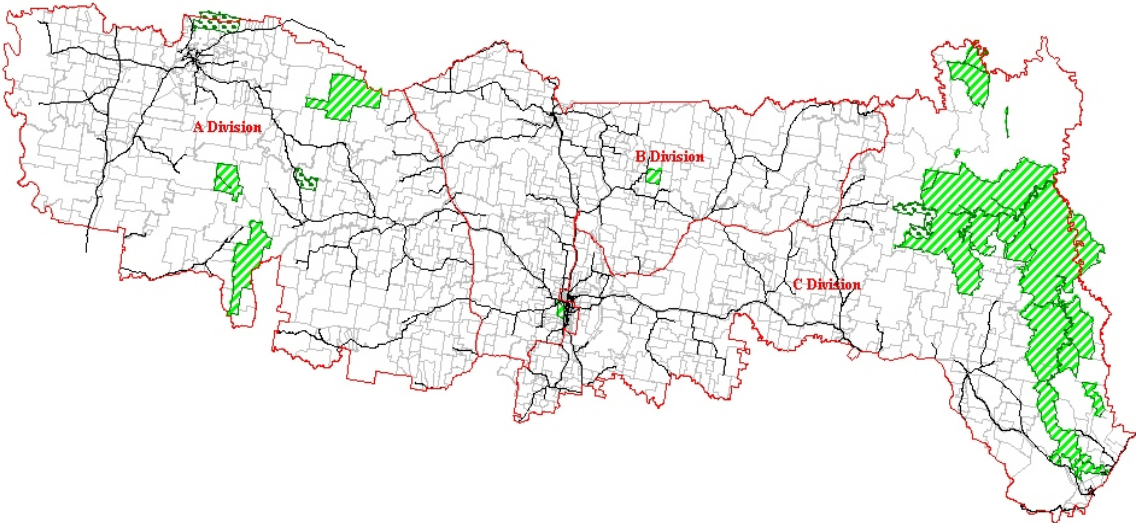
REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER TO THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON THE 22 AUGUST 2017

Private Property Inspections Nominated Division

Nominated areas this year are:

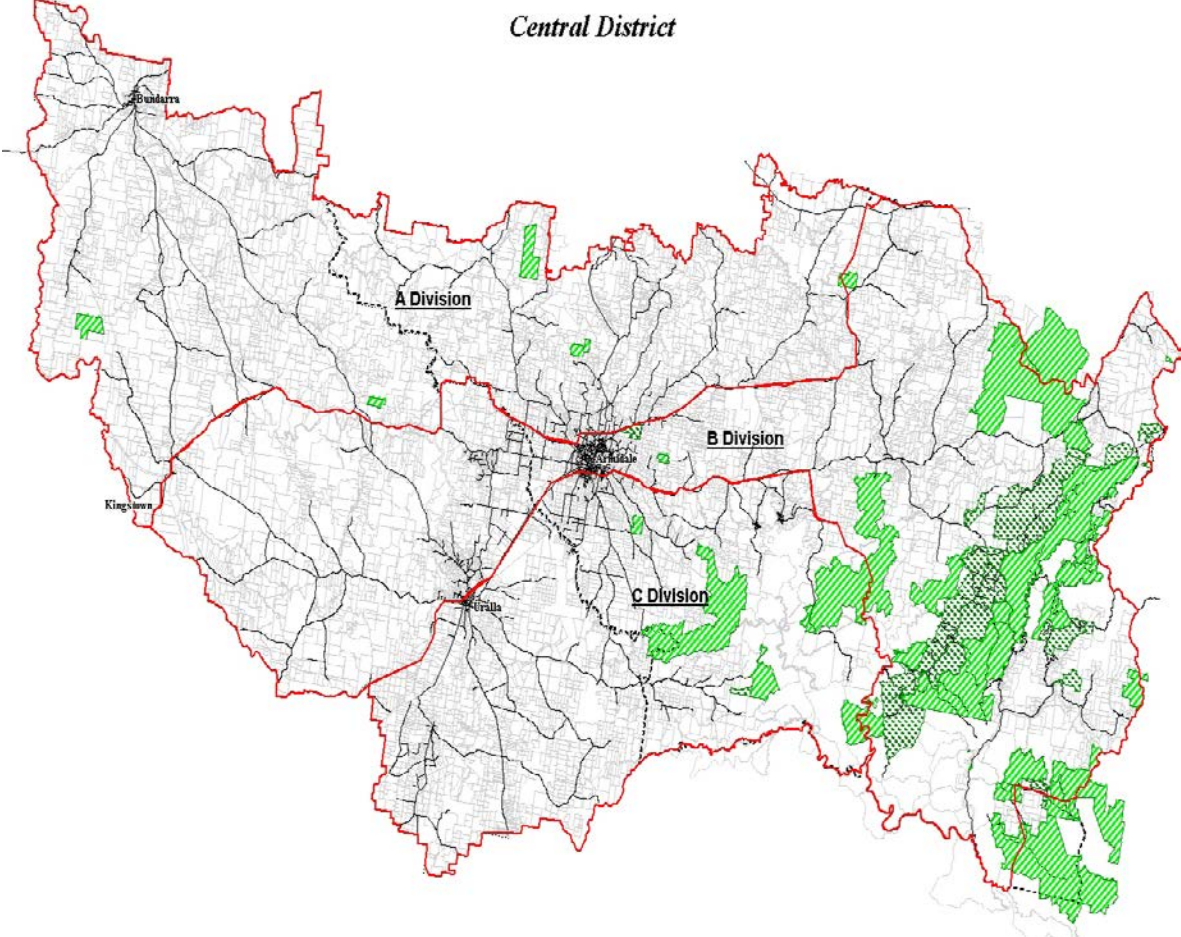
Guyra: A Division
256 properties

Northern District



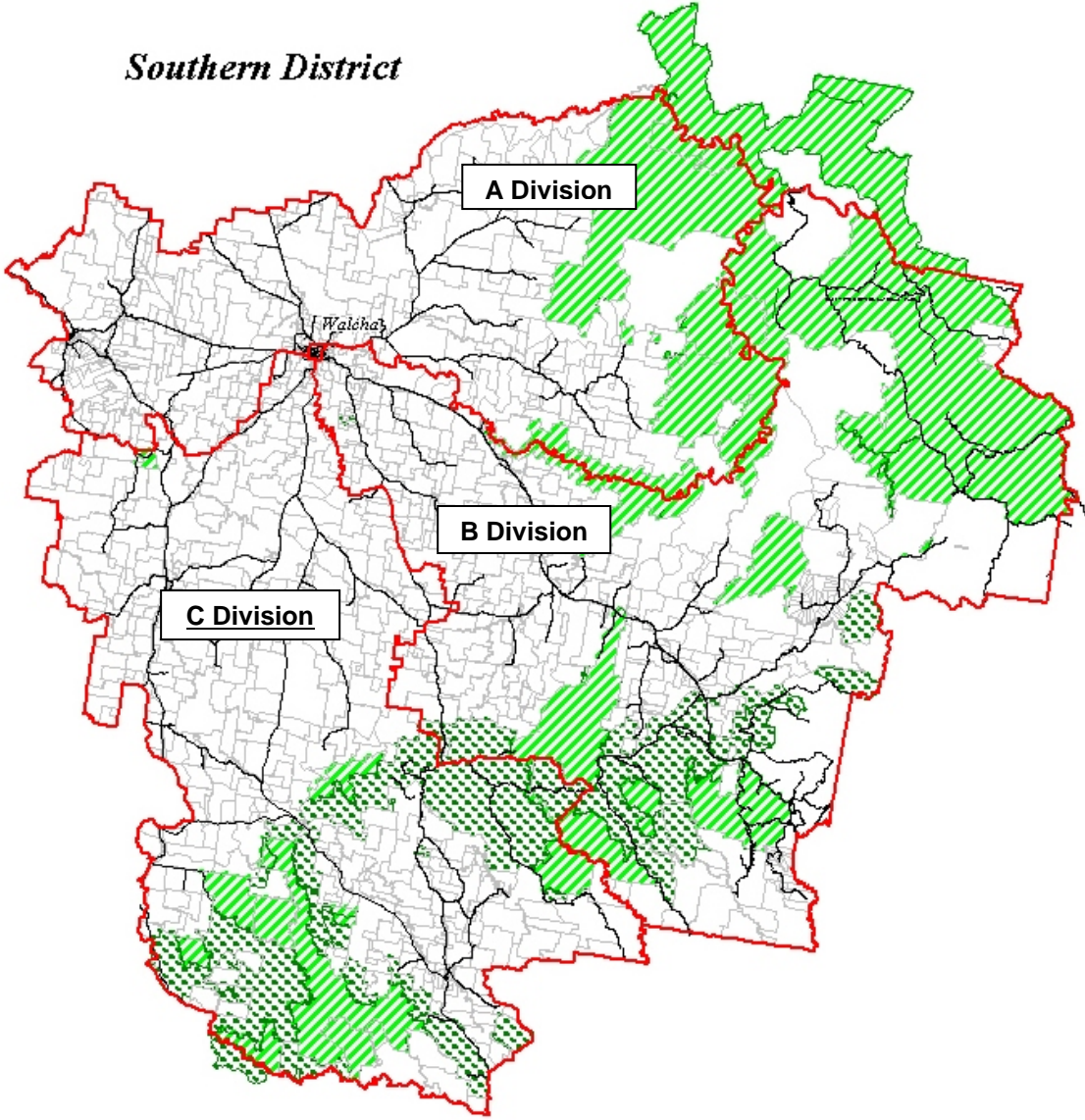
REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER TO THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON THE 22 AUGUST 2017

Central District B Division
ADC 370 properties
Uralla 620 properties



REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER TO THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON THE 22 AUGUST 2017

Walcha: A Division
236 properties



**REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER TO THE ORDINARY MEETING OF
COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON THE 22 AUGUST 2017**

Private Property Inspections – Other Divisions

District	Number of Properties Inspected	Number of Properties to be Inspected	Percent Complete
Northern District		25	
Central District		25	
Southern District		25	

Private Property Inspections – Reinspections

District	Number of Properties Inspected	Number of Properties to be Inspected	Percent Complete
Northern District		25	
Central District		40	
Southern District		25	

**REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER TO THE ORDINARY MEETING OF
COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON THE 22 AUGUST 2017**

Specific Inspections

Weeds Action Plan Regional Measurable Outcomes, Inspections/ NEWA

These targets will be based on the amount of funding received from NSW DPI under the Weeds Action Program 2015 – 2020.

Inspections	Number	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun
Nurseries	10				
Rural Outlets	0				
ARTC - No.	3				
ARTC - Ha.	0				
Weekend Markets	5				
Dept of Lands - No.	4				
Dept of Lands - Ha.	0				
Nat Parks/Reserves - No.	4				
Nat Parks/Reserves - Ha.	0				
Aquaria/Pet shops	2				
LH&PA Reserves - No.	5				
LH&PA Reserves - Ha.	0				
Gravel Quarries	40				
Machinery Dealers	0				
Grain Handling Sites	0				
Border Crossings	0				
Recreational Areas - No.	10				
Recreational Areas - Ha.	0				
Wetlands	1				
Saleyards	3				
Machinery Washdown Bays	0				
Other	0				
Roadside Truck Stops	0				
No Booklets to New Landowners	55				
Private Property High Risk areas - No.	500				
Private Property High Risk areas - Ha.	100,000				
PP HR Re inspections - No.	100				
PP HR Re inspections - Ha.	20,000				
Roadside Inspections High Risk Pathways - Km.	640				
Roadside Inspections High Risk Pathways - Ha.	12,800				
Waterways High Risk Pathways - No.	20				
Waterways High Risk Pathways - Ha.	4000				
Private Property Inspections - No.	1000				
Private Property Inspections - Ha.	200,000				
Private Property Re Inspections - No.	120				
Private Property Re Inspections - Ha.	22,000				
Private property Waterways - No.	0				
Private property Waterways - Ha.	0				
Roadside Inspections - Km.	3,489				
Roadside Inspections - Ha.	69,780				

**REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER TO THE ORDINARY MEETING OF
COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON THE 22 AUGUST 2017**

Landowners Contacted/ Inspection Process	1,125				
Stakeholders/Coordinated Programs	250				
Other Council Lands - No.	0				
Other Council Lands - Ha.	0				
TSRs - No.	1				
TSRs - Ha.	2				

Weed Recording, Mapping, Survey and Reporting Activities

Date	Activity	Details
	Intramaps	Ongoing

Communication, Education, Extension and Publicity Activities

Extension Activities this year will be carried out in the following areas:

Extension Activity	Council Area	Date Achieved
Armidale Show	Armidale	
Guyra Show	Guyra	
Uralla Show	Uralla	
Walcha Show	Walcha	
Weeds Activity	Armidale	
Weeds Activity	Uralla	
Weeds Activity	Guyra	
Weeds Activity	Walcha	

Opportunities that become available through our association with Land Care will continue to be utilized. Stands at saleyards, Ag Quip and static displays will also be carried out.

Weeds Action Program Regional Measurable Outcomes, Extension/ NEWA

Extension		Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun
School Visits	2				
Field Days	4				
Media Releases	6				
Team Talk Meetings	4				
Ag Quip	1				
Shows/Expos	3				
Landcare Events	4				
Other	3				
Landowners contacted	200				

REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER TO THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON THE 22 AUGUST 2017

Staffing

Staff training will be carried out during the year in accordance with the Corporate Training Program.

Operational Program –

External projects will be carried out during the winter period.

The roadside furniture spray program will commence in September 2017 with the start of the spray season.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the report on the 2017/2018 Weeds Action Program be received and noted.

8 MATTERS OF URGENCY

8.1 General Manager's Annual Performance Review

9 NEXT MEETING WEDNESDAY 24th OCTOBER 2017
AT 8.30 AM

10 ATTACHMENTS

10.1.1 Compliance and Enforcement Policy 03/17

10.1.2 Annual Financial Statements 2016/2017.