

Upper Macquarie County Council

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2 September 2022

Members of the County Council

Notice of Extraordinary Meeting of Upper Macquarie County Council 9 September 2022

I advise an Extraordinary Meeting of the Upper Macquarie County Council will be held in the **UPPER MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL Chambers** at Lee Street KELSO on Friday, 9 September 2022 commencing at 1.00pm.

If any new or continuing covid-related restrictions prevent the meeting at this venue Members will be advised accordingly.

The Business Papers are attached for your reference.

Your attendance at the meeting is respectfully requested.

Yours sincerely

Tim Johnston
General Manager

NOTICE FOR MEMBERS & THE PUBLIC

1. DUE TO REGULATORY RESTRICTIONS ON SOCIAL DISTANCING ASSOCIATED WITH THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC – THE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING IS ONLY OPEN TO A LIMITED NUMBER OF MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.
2. BOOKINGS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC, TO ATTEND A MEETING IN-PERSON (IF PERMITTED AT ALL), CAN BE MADE BY CONTACTING THE COUNCIL OFFICES BY PHONE OR EMAIL NO LESS THAN 24 HRS PRIOR TO THE MEETING COMMENCING.
3. A VIDEO RECORDING OF THE MEETING WILL BE POSTED ON THE COUNTY COUNCIL WEBSITE (WWW.UMCC.NSW.GOV.AU) AS SOON AS PRACTICAL AFTER THE MEETING IS COMPLETED

BUSINESS AGENDA

**FOR THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE UPPER MACQUARIE COUNTY
COUNCIL TO BE HELD ON FRIDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER 2022**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY	1
ITEM 1: APOLOGIES.....	1
ITEM 2: DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST	1
STATEMENT OF ETHICAL OBLIGATIONS	1
ITEM 3. FINANCIAL STATEMENT PRESENTATION – LEANNE SMITH (INTENTUS)	2
ITEM 4. LGNSW CONFERENCE NOTICE OF MOTION.....	2

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Council acknowledges the traditional custodians of the lands where we work and live. Council celebrates the diversity of Aboriginal peoples and their ongoing cultures and connections to the lands and waters of the NSW Central Tablelands.

ITEM 1: APOLOGIES

Recommendation:

That Council acknowledge and accept the apologies of those members that have nominated that they will not be in attendance at this meeting.

ITEM 2: DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Recommendation:

That:

1. Council Members are reminded of their obligations under Council's Code of Conduct to disclose and appropriately manager conflicts of interest.
2. If any member has any declaration of interests, they should do so now.

Statement of ethical Obligations

(3.23 of the Code of Meeting Practice)

Members are reminded of their oath or affirmation under S.233A Local Government Act 1993.

Oath

"I, [*name of councillor*] swear that I will undertake the duties of the office of councillor in the best interests of the people of [*name of council area*] and the [*name of council*] and that I will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the [Local Government Act 1993](#) or any other Act to the best of my ability and judgment"

Affirmation

"I [*name of councillor*] solemnly and sincerely declare and affirm that I will undertake the duties of the office of councillor in the best interests of the people of [*name of council area*] and the [*name of council*] and that I will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the [Local Government Act 1993](#) or any other Act to the best of my ability and judgment."

ITEM 3. FINANCIAL STATEMENT PRESENTATION – LEANNE SMITH (INTENTUS)

Recommendation:

That Council enable and note the presentation provided by Audit Office NSW contractor, Director Ms Leanne Smith, Intentus.

Information:

Council has now complied with s.415 of the Local Government Act 1993 by having its financial reports Audited in accordance with the appropriate Accounting Standards.

Leanne Smith, Director of Intentus and contractor of Audit Office NSW, of whom undertook Council's audit, will today provide a presentation of the audited financial reports, assisting Council meet their obligations with s.419 of the Local Government Act 1993 (1) A council must present its audited financial reports, together with the auditor's reports, at a meeting of the council held on the date fixed for the meeting. (2) The council's auditor may attend the meeting at which the financial reports are presented.

In accordance with s.418(3) of the Local Government Act 1993, Council provided public notification by Council's website of the upcoming presentation in the approved format.

Authored by:	Approved by:
Biosecurity Administration Manager	General Manager
Lisa Monardo	T.N. Johnston

ITEM 4. LGNSW CONFERENCE NOTICE OF MOTION

Recommendation:

That Council

1. Submit Motion 1 Biosecurity Fund for consideration by the LGNSW 2022 Annual Conference.
2. Submit Motion 2 WAP Funding for consideration by the LGNSW 2022 Annual Conference.

Motion 1. Biosecurity Fund

That Local Government NSW request the NSW Government to create a biosecurity fund to assist the local weed control authority (Council or County Council) to undertake its full obligations under the Biosecurity Act 2015, primarily the prosecution of landholders who do not meet their obligations under the Act.

Background

The Biosecurity Act provides for the prosecution of non-compliant landholders OR for Councils to undertake weed control works on recalcitrant landholders' properties. Weed Control Authorities that are County Councils do not have the financial capacity to meet the substantial cost of compulsory weed control work and the costs associated with the prosecution of non-compliant landholders.

The Upper Macquarie County Council has made representations to the State Weeds Committee on a proposal to establish a Prosecution Fund administered by Department of Primary Industries NSW, this representation included proposing how such a fund is established and operates. The support of LG NSW to take this proposal forward is now being sought.

Motion 2: WAP funding

That Local Government NSW request that the NSW Government provide a contemporary and consistent funding stream to Local Councils and County Councils for weed control through the Weed Action Program (WAP):

- (i) which requires more financial resources to enable the proper application of the Biosecurity Act in managing weeds,
- (ii) is indexed to inflation/pegging rate
- (iii) that matches the current funding by Council(s)

Background

Councils are the control authority for weeds in NSW, this has been the case for over 100 years. Councils require the State Government to provide a consistent stream of funding at least equivalent to the local contribution currently made by Local Government.

Authored & Approved by:
General Manager
T. N. Johnston