

SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE & AGENDA

Thursday, 25th January 2024

CCEC Chambers, 49 Stockyard Street, Cunnamulla



49 Stockyard Street Cunnamulla Qld 4490 www.paroo.qld.gov.au

Notice of Special Meeting of Council

Notice is hereby given that the Special Meeting of Council is to be held on Thursday, 25th January 2024, in Cunnamulla at the Cunnamulla Chambers, CCEC Building, 49 Stockyard Street, Cunnamulla commencing at 3:00pm.

AGENDA

1	OPENING OF MEETING	-
2	ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS	-
3	ATTENDANCES	-
4	APOLOGIES	-
5	MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM	-
6	DECLARATION OF INTEREST	-
7	REPORTS	
7.1	RADF Advisory Committee Meeting - 18th January 2024	1
7.2	Correspondence - Queensland Treasury - Qld Government Carbon Credits Policy	7
7.3	Wyandra Railway Street Garden lease application	24
7.4	Implementation of Land Register Access Fee & Charge	37
7.5	CONFIDENTIAL Provision of Acting Director of Infrastructure	39
7.6	CONFIDENTIAL Provision of Financial Consultancy Services	41
7.7	CONFIDENTIAL Provision of Project Management Services	43
8	GENERAL BUSINESS	
9	CLOSURE OF MEETING	

Ms Cassandra White Chief Executive Officer Thursday, 25th January 2024

7.1 RADF Advisory Committee Meeting 18th January 2024

Council Meeting: 25th January 2024

Department: Community Support & Engagement

Author: Rachael Johnson, Community Services Team Leader

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with information regarding the RADF Committee meeting held on 18th January 2024. In particular, the report outlines approved applications for 2023/2024 RADF Funding.

Recommendation

That Council:

- 1. receive and note the RADF Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes held on 18th January 2024; and
- 2. approve the recommendation of the RADF Committee for 2023/2024 Funding and allocate the following grants:

Applications

Silversmithing Workshop	\$ 9,834.00
Wyandra Wire and Rust	\$ 2,535.00
Youth Photography Workshop	\$ 1,220.00
TOTAL	\$13,589.00

Discussion

Application received for assistance	3
Applications Out of Round	0
Applications Approved	3
Applications Declined	0

Applicant Name	Project Description	Amount (No GST)
Rodney Hammond	Silversmithing Workshop – The grant will be used for a 2-day Silver Smithing/ Jewellery Making Workshop, designed to connect community with creative arts for the purpose of building healthy community.	\$9,834.00 Approved
Wyandra Progress Association	Wyandra Wire and Rust - The grant will be used towards the cost of hosting a weekend of Creative Arts and skill development workshops over 2 days, with Professional Artist Sue Pukullas based on her well known and popular "Wire and Rust" creations.	\$2,535.00 Approved

Happy Snappers Photography Club	Wyandra Youth Photography Workshop - The grant will be used towards the cost of a 1-day photography workshop for youth/children between the ages of 8 and 18. This application was received 3 days after the closing date. The Committee unanimously decided to allow it to be considered with the other applications.	\$1,220.00 Approved subject to the following: • Updated Public Liability COC • Blue Card for Danielle Lancaster
------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

RADF Financials

Financial Report 01/07/2023- 31/12/2023.

RADF start amount \$42,000.00
Council Contribution \$15,000.00
Available funds \$57,000.00

Income/Unspent Funds NIL

Total Available funds \$57,000.00

Expenditure

Expenditure Round 1 \$ 1,250.00 Pastel Workshop - Cunnamulla

\$ 1,350.00 Patel Workshop - Yowah \$ 3,000.00 The Wood Alchemist \$ 4,140.00 The mobile Jewellery Tutor

\$ 4,180.00 The Bee Story

Expenditure Round 2 \$12,500.00 2024 Lantern Making Workshops

\$ 4,420.00 Dance Workshops and Concert

 WRTC- Twinkle and the Moon
 \$ 3,200.00

 WRTC - Funny Mummies
 \$ 5,150.00

 WRTC - The Twits
 \$ 3,000.00

 Expenditure to date
 \$42,190.00

Balance @ 31/12/2023 \$14,810.00

Attachment

Draft RADF Minutes 18th January 2024



Chairperson: Deb Dunsdon

1. Opening of Meeting: 3.03pm

Deb welcomed all members and reminded Committee members of their confidentiality requirements and that Council must approve the committee's recommendation before any applicants are to be advised of the outcome.

2. Present: Suzette Beresford, Joann Woodcroft, Sharon Harper-Green, Trish Tucker, Rachel Robinson (CSO), Rachael Johnson (CSTL)

Via Teams video link: Deb Dunsdon, Kat Fagan

3. Apologies: Hannah McKillop, Faye Johnson, Anna Murphy

4. Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting

Resolution: That the minutes of the previous meeting dated 4th October 2023 be confirmed as a true and accurate account of proceedings.

Moved: Suzette Beresford Seconded: Sharon Harper-Green Carried

- 5. Business Arising from the Minutes
- 6. Declaration of Conflict/s of Interest Nil
- 7. Inward Correspondence
 - 3 x Outcome Reports:
 - 1. Wood Alchemist Workshops
 - 2. Silversmithing Workshops
 - 3. The Bee Story
 - 3 x Applications requesting \$13589.00 in total:
 - 1. 2-day Silversmithing Workshop
 - 2. 2-day Wyandra Wire & Rust workshop \$ 2535.00

\$ 9834.00

- Email from Corissa Jackson resigning from the committee effective 14/01/2024.
- Email from Kat Fagan regarding community feedback.

Resolution: Inward correspondence be accepted as tabled.

Moved: Trish Tucker Seconded: Jo Woodcroft Carried

8. Outward Correspondence

- Letter of Offer 2024 Lantern Making Workshops
- Letter of Offer Dance Workshops and Concert
- Emailed Danielle Lancaster regarding completion of the Outcome Report.
- Emails to Sam Meurant regarding outstanding Outcome Reports:
 - o 19/09/23
 - 0 05/12/23

Resolution: Outward correspondence be endorsed as tabled.

Moved: Trish Tucker Seconded: Jo Woodcroft Carried

9. RADF Financials

Financial Report 01/07/2023-31/12/2023.

Available funds	\$57000.00
Council Contribution	<u>\$15000.00</u>
RADF start amount	\$42000.00

Income/Unspent Funds NIL

Total Available funds \$57000.00

Expenditure

Expenditure Round 1	\$ 1250.00 Pastel Workshop - Cunnamulla
	\$ 1350.00 Patel Workshop - Yowah
	\$ 3000.00 The Wood Alchemist
	\$ 4140.00 The mobile Jewellery Tutor
	\$ 4180.00 The Bee Story

Expenditure Round 2 \$12500.00 2024 Lantern Making Workshops \$4420.00 Dance Workshops and Concert

 WRTC- Twinkle and the Moon
 \$ 3200.00

 WRTC - Funny Mummies
 \$ 5150.00

 WRTC - The Twits
 \$ 3000.00

 Expenditure
 \$42190.00

Balance @ 31/12/2023 \$14810.00

Resolution: That the Financial Statement be accepted as tabled.

Moved: Rachael Johnson Seconded: Suzette Beresford Carried

10. General Business

> Three (3) Applications Received

1. Silversmithing Workshop – The grant will be used for a 2-day Silver Smithing/ Jewellery Making Workshop, designed to connect community with creative arts for the purpose of building healthy community.

Funds requested from RADF \$9834.00.00

RADF Committee has **recommended** this application be **approved** for the following amount - **\$9834.00**

2. Wyandra Wire and Rust - The grant will be used towards the cost of hosting a weekend of Creative Arts and skill development workshops over 2 days, with Professional Artist Sue Pukullas based on her well known and popular "Wire and Rust" creations.

Funds requested from RADF: \$2535.00.

RADF Committee has **recommended** this application be **approved** for the following amount - **\$2535.00**

3. Wyandra Youth Photography Workshop - The grant will be used towards the cost of a 1-day photography workshop for youth/children between the ages of 8 and 18.

This application was received 3 days after the closing date. The Committee unanimously decided to allow it to be considered with the other applications.

Funds requested from RADF: \$1220.00.

RADF Committee has **recommended** this application to be **approved** for the following amount - **\$1220.00** Subject to receipt of the following documents:

- updated Certificate of Currency for Public Liability
- Danielle Lancaster's Blue Card

Resolution: The above applications have been approved by the RADF Committee subject to approval by Council.

Moved: Suzette Beresford Seconded: Kat Fagan Carried

- Discussion on possibly capping material costs to be reviewed at a later meeting.
- Resignation of Corissa Jackson acknowledged and accepted.
- Discussion of email from Kat Fagan regarding Community Feedback about the RADF program. It was decided that the PSC Newsletter would be a good opportunity to provide some information to the community regarding 2023-2024 RADF funding approvals and the list of current committee members

Action: Rachael/Rachel to put together an article for the newsletter with the following information:

- Total projects funded year to date no \$
- List of RTC shows funded by RADF
- List of committee members
- Contact details for anyone wanting information about the RADF Program information on
- > Two potential RADF members:
 - Josephine Birch she will be overseas for 3 months.(Deb has sent information to Josephine)
 - Valerie Gallipo Rachael will follow up with Valerie next week
- > Review of RADF Guidelines:
 - Remove dates (e.g. 2023-2024) off all RADF documents;
 - Update list of current committee members in the guidelines and on the website:
 - Review annually at EOFY or when changes occur e.g. Arts Queensland Guidelines or change of membership.

- ➤ Training for Committee members and potential RADF applicants:
 - Quote received from Alison Shaw

Action: Rachael to source a minimum of 2 additional quotes as cost was over \$2000.00

4. Next meeting

- > 13th March 3.30pm
- 5. Closure of Meeting: 4.27pm

7.2 Correspondence – Queensland Treasury - Queensland Government Carbon Credits Policy

Council Meeting: 16th January 2024
Organisation: Queensland Treasury

Author: Michael Carey, Under Treasurer

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with correspondence received from Queensland Treasury regarding the Queensland Government Carbon Credits Policy.

Recommendation

That Council receive and note the correspondence from Queensland Treasury regarding the Queensland Government Carbon Credits Policy.

Attachment

Correspondence from Queensland Treasury



Queensland Treasury

Our Ref: 04064-2023

Ms Cassie White Chief Executive Officer Paroo Shire Council PO Box 75 CUNNAMULLA QLD 4490

Email: ceo@paroo.qld.gov.au; council@paroo.qld.gov.au

Dear Ms White

The increasing use of carbon credits across the Queensland Government and related entities requires consideration of whether current governance and execution processes provide an appropriately robust framework to guide the use of carbon credits. There needs to be confidence the framework applied ensures any potential financial, compliance and reputational risks are being effectively managed.

Please find enclosed a consultation paper detailing a proposed policy position and regulatory amendments in relation to use of carbon credits. It would be appreciated if feedback is provided in response to the questions posed in the consultation paper to assist in properly identifying agency impacts of the proposed policy and ensure there are no negative unintended consequences of its application.

Queensland Treasury will a host information session/s in early February 2024 to discuss its policy position. These sessions will be held in person at 1 William Street, Brisbane, 4000 and via Teams. Please email Ms Wijeratne by *Tuesday 6 February 2024* with details of attendees interested in attending and if attendance will be in person or via Teams as in person capacity is limited.

- If you are *Department or Statutory Body*, a dedicated session will be held on Monday, **12 February 2024** at 3.30pm.
- If you are a *Government Owned Corporation*, a dedicated session will be held on *Monday 19 February* 2024 at 2pm.

Responses are sought by agencies by **Friday 23 February 2024** and should be emailed to:

- Mr Lachlan Whitta, Manager, Balance Sheet Management, Queensland Treasury, at lachlan.whitta@treasury.qld.gov.au
- Ms Nishanthi Wijeratne, Senior Treasury Analyst, Queensland Treasury, at nswije@treasury.qld.gov.au.

If you require any further information, please contact Mr Whitta, on 0409 154 442 or by email at lachlan.whitta@treasury.qld.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Michael Carey Under Treasurer

24 / 01 / 2024

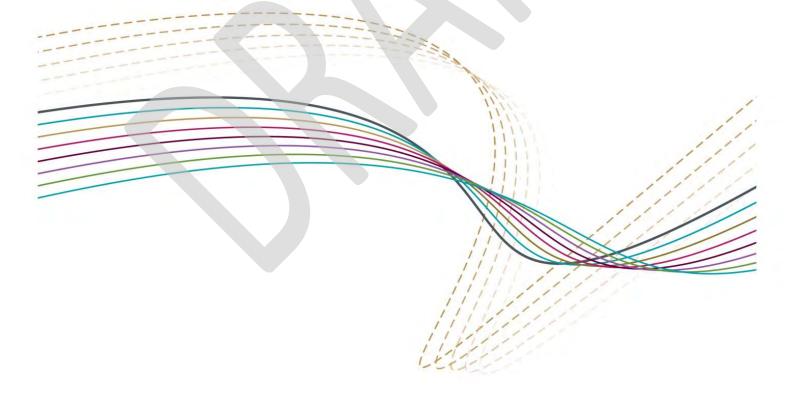
Encl. (1)

QUEENSLAND TREASURY

Queensland Government Carbon Credits Policy

Consultation Paper

January 2024





CONTENTS

1.0	Introduction	2
1.1	Purpose of this Discussion Paper	2
1.2	Current Environment	2
1.3	The case for change	2
1.4	Proposed policy framework scope	3
	1.4.1 In-Scope	3
	1.4.2 Out of scope	3
1.5	Consultation feedback	3
2.0	Issues	4
2.1	Scope	4
	2.1.1 Government Entities in Scope	4
2.2	Proposed Policy Settings	4
	2.2.1 Dealings in Carbon Credit Products	5
	2.2.2 Application of Policy to Departments	6
	2.2.3 Application of Policy to GOCs and Statutory Bodies	6
	2.2.4 Application of Policy to Local Government, Universities and Grammar School Entities	7
2.3	Timing of Change & Implementation	7
	2.3.1 Departments, Statutory Bodies and GOCs	7
2.4	Implementation - Treasury	8
	2.4.1 Legislation Changes & Guidance	8
2.5	Related Material	8
Atta	chment 1 – Frequently Asked Questions	9
Atta	chment 2 – Proposed policy positions	11
Δttad	chment 3 – Glossary	12

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Purpose of this Discussion Paper

As Queensland and other jurisdictions move towards a low carbon future, carbon credits¹ are being increasingly used to help generate revenue, deliver environmental outcomes and to meet emissions targets. In particular, carbon credits will likely be required to offset hard to abate emissions.

There are risks involved in the management and use of carbon credits, particularly around the allocation of capital resources to achieve environmental and stakeholder outcomes while managing financial, reputational, and legal compliance risks.

The purpose of this discussion paper is to seek feedback from Queensland Government Entities on the opportunities and challenges in implementing the proposed Queensland Government Carbon Credits policy across controlled and non-controlled Queensland Government Entities (see definition in section 2.1.1 below).

Queensland Government Entities are invited to respond to the proposed policy questions and to comment on any issues identified in this paper by **23 February 2024**.

The policy positions outlined in this paper are provided for consultation purposes only and are not currently government policy.

1.2 Current Environment

The carbon credit market is expanding rapidly with varying degrees of regulation depending on the registry and country of issue, the type of carbon reduction achieved, and the level of assurance undertaken on verification.

Increasing use of carbon credits, without a robust governance framework to guide their use, generates financial, compliance and reputational risks. Whilst market-based mechanisms, such as carbon credits, can be used by an agency to meet its needs, the offsets themselves contain inherent risk as not all offsets are recognised for compliance purposes by regulators and stakeholders. This risk is generated by the different requirements of registries or credit issuers.

A certifying or regulatory authority may deem an offset credit ineligible for use in a compliance program if the project developer or the product purchaser cannot demonstrate the emission reduction claim is accurate and credible.

On 22 August 2022, the then Under Treasurer wrote to Directors-General requesting agencies to seek approval for dealings with carbon credits. The interim arrangement is in place for Queensland Treasury to manage key financial risks until such time as a more structured and considered framework could be established.

1.3 The case for change

The Statutory Bodies Financial Arrangements Act 1982 (SBFA) and the Financial Accountability Act 2009 (FA) together with other components of the existing financial and reporting framework do not readily support dealings with carbon credits and need to be updated to provide an appropriate risk framework for purchase and use of carbon credits.

From a risk management and internal control perspective, there is a need for clarity in the Financial Accountability Handbook (FA Handbook, made under the *Financial and Performance Management Standard 2019*) to provide guidance to statutory bodies and departments wishing to invest in or enter transactions for carbon credit products.

The proposed policy framework outlined for consideration will support the management of the financial risks for Queensland Government Entities associated with offsets.

The benefits of the proposed policy framework are:

• Risk management – Application of this framework will address the management of financial and reputational risks associated with dealing in carbon credits.

2

¹ Carbon credits are measurable, verifiable reductions in carbon emissions.

- Process improvement This will enable further transparency and consistency across Queensland Government Entities of the type of carbon credit products being invested in and the whole of government (WoG) reporting on the use of carbon credits.
- Strategy Execution Better execution of emissions reduction strategies through consistent application of a standardised and robust framework across Queensland Government Entities.
- Economies of scale Simplification of reporting and promotion of efficiency and economies of scale through QTC enacting a program of acquiring and extinguishing credits at a WoG level.

1.4 Proposed policy framework scope

1.4.1 In-Scope

This framework will include policy positions and guidance on the following:

- The types of carbon credits that may be used by entities including place of origin/locality.
- The delegated authority to deal carbon credits on behalf of the Queensland Government Entities and the relevant approval and reporting processes required.
- Applicability of framework to relevant specific entities i.e. Controlled versus non-Controlled Entities.
- Reporting requirements associated with carbon emissions at an entity level.
- The determination of carbon credit quantities to be purchased and associated approval processes to offset residual emissions.
- Legislative amendments to the FA and SBFA Acts and their related subordinate legislation and associated handbooks.
- Specific guidance for Government Owned Corporations (GOCs).
- Transition processes for entities already undertaking carbon offset programs to enable compliance with policy framework.

1.4.2 Out of scope

- Greenhouse Gas Calculation Methodology: The calculation methodology used to determine the amount of greenhouse emissions gases generated or the use of carbon credits to offset will be considered by a separate, complementary policy.
- Emissions Reduction Methodology: The State is aiming to meet the majority of its emissions reduction targets through avoidance and the direct reduction of Green House Gas (GHG) emissions at source. The actions and activities which may be undertaken reduce residual carbon emissions will be developed by a separate, complementary policy.
- Co-benefits: Co-benefits are the additional positive environmental, socio-economic and First Nations outcomes
 delivered by carbon farming projects. Additional costs associated with the investment in these projects (over and
 above the cost of carbon credits) due to co-benefits outcomes will require demonstrated policy and financial merit
 and form part of a specific project/program approval. Further policy work will be undertaken separately to this
 policy to guide the assessment of the co-benefits including the determination of who will pay for any co-benefits.
- Primary Market Acquisition for broader policy purposes: Carbon sequestration or abatement project development (i.e. acquisition) Acquisition via the primary market is not prohibited by Queensland Government Entities, for example acquisition as part of projects on protected area estate. However, if pursued as a significant procurement strategy rather than for broader policy reasons, the Government would need to develop its capability further along with governance arrangements to support the centralised acquisition of offsets via the primary market. This will include policy work to consider merits, options and resourcing.

For further information on the above, refer to FAQs at the end of this paper.

1.5 Consultation feedback

To reduce the risk of unintended consequences from implementation of the proposed policy, feedback from all Queensland Government Entities is sought on any perceived challenges with implementing the proposed policy

options. Feedback received will be considered as part of developing the government's finalised policy position. All government agencies, particularly those impacted will be kept informed as this policy is developed.

All enquiries and responses should be emailed to Lachlan Whitta, Manager – Balance Sheet and Sustainable Finance on lachlan.whitta@treasury.qld.gov.au and Nishanthi Wijeratne – Senior Treasury Analyst on nswije@treasury.qld.gov.au by 23 February 2024.

2.0 Issues

2.1 Scope

2.1.1 Government Entities in Scope

The proposed policy will impact Queensland Government Entities defined as follows:

- Controlled entities Those entities listed in Report of State Finances, Controlled Entities² note. Generally, these entities are:
 - Departments
 - Government Owned Corporations (GOCs)
 - Statutory bodies
- Non-Controlled entities:
 - Local governments
 - Universities
 - Grammar schools

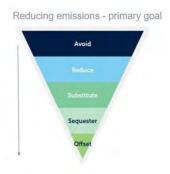
2.2 Proposed Policy Settings

Climate change is a material sustainability risk to the State. In response, the government has set emissions reduction targets and is implementing a program of actions to reduce emissions.

Under *Queensland Government Climate Action Plan 2030* the Government has set emissions reduction targets for the State, including:

- 75% emissions reduction below 2005 levels by 2035,
- Zero net emissions by 2050.

Only offsetting activities which physically takes place in Queensland count towards Queensland's 2030 and 2050 emissions reduction targets.



The State is aiming to meet these emissions reduction targets through avoidance and the direct reduction of CO2 emissions at source. This approach follows the hierarchy of most preferred carbon abatement options:

- Avoid (do not undertake the activity)
- Reduce (directly cut emissions)
- Substitute (us an alternative)

4

- Sequester (direct carbon removal)
- Offset (includes use of carbon credits)

² https://www.treasury.qld.gov.au/resource/report-state-finances/

Carbon offsets are measurable, verifiable reductions in carbon emissions, often traded as carbon credits. In the Australian context, an Australian Carbon Credit Units (ACCU) is the abatement of one ton of carbon (or equivalent) sequestered or avoided (CO2-e). These units are "surrendered" to the Clean Energy Regulator, which represents the act of carbon offsetting. The Clean Energy Regulator is an Australian Federal Government scheme responsible for developing ACCU project methodologies.

There are key risks involved in the use and management of carbon credits, particularly:

- the best allocation of resources to achieve desired outcomes.
- reputational risks with demonstrating genuine steps to reduce emissions prior to the use of carbon credits and if the credits used achieve real abatement.
- legal compliance risks associated with demonstrating how targets are achieved and external reporting.
- financial risks from investing capital in a market based financial product.

As with any financial product³, ACCUs can carry their own significant risks. It is expected that all entities will review and expand their financial policies and internal controls to include use of carbon credits and how key risks will be effectively managed. To support this, Queensland Treasury will prepare a best practice guide to assist agencies develop processes and capacity to manage carbon credit use.

2.2.1 Dealings in Carbon Credit Products

The carbon credit market is broad and expanding rapidly with mixed levels of regulation depending on the registry and country of issue, the type of carbon reduction achieved and the levels of verification. Each type of carbon credit has inherent risk as not all offsets are recognised for compliance purposes by regulators and stakeholders. This presents a significant compliance risk for agencies and government, and appropriate due diligence is required to determine an acceptable product for dealings by government agencies.

To manage the financial, reputational and compliance risks associated with the acquisition and use of carbon credits, it is proposed that only approved credits be purchased by government agencies with a list of approved carbon credits maintained as part of appropriate subordinate legislation and updated as required through regulation by the Treasurer.

A carbon credit has been defined in <u>Australian Sustainability Reporting Standard 2: Climate-related Financial Disclosures</u> as:

An emissions unit that is issued by a carbon crediting programme and represents an emission reduction or removal of greenhouse gases. Carbon credits are uniquely serialised, issued, tracked and cancelled by means of an electronic registry or otherwise are recognised under the Australian Carbon Credit Unit Scheme.

In the first instance, it is proposed that only ACCUs be approved for use by Queensland Government entities. The inclusion of other credits in the list of approved credits will be considered following detailed due diligence.

ACCUs have a well-developed and transparent regulatory framework that is necessary to manage legal, compliance and reputational risks. Additionally, ACCUs align with the *2016 Paris Agreement* (Paris Agreement) and associated targets supporting Paris based commitments.

Use of international offsets such as Certified Emission Reductions (CERs⁴) by government agencies do not align with international commitments under the Paris Agreement and do not support the achievement of state emissions targets. The Paris Agreement rules prevent carry-over of old units from the Kyoto Protocol era to meet Paris era targets, with few exceptions.

Many CER projects do not technically abate or sequester carbon, for example making payments to property owners to not clear forests, swapping stoves in developing countries from coal to gas. In addition, the Kyoto protocol recognises payments to wind and solar projects as substituting coal fired power stations, with these power stations then selling the green power leading to a level of double counting.

5

³ As under Section 764A(1)(ka) of the Corporations Act 2001, and section 12BAA(7)(I) of the Australian Securities and Investments Commission Act 2001

⁴ Certified Emission Reductions – issued for projects registered under the Clean Development Mechanism established under the 1997 Kyoto Protocol. The 2016 Paris agreement rules prevent carry over of old units from the Kyoto Protocol era to meet Paris 2016 targets.

PROPOSED POLICY POSITION

- 1. All dealings will be in approved carbon credits.
- 2. Only ACCUs be approved for use by Queensland Government Entities in the first instance with other credits to be considered only following detailed due diligence.

2.2.2 Application of Policy to Departments

For departments, carbon credits will be managed in a whole of government (WoG) approach via an acquisition / extinguishing program approved by CBRC at an aggregate level.

Departments can support or fund third parties seeking to create approved carbon credits or undertake development activities that create carbon credits if this is part of achieving broader policy objectives and an approved program. However, departments are not to surrender or sell any carbon credits independently, instead credits will contribute to the WoG program.

PROPOSED POLICY POSITION

- Department offsetting through carbon credits will be managed at a WoG level.
- This will be conducted via an acquisition and extinguishing program to be approved by CBRC.
- 5. If there are sound policy reasons, for example co benefits, departments can support, or fund third parties seeking to create approved carbon credits or undertake development activities that create carbon credits as part of an approved program.
- 6. Departments will not surrender or sell carbon credits acquired for broader policy purposes with any credits received contributing to the WoG program.

Question A

Does your department foresee any impediments with complying the above proposed policy position? If so, please provide details.

2.2.3 Application of Policy to GOCs and Statutory Bodies

Statutory bodies and GOCs can purchase, create, or support/fund third parties wishing to create (if relevant) approved carbon credits as part of a responsible Minister or shareholding Minister approved program.

GOCs and statutory bodies can also seek exemptions to the policy where tailored arrangements are required (e.g. joint venture contracts).

Any use of carbon credits by Queensland Government agencies should help support the Queensland government's progress towards its whole-of-state targets. Accordingly, it is proposed that controlled entities must make all reasonable endeavours to procure, create or support creation of carbon credits domiciled in Queensland.

For all agencies, QTC will be the exclusive agent for all dealings in the secondary market. This leverages QTC strong financial expertise, simplifies reporting and promotes efficiencies with a WoG approach to allocation.

It is expected a GOC's or statutory body's financial policies will be reviewed and expanded to include the use of credits and how key risks of this financial product will be effectively managed.

6

PROPOSED POLICY POSITION

7. Statutory bodies and GOCs can purchase, create, or support/fund third parties wishing to create (if relevant) <u>approved</u> credits as part of a responsible Minister or shareholding Minister approved program.

- 8. GOCs and Statutory Bodies can also seek exemptions to the policy where tailored arrangements are required (e.g. joint venture contracts).
- 9. Statutory bodies and GOCs are to arrange purchasing, sale or extinguishment of carbon credits via QTC.
- 10. Statutory bodies and GOCs are to make all reasonable endeavours to procure carbon credits from projects domiciled in Queensland.
- 11. QTC will be the exclusive agent for all dealings in the secondary market. However Statutory Bodies can seek exemptions where specialist arrangements are required.

Question
R

Does your statutory body/GOCs foresee any impediments with complying the above proposed policy position? If so, please provide details.

2.2.4 Application of Policy to Local Government, Universities and Grammar School Entities

Local governments, universities and grammar schools and any other non-controlled entity can purchase, create or support/fund third parties wishing to create approved carbon credits.

Given the independence of local government, universities and grammar school entities (and limited levels of government financial support provided to these entities), it is proposed that the use of carbon credits made in Queensland are strongly encouraged, but not mandated.

It is expected a non-controlled statutory body's financial policies will be reviewed and expanded to include the use of credits and how key risks of this financial product will be effectively managed.

PROPOSED POLICY POSITION

- 12. Local governments, universities, grammar schools and other non-controlled entities can purchase, create or support/fund third parties wishing to create approved carbon credits.
- 13. Secondary market engagement for purchasing, sale or extinguishment of carbon credits will be undertaken via QTC unless otherwise approved.
- 14. For Local government, universities and grammar schools and other non-controlled entities, use of carbon credits made in Queensland are strongly encouraged, but not mandated

Question
C

Does your local government, university, grammar school or non-controlled entity foresee any impediments with complying the above proposed policy position? If so, please provide details.

2.3 Timing of Change & Implementation

2.3.1 Departments, Statutory Bodies and GOCs

It is envisaged that all entities will transition to the policy framework by 1 July 2025, upon enactment of legislative changes, however, it is recommended that all controlled entities adopt the policy as soon as practicable.

PROPOSED POLICY POSITION

- 15. It is recommended that all controlled entities implement the policy framework as soon as practicable.
- 16. Local governments, universities, grammar schools and other non-controlled entities will transition to the policy framework by 1 July 2025
- 17. Legislative framework to take effect from 1 July 2025.

Question D

Do you foresee any issues implementing the policy within your entity per the proposed dates? If so, please provide details.

2.4 Implementation - Treasury

2.4.1 Legislation Changes & Guidance

Necessary amendments will be made to the SBFA and FA Acts and relevant subordinate legislation to recognise and recognise and support Queensland Entities to deal with carbon credits and establish a risk framework for the management of these products.

Queensland Treasury and QTC will prepare guidance materials for local governments, GOCs, universities and statutory bodies on managing financial risks along with a supporting communications strategy and amendments to Financial Accountability Handbooks.

2.5 Related Material

- IFRS Sustainability Disclosure Standards for general reference purposes
- Greenhouse Gas Protocol
- AASB Exposure Draft ED SR1 Australian Sustainability Reporting Standards Disclosure of Climate-related Financial Information (aasb.gov.au) pending approval in 2024
- Climate-related financial disclosure: exposure draft legislation | Treasury.gov.au pending approval in 2024

8

Attachment 1 – Frequently Asked Questions

What are Queensland's current whole-of-state emissions reduction targets?

The Queensland Climate Action Plan 2030 outlines the state's investments and actions to reach its emissions and renewable targets, create jobs and drive economic growth. The emissions reduction targets for the State are:

- 75% reduction in emissions below 2005 levels by 2035
- Zero Net emissions by 2050.

Only emission reduction activities which physically take place in Queensland count towards Queensland's 2030 and 2050 emissions reduction targets.

Further details on proposed WoG Operational Emissions Targets are currently being developed.

How will carbon emissions be measured?

Queensland's progress on its emissions reduction targets is based on the State and Territory Greenhouse Gas Inventories prepared by the Australian Government.

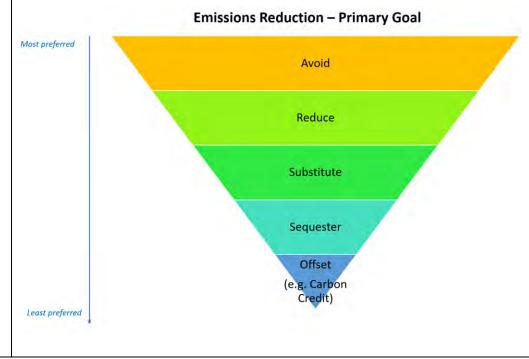
This calculation methodology only recognises actual emissions within each region and does not provide for or recognise transfers between regions or internationally.

The calculation methodology outlined in the Greenhouse House Gas (GHG) National Accounts. Refer to Tracking and reporting greenhouse gas emissions - DCCEEW

Only projects undertaken within Queensland contribute toward Queensland achieving its targets, even if the credits are sold to another party in another jurisdiction. Refer https://ageis.climatechange.gov.au/

3. How will Green House Gas (GHG) emissions be managed overall by the Queensland Government? The <u>Queensland Sustainability Report</u> endeavours to support the government's journey towards a sustainable and resilient future. This report provides information on the government's overall approach to managing sustainability risks.

With respect to GHG, reducing emissions is the primary goal with the following actions to be considered prior to pursuing offsetting and the use of carbon credits to address residual emissions.



4.	How will carbon credits be managed at a WoG level?	Refer to section 2.4.	
		QT and QTC will monitor the ACCU market and its capacity to supply expected requirements in the same way QT manages government's borrowing requirements.	
5.	What and how will carbon emissions be	The Queensland Government framework which encompasses the "carbon management plans" for each department is still being developed.	
	reported?	For all agencies, as a minimum and in line with Australian regulatory financial reporting standards due to be finalised in 2024, the scope 1 and 2 emissions (and scope 3 emissions where appropriate) will need to be reported.	
		It is anticipated that further detail, such as emissions by sectors in which is already being captured, will continue to be collected.	
6.	What type of carbon credits can Queensland Government purchase?	Refer to section 2.2.	
7.	What carbon credits can be used to meet government targets?	et	
8.	Who will buy and sell	Refer to section 2.2.	
	carbon credits on behalf of government?	The acquisition and extinguishing carbon credits program will be managed at a WoG level for Departments in aggregate based on residual emissions (i.e. not at a departmental level). This approach maintains the integrity the management of emissions from a WoG perspective resulting in no adverse outcomes in the event of machinery of government changes.	
		Statutory bodies and GOCs will manage their own dealings in carbon credits in consultation with QTC and responsible / shareholding Ministers' department officers.	
9.	What are co-benefits and how will this be considered, particularly if there are cost implications?	Co-benefits of a specific project/program will require demonstrated policy and financial merit (including any additional costs) to be demonstrated and be approved by CBRC and/or cabinet as part of the policy objective of the co-benefits.	
10.	The State of Queensland has natural advantages in developing proceedits from the primary market? The State of Queensland has natural advantages in developing proceedits from the primary market is not excluded if there are benefits for doing so. In this instance, relevant CBRC or Cabinet approval to be sought prior to entering into any primary market development/acquisitions.		
11.	. What happens if there aren't enough ACCUs in the market to offset the government's residual emissions	QT and QTC will monitor the ACCU market and its capacity to supply expected requirements in the same way QT manages government's borrowing requirements.	
		A program of acquisition and surrendering of ACCUs is not anticipated to be needed until beyond 2030, in alignment with government target setting, allowing time for the market to mature.	
	and meet its targets?	The government's acquisition program is not expected to be significant with other abatement options likely to be preferentially pursued.	

Attachment 2 – Proposed policy positions

Section	#	Proposal	
2.2.1	1.	All dealings will be in approved carbon credits.	
2.2.1	2.	Only ACCUs be approved for use by Queensland Government Entities in the first instance, with other credits to be considered only following detailed due diligence.	
2.2.2 3. Department offsetting through carbon credits will be managed at a WoG level.		Department offsetting through carbon credits will be managed at a WoG level.	
2.2.2	4.	This will be conducted via an acquisition and extinguishing program to be approved by CBRC	
2.2.2	5.	If there are sound policy reasons, for example co benefits, departments can support, or fund third parties seeking to create approved carbon credits or undertake development activities the create carbon credits as part of an approved program.	
2.2.2	6.	Departments will not surrender or sell carbon credits acquired for broader policy purposes with any credits received contributing to the WoG program.	
2.2.3	7.	Statutory bodies and GOCs can purchase, create, or support/fund third parties wishing to create (if relevant) approved credits as part of a responsible Minister or shareholding Minister approved program	
2.2.3	8.	GOCs and Statutory Bodies can also seek exemptions to the policy where tailored arrangements are required (e.g. joint venture contracts).	
2.2.3	9.	Statutory bodies and GOCs are to arrange purchasing, sale or extinguishment of carbon credits via QTC.	
2.2.3	10.	Statutory bodies and GOCs are to make reasonable endeavours to procure carbon credits from projects domiciled in Queensland.	
2.2.4	2.4 11. QTC will be the exclusive agent for all dealings in the secondary market. However Statut and GOCs can seek exemptions where specialist arrangements are required.		
2.2.4	12.	Local governments, universities, grammar schools and other non-controlled entities can purchase, create or support/fund third parties wishing to create approved carbon credits.	
2.2.4	13.	Secondary market engagement for purchasing, sale or extinguishment of carbon credits will be undertaken via QTC unless otherwise approved.	
2.2.4	14.	For Local government, universities and grammar schools and other non-controlled entities carbon credits made in Queensland are strongly encouraged, but not mandated	
2.3.1	15.	It is recommended that all controlled entities implement the policy framework as soon as practicable.	
2.3.1	16.	Local government, universities and grammar schools and other non-controlled entities will transition to the policy framework by 1 July 2025	
2.3.1	17.	All entities will implement the policy framework by 1 July 2025.	

Attachment 3 – Glossary

Terms, abbreviations, and acronyms used in this document are defined in the below table.

Table 1.1 - Definitions

Terms, abbreviations and acronyms	Definition		
ACCUs	Australian Carbon Credit Unit. An ACCU is a unit issued to a person by Clean Energy Regulator with records maintained in the Australian National Registry of Emissions Units. Each ACCU issued represents one tonne of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO2-e) stored or avoided by a project.		
Carbon Credit	Carbon credits are measurable, verifiable reductions in carbon emissions		
CBRC	Cabinet Budget Review Committee		
CERs	Certified Emission Reductions		
	CERs are issued for projects registered under the Clean Development Mechanism established under the 1997 Kyoto Protocol. The 2016 Paris agreement rules prevent carry over of old units from the Kyoto Protocol era to meet Paris 2016 targets.		
Controlled Entity	Those entities listed in Report of State Finances, Controlled Entities note. These are defined as:		
	Net operating result in excess of \$5 million or		
	Net assets in excess of \$100 million		
	These entities are generally departments, most statutory bodies and GOCs.		
Departments	As defined in Section 8 of the Financial Accountability Act 2009.		
GOCs	Government Owned Corporations		
Non-Controlled Entity	Those entities not listed in Report of State Finances, Controlled Entities note These entities are local government and universities.		
QT	Queensland Treasury		
QTC	Queensland Treasury Corporation		
WoG	Whole of Government		

7.3 Wyandra Railway Street Garden leasing application

Council Meeting: 16th January 2024
Department: Office of the CEO

Author: Beatrice Todd, Executive Assistant

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update on Wyandra Railway Street Garden leasing application.

Recommendation

That Council:

- 1. receive and note the report; and
- 2. provide direction to the Chief Executive Officer as to the preferred response to Queensland Rail

Discussion

Council has been taking care of the Garden located in Railway Street, Wyandra for many years. Council was under the impression the area presented in the attached map was Council's land. After an internal investigation conducted in August 2023, it became clear the area is owned by Queensland Rail. Therefore, Council applied to lease the QR area in September 2023.

QR recently assessed Council's application and is now requesting Council to confirm the below:

- Confirmation of the leased area.
- Any commercial terms applicable for the new lease?
- A survey plan checking to see if our tenure department have one on this area, if not a survey plan can be created the estimated fee - \$2,000.00 - \$4,000.00 (exc GST) for the creation.
- Administration fee \$2000.00 (exc GST),
- Creation of lease estimated \$2100.00 \$3,000.00 (exc GST) by an external lawyer
- Registration of new lease on title \$285.00 \$350.00 (exc GST)
- Rental fee what the council is estimating to pay?

Attachment

- Tenancy Application Form,
- Map of the proposed leased area,
- Wyandra Railway Street Garden photos.



Tenancy Application Form

Form Instructions				
This form contains important information on how to apply to lease land controlled by Queensland Rail, and provides information to assist you in completing your application. Please direct all enquiries and return completed applications and supporting documentation by email or to the Corporate Leasing Team, GPO Box 1429 Brisbane QLD 4001.				
Email propertyleasin	ng@qr.com.au Ph	none 07 3072 0819 Fax 07 303		8566
Application Type				
☐ Individual	☐ Business	☐ Charity		Community
Applicant Details				,
Legal Entity Name	Paroo Shire Council			
Trading Name	Paroo Shire Council			
Contact Person	Cassie White			
Postal Address	PO Box 75, Cunnamulla Q	4490		
Email Address	council@paroo.qld.gov.au			
Phone Number	07 4655 8400		Fax Number N/A	
Your Reference			ABN / ACN _70 534 069 2	38
Address and file refe	rence of property previously	leased from Quee	nsland Rail (if applicable)	N/A
Pioparty Details of F	Joposed Lease			
Property Address	Railway Street, Wyandra	Q 4489		
Real Property Descr	iption (e.g. Lot 2 on RP1111	1) <u>Lot 161 on S</u>	P122508	
Whole of Part of Lot	☐ Whole Lot	□ Part Lot	Approximate Area (sqm)	
Which street provide	s street access?	Ra	ilway Street, Wyandra Q 448	9
What is the current ι	use of the property?		Open Space.	
What are the current	t improvements on the site?	Managed lawn ar	ea, sprinkler system, small sl	ned.
ls the property curre	ntly fenced on all sides?			_ ☐ Yes ☒ No
Details of the proposed improvements and location on the property				
Install of sprinkler system for open parkland area for the recreational pleasure and visual amenity of locals and tourists.				
Access required to electricity supply at small shed on Southern end of proposed area.				
Transfer of Ergon account for meter box 136066.				
			-	
	•			
				

26



 \boxtimes

Operational Immedia					
Operational limpacts		<u> </u>			
Will the proposed use create noise, dust, pollu	tion?	☐ Yes 🛭 No			
Will the site be open to the general public?	Yes, it is now. (Shed – No)	🛛 Yes 🗌 No			
What hours will the premises be operating?	24/7	,			
What is the proposed term of the lease?	20 yea	rs			
What activities will be conducted on the site?	Open public space supplying a parkland setting.				
Details of the potential impact on Queensland Rail land and operations, and how they will be managed:					
Nil adverse impact on QR land and operations, rather, Paroo Shire Council (PSC) will take over the day-to-day maintenance and management of the lease area. Sprinkler system installed in the grassed area, access to electricity supply required to run system's booster pump and power the control panel. No access to shed required, other than the power box on the exterior.					
Business Case					
☐ Commercial ☐ Industrial	☐ Retail ☐ Reside	ntial 🛛 Community			
_					
Goods / services to be provided or sold from the	ne premises NIL				
The business is a	Relocation of Existing Business				
Brief company history (e.g. years trading, loca	tions, growth, personnel profiles)				
Expansion – increase in managed public spac	e for PSC.				
 See 2022/23 Annual Report and current Corpo	orate Plan attached.	`			
Required Supporting Documentation	he proportion and cut-st of access	and leave area			
 ✓ Aerial map and sketch plan showing the property location and extent of proposed lease area ✓ Sketch plan or drawing showing the location of any proposed improvements to the property 					
	Queensland Rail land is permitted for the				

Business plan, corporate profile and market rental evidence



Disclaimer and Signature

I/we agree to pay all fees relevant to the Application Type, in accordance with Appendix 1 - Schedule of Fees. I/we understand that these fees are non-refundable and that payment of the fee does not guarantee an application approval. I/we agree to meet the requirements of CIVIL-SR-002 and CIVIL-SR-003 and any other relevant Queensland Rail policy, procedure or standard, and understand that access to Queensland Rail land is not permitted without written approval. I/we hereby certify that the information provided within this application is accurate and complete, and understand that providing false or misleading information may result in the refusal of the application.

Purchase Order #			
Queensland Rail Customer#			
Name of Authorised Person	CASSANDRA WHITE		·
Signature of Authorised Person		Date	12/09/2023
Name of Witness	BEATRICE TOOD		
Signature of Witness	Bootice Todd	Date	12/09/2023

Appendix 1 – Schedule of Fees

The below schedule of fees provides the framework for costs associated with the Property aspects of a lease application. Fair market rent applies to all leases and can be paid monthly, quarterly, half yearly or annually. Rent will be assessed and quoted to the applicant upon application approval. The tenant is responsible for all outgoings including rates & land tax, water, electricity etc. Depending on the complexity of your application, there may be other costs associated with on-site meetings and supervision. You are also responsible for all costs associated with survey and lease registration.

Fee Type	Fee (plus CST)	Notes
Application Fee	\$500	An application fee is payable to recover Queensland Rail's administrative cost of assessing and processing your proposal.
Lease Preparation Fee	\$2,000 (Minimum)	A lease preparation fee is payable upon approval to recover Queensland Rail's administration and legal costs associated with preparing the standard lease document. Any deviation from standard documents may incur additional fees.
		If external legal services are required, the Lessor's legal fees will be recovered from the applicant.

Important Information

Please note:

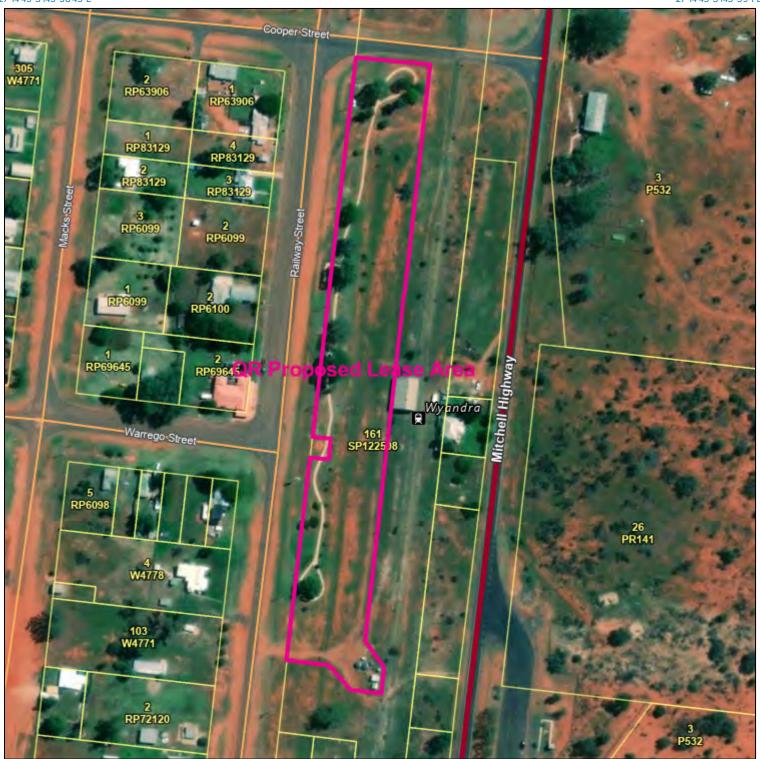
- i) Fees effective from 1 January 2016.
- ii) If your proposal changes significantly after submission, an additional application fee may apply.
- iii) If additional space is required to complete this application, please attach a separate page.
- iv) Information and fees quoted on this document are subject to change at any time without notice.

^{*} Note: If you do not have a Queensland Rail Customer Number, you must submit and return a Credit Application Form with your Licence Application. A copy of the form can be requested from the Queensland Rail Property Team.

Railway St, Wyandra

Proposed lease area (pink) - subsection of 161/SP122508

27°14'45"S 145°58'45"E 27°14'45"S 145°59'1"E 27°4'45"S 1



27°14'59"S 145°58'45"E





Includes material © State of Queensland 2023. You are responsible for ensuring that the map is suitable for your purposes. The State of Queensland makes no representation or warranties in relation to the map contents and disclaims all liability.

If imagery is displayed, imagery includes material © CNES reproduced under license from Airbus DS, all rights reserved © 21AT © Earth-i, all rights reserved, © Planet Labs PBC, 2023

Legend located on next page



Scale: 1:2500

Printed at: A4
Print date: 4/10/2023

Not suitable for accurate measurement. **Projection:** Web Mercator EPSG 102100 (3857)

For more information, visit https://qldglobe.information.qld.gov.au/help-info/Contactus.html



Railway St, Wyandra

Proposed lease area (pink) - subsection of 161/SP122508



Legend



- Land parcel Roads and tracks **Parcel** Motorway Highway Land parcel - gt 1 ha Secondary Connector Parcel — Local Land parcel - gt 10 ha Restricted Access Road — Mall **Parcel** Busway Bikeway Land parcel - gt 1000 ha --- Restricted Access Bikeway Parcel Walkway Restricted Access Walkway Land parcel label ••• Non-vehicular Track - Track Restricted Access Track Land parcel label - gt 1 ha -- Ferry - Proposed Thoroughfare Land parcel label - gt 10 ha **Tunnels** Land parcel label - gt 1000 ha Railway **Green bridges** Railway station a **Bridges**
- © State of Queensland (Department of Resources) 2023
- © State of Queensland (Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy) 2018



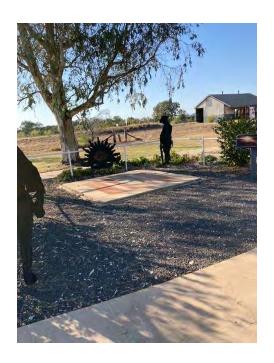














































7.4 Implementation of Land Register access fee

Council Meeting: 25th January 2024
Department: Office of the CEO

Author: Cassandra White, Chief Executive Officer

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with a recommendation to amend the 2023-2024 Fees and Charges to include a fee for inspection of the Land Register. This addition comes as a request from a Rate Payer who has shown interest in inspecting the register.

Recommendation

That Council:

- 1. receive and note the report; and
- 2. endorse the amendment to the 2023-2024 Fees and Charges to include the Land Register Access Fee of \$33 per property requesting to be viewed.

Discussion

Section 154 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* outlines the information a land record must contain.

The information contained in Section 154 is publicly available (although a fee may apply).

Local Government Regulation 2012

Reprint current from 8 December 2023 to date (accessed 24 January 2024 at 12:33)

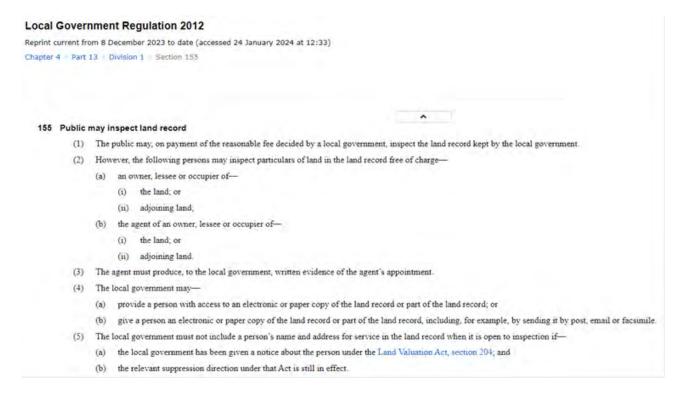
Chapter 4 > Part 13 > Division 1 > Section 154

154 Land record to be kept

- (1) A local government must keep a land record.
- (2) A land record contains the following information for each parcel of rateable land in its area-
 - (a) the name and postal address of the owner of the land;
 - (b) a description of the land, including its location and size;
 - (c) its value and the day of effect of the relevant valuation under the Land Valuation Act;
 - (d) information about rates or charges for the land, including about the following-
 - (i) the type and amounts of rates or charges levied on the land;
 - (ii) if differential general rates are levied—the rating category of the land;
 - (iii) the date of each levy and the due date for payment;
 - (iv) the period for which the rates or charges are levied;
 - (v) the financial year to which the rates or charges apply;
 - (vi) concessions granted or discounts given for payment of rates or charges;
 - (vii) payment of rates or charges by instalments;
 - (viii) any overdue rates or charges, accrued interest on overdue rates or charges and the interest rate applying to overdue rates or charges;
 - (ix) the date when rates or charges are paid;
 - (e) any other information that the local government considers appropriate

Section 155 deals with inspecting the land record.

Under section 155 an owner, lessee or occupier is able to inspect the land record free of charge but otherwise a fee shall be applied. The enquirer may ask questions that Council will either answer verbally or put in writing.



Attachment

Nil

7.5 Confidential - Provision of Acting Director of Infrastructure

Council Meeting: 25th January 2024 Department: Office of the CEO

Author: Cassandra White, Chief Executive Officer

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

This report is CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with Section 254J (3) of the Local Government Regulation 2012, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following:

(g) negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government.

7.6 Confidential - Provision of Financial Consultancy Services

Council Meeting: 25th January 2024
Department: Office of the CEO

Author: Tony Koch, Director Community Support & Engagement

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

This report is CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with Section 254J (3) of the Local Government Regulation 2012, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following:

(g) negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government.

7.7 Confidential - Provision of Project Management Services

Council Meeting: 25th January 2024 Department: Office of the CEO

Author: Cassandra White, Chief Executive Officer

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

This report is CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with Section 254J (3) of the Local Government Regulation 2012, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following:

(g) negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government.