

Department:	Office of the Chief Corporate Officer
Submitted by:	Manager Customer Service, Governance & Records
Reference:	ITEM GOV30/22
Subject:	INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING - DRAFT COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN, DELIVERY PROGRAM AND OPERATIONAL PLAN FOR PUBLIC EXHIBITION

LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK	
CSP Goal:	Leadership - LEAD 12 - We are a well engaged community that is actively involved in decision making processes and informed about services and activities.
CSP Strategy:	Council's decision making processes are open, accountable and based on sound integrated planning.
CSP Delivery Program	Promote and support community involvement in Council decision making process.

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is for Council to place the draft Tenterfield Community Strategic Plan, Tenterfield Shire Council Resourcing Strategy, Tenterfield Shire Council Delivery Program and Tenterfield Shire Council Operational Plan on public exhibition for public comment and feedback.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

- 1. Place the draft Community Strategic Plan, Community Engagement Strategy and Resourcing Strategy on public exhibition for a minimum period of 28 calendar days in accordance with sections 402, 402A and 403 of the *NSW Local Government Act 1993*;**
- 2. Place the draft 2022/24 Delivery Program and draft 2022/2023 Annual Operational Plan, on public exhibition for a minimum period of 28 calendar days in accordance with section 404 and 405 of the *NSW Local Government Act 1993*;**
- 3. Undertake community consultation, based on the scenarios outlined in the draft Long Term Financial Plan, with regards to making an application for a Special Rate Variation to ensure Council's long term financial sustainability, and**
- 4. Request a further report to be submitted at the completion of the formal public exhibition period detailing submissions received during exhibition, for Council's consideration prior to final adoption.**

BACKGROUND

All NSW Councils are required to review and reconstruct all of their Integrated Strategic Plans by 30 June in the year following a full Council Election. This means that Tenterfield Shire Council must review and reconstruct plans by 30 June 2022.

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Over the past three (3) months a project has been underway to review and rebuild all of Council's Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) documents in order to ensure that they are integrated, compliant with the requirements of the *NSW Local Government Act 1993* and IP&R guidelines, and are structured in such a way to be more easily communicated to the community. This process would normally take place over a six-month timeframe however, with the change in election dates in 2020 and 2021, this process has occurred over a shortened period. A report on the Community Engagement process is attached to this report.

Through this process, a revised Community Strategic Plan has been developed for Council to provide to the community for consultation. With the shortened timeframe and Council's current financial position, Council has also prepared the draft resourcing strategy, community engagement strategy, Delivery Program and Operational Plan that will be placed on exhibition so a holistic conversation can be held with the community.

REPORT:

As per the NSW Integrated Planning and Reporting requirements, the following documents will be placed on public exhibition for a minimum of 28 calendar days commencing on Thursday 24 March 2022:

- **ATTACHMENT 1:** DRAFT Community Strategic Plan
- **ATTACHMENT 2:** DRAFT Resourcing Strategy
- **ATTACHMENT 3:** DRAFT Long Term Financial Plan
- **ATTACHMENT 4:** DRAFT Asset Management Strategy
- **ATTACHMENT 5:** DRAFT Workforce Management Strategy
- **ATTACHMENT 6:** DRAFT Delivery Program and Operational Plan including;
 - Revenue Policy, and
 - Fees and Charges

The Community Engagement Strategy remains unchanged from 2017, other than formatting to match the current format of the above documents. Following consideration of community submissions and public comments made, the documents will be presented to Council for adoption of the final drafts at a later meeting.

A key component of Council's responsibilities is ensuring Council's long term financial sustainability. In February 2022 Council resolved:

THAT COUNCIL:

- 1. Receive the report on Application for Special Rate Variation 2022/23 and 2023/24.*
- 2. Determine not to proceed with a permanent Special Rate Variation application for the 2022/23 financial year for the purpose of maintaining existing services, enhancing financial sustainability, and funding infrastructure maintenance and renewal.*
- 3. Request the Chief Executive Officer advise IPART of Councils decision not to proceed with a permanent Special Rate Variation application for the 2022/23 financial year,*
- 4. Request the Chief Executive Officer bring back a report outlining the process to consider an SRV application for the 2023/24 financial year detailing further options and an operational efficiency review, and*

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5. *Acknowledge that without an SRV in the 2022/23 financial year, service levels to the community will be impacted until the budget deficits are resolved.*

In having a proper conversation with the community about its long-term financial sustainability, Council's draft Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP) includes scenarios that will allow Council to address forecast operational deficits. This should ensure Council can deliver services to current service levels into the future and create capacity deal with the impacts of cost shifting and inflation that are not adequately addressed through the rate peg process.

The Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) has announced in March 2022 that NSW councils may apply for a Special Rate Variation of 2.5%. A separate report will be provided to Council when IPART issues formal advice on this.

During the engagement period Council will also be talking to the community about options for the longer-term Special Rate Variation requirement and application, to ensure Council's long-term financial sustainability.

COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:

1. Community Engagement / Communication (per engagement strategy)

A multi-facet community engagement program was undertaken for the rebuild of Council's draft Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032 and broader Integrated Planning and Reporting documents. These documents will be placed on public exhibition following adoption of this report's recommendations. While the minimum public exhibition period is 28 calendar days, Council may increase the period to ensure broad and comprehensive engagement with the Community is possible.

2. Policy and Regulation

- NSW Local Government Act 1993, as amended
- NSW Local Government (General) Regulations 2005
- NSW Local Government Integrated Planning and Reporting Guidelines 2010.

3. Financial (Annual Budget & LTFP)

All resourcing strategy plans are constructed in an integrated manner with the purpose of ensuring the sustainable delivery of the required resources, (financial, asset and human), to enable delivery of the Community Strategic Plan.

The outcomes of the Special Rate Variation discussion and potential application will have a direct and significant impact on Council's long term financial sustainability.

4. Asset Management (AMS)

All resourcing strategy plans are constructed in an integrated manner with the purpose of ensuring the sustainable delivery of the required resources, (financial, asset and human), to enable delivery of the Community Strategic Plan.

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5. Workforce (WMS)

All resourcing strategy plans are constructed in an integrated manner with the purpose of ensuring the sustainable delivery of the required resources, (financial, asset and human), to enable delivery of the Community Strategic Plan.

6. Legal and Risk Management

Nil.

7. Performance Measures

Revised performance measures are outlined for each goal area within the Plan.

8. Project Management

Nil.

Kylie Smith Chief Corporate Officer

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Approved/Reviewed by Manager:	Kylie Smith, Chief Corporate Officer	
Department:	Office of the Chief Corporate Officer	
Attachments:		
	1 Attachmnet 11 (Attachmnet Booklet 3) Community Engagement Report - 2022	15 Pages
	2 Attachment 12 (Attachment Booklet 3) Community Strategic Plan	22 Pages
	3 Attachment 13 (Attachmnet Booklet 3) Delivery Program 2022-25 & Operational Plan 2022-25	30 Pages
	4 Attachment 14 (Attachment Booklet 4) Revenue Policy 2022-2023	12 Pages
	5 Attachment 15 (Attachmnet Booklet 4) Fee's & Charges 2022/23	64 Pages
	6 Attachment 16 (Attachment Booklet 4) Asset Management Strategy	
	7 Attachment 17 (Attachment Booklet 4) Workforce Management Strategy	18 Pages
	8 Attachment 18 (Attachment Booklet 4) Long Term Financial Plan	