

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING  
OF THE BARCALDINE REGIONAL COUNCIL  
HELD IN THE MUTTABURRA MEMORIAL HALL, BRUFORD STREET, MUTTABURRA  
ON WEDNESDAY 16 OCTOBER 2024  
COMMENCING AT 8:30AM**

---

**ATTENDENCE**

Councillor R Chandler (Mayor) [in the Chair], Councillor M Rogers (Deputy Mayor);  
Councillors T Gleeson, K Williams, V Howard, L Penna and R O'Brien.

**OFFICERS**

J Lawrence (District Manager – Barcaldine), D Young (Minute Secretary), A Coulton (Acting District Manager – Aramac and Muttaborra), K Coomber (District Manager – Alpha and Jericho) [via TEAMS], A Shaw (Finance Manager)[Finance Reports only], M Shave (Acting Director Corporate and Financial Services), D Bradford (Acting Chief Executive Officer), S Blyth (Guest via TEAMS) and L Busby (Interim Director of Works).

Councillor Penna led council in prayer.

**CONDOLENCES**

Mr Andrew Keith William Anderson and Mr Kingsley Ward of Barcaldine, Mrs Judith Cassimatis formerly of Muttaborra, Mr Dusan Gligic of Aramac and Mrs Patricia Mary Hack of Alpha.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS**

**CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

**Prescribed Conflicts of Interest**

Nil

**Declarable Conflicts of Interest**

**Councillor O'Brien under item 3.3.2** – Councillor O'Brien informed the meeting he has an ongoing Declarable Conflict of Interest in the Community Care Services Report as a close associate, being his wife, works for the service. Councillor O'Brien will remain in the meeting for the discussion and vote on this item.

---

**DEPUTATION**

Barcaldine Botanic Gardens – Desert Uplands Bioregion

---

**BUSINESS**

**1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**Resolution:**                      **Moved Cr Howard**    **Seconded Cr O'Brien**  
**2024/09/313**                      **That the minutes of the Special Meeting of Barcaldine Regional Council held on 5 August 2024 be received and confirmed.**

**Carried**  
7/0

**Resolution:**                      **Moved Cr Gleeson**    **Seconded Cr Penna**  
**2024/09/314**                      **That the minutes of the General Meeting of Barcaldine Regional Council held on 18 September 2024 be received and confirmed.**

**Carried**  
7/0

---

**2. PETITIONS**

Nil

---

**3.1 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS**

---

**3.1.1 Asset Disposal – 36 Bruford Street, Muttaborra**

*Summary:                      Council has received an expression of interest for the remove the dwelling at 36 Bruford Street, Muttaborra.*

**Resolution:**                      **Moved Cr O'Brien**    **Seconded Cr Howard**  
**2024/09/315**                      **That Council agrees to accept the cost of \$15,000 from Barton Houseshift Pty Ltd to remove and have full unencumbered rights to the ownership of the dwelling located on 36 Bruford Street, Muttaborra.**

**Carried**  
7/0

### 3.1.2 Information and Communication Technology Managed Services Contract

*Summary:* Council currently has in place a 12-month arrangement with REDD Digital Services Pty Ltd to deliver a managed Information Technology (IT) and security service for Council. As the arrangement ends in November 2024, Council needs to secure a new arrangement to maintain business continuity whilst meeting its procurement policy and associated legislative obligations.

**Resolution:** Moved Cr O'Brien Seconded Cr Howard  
**2024/09/316** That Council:

- 1. Accept the proposal by REDD Digital Services Pty Ltd for the provision of a managed IT and security service for a three-year period commencing 1 November 2024 for the submitted value of \$259,044 per annum – a total contract value of \$777,132 (ex GST) under Local Buy Arrangement LB308 ICT Solutions, Products, Services and New Technologies.**
- 2. Delegates authority to the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and finalise all matters in relation to the execution of the contract awarded in 1.**

Carried  
7/0

---

## 3.2 DECISION REPORTS

---

### 3.2.1 2025 Council Meeting Dates

*Summary:* From the Acting Chief Executive Officer, proposing dates for the general meetings of Council to be held in 2025.

**Resolution:** Moved Cr Williams Seconded Cr Howard  
**2024/09/317** That Council holds its general meetings for 2025 in the Barcaldine Regional Council area Chambers, commencing at 8.30am on the following dates:

- **Wednesday 15 January 2025 in Barcaldine**
- **Wednesday 19 February 2025 in Alpha**
- **Wednesday 19 March 2025 in Barcaldine**

- **Wednesday 16 April 2025 in Barcaldine**
- **Wednesday 28 May 2025 in Aramac**
- **Wednesday 18 June 2025 in Barcaldine**
- **Wednesday 25 June 2025 in Barcaldine (Budget Adoption)**
- **Wednesday 16 July 2025 in Barcaldine**
- **Wednesday 20 August 2025 in Muttaborra**
- **Wednesday 10 September 2025 in Barcaldine**
- **Wednesday 15 October 2025 in Barcaldine**
- **Wednesday 19 November 2025 in Jericho**
- **Wednesday 10 December 2025 in Barcaldine.**

**Carried**  
7/0

---

### 3.2.2 Lagoon Creek Pathway

*Summary:* The Department of Transport and Main Roads have been working with Council to undertake some preliminary work for a concept design for the Lagoon Creek Pathway, which will connect the Barcaldine Township directly to Barcaldine Rec Park. These discussions have progressed to a point seeking approval from Council for concept designs to progress to a detailed design phase prior to construction.

**Resolution:** **Moved Cr Gleeson** **Seconded Cr Howard**  
**2024/09/318** **That Council:**  
**1. Endorse the delivery of the Lagoon Creek Pathway Project.**  
**2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to finalise the concept design with the Department of Transport and Main Roads.**

**Carried**  
7/0

---

### 3.2.3 Operational Plan – Quarter 1 review

*Summary:* From the Acting Chief Executive Officer, presenting the first quarter progress report on the implementation of the Annual Operational Plan.

**Resolution:** **Moved Cr O'Brien** **Seconded Cr Rogers**

---

**2024/09/319**                      **That Council receive and note the 2024/2025 Operational Plan Key Business Initiatives Update Report.**

**Carried**  
7/0

*Councillor O'Brien left and returned to the meeting at 9.06am.*

---

### **3.3     FINANCE**

---

#### **3.3.1   Financial Performance Report**

*Summary:*                      *Section 204 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 requires the Chief Executive Officer to prepare a finance report to present at each monthly meeting of the local government. The financial report must state the progress that has been made in relation to the local government's budget for the period of the financial year up to a day as near as practicable to the end of the month before the meeting is held.*

**Resolution:**                      **Moved Cr Rogers**                      **Seconded Cr O'Brien**  
**2024/09/320**                      **That Council receive the report.**

**Carried**  
7/0

---

#### **3.3.2   Community Care Services Report**

*Summary:*                      *This report provides an update on the Community Care Services financial progress. The financial performance of the business unit broken up into the care packages provided by Council.*

**Resolution:**                      **Moved Cr Howard**                      **Seconded Cr Rogers**  
**2024/09/321**                      **That Council receive the report.**

**Carried**  
7/0

---

#### **3.3.3   Capital Projects Report**

*Summary:*                      *Council has adopted a Capital Works Program for 2024/2025 financial year at its budget meeting in June 2024. In 2024/2025,*

*Council is aiming to deliver \$12.6million of new projects along with completing a further \$2.8million in carried forward projects from 2023/2024. This report is a progress summary of each project to the end of September 2024.*

**Resolution:  
2024/09/322**

**Moved Cr O'Brien  
That Council receive and note the report.**

**Seconded Cr Howard**

**Carried  
7/0**

*Councillor O'Brien left the meeting at 11.24am and returned at 11.25am.*

### **3.4.1 Regional Council Business**

- Councillor Chandler – Rowing Regatta recently held in Longreach and Barcaldine was a huge event, larger than last year and expected to grow each year. Suggesting that we may be suitable as a training area for the Olympics. Red Ridge the Label were hoping their Wattle Label may be considered for use as well. Mayor to write a letter to Dr Toby Ford and David Counsell.
- Councillor Penna – water pressure around Barcaldine State School lacking as pop-up sprinklers were not working. Advised during meeting that this issue had been addressed.
- Councillor Howard – email received regarding drinking water quality in Jericho, has been sent to Director of Works for responses to concerns. Email to be forwarded to District Manager for awareness.
- Councillor Howard – email received regarding increase in charges for the Jericho Pool.
- Councillor Howard – upgrade to Jericho Water Treatment Plant – funding allocated in current budget. Director of Works to provide access and a tour to interested Councillors when available.
- Councillor Rogers – request to install water bubbler near gym/safety road play area at beginning of walk.

### **3.5.1 Planning and Development Report**

*Summary: From the Acting Chief Executive Officer, tabling the monthly Planning and Development Report.*

**Resolution:  
2024/09/323**

**Moved Cr Gleeson  
That Council receive the report.**

**Seconded Cr Penna**

**Carried  
7/0**

### 3.5.2 Workplace Health and Safety Report

*Summary: From the Work Health and Safety Coordinator, presenting a report on Council's Workplace Health and Safety.*

**Resolution: 2024/09/324**                      **Moved Cr Penna**                      **Seconded Cr Howard**  
**That Council receive the report.**

**Carried**  
7/0

---

### 3.5.3 Environmental Health Officer Report

*Summary: From the Acting Chief Executive Officer, tabling the Environmental Health Officer Report for Councillor Information.*

**Resolution: 2024/09/325**                      **Moved Cr O'Brien**                      **Seconded Cr Gleeson**  
**That Council receive the report.**

**Carried**  
7/0

---

### 3.5.4 Economic Development Report

*Summary: From the Acting Chief Executive Officer, tabling the monthly Economic Development Report.*

**Resolution: 2024/09/326**                      **Moved Cr Penna**                      **Seconded Cr Williams**  
**That Council receive the report.**

**Carried**  
7/0

*Councillor O'Brien left the meeting at 12.32pm.*

---

*Meeting was adjourned at 12.33pm and reconvened at 1.24pm.*

### 3.5.5 Human Resource – Workforce Data

*Summary: Barcaldine Regional Council (BRC) Human Resource (HR) team presents Council a document which reflects employee data in a dashboard template, the goal of this document is to advance the data-driven decision making, more innovative action planning strategy and process for BRC.*

*The main challenge faced by the HR team has been gaining credible, working data from our current business system.*

**Resolution:**                      **Moved Cr Rogers**                                      **Seconded Cr Gleeson**  
**2024/09/327**                      **That Council receive and note the report.**

**Carried**  
7/0

---

### 3.6.1 Mayor’s Information Report

*Summary:                      From the Mayor, tabling his information report to Council.*

**Resolution:**                      **Moved Cr Williams**                                      **Seconded Cr O’Brien**  
**2024/09/328**                      **That Council receive the report.**

**Carried**  
7/0

---

### 3.6.2 Acting Chief Executive Officer’s Information Report

*Summary:                      From the Acting Chief Executive Officer, tabling his information Report to Council.*

**Resolution:**                      **Moved Cr Howard**                                      **Seconded Cr Rogers**  
**2024/09/329**                      **That Council receive the report.**

**Carried**  
7/0

---



**3.6.3 Alpha/Jericho District Report**

*Summary: This report provides an update on the Council activities that have occurred over the last month in and around the Alpha and Jericho District.*

**Resolution: 2024/09/330**                      **Moved Cr Williams**                      **Seconded Cr Penna**  
**That Council receive the report.**

**Carried**  
7/0

---

**3.6.4 Aramac/Muttaborra District Report**

*Summary: This report provides an update on the Council activities that have occurred over the last month in and around the Aramac and Muttaborra District.*

**Resolution: 2024/09/331**                      **Moved Cr Rogers**                      **Seconded Cr Penna**  
**That Council receive the report.**

**Carried**  
7/0

---

**3.6.5 Barcaldine District Report**

*Summary: This report provides an update on the Council activities that have occurred over the last month in and around the Barcaldine District.*

**Resolution: 2024/09/332**                      **Moved Cr O'Brien**                      **Seconded Cr Williams**  
**That Council receive the report.**

**Carried**  
7/0

---

**3.6.6 Community Engagement Coordinator**

*Summary: From the Community Engagement Coordinator, submitting the Information Report.*

**Resolution: 2024/09/333      Moved Cr Howard      Seconded Cr O'Brien**  
**That Council receive the report.**

**Carried**  
7/0

---

**3.6.7 Director of Works**

*Summary: From the Director of Works, submitting his Information Report*

**Resolution: 2024/09/334      Moved Cr Howard      Seconded Cr Gleeson**  
**That Council receive the report.**

**Carried**  
7/0

---

**4. Close of Meeting**

As there was no further business, the Mayor declared the meeting closed at 2.24pm.

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD

MAYOR      -----  
DATED:

---

**SUBJECT HEADING:****Financial Performance Report**

Author and Title:

Andrew Shaw – Finance Manager

Sara Milligan – Accountant

CLASSIFICATION: (if confidential)

*Summary: Section 204 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 requires the Chief Executive Officer to prepare a finance report to present at each monthly meeting of the local government. The financial report must state the progress that has been made in relation to the local government's budget for the period of the financial year up to a day as near as practicable to the end of the month before the meeting is held.*

*The purpose of the report is to promote sound financial management and accountability by presenting the Council's budget performance as of 30 September 2024.*

**Officer's Recommendation: That Council receive and note the report.**

---

**Background**

Council adopted the 2024/2025 Budget in June 2024. The report provides information and tracks Council's year-to-date (YTD) revenue, expenditure and cash position. It also includes financial statistical information relevant to Council's operations.

**Link to Corporate Plan**

Theme 5: Governance

We will have a safe, engaged, proud and performing council and workforce that is inclusive, innovative, ethical and trusted by all levels of government.

**Consultation (internal/external)**

Executive Management Team and District Managers.

**Policy Implications**

Nil

**Budget and Resource Implications**

There are a number of matters highlighted in this report which have an impact on the financial position of Council. Where there are significant variations, officers seek to reduce the impacts and look to address in the quarterly budget reviews.

**Risk Management Implications**

The recommendation in this report has no direct impact on enterprise risk, however it does provide information that should be used to assist in the management of risks identified. The regular monitoring and interrogation of the finances does act as a mechanism of control for financial risk.

## Asset Management Implications

Nil

## Legal Implications

This report is a requirement as set out in the Local Government Regulation 2012.

## Financial Attachments

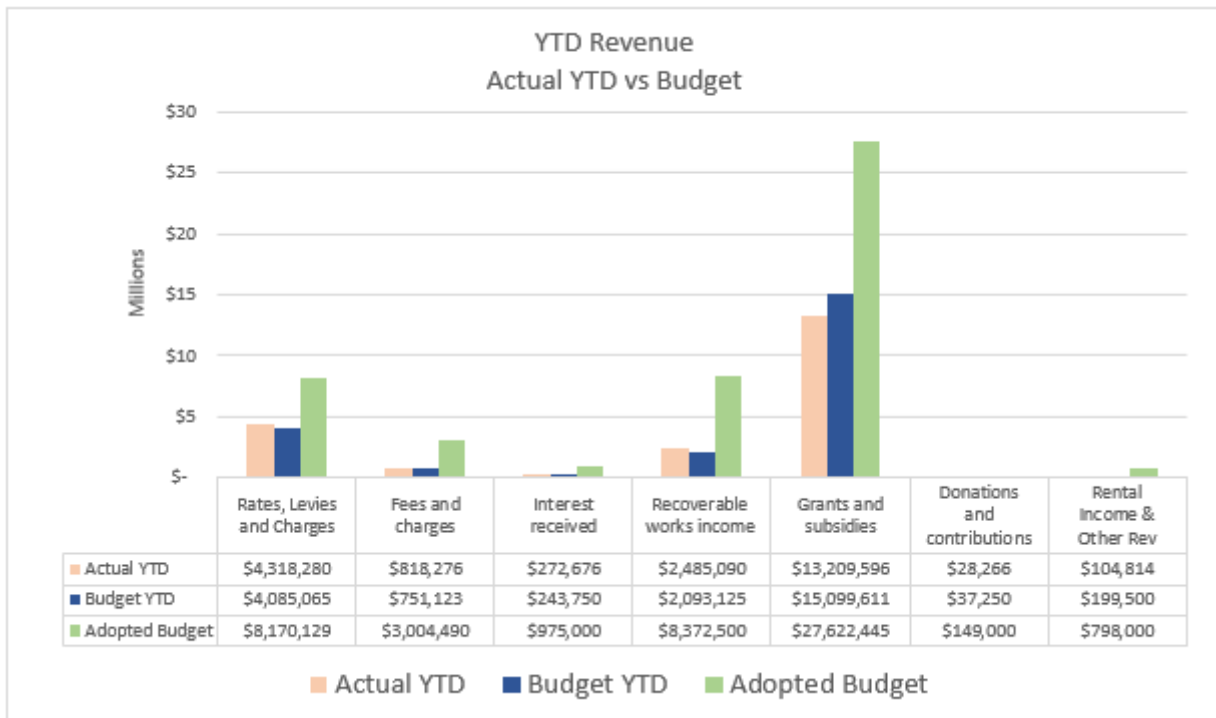
### Financial Performance as at 30 September 2024

	Year to Date			Full Year
	Actual \$'000	Budget \$'000	Variance \$'000	Adopted Budget \$'000
<b>Operating Revenue</b>				
Rates, Levies and Charges	4,318	4,085	233	8,170
Fees and Charges	818	751	67	3,004
Rental Income	105	182	(77)	728
Interest Received	273	244	29	975
Recoverable Works Income	2,485	2,093	392	8,373
Grants, Subsidies, Contributions and Donations	13,238	15,137	(1,899)	27,771
Other Revenue	4	18	(14)	70
<b>Total Operating Revenue</b>	<b>21,241</b>	<b>22,509</b>	<b>(1,268)</b>	<b>49,091</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>				
Employee Benefits	3,277	4,026	(749)	16,104
Materials and Services	6,739	6,768	(29)	27,071
Finance Costs	16	15	1	60
Depreciation	-	1,943	(1,943)	7,770
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>10,032</b>	<b>12,751</b>	<b>(2,719)</b>	<b>51,005</b>
<b>Operating Profit/(Loss)</b>	<b>11,209</b>	<b>9,758</b>	<b>1,451</b>	<b>(1,914)</b>
<b>Capital Revenue and Expenses</b>				
Capital Revenue	828	1,432	(604)	5,727
Capital Expenses		12	(12)	46
<b>Net Capital Income/(Loss)</b>	<b>828</b>	<b>1,420</b>	<b>(615)</b>	<b>5,681</b>
<b>Net Result</b>	<b>12,037</b>	<b>11,178</b>	<b>836</b>	<b>3,767</b>

## Budget Financial Performance Comments

### Revenue Comments

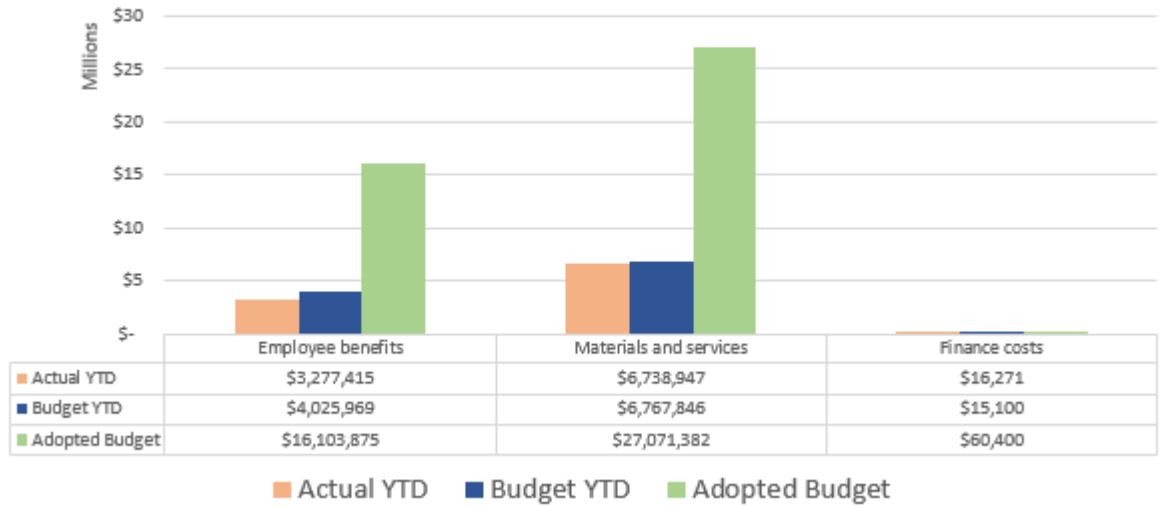
- Rates and Levies revenue of \$4.3M is above YTD budget by \$233k, with rates notices for the first half issued in September. This positive budget variance will reduce in October when early payment discounts are taken up.
- Operating Grants and Subsidies revenue of \$13.2M is below YTD budget by \$1.9M, primarily due to the timing of flood damage payments (\$1.2M of \$11.7M received as at the end of September). Ongoing management of claims is occurring to manage cash flow implications.
- Recoverable Works revenue of \$2.5M is above YTD budget by \$392k, related directly to the timing of road construction contracts and Road Maintenance Performance Contract works.



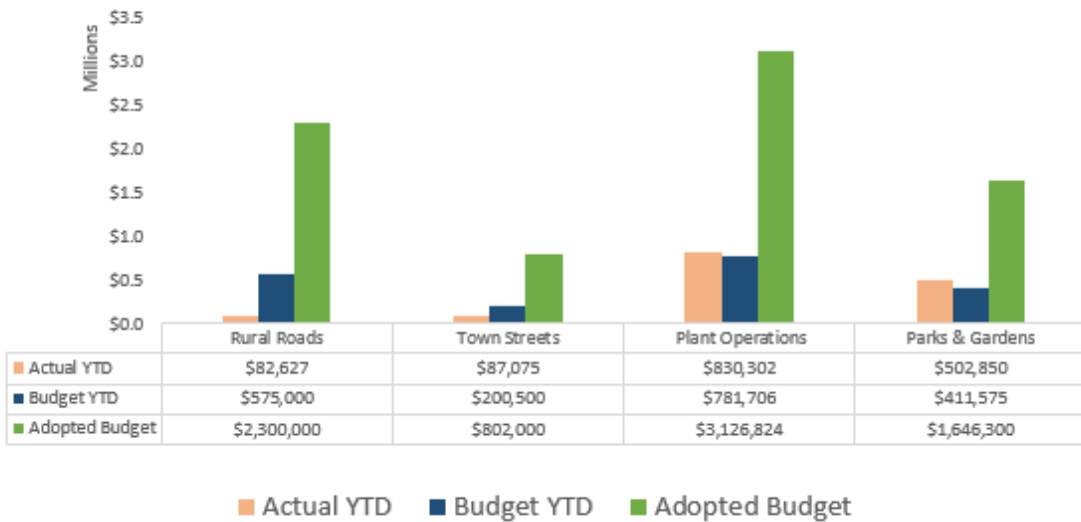
### Expenditure Comments

- YTD employee benefits costs of \$3.3M are under YTD budget by \$749K, primarily due to current staff vacancies.
- Materials and Services costs of \$6.7M is currently aligned with budget as at the end of September.
- Maintenance expenditure as of September is \$1.5M compared to the YTD budget of \$2m. Maintenance activities relating to rural roads and town streets will pick up once flood and other capital related works are completed.

### YTD Expenses Actual YTD vs Budget



### YTD Maintenance Actual YTD vs Budget



## Financial Position as at 30 September 2024

	Monthly Balances				Full Year
	July 2024	August 2024	September 2024	Monthly Movement MTD	Adopted Budget
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Current Assets</b>					
Cash	22,324	20,185	20,134	(51)	22,957
Receivables	1,542	1,438	6,535	5,097	1,566
Inventories	484	508	559	51	468
Contract Assets	4,883	4,575	2,764	(1,811)	3,244
Other	199	153	(42)	(195)	3
	29,432	26,859	29,950	3,091	28,238
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>					
Property, plant & equipment	398,182	398,011	423,584	25,573	411,015
Other	14,401	14,817	7,823	(6,994)	
	412,583	412,828	431,407	18,579	411,015
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>442,015</b>	<b>439,687</b>	<b>461,357</b>	<b>21,670</b>	<b>439,253</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>					
Trade and other payables	178	686	761	75	1,411
Contract Liabilities	14,335	12,904	11,652	(1,252)	2,282
Borrowings	530	531	416	(115)	450
Provisions	2,991	3,037	3,263	226	2,909
	18,034	17,158	16,092	(1,066)	7,052
<b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>					
Borrowings	1,803	1,802	1,780	(22)	1,331
Provisions	1,117	1,116	734	(382)	1,208
	2,920	2,918	2,514	(404)	2,539
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>20,954</b>	<b>20,076</b>	<b>18,606</b>	<b>(1,470)</b>	<b>9,591</b>
<b>Net Community Assets</b>	<b>421,061</b>	<b>419,611</b>	<b>442,751</b>	<b>23,140</b>	<b>429,662</b>
<b>Community Equity</b>					
Capital	-	-	-	-	-
Retained surplus/(deficit)	201,521	200,071	201,088	1,017	210,121
Asset revaluation surplus	219,541	219,541	241,663	22,122	219,541
<b>Total Community Equity</b>	<b>421,062</b>	<b>419,612</b>	<b>442,751</b>	<b>23,139</b>	<b>429,662</b>

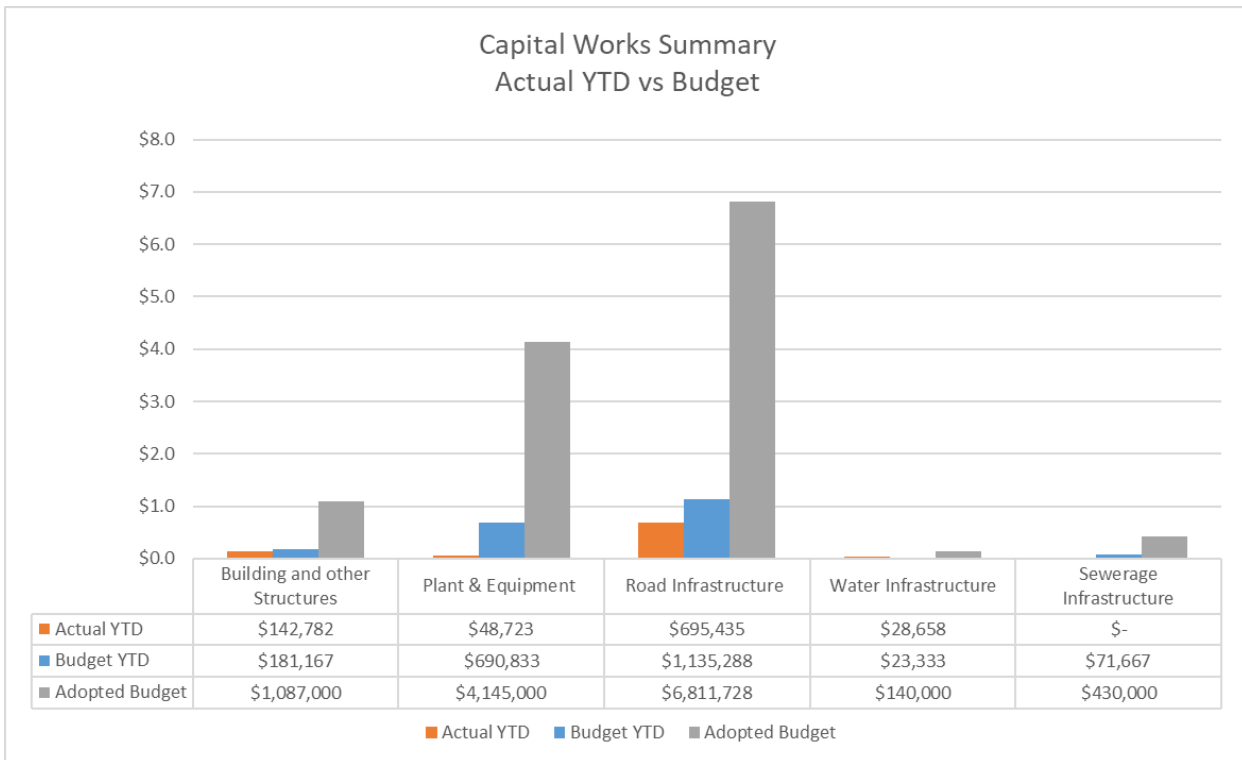
### Financial Position Comments

- Total cash on hand at the end of September was \$20.1M. Included in this balance are funds held in for restricted purposes (e.g. unexpended grant funds). Total cash remained steady between August and September.
- The Contract Assets balance in the table above is made up of final instalments due for LRCI and W4Q Grants and for Flood Damage package work completed.

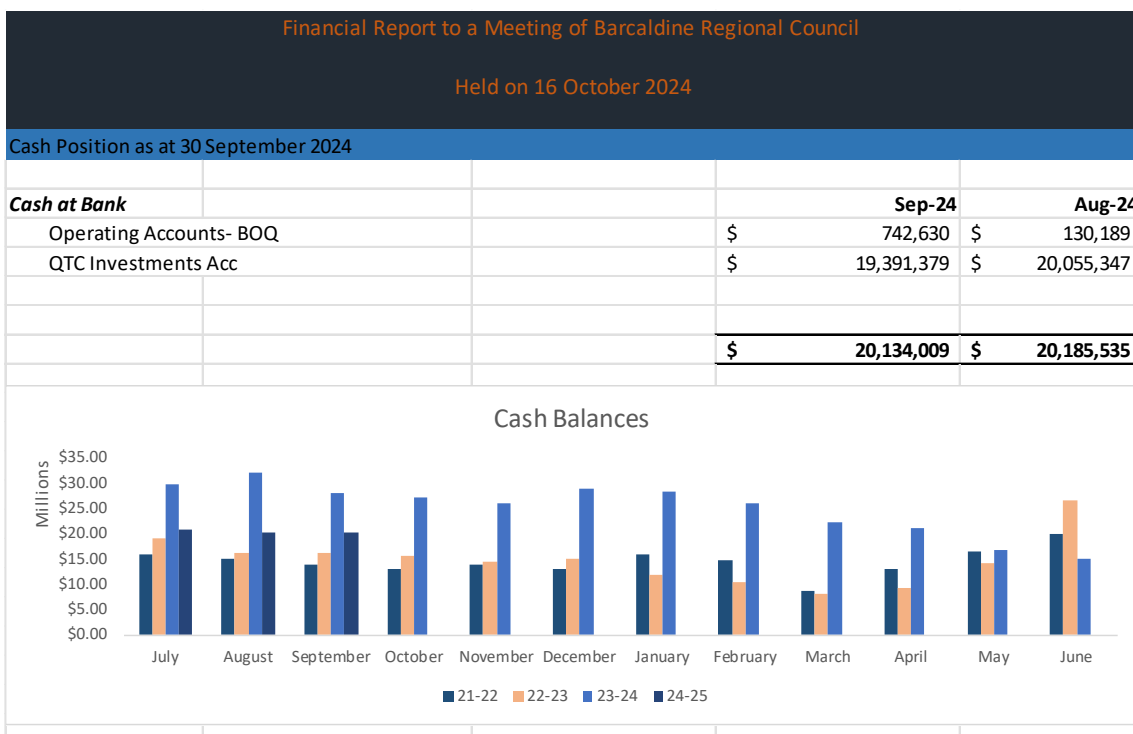
- The Contract Liabilities balance in the table above is made up predominantly of QRA Flood Damage money received, works are underway for all these programs and should see this amount decrease in the coming months.

### Capital Works

August YTD capital expenditure is \$916k compared to the YTD budget of \$3.2M (30% of YTD budget spent). Road infrastructure capital works are to ramp up once resources are diverted from TMR and flood recovery work.



### Cash Management and Investments





## Financial Sustainability – Cash Expense Coverage

The Unrestricted Cash Expense Cover Ratio is a financial viability measure and calculates the unconstrained liquidity available to Council to meet its ongoing and emergent financial demands. The target is measured in terms of months of cash available, with the state government requiring Council to have a minimum of four months unrestricted cash cover available to ensure that it does not run out of cash.

As at the end of August, Council has a cash expense cover ratio of 2.5 months, representing \$8.5 million in unrestricted cash. The restricted cash is primarily made up of advance funding from the QRA relating to Flood Damage packages for the Aramac, Alpha and Barcaldine region.

Finance will be closely monitoring Council liquidity to ensure that short term financial sustainability risk can be managed.

Month	Cash	Restricted	Unrestricted	Operating Expenses excl Depreciation & Finance Costs	Ratio (Months)
				YTD	
Jul-24	\$22,324,331	\$14,334,971	\$7,989,360	\$4,215,058	1.90
Aug-24	\$20,185,535	\$12,903,720	\$7,281,814	\$6,534,228	2.23
Sep-24	\$20,134,009	\$11,652,392	\$8,481,616	\$10,016,361	2.54

Note: A higher unrestricted cash expense cover ratio indicates that a council has sufficient free cash available to contribute to the cost of future planned and unplanned expenditures such as infrastructure investment or disaster recovery. An excessively high ratio may be indicative of cash hoarding, poor cash management, or large upcoming capital investment requirements.

A low ratio suggests limited unconstrained liquidity available to council to use for capital investment or in an emergency. For councils with efficient cash management practices and strong borrowing capacity, this is not a concern. Where a council also has a negative operating cash ratio, a very low or negative unrestricted cash expense cover ratio is an indicator of potential solvency concerns.

## Statement of Cash Flow as at 30 September 2024

<i>YTD cash flows</i>	<b>Year to Date</b>			<b>Full Year</b>
	<i>Actual</i> \$'000	<i>Budget</i> \$'000	<i>Variance</i> \$'000	<i>Adopted Budget</i> \$'000
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>				
Receipts from customers	16,221	9,529	6,692	38,116
Payments to suppliers and employees	(11,107)	(10,794)	(313)	(43,175)
Interest paid	(16)	(15)	(1)	(60)
Interest received	273	244	29	975
<b>Net cash inflow (outflow) from operating activities</b>	<b>5,371</b>	<b>(1,036)</b>	<b>6,407</b>	<b>(4,144)</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>				
Payments for property, plant and equipment	(916)	(3,154)	2,238	(12,614)
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment	279	350	(71)	1,400
Grants, subsidies, contributions and donations	843	1,432	(589)	5,727
<b>Net cash inflow (outflow) from investing activities</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>(1,372)</b>	<b>1,578</b>	<b>(5,487)</b>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>				
Proceeds from borrowings	-	-	-	
Repayment of borrowings	(136)	(138)	2	(550)
<b>Net cash inflow (outflow) from financing activities</b>	<b>(136)</b>	<b>(138)</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>(550)</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in cash held</b>	<b>5,441</b>	<b>(2,545)</b>	<b>7,986</b>	<b>(10,181)</b>
Cash at beginning of reporting period	14,693	8,285	6,409	33,138
<b>Cash at end of reporting period</b>	<b>20,134</b>	<b>5,739</b>	<b>14,395</b>	<b>22,957</b>

**SUBJECT HEADING: Community Care Services Report**

Author and Title: Sara Milligan - Accountant

*Summary: This report provides an update on the Community Care Services financial progress. The financial performance of the business unit is broken up into the care packages provided by Council.*

**Officer's Recommendation: That Council receive the report.**

---

**Background**

Council provides community care programs across the region. This report provides a financial update on the performance on each program. A general summary of each program is below:

Commonwealth Home Support Programme (CHSP) have agreed to a funding amount of \$786,016.03 for the 2025 Financial Year, which is presently paid to Council in monthly instalments. Home Modifications expenditure is ahead of schedule due to two large bathroom renovations.

Home Care Package claims are ongoing with ten clients currently.

National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) continues to show good numbers with 73 participants.

Currently CHSP and Home Assist Secure have carried forward amounts for the 2025 Financial Year. Once the Annual Returns for these have been completed in October, it will determine if any funding needs to be returned. These are on a case-by-case basis.

**Link to Corporate Plan**

Theme 2: Services

Our townships continue to be provided with compliance and sustainable water, sewerage and waste services. In the absence of other alternative providers, we continue to provide quality community support services on a cost-neutral basis.

**Consultation (internal/external)**

Human Resources Manager

**Policy Implications**

Nil

### Budget and Resource Implications

Most of the programs are operated on a cost-recovery basis. There is an opportunity to operate the NDIS program at a profit into the future. Currently it is tracking to have a small profit before overheads are included.

### Risk Management Implications

The recommendation in this report has no direct impact on enterprise risk, however, does provide information that should be used to assist in the management of risks identified.

### Asset Management Implications

Nil

### Legal Implications

Nil

### Tables and Program Summaries

Barcaldine Regional Council - Community Services Business Unit						
Financial Performance Reports						
For the period 1 July 2024 to	30-Sep-24					
% of year lapsed	25%					
	YTD Actual \$	YTD Budget \$	Projected Annual \$	Annual Budget \$	YTD Variance %	Projected Annual Variance %
<b>DIRECT INCOME &amp; EXPENDITURE</b>						
<b>Income</b>						
CHSP	255,307	212,500	926,016	850,000	20%	9%
Home Care Packages	61,751	32,750	131,000	131,000	89%	0%
Home Assist/Secure	27,530	38,000	152,000	152,000	-28%	0%
NDIS	530,295	457,500	1,830,000	1,830,000	16%	0%
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>874,883</b>	<b>740,750</b>	<b>3,039,016</b>	<b>2,963,000</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>3%</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>						
CHSP	263,063	200,625	991,493	802,500	31%	24%
Home Care Packages	70,268	44,750	179,000	179,000	57%	0%
Home Assist/Secure	54,668	42,250	145,000	169,000	29%	-14%
NDIS	555,252	421,080	1,684,318	1,684,318	32%	0%
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>943,250</b>	<b>708,705</b>	<b>2,999,811</b>	<b>2,834,818</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>6%</b>
<b>NET DIRECT PROFIT/LOSS</b>	<b>- 68,367</b>	<b>32,046</b>	<b>39,205</b>	<b>128,182</b>	<b>-313%</b>	<b>-69%</b>
<b>Indirect Costs</b>						
Administrative Overheads	32,829		85,792			
Depreciation	2,124		8,497			
<b>NET PROFIT/LOSS</b>	<b>- 103,320</b>		<b>- 55,084</b>			

Barcaldine Regional Council - Community Services Business Unit

Program: Commonwealth Home Support Program

Financial Performance Reports

For the period 1 July 2024 to

30-Sep-24

CHSP	YTD Actual \$	YTD Budget \$	* Projected Annual \$	Annual Budget \$	YTD Variance %	Projected Annual Variance %
<b>DIRECT INCOME &amp; EXPENDITURE</b>						
<b>Income</b>						
CHSP Grants	242,041	177,500	786,016	710,000	136%	11%
MOW Grant	-	-	-	-	0%	0%
Contributions CHSP	11,662	32,500	130,000	130,000	-64%	0%
Contributions MOW	1,604	2,500	10,000	10,000	-36%	0%
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>255,307</b>	<b>212,500</b>	<b>926,016</b>	<b>850,000</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>9%</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>						
Workforce Retention	-	0	-	-	0%	0%
Personal Care	3,942	2,500	15,766	10,000	58%	58%
Transport	33,568	11,250	130,000	45,000	198%	189%
Domestic Assistance	21,486	25,000	90,000	100,000	-14%	-10%
Home maintenance	742	500	2,000	2,000	48%	0%
Home modifications	84,964	70,000	340,000	280,000	21%	21%
Meals	2,660	2,000	5,000	8,000	33%	-38%
Meals on wheels	-	250	2,446	1,000	-100%	145%
Nursing	5,024	6,625	20,097	26,500	-24%	-24%
Social Support-group	16,120	15,000	64,479	60,000	7%	7%
Social Support-individual	15,061	10,000	60,243	40,000	51%	51%
Case Management	6,249	2,500	10,000	10,000		0%
Client Care coordination	27,882	17,500	70,000	70,000	59%	0%
Coord & Super - Community	45,365	37,500	181,461	150,000	21%	21%
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>263,063</b>	<b>200,625</b>	<b>991,493</b>	<b>802,500</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>24%</b>
<b>Direct profit/Loss before overheads</b>	<b>- 7,756</b>	<b>11,875</b>	<b>- 65,477</b>	<b>47,500</b>	<b>-165%</b>	<b>-238%</b>
<b>Indirect Costs</b>						
Administrative overheads	10,851		43,402			
Depreciation	2,124		8,497			
<b>NET PROFIT/LOSS</b>	<b>- 20,731</b>		<b>- 117,376</b>			

**Barcaldine Regional Council - Community Services Business Unit**  
**Program: Home Care Packages**  
**Financial Performance Reports**  
**For the period 1 July 2024 to 30-Sep-24**

	YTD Actual \$	YTD Budget \$	* Projected Annual \$	Annual Budget \$	YTD Variance %	Projected Annual Variance %
<b>HOME CARE PACKAGES</b>						
<b>DIRECT INCOME &amp; EXPENDITURE</b>						
<b>Income</b>						
Grants	61,751	31,250	125,000	125,000	98%	0%
Return unexpended grants			-	-		
Contributions	-	1,500	6,000	6,000	-100%	0%
<b>Total Income</b>	61,751	32,750	131,000	131,000	89%	0%
<b>Expenditure</b>						
Regional HC Wages	56,202	36,250	145,000	145,000	55%	0%
Regional HC Packages - operating	6,807	2,500	10,000	10,000	172%	0%
Coord & Super - Community	7,258	6,000	24,000	24,000	21%	0%
<b>Total expenditure</b>	70,268	44,750	179,000	179,000	57%	0%
<b>Direct profit/Loss before overheads</b>	- 8,517	- 12,000	- 48,000	- 48,000	-29%	0%
<b>Indirect Costs</b>						
Administrative overheads	1,959		7,836			
Depreciation						
<b>NET PROFIT/LOSS</b>	- 10,476		- 55,836			

**Barcaldine Regional Council - Community Services Business Unit**  
**Program: Home Assist/Secure**  
**Financial Performance Reports**  
**For the period 1 July 2024 to 30-Sep-24**

	YTD Actual \$	YTD Budget \$	* Projected Annual \$	Annual Budget \$	YTD Variance %	Projected Annual Variance %
<b>HOME ASSIST/SECURE</b>						
<b>DIRECT INCOME &amp; EXPENDITURE</b>						
<b>Income</b>						
Grants	27,530	37,250	149,000	149,000	-26%	0%
Grants- SAA program	-	-	-	-		
Unexpended grant return (est 20/21)	-	-	-	-		
Contributions		750	3,000	3,000	-100%	0%
<b>Total Income</b>	27,530	38,000	152,000	152,000	-28%	0%
<b>Expenditure</b>						
Direct wages	907	11,250	40,000	45,000	-92%	-11%
Operating costs	45,897	24,750	80,000	99,000	85%	-19%
SAA Grant expended	-	-	-	-		
Coord & Super - Community	7,863	6,250	25,000	25,000	26%	0%
<b>Total expenditure</b>	54,668	42,250	145,000	169,000	29%	-14%
<b>Direct profit/Loss before overheads</b>	- 27,138	- 4,250	7,000	- 17,000	539%	-141%
<b>Indirect Costs</b>						
Administrative overheads	1,587		6,347			
Depreciation	-		-			
<b>NET PROFIT/LOSS</b>	- 28,724		653			

Barcaldine Regional Council - Community Services Business Unit

Program: NDIS

Financial Performance Reports

For the period 1 July 2024 to

30-Sep-24

NDIS	YTD Actual \$	YTD Budget \$	* Projected Annual \$	Annual Budget \$	YTD Variance %	Projected Annual Variance %
<b>DIRECT INCOME &amp; EXPENDITURE</b>						
<b>Income</b>						
Fees - Plan Set-up	1,213	1,500	6,000	6,000	-19%	0%
Fees - Plan administration	25,402	27,500	110,000	110,000	-8%	0%
Fees - support coordination	39,547	28,500	114,000	114,000	39%	0%
Care packages	464,133	400,000	1,600,000	1,600,000	16%	0%
Contributions		-		-		
<b>Total Income</b>	530,295	457,500	1,830,000	1,830,000	16%	0%
<b>Expenditure</b>						
Direct assistance wages	9,444	16,225	64,900	64,900	-42%	0%
Plan participant claims	488,472	375,650	1,502,599	1,502,599	30%	0%
Coordination & Supervision	57,336	29,205	116,819	116,819	96%	0%
<b>Total expenditure</b>	555,252	421,080	1,684,318	1,684,318	32%	0%
<b>Net Direct Profit/Loss</b>	- 24,957	36,421	145,682	145,682	-169%	0%
<b>Indirect Costs</b>						
Administrative overheads	18,433		24,577			
Depreciation						
<b>NET PROFIT/LOSS</b>	- 43,389		121,105			

## **Major Projects**

### **Department of Transport and Main Roads**

#### **Barcaldine–Aramac Road**

The Widening and Upgrade Contract was commenced 10 June 2024 at a budget of \$5.089M.

Subgrade treatment commenced Tuesday 3 September 2024. This work involves mixing the existing pavement with the natural shoulder material to a depth of 150mm to make a consistent homogeneous material. Council's stabiliser has been utilised to prepare the subgrade. Six, five hundred metre sections have been mixed and placed with four sections being tested for compaction.

The project team have completed the five kilometres of subgrade treatment on 25 September 2024. Compaction results have demonstrated how well the team are coordinating the mixing and placement process with compaction results between 102% to 108% compaction.

There are six culvert locations along the project. All culvert crossings have been excavated, pouring of all blinding layers and four slabs have been poured. Two of the six culverts have been placed and those two culverts are awaiting headwalls to be constructed.

Staff are committed to the project and working additional hours to deliver the project on time.

#### **Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA)**

##### **Reconstruction of Essential Public Assets**

###### **Aramac**

Reconstruction projects (gravel resheeting) completed are:

- Caledonia, The Springs and Kollareena
- Reedy Creek Road – completed 20kms
- Bowen Downs, Maylands and Boorameel.

Reconstruction projects in progress are:

- Jericho Road
- Ballyneedy Road.

###### **Alpha**

Reconstruction projects (gravel resheeting) about to commence are:

- Pinehill Road
- Tango Road
- Pebbly Creek.



### **Betterment**

Aramac-Jericho Road (Grey Rock) – Council has received the design with planning works commencing.

### **Flooding Study**

The Flood Study and Community Action Plan for Alpha, Jericho and Aramac have undergone a third-party peer review and Council is now in receipt of draft tender specification. The Invitation to Tender will be going out to industry late September 2024.

Council has submitted a draft funding submission to the QRA for consideration regarding the Floodplain Management Work Package 3 for \$136,000. This submission is still under review by the QRA.

### **Road Maintenance Performance Contract**

#### **Road Furniture - Aramac**

Aramac and Muttaborra teams have been busy replacing with patching in Muttaborra Town Streets and along the Torrens Creek Road.

#### **Gravel Maintenance - Alpha**

- Alpha-Clermont Road: full length medium formation grade in progress.
- Alpha-Tambo Road: medium formation grade of the gravel sections and eight kilometres of gravel shoulder maintenance on the sealed sections.

#### **Cattle Cross Loader**

The cross loader is currently being Certified for manufacture under the new safety standards. The initial estimate indicates the purchase and erection of the cross-loading structure and associated construction of a sealed pavement results in the project being out of budget. Preparation of a more accurate estimate, reviewing grant allocations under the Local Rural Community Infrastructure Grant and against construction staging options is currently being undertaken.

Stakeholder engagement is required to understand the best configuration of the cross loader to suit local users. There are two configurations to be considered and decided on:

1. Both sides of the cross loader accommodate side loading or
2. One side of the cross loader accommodates side loading while the other side suits rear loading.

Option two will have an impact on the location of the cross loader adjacent to the showgrounds because of the trucks loading ninety degrees to each other in lieu of being parallel.

#### **Star Downs Road**

- The intersection between Star Downs Road and the Alpha-Tambo Road has been completed.

- Aggregate and bitumen have been ordered for the two-coat seal and the bitumen prime will be sprayed this week.

## **Operations**

### **Roads and Town Services for the Region**

- The street sweeper is currently in Muttaborra and Aramac this week.
- Have ordered 250 new plants for the gardens that have undergone refurbishment, plants are due to arrive in Barcaldine on Thursday 17 October 2024.
- Barcaldine showgrounds - fertilising the racetrack and oval week of 14 October 2024.

### **Training**

- Airport Reporting Officer training is scheduled at the Barcaldine airport for six staff the week of 18 November 2024 through the Outback Regional Roads and Transport Group (ORR&TG). This training arrangement is funded 50-50, ORR&TG and Council.
- Forklift training for six staff across the region was completed 8 October 2024.

## **People Matters**

### **Plant Fleet and Operations**

Council's three apprentice mechanics are scheduled for Tafe technical block training between October and January 2025. Once the January 2025 technical block training is complete, two of the apprentices will be fully qualified.

Aramac's Hino Truck PTO HYD pump won't engage. This system has sustained damage and is now tagged out of service

### **Street Sweeper Schedule**

- Week 1 – Barcaldine.
- Week 2 – Muttaborra and Aramac.
- Week 3 – Alpha and Jericho.
- Week 4 – Barcaldine.
- Week 5 – Service and Maintained.

## **Maintenance of Vehicles, Plant and Machinery**

Vehicles, plant and machinery that require maintenance are: recall on 12 Isuzu vehicles to date, they are required to be taken to Emerald for safety recall.

## **Water and Wastewater Services**

### **Water Operations**

A report of dirty water was received in Barcaldine. The water main was hydraulically scoured resulting in a fire hydrant failing. This type of fire hydrant is prone to failure and replaced with an updated model.

Council is reviewing all communication infrastructure leasing arrangements installed by third parties on Council's elevated water reservoirs. This review has been initiated by the Remote Area Planning and Development Water and Sewerage Alliance water reservoir

internal cleaning program and Council being contacted by the Queensland Police Service to negotiate a new leasing arrangement.

Acacia Street, Barcaldine has not been completed as the contract divers had software issues with the remotely operated vehicle. They will return and complete the work when the software issues are resolved.

### **Wastewater Operations**

A sewerage blockage was resolved behind the Landsborough Lodge, tree roots were the cause of the blockage.

### **Director of Works**

The Director of Works attended the following stakeholder meetings:

- Remote Area Planning and Development for Sewerage and Water.
- Outback Regional Roads Technical Group.
- A Queensland Beef Roads Technical Working Group.
- Stakeholder meeting with Transport and Main Roads.

### **Directorate Workplace Culture**

Activities that have supported or improved the workplace culture of the Works Department:

- Communications – Director of Works has visited the depots of Alpha, Barcaldine, Aramac and Muttaborra. The Director also holds monthly leadership team meetings to discuss regional challenges and setting expectations in alignment with Council's accepted values and behaviours.
- Building Regional Capability – regional training is to be provided to Council staff for Council's street sweeper, the CAT road stabiliser, truck software packages and airports. Consideration has also been given to providing opportunity to staff to gain plant fleet tickets/licenses to provide career progression, build staff capability and reduce risk of skills – been concentrated to only select staff.
- Regional Focus – The Plant, Fleet Operations Section had their first regional meeting to discuss concerns, build relationships, gain a regional focus and elect a workshop representative to be on the Coordinator of Plant, Fleet Operations. A representative from the Roads Section will also be on the interview panel as a key stakeholder and customer.