



general
purpose
committee

3
section

organisation
and
resources

GENERAL PURPOSE COMMITTEE - ORGANISATION & RESOURCES**Table of Contents****Meeting Date:** 28 May 2002**Page 2**

ITEM	SUBJECT	PAGE
SECTION 3 - ORGANISATION AND RESOURCES.		
44:	Monthly Financial Report - April 2002 GF011/005/FNC/OGE28NAX.F02	3
45:	Rate Pegging GR010/006 Pt7/GMA/OGE28NAX.G01	6
46:	McMahons Park PK/007 Pt 5/GMA/OGE28NAX.G03	8
47:	Hawkesbury Regional Museum - Functional Brief GM030/001/CSV/OGE28NBX.C09	10
48:	Proposed Leasing of the Johnston Wing, Christie Street, Windsor GC283/163 Pt3/CSV/OGE28NBX.F10	12
49:	Hawkesbury Heritage Farm GC283/107 Pt9/CSV/OGE28NCX.C06	14
50:	Accommodation Services for Victims of Domestic Violence GC130/014 Pt2/CSV/OGE28NCX.C07	16
51:	Support for Vulnerable Families - Update GC150/002/CSV/OGE28NCX.C05	18
52:	Hawkesbury City Art Gallery "Significance/Impact/Management" Report GC130/032/CSV/OGE28NCX.C08	19
53:	Council Support for Equity and Access Initiatives in the Hawkesbury GG021/216/CSV/OGE28NCX.C04	27

oooO END OF TABLE OF CONTENTS Oooo

ORGANISATION AND RESOURCES

Meeting Date: 28 May, 2002

Item: 44

ITEM: 44 **Monthly Financial Report - April 2002****FILE NUMBER:** GF011/005/FNC/OGE28NAX.F02**REPORT:****April 2002**

Summarised below, are particulars of both the income received and the expenditure incurred by Council for the month of April 2002. This information is reconciled between the cashbook and the bank statement balance as at the end of April 2002. All expenditure is fully supported by vouchers and invoices which have been duly certified.

A. Cash Book (General Ledger) Reconciliation - April 2002**Cash Book (General Ledger) Reconciliation - April 2002**

Opening Balance as at 1 April 2002	(\$426,327.54)
Add Receipts for the Month	\$6,009,897.91
Less Payments for the Month	(\$5,731,025.69)
Closing Balance as at end of April 2002	(\$147,455.32)

B. Bank Statement Balance - April 2002**Bank Statement Balance - April 2002**

Statement Balance as at end of April 2002	\$196,697.40
Less Unpresented Cheques	(\$417,966.95)
Add Outstanding Deposits	\$75,836.83
	\$145,432.72
Adjustment: Statement entries not yet posted to GL	(\$2,022.60)
Equals balance as per Cash Book	(\$147,455.32)

ORGANISATION AND RESOURCES

Meeting Date: 28 May, 2002

Item: 44

Commentary

The above reconciliations reflect the cashflow for April 2002. Essentially they are a summary of all of the receipts issued and the payments made during April 2002.

Expenditure for the months typically consists of payments to contractors, employee salaries, purchase of stores and materials and lease/loan repayments.

The bank account balance may vary significantly from the cashbook balance. The difference is made up of unpresented cheques, outstanding deposits and bank statement entries that have not yet been recorded in the general ledger.

Unpresented cheques are cheques which have been drawn but have not yet been presented for payment by the payee. Outstanding deposits are monies which have been receipted at the council but have not yet been banked. Statement entries not yet posted to the GL are mainly funds which have been directly deposited to Council's bank account which have not been receipted as at the end of the month.

Cash management procedures are in place that ensure adequate funds are available to meet daily expenditure obligations. Any surplus funds from receipts are invested so as to maximise interest earnings. Active cash management minimises the risk of Council's bank account going into an overdraft situation.

C. Investments - April 2002

The Local Government (Financial Management) Regulation requires that each month, details of all money that has been invested under section 625 of the Local Government Act, 1993 be reported to a meeting of Council.

The following table outlines the investment portfolio held by Council as at the end of April 2002. All investments have been made in accordance with the Act, Regulations and Council's Investment Policy.

Investment Type	Balance Brought Forward	Deposits	Withdrawals	Interest Paid	Balance End of Month
Managed Funds	\$27,033,208.26			\$76,388.02	\$27,109,596.28
On Call Funds	\$3,710,000.00	\$600,000.00	(\$1,950,000.00)		\$2,360,000.00
Term Investments	\$3,070,000.00		(\$1,000,000.00)		\$2,070,000.00
TOTAL	\$33,813,208.26	\$600,000.00	(\$2,950,000.00)	\$76,388.02	\$31,539,596.28

ORGANISATION AND RESOURCES

Meeting Date: 28 May, 2002

Item: 44

Commentary

The official cash interest rate remained unchanged by the Reserve Bank for the month of April. Interest rates did however increase by 0.25% in the first week of May 2002. Financial institutions are forecasting that this is the first of a series of rate increases that can be expected over the ensuing six months.

Geoff Banting
Responsible Accounting Officer

RECOMMENDATION:

That the information be received.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

oooO END OF ITEM 44 Oooo

ITEM: 45 Rate Pegging**FILE NUMBER:** GR010/006 Pt7/GMA/OGE28NAX.G01

REPORT:

Rate pegging, the process where the State Government sets the indexation for rates to move in the financial year, was established in New South Wales in 1977 and has been strongly supported by both major political parties since that time. Notably, it applies in no other Australian state.

It has been a major issue within Local Government in New South Wales and there have been numerous representations seeking its removal. Last year, in response to a resolution from the Local Government Associations annual conference, a Rate Pegging Task Force was established. The Shires Association was also invited to join to have a whole of Local Government approach, and this called for the introduction of an annual rate capping range instead of a fixed limit.

The objectives of the task force was to formulate constructive recommendations to the State Government in relation to:

- The basis for determining the rate pegging limit.
- Changes in the process of applying the limit.
- The timing of the announcement of the limit.
- The basis for granting special variations.
- The relationship with the special rates.
- Options to enhance the operation of rate pegging in terms of Council performance and community needs.

This approach represented a modification of that previously taken that was totally opposed to any rate pegging limitation. In doing so it was merely a recognition of the reality of the political situation.

The issues identified to be canvassed by the Task Force included:

- Relationship between the rate pegging limit and other indexes (CPI and AWOTE) and the need for a specific Local Government Index.
- Method of determination and the current lack of transparency.
- Need for greater provision for catch ups and realignment of a Council's financial base.
- Question of unfunded mandates and the devolution of additional responsibilities to Local Government.
- Inadequacy of the current system in providing for asset management and new infrastructure.
- Implications of rate pegging for financial viability.
- Special variations; special rates and levies.
- Consideration of a tiered approach to rate pegging.

To date the Task Force has recommended a two-tiered approach. The first being an annually determined index that will more accurately reflect the increased costs to Local Government as a whole which are beyond the control of councils and where this index should be readily available for the Minister prior to his making any determination. The second tier is to deal with individual councils' specific needs and to replace the current special variation requiring approval of the Minister. It is envisaged that this component would be exercised through the Draft Management Plan and community consultation.

The first tier seemed to include award increases and Local Government costs such as insurance premiums, workers' compensation premiums, oil prices, electricity prices, movements in superannuation and pensioner rate rebates.

The second tier components include infrastructure, interest rates, population growth, a rating component (a catch-up component) allowing councils to bring rates up to the 74th percentile of council category (impact of non-resident populations), special rates for projects, community and regional projects, extraordinary items (unanticipated insurance payouts) and compliance costs.

The Task Force has now reached a point where the engagement of expert independent advice is required if the matters are to be advanced. In this regard the Minister and the Department have made it clear to the Associations that while they may be receptive to change, the recommendations will need to be based on comprehensive research and clearly demonstrate tangible advantages over the current system.

The Associations therefore propose to retain a consultant/consultants to further progress the review and to provide an independent report. A project brief has been prepared based on the two-tier approach and it is estimated that the cost of the work will be in the order of \$70,000 (seventy thousand dollars). Councils have been requested to contribute on the basis of the level of subscription to the Associations.

Hawkesbury's contribution is \$615 (six hundred and fifteen dollars), excluding GST that is not considered payable as the request is for a donation.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council donate to the Local Government and Shires Associations the amount of \$615 (six hundred and fifteen dollars).

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

oooO END OF ITEM 45 Oooo

ITEM: 46**McMahons Park****FILE NUMBER:**

PK/007 Pt 5/GMA/OGE28NAX.G03

REPORT:

The Community Association involved with the management of McMahon's Park was established by the Council in 1979. The Council has received a number of reports regarding possible extensions of the park and works requested by the Association. Currently the purchase of additional land is not an available option. There have been discussions with representatives of the Association about the works requested and the various options for these being achieved and any relationship which may be established with the Sports Council.

The Association's representatives have been quite positive in the discussions and have noted the 23 years that a Community Committee has existed, and the work they have undertaken in managing the park and facilitating a number of improvements. At this time they still seek to retain their independent identity, and in doing so recognise the significant work that has been undertaken by the Sports Council and the relationship that exists between the Council and the Sports Council, and the many benefits that this has brought to the wider Hawkesbury sporting community.

They seek to proceed with their plan for improvements that involves earthworks to modify the existing configuration of the soccer fields and increase the space for training, altering the current lighting system, installation of a new irrigation system and improving the playing surface. The works were estimated at \$104,300 (one hundred and four thousand three hundred dollars) of which the irrigation was \$55,000 (fifty five thousand dollars). During recent discussions with the Committee it is possible that this cost may be reduced as recent repairs to the current system have indicated much improved performance.

The park has a high level of usage due to the association of a number of groups with the Park Association, while there are other sporting fields that see a much lower level of use. If there is no transfer of usage to other areas then the works are justified, as is a higher level of maintenance in accordance with the Sports Council's criteria. The park mowing is currently undertaken by a Council contractor at the Council's normal level of maintenance.

If the works are to be undertaken this year then funding would need to come from the Council's section of the parks' improvement vote that would mean re-prioritising the current agreed program. The program for the forthcoming year provides funding for bushcare regeneration and replacement playground equipment. The playground equipment vote was increased for 2002/2003 by \$200,000 (two hundred thousand dollars) in an endeavour to address the shortfall in this area.

Given the Park Management Association's wish to remain as an independent organisation it is recommended that at this time the Sports Council be provided with one-off capital funding sufficient to meet the requirements to undertake the earthworks, adjust and improve the lighting, turfing and adjustments to the irrigation system, being those works originally estimated at \$104,300 (one hundred and

four thousand three hundred dollars). It is to be noted that the funding that will actually be provided will be that required to undertake the works only and, in this regard, it is noted that there is likely to be savings in the order of \$20,000 to \$30,000 (twenty thousand to thirty thousand dollars) in the area of irrigation. That the Sports Council be provided with an increase in maintenance funding to undertake the ground mowing at McMahons Park at the same standard undertaken at the other grounds maintained by the Sports Council's contract. That the Association be advised that future capital works on the grounds would need to be progressed through the Sports Council for prioritising funding.

The Association have been advised of the content of the report and the proposed recommendations.

RECOMMENDATION:

That:

1. The McMahons Park Management Association be advised that Council agrees with them remaining an independent management group for McMahons Park.
2. The Association be advised that the Council in the 2002/2003 budget will provide a one-off capital funding through the Sports Council to fund the improvements to the ground involving earthworks, extension to the irrigation, turfing and adjustments to the lighting, estimated in February of this year at \$104,300 (one hundred and four thousand three hundred dollars). That the funds be provided on the basis of the actual costs and, in this regard, it is noted that a saving is likely in the irrigation item.
3. The funds come from the Parks' Capital Works area.
4. Negotiations take place with the Sports Council to have the ground's mowing undertaken by their contractor at the end of the current Council contract for the park, and that the funding for this be provided to the Sports Council, and in doing so the Park Association be advised that this will bring the area under the same maintenance regime as other sporting fields managed by the Sports Council in the area.
5. The Management Association be advised that future capital works in the area would need to be prioritised and funded through the Sports Council.
6. A meeting be convened with the Sports Council and the McMahons Park Association to address the high usage of McMahons Park with the purpose of ascertaining if other less used venues can be used, in order to maintain the McMahons Park ground at a higher level.

ORGANISATION AND RESOURCES

Meeting Date: 28 May, 2002

Item: **46**

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

oooO END OF ITEM 46 Oooo

ITEM: 47 **Hawkesbury Regional Museum - Functional Brief**

FILE NUMBER: GM030/001/CSV/OGE28NBX.C09

REPORT:

Consultants International Conservation Services (ICS) were commissioned to prepare a functional brief for architects Pont Williams Leroy for the construction of the extensions to the existing Hawkesbury Museum located in Thompson Square, Windsor.

The brief is included as an attachment and discusses strategic issues, the physical environment, spaces within the new museum, a description and indicative division of main spaces within the facility, as well as the technical requirements for the Museum.

The functional brief has been circulated to the Hawkesbury Museum delegates responsible for undertaking consultation with the architects and the staff and has also been forwarded to the Ministry for the Arts for comment. As a result the following mission statement has been adopted for the facility (this varies slightly from the original suggested by ICS in the functional brief):

"The Hawkesbury Regional Museum is operated jointly by the Hawkesbury Historical Society and Hawkesbury City Council. It is a facility committed to communicating the rich human and natural history of the region through innovative displays, dynamic public programs and a commitment to preserving material evidence of the past. The museum will be a key destination for those seeking to explore the Hawkesbury and surrounds.

The management of the museum is committed to maximising community access to the facility and will actively seek partnerships with organisations involved in public education and the promotion of the area as a sophisticated cultural tourism destination.

As a centre of excellence, the museum will pursue high interpretative and cultural management standards in the delivery of programs."

It is proposed to draft a "Memorandum of Understanding" between Hawkesbury City Council and the Hawkesbury Historical Society in regard to the future operation and management of the improved museum facility.

An archaeological assessment of the site for the proposed Hawkesbury museum extensions has been prepared by archaeologist, Wendy Thorp. This assessment along with the functional brief is proposed to be the basis of the instruction provided to the architects Pont Williams Leroy in relation to design of the new facility. In addition, the architects will be advised that the building design needs to be based on compatibility with the historic Thompson Square area and needs to make a positive impact on the general streetscape of Baker Street (between The Terrace to George Street). It is anticipated that initial design concepts will take approximately six weeks to complete.

ORGANISATION AND RESOURCES

Meeting Date: 28 May, 2002

Item: **47**

RECOMMENDATION:

That the mission statement and functional brief for the Hawkesbury Regional Museum be endorsed.

ATTACHMENTS:

AT-1 Function Brief (distributed separately).

oooO END OF ITEM 47 Oooo

ITEM: 48 **Proposed Leasing of the Johnston Wing, Christie Street, Windsor**

FILE NUMBER: GC283/163 Pt3/CSV/OGE28NBX.F10

PREVIOUS ITEM: 35, Ordinary (07.05.2002)

REPORT:

A report was presented to Council at its Ordinary Meeting of 7 May 2002 regarding the proposed purchase of the Johnston Wing, Christie Street, Windsor to Mr Jonathon Stack from Action Insurance Brokers. It was resolved that:

- “1. *A draft local Environmental Plan be prepared in accordance with the Best Practice Guidelines to reclassify Lot 50, DP1035291 George Street (former Hawkesbury Hospital site) to operational land.*
2. *A local environmental study not be prepared.*
3. *Council exercises delegation in respect of Section 65 and 69 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.*
4. *A public hearing under Section 68 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 in respect of the proposed re-classification in the draft Local Environmental Plan be advertised and arranged.*
5. *If the building is to be sold, it be in accordance with Council’s policy on land sale.*
6. *The offer of a lease be discussed and negotiated with Mr Jonathon Stack of Action Insurance Brokers.”*

Negotiations have taken place with Mr Stack and it is recommended that a 3 (three) plus 2 (two) year lease be offered to Mr Stack with the first 3 (three) years at a reduced rental rate of \$35,000.00 (thirty five thousand) per annum because of the inconvenience of the construction of the new hospital site, with the remaining 2 (two) years at a commercial rental rate determined by a valuation at that time.

Mr Stack proposes to transfer his already successful general insurance broker business to the Johnston Wing. He employs 10 (ten) staff presently and his current premises are too small to continue to operate his business due to floor space constrictions. He feels that the Johnston Wing would be a sufficient size for his business to grow and expand and feels that it is an appropriate business to promote and complete the professional precinct that Council wish to establish within that area.

RECOMMENDATION:

That:

1. A 3 (three) year plus 2 (two) year lease be offered to Mr Stack on \$35,000.00 (thirty five thousand dollars) per annum for the first 3 (three) years with the remaining 2 (two) years on a commercial basis determined by a valuation at that time.
2. Eight carparking spots be made available to Mr Stack in the 5 (five) year leasing period.
3. All outgoings are the responsibility of Mr Stack (tenant) and maintenance of the building will be the responsibility of the owner (Council) for the period of the lease.
4. All necessary documents to be executed under the Common Seal of Council.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

oooO END OF ITEM 48 Oooo

ORGANISATION AND RESOURCES

Meeting Date: 28 May, 2002

Item: 49

ITEM: 49 **Hawkesbury Heritage Farm**

FILE NUMBER: GC283/107 Pt9/CSV/OGE28NCX.C06

PREVIOUS ITEM: 39, GPC Section 3 - Organisation & Resources (23.04.2002)

PREVIOUS ITEM: 1, Ordinary (11.02.2002)

PREVIOUS ITEM: 2, Ordinary (11.02.2002)

PREVIOUS ITEM: 155, Ordinary (11.12.2001)

PREVIOUS ITEM: 94, Ordinary (09.10.2001)

REPORT:

Council resolved at its Ordinary Meeting 9 October 2001 not to exercise the 5 (five) year option for the leasing of Hawkesbury Heritage Farm to Chris Wells and to invite expressions of interest for the management, leasing or purchase of the property.

Following the expressions of interest, Council resolved on 11 February 2002 to offer to sell the property to Mr and Mrs James Kelly. A Notice of Rescission was submitted, but lost at the Ordinary Meeting 11 February 2002.

In order for the sale or lease to proceed, a reclassification from 'Community Land' to 'Operational Land' was required. A recommendation to reclassify this and other land was placed before Council at the Ordinary Meeting 7 May 2002. The reclassification including a public hearing was not approved.

In the interim period, Ned Productions Pty Ltd have occupied the site for the purpose of shooting and producing a feature film titled 'Ned'. Ned Productions Pty Ltd have had access to the site for approximately 10 (ten) weeks and have provided a bond of \$50,000 (fifty thousand) to ensure the site was left in the same condition as provided before the production. Ned Productions Pty Ltd have finalised their shoot and vacated the site on 22 May 2002.

As the sale can not proceed without reclassification the site will remain unoccupied, subject to further Council deliberation. The site is heritage listed and will require maintenance of grounds and buildings during this period. It is estimated that approximately \$60,000 (sixty thousand) to \$65,000 (sixty five thousand) will be required to maintain the buildings and keep the grounds in order in the forthcoming year. This assumption is based on the property remaining closed to the public during 2002/2003. An appropriate allocation will be required in Council's Estimates, currently being advertised.

Maintenance for the remainder of 2001/2002, for approximately four weeks, will have to be provided from Parks Maintenance allocations.

It is recommended that consideration be given to an allocation of \$65,000 (sixty five thousand) for the maintenance of grounds and buildings at Hawkesbury Heritage Farm in 2002/2003 Estimates.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that consideration be given to an allocation of \$65,000 (sixty five thousand) for the maintenance of grounds and buildings at Hawkesbury Heritage Farm in 2002/2003 Estimates.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

oooO END OF ITEM 49 Oooo

ITEM: 50 Accommodation Services for Victims of Domestic Violence**FILE NUMBER:** GC130/014 Pt2/CSV/OGE28NCX.C07

REPORT:

At the General Purpose Committee Meeting held on 23 April 2002, Council requested a report “*relative to establishing a safe house for victims of domestic violence in the Hawkesbury*”.

Responsibility for the provision of funds to establish emergency accommodation services for victims of domestic violence generally rests with the state and federal governments. The NSW and Commonwealth governments jointly fund the Supported Assistance Accommodation Program (SAAP) which is administered by the NSW Department of Community Services (DoCS).

Within the Hawkesbury local government area, the Hawkesbury Women's Housing & Information Service (WHINS) is the primary agency which assists women (and children) find 'safe' accommodation. WHINS works in conjunction with other services including the Women's Cottage, Baptist Emergency Accommodation Ministry (BEAM) and the San Miguel Family Centre to respond to the accommodation needs of victims of domestic violence. The NSW Department of Housing also provides short-term emergency accommodation for this group.

WHINS has also established a partnership with the Wentworth Area Community Housing (WACH) to provide longer term accommodation for victims of domestic violence. WACH makes a number of leased properties available to WHINS, who are responsible for providing support and follow-up services to persons placed in these properties.

The Hawkesbury Housing Forum - a coalition of accommodation services operating within the Hawkesbury - have identified a need for additional emergency and short-term accommodation for women escaping domestic violence (as documented in the *Hawkesbury Community Needs Report 2001-2002*). As members of the Forum, Council staff have met with DoCS to canvas options for establishing additional emergency assistance services. The Department's advice is that it is unlikely that funds would be available to establish a traditional 'women's refuge' given the recurrent costs associated with this service model. Departmental representatives are of the view that a more flexible 'brokerage' model of service - where funds are made available to purchase emergency accommodation for women escaping domestic violence - would be the 'preferred' service option.

The challenge in establishing a safe house for victims of domestic violence is not necessarily one of establishing a 'bricks and mortar' facility - WACH and the Department of Housing currently have the capacity to provide capital properties to meet this need. The major barrier to establishing a safe house is to identify a source of recurrent funding with which to provide the required support and casework services to assist people escaping domestic violence. At this critical time, families require a significant level of support to deal with the trauma of violence, and, assistance to secure safe, longer-term accommodation.

ORGANISATION AND RESOURCES

Meeting Date: 28 May, 2002

Item: 50

The Hawkesbury Housing Forum has established a working party to work with DoCS to develop an appropriate model to provide emergency assistance and support to women escaping domestic violence. The working party includes representatives from DoCS, the Department of Housing, WHINS, BEAM, WACH, San Miguel and Council. Its purpose is to identify the contribution that each organisation can make to firstly, establish a 'safe house' and secondly, provide the support services necessary to sustain such a facility. The working party is hopeful that DoCS will provide some funding (from within the SAAP Program) to pilot a partnership model.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the information be received.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

oooO END OF ITEM 50 Oooo

ORGANISATION AND RESOURCES

Meeting Date: 28 May, 2002

Item: 51

ITEM: 51 **Support for Vulnerable Families - Update**

FILE NUMBER: GC150/002/CSV/OGE28NCX.C05

PREVIOUS ITEM: 12, Ordinary (12.03.2002)

REPORT:

At its Ordinary meeting held on 12 March 2002, Council resolved *“to submit an Expression of Interest (on behalf of the Hawkesbury Family Worker Project Consortium) to the Department of Community Services to secure funding for an early intervention family worker project to be located at the Stewart Street Early Intervention Centre, South Windsor”*.

Advice has been received from the Department of Community Services (DoCS) that one component of the EOI , submitted under the *Families First Program*, has been successful. Council has secured a one-off funding grant of \$49,932 (forty nine thousand nine hundred and thirty two dollars) for a project to develop an early intervention service network within the Hawkesbury local government area. The funds will be used to work with family and childrens services in the Hawkesbury to establish the infrastructure to support a co-ordinated network of prevention and early intervention services for vulnerable families.

The Department has also provided verbal advice that the second component of the EOI - a recurrent funding grant of \$75,000 (seventy five thousand dollars) to employ two staff to work with vulnerable families - has been short listed for approval. Council staff attended a follow-up interview with an assessment panel convened by DoCS to provide further information about the EOI. On the basis of discussions with DoCS staff, the prospects for the funding of this component of the EOI look very promising.

Should Council be successful in securing funding for both components of the EOI, the two projects will significantly increase the capacity of family and children's services in the Hawkesbury to respond to the needs of vulnerable families at an early stage. Council staff are continuing to work with the Hawkesbury Family Worker Project Consortium to identify further opportunities to improve and increase the provision of services to vulnerable families.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the information be received.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

oooO END OF ITEM 51 Oooo

ORGANISATION AND RESOURCES

Meeting Date: 28 May, 2002

Item: 52

ITEM: 52 **Hawkesbury City Art Gallery “Significance/Impact/Management” Report**

FILE NUMBER: GC130/032/CSV/OGE28NCX.C08

REPORT:

A grant application has been submitted to the NSW Ministry for the Arts requesting funding support for the art gallery component of the Council's extensive cultural infrastructure construction program. The generosity of the State Government's \$1.15M grant to the Hawkesbury Regional Museum has been acknowledged in the grant application with a request that Council not be disadvantaged in relation to grant allocations because it is completing an ambitious series of structures at the one time.

As part of this grant application a 'Significance / Impact / Management' report was prepared to provide information to the Ministry regarding issues such as ongoing operation; management models proposed; history of the project; marketing opportunities and existing cultural infrastructure.

RECOMMENDATION:

The 'Hawkesbury City Art Gallery Significance / Impact / Management Report' be received.

ATTACHMENTS:

AT-1 Hawkesbury City Gallery Significance / Impact / Management Report

Hawkesbury City Gallery Significance / Impact / Management Report

Hawkesbury City Gallery Significance / Impact / Management Report

Hawkesbury City Gallery Significance / Impact / Management Report

Hawkesbury City Gallery Significance / Impact / Management Report

Hawkesbury City Gallery Significance / Impact / Management Report

Hawkesbury City Gallery Significance / Impact / Management Report

ORGANISATION AND RESOURCES

Meeting Date: 28 May, 2002

Item: **52**

Hawkesbury City Gallery Significance / Impact / Management Report

oooO END OF ITEM 52 Oooo

ITEM: 53 **Council Support for Equity and Access Initiatives in the Hawkesbury**

FILE NUMBER: GG021/216/CSV/OGE28NCX.C04

PREVIOUS ITEM: 168, Ordinary (11.04.2000)

REPORT:

At its Ordinary Meeting held on 11 April 2000, Council endorsed the establishment of a seeding grant program to support equity and access initiatives within the Hawkesbury. Council delegated responsibility for the administration of these funds to the Hawkesbury Equity and Access Planning Committee with the resources for the seeding grant program to be sourced from the *community participation fund* administered by Council's Community Services Branch.

The Equity and Access Seeding Grant Program provides the opportunity for agencies (providing direct services to residents of the Hawkesbury) to submit for a financial contribution to support initiatives which:

- Increase access to services or facilities by disadvantaged groups.
- Increase the participation of disadvantaged groups in the planning and delivery of community services.
- Enable service providers to better respond to the specific needs of disadvantaged groups.
- Increase awareness of the needs and issues facing disadvantaged groups within the community.

For the 2001/2002 financial year, the Committee determined that seeding grant funding should primarily be allocated to support initiatives identified in the *Hawkesbury Social Plan 2001-2002* - particularly for those strategies for which an existing source of funding could not be found.

In March 2002, the Hawkesbury Equity and Access Planning Committee invited interagency groups and community advisory committees to submit proposals for equity and access initiatives for funding in 2001/2002. Six applications were received seeking a total of \$14,910 (fourteen thousand nine hundred and ten dollars) in funding.

An assessment panel was convened, and the applications were assessed in relation to their compliance with the funding criteria and the extent to which they reflected the priorities in the *Hawkesbury Social Plan 2001-2002*. The following projects were recommended for funding and were subsequently endorsed by the Committee:

ORGANISATION AND RESOURCES

Meeting Date: 28 May, 2002

Item: 53

Agency	Amount	Project
Hawkesbury City Council Library Service	\$3,000	Establish a community languages section within the Hawkesbury City Council Library Services which is to be added to on a yearly basis from within the library's annual book vote.
Nepean Migrant Access	\$1,000	Meet the translation costs for written materials to be included in a proposed 'new residents kit'
Hawkesbury Seniors Computer Group	\$1,200	Purchase computer-related hardware to increase access and use of information technology by senior residents
Hawkesbury Housing Forum	\$1,000	Develop a 'pocket sized' directory of services for homeless people within the Hawkesbury.
Hawkesbury Action Group Against Domestic Violence	\$1,000	Fund the purchase and distribution of emergency phone cards for people at risk
Richmond Women's Health Centre	\$1,710	Fund and establish a weekly well wise womens café to enable women over 40 to access information in a safe and non-medical environment. Café to operate from the Tebbut Room in the Windsor Library.

The Equity and Access Planning Committee were pleased to support the recommended projects as they addressed, in a very practical way, some of the issues and priorities identified in the Hawkesbury Social Plan. The use of the relatively small amount of funding provided under the equity and access seeding grant program in this strategic manner will enable the Committee (and Council) to assist community agencies to deliver on a number of the priorities identified in the *Community Needs Report 2001-2002*.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the information be received.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

oooO END OF ITEM 53 Oooo