23 June 2022

To All Councillors

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993, that an Extraordinary Meeting of Council will be held in the Council Chambers on Wednesday, 29 June 2022 at 5.00pm, for the purposes of transacting the undermentioned business.

AGENDA:

PAGE NO.

(1) ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL LAND OWNERS

(2) OPENING PRAYER

(3) RECEIPT OF APOLOGIES

Leave of absence has been granted to:
Councillor Anthony Burke - 5 June 2022 to 13 July 2022 Inclusive

(4) DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

‡ PPDI3/2022 Disclosures of Interest 4

(5) CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY

CC54/2022 Adoption of Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032, Delivery Program 2022-2026, incorporating the Operational Plan 2022-2023, Budget, Revenue Policy and Fees & Charges 2022-2023 5

CC55/2022 Making the Rate 2022-23 45

Our Vision

Is for a safe, healthy environment where residents can enjoy a high quality of life. Our Cessnock City of the future will offer quality lifestyle and security, local services and shopping, local jobs, an unspoiled environment, safety, convenience, comfort and confidence in the future.

Council's Charter

* To provide directly or on behalf of other levels of government after due consultation, adequate, equitable and appropriate services and facilities for the community and to ensure that those services and facilities are managed efficiently and effectively.
* To exercise community leadership.
* To exercise its functions with due regard for the cultural and linguistic diversity of its community.
* To properly manage, develop, protect, restore, enhance and conserve the environment of the area for which it is responsible.
* To have regard to the long term and cumulative effects of its decisions.
* To bear in mind that it is the custodian and trustee of public assets and to effectively account for and manage the assets for which it is responsible.
* To facilitate the involvement of Councillors, members of the public, users of facilities and services and Council staff in the development, improvement and co-ordination of Local Government.
* To raise funds for local purposes by the fair imposition of rates, charges and fees, by income earned from investments and, when appropriate, by borrowings and grants
* To keep the local community and State Government (and through it, the wider community) informed about its activities.
* To ensure that, in the exercise of its regulatory functions, its acts consistently and without bias, particularly where an activity of the Council is affected.
* To be a responsible employer.

Council's Values & Management Principles

One Stop customer service	Responsibility for quality of services
Responsibility and accountability	Flatter management structures and eliminate duplication
Continually seek improvement	Recognise the dynamics of change
Planning on management activities	Adopt new approaches
Improve communication mechanisms	Protect and enhance the environment
The leadership role of Council	Fairness, equity, trust and integrity in all dealings

Council's Corporate Goals

1. To promote and provide quality services and facilities which focus on the needs of the community.
2. To protect, enhance and promote our natural, developed and cultural environment.
3. To actively foster the creation of employment and sustainable development opportunities acceptable to community and environmental standards.
4. To be a professionally managed and customer focused organisation which provides leadership through partnerships with the community.
5. To identify needs, share information and provide opportunities for active participation and community consultation.

Council adopted Model Code of Conduct

Council adopted the Model Code of conduct on 16 July 2008. This Code provides details of statutory requirements and gives guidance in respect of the way in which pecuniary and conflict of interest issues should be approached.

Generally, the policies refer to the following issues:

1. Councillors are under an obligation at law to disclose any interest they may have in any matter before the Council and to refrain from being involved in any consideration or to vote on any such matter

2. Councillors must disclose any interest in any matter noted in the business paper prior to or at the opening of the meeting

3. The nature of the interest shall be included in the notification

4. Councillors shall immediately and during the meeting disclose any interest in respect of any matter arising during the meeting which is not referred to in the business paper

5. All declarations of interest shall be recorded by the General Manager

6. All disclosures of interest shall as far as is practicable be given in writing

7. Any member having a pecuniary or non-pecuniary significant conflict of interest shall leave the meeting and remain absent while the subject of the interest is being considered by Council.

8. The meeting shall not discuss any matter in which a councillor has a pecuniary or non-pecuniary significant conflict of interest while the councillor is present at the meeting.

SUBJECT: ***DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST***

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER: ***Chief Finance Officer - Matthew Plumridge***

RECOMMENDATION

That Councillors now disclose any interests and reasons for declaring such interest in the matters under consideration by Council at this meeting.

SUMMARY

The provisions of Chapter 14 of the Local Government Act, 1993 regulate the way in which Councillors and nominated staff of council conduct themselves to ensure that there is no conflict between their private interests and their public trust.

The Act prescribes that where a member of Council (or a Committee of Council) has a direct or indirect financial (pecuniary) interest in a matter to be considered at a meeting of the Council (or Committee), that interest must be disclosed as soon as practicable after the start of the meeting and the reasons for declaring such interest.

As members are aware, the provisions of the Local Government Act restrict any member who has declared a pecuniary interest in any matter from participating in the discussions, voting on that matter, and require that member to vacate the Chamber.

Council's Code of Conduct provides that if members have a non-pecuniary conflict of interest, the nature of the conflict must be disclosed. The Code also provides for a number of ways in which a member may manage non pecuniary conflicts of interest.

ENCLOSURES

There are no enclosures for this report.

Corporate and Community

Report No. CC54/2022

Corporate and Community Services

SUBJECT: ***ADOPTION OF COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN 2022-2032, DELIVERY PROGRAM 2022-2026, INCORPORATING THE OPERATIONAL PLAN 2022-2023, BUDGET, REVENUE POLICY AND FEES & CHARGES 2022-2023***

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER: ***Chief Finance Officer - Matthew Plumridge***
Management Accountant - Kim Futcher
Finance Operations and Administration Coordinator - Kelly McGowan

SUMMARY

Council is required to undertake its corporate planning and reporting in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993,* the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021,* and the NSW Government's Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) Guidelines and Handbook 2021, collectively referred to as the IP&R Framework.

This report outlines changes made after exhibition and a summary of external submissions received.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council having considered all submissions received from the community following public exhibition of the draft documents adopts the:

- **Community Strategic Plan *Cessnock 2036***
- **Delivery Program 2022-2026 incorporating the Operational Plan 2022-2023, including the budget and Revenue Policy**
- **Resourcing Strategy incorporating the Long Term Financial Plan and Workforce Strategy**
- **Fees and Charges for 2022-2023**

2. **That the General Manager advises the authors of external submissions of Council's decision.**

BACKGROUND

On 4 May 2022, Council resolved to place the draft Community Strategic Plan, draft Delivery Program incorporating the Operational Plan, budget and Revenue Policy, draft Fees and Charges and draft Long Term Financial Plan on public exhibition.

The exhibition period took place from 5 May to 3 June 2022.

REPORT/PROPOSAL

Council is required to undertake its corporate planning and reporting in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993,* the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021,* and the NSW Government's Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) Guidelines and Handbook 2021 collectively referred to as the IP&R Framework.

Under the IP&R Framework, a Community Strategic Plan (CSP), Resourcing Strategy, Delivery Program, Operational Plan, budget and Fees and Charges documents were prepared.

On 4 May 2022, Council resolved to place the draft CSP, draft Delivery Program incorporating the Operational Plan, budget and Revenue Policy, draft Fees and Charges and draft Long Term Financial Plan on public exhibition.

The exhibition period took place from 5 May to 3 June 2022 with 21 submissions received directly to council and 47 provided from Councillors, for a total of 68 submissions. A list summarising the external submissions is included at ***Enclosure 1***. Councillors were provided with a briefing session on 1 June 2022 outlining submissions made, proposed changes and providing another opportunity to provide feedback.

In addition to external submissions received, Council collected additional input on the CSP via a survey. The results of the survey can be found at ***Enclosure 2.***

All changes made to the documents are after consideration of external feedback, internal submissions and quality review checks. Changes to the Delivery Program and Operational Plan actions are summarised in the document at ***Enclosure 3.***

The proposed final documents are included under separate cover and are available on Councils website.

On 20 June 2022, the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) released its determinations for Additional Special Rate Variation (ASV) for 2022-23 which approved 86 ASV applications from various NSW Councils.

The initial rate peg set by IPART for Council was 0.7% which would have adversely impacted on the ability to provide services for the community with a projected shortfall in critically needed infrastructure maintenance, particularly roads and recreation service areas of $8m over 10 years. Council's application for a 2.5% increase, which was an additional 1.8% to the rate peg was approved. This is reflected in the budget, Long Term Financial Plan, Revenue Policy and the Making the Rate Report to be considered by Council.

Budget Changes

While on exhibition Council Officers received submissions and undertook quality reviews of the budget which are summarised in the table below.

BUDGET CHANGES TO OPERATING STATEMENT	REASON FOR CHANGE	2022-23 $
Operating Result (Surplus)/Deficit excluding Grants & Contributions for Capital Purposes Draft Exhibition		**(100,157)**
Income Changes		
Ordinary Rates & Annual Charges	Increase to waste annual charges	(111,100)
User Charges & Fees	Reduction in swimming pool income due to revised estimates	61,470
Interest & Investment Revenue	Increase in investment returns reflecting market trend	(200,122)
Grants & Contributions for Operating Purposes	RID program contribution	(120,000)
Total Income Changes		**(369,752)**
Expenditure Changes		
Employee Benefits & On-Costs	Internal Audit correction to expense category	(63)
Material & Contracts	Organic waste collection	70,000
Material & Contracts	Reallocation of playground maintenance	-
Material & Contracts	RID program expenses	240,000
Material & Contracts	Safety Program Small Plant Replacement	10,000
Material & Contracts	Internal Audit correction to expense category	793
Other Operating Expenses	Councillor Superannuation	41,243
Other Operating Expenses	Election expenses	80,000
Other Operating Expenses	Mayor and Councillor Fees determined	2,480
Other Operating Expenses	Internal Audit correction to expense category	(730)
Total Expenditure Changes		**443,723**
Operating Result Change		**73,971**
Operating Result (Surplus)/Deficit excluding Grants & Contributions for Capital Purposes Final		**(26,186)**

Similar to the operating budget, the capital budget was reviewed and projects adjusted due to changing priorities including those projects deferred from the March quarterly review. The net effect to the capital budget is outlined below:

BUDGET CHANGES TO CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAM	2022-23 $
Capital Works Program Total Exhibition	**53,832,429**
A connected, safe and creative community	(174,321)
A sustainable and prosperous economy	(145,000)
A sustainable and healthy environment	957,382
Accessible infrastructure, services and facilities	5,322,961
Capital Works Program Change	**5,961,022**
Capital Works Program Total Final	**59,793,452**

All changes to operating and capital budgets are reflected in both the Delivery Program 2022-26 and Long Term Financial Plan 2022-32 documents.

Fees and charges changes

As a result of some regulation changes effecting the building and compliance areas of Council, there are a number of proposed changes which allow Council to recoup the cost of providing the service. There has also been some minor wording and formatting changes. The proposed changes to the Draft Fees & Charges are detailed within ***Enclosure 4.***

OPTIONS

The recommended option is to adopt the revised documents as attached to ensure Council meets legislative obligations.

Any option to further amend the documents prior to adoption is not recommended as the community would not have any opportunity to provide feedback on these amendments.

Deferring a decision or not adopting he documents is not recommended as Council will fail to meet is legislative obligations or provide the community with relevant plans.

CONSULTATION

Councillors
Community members
Executive Leadership and Management team
Council staff

STRATEGIC LINKS

a. Delivery Program

The IP&R Framework is required under CSP Outcome Civic leadership and effective governance and Delivery Program action 5.3 Making Council more responsive to the community.

. Other Plans

As listed in the proposed documents.

IMPLICATIONS

a. Policy and Procedural Implications

The CSP, Delivery Program and Operational Plan impact all areas of Council with required policies and procedures amended as required in time with their next review.

b. Financial Implications

Financial implications are included in the budgets and Long Term Financial Plan. The projected operating surplus highlights Council's desire to maintain strong budget discipline.

c. Legislative Implications

Local Government Act 1993
Local Government (General) Regulation 2021

d. Risk Implications

There are no significant risk implications. Documents have been prepared as per relevant legislation and guidelines.

e. Environmental Implications

NIL

f. Other Implications

NIL

CONCLUSION

The IP&R documents outlining Council's plans for the community are required to be adopted by 30 June 2022. These documents have been prepared in accordance with legislation and guidelines and after consideration of community and internal feedback.

ENCLOSURES

1⇩ Submissions Summary
2⇩ Survey Results
3⇩ Summary of changes made to Delivery Program and Operational Plan
4⇩ Changes to Fees and Charges
5⇩ IP&R Documents - CSP, Delivery Program, Operational Plan, Fees & Charges, Resourcing Plans - Provided Under Separate Cover

Summary of external submissions received

CSP Outcome	Submission	No. Received	Council Response
4. Accessible infrastructure, services and facilities	Standard of roads including Sandy Creek Rd, Richmond Vale Rd, cnr Ellalong and Wollombi Rd, Deakin St, Stanford Rd, Kurri Kurri, East Branxton	53	The Delivery Program identifies $1.4m for Local Road construction, $11.6m for Local Road renewal, $2.6m for Regional Road renewal, $3.9m for Safer Roads Program as well as an 11% increase in the roads maintenance budget. Many of the streets mentioned in submissions have projects identified for including Sandy Creek Rd and Wollombi Rd
4. Accessible infrastructure, services and facilities	Improved ground lighting in the Cessnock LGA with most refering to Birralee Oval, Kurri Kurri	5	Council Officers are currently working with sporting groups at Birralee Oval with the sporting fields soon to be 100 lux (enabling training and night time competitions to be held). There is funding identified within the Draft Delivery Program for improvements to floodlights at sporting facilities however priorities for these funds are District and Regional sporting facilities (in line with Council's Recreation and Open Space Strategic Plan), particularly those that have adopted Masterplans in place. As Abermain Soccer Ground is a local sporting facility, without an adopted Masterplan, there are no plans at this stage for major improvements to floodlights. Whilst no major improvements are planned, Council will continue to engage with the club to determine what can be achieved with Council's annual floodlighting maintenance allocation.
4. Accessible infrastructure, services and facilities	Lack of footpaths particularly to public transport links	2	$9.3m is allocated to pathways construction over the next 12 months with a further $10m over the following 3 years.
4. Accessible infrastructure, services and facilities	Increase kerb and guttering	2	$870k is allocated to drainage works incorporating various locations throughout the LGA
1. A connected, safe, and creative community	Cessnock Regional Art Gallery	1	Cessnock Regional Art Gallery Inc was a private entity that no longer exists. This submission relates to a past activity. While there is no funding for an art gallery, $810,000 is budgeted to refurbish the PACC and $1.6m operating expenditure for Performing Arts and Cultural Programs
5. Civic leadership and effective governance	Stop increases to Councillor fees	1	This was resolved at the May Council Meeting
5. Civic leadership and effective governance	No increases to rates for people living in the LGA. Investment properties should increase	1	Charging of rates in this manner is not allowed under appropriate legislation
4. Accessible infrastructure, services and facilities	Restart the train line	1	Council can advocate for commencement of the rail line but has not direct involvement in rail services

3. A sustainable and healthy environment	Request for a regional level park at Kurri Kurri	1	Council is implementing the Recreation and Open Space Strategic Plan that identifies parks required and the appropriate level. Members of the public were able to comment on the strategic plan prior to adoption.
3. A sustainable and healthy environment	Build Mount View Skatepark	1	This is currently unfunded, though there were $1m commitments made by the winning candidate for the seat of Hunter.
2. A sustainable and prosperous economy	More youth related activities. Eg Indoor Pool, Cinema	1	Council will continue to provide appropriate planning support for organisations looking to implement these types of activities. Currently Councl provides youth support through CYCOS.
3. A sustainable and healthy environment	Upgrade of parks for equipment for children under 5	1	All local parks are designed with appropriate equipment for children aged 0-12. Regional parks are equiped for ages 0 - 18.
2. A sustainable and prosperous economy	Improved commercial facilities in Ellalong, Paxton and Millfield	1	Council will continue to provide appropriate planning, support for organisations looking to provide these services
3. A sustainable and healthy environment	Demolition of burnt buildings in Kearsley and Cessnock	1	Council does not own these buildings, nor are they on Council land.
3. A sustainable and healthy environment	Build Miller Park Skatepark	1	This remains unfunded, however Council officers are continuing to seek funding for the project.
3. A sustainable and healthy environment	Provide adequate and improved cycling infrastructure including road markings	1	$9.3m is allocated to pathways construction over the next 12 months with a further $10m over the following 3 years. Bike lanes that are shared with roads are marked according to appropriate standards.
2. A sustainable and prosperous economy	Consider a new rating sub-category of Business - Self Storage with a 50% reduction to the rating	1	Council does not consider it appropriate to reduce the rating level of any commercial for profit business. Existing support is available for some not for profit organisations and for those in hardship.
4. Accessible infrastructure, services and facilities	A stronger focus and funding towards the Richmond Vale Rail Trail	1	Planning for the Richmond Vale Rail Trail will continue throughout the delivery program with design and attendance with the Richmond Vale Rail Trail working group. The construction of the trail is currently unfunded.

*Note some submissions covered multiple areas

Q1 Which Outcome would you like to comment on?

Answered: 34 Skipped: 0

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Outcome 1: A connected, safe and creative community	29.41%	10
Outcome 2: A sustainable and prosperous economy	5.88%	2
Outcome 3: A sustainable and healthy environment	0.00%	0
Outcome 4: Accessible infrastructure, services and facilities	50.00%	17
Outcome 5: Civic leadership and effective governance	2.94%	1
I would like to lodge a formal submission about the Draft Community Strategic Plan Cessnock 2036 / Delivery Program 2022-26 / Long Term Financial Plan 2022 / Statement of Fees and Charges 2022-23	11.76%	4
TOTAL		34

Q2 I support the following objectives within Outcome 1: A connected, safeand creative community (select all that apply)

Answered: 7 Skipped: 27

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
We are connected to others in our neighbourhood and across the Cessnock Local Government Area	71.43%	5
Our community has opportunities to celebrate together	42.86%	3
Our community has high levels of wellbeing	42.86%	3
Our community has access to diverse and affordable housing	57.14%	4
We work together to achieve inclusivity and reconciliation	71.43%	5
Our community is aware of and has access to community services and facilities	42.86%	3
Our residents show pride in our local government area	42.86%	3
Our community organisations have opportunities to work together to develop and deliver services	42.86%	3
We have multi-purpose sporting and recreation facilities that meet the needsof a growing population	28.57%	2
Our residents and visitors feel safe in the Cessnock Local Government Area	57.14%	4
Our CBD areas are safe at night	57.14%	4
Our roads are safe for motorists and pedestrians	42.86%	3
We have thriving cultural precincts throughout the Local Government Area that celebrate our heritage and culture.	57.14%	4
We have a diverse program of cultural and heritage activities	42.86%	3
We have access to quality education and lifelong learning opportunities	42.86%	3
Total Respondents: 7		

Q3 Generally, do you feel that we have our objectives right for Connected, Safe and Creative Community?

Answered: 8 Skipped: 26

ANSWER CHOICES	AVERAGE NUMBER	TOTAL NUMBER	RESPONSES
	52	412	8
Total Respondents: 8			

#		DATE
1	80	6/3/2022 4:40 PM
2	77	5/27/2022 9:29 AM
3	0	5/24/2022 10:25 AM
4	41	5/16/2022 4:23 PM
5	37	5/15/2022 9:37 PM
6	83	5/15/2022 8:40 PM
7	15	5/15/2022 4:02 PM
8	79	5/13/2022 3:32 PM

Q4 Is there anything you feel that we have missed in planning our Connected, Safe and Creative Community objectives? If so, please detail below.

Answered: 6 Skipped: 28

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Anti-social hooning is an increasing problem on many roads in the area, as evidenced by the rubber skid marks on the roads. This is a safety risk to the people involved, onlookers and passing motorists, be they visitors or locals.	6/3/2022 4:40 PM
2	I think that we could celebrate our First Nation Community	5/27/2022 9:29 AM
3	Yes, safe pathways along rural primary schools to ensure children can get to school safely	5/24/2022 10:25 AM
4	The need to make DA process accessible and easier so that we can utilise all those empty shops and Heritage listed sites for Community use. Instead of blocking every suggestion - liaise	5/16/2022 4:23 PM
5	Cessnock LGA doesn't really have community events, there is like maybe 4 that i know of in a year, so that's lacking. you are so out of touch if you think we have affordable housing, the median house price has gone from 300,00-400,000 to 650,00-900,000. So i dont know how anyone is suppose to buy their first home. Next the rent, have you looked up the price of rent? I know so many people that are fighting for a rental because we have that maybe airbnbs in the town. Community services? What is that? We had hunter hands of hope helping the homeless and it got shut down, council wouldn't help. The sporting centres, that's a joke. They haven't been upgraded in years and so out of touch with the community. The roads safe. You have to be joking. Id like you to drive Cessnock LGA and come back and tell me they are safe. The list is endless on this one, on what is wrong	5/15/2022 9:37 PM
6	Remove Housing Commision Homes from the area completely. Cessnock has alpt of potential of we get rid of that certain demographic. I'd like to call it. Protocol- Clean up Cessnock	5/15/2022 4:02 PM

Q5 Would you like to provide feedback on another theme?

Answered: 7 Skipped: 27

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
No	28.57%	2
Yes - Outcome 1: A connected, safe and creative community	0.00%	0
Yes - Outcome 2: A sustainable and prosperous economy	28.57%	2
Yes - Outcome 3: A sustainable and healthy environment	0.00%	0
Yes - Outcome 4: Accessible infrastructure, services, and facilities	42.86%	3
Yes - Outcome 5: Civic leadership and effective governance	0.00%	0
TOTAL		7

Q6 I support the following objectives within Outcome 2: A sustainable and prosperous economy (select all that apply)

Answered: 3 Skipped: 31

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Our local government area is attractive to and supportive of businesses	66.67%	2
We have a diversity of businesses and industries across the local government area	33.33%	1
We have adequate industrial and employment lands and thriving commercial precincts	33.33%	1
We attract investment and innovation from government, business, and industry	33.33%	1
We have education and training opportunities for people of all ages and abilities	33.33%	1
We have a diverse range of local employment opportunities	66.67%	2
We have a range of diverse visitor experiences across the entire local government area	66.67%	2
Our local government area is attractive to visitors	66.67%	2
Total Respondents: 3		

Q7 Generally, do you feel that we have our objectives right for A sustainable andprosperous economy?

Answered: 3 Skipped: 31

ANSWER CHOICES	AVERAGE NUMBER	TOTAL NUMBER	RESPONSES
	59	178	3
Total Respondents: 3			

#		DATE
1	75	6/3/2022 4:45 PM
2	60	5/27/2022 9:29 AM
3	43	5/15/2022 9:37 PM

Q8 Is there anything you feel that we have missed in planning our sustainable andprosperous economy objectives? If so, please detail below.

Answered: 2 Skipped: 32

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	We need to acknowledge the inevitable decline of the coal industry and the impact on local jobs. We need a local task force committed to identifying industries of the future suited to our area and ensuring that suitable training is made available. Federal Govt funding will be required to entice new industries to set up here, and providing renewable energy will be part of that.	6/3/2022 4:45 PM
2	There is hardly anything at our local tafe, if you want to learn anything you have to go 30 minutes out of town, with maybe one bus that will get you to Newcastle. Unless you want to work in hospitality or retail there isn't anything in the town for work. We all know those jobs are casual so how is anyone able to buy a house	5/15/2022 9:37 PM

Q9 Would you like to provide feedback on another theme?

Answered: 3 Skipped: 31

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
No	0.00%	0
Yes - Outcome 1: A connected, safe and creative community	33.33%	1
Yes - Outcome 3: A sustainable and healthy environment	33.33%	1
Yes - Outcome 4: Accessible infrastructure, services, and facilities	33.33%	1
Yes - Outcome 5: Civic leadership and effective governance	0.00%	0
TOTAL		3

Q10 I support the following objectives within Outcome 3: A sustainable andhealthy environment (select all that apply)

Answered: 5 Skipped: 29

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
We act on climate change and build disaster resilience	100.00%	5
Our area's rural character and heritage is protected	80.00%	4
We act to protect our unique biodiversity and natural resources	100.00%	5
Our environmental amenity is protected and enhanced	60.00%	3
Our waterways and catchments are maintained and enhanced	60.00%	3
Our open spaces are distributed where people live	80.00%	4
We have green corridors connecting our open space areas	60.00%	3
Our open spaces have suitable facilities, infrastructure, and plenty of shade	40.00%	2
We divert more of our waste for recycling or re-processing	60.00%	3
We promote waste avoidance	40.00%	2
We create value from waste	20.00%	1
Total Respondents: 5		

Q11 Generally, do you feel that we have our objectives right for A sustainable andhealthy environment?

Answered: 5 Skipped: 29

ANSWER CHOICES	AVERAGE NUMBER	TOTAL NUMBER	RESPONSES
	42	212	5
Total Respondents: 5			

#		DATE
1	80	6/3/2022 4:49 PM
2	62	5/27/2022 9:32 AM
3	28	5/26/2022 10:20 PM
4	37	5/15/2022 8:42 PM
5	5	5/14/2022 6:00 AM

Q12 Is there anything you feel that we have missed in planning our sustainable and healthy environment objectives? If so, please detail below.

Answered: 4 Skipped: 30

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Need to embrace the circular economy and set up appropriate processing facilities here - maybe regional scale. We also need to help residents act on climate change eg facilitate solar bulk-buys etc.	6/3/2022 4:49 PM
2	We have such rich environment and it's needed to be protected. I think we could focus on recycling centres and upcycling centres instead of throwing furniture into the tip	5/27/2022 9:32 AM
3	Greenspace and suitable footpaths especially in Bellbird. Too many houses and no greenspace unless it's totally unavoidable for the developer. Cessnock councilors should try and walk anywhere in Bellbird and try to get home unscathed.	5/26/2022 10:20 PM
4	You cannot halve the waste collections and think there is going to be less waste. People will just dump their waste which will impact the environment and ecosystems you are trying to preserve	5/14/2022 6:00 AM

Q13 Would you like to provide feedback on another theme?

Answered: 5 Skipped: 29

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
No	60.00%	3
Yes - Outcome 1: A connected, safe and creative community	0.00%	0
Yes - Outcome 2: A sustainable and prosperous economy	0.00%	0
Yes - Outcome 4: Accessible infrastructure, services, and facilities	20.00%	1
Yes - Outcome 5: Civic leadership and effective governance	20.00%	1
TOTAL		5

Q14 I support the following objectives within Outcome 4: Accessible infrastructure,services, and facilities (select all that apply)

Answered: 14 Skipped: 20

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
We have access to a range of public and community transport	35.71%	5
Our communities are linked by walking and bike tracks	64.29%	9
Our transport network is integrated and supported by appropriate infrastructure	35.71%	5
Our Airport acts as a key transport, emergency response and business hub	28.57%	4
We have an acceptable, safe, and affordable road network	85.71%	12
We have managed the traffic impact of the Hunter Expressway on local communities	57.14%	8
We have well managed traffic conditions across our suburbs	71.43%	10
We have better availability of and access to hospitals and health services in the local government area	64.29%	9
We have better availability of and access to general practitioners and dental services in the local government area	35.71%	5
We have regional standard health services, facilities, and health professionals	71.43%	10
Total Respondents: 14		

Q15 Generally, do you feel that we have our objectives right for Accessible infrastructure, services, and facilities?

Answered: 15 Skipped: 19

ANSWER CHOICES	AVERAGE NUMBER	TOTAL NUMBER	RESPONSES
	42	637	15
Total Respondents: 15			

#		DATE
1	85	6/3/2022 4:50 PM
2	4	6/2/2022 4:11 PM
3	0	6/1/2022 8:45 PM
4	0	5/31/2022 6:48 AM
5	66	5/27/2022 9:30 AM
6	60	5/26/2022 10:17 PM
7	51	5/25/2022 2:16 PM
8	0	5/24/2022 10:27 AM
9	49	5/23/2022 8:28 PM
10	58	5/16/2022 4:23 PM
11	49	5/16/2022 12:17 PM
12	51	5/15/2022 9:23 PM
13	10	5/15/2022 4:03 PM
14	54	5/14/2022 5:57 AM
15	100	5/6/2022 3:21 PM

Q16 Is there anything you feel that we have missed in planning our Accessible infrastructure, services, and facilities? If so, please detail below.

Answered: 12 Skipped: 22

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	With the influx of new building developments and suburbs Cessnock is choked. How about some orbital roads that link to main roads - rather than our residential streets being used at rat runs at peak times to avoid delays. People are running late and speed through back roads etc to get to work.	6/2/2022 4:11 PM
2	We need much more focus on improving the roads before adding bike tracks and improving the airport.	6/1/2022 8:45 PM
3	Kerb and guttering. This must be councils #1 priority	5/31/2022 6:48 AM
4	The ongoing development in Bellbird is leaving the people of the area in constant flux. It's eroding our community and infrastructure and leaving us with an unmanageable new standard of living. Thís village has gone.	5/26/2022 10:17 PM
5	Priority to fixing the roads is essential. Roads such as Wilderness Road are extremely dangerous to cyclists with the size and number of potholes made worse by the recent Lovedale Long Lunch traffic. The Council is risking ratepayer money on legal expenses if a cyclist hits a pothole and seriously injures themselves.	5/25/2022 2:16 PM
6	Yes, you have built a pathway to a bus stop but the pathway runs to a drainage area, the bus stop is used once a day for high school pick up, there is no public transport in Kitchener and therefore this new bus stop in the middle of a property front is a waste of effort from council	5/24/2022 10:27 AM
7	Services and infrastructure in the rural parts of the lga. There are zero services or infrastructure around fernances crossing amd laguna.	5/23/2022 8:28 PM
8	Unite Community Service groups to work together	5/16/2022 4:23 PM
9	Fixing potholes and provide gutters and footpaths.	5/16/2022 7:32 AM
10	Every person you speak to in this town, wants the roads to be fixed to better standards, we have roads that aren't even 6 months old falling about. We need more lights or round about to help with traffic flow, we need more parking, some uncover parking would help keep families shopping local.	5/15/2022 9:23 PM
11	Cessnock Hospital needs to be a priority to get updated urgently. We need More doctors and nurses, Cessnock needs a couple of really good GP Clinics. The ones we have available now are not great what so ever. Our roads need to be fixed and maintained to a higher standard than what we have at the moment. Cessnock Council needs to look at the Fire safety installed systems installed throughout all the buildings, I see on a daily basis non compliant fire satety system installed in buildings and buildings with no AFSS.	5/15/2022 4:03 PM
12	The road network and traffic management is a joke. Roads are falling apart and there is not enough infrastructure to support all the new houses	5/14/2022 5:57 AM

Q17 Would you like to provide feedback on another theme?

Answered: 15 Skipped: 19

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
No	46.67%	7
Yes - Outcome 1: A connected, safe and creative community	13.33%	2
Yes - Outcome 2: A sustainable and prosperous economy	0.00%	0
Yes - Outcome 3: A sustainable and healthy environment	20.00%	3
Yes - Outcome 5: Civic leadership and effective governance	20.00%	3
TOTAL		15

Q18 I support the following objectives within Outcome 5 Civic leadership and effective governance (select all that apply)

Answered: 4 Skipped: 30

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
We have well-trained and qualified leaders in our community and in our workforce	50.00%	2
Our young people aspire to become leaders	50.00%	2
Our Council is committed to implementing our community's vision	25.00%	1
We are informed about our community	25.00%	1
We are involved in decisions affecting our community	50.00%	2
We have effective relationships across different levels of government	25.00%	1
Our Council is customer focused	25.00%	1
Our Council's processes are efficient and transparent	75.00%	3
Our Council is financially sustainable	50.00%	2
Total Respondents: 4		

Q19 Generally, do you feel that we have our objectives right for Civic leadership and effective governance?

Answered: 5 Skipped: 29

ANSWER CHOICES	AVERAGE NUMBER	TOTAL NUMBER	RESPONSES
	33	165	5
Total Respondents: 5			

#		DATE
1	86	6/3/2022 4:52 PM
2	0	6/1/2022 8:46 PM
3	45	5/27/2022 9:34 AM
4	34	5/15/2022 9:25 PM
5	0	5/15/2022 4:03 PM

Q20 Is there anything you feel that we have missed in planning our Civic leadership and effective governance? If so, please detail below.

Answered: 4 Skipped: 30

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	We need civic leadership on climate action - we can't afford to have leaders who don't acknowledge the science and the need for action.	6/3/2022 4:52 PM
2	Council is not listening to the community	6/1/2022 8:46 PM
3	We need to be more aware of projects going on in our area and why council is prioritising certain areas.	5/27/2022 9:34 AM
4	I gave a low score, as i dont feel like the council is connected to the community like they should be	5/15/2022 9:25 PM

Q21 Would you like to provide feedback on another theme?

Answered: 2 Skipped: 32

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
No	0.00%	0
Yes - Outcome 1: A connected, safe and creative community	50.00%	1
Yes - Outcome 2: A sustainable and prosperous economy	50.00%	1
Yes - Outcome 3: A sustainable and healthy environment	0.00%	0
Yes - Outcome 4: Accessible infrastructure, services, and facilities	0.00%	0
TOTAL		2

Delivery Program Changes

Activity Number	From	To
1.3.4	Continue implementation of local government road safety projects from the Road Safety Strategic Plan 2020-2024	Continue development and delivery of road safety projects under the local government program in line with Council's Road Safety Strategic Plan 2020-2024
2.2.3	Continue the Cessnock City Youth First project	DELETED. Covered in 2.2.2.
2.2.4 becomes 2.2.3	Provide and promote apprenticeships and traineeships within Council	Provide and promote graduate, apprenticeship and traineeship programs with Council
4.1.1	Advocate for increased road and community transport and associated infrastructure funding	Advocate for increased funding for road and community transport and associated infrastructure
4.1.7	Continue implementation of the city wide section 7.11 Contributions Plans	Continue implementation of the Section 7.11 City Wide Infrastructure Contributions Plans

Corporate Measure Changes

Target for unique visitors Advance Greater Cessnock website from 28,000 to 19,000

Target for unique visitors Hunter Valley tourism website from 398,000 to 350,000

Target for Development Applications Processing times to Maintain

Median | 34 Days Mean | 54 Days

Operational Plan Changes

Action	Action Change
1.1.4.e	New Action Develop program to ensure Banner Poles use is maximised to advertise Council and community events Target: Banner Poles are in use 80% of the year.
1.3.4.a	New Action

	Implement next steps of local government road safety project from the Road Safety Strategic Plan
1.3.5.e	Removed as duplicate
3.1.2.b	Removed as completed
3.1.4.a	Implement biodiversity education programs Target: • Undertake a minimum of two spotlighting / bushwalk events for the community during Spring 2022. • Continue to work with partner organisations to address threats to local bushland and deliver the Bushland Festival. • Continue participation in the partnership for the annual Bushland Festival.
3.1.5.a	Change target: Target: • Review and monitor Energy Efficiency Action Plan and Revolving Energy Fund including costs and returns. • Continue to implement actions when funds available.
3.1.6.a	Continue former waste sites contaminated land program to determine Councils remediation strategy with key stakeholders including risk and financial impacts. Target: Complete all Remediation Action Plans including auditor sign off by April 2023. Report to Council risk and priority ratings.
3.1.7.d	Continue community engagement and education relating to environmental initiatives. Target: • Support environment day with schools by providing trees and compost in June 2023. • Undertake community planting day for National Tree Day in July 2022. • Research future implementation behaviour change programs to facilitate people adopting sustainable lifestyles. • Assist in the implementation of regional sustainability programs with Hunter Joint Organisation and service delivery partners. • Work with schools as requested.
3.1.7.e	Support environment and sustainability community groups within the LGA to implement awareness and on-ground projects. Target: Provide Dollar for Dollar grants to support these groups deliver on-ground programs.
3.3.1.a	Design a permanent Administration and Education Centre, including staff amenities, for the waste transfer station and landfill operation. Target: • Finalise design of building by March 2023. • Prepare tender documentation including specifications by June 2023.
3.3.2.a	Continue management of Biodiversity Offset area for the landfill extension project.

	Target: • Undertaken Year 1 actions contained in the Biodiversity Offset Management Plan. • Complete demolition of existing residence by March 2023.
3.3.2.b	Continue preparation of landfill extension area to access operational cover material for landfill. Target: • Phase 1 Clearing to be undertaken in accordance with the Vegetation Management Plan by August 2022. • Preliminary excavation to commence by October 2022.
3.3.3.a	Change target: Target: • Hold three mattress drop-off days during 2022/23. • Continue the sharps disposal program. Continue to operate the community recycling centre and stations. • Work with the EPA to deliver a household chemical cleanout event in Autumn 2023.
3.3.3.b	Develop policies and procedures to increase the efficiency of waste services. Target: • Review and update Waste Chapter of DCP. • Draft guidelines for waste management in new developments.
3.3.4.a	Continue to implement a waste avoidance and reuse community engagement program targeting attitudes to consumption. Target: • Develop a campaign logo and associated slogan for the Waste Avoidance program. • Undertake a minimum of two community activities on Avoid Waste topics.
3.3.4.b	Removed as completed
3.3.4.b (previously 3.3.4.c)	Develop a reuse program at the waste management centre to divert waste from landfill. Target: • Work with local charitable organisations to implement a reuse program at Cessnock Waste Management Centre
3.3.4.d	Removed as completed
3.3.4.e (previously 3.3.4.g)	Work with HRR to deliver the kerbside recycling collection Target: • Work with HRR and partner council's on new recycling contract for 2025 commencement.

	• Undertake a review of the current corporate model (W&RRS 2.4) with recommendations by June 2023.
3.3.4.f (previousl 3.3.4.h)	Operate the Cessnock Waste Management Centre in accordance with the Environment Protection Licence and relevant legislation and to encourage resource recovery. Target: • Undertake ongoing staff training in regards to environment protection at CWMC. • Annual monitoring reports and annual return completed by 11 December 2022. • Pollution incident plan tested and monitored by May 2023.
3.3.5.a	Implement Regional Illegal Dumping operation in conjunction with Hunter Joint Organisation of Councils. Target: Program operating by 30 June 2023.
3.3.5.c	Undertake illegal dumping cleanups and prevention programs, subject to grant funding. Target: Apply for additional funding, as available.
4.1.1.b	Continue upgrade of Public Transport stops to *ensure* DDA compliance and apply for available funding in accordance with grant funding guidelines and timeframes
4.1.2.a	Continue to investigate and design the prioritized upgrade of Wollombi Road, Bellbird to Cessnock as per the Cessnock LGA Traffic and Transport Strategy *and City Wide Contributions Plan*
4.1.2.b	Amend target to read - Wollombi Road/Darwin Street Traffic control signals - Wollombi Road/Westcott Street Traffic control signals - Wollombi Road/Abbotsford Street Traffic control signals - Wollombi Road Allandale Road to Darwin Street Reconfiguration (4 lanes) - Wollombi Road Darwin Street to Francis Street Investigation and Design
4.1.3.a	Implement the following prioritized pathway project from the Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan Target: Seek grant funding opportunities under the Walking and Cycling Program for prioritized projects listed in Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan (PAMP) and Cycling Strategy
4.1.4.a	Investigate and design the following prioritized project from the Cycling Strategy. Target: Seek grant funding opportunities under the Walking and Cycling Program for prioritized projects listed in PAMP and Cycling Strategy
4.2.1.d	Develop guidelines for the opening of roads Target: Completed by 30 June 2023
4.3.2.a	New Action:

	Monitor health services in the community to identify any shortfalls.
5.3.11.a	Undertake a project to assess the need for a possible Special Rate Variation application

Proposed Changes to the Draft exhibition Fees and Charges document

Page	*Section*	*Proposed Change*
40	Inspection Fee – Commercial	Delete proposed fees. Reason: We do not inspect commercial premises, however the draft indicates we do inspect but do not charge for the inspection.
41	Class 1 & Class 10 Buildings	Increase to $300.00 Reason: This fee is no longer prescribed by the regulation. Council is proposing a full cost recovery model.
41	Not Exceeding 200m2	Increase to $300.00 Reason: This fee is no longer prescribed by the regulation. Council is proposing a full cost recovery model.
41	Exceeding 200m2 but not Exceeding 2000m2	Increase to $300.00 Reason: This fee is no longer prescribed by the regulation. Council is proposing a full cost recovery model.
41	Exceeding 2000m2	Increase to $1,400.00 Reason: This fee is no longer prescribed by the regulation. Council is proposing a full cost recovery model.
41	Part of building and that part consists of an external wall or does not otherwise have a floor area.	Increase to $300.00 Reason: This fee is no longer prescribed by the regulation. Council is proposing a full cost recovery model.
41	Class 1 & 10 Buildings (as defined within the Building Code of Australia)	New Fee: Standard application fee plus equivalent DA & CC fee plus a complexity fee (see note) Note: A complexity fee is payable where the initial assessment prevents the issue of the certificate and further assessment is required. The complexity fee will be charged at a rate of $105/hr or part thereof. The complexity fee is required to be paid before the certificate is determined and issued. Reason: Additional fees to be added after legislation changes.
41	Re-inspection Fee	Increase to $110.00 Delete note Reason: This fee is no longer prescribed by the regulation. Council is proposing a full cost recovery model.
41	Copy of Building Certificate	Increase to $35.00 Delete note Reason: This fee is no longer prescribed by the regulation. Council is proposing a full cost recovery model.

Page	*Section*	*Proposed Change*
41	Class 1 & 10 Building (as defined within the Building Code of Australia)	New Fee: Standard application fee plus equivalent DA & CC fee plus a complexity fee (see note) Note: A complexity fee is payable where the initial assessment prevents the issue of the certificate and further assessment is required. The complexity fee will be charged at a rate of $180/hr or part thereof. The complexity fee is required to be paid before the certificate is determined and issued. Reason: Additional fees to be added after legislation changes.
41	Class 2 – 9 Building (as defined within the Building Code of Australia)	New Fee: Standard application fee plus equivalent DA & CC fee plus a complexity fee (see note) Note: A complexity fee is payable where the initial assessment prevents the issue of the certificate and further assessment is required. The complexity fee will be charged at a rate of $180/hr or part thereof. The complexity fee is required to be paid before the certificate is determined and issued. Reason: Additional fees to be added after legislation changes.
41	Insert wording under heading – other Classes	Comment: Fees associated with Building Information Certificates (BIC) were previously prescribed under the now repealed Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000. Until such time as legislation prescribes fees associated with BIC's, Council may charge a fee for its regulatory functions under s608 LG Act. The fees for a BIC have been updated to be consistent with Full Operating Cost Recovery
42	Unauthorised Development Fee	Delete Proposed fee. Reason: Additional fees to be added to replace fee after legislation changes.
54	Registration of Dog (non-Desexed)	Increase fee to $234.00 Reason: Regulated Fee. Released by the Office of Local Government on 2 June 2022 - Council Circular 22-16 Increases to companion animal fees for 2022/23
54	Registration of desexed dogs	Increase fee to $69.00 Add wording (by relevant age) Reason: Regulated Fee. Released by the Office of Local Government on 2 June 2022 - Council Circular 22-16 Increases to companion animal fees for 2022/23

Page	***Section***	***Proposed Change***
54	Registration of desexed dogs (pensioners)	Increase fee to $29.00 Reason: Regulated Fee. Released by the Office of Local Government on 2 June 2022 - Council Circular 22-16 Increases to companion animal fees for 2022/23
54	Registration of Dogs kept by registered breeders for breeding	Increase fee to $69.00 Reason: Regulated Fee. Released by the Office of Local Government on 2 June 2022 - Council Circular 22-16 Increases to companion animal fees for 2022/23
54	Annual Permits	Adding the word Dog Reason: To make the title more relevant for the community
54	Declared Dangerous Dogs	Increase fee to $206.00 Reason: Regulated Fee. Released by the Office of Local Government on 2 June 2022 - Council Circular 22-16 Increases to companion animal fees for 2022/23
54	Restricted Dog Breeds	Increase fee to $206.00 Reason: Regulated Fee. Released by the Office of Local Government on 2 June 2022 - Council Circular 22-16 Increases to companion animal fees for 2022/23
54	Late Permit Fee	Increase fee to $19.00 Reason: Regulated Fee. Released by the Office of Local Government on 2 June 2022 - Council Circular 22-16 Increases to companion animal fees for 2022/23
55	Registration of cat (non-Desexed)	Increase fee to $59.00 Reason: Regulated Fee. Released by the Office of Local Government on 2 June 2022 - Council Circular 22-16 Increases to companion animal fees for 2022/23
55	Registration of desexed cat	Increase fee to $59.00 Add wording (by relevant age) Reason: Regulated Fee. Released by the Office of Local Government on 2 June 2022 - Council Circular 22-16 Increases to companion animal fees for 2022/23
55	Registration of desexed cat (pensioners)	Increase fee to $29.00 Reason: Regulated Fee. Released by the Office of Local Government on 2 June 2022 - Council Circular 22-16 Increases to companion animal fees for 2022/23
55	Registration of cat kept by registered breeders for breeding	Increase fee to $59.00 Reason: Regulated Fee. Released by the Office of Local Government on 2 June 2022 - Council Circular 22-16 Increases to companion animal fees for 2022/23

Page	***Section***	***Proposed Change***
55	Annual Permits	Adding the word Cat Reason: To make the title more relevant for the community
55	Non desexed cats	Increase fee to $85.00 Add the wording - By 4 months of age Reason: Regulated Fee. Released by the Office of Local Government on 2 June 2022 - Council Circular 22-16 Increases to companion animal fees for 2022/23
55	Late Permit Fee	Increase fee to $19.00 Reason: Regulated Fee. Released by the Office of Local Government on 2 June 2022 - Council Circular 22-16 Increases to companion animal fees for 2022/23
63	Interment Site Fee	Add the wording – Adult / Child Reason: To make the fee clear for the community
99	General Mixed Waste – Per Tonne	Increase fee to $415.00 Reason: Increase fee is a result of the increase cost of fuel and associated expenses at the waste management center.
101	Shredded tyres – per tonne	Increase fee to $415.00 Reason: Increase fee is a result of the increase cost of fuel and associated expenses at the waste management center.
102	Oils – Commercial (conditions apply) - Per tonne	Reduce fee to $150.00 Reason: Original fee was entered incorrectly

Placeholder for Enclosure 5

Corporate and Community No. CC54/2022

IP&R Documents - CSP, Delivery Program, Operational Plan, Fees & Charges, Resourcing Plans - Provided Under Separate Cover

Corporate and Community

Report No. CC55/2022

Corporate and Community Services

SUBJECT: ***MAKING THE RATE 2022-23***

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER: ***Finance Operations and Administration Coordinator - Kelly McGowan***
Chief Finance Officer - Matthew Plumridge

SUMMARY

The Operational Plan 2022-23 includes the Revenue Policy that detailed the rates and charges proposed to be levied for the year commencing 1 July 2022. Council is statutorily required to make the rate following the adoption of the Operational Plan to ensure the legality of the rates and charges levied.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council make the following rates and charges for the year commencing 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023:

1. Ordinary Rates

The following Ordinary Rates now be made for the year commencing 1 July 2022.

Category	Sub Category	Ad-valorem Amount Cents in $	Base Amount $	Base % of Total Rate
Residential		0.471418	430.00	34.04%
Residential	Rural	0.389098	430.00	20.39%
Farmland		0.330590	430.00	15.61%
Farmland	Mixed Use	0.850264	535.00	6.90%
Farmland	Business Rural	0.850264	535.00	9.27%
Business		1.808720	535.00	12.36%
Mining		3.890614	1,500.00	0.51%

2. Waste Charges

Council do hereby prescribe and order under Section 496 of the *Local Government Act 1993* for rateable land categorised for rating purposes as residential or farmland and situated within the area in which a Domestic Waste Management Service is able to be provided, that the following waste charges be now made for the year commencing 1 July 2022.

Domestic Waste Management Service Charge

Domestic Waste Management Availability Charge [1]	$76.00
Domestic Waste Management Service Charge [2]	$645.00
Additional Domestic Waste Management Service Charge [3]	$645.00
Additional Domestic Waste Management Service Charge – Recycling	$82.20
Additional Domestic Waste Management Service Charge – Organics	$82.20

1. Charge applies to vacant rateable land situated within the area in which a Domestic Waste Management Service is able to be provided.

2. Each premise is entitled to one approved mobile waste bin mixed waste service per week, one fortnightly collection of recyclable material and one fortnightly collection of organic material for each Domestic Waste Management Service Charge.
3. Each premise is entitled to one approved mobile waste bin mixed waste service per week for each Additional Domestic Waste Management Service Charge.

Council do hereby prescribe and order under Section 501 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, for land not categorised for rating purposes as residential or farmland and situated within the area in which a Waste Management Service is able to be provided, that the following waste charges be now made for the year commencing 1 July 2022.

Waste Management Service Charge

Waste Management Service Charge [1]	$787.00
Additional Waste Management Service Charge [2]	$787.00
Additional Waste Management Service Charge - Recycling	$82.20
Additional Waste Management Service Charge - Organics	$82.20

1. Each premise is entitled to one approved mobile waste bin mixed waste service per week and one fortnightly collection of recyclable material for each Waste Management Service Charge. Each premise is also entitled to one fortnightly collection of organic material for each Waste Management Service Charge upon request and justification of needs.
2. Each premise is entitled to one approved mobile waste bin mixed waste service per week for each Additional Waste Management Service Charge.

3. Stormwater Management Services Charges

Council do hereby prescribe and order under Section 496A of the *Local Government Act 1993*, for land situated within the designated stormwater area, that the following stormwater charges be now made for the year commencing 1 July 2022.

Stormwater Management Service Charge

Stormwater Management Service Charge - Residential	$25.00
Stormwater Management Service Charge - Residential Strata	$12.50
Stormwater Management Service Charge - Business	$25.00 per 350m^2 (or part thereof) to a maximum $500

4. Interest on Overdue rates and Charges

Council do hereby determine and order, in accordance with Section 566 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, that if rates and charges are unpaid at the due date, the amount shall be increased by a sum calculated at:

- six per cent (6%) per annum, simple interest, calculated daily for the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023.

5. Hunter Local Land Services

Council, in accordance with Clauses 36 and 40, Part 4, of the *Local Land Services Regulation 2014*, prescribes that the rate for the year commencing 1 July 2022 shall be the rate gazetted by the Minister for the Hunter Catchment Contribution for the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023 inclusive being 0.00977 of a cent in the dollar of rateable land value.

BACKGROUND

The Operational Plan for the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023 incorporates the revenue policy for rates and charges proposed to be levied for 2022-23. Council is required to make the rates and charges for the financial year commencing 1 July 2022 in accordance with Sections 535, 537 & 538 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act).

REPORT/PROPOSAL

Council's Operational Plan for 2022-23, inclusive of the revenue statements with respect to each Ordinary and Special Rates and Charges proposed to be levied, was resolved to be placed on public exhibition by Council at its Extraordinary Meeting of 4 May 2022 and the Operational Plan 2022-23 is being considered for adoption at this meeting of Council.

In accordance with Sections 535, 537 & 538 of the Act, Council is required to make the rates and charges for the financial year commencing 1 July 2022. Extracts of the relevant sections of the Act are reproduced below for Council's information.

Section 535 Rate or charge to be made by resolution
A rate or charge is made by resolution of the Council.

Section 537 Form of resolution specifying base amounts of rates
In the resolution that specifies a base amount of a rate, or the base amount of a rate for a category or sub-category of an ordinary rate, the Council must state:

(a) the amount in dollars of the base amount, and

(b) the percentage, in conformity with section 500, of the total amount payable by the levying of the rate, or the rate for the category or sub-category concerned of the ordinary rate, that the levying of the base amount will produce.

Section 538 Form of resolution for special rate
(1) In the resolution that makes a special rate, the Council must state whether the special rate is to be levied on all rateable land in the Council's area or on only a part of that land.

(2) If the special rate is to be levied on only a part of that land, the Council must specify in the resolution the part on which it is to be levied.

The Office of Local Government (circular 22-06 Information about Rating 2022-23) detailed the prescribed maximum interest rate on overdue rates and charges as follows:

> In accordance with section 566(3) of the Act, it has been determined that the maximum rate of interest payable on overdue rates and charges for the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023 (inclusive) will be 6.0% per annum.

OPTIONS

N/A

CONSULTATION

Consultation has taken place with Councillors and Council staff in preparing the draft Operational Plan, incorporating the proposed rates and charges to be levied. The Operational Plan inclusive of the Revenue Statement was publicly advertised for 28 days with two submissions received from the public regarding rating policy.

The first submission was that rates should not increase for local ratepayers only for those with investment properties. This is not allowed under current rating legislation.

The second submission sought the creation of a new rate category for Self Storage businesses and reducing the amount of business rating applicable by 50%. Council has not considered any discounting to any rating category at this time outside of existing policy. This suggestion could be considered in future rating structure considerations once new rating legislation becomes operational, as any change would need to be reflective of the whole rate base, as any reduction in one area moves the rating burden to other rating categories.

STRATEGIC LINKS

a. Delivery Program

This report is a part of the organisation's governance framework – in line with the community's desired outcome of *Civic Leadership and Effective Governance*.

b. Other Plans

Nil

IMPLICATIONS

a. Policy and Procedural Implications

N/A

b. Financial Implications

The Operational Plan includes budgetary allocations for 2022-23 and the levying of rates and charges provides a significant portion of the required funds for Council's operations.

c. Legislative Implications

The making of the rates and charges for the year commencing 1 July 2022 satisfies legislative obligations under Sections 535, 537 & 538 of the Act.

d. Risk Implications

If rates and charges are not made as required under Act, Council may be exposed to the possibility of a legal challenge on the validity of any rates and charges levied in 2022-23.

e. Other Implications

Nil

CONCLUSION

The making of the rates and charges for the year commencing 1 July 2022 satisfies legislative obligations under Sections 535, 537 & 538 of the Act and ensures Council's rates levied in 2022-23 can be legally raised.

ENCLOSURES

There are no enclosures for this report.