Final update: close out of Rous Cultural, Environmental and Information Centre

Responsible Officer: Group Manager People and Performance (Helen McNeil)

Recommendation

That Council receive and note the content of this report.

Background

Council resolved on 17 August 2022 to receive a further report regarding the outcome of Rous' resolution to terminate the lease from Lismore City Council for the premises at 207 Molesworth Street, Lismore (the former Rous Cultural, Environmental and Information Centre).

Lismore City Council did not object to the lease termination. Refund of the bond was agreed to on 6 February 2023.

Rous continues to support its vision for the former Rous Cultural, Environmental and Information Centre initiative through various activities aligned with the objectives of the Reconciliation Action Plan, and Communications and Engagement Strategy. This includes, as reported to Council at its 14 December 2022 meeting, dual use of the space on level 2 of Rous' Administration Office at 218-232 Molesworth Street, Lismore (previously occupied by the Richmond Water Laboratories and NRMA) by:

- Rous as a modified version of the cultural and engagement activities provided previously at 207 Molesworth Street, Lismore and
- Ngulingah Local Aboriginal Land Council as its operations office (under a non-exclusive license arrangement).

Governance

• Finance

There are no financial impacts arising directly from this report. Previous financial matters were addressed in the 17 August 2022 and 14 December 2022 reports.

Note that information is contained within a separate report to this meeting of Council (Quarterly Budget Review Statement report) regarding the return to reserves of a portion of unspent budget associated with the Rous Cultural, Environmental and Information Centre.

Legal

There are no legal impacts arising from this report.

Consultation

Consultation has not been required noting Lismore City Council's agreement to the termination of the lease.

Conclusion

No further action is required in relation to the close out of Rous' occupation of 207 Molesworth Street, Lismore.