
Quarterly Budget Review Statement Quarter ending 31 December 2024

Responsible Officer: Group Manager Organisational Services (Helen McNeil)

Recommendation

That Council note the results presented in the Quarterly Budget Review Statement as at 31 December 2024 and authorise the variations to the amounts from those previously estimated.

Background

The Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) framework sets out minimum standards of reporting that will assist Council in adequately disclosing its overall financial position and to provide sufficient additional information to enable informed decision-making and enhance transparency.

The Quarterly Budget Review Statement (QBRS) is made up of a minimum of six key statements:

- (QBRS1) Statement by the Responsible Accounting Officer on Council's financial position
- (QBRS2) Budget Review Income and Expenses Statement
- (QBRS3) Budget Review Capital Budget
- (QBRS4) Budget Review Cash and Investments Position
- (QBRS5) Budget Review Contracts and Other Expenses
- (QBRS6) Budget Review Key Performance Indicators

For the information of Council, the original 2024/25 budget was adopted on 19 June 2024 as part of the 2024/25 Operational plan and the 2024/28 Delivery program.

Governance

- **Finance**

(QBRS1) Report by Responsible Accounting Officer

The following statement is made in accordance with clause 203(2) of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*.

"It is my opinion that the Quarterly Budget Review Statement of Rous County Council for the quarter ended 31 December 2024 indicates that Council's projected financial position at 30 June 2025 will be satisfactory at year end, having regard to the projected estimates of income and expenditure, the original budgeted income and expenditure and Council's short-term liquidity position."



Jonathan Patino
Responsible Accounting Officer

Commentary on Proposed Adjustments – December 2024 (Table 1)

The following table details proposed budget variations as compared to the original budget and quarterly adjustments. The tables that follow summarise the changes on a reporting unit basis. For reporting purposes, only changes over \$10,000 are individually referenced.

Revenue has increased by \$0.3M, operating expenditure has decreased by \$1.1M, capital expenditure has decreased by \$4.1M and grants held as liability have increased by \$4M, resulting in an overall change of \$9.5M to be transferred to reserves.

Significant Adjustments

Capital Works Program

Management have taken the QBRS as an opportunity to review the capital works program, particularly the impact of carry over budgets and the resources available to complete works. This remains an important focus with a complete review of proposed capital works to be undertaken as part of the annual budget process.

Impact on Reserves as a Whole

The required changes this quarter will provide a substantial increase to our budgeted reserves. The overall internal reserves policy position is still forecast to be met, along with the New South Wales Treasury Corporation loan covenant requirement to hold reserves that equal 6 months of the next financial year's operating expenditure less depreciation.

(QBR2) Table 1: Summary of Proposed Changes Whole Organisation – December 2024

BUDGET ITEMS	Original Budget 2024/25	2023/24 Carryovers	September	December	Ref	Projected Year End Result 2024/25
			30-Sep-24	31-Dec-24		
			Quarter	Quarter		
Operating Income						
Bulk	31,058,300	0	391,000	(327,500)	BW1, BW9	31,121,800
Retail	3,966,700	0	(170,800)	0		3,795,900
Flood	1,910,300	0	3,845,800	600,000	FM1, FM2	6,356,100
Weeds	1,632,500	0	804,800	0		2,437,300
Property	162,600	0	(35,700)	0		126,900
Fleet	123,500	0	0	0		123,500
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	38,853,900	0	4,835,100	272,500		43,961,500
Operating Expenses						
Bulk	28,211,300	1,923,100	2,580,000	(1,125,900)	BW1, BW2, BW3, BW4, BW5, BW6, BW7, BW8, BW20, BW21, BW23	31,588,500
Retail	3,959,000	0	13,500	0		3,972,500
Flood	2,461,600	278,300	2,634,900	800		5,375,600
Weeds	1,794,400	0	968,400	2,100		2,764,900
Property	333,400	0	(52,100)	41,700	P1	323,000
Fleet	225,300	0	(56,700)	0		168,600
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	36,985,000	2,201,400	6,088,000	(1,081,300)		44,193,100
OPERATING RESULT	1,868,900	(2,201,400)	(1,252,900)	1,353,800		(231,600)
Exclude Depreciation	8,756,500	0	0	41,700		8,798,200
Cash Result	10,625,400	(2,201,400)	(1,252,900)	1,395,500		8,566,500
Less: Capital Expense	38,305,600	6,484,600	(5,891,800)	(4,069,300)	BW9, BW10, BW11, BW12, BW13, BW14, BW15, BW16, BW17, BW18, BW19, BW22, RW1, FM1, FM2	34,829,100
Add: Loan Funds	30,000,000	0	(5,000,000)	0		25,000,000
Less: Loan Repayments	4,256,900	0	0	0		4,256,900
Adjustment for Grants held as Liability	0	0	0	4,024,200	BW9, FM1, FM2	4,024,200
Add: From/Less: (To) Reserve	1,937,100	8,686,000	361,100	(9,489,000)		1,495,200
Estimated Cash Movement	0	0	0	0		0

Budget Adjustments Required this Quarter

New / Existing	Description	Reporting Unit	Category	Ref	Adjustment Amount		Notes
					Current Budget (2024/25)	LTFP (2025/26-2033/34)	
New	Fresh Start Apprenticeship and Traineeship Funding	BULK	Operating Revenue Operating Expenditure	BW1 BW1	(72,500) 101,000		Rous has been successful in obtaining funding under the Office of Local Government Fresh Start Program designed to boost the local government workforce, whilst providing genuine career opportunities for jobseekers and schools leavers. The successful application covers 2 on-country management trainees in the Catchment and Cultural Awareness department and 2 apprentice electricians in the Dams and Treatment department. Only wages are covered by the funding, meaning that a transfer of \$28,500 is requested from the Bulk Water reserve to fund the additional employment on-costs for the current financial year. Changes to future years forecasts will be assessed as part of the annual budget process. The funding agreement was due to be signed in early February.
Existing	People & Culture Projects Officer - ELMO System Enhancement	BULK	Operating Expenditure	BW2	28,500		An extension of the contract of the People & Culture Projects Officer to May 2025 is required to continue making enhancements to the ELMO system (Council's Human Resources employee hub). This will include ELMO housekeeping including cleanup and approval reviews, review of staff training materials and redesign of recruitment and onboarding processes. A transfer of \$28,500 is requested from the Bulk Water reserve to continue this project.
Existing	Future Water Project - Direct Potable Reuse Pilot Scheme	BULK	Operating Expenditure	BW3	10,000	(5,000)	Rous is an inaugural member of the WaterVal scheme and has committed \$5,000 per year for 3 years to support this program which is designed to promote a robust Water Validation methodology for PRW schemes. The budget for these amounts was originally approved for the 2023/24, 2024/25 and 2025/26 financial years. The payment for the 2023/24 year was not made and this amount was previously returned to reserves. The payment for the 3 years will now be made in the current financial year. Therefore, it is requested to bring forward the \$5,000 approved for the 2025/26 financial year to the current financial year and also transfer back the \$5,000 previously returned to the Bulk Water reserve.
Existing	Future Water Project - Biodiversity and Cultural Heritage Assessments at site of proposed Dunoon Dam	BULK	Operating Expenditure	BW4	(341,600)	341,600	The Future Water Project team has been reviewing the status of all it's projects as part of the annual budget process. Some of the committed work on this project is now not expected to be completed this financial year. Therefore, it is requested that \$341,600 of the approved budget be deferred to the 2025/26 financial year.
Existing	Future Water Project - IWCM Strategy Review	BULK	Operating Expenditure	BW5	(120,000)	120,000	The Future Water Project team has been reviewing the status of all it's projects as part of the annual budget process. Some of the committed work on this project is now not expected to be completed this financial year. Therefore, it is requested that \$120,000 of the approved budget be deferred to the 2025/26 financial year.

New / Existing	Description	Reporting Unit	Category	Ref	Adjustment Amount		Notes
					Current Budget (2024/25)	LTFP (2025/26-2033/34)	
Existing	Future Water Project - Richmond Area Coastal Floodplain Alluvial Groundwater Source	BULK	Operating Expenditure	BW6	(150,000)	150,000	The Future Water Project team has been reviewing the status of all its projects as part of the annual budget process. Some of the committed work on this project is now not expected to be completed this financial year. Therefore, it is requested that \$150,000 of the approved budget be deferred to the 2025/26 financial year.
Existing	Future Water Project - Wilsons River Licence Project	BULK	Operating Expenditure	BW7	(250,000)	250,000	The Future Water Project team has been reviewing the status of all its projects as part of the annual budget process. Some of the committed work on this project is now not expected to be completed this financial year. Therefore, it is requested that \$250,000 of the approved budget be deferred to the 2025/26 financial year.
Existing	Future Water Project - Rocky Creek Dam Dead Storage Investigation	BULK	Operating Expenditure	BW8	41,300	0	Rous' Drought Management Plan includes undertaking detailed investigations into accessing dead storage in Rocky Creek Dam. A consultant was engaged to carry out an options assessment in the 2023/24 financial year and work has been ongoing in the current financial year to develop design and implementation plans for this emergency drought option. A further \$41,300 is required to be transferred from the Bulk Water reserve to complete this phase of the project.
Existing	Wilsons River Watermain Crossing at Bexhill	BULK	Capital Revenue Capital Expenditure	BW9 BW9	400,000 (400,000)	(400,000) 400,000	This multi-year project, for the burial of an elevated water main crossing of the Wilsons River near Bexhill and funded by the State Government under the Infrastructure Betterment Fund, is at the design stage. Some of this ongoing work is expected to continue after the end of the current financial year. As some of the grant funds were received upfront and are being recognised as income as the work is completed, there is a nil budget impact.
Existing	Water Loss Implementation	BULK	Capital Expenditure	BW10	150,000	(150,000)	The Water Loss Implementation program is a four-year program of works to reduce water loss from the distribution network. The program is ahead of schedule with contract commitments entered into this financial year for installation of additional bulk metering in the water distribution network, flow control measures and leak and pipeline condition surveys. It is proposed to bring forward \$150,000 of the budget from the 2026/27 financial year to the current year to continue the committed works. The remainder of the scheduled works will be assessed as part of the annual budget process and it is expected that the program will be completed a year ahead of schedule.

New / Existing	Description	Reporting Unit	Category	Ref	Adjustment Amount		Notes
					Current Budget (2024/25)	LTFP (2025/26-2033/34)	
New	Emigrant Creek Water Treatment Plant BAC Tank UV Covers	BULK	Capital Expenditure	BW11	75,000	0	This is an emergent project originating from the repainting of the internal surfaces of the two BAC open-topped tanks at Emigrant Creek Water Treatment Plant in July 2023 with a high build epoxy painting system compliant with AS4020 (Paints in contact with potable water). Oxidation of the coatings was observed in March 2024 and, following discussions with the contractor and coating manufacturer, it was confirmed that the oxidation was the result of exposure to a combination of air and UV. The consequences of allowing the oxidation process to continue would be a reduced life of the internal coatings. It is proposed that roof structures be installed to shade the painted surfaces of the tanks and prevent oxidation from occurring. These roof covers would also reduce the risks of other contaminants entering the water. A transfer of \$75,000 is requested from the Bulk Water reserve to fund this installation.
Existing	St Helena 300 Upgrade	BULK	Capital Expenditure	BW12	(200,000)	200,000	A portion of the St Helena 300 pipe upgrade (connection from 525 to Bangalow Industrial Estate) was scheduled for the current financial year, in conjunction with some private development works being undertaken on the same site. Due to delays with the private development, the majority of this project will need to be deferred to the 2025/26 financial year.
Existing	Byron 200 Mains Renewal	BULK	Capital Expenditure	BW13	(200,000)	200,000	The approved budget for the current financial year includes \$300,000 for planning and design for the renewal of the Byron 200 water main. Only \$100,000 of this budget is now expected to be used in the current financial year and it is requested to defer the remaining \$200,000 to the 2025/26 financial year.
Existing	Emigrant Creek Dam Causeway	BULK	Capital Expenditure	BW14	(472,000)	150,000	It was initially planned to construct a concrete causeway at the base of Emigrant Creek Dam to improve access to the other side for operational monitoring and maintenance. However, Rous staff now believe that the access issue can be addressed with a project of reduced scope. While plans are still being finalised, it is believed that \$322,000 of the previously approved budget can be returned to the Bulk Water reserve, with a budget of \$50,000 being retained in the current financial year for the installation of a work shed on the other side of the dam and survey and design of a walkway, and \$150,000 being deferred to the 2025/26 financial year for construction of the walkway.
Existing	Installation of a Solar PV system on the roof of the water reservoir at Nightcap WTP as part of the Renewable Energy and Emissions Reduction Plan	BULK	Capital Expenditure	BW15	(270,000)	270,000	This project has been delayed as Council staff await the outcome of a grant application to partially fund the work. Therefore, it is requested that the approved budget of \$270,000 be deferred to the 2025/26 financial year.

New / Existing	Description	Reporting Unit	Category	Ref	Adjustment Amount		Notes
					Current Budget (2024/25)	LTFP (2025/26-2033/34)	
Existing	Future Water Project - Alstonville Groundwater	BULK	Capital Expenditure	BW16	(2,684,300)	2,684,300	The Future Water Project team has been reviewing the status of all its projects as part of the annual budget process. Some of the planned work on this project is now not expected to be completed this financial year, mostly due to delays with the purchase of the Marom Creek Water Treatment Plant and related assets from Ballina Shire Council. Therefore, it is requested that \$2,684,300 of the approved budget be deferred to the 2025/26 financial year.
Existing	Future Water Project - Tyagarah Groundwater	BULK	Capital Expenditure	BW17	300,000	0	This multi-year project requires additional ecological assessments and preparatory on-ground works for test drilling. A transfer of \$300,000 is requested from the Bulk Water reserve to fund these works. The test drilling results will define the future path for this project and the budget for future years will be assessed as part of the annual budget process.
Existing	Future Water Project - Woodburn Groundwater	BULK	Capital Expenditure	BW18	(680,000)	680,000	The Future Water Project team has been reviewing the status of all its projects as part of the annual budget process. Some of the planned work on this project is now not expected to be completed this financial year. Therefore, it is requested that \$680,000 of the approved budget be deferred to the 2025/26 financial year.
New	Natural Disaster Relief Assistance Program Funding - Bungawalbin Levee	FLOOD	Capital Revenue Capital Expenditure	FM1 FM1	(500,000) 500,000	(6,400,900) 6,400,900	Council has been successful in obtaining funding from the NSW Government under the Natural Disaster Relief Assistance Program to restore Bungawalbin Levee, which was damaged in the flood events of 2022. The capital works to restore the levee will be carried out over the next 2 years, finishing during the 2026/27 financial year. Due to the difficulty of funding this work from the Flood Mitigation reserve before claiming reimbursement from the NDRA Program at the completion of the project, Council is negotiating a tripartite agreement with the NSW Reconstruction Authority and NSW Public Works, which will allow for progress payments to be made, including an initial 20% on execution of the tripartite agreement and a further 30% on funding approval.
New	Natural Disaster Relief Assistance Program Funding - South Lismore Levee	FLOOD	Capital Revenue Capital Expenditure	FM2 FM2	(100,000) 100,000	(1,447,500) 1,447,500	Council has been successful in obtaining funding from the NSW Government under the Natural Disaster Relief Assistance Program to restore South Lismore Levee, which was damaged in the flood events of 2022. The capital works to restore the levee will be carried out over the next 2 years, finishing during the 2026/27 financial year. Due to the difficulty of funding this work from the Flood Mitigation reserve before claiming reimbursement from the NDRA Program at the completion of the project, Council is negotiating a tripartite agreement with the NSW Reconstruction Authority and NSW Public Works, which will allow for progress payments to be made, including an initial 20% on execution of the tripartite agreement and a further 30% on funding approval.

New / Existing	Description	Reporting Unit	Category	Ref	Adjustment Amount		Notes
					Current Budget (2024/25)	LTFP (2025/26-2033/34)	
Existing	Depreciation	PROPERTY	Operating Expenditure	P1	41,700		0 Council finance staff have adjusted the estimate for depreciation in the Property Fund for the current financial year to reflect adjustments in the value of properties. Changes to future years forecasts will be assessed as part of the annual budget process. This is a non-cash adjustment, which means there is a nil effect on the Property reserve.
Existing	Budget Savings Identified Valve Replacement	BULK	Capital Expenditure	BW19	(25,000)		0 This budget is for the replacement of critical valves in the water distribution network. Some of the valves requiring replacement in the current financial year were purchased with the previous year's remaining budget. Therefore, there are sufficient funds available to install the remaining valves and return \$25,000 to the Bulk Water reserve.
Existing	Future Water Project - Purified Recycled Water Investigations	BULK	Operating Expenditure	BW20	(267,200)		0 This multi-year project is complete and the balance of the funds can be returned to the Bulk Water reserve.
Existing	Future Water Project - Project Management	BULK	Operating Expenditure	BW21	(100,000)		0 More of the Future Water Project team's time has been capitalised to projects than originally expected. Therefore, \$100,000 of the approved budget for project management can be returned to the Bulk Water reserve.
Existing	Emigrant Creek Water Treatment Plant Floatation	BULK	Capital Expenditure	BW22	(13,000)		0 This project is no longer required and the funds can be returned to the Bulk Water reserve.
Existing	Asset Componentisation Review	BULK	Operating Expenditure	BW23	(75,000)		0 This planned project, to create a new asset componentisation structure is no longer required as it has been superseded by the NOVUS project. Therefore, the funds can be returned to the Bulk Water reserve.
Existing	Smart Metering and Backflow Project	RETAIL	Capital Expenditure	RW1	(250,000)		0 This multi-year project, to install smart meters and backflow prevention devices for Rous retail customers, is almost complete and is expected to come in below budget. Therefore, \$250,000 can be returned to the Retail Water reserve.
					(5,423,100)	4,890,900	

Bulk Water Reporting Unit

(QBR2) Income & Expenses - Bulk

	Original Budget 2024/25	2023/24 Carryovers	Approved Changes Sept Review	Recommend Changes for Council Resolution	Ref	Projected Year End Result 2024/25	Actual YTD
Operating Income							
Water Sales	23,530,800	0	0	0		23,530,800	11,788,300
Interest Income / Sundry	896,600	0	400,000	0		1,296,600	917,600
Property Income	23,800	0	0	0		23,800	10,700
Operating Grants and Contributions	757,100	0	(157,600)	72,500	BW1	672,000	0
Profit on Sale	0	0	0	0		0	0
Capital Income	5,850,000	0	148,600	(400,000)	BW9	5,598,600	936,100
Total Operating Income	31,058,300	0	391,000	(327,500)		31,121,800	13,652,700
Operating Expense							
Administration Expenses	734,000	44,800	(5,400)	3,500		776,900	889,200
Administration - Retail Water Cost	(1,975,500)	0	0	0		(1,975,500)	(823,100)
Finance Costs	1,956,400	0	0	0		1,956,400	479,300
Building/Depot Expenses	556,800	0	79,400	20,000		656,200	331,800
Fleet Hire Expense	671,700	0	28,200	0		699,900	363,700
Training & Staff	332,900	9,800	0	0		342,700	203,400
Insurance	418,900	0	5,000	0		423,900	351,800
Members Expenses	152,900	0	0	0		152,900	57,200
Salaries & Wages	9,691,900	0	933,800	64,400	BW1, BW2, BW21	10,690,100	5,124,800
Operations Purchases	8,634,700	1,868,500	1,539,000	(1,213,800)	BW3, BW4, BW5, BW6, BW7, BW8, BW20, BW23	10,828,400	2,942,400
Depreciation	7,036,600	0	0	0		7,036,600	3,433,400
Total Operating Expense	28,211,300	1,923,100	2,580,000	(1,125,900)		31,588,500	13,353,900
Operating Result	2,847,000	(1,923,100)	(2,189,000)	798,400		(466,700)	298,800
Less: Depreciation	7,036,600	0	0	0		7,036,600	3,433,400
Operating Result Excl. Non Cash	9,883,600	(1,923,100)	(2,189,000)	798,400		6,569,900	3,732,200
Less: Capital Expenses	37,721,900	4,786,200	(6,236,800)	(4,419,300)	BW9, BW10, BW11, BW12, BW13, BW14, BW15, BW16, BW19, BW18, BW19, BW22	31,852,000	5,366,400
Add: Loan Funds	30,000,000	0	(5,000,000)	0		25,000,000	0
Less: Loan Repayments	4,256,900	0	0	0		4,256,900	1,627,000
Adjustment for Grants held as Liability	0	0	0	400,000	BW9	400,000	0
Transfer from/(to) Reserve	2,095,200	6,709,300	952,200	(5,617,700)		4,139,000	3,261,200
Net Cash Movement	0	0	0	0		0	0

Impact on Bulk Water Cash Reserve

The required changes above will result in \$5,617,700 being transferred to the Bulk Water cash reserve in the 2024/25 financial year. The projected balance as at 30 June 2025 will increase to \$23,185,200 which is beyond the internal reserves policy target of 4 months operating expenditure (excluding depreciation) plus Employee Leave Entitlement Reserve plus Renewable Energy and Emissions Reduction Plan Reserve or \$9,247,200. Externally restricted cash reserves are excluded from the internal reserves policy target above, however, the total cash balance as at 30 June 2025 is forecast to be \$25,370,900.

Retail Water Reporting Unit

(QBR52) Income & Expenses - Retail

	Original Budget 2024/25	2023/24 Carryovers	Approved Changes Sept Review	Recommend Changes for Council Resolution	Ref	Projected Year End Result 2024/25	Actual YTD
Operating Income							
Water Sales	3,923,600	0	(170,800)	0		3,752,800	1,469,200
Interest Income / Sundry	27,800	0	0	0		27,800	14,300
Capital Income	15,300	0	0	0		15,300	0
Total Operating Income	3,966,700	0	(170,800)	0		3,795,900	1,483,500
Operating Expense							
Administration Expenses	2,351,400	0	0	0		2,351,400	973,100
Building/Depot Expenses	5,000	0	0	0		5,000	6,400
Fleet Hire Expenses	87,400	0	16,300	0		103,700	43,700
Salaries and Wages	668,700	0	146,200	0		814,900	242,800
Operations Purchases	320,000	0	(149,000)	0		171,000	102,700
Depreciation and Amortisation	526,500	0	0	0		526,500	146,400
Total Operating Expense	3,959,000	0	13,500	0		3,972,500	1,515,100
Operating Result	7,700	0	(184,300)	0		(176,600)	(31,600)
Less Depreciation	526,500	0	0	0		526,500	146,400
Operating Result Excl. Non Cash	534,200	0	(184,300)	0		349,900	114,800
Less: Capital Expenses	168,200	1,350,100	0	(250,000)	RW1	1,268,300	862,300
Transfer from/(to) Reserve	(366,000)	1,350,100	184,300	(250,000)		918,400	747,500
Net Cash Movement	0	0	0	0		0	0

Impact on Retail Water Cash Reserve

The required changes above will result in \$250,000 being transferred to the Retail Water cash reserve in the 2024/25 financial year. The projected balance as at 30 June 2025 will increase to \$380,600 which is short of the internal reserves policy target of 4 months operating expenditure (excluding depreciation) or \$1,148,700. This includes a planned transfer of \$1,000,000 from Bulk Water reserves to fund the smart metering/backflow project.

While the forecast cash reserve balance is significantly lower than the internal target, this is a planned outcome based on the need to allocate funds from Bulk Water to cover the costs associated with the Smart Metering and Backflow project. The Reporting Unit is positioned to meet this internal target from 2027/2028 onwards.

Flood Mitigation Reporting Unit

(QBR52) Income & Expenses - Flood

	Original Budget 2024/25	2023/24 Carryovers	Approved Changes Sept Review	Recommend Changes for Council Resolution	Ref	Projected Year End Result 2024/25	Actual YTD
Operating Income							
Grants and Contributions	1,808,500	0	3,930,400	0		5,738,900	1,519,900
Interest Income / Sundry	17,200	0	0	0		17,200	10,500
Capital Income	84,600	0	(84,600)	600,000	FM1, FM2	600,000	0
Total Operating Income	1,910,300	0	3,845,800	600,000		6,356,100	1,530,400
Operating Expense							
Administration Expenses	217,300	0	0	0		217,300	91,700
Building/Depot Expenses	9,900	0	0	300		10,200	4,300
Fleet Hire Expenses	76,000	0	0	0		76,000	38,000
Training & Staff	0	0	0	0		0	400
Insurance	6,200	0	0	0		6,200	6,000
Salaries and Wages	535,400	2,800	67,500	0		605,700	237,100
Operations Purchases	900,500	275,500	2,567,400	500		3,743,900	415,700
Depreciation and Amortisation	716,300	0	0	0		716,300	459,900
Loss on Sale	0	0	0	0		0	
Total Operating Expense	2,461,600	278,300	2,634,900	800		5,375,600	1,253,100
Operating Result	(551,300)	(278,300)	1,210,900	599,200		980,500	277,300
Less Depreciation	716,300	0	0	0		716,300	459,900
Operating Result Excl. Non Cash	165,000	(278,300)	1,210,900	599,200		1,696,800	737,200
Less: Capital Expenses	219,500	22,000	0	600,000	FM1, FM2	841,500	32,900
Adjustment for Grants held as Liability	0	0	0	3,624,200	FM1, FM2	3,624,200	0
Transfer from/(to) Reserve	54,500	300,300	(1,210,900)	(3,623,400)		(4,479,500)	(704,300)
Net Cash Movement	0	0	0	0		0	0

Impact on Flood Mitigation Cash Reserve

These required changes above will result in a \$3,623,400 transfer to the Flood Mitigation cash reserve in the 2024/25 financial year. The projected balance as at 30 June 2025 will decrease to \$1,651,200 which is beyond the internal reserves policy target of 4 months operating expenditure (excluding depreciation) or \$1,553,100. Externally restricted cash reserves are excluded from the internal reserves policy target above, however, the total cash balance as at 30 June 2025 is forecast to be \$5,275,400.

Weed Biosecurity Reporting Unit

(QBR2) Income & Expenses - Weeds

	Original Budget 2024/25	2023/24 Carryovers	Approved Changes Sept Review	Recommend Changes for Council Resolution	Ref	Projected Year End Result 2024/25	Actual YTD
Operating Income							
Grants and Contributions	1,578,600	0	804,800	0		2,383,400	482,600
Interest Income / Sundry	53,900	0	0	0		53,900	30,400
Capital Income	0	0	0	0		0	
Total Operating Income	1,632,500	0	804,800	0		2,437,300	513,000
Operating Expense							
Administration Expenses	318,600	0	12,000	0		330,600	140,400
Building/Depot Expenses	19,000	0	0	1,100		20,100	12,700
Fleet Hire Expenses	191,600	0	93,800	0		285,400	100,900
Training & Staff	0	0	0	0		0	19,200
Salaries and Wages	1,133,900	0	654,700	0		1,788,600	656,300
Operations Purchases	99,800	0	207,900	1,000		308,700	144,700
Depreciation and Amortisation	31,500	0	0	0		31,500	15,700
Total Operating Expense	1,794,400	0	968,400	2,100		2,764,900	1,089,900
Operating Result	(161,900)	0	(163,600)	(2,100)		(327,600)	(576,900)
Less Depreciation	31,500	0	0	0		31,500	15,700
Operating Result Excl. Non Cash	(130,400)	0	(163,600)	(2,100)		(296,100)	(561,200)
Less: Capital Expenses	21,000	0	0	0		21,000	700
Transfer from/(to) Reserve	151,400	0	163,600	2,100		317,100	561,900
Net Cash Movement	0	0	0	0		0	0

Impact on Weed Biosecurity Cash Reserve

These required changes above will result in \$2,100 being transferred from the Weed Biosecurity cash reserve in the 2024/25 financial year. The projected balance as at 30 June 2025 will decrease to \$416,500 which is short of the internal reserves policy target of 4 months operating expenditure (excluding depreciation) or \$911,100.

Property Reporting Unit

(QBR52) Income & Expenses - Property

	Original Budget 2024/25	2023/24 Carryovers	Approved Changes Sept Review	Recommend Changes for Council Resolution	Ref	Projected Year End Result 2024/25	Actual YTD
Operating Income							
Interest Income / Sundry	7,500	0	0	0		7,500	3,100
Property Income	155,100	0	(35,700)	0		119,400	69,700
Capital Income	0	0	0	0		0	
Total Operating Income	162,600	0	(35,700)	0		126,900	72,800
Operating Expense							
Administration Expenses	55,900	0	0	0		55,900	23,300
Building/Depot Expenses	177,500	0	(40,100)	0		137,400	102,400
Salaries and Wages	44,200	0	0	0		44,200	36,100
Operations Purchases	12,000	0	(12,000)	0		0	800
Depreciation and Amortisation	43,800	0	0	41,700	P1	85,500	53,600
Total Operating Expense	333,400	0	(52,100)	41,700		323,000	216,200
Operating Result	(170,800)	0	16,400	(41,700)		(196,100)	(143,400)
Less Depreciation	43,800	0	0	41,700		85,500	53,600
Operating Result Excl. Non Cash	(127,000)	0	16,400	0		(110,600)	(89,800)
Less: Capital Expenses	50,000	326,300	225,000	0		601,300	200,200
Transfer from/(to) Reserve	177,000	326,300	208,600	0		711,900	290,000
Net Cash Movement	0	0	0	0		0	0

Impact on Property Cash Reserve

Nil for this quarter.

Fleet Reporting Unit

(QBR2) Income & Expenses - Fleet

	Original Budget 2024/25	2023/24 Carryovers	Approved Changes Sept Review	Recommend Changes for Council Resolution	Ref	Projected Year End Result 2024/25	Actual YTD
Operating Income							
Interest Income / Sundry	123,500	0	0	0		123,500	60,800
Profit on Sale	0	0	0	0		0	0
Capital Income	0	0	0	0		0	0
Total Operating Income	123,500	0	0	0		123,500	60,800
Operating Expense							
Administration Expenses	1,500	0	0	0		1,500	1,400
Fleet Operations	722,500	0	0	0		722,500	308,500
Fleet Hire Income	(1,026,700)	0	(56,700)	0		(1,083,400)	(538,100)
Salaries and Wages	126,200	0	0	0		126,200	44,600
Operations Purchases	0	0	0	0		0	1,100
Depreciation and Amortisation	401,800	0	0	0		401,800	258,100
Loss on Sale	0	0	0	0		0	0
Total Operating Expense	225,300	0	(56,700)	0		168,600	75,600
Operating Result	(101,800)	0	56,700	0		(45,100)	(14,800)
Less Depreciation	401,800	0	0	0		401,800	258,100
Operating Result Excl. Non Cash	300,000	0	56,700	0		356,700	243,300
Less: Capital Expenses	125,000	0	120,000	0		245,000	122,200
Transfer from/(to) Reserve	(175,000)	0	63,300	0		(111,700)	(121,100)
Net Cash Movement	0	0	0	0		0	0

Impact on Fleet Cash Reserve

Nil for this quarter.

Budget Review for the Quarter Ended 31 December 2024

(QBR3) Capital Budget

	Original Budget 2024/25	2023/24 Carryovers	Approved Changes Sept Review	Recommend Changes for Council Resolution	Ref	Projected Year End Result 2024/25	Actual YTD
Capital Funding:							
Capital Grants & Contributions	550,000	149,400	0	200,000		899,400	65,500
Internal Restrictions							
- Renewals	5,400,200	1,256,600	(18,900)	(303,000)		6,334,900	1,649,600
- New Assets	27,055,400	5,078,600	(5,872,900)	(3,966,300)		22,294,800	3,933,500
External Restrictions							
- Infrastructure	0	0	0	0		0	0
Other Capital Funding Sources							
- Operating Revenue	0	0	0	0		0	0
- S64 Contributions	5,300,000	0	0	0		5,300,000	936,100
Income from Sale of Assets							
- Plant and Equipment	0	0	0	0		0	0
- Land and Buildings	0	0	0	0		0	0
Total Capital Funding	38,305,600	6,484,600	(5,891,800)	(4,069,300)		34,829,100	6,584,700
Capital Expenditure:							
New Assets							
- Plant and Equipment	0	0	0	0		0	0
- Office Equipment	2,596,800	390,700	(2,966,500)	0		21,000	0
- Inventory (Land)	0	309,500	225,000	0		534,500	204,500
- Land and Buildings	19,500,000	2,576,100	(10,000,000)	0		12,076,100	2,227,500
- Infrastructure	10,258,600	1,802,300	6,868,600	(3,966,300)	BW10, BW12, BW13, BW14, BW15, BW16, BW17, BW18, RW1	14,963,200	2,437,600
Renewals (Replacement)							
- Plant and Equipment	125,000	0	120,000	0		245,000	122,100
- Office Equipment	282,000	0	0	0		282,000	7,900
- Land and Buildings	50,000	16,800	336,000	0		402,800	285,800
- Infrastructure	5,493,200	1,389,200	(474,900)	(103,000)	BW9, BW10, BW11, BW12, BW13, BW19, BW22, RW1, FM1, FM2	6,304,500	1,299,300
Total Capital Expenditure	38,305,600	6,484,600	(5,891,800)	(4,069,300)		34,829,100	6,584,700

Impact on Capital Works Program

The required adjustments above will result in a reduction in capital works of \$4,069,300 being transferred to reserves, reducing the total capital works program for 2024/25 to \$34,829,100. As at 31 December, \$6,584,700 or 18.9% of these works have been completed, while another \$30,856,800 or 88.6% has been committed, partially for the 2025/26 financial year.

Budget Review for the Quarter Ended 31 December 2024

(QBR54) Cash & Investments

	Opening Balances 2023/24	Original Budget 2024/25	2023/24 Carryovers	Approved Changes Sept Review	Recommend Changes for Council Resolution	Projected Year End Result 2024/25
Unrestricted:						
Flood Mitigation	99,000	0	0	0	0	99,000
Weeds Biosecurity	25,800	0	0	0	0	25,800
Retail Water	100,000	0	0	0	0	100,000
Property	100,000	0	0	0	0	100,000
Fleet	50,000	0	0	0	0	50,000
Bulk Water	2,354,000	0	0	0	0	2,354,000
Total Unrestricted	2,728,800	0	0	0	0	2,728,800
Externally Restricted:						
Flood Grants	274,800	(190,200)	0	(84,600)	3,624,200	3,624,200
Weeds Grants	217,900	(217,900)	0	0	0	0
Weeds Other	508,000	0	0	0	0	508,000
Bulk Water Grants	2,668,100	(2,481,600)	0	0	400,000	586,500
Bulk Water Other	2,370,000	(1,327,500)	0	556,700	0	1,599,200
Total Externally Restricted	6,038,800	(4,217,200)	0	472,100	4,024,200	6,317,900
Internally Restricted:						
Flood Mitigation	422,000	135,800	(300,300)	1,295,500	(800)	1,552,200
Weeds Biosecurity	490,000	66,400	0	(163,600)	(2,100)	390,700
Retail Water	199,000	1,366,000	(1,350,100)	(184,300)	250,000	280,600
Property	898,000	(177,000)	(326,300)	(208,600)	0	186,100
Fleet	316,300	175,000	0	(63,300)	0	428,000
Bulk Water	23,117,800	713,900	(6,709,300)	(1,508,900)	5,217,700	20,831,200
Total Internally Restricted	25,443,100	2,280,100	(8,686,000)	(833,200)	5,464,800	23,668,800
Total Reserves	34,210,700	(1,937,100)	(8,686,000)	(361,100)	9,489,000	32,715,500

Investment and Cash Bank Statement

The Responsible Accounting Officer certifies that all funds including those under restriction have been invested in accordance with section 625 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, clause 212 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* and Council's 'Investment' policy. Council's bank statement has been reconciled up to and including 31 December 2024.

Reconciliation

The YTD cash and investment figure reconciles to the actual balances held as follows:

	\$
Cash at Bank (as per bank statements)	5,339,173
Investments on Hand	23,500,000
Reconciled Cash at Bank & Investments	<u>28,839,173</u>

A comparison of the actual cash and investment balance above of \$28,839,173 as at 31 December 2024 to the forecast cash and investment balance of \$32,715,500 as at 30 June 2025 indicates that, while significant spending will occur before 30 June 2025, Council is also planning to drawdown significant loan funds.

(QBR5) Contractors

Contractor	Contract Details & Purpose	Contract Value (\$) Excluding GST	Contract Date	Duration of Contract	Budgeted (Y/N)
Byron Shire Council	"Slow the Flow" soil health improvement project	50,000	28/10/2024	2 years	Y
Ballina Shire Council	Riparian restoration and catchment revegetation	300,000	1/10/2024	2 years	Y
Byron Shire Council	Riparian restoration and catchment revegetation	300,000	28/10/2024	2 years	Y
Lismore City Council	Riparian restoration and catchment revegetation	300,000	7/11/2024	2 years	Y
Richmond Valley Council	Riparian restoration and catchment revegetation	300,000	21/10/2024	2 years	Y
Tweed Shire Council	Riparian restoration and catchment revegetation	300,000	1/10/2024	2 years	Y
Northern Co-Operative Meat Company Ltd	Riparian restoration and catchment revegetation	200,000	16/10/2024	2 years	Y
Northern Co-Operative Meat Company Ltd	Landscape rehydration	200,000	16/10/2024	2 years	Y
FJB Sheet Metal Fabrications Pty Ltd	Fabrication and installation of external stair to NCWTP switch room	59,406	15/10/2024	2 mths	Y
Engeny Australia Pty Ltd	Water security analysis: yield assessment	63,440	3/10/2024	4 mths	Y
Slade Drilling	Tyagarah groundwater investigations	313,691	11/10/2024	9 mths	Y
Kyogle Council	Riparian restoration and catchment revegetation	300,000	23/10/2024	2 years	Y
Local Land Services	Soil health improvement project	450,000	17/10/2024	2 years	Y
Exco Partners Pty Ltd	ERP and EAM implementation	1,356,541	23/10/2024	5 years	Y
KBS Mackay	Construction of the Broadwater DN250 water main	318,834	5/11/2024	6 mths	Y
GHD Pty Ltd	Design and scope development - Wilson River elevated main relocation	83,760	5/11/2024	1 year	Y
Jamieson Dams & Civil Pty Ltd	Independent peer review of RCD Dam Safety Report and Risk Review Report	54,513	7/11/2024	2 mths	Y
CivilCS Pty Ltd	Bulk meter installations	249,474	13/11/2024	6 mths	Y
SD Gibson P/L t/as Scott Gibson Painting Contractor	Painting of Molesworth Steet and Kyogle Street Depot	67,050	25/11/2024	3 mths	Y
Safegroup Automation Pty Ltd	Integration of new flow meters into SCADA	52,097	25/11/2024	3 mths	Y
Alex Llewellyn P/L t/as Llewellyn Building & Reno	Molesworth Street make-good and Kyogle Street and Conway Street fit-outs	77,095	4/12/2024	3 mths	Y

Note: Minimum reporting level is 1% of estimated income from continuing operations or \$50,000 whichever is the lesser.

(QBR5) Consultancy and Legal Expenses

Definition of Consultant

A consultant is a person or organisation engaged under contract on a temporary basis to provide recommendations or high-level specialist or professional advice to assist decision making by management. Generally, it is the advisory nature of the work that differentiates a consultant from other contractors.

Expense	Expenditure YTD \$	Budgeted (Y/N)
Consultancies	\$466,500	Y
Legal Fees	\$25,700	Y

Comment: All consultancies and legal expenses incurred to date are within budget allocations. All figures exclude GST.

Consultancies		
	Organisational Services - Content Manager Upgrade	7,700
	Organisational Services - Indexation of Flood Mitigation Assets	2,000
	Organisational Services - Borrowing Advisory Services	30,000
	Organisational Services - Enterprise Risk Management System	20,900
	Planning & Delivery - ECWTP Strategic Review	32,100
	Planning & Delivery - Dam Safety Management System	113,900
	Planning & Delivery - Richmond River Bank and Riparian Condition Assessment	27,000
	Planning & Delivery - Flood Mitigation Strategic Review	26,200
	Future Water Project - Emergency Desalination Investigation	27,300
	Future Water Project – Purified Recycled Water for Drinking Investigation	104,700
	Future Water Project - RCD Dead Storage Investigation	49,100
	Future Water Project – Wilsons River Emergency Supply Studies	20,600
	Properties & Relocation - Proposal for Pecan Nut at Gallans Road Farm	5,000
Legal Fees		
	Easement Matters	7,500
	Legal Services - Purchase of Woodburn Property	3,100
	Legal Services - Gallans Road	14,900
	Legal Services - Debt Matters	200

Statement of Expenses for Councillors

Councillor Expenses for the Quarter Ending 31/12/2024 (Q2)

Quarter 2	Other Expenses	Official Business of Council - Travel	Official Business of Council - Professional Development/Training	Total by Councillor (Q2)
Councillor Bruem *	0	0	0	0
Councillor Cadwallader	0	0	0	0
Councillor Gordon	0	0	0	0
Councillor Hauge	0	0	0	0
Councillor Humphrys	0	0	0	0
Councillor Krieg	0	0	0	0
Councillor Lyon *	0	0	0	0
Councillor Mustow	0	0	1,505	1,505
Councillor Ndiaye	0	0	0	0
Councillor Ramsey	0	0	0	0
Councillor Rob *	0	0	0	0
Total Per Expense Type	0	0	1,505	1,505

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total by Councillor YTD
Councillor Bruem *	0	0	0	0	0
Councillor Cadwallader	0	0	0	0	0
Councillor Gordon	2,364	0	0	0	2,364
Councillor Hauge	0	0	0		0
Councillor Humphrys	0	0	0	0	0
Councillor Krieg	0	0	0		0
Councillor Lyon *	0	0	0	0	0
Councillor Mustow	0	1,505	0	0	1,505
Councillor Ndiaye	0	0	0	0	0
Councillor Ramsey	0	0	0		0
Councillor Rob *	0	0	0	0	0
Total Per Expense Type	2,364	1,505	0	0	3,869

Budget 2024/25 FYR

35,000

Remaining budget

31,131


* Indicates an outgoing Councillor


This information is provided in accordance with paragraph 6.2 of the 'Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities for Chairperson and Councillors' policy.

(QBR6) Key Performance Indicators

In assessing an organisation's financial position, there are several performance indicators that can assist to easily identify whether an organisation is financially sound. These indicators and their associated benchmarks, as stipulated by Office of Local Government, are set out below:

	# Performance Indicator		Bulk	Retail	Flood	Weeds	Property	Fleet	Consolidated (Whole Organisation)	Local Government Bench Mark
1	Operating Performance	2024/25 Budget Review	(6,065,300)	(191,900)	380,500	(327,600)	(196,100)	(45,100)	(6,445,500)	Surplus
		2023/24 Actual	(3,633,400)	(160,200)	(592,400)	(674,000)	(103,000)	(87,000)	(5,250,000)	
2	Current Ratio	2024/25 Budget Review	3.02	0.67	10.64	0.76	3.99	2.70	2.87	> 1.5
		2023/24 Actual	3.93	1.41	6.25	0.87	15.63	2.17	3.69	
3	Debt Service Cover Ratio	2024/25 Budget Review	0.16	-	-	-	-	-	0.38	> 2
		2023/24 Actual	0.82	-	-	-	-	-	0.90	
4	Own Source Operating Revenue Ratio	2024/25 Budget Review	80%	100%	25%	50%	100%	100%	72%	> 60%
		2023/24 Actual	84%	100%	31%	51%	100%	100%	79%	
5	Building and Infrastructure Renewals Ratio	2024/25 Budget Review	0.80 : 1	1.17 : 1	1.17 : 1	-	0.78 : 1	-	0.89 : 1	> 1:1
		2023/24 Actual	0.36 : 1	8.29 : 1	0.28 : 1	-	1.59 : 1	-	0.69 : 1	


 Projected result meets or exceeds benchmark.


 Projected result does not meet benchmark.

(QBR5.2) Key Performance Indicators (including Capital Revenue)

An alternative set of Key Performance Indicators is provided below. This is due to capital revenue from Section 64 Developer Contribution being the second highest revenue source for Council. These indicators differ from those that are stipulated by Office of Local Government.

	# Performance Indicator		Bulk	Retail	Flood	Weeds	Property	Fleet	Consolidated (Whole Organisation)	Local Government Bench Mark
1	Operating Performance	2024/25 Budget Review	(466,700)	(176,600)	980,500	(327,600)	(196,100)	(45,100)	(231,600)	Surplus
		2023/24 Actual	69,000	(154,000)	801,000	(674,000)	(103,000)	(87,000)	(148,000)	
2	Current Ratio	2024/25 Budget Review	3.02	0.67	10.64	0.76	3.99	2.70	2.87	> 1.5
		2023/24 Actual	3.93	1.41	6.25	0.87	15.63	2.17	3.69	
3	Debt Service Cover Ratio	2024/25 Budget Review	1.06	-	-	-	-	-	1.38	> 2
		2023/24 Actual	1.52	-	-	-	-	-	1.85	
4	Own Source Operating Revenue Ratio	2024/25 Budget Review	97%	100%	25%	50%	100%	100%	84%	> 60%
		2023/24 Actual	95%	100%	31%	51%	100%	100%	88%	
5	Building and Infrastructure Renewals Ratio	2024/25 Budget Review	0.80 : 1	1.17 : 1	1.17 : 1	-	0.78 : 1	-	0.89 : 1	> 1:1
		2023/24 Actual	0.36 : 1	8.29 : 1	0.28 : 1	-	1.59 : 1	-	0.69 : 1	

 Projected result meets or exceeds benchmark.

 Projected result does not meet benchmark.

Key Performance Indicator Definitions

Please note that comments relate to the consolidated financial indicators.

1. Operating Result Before Capital Contributions

The operating result is the surplus or deficit that Council makes from normal operations (including depreciation) excluding expenditure on capital items. A surplus is a positive financial indicator.

2. Current Ratio Liquidity

The current ratio measures Council's ability to pay existing liabilities in the next 12 months. A ratio greater than one is a positive financial indicator.

3. Debt Service Cover Ratio

This ratio demonstrates the cost of servicing Council's annual debt obligations (loan repayments, both principal and interest) as a portion of available revenue from ordinary activities. A higher ratio is a positive financial indicator.

4. Own Source Operating Revenue Ratio

This ratio measures fiscal flexibility. It is the degree of reliance on external funding sources such as operating grants and contributions. A Council's financial flexibility improves the higher the level of its own source revenue. A higher ratio is a positive financial indicator.

5. Building and Infrastructure Renewal Ratio

This ratio indicates the rate of renewal/replacement of existing assets against the depreciation of the same category of assets. A ratio greater than one is a positive financial indicator.

Grant application information

This table provides information on grant applications that have been approved or submitted up to time of preparation of the QBRS. Any grants that may have been approved after that date or that have been applied for, will be covered in future reports. The details of new grants, including grants awaiting a determination, are provided below. A financial update on active grants has also been provided, including grant programs that cover multiple years.

Note: all totals are GST exclusive

Grant Name	Reporting Unit	Synopsis	Funding Body	Program	Project Length	Total Project Value	Grant Funding	Council Funding	Total Expenditure to Date	Balance of Approved Funds to Spend
New Grant Applications Awaiting Outcome										
Stage 1 - NSW Apprenticeships and Trainees Program AT100048	Water	The Program funding addresses identified workforce shortages, skill gaps and will boost critical workforce numbers. The sector is impacted by a trend for outsourcing which has caused a severe depletion of in-house trade capabilities	OLG	A fresh start for Local Government Apprentices, Trainees and Cadets - Round One / Stage 1 - NSW Apprentices and Trainees Program (1x Bus Admin 2yr Traineeship, 2x Indig Mgt parks/gardens 2 yr Traineeship, 2x Electrical 4 year apprenticeships)	1/1/2025 to 01/01/2029	740,000	TBA	TBA		
Good Neighbour Program	Weeds	A strategic initiative aimed at addressing priority weed infestation on private properties adjacent to public lands, fostering collaborative efforts to enhance biosecurity and protect shared landscapes.	NSW LLS	Good neighbours program is designed to tackle priority weed infestations on private property neighbouring public lands	2024-2025	580,125	565,125	15,000		
Active Grants										
Natural Resource Management Flood Water Sustainability Project Grant	Water	Emergency Repairs Claim	Public Works Advisory	Northern Rivers March 2022 Flood/Water Sewerage Program		1,600,000	1,600,000	-	789,796	810,204
Safe & Secure Water Program 2022-2024 (SSWP479) - Tranche 3	Water	Funding for Stage 1 of Rous County Council - FWP2060. Planning, Investigation and Design Project. DPE is funding 25% of the estimated actual project costs.	DPE	Rous Water Customers Water Security Program	15 mths (31.05.24)	8,037,600	2,009,400	-	2,027,660	(18,260)
Local Water Utility Grants	Water	Regional Leakage Reduction Program – Local Water Utility Grants A maximum total amount of 114,025.00 (GST exclusive) payable in instalments. This is based on 25% of \$456,100.00 (total project costs). If total project costs are less than this, the payment will be adjusted accordingly.	DPIE	Regional Leakage Reduction Program	15 mths (31.05.24)	456,100	114,025	342,075	457,469	(1,369)
Wilson's River Tidal Pool Riparian - riparian restoration	Water	Wilson River tidal pool - riparian restoration (Leedman Property)	DPIE	2023-2024 Coast and Estuary Grants Program - Implementation Stream	3 years	55,860	27,930	27,930	10,772	-
Wilson River Reach Fish Habitat Action Grant 2023	Water	Boat Harbour Riparian Repair Project	DPIE	Fish Habitat Action Grants	12m (4.6.2025)	79,266	39,266	40,000	12,821	66,445
Wilson's River Elevated Crossing Realignment Bexhill	Water	Grant - Bexhill Mains Elevated Crossing	DRNSW	Infrastructure Betterment Fund Department of Regional NSW (NSW Betterment Programs)	18 months (30.05.2025)	2,435,000	2,435,000	-	-	2,435,000
Richmond River Tidal Inundation Assessment (CMP Stage 2)	Flood	A tidal inundation assessment for the entire tidal inundation reach of the Richmond River estuary - delineated over two areas, Ballina Shire LGA as one part, and the full extent of tidal zone of the estuary (incorporating Richmond Valley and Lismore City Council LGAs) as the second part	Dept of Climate Change, Energy, the Env and Water	2023-2024 Coast and Estuary Grants Program - Planning Stream	12 mths	60,000	40,000	20,000	-	-
Richmond River Bank and Condition Assessment (CMP Stage 2)	Flood	A riverbank and riparian condition assessment that implements a comprehensive review of existing conditions in the Richmond. Outcomes of the assessment can be used to prioritise investment in future on-ground river restoration works.	Dept of Climate Change, Energy, the Env and Water	2023-2024 Coast and Estuary Grants Program - Planning Stream	18 months	390,000	260,000	130,000	27,000	-

Grant Name	Reporting Unit	Synopsis	Funding Body	Program	Project Length	Total Project Value	Grant Funding	Council Funding	Total Expenditure to Date	Balance of Approved Funds to Spend
Water Quality Monitoring 2019-22	Flood	Richmond River water quality monitoring project	DPIE	Coastal & Estuary Grants Program	36 mths	199,768	99,884	99,884	192,510	7,258
Flood Maintenance 2024-2025	Flood	Fourth year of a four year grant. Each year Council approves spending on this project in excess of the required 1:2 (funding per the agreement \$169,200).	DPIE	Floodplain Management Grants Scheme	12 mths	169,200	84,600	84,600	399,353	
Coraki Riparian Project	Flood	Richmond River coastal riparian project at Coraki	DPIE	Fish Habitat Action Grant	12 mths	112,160	40,000	72,160	78,443	33,717
Richmond and Wilsons Rivers NSW Flood Mitigation Planning	Flood	This planning project is anticipated to reduce the risk and improve resilience of the community to floods in the natural environment by conducting a comprehensive scan of strategic disaster risks and mitigation options for the Richmond River Catchment.	DISER	Preparing Australian Communities – Local Stream Program	3 years	250,000	250,000	-	137,481	112,519
East Coraki Riparian Project	Flood	East Coraki reserve coastal and estuary implementation program	DPI	2021-22 Coastal and Estuary Implementation Program (started 2024FY)	3 years	80,000	40,000	40,000	43,200	36,800
Improve the condition of Coraki and Woodburnn Town Drains	Flood	Improve the condition of Coraki and Woodburnn Town Drains	NSW Reconstruction Authority	Emergency Response Fund - Northern Rivers Recovery and Resilience Program 2022-23: NP6 Improve condition of Coraki and Woodburnn town drains	12 mths (31.12.2024)	150,000	140,250	9,750	80,434	69,566
Revitalise South & East Lismore Town Drains	Flood	Improve the condition of South & East Lismore Town Drains	NSW Reconstruction Authority	Emergency Response Fund - Northern Rivers Recovery and Resilience Program 2022-23: NP7 Revitalise South and East Lismore Town Drains	12 mths (31.12.2024)	196,350	196,350	-	95,865	
Building the resilience of Bungawalbyn Bass habitat – Stage 1 (Site 6)	Flood	This grant will address bank erosion on Bungawalbyn Creek, a high conservation value waterway and valued Bass fishery	NSW DPI	Flagship Fish Habitat Rehabilitation Grants	3 years (30.06.2026)	158,000	158,000	-	-	158,000
Northern Rivers Watershed Initiative (NRWI)	Flood	The NRWI involves undertaking works in the Richmond, Evans, Brunswick and Tweed catchments to improve river health and restore natural hydrologic functioning to deliver environmental, social and economic benefits.	Department of Primary Industries & Regional Development	Northern Rivers Watershed Initiative -Election Policy Statement Funding (Rous to Manage)	24 months (starting Sept 2024)	5,000,000	5,000,000	-	135,000	-
Bungalwalbyn East Levee Immediate Reconstruction Works	Flood	Bungalwalbyn East Levee Immediate Reconstruction Works	NSW Public Works (Dept Regional NSW)	Natural Disaster Essential Public Asset Restoration Grant - NSW Severe Weather and Flooding 22 February 2022 onwards - AGRN 1012. Natural Disaster Relief Assistance (NDRA) Program	3 years	84,996	84,996	-	84,996	-
East Coraki Levee Immediate Reconstruction Works	Flood	East Coraki Levee Immediate Reconstruction Works	NSW Public Works (Dept Regional NSW)	Natural Disaster Essential Public Asset Restoration Grant - NSW Severe Weather and Flooding 22 February 2022 onwards - AGRN 1012. Natural Disaster Relief Assistance (NDRA) Program	3 years	49,327	49,327	-	49,327	-
West Ballina Levee Immediate Reconstruction Works	Flood	West Ballina Levee Immediate Reconstruction Works	NSW Public Works (Dept Regional NSW)	Natural Disaster Essential Public Asset Restoration Grant - NSW Severe Weather and Flooding 22 February 2022 onwards - AGRN 1012. Natural Disaster Relief Assistance (NDRA) Program	3 years	59,392	59,392	-	59,392	-
Bungalwalbin Levee	Flood	Bungalwalbin Levee restoration		Natural Disaster Relief Assistance (NDRA) Program		6,900,935	6,900,935	-	-	6,900,935
South Lismore Levee	Flood	South Lismore Levee restoration		Natural Disaster Relief Assistance (NDRA) Program		1,547,480	1,547,480	-	-	1,547,480
Parthenium 2024	Weeds	Surveillance, control, site maintenance of high risk properties. Distribution of educational materials.	DPI	New Weed Incursion - Parthenium Weed (Parthenium hysterophorus) Response	12 mths	35,000	27,000	8,000	7,268	27,732

Grant Name	Reporting Unit	Synopsis	Funding Body	Program	Project Length	Total Project Value	Grant Funding	Council Funding	Total Expenditure to Date	Balance of Approved Funds to Spend
Miconia 2024-2028	Weeds	Miconia surveillance and eradication	QLD Department of Agriculture & Fisheries	Miconia - The NSW component of the National Tropical Weed Eradication Program (NTWEP)	4 years	2,165,824	2,165,824	-	74,793	2,091,031
North Coast Bushfire Recovery – Delivery of – W1 Tropical Soda Apple Landholder Engagement Project in the North Coast (5 years) - YR 4 (2024FY)	Weeds	Tropical Soda Apple Landholder Engagement and Compliance Program – delivery of 210 property inspections	LLS & DPI	NSW Bushfire Recovery Stimulus	12mths	32,000	32,000	-	22,071	18,783
North Coast Bushfire Recovery – Delivery of – W1 Tropical Soda Apple Landholder Engagement Project in the North Coast (5 years) - YR 5 (2025FY)	Weeds	Tropical Soda Apple Landholder Engagement and Compliance Program – delivery of 210 property inspections	LLS & DPI	NSW Bushfire Recovery Stimulus	12mths	32,000	32,000	-	-	32,000
Tropical Soda Apple (Riparian/High Risk Pathways)	Weeds	Tropical Soda Apple - strategic and ongoing control in high-risk pathways.	LLS	Small Grants Funding	8 mths	47,750	42,750	5,000	23,364	24,386
Priority Weeds Washdown Facility	Weeds	Funding to support essential programs and treatments of new incursions of prohibited weeds - Priority weeds washdown facility	DPI	2022-2023 New Weed Incursion - Priority Weeds Washdown Facility	12mths	49,995	49,995	-	-	49,995
Frogbit 2023/24	Weeds	Expand inspections areas, treatment of Frogbit infestation and follow up treatment	DPI	New Weed Incursion - Frogbit (<i>Limnobium laevigatum</i>) Rapid Response	6 mths	50,000	40,000	10,000	19,461	30,539
Frogbit 2024/25	Weeds	Expand inspections areas, treatment of Frogbit infestation and follow up treatment	NSW DPI	Frogbit Eungella New Incursion	6 mths	22,000	20,000	2,000	-	22,000
Tropical Soda Apple High Risk Pathways 2023/24	Weeds	Next 12 months -Continue surveillance/control of the Tropical Soda apple in identified high risk pathways	DPI	Tropical Soda Apple High Risk Pathways (New incursion)	12 mths	52,000	50,000	2,000	53,282	(1,282)
Tropical Soda Apple High Risk Pathways 2024/25	Weeds	Next 12 months -Continue surveillance/control of the Tropical Soda apple in identified high risk pathways	NSW DPI	Upper Richmond River TSA High Risk Pathways	12 mths	52,000	50,000	2,000	-	52,000
Weeds Action Program 2020-25 (2025)	Weeds	Funding allocated annually	DPiE	North Coast Weeds Action Program 2020-25	12 mths	642,095	642,095	-	752,090	(109,995)
Unsuccessful grant applications										
Nil										

- **Legal**

In accordance with clause 203 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*, Council's financial position is satisfactory having regard to the original estimate of income and expenditure and Council's projected short-term liquidity position.

Consultation

This report was prepared in consultation with the General Manager and relevant staff.

Conclusion

In summary, all budget items other than those identified in the report have performed within the parameters set by Council in adopting the 2024/25 Operational Plan.