## ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL



## **ADDENDUM**

**Meeting:** General Meeting

Date: Wednesday, 21 May 2025

Location: Council Chambers,

Georgetown

Commencing: 9.00am

**Councillors**: Cr Hughes

Cr Royes

Cr Tincknell

Cr Ryan

Cr Carroll

# Agenda Attached

Mark Watt
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

#### Local Government Act Qld 2009

Section 4(2) of the Local Government Act Qld 2009 state that the local government principles are:

- a) Transparent and effective processes, and decision-making in the public interest
- b) Sustainable development and management of assets and infrastructure, and delivery of effective services
- c) Democratic representation, social inclusion and meaningful community engagement
- d) Good governance of, and by, local government
- e) Ethical and legal behavior of councilors and local government employees

#### Local Government Regulation 2012

Section 254(J) Closed meetings:

- (1) A local government may resolve that all or part of a meeting of the local government be closed to the public.
- (2) A committee of a local government may resolve that all or part of a meeting of the committee be closed to the public.
- (3) However, a local government or a committee of a local government may make a resolution about a local government meeting under subsection (1) or (2) only if its Councillors or members consider it necessary to close the meeting to discuss one or more of the following matters
  - a) The appointment, dismissal or discipline of a chief executive officer
  - b) Industrial matters affecting employees
  - c) The local government's budget
  - d) Rating concessions
  - e) Legal advice obtained by the Council or legal proceedings involving the local government including, for example, legal proceedings that may be taken by or against the local government
  - f) Matters that may directly affect the health and safety of an individual or group of individuals
  - g) Negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government
  - h) Negotiations relating to the taking of land by the local government under the *Acquisition of Land Act 1967*
  - i) A matter the local government is required to keep confidential under a law of, or formal arrangement with, the Commonwealth or a State
  - j) An investigation report given to the local government under chapter 5A, part 3, division 5 of the Act.
- (4) However, a local government of a committee of a local government must not resolve that a part of a local government meeting at which a decision mentioned in section 150ER(2), 150ES(3) or 150EU(2) of the Act will be considered, discussed, voted on or made to be closed.
- (5) A resolution that a local government meeting be closed must
  - a) State the matter mentioned in subsection (3) that is to be discussed; and
  - b) Include an overview of what is to be discussed while the meeting is closed. meeting be closed must state the nature of the matters to be considered while the
  - c) meeting is closed.
- (6) A local government or a committee of a local government must not make a resolution (other than a procedural resolution) in a local government meeting, or a part of a local government meeting, that is closed.

## **OPEN SESSION AGENDA**

- 1. CONSIDERATION OF ADDENDUM REPORTS
  - 1.1. Realignment and Replacement of a Section of Einasleigh Common Boundary Fence
  - 1.2. Request for Community Assistance Provided to Community Organisations
- 2. CONCLUSION

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## ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL





#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Consideration of a request from an adjoining landowner to the Einasleigh Common, requesting a realignment of the existing fence and requesting a contribution of the proposed fencing costs.

#### RECOMMENDATION

#### That Council:

- 1. Resolve to allow the realignment of the boundary fence while not on the lot/plan boundary as per the landholders preferred fence route.
- 2. Despite the requirements of the *Stock Route Management Act 2002*, Council resolve to contribute to fencing materials to the value of \$3,468.19.

#### **BACKGROUND**

Council has received a request from a neighbouring landowner adjoining the Einasleigh Town Common, seeking approval to alter the alignment of the existing boundary fence in the vicinity of Bald Knob Hill. The proposed realignment would exclude Bald Knob Hill from the Common, shifting the fence line away from the current route which traverses the hill from east to west and terminates at a sharp corner on the western boundary.

Council was contacted by the landowners of Baldy Knob Station in May 2023 regarding the realignment of the adjoining boundary fence between Baldy Knob Station and Einasleigh Town Common. The landholders have again approached Council in February 2025 regarding their previous request after significant flooding caused damage during the 2025 flood event. Baldy Knob Station shares a boundary with the north and west extents of Baldy Knob Paddock and the north west side of Clay Holes Paddock.

The landowner has identified several concerns with the current fence alignment, including:

- Safety and access issues associated with maintaining the fence along the steep and rocky terrain of Bald Knob Hill:
- Increased maintenance costs due to frequent fence damage and difficult terrain;
- Ongoing issues with agistee livestock, which tend to seek refuge in the hill area during musters and reportedly damage the fence in the back corner, leading to stock straying onto the adjoining property.
- Damage caused by floodwaters of the Stockman's Creek catchment

Councils Rural Lands Officer has conducted site inspections, and the matter was further discussed at the Einasleigh Community Connect session. The realignment includes replacing an existing 2.034km of fencing with approximately 1.1km of fencing and a quote has been sought for the provision of material to the value of \$3468.19.

The realignment (options shown in Attachment 1) includes the exclusion of approximately 41 ha of unusable common land being Baldy Knob Hill. The two fencing options include a fence line that avoid gully crossings and erosion while maximising Council and agistee benefit to the best of Council's ability.

The Council, as trustee for the Einasleigh Town Common, is responsible for managing the land in accordance with the Land Act 1994 and ensuring any changes align with the purpose of the Common and the interests of current agistee's. Under the Stock Route Management Act 2002, the adjoining landowners have the obligation to erect and maintain the fence.

#### LINK TO CORPORATE PLAN 2025-2029

Corporate Aim 4 – Social: Quality social infrastructure makes the shire a desirable place to live

Corporate Outcome No. 4.3: A culturally aware community

#### **BUDGET & RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS**

Pursuant to the Stock Route Management Act 2002, Council is not legally required to contribute to fencing costs.

#### **LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Land Act 1994 Stock Route Management Act 2002

#### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

N/A

#### **CONSULTATION**

Consultation	Tick	Policy Consideration	Action
No consultation required		Nil	Advise affected common agistee's & neighbouring property of
Inform	$\boxtimes$		realignment
Consult			
Involve			
Collaborate			
Empower			

#### RISK ASSESSMENT

Risk Assessment Outcome: Medium

Summary of risks and opportunities:

- Risk 1 (Environmental): Altering fence line may cause soil erosion or disrupt habitats around Baldy Knob Hill
  - o Mitigation: Incorporate low soil disturbance and erosion control measures during alignment
- Risk 2 (Operational): The fence line could still have maintenance costs despite the realignment
  - o Mitigation: Neighbouring properties to state land are responsible for the maintenance of fence lines, however contingency budgets for 1.1km of fence line is minimal.
- Risk 3 (Legal): The fence realignment may not fully comply with the Land Act 1994
  - Although the fence line will be realigned, the Lot/Plan is still on survey. Council is still the trustee for the land including half of Baldy Knob Hill and the land is still included within the authorisation of the Stock Route Management Act 2002

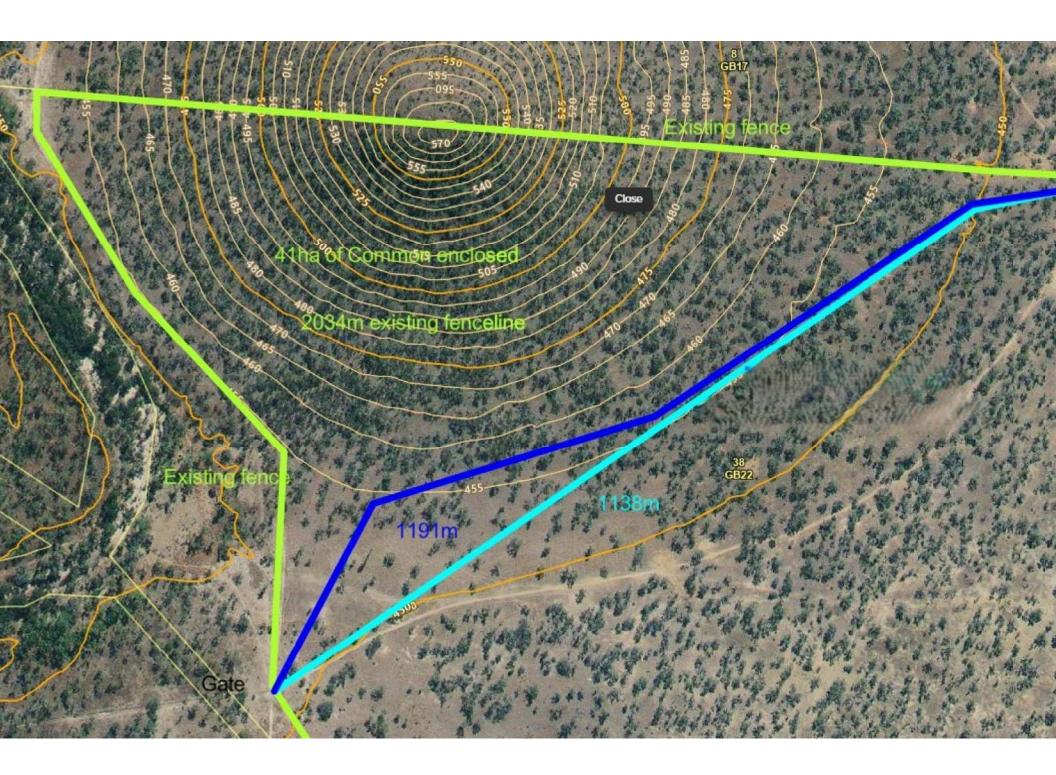
#### **Report Prepared By:**

#### **Report Authorised By:**

Renee Bester, Director of Corporate Services	Mark Watt, Chief Executive Office			
Date: 16/05/2025	Date: 19/05/2025			

#### <u>ATTACHMENTS</u>

1. Baldy Know Common Fenceline Map



## ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL





#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Council called applications under its three (3) Community Assistance Policies for events being held 1 July 2025 through to 30 June 2026.

#### RECOMMENDATION

#### That Council:

- 1. Provide Grant & Sponsorship assistance in accordance with Council's ESC-C047 Grants to Community Organisations Policy & ESC-049 Sponsorship to Community Organisations Policy to the approved organisations subject to the following conditions:
  - Council's grant/sponsorship funding must be used for the approved project, that is the project the subject of the application.
  - Council's contribution is capped at the amount provided. Any cost over runs will be the responsibility of the applicant.
  - Council's grant/sponsorship will be paid upon completion of the approved project.
  - The applicant must complete the approved project within 12 months from the award of the grant/sponsorship.
  - The applicant must provide a grant/sponsorship acquittal on the approved form.
  - Surplus grant/sponsorship funds from the approved project shall be reimbursed to Council calculated on a
    proportional basis accordingly to the percentage of Council's grant/sponsorship to the total project cost (for
    example: if Council's contribution is 80% of the project cost, Council is reimbursed 80% of the surplus
    funds).
  - The applicant must provide acknowledgement of Council's assistance in all promotional material and give Council due recognition and credit for its support; and
- 2. Provide In-kind assistance in accordance Council's ESC-C050 In Kind Support to Community Organisations Policy to the approved organisations subject to the condition that the recipient organisation suitably acknowledge Council's support of their event.

#### **BACKGROUND**

Each year, Council invites community organisations to submit applications for Council assistance. This process is completed prior to the commencement of the financial year to assist in planning and budgeting.

Applications for all three Community Assistance programs (in kind, grants and sponsorship) were called in early 2025. Any applications received after the closing date have been accepted and included in this report.

Each application has been evaluated against the criteria outlined in the relevant Community Assistance Policy.

#### **LINK TO CORPORATE PLAN**

Aim No.4: Quality social infrastructure makes the shire a desirable place to live Outcome 4.3: A culturally aware community

#### **BUDGET & RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS**

Costs will be covered by the Community Assistance budget. A nominal allocation of \$80,000 was budgeted for 2024/2025 and has remained consistent over the previous 3 years. No foreseeable change to the FY2025/2026 budget is predicted. Council need not be limited to the budget allocation as Council may amend its budget throughout the year.

An attempt has been made to spread the available money across the applicants. The amounts appearing in the Schedule are a recommendation only – Council may adjust the allocations as it sees fit.

#### LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

Council's Community Assistance Policies are compliant with s195 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 (the Reg), and Council's proposed decision is in accordance with s194 of the Reg.

Section 170(3) allows Council to amend its budget by resolution anytime during the financial year.

#### POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The applications have been assessed by Policy's criteria and are materially compliant in terms of eligibility and approval criteria.

#### CONSULTATION

Consultation	Tick	Policy Consideration	Action
No consultation required	$\boxtimes$	NA	NA
Inform			
Consult			
Involve			
Collaborate			
Empower			

#### RISK ASSESSMENT

Risk Assessment Outcome:

- Risk 1: Some organisations may not meet all funding or acquittal conditions, such as failure to complete the project, improper use of funds, or not acknowledging Council support.
  - Mitigation: Enforce the conditions outlined (e.g., acquittals, surplus return, acknowledgement requirements), and conduct random audits to ensure compliance. Provide clear documentation and support to applicants to meet reporting standards.
- Risk 2: Total funding awarded may exceed the nominal \$80,000 budget, especially if additional applications are received after allocations are made.
  - Mitigation: Monitor budget utilisation throughout the year and, if needed, recommend mid-year budget amendments under Section 170(3) of the Local Government Regulation 2012. Prioritise funding based on impact, reach, and alignment with Council objectives. Please note current applications are well under budget (\$48300)
- Risk 3: Community groups may perceive funding allocations as unfair or biased, particularly if some regions, events, or types of groups receive more than others.
  - Mitigation: Ensure all applications are assessed objectively against published policy criteria. Document
    and communicate decision-making processes clearly to applicants and offer feedback sessions where
    possible to increase transparency and community understanding.

#### **Report Prepared By:**

#### Report Authorised By:

Renee Bester, Director of Corporate Services	Mark Watt, Chief Executive Officer			
Date: 19/05/2025	Date: 19/05/2025			

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Community Assistance Application Schedule

### **Community Assistance Applications**

		,	Event	2025-2026 Budget				
	Job cost #	Community Group/Event		In Kind		Sponsorship	nfrastructure Gran	
					Granted	Granted	Granted	
	3101-0001-0002	Georgetown Rodeo Assoc	Georgetown Rodeo	\$	2,000.00			
	3101-0001-0003	Georgetown Golf Club	Ongoing maintenance	\$	4,000.00		\$ 5,000.00	
	3101-0001-0001	Georgetown Turf Club	Georgetown Bush Races	\$	4,000.00			
	3101-0001-0004	Georgetown Bushmans Ball		\$	1,500.00			
	3101-0001-0005	Georgetown Cricket Club	Cricket Matches/Cricket Carnival	\$	2,000.00			
N	3101-0001-0008	Georgetown P&C	The Border Collie Boogie project	\$	2,000.00	\$ 3,500.00		
GEORGETOWN	3101-0001-0007	Georgetown Progress Assoc	Garden Competition	\$	_			
(GE	3101-0001-0008	Georgetown Horse & Pony Club	Georgetown Campdraft	\$	2,000.00		\$ 5,000.00	
EOF	3101-0001-0009	Gulf Stockmans Challenge Club Inc	Gulf Stockmans Challenge	\$	2,000.00			
9	3101-0001-0012	RFDS Georgetown	Doctor collection	\$	-			
		Etheridge Cares	Purchase of 7x5m box trailer + cage sides	\$	-			
	3101-0001-0011	Pigs & Rigs	Pig hunt	\$	1,000.00			
	3101-0001-0010	Georgetown QCWA Branch	Deb ball	\$	1,000.00			
		GEORGETOWN		\$	21,500.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 10,000.00	
ЭН	3101-0004-0002	Einasleigh Rodeo Assoc	Easter Weekend -Rodeo & Races	\$	2,000.00			
EINASLEIGH	3101-0004-0003	Einasleigh Progress Asoc	Multi Sports Club House	\$	2,000.00			
VAS	3101-0004-0004	Einasleigh Sports Club	Campdraft & Horsesports	\$	2,000.00			
		EINASLEIGH		\$	6,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	
	3101-0003-0001	Forsayth All Sports Assoc	Etheridge Show & Forsayth Turnout	\$	3,000.00			
E	3101-0003-0002	Forsayth Gun Club		\$	100.00			
FORSAYTH	3101-00030003	Forsayth Primary P & C Association		\$	100.00			
PG		Forsayth QCWA Branch		\$	100.00			
		FORSAYTH		\$	3,300.00			
щ	3101-0002-0001	Mt Surprise Sport & Rec Inc	Mt Surprise Horse Sports/Bike Sports	\$	3,000.00			
MT SURPRISE	3101-0002-0002	Mt Surprise State School		\$	500.00			
IV	3101-0002-0003	P & C Mt Surprise State School		\$	500.00			
S		MOUNT SURPRISE		\$	4,000.00			