



# Ordinary Council

## LATE REPORTS

### Business Paper

**date of meeting:** Thursday 12 December 2024

**location:** Council Chambers, 17 Burrawan Street, Port Macquarie

**time:** 10:00am

<b>Community Vision</b>	A sustainable high quality of life for all
<b>Community Mission</b>	Building the future together People Place Health Education Technology
<b>Council's Corporate Values</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Sustainability</li> <li>★ Excellence in Service Delivery</li> <li>★ Consultation and Communication</li> <li>★ Openness and Accountability</li> <li>★ Community Advocacy</li> </ul>
<b>Community Themes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Leadership and Governance</li> <li>★ Your Community Life</li> <li>★ Your Business and Industry</li> <li>★ Your Natural and Built Environment</li> </ul>

Under Clause 3.23 Statement of ethical Obligations in the Code of Meeting Practice as adopted by Council at the Extraordinary Meeting of Council held on 23 June 2022 (Item 6.04), business papers for all ordinary and extraordinary meetings of the council and committees of the council must contain a statement reminding councillors of their oath or affirmation of office made under section 233A of the Act and their obligations under the council's code of conduct to disclose and appropriately manage conflicts of interest.

Councillors are reminded of the oath or affirmation which was taken by each of them.

#### **Oath Of Councillor**

I swear that I will undertake the duties of the office of Councillor in the best interests of the people of Port Macquarie-Hastings local government area and the Port Macquarie-Hastings Council and that I will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the Local Government Act 1993 or any other Act to the best of my ability and judgment.

#### **Affirmation Of Councillor**

I solemnly and sincerely declare and affirm that I will undertake the duties of the office of Councillor in the best interests of the people of Port Macquarie-Hastings local government area and the Port Macquarie-Hastings Council and that I will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the Local Government Act 1993 or any other Act to the best of my ability and judgment.

Councillors have the opportunity to declare any interests in items on the agenda and inform the Council and public if they will be leaving the Chambers during the debate and voting on the item.

# Ordinary Council Meeting

Thursday, 12 December 2024

## LATE REPORTS

### Items of Business

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# 2 Your Community Life

## What we are trying to achieve

A healthy, inclusive and vibrant community.

## What the result will be

We will have:

- Community hubs that provide access to services and social connections
- A safe, caring and connected community
- A healthy and active community that is supported by recreational infrastructure
- A strong community that is able to identify and address social issues
- Community participation in events, programs, festivals and activities

## How we will get there

- 2.1 Create a community that feels safe
- 2.2 Advocate for social inclusion and fairness
- 2.3 Provide quality programs, community facilities and public spaces, for example, community halls, parks and vibrant town centres
- 2.4 Empower the community through encouraging active involvement in projects, volunteering and events
- 2.5 Promote a creative and culturally rich community

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**Item:** 11.11

**Subject:** COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY REVIEW

**Presented by:** Community, Planning and Environment, Melissa Watkins

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### Alignment with Delivery Program

2.4.1 Work with the community to identify and address community needs, to inform Council processes, services and projects.

### RECOMMENDATION

#### That Council:

1. **Note the information in the report regarding the review of the Community Engagement Strategy.**
2. **Place the draft Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) Community Engagement Strategy on public exhibition for a period of not less than 28 days.**

### Executive Summary

The Local Government Act 1993 mandates that each council must establish and implement a Community Engagement Strategy (CES) to guide how they will engage the community on all works that Council undertaking and in developing and reviewing their Community Strategic Plan (CSP) and the suite of Integrated Planning and Reporting documents. This engagement strategy should be based on social justice principles and identify relevant stakeholder groups, outlining the methods for their engagement.

Reviewing the Community Engagement Strategy within a timely manner, that is within three months of a new council's term, is to ensure that Council can maintain effective community engagement and ensure it remains effective and aligned with the community's needs and the council's objectives.

Council is developing a comprehensive Community Engagement Strategy to meet all legislative requirements and enhance our engagement practices. The Integrated Planning and Reporting Community Engagement Strategy will be a key component of this overarching approach, ensuring alignment and consistency across all engagement activities.

A review of the existing Community Engagement Strategy (Attachment 1) has been completed, and a new comprehensive draft Community Engagement Strategy is being developed to support ongoing community engagement and participation, in alignment with the requirements of the Local Government Act and the Environmental

Planning and Assessment Act and specifically the requirements of the Integrated Planning and Reporting legislation.

To ensure Council meets its legislative obligations within the specified timeframes and in order to support community engagement for the new suite of Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) documents early in 2025 a draft IP&R Community Engagement Strategy has been developed for the purpose of community feedback. This approach will also ensure focussed consultation can be carried out in respect of the draft Strategy while the new comprehensive Community Engagement Strategy is being finalised with any relevant feedback being able to be considered in the comprehensive CES.

It is proposed that the draft comprehensive CES be presented to Council in February 2025 for endorsement for community engagement and feedback, once finalised it will incorporate the IP& R CES provisions moving forward.

This report recommends that the review be noted and the draft IP&R CES be endorsed for the purpose of receiving community feedback.

### **Discussion**

With the election of a new Council, Council is legislatively required to review our engagement approach within three months, as outlined in the **Local Government Act 1993**. This review aligns with the Integrated Planning and Reporting (IPR) Framework to ensure that our Community Engagement Strategy reflects both the legislative requirements and the community's evolving needs.

As part of the broader suite of IPR documents, a new draft comprehensive Community Engagement Strategy is being developed. A Councillor briefing was provided on 5 December with an outline of the review and the proposed approach to community engagement moving forward.

To ensure Council meets its legislative obligations within the specified timeframes and in order to support community engagement for the new suite of Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) documents early in 2025 a draft IP&R Community Engagement Strategy has been developed for the purpose of community feedback (Attachment 1). This approach will also ensure focussed consultation can be carried out in respect of the draft Strategy while the comprehensive Community Engagement Strategy is being finalised with any relevant feedback being able to be considered in the comprehensive CES.

It is proposed that the draft comprehensive CES be presented to Council in February 2025 for endorsement for community engagement and feedback, once finalised it will incorporate the IP& R CES provisions moving forward.

### Review Findings of the Review and Key Improvements

The review process has highlighted areas for improvement and provided insights to inform the development of the new strategy. Key findings include:

1. **Gaps Identified:**
  - Limited inclusivity in engagement practices.
  - Weaknesses in feedback mechanisms, particularly in closing the loop with participants.
2. **Opportunities for Improvement:**
  - Broadening participation to include under-represented groups.
  - Enhancing community satisfaction through better engagement experiences.
  - Addressing insights from Councillor feedback and Community Satisfaction Surveys.
3. **Challenges Noted:**
  - **Reaching Under-Represented Groups:** Marginalised and hard-to-reach populations remain under-engaged.
  - **Managing Diverse Stakeholder Interests:** Balancing varying community expectations requires ongoing effort.
  - **Addressing Engagement Fatigue:** Frequent consultations risk disengaging participants over time.

#### Strategic Objectives

To address these gaps and challenges, the comprehensive strategy will incorporate the following objectives:

1. **Building Capacity:** Internally and externally, leveraging emerging technologies and practices to enhance engagement.
2. **Inform and Involve:** Developing tailored engagement activities to increase participation from diverse communities and educate participants on their level of influence.
3. **Accountability and Transparency:** Strengthening feedback mechanisms, including updates on the "Have Your Say" (HYS) platform and e-newsletters and communication channels.
4. **Continuous Improvement:** Regularly evaluating and improving engagement practices using participant feedback.

These objectives have also been included in the draft IP&R CES.

#### Key Considerations

The development of the new strategy will focus on several critical considerations:

- **Stakeholder Identification and Engagement:** Building a comprehensive stakeholder database to ensure we reach the right audience and capture engagement that can inform other projects.
- **Clear and Regular Communications:** Expanding communication channels to increase accessibility and participation.
- **Feedback Loops:** Enhancing trust by providing clear and timely updates on how community input informs decisions.
- **Toolkit of Engagement Practices:** Utilising diverse and contemporary tools that align with best practices.
- **Social Justice Values:** Embedding equity, access, participation, and rights into engagement practices.

These considerations have been addressed with the draft IP&R CES.

### Community Voice Initiative

Arising from the review a proposed feature of the new strategy will be the **PMHC Community Voice**, an online resident consultation group embedded within the strategy. This initiative aims to:

- Improve Council's reach and broaden participation across the Local Government Area (LGA).
- Provide representative engagement results and monitor evolving community expectations.
- Enhance transparency in decision-making by offering an inclusive platform to explore community ideas.
- Opportunities for forums and focus groups for different engagement activities.

The review and development of the new comprehensive Community Engagement Strategy reinforces Council's commitment to meaningful and impactful community engagement. Key points include:

- Engagement is mandated under the EPA Act and Local Government Act.
- It is a tool to support decision-making by providing diverse community perspectives.
- While engagement may not achieve consensus, it facilitates balanced decision-making by capturing a broad range of views.
- The strategy prioritises inclusivity, transparency, and continuous improvement, aligning with IAP2 principles to ensure robust community involvement.

The updated comprehensive strategy and associated initiatives, including the PMHC Community Voice, will aim to set a new standard for community engagement, empowering decision-makers with a clearer understanding of the diverse needs and aspirations of our community.

### Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) Requirements

In accordance with section 402A of the Local Government Act:

*"A council must establish and implement a strategy (called its **community engagement strategy**) for engagement with the local community when developing its plans, policies and programs and for the purpose of determining its activities (other than routine administrative matters)."*

The essential elements for a Community Engagement Strategy in accordance with the IP&R Guidelines are as follows:

- A Community Engagement Strategy must be prepared, adopted and implemented, based on social justice principles, for engagement with the local community to support council in developing its plans and determining key activities. This includes development of the Community Strategic Plan, and all relevant council plans, policies and programs.
- As a minimum, the Community Engagement Strategy must identify relevant stakeholder groups within the community and outline methods that will be used to engage each group.
- The Strategy must be reviewed within 3 months of the local government elections, as part of the broader review of the Community Strategic Plan
- Where a council has community engagement requirements under other legislation or regulations, these should, wherever practical, be integrated into the Community Engagement Strategy.



To ensure Council meets its legislative obligations within the specified timeframes and in order to support community engagement for the new suite of Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) documents early in 2025 a draft IP&R Community Engagement Strategy has been developed for the purpose of community feedback (Attachment 2). This approach will also ensure focussed consultation can be carried out in respect of the draft Strategy while the comprehensive Community Engagement Strategy is being finalised with any relevant feedback being able to be incorporated into the comprehensive CES.

It is proposed that the draft comprehensive CES be presented to Council in February 2025 for endorsement as a draft for community engagement and feedback, once finalised it will incorporate the IP& R CES provisions, and any feedback received moving forward.

### Options

That Council

1. Endorses the draft IP & R Community Engagement strategy to go on public exhibition to further enhance the strategy, or
2. Seek additional information about the Draft IP&R Community Engagement Strategy.

This report recommends option 1 to ensure that Council can avoid delays and meet it's legislative obligations.

### Community Engagement and Internal Consultation

In undertaking the review of the current engagement strategy Council undertook some preliminary engagement through the Have your Say Platform. The results of the survey highlight the importance of authentic, transparent, and inclusive engagement. By addressing these key areas, PMHC aims to build trust, improve community satisfaction, and create an engagement strategy that better reflects the needs and expectations of its residents.

The survey was conducted from 21 October to 18 November 2024 gathered valuable insights to shape the development of PMHC's new Community Engagement Strategy. While this information will be included in the February report regarding the comprehensive draft CES, the key findings are summarised below:

#### Key Highlights:

- 1. Community Engagement Importance:**
  - **100%** of respondents rated community involvement in addressing local issues as "extremely important" (87%) or "important" (13%).
- 2. Understanding Engagement Processes:**
  - 50% of respondents provided positive feedback on Council's current engagement process.
  - 31% believed there was room for improvement, and 19% were unsure.
- 3. Level of Influence in Decision-Making:**

- 56% of respondents had some understanding of their influence in decision-making, while 44% were uncertain or lacked understanding.
- 4. Past Participation:**
- 94% of survey respondents had engaged with Council projects over the past two years, with participation ranging from 2 to over 20 projects on topics such as housing, infrastructure, and community amenities.
- 5. Opportunities for Engagement:**
- 57% of respondents felt there were sufficient opportunities to have their say, but 19% indicated uncertainty or felt there were not enough opportunities.
- 6. Preferred Engagement Methods:**
- There was a preference for low-barrier, quick, and accessible engagement methods (e.g., online surveys and pop-ups) over more structured or time-intensive formats.

Key Areas for Improvement:

- 1. Transparency:**
- Disclose draft plans early and clearly show how community input informs decisions.
  - Provide timely updates on consultation outcomes.
- 2. Communication:**
- Improve survey design and clarity.
  - Use a mix of communication methods, including email updates, physical notices, and local media.
  - Offer weekly summaries of projects open for feedback to keep the community informed.
- 3. Accessibility:**
- Increase in-person engagement options with convenient timing and locations.
  - Provide multiple feedback options, including shorter surveys and tools for non-digital users.
- 4. Support for Local Groups:**
- Enhance collaboration with CCATs and community progress meetings by offering more resources and support.
- 5. Inclusivity:**
- Host events and engagement activities that consider the needs of younger adults, those with disabilities, and marginalized groups.
- 6. Authentic Engagement:**
- Avoid perceptions of predetermined decisions by ensuring consultations are meaningful and responsive.
  - Provide clear feedback on how community input shapes final outcomes.

A Councillor briefing was provided on 5 December 2024 with an outline of the review and the proposed approach to community engagement moving forward. In February 2025, Council will undertake targeted engagement with the community to further refine and enhance our approach to engagement and the finalised the Strategy. This aims to ensure our Community Engagement Strategy reflects the diverse needs and aspirations of our residents. Through surveys, and focus groups, we will gather valuable insights to strengthen inclusivity, improve feedback mechanisms, and broaden participation across the Local Government Area.

This process is a critical step in fostering transparency, building trust, and ensuring our engagement practices remain responsive, effective, and aligned with best-practice principles.

### Planning and Policy Implications

The planning implications of this report involve integrating community feedback into more inclusive and transparent engagement processes. Key changes may include redesigning consultation methods to address gaps in accessibility and inclusivity, allocating resources to support tools and local groups, and ensuring alignment with the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework.

Improved communication, such as simplified surveys, dedicated Community Voice process and broader outreach channels, will enhance participation and trust. These adjustments aim to create a more responsive and representative planning culture, fostering better collaboration and informed decision-making while mitigating engagement fatigue.

This will result in a new endorsed comprehensive Community Engagement Strategy that meet the needs of the Council and Community to manage decision making, as well as ensuring we are compliant with relevant legislation.

The comprehensive Strategy will be developed looking at the following:

#### 1. Enhanced Engagement Framework

- **Incorporating Community Feedback:** The report identifies gaps in transparency, inclusivity, and accessibility, which must be addressed in planning frameworks. This could mean redesigning consultation processes to ensure they are more inclusive, diverse, and accessible.
- **Authentic Engagement:** Implementing mechanisms to demonstrate how community feedback influences decisions can build trust and enhance participation.

#### 2. Resource Allocation

- **Support for Engagement Tools:** Increased investment in communication platforms, staffing, and outreach activities to improve community engagement.
- **Dedicated Support for Local Groups:** Additional resources may be required to support CCATs and other community organizations in fostering localized engagement.

### 3. Updates to Engagement Practices

- **Low-Barrier Methods:** Expanding digital platforms, simplified surveys, and targeted engagement methods to make it easier for all residents to participate in decision-making.
- **Diverse Outreach Channels:** Increased use of non-digital communication methods (e.g., newsletters, physical notices) and collaboration with local media to ensure broad coverage.

### 4. Strategic Planning Integration

- **Alignment with IPR Framework:** The updated Engagement Strategy will need to align with Council's broader Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework, ensuring consistency across the Community Strategic Plan, Delivery Program, and Operational Plan.
- **Stakeholder Identification:** Developing a comprehensive stakeholder database will ensure more targeted and effective engagement in planning processes.

### 5. Policy and Decision-Making Impacts

- **Transparent Decision-Making:** The need for clearer communication on how community input influences decisions may impact how policies and plans are developed, with additional steps to ensure transparency.
- **Mitigating Engagement Fatigue:** Planning processes must balance the frequency of consultations to avoid overburdening the community, particularly on contentious or high-profile issues.

### 6. Improved Governance

- **Accountability:** Improved mechanisms for reporting back to the community (e.g., through HYS platforms or newsletters) can enhance governance and public trust.
- **Regular Evaluation:** Establishing metrics to assess the effectiveness of engagement practices will ensure continuous improvement.

### 7. Long-Term Community Outcomes

- **Building Trust:** By addressing concerns raised in the report, the Council can strengthen its relationship with the community, leading to better collaboration in future projects.
- **Informed Planning Decisions:** Broader and more diverse participation will provide richer insights, leading to more robust and representative planning decisions.

Once the overarching or comprehensive Community Engagement Strategy is adopted by Council a review of the Community Engagement Policy will be also undertaken.

### Financial and Economic Implications

The financial and economic impacts of implementing the revised Community Engagement Strategy include potential increases in operational costs to enhance communication platforms, develop stakeholder databases, and support local groups including the establishment of the Community Voice initiative. However, this would be managed within the existing operational budget allocated within the 24/25.

Operational costs may include required for training staff, hosting engagement events, and expanding outreach methods, such as non-digital communication. However, these investments can yield long-term economic benefits by fostering trust and collaboration, reducing project delays caused by community dissatisfaction, and ensuring decisions align with community needs, potentially enhancing local economic outcomes and resource efficiency.

### Attachments

1.  Draft Intergrated Planning and Reporting Community Engagement Strategy
2.  Community Engagement Strategy 2022-2025

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**Item:** 11.12

**Subject:** PROPOSED FUTURE USE OF THE CURRENTLY VACANT  
BUILDING - 143 GORDON STREET, PORT MACQUARIE

**Presented by:** Community, Planning and Environment, Melissa Watkins

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### Alignment with Delivery Program

2.2.1 Support and advocate for all community sectors.

### RECOMMENDATION

**That Council note the information contained in the report.**

### Executive Summary

At the November 2024 Ordinary Council meeting Council considered Item 11.03 Proposed Future Use of the Currently Vacant Building - 143 Gordon Street, Port Macquarie. At this meeting, Council resolved:

*That Council:*

1. *Defer consideration of item 11.03 Proposed Future Use of the Currently Vacant Building - 143 Gordon Street, Port Macquarie to the December 2024 Ordinary Council meeting.*
2. *Requests the Chief Executive Officer to pause all activities in respect of leasing of 143 Gordon Street, Port Macquarie pending the outcome of Council's consideration at the December 2024 Ordinary Council meeting.*

This Item has been deferred until the December 2024 Ordinary Council meeting as resolved where Council will now determine an outcome. The content of the November 2024 report commences below.

The building known as "The Hub" at 143 Gordon Street, Port Macquarie, is owned by Port Macquarie-Hastings Council and is currently vacant. A Notice of Motion was presented at the August 2024 Council meeting by Councillor Edwards and Council subsequently resolved that a report be presented to Council regarding the options for use of the property that could support the work of the Homelessness Interagency Services.

This report provides an overview of proposed future uses for the currently vacant building at 143 Gordon Street, and whether it can support local homelessness services.

The report also explores options for repurposing the building to assist the Homelessness Interagency Services, addressing community needs while aligning with Council's strategic goals. Additionally, it outlines the required processes for establishing a supportive use of the building, including feasibility assessments, stakeholder engagement, regulatory compliance, and setup. These findings offer a

foundation for Council's decision-making regarding community support through effective community facility use.

### Discussion

At the Ordinary Council meeting, August 2024 Council considered the Notice of motion (Item 11.01) Homelessness and Disadvantaged Persons as below:

*That Council:*

1. *Note that staff have confirmed that one of the buildings at Lot 23 DP 1129456 143 Gordon Street, formally referred to as "The Hub" is owned by Port Macquarie-Hastings Council and is currently vacant.*
2. *Note that staff have confirmed that the other building; a dwelling located at 143 Gordon Street, is currently occupied/leased as a dwelling.*
3. *Note that staff have confirmed that the subject land is zoned E1 Local Centre in accordance with the Port Macquarie-Hastings Council Local Environmental Plan.*
4. *Note that staff have confirmed that the Objectives of the E1 zoning are as follows:*
  - *To provide a range of retail, business and community uses that serve the needs of people who live in, work in or visit the area.*
  - *To encourage investment in local commercial development that generates employment opportunities and economic growth.*
  - *To enable residential development that contributes to a vibrant and active local centre and is consistent with the Council's strategic planning for residential development in the area.*
  - *To encourage business, retail, community and other non-residential land uses on the ground floor of buildings.*
  - *To provide a focal point for the neighbourhood community.*
5. *Note that staff have confirmed that in accordance with the Port Macquarie-Hastings LEP, the uses permitted with development consent in the E1 zone include:*

*Amusement centres; Artisan food and drink industries; Boarding houses; Centre-based child care facilities; Commercial premises; Community facilities; Entertainment facilities; Function centres; Home industries; Hostels; Hotel or motel accommodation; Information and education facilities; Local distribution premises; Medical centres; Oyster aquaculture; Places of public worship; Public administration buildings; Recreation facilities (indoor); Respite day care centres; Service stations; Shop top housing; Tank-based aquaculture; Veterinary hospitals; Any other development not specified in item 2 or 4 (of the LEP Clause)*
6. *Request the Chief Executive Officer provide a report to the November 2024 Ordinary Council meeting that details the following:*
  - *The proposed future use of the currently vacant building 143 Gordon Street*
  - *The options for use of 143 Gordon Street that could support the work of the Homelessness Interagency Services*
  - *The process and costs involved in establishing a use of the building that could support the work of the Homelessness Interagency Services.*
7. *Request the Chief Executive Officer to pause all activities in respect of leasing of 143 Gordon Street until Council has had time to consider the*

*report at the November 2024 Ordinary Council meeting.*

This report is specifically responding to point 6 of the resolution.

As the building is currently vacant, persons and groups are welcome to make an expression of interest for the premises. Over the past 2 years Council has received 3 applications, two have been unsuitable and the third has only been received recently. The Homelessness Interagency are welcome to apply to use the space through the normal formal Expression of Interest (EOI) process.

Staff have also considered the need for staff to relocate to the site due to the pressure on space within the business and on the existing office space at Council's Port Macquarie Headquarters. This has since been resolved and it is no longer a requirement for staff.

It should be noted that Council would not directly manage or fund the facility; instead, interested parties would submit EOIs, outlining their proposed use, management plans, and capacity to cover associated costs.

Successful applicants may also need to lodge a Development Application (DA) and assume full responsibility for site management, including regulatory compliance, funding, and operations. Should building alterations be required, a Construction Certificate for these works may also be required to be covered.

The property has Development Approval issued 23 August 2022 for use as a business premises. A business premises in accordance with the Port Macquarie Local Environmental Plan (LEP) means *"a building or place at or on which:*

- a. an occupation, profession, or trade (other than an industry) is carried on for the provision of services directly to members of the public on a regular basis,*
- or*
- b. a service is provided directly to members of the public on a regular basis,*

*and includes funeral homes, goods repair and reuse premises and, without limitation, premises such as banks, post offices, hairdressers, dry cleaners, travel agencies, betting agencies and the like, but does not include an entertainment facility, home business, home occupation, home occupation (sex services), medical centre, restricted premises, sex services premises or veterinary hospital.*

**Note—**

*Business premises are a type of **commercial premises**—see the definition of that term in this Dictionary."*

The approved hours of operation are: 7 am - 11 pm, Monday through Saturday; no Sundays or Public Holidays.

Depending on the details of the use proposed by the Homelessness Interagency and their status as service provider it is most likely that their use of the premises may be defined under the LEP as follows:

**community facility** means a building or place—

- (a) owned or controlled by a public authority or non-profit community organisation,*
- and*
- (b) used for the physical, social, cultural or intellectual development or welfare of the community,*



*but does not include an educational establishment, hospital, retail premises, place of public worship or residential accommodation.*

A community facility is permitted in the E1 Local Centre zone with development consent.

The Hub has been vacant since 2022 after its use as the Flood Recovery Centre. Council has not received any income for the premises since that time. The fair market rental rate is in the order of \$350/m<sup>2</sup> pa plus GST. This translates to approximately \$54,250.00 plus GST pa (\$1043/week) plus a bond as described in our current fees and charges. This rate refers to the main office area with an area of approximately 155 m<sup>2</sup>.

Given the current market rate for the premises the EOI process ensures a fair and transparent approach to the use of Council assets. This approach enables council to facilitate community support while ensuring that operational responsibility lies with the service provider.

### **Options**

This report is for notation only.

### **Community Engagement and Internal Consultation**

Internal engagement was undertaken with the Strategic Property Team, Development Assessment Team, the Space and Places Team and Council's Strategic Property Investment Coordinator.

### **Planning and Policy Implications**

There are no planning and policy implications in relation to this report.

### **Financial and Economic Implications**

There are no financial and economic implications in relation to this report. Financial implications will need to be considered depending on whether Council wishes to consider this matter further.

### **Attachments**

Nil