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**NARROMINE SHIRE COUNCIL**  
**ORDINARY MEETING BUSINESS PAPER – 13 DECEMBER 2023**  
**MAYORAL MINUTE**

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## **1. MAYORAL DIARY**

### November 2023

1 November	Meeting with Settlement Service International (SSI) Representatives Trangie Action Group Meeting
3 November	Meeting with the CEO of Murray Darling Association via Teams
6 November	Murray Darling Association Board Meeting Meeting with NSW Telco Authority Trangie Action Group Meeting
7 November	Narwonah Energy Project Meeting Narromine Turf Club Melbourne Cup Function
8 November	Country Mayors Association Executive Meeting Council Pre-Briefing Meeting Ordinary Council Meeting
9 November	Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting
10 November	Tour of Trangie area with Director Infrastructure and Engineering Services
11 November	Remembrance Day Ceremony Trangie
12-14 November	LGNSW Annual Conference Sydney
14 November	Meeting with NSW Police Deputy Commissioner
15 November	Charles Sturt University Regionals Study Hub Meeting in Dubbo
16 November	Meeting with Newspaper Proprietors
17 November	Regional Development Australia Orana Outlook Forum in Dubbo
20 November	Meeting with ARTC in relation to Inland Rail
21 November	Meeting with Journalist General Manager's Performance Review
23 November	Coalition of Renewable Energy Mayors (CoREM) Meeting
24 November	Country Mayors Association Meeting
27 November	Extraordinary Council Meeting
28 November	Community Consultation Session - Narwonah Energy Project
29 November	Community Consultation Session - Narwonah Energy Project
30 November	Meeting with World Gliding Championships Committee

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the information be noted.

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## **2. DEPUTY MAYORAL DIARY**

### November 2023

8 November	Council Pre-Briefing Meeting Ordinary Council Meeting
11 November	Remembrance Day Ceremony Narromine
12 -14 November	LGNSW Annual Conference Sydney
21 November	General Manager's Performance Review

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the information be noted.

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**3. DELEGATES REPORT – COUNTRY MAYORS ASSOCIATION**

Attached is my delegate report on the Country Mayors Association meeting held on 24 November 2023 **(See Attachment No. 1)**.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the information be noted.

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**4. DELEGATES REPORT – COALITION OF RENEWABLE ENERGY MAYORS (CoREM)**

Attached is my delegate report on the Coalition of Renewable Energy Mayors (CoREM) meeting held on 23 November 2023 **(See Attachment No. 2)**.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the information be noted.

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**5. DELEGATES REPORT – MURRAY DARLING ASSOCIATION**

Attached is my delegate report on the Murray Darling Association meeting held on 6 November 2023 **(See Attachment No. 3)**.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the information be noted.

Cr Craig Davies  
**Mayor**

## DELEGATE REPORT

COUNCILLOR REPORT ON ATTENDANCE AT:

### **Country Mayors Association Meeting**

COUNCILLOR: **Cr Davies**

DATE ATTENDED: **24 November 2023**

#### **1. Main Purpose of Conference/Visit/Meeting**

To collaborate and co-operate with all Country Councils in NSW

#### **2. Key Messages/Highlights of Relevance to Council**

CMA are currently engaged with both the Police Association and CWA to seek an urgent enquiry into Rural Crime and Police numbers across Rural and Regional NSW. They have called upon the Premier and Police Minister to investigate the disparity in police numbers across rural and regional areas as compared to the cities. Regional Crime can be as much as 4-6 times higher in many categories and yet the issues are not being addressed.

This is one of the priority areas the CMA has put to the government for consideration. Other priority areas include targeted skills and training to meet the employment needs of regional NSW, the delivery of health services equal to those in metropolitan areas, water security, affordable housing, telecommunications blackspot coverage and disaster preparedness and funding.

#### **3. Benefits to Narromine Shire Council**

Collaborating and advocating for regional and rural communities.

#### **4. Suggestions for Future Action (if appropriate)**

Maintain an active role in this organisation as it has become an effective Local Government forum for all Rural and Regional Councils.

Signature: Cr Craig Davies

Date: 4 December 2023

# DELEGATE REPORT

COUNCILLOR REPORT ON ATTENDANCE AT:

## **Coalition of Renewable Energy Mayors (CoREM) Meeting**

COUNCILLOR: **Cr Davies**

DATE ATTENDED: **23 November 2023**

### **1. Main Purpose of Conference/Visit/Meeting**

To collaborate and co-operate with a coordinated group of Local Government Areas hosting renewables projects.

### **2. Key Messages/Highlights of Relevance to Council**

CoREM consists of Mayors from the Central West Orana REZ, New England REZ, and the Hunter REZ as well as neighbouring local government areas. It is chaired by the Mayor of Armidale, Sam Coupland.

In terms of outcomes for the residents of Narromine Shire, it allows us to negotiate outcomes that will see significant discounts for electricity across the Shire. CoREM has been actively pursuing 20-25% discounts, and whilst not legally enforceable, are a small cost to an energy provider given the support of Councils is a vital aspect of any energy project. Given the smaller population of Narromine Shire I am confident we will have significant success in this area when discussions commence as well as negotiating very favorable Voluntary Planning Agreements consisting of 1.5% of the Capital Value of the project over a 25–30-year lifespan.

### **3. Benefits to Narromine Shire Council**

By joining together as a coordinated group of Local Government Areas hosting renewables projects, we will benefit by sharing information of what works and what does not. We will have greater influence in terms of lobbying government. Most importantly by adopting a coordinated approach we will be better able to shape the way renewable energy proponents operate in our Local Government Areas.

### **4. Suggestions for Future Action (if appropriate)**

Maintain an active role in this organisation.

Signature: Cr Craig Davies

Date: 4 December 2023

# DELEGATE REPORT

COUNCILLOR REPORT ON ATTENDANCE AT:

## **Murray Darling Association Meeting**

COUNCILLOR: **Cr Davies**

DATE ATTENDED: **6 November 2023**

### **1. Main Purpose of Conference/Visit/Meeting**

To collaborate with Shires across the Murray Darling Basin to influence outcomes in water and the circular economy.

### **2. Key Messages/Highlights of Relevance to Council**

The Murray Darling Association (MDA) is the peak body for Local Government's across NSW, QLD, VIC and SA when it comes to dealing and acting on behalf of Shires regarding water and the Circular Economy within the Murray Darling Basin. The Circular Economy has been added to Water priorities as it forms one of the ongoing and enduring issues that all Councils across the Murray Darling Basin are affected by.

I have been given the privilege of being the new National President of the MDA and will seek to deliver better outcomes where possible for all water users. Given the recent buyback announcements it is imperative that as an active participant in the water space, MDA does all in its powers to ensure that as little productive water is removed from the irrigation areas over the basin and any environmental gains are based on efficiency gains. We have seen significant water savings through these programs and urge the Minister and the Federal Government to not further disadvantage rural and regional communities by this approach to water recovery.

This new role is a further commitment I am making to ensuring the viability and sustainability of Shires such as Narromine and indeed all those Shires impacted by buybacks.

### **3. Benefits to Narromine Shire Council**

Advancing with water and circular economy opportunities in the Narromine Shire.

### **4. Suggestions for Future Action (if appropriate)**

Maintain an active role in this organisation, and as a member of the Executive Team, to provide advice in relation to local and regional water issues and to enhance outcomes.

Signature: Cr Craig Davies

Date: 4 December 2023