

**NARROMINE SHIRE COUNCIL**  
**ORDINARY MEETING BUSINESS PAPER – 9 APRIL 2025**  
**REPORTS TO COUNCIL – COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

**1. DEVELOPMENT APPROVALS**

**Author** Manager Planning  
**Responsible Officer** Director Community and Economic Development  
**Link to Strategic Plans** CSP – 3.1.6 – Encourage developers to consider energy efficiency and sustainable building design options in new developments  
 DP – 3.1.6.1 - Ensure compliance with relevant building codes and regulations

**Executive Summary**

This report provides information to the Council on the approved Development Applications for March 2025.

**Report**

The following development applications have been determined by the granting of consent, approved by Council under delegated authority (unless noted). The reasons for the decision (having regard to any statutory requirements applying to the decision), are documented in the assessment reports.

**March 2025**

DA No	Date	Location	Title Desc	Development	Value	Assess-ment time (days)	CPP*
2025/9	24/03/25	Murgah St NARROMINE	422/- /619454	Secondary Dwelling (manufactured home)	\$173,145	5	IN
2025/10	7/03/25	Derribong St TRANGIE	12/6/8501	Garage w/ attached carport	\$22,500	9	IN
2025/11	5/03/25	Dappo Rd NARROMINE	32/- /1192549	Swimming Pool	\$73,705	13	IN
2025/14	26/03/25	Coolibah Ct NARROMINE	208/- /1283610	Domestic Storage Shed	\$23,210	2	IN

\*Community Participation Plan level of engagement – (Low impact: IN-Inform; Higher Impact (Consult): NN – Neighbour notification; AD – Advertised development; DES- Designated Development; INT – Integrated Development).

The approvals for the months of March 2025 bring the total approved Development Applications for the financial year to 46 with a total value of \$11,022,913. At this time last year there were 44 applications approved with a value of \$8,552,041 (as reported to Council, April 2024).

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**1. DEVELOPMENT APPROVALS (Cont'd)**

The following modifications were approved.

**Modifications- March 2025**

<b>DA No</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Title Desc</b>	<b>Development</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>Assess- ment time (days)</b>	<b>CPP*</b>
2024/23	13/03/25	Enmore Rd, TRANGIE	1/-/780312	Telecommuni- cations Facility (65m tower)	\$275,000	7	IN

There are currently 4 applications under assessment.

***Legal and Regulatory Compliance***

Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979  
Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021

***Risk Management Issues***

Nil

***Internal/ external Consultation***

Public notification of decisions for determinations of development consent (and modifications) in accordance with EP&A Act under Schedule 1, section 20(2) is required.

Attachments

Nil

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the information be noted.

## **2. MANAGEMENT OF THE NARROMINE AND TRANGIE AQUATIC CENTRES**

<b>Author</b>	Director Community and Economic Development
<b>Responsible Officer</b>	Director Community and Economic Development
<b>Link to Strategic Plans</b>	CSP – 1.1.7 – Provide active and passive recreation facilities for all CSP – 4.3.3 - Ensure Council's assets are monitored and well managed

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### **Executive Summary**

This report provides information to Council on the management of the Narromine and Trangie Aquatic Centres, which has been contracted to Lifeguarding Services Australia for the past five years.

The contract period of five years is now completed, and it is recommended that Council tender the contract for the management of the Trangie and Narromine Aquatic Centres for a five-year period from the 2025/26 pool season.

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### **Report**

The Management of the Narromine Aquatic Centre and the Trangie Aquatic Centre was offered for tender in 2020 (T27\_2020) for an initial three (3) year term with two (2) by one (1) year extensions to be offered (based on performance).

Prior to the 2020/21 pool season the pools were managed and operated by Narromine Shire Council staff as an internal function of Council.

At the September 2020 Council meeting it was resolved to contract the service to Lifeguarding Services Australia Pty Ltd (2020/226).

In March 2025 a service level review was undertaken of the management of the aquatic centres over the contract period. The following analysis of service was provided in the service review.

Lifeguarding Services Australia were selected to be the contractor to operate the pools from the 2020/21 season and have operated the pools for almost five (5) complete seasons.

The first season of the pool contract coincided with the worst of the COVID lockdown period up to mid-2021. The first two years proved very difficult to manage with lockdowns, mask mandates and social distancing rules. The difficulties were also felt in year three with the labor market tightening, making it difficult to staff each of the aquatic centres.

## **2. MANAGEMENT OF THE NARROMINE AND TRANGIE AQUATIC CENTRES (Cont'd)**

At the end of the third year Narromine Shire Council undertook an evaluation of the Contractor's performance and found it to be overall satisfactory.

In August 2023 confirmation was provided to the Contractor to extend the contract to a fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) year. Council sought improvement in the overall communication between Narromine Shire, the community and Lifeguarding Services Australia.

Major improvements in the grounds were finalised by Council with additional shade provided in Trangie along with the installation of solar panels and a heat pump courtesy of a grant that was gained by the Trangie Swim Club.

Following a fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) swim season, Council in May 2024 sent confirmation to the Contractor to extend the contract to a fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) season. The main improvement sought was greater liaison with the Trangie community, improvement to ground maintenance and encouraged the employment of local lifeguards.

Prior to 2024/25 season the Trangie Pool painting was completed. In the 2024/25 pool season there have been occasions where the chemical dosing in both the Narromine and Trangie pools have not been balanced correctly and several occasions where the pools have been required to be shut.

### **Review**

The review sought to:

1. Ensure an appropriate level of service is available to the community for the continued operation and management of the pools
2. Identify areas for improvement in the management and operation of the pools regardless of the operator
3. Ensure that Narromine Shire Council is achieving value for money

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**2. MANAGEMENT OF THE NARROMINE AND TRANGIE AQUATIC CENTRES (Cont'd)**

The review concluded in part:

<b>Number</b>	<b>Aim</b>	<b>Review findings summary</b>
1	Ensure an appropriate level of service is available to the community for the continued operation and management of the pools	The review finds that opening hours, cost to the public, grounds maintenance and asset management are at an acceptable level.  The review compared the opening hours and cost of entry with similar sized facilities in our region and found that our hours of entry and costs are very comparable to these.
2	Identify areas for improvement in the management and operation of the pools regardless of the operator	Recommendations are made for improvement. Eg: High and low season Morning swimming Reduce fee to non-swimmers Suggestions for the experience of operators Improvements to chemical dosing.
3	Ensure that Narromine Shire Council is achieving value for money	Narromine Shire is achieving a greater value for money for the operations and the management of the pool under a contractor model.  While there are still complaints to be addressed and improvements to be made these are of a similar to lower level to the previous five years.

Improvements to the performance of the contract and the service offered to the community will be considered along with the tenders received for the new contract.

**Legal and Regulatory Compliance**

Tendering Guidelines for NSW Local Government 2009  
 Procurement of Goods and Services Policy 2024

**Risk Management Issues**

Funds have been set aside in the 2025/26 budget per the last year of the existing contract. There is some risk that the tender will be above the amount allowed for. This will be required to be mitigated/ further considered once tenders have been received and evaluated.

## **2. MANAGEMENT OF THE NARROMINE AND TRANGIE AQUATIC CENTRES (Cont'd)**

### ***Internal/External Consultation***

In March 2025 a survey was conducted amongst pool users in Narromine and Trangie to assist with the Service review.

The review was undertaken with the assistance of key staff responsible for the various aspects of the pool operations and management.

Comment was sought from Lifeguarding Services Australia.

The Audit Risk and Improvement Committee has considered the review and its methodology.

### **Attachments**

Nil

## **RECOMMENDATION**

1. That the management of the Narromine and Trangie Aquatic Centres be offered for tender from the 2025/26 season for a five-year period (three years and two subsequent year by year extensions based on satisfactory performance).
2. That the General Manager continues to seek improvements to the operations of the pool as budget permits in line with the pool service level review.
3. That Council gives consideration during the budget process that the fee for non-swimming admission to the aquatic centres be reduced to no charge if accompanying a swimmer.

Phil Johnston  
**Director Community and Economic Development**