

SHOALHAVEN CITY COUNCIL

RURAL FIRE SERVICE STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

to be held on Thursday, 12 May 2016
commencing at 5:30pm

City Administrative Centre
Bridge Road
NOWRA NSW 2541

4 May 2016

Dear Member

NOTICE OF MEETING

You are hereby requested to attend a meeting of the **Rural Fire Service Strategic Planning Committee** to be held on 12 May 2016 commencing at **5:30 pm** in the **Council Chambers**, City Administrative Centre, Bridge Road, Nowra for consideration of the following business. A light supper will be available.

Yours faithfully

Ben Stewart
Director Assets & Works

BUSINESS OF MEETING

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting
3. Report – Director Assets and Works
4. Report – Fire Control Officer RFS
5. Workplace Health & Safety (WH&S)
6. Code of Conduct
7. General Business

MEMBERSHIP

Clr L Kearney – Chairman
Clr J Gash, Mayor
Clr M Kitchener
Available Councillors (observers)
Mr Ben Stewart, General Manager's Nominee
Mr Mark Williams, District Manager RFS
Mr Paul Gooley – Staff Representative RFS

Mr Vic Walker
Mr Andrew Fielding
Ms Jennifer Lawther
Mr Martin Gaffey
Mr Paul Gleeson
Mr Colin Lonagan
Mr Bill Beans
Mr Chris Baseler

The objectives of the Committee are as follows:

To advise Council on issues of a strategic and policy nature relating to the operation of the Rural Fire Services having regard to the following:

- That the core communication between brigades and Fire Control Officer on operational issues be raised through the Group Officers utilising the committee structure.
- All issues be raised through Fire Control so that statutory matters can be resolved immediately.
- Policy matters raised can be referred to the Strategic Planning Committee. Outcomes from the Committee are to be referred to the Policy and Resources Committee through the General Manager so that statutory matters can be resolved.
- That the Strategic Planning Committee be developed as the body advising Council on Rural Fire Service policy issues.

Cell Phones

Council's Code of Meeting Practice states "All cells phones are to be turned off for the duration of the meeting".

**MINUTES OF THE RURAL FIRE SERVICE STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY, 11 FEBRUARY 2016 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER OF THE NOWRA
ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING, COMMENCING AT 5.30PM**

The following members were present:

Clr Lynne Kearney (Chair)
Clr Mark Kitchener
Mark Williams, RFS Executive Officer
Paul Gooley, RFS Staff Representative
Vic Walker, Group Officer Representative
John Ashton, Group Officer Representative Alternate
Andrew Fielding, Group 1 Area Primary Representative
Martin Gaffey, Group 3 Area Primary Representative
Colin Lonergan, Group 5 Area Primary Representative
Bill Bean, Group 6 Operations Support Representative
Ben Stewart, Shoalhaven City Council

Other Attendees

Lynda Ho – Shoalhaven City Council
Megan Birmingham – Shoalhaven City Council
Michael Strachan - Shoalhaven City Council

Apologies:

Apologies were received from Paul Gleeson and Jenny Lawther.

Election of Temporary Chair

MOTION: Moved: Colin Lonergan / Second: Paul Gooley

RESOLVED that the Director, Assets & Works, chair the meeting until Clr Kearney's arrival.

CARRIED

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting

MOTION: Moved: Martin Gaffey / Second: Andrew Fielding

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Rural Fire Service Strategic Planning Committee held on 12 November 2015 be confirmed.

CARRIED

REPORT OF DIRECTOR ASSETS & WORKS

2. IEMC 92 Albatross Road, South Nowra Master Plan **File 26118E**

A parcel of Crown Land occupied by the Turf Club was in the process of being subdivided to allow access to the Integrated Emergency Management Centre (IEMC) via the "Dog Track Road". Consultants Cowman Stoddart had been engaged to progress the subdivision. The Director, Assets & Works, undertook to inform the Committee if information was received on the timeframe for the subdivision.

MOTION: By consent

RESOLVED that the report of the Director Assets & Works regarding the IEMC 92 Albatross Road, South Nowra Master Plan be received for information.

CARRIED

Action: The Director undertook to inform the Committee if advice was received on the timeframe for the subdivision process.

3. Rural Fire Fighting Fund **File 2371E**

At the 11 November 2015 meeting the Committee was advised that Council had not yet received notification from the RFS on the 2015/16 Fire Fighting Contribution. Council had written to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier and the letter had been referred to the Minister for Emergency Services (refer to response attached to the agenda). More information from the Minister for Emergency Services was expected. The Agreement between Council and the RFS provided a mechanism for Council to raise issues.

MOTION: By consent

RESOLVED that the report of the Director Assets & Works in relation to the Rural Fighting Fund be received for information.

CARRIED

4. West Nowra (previously Mundamia) Rural Fire Station **File 36004E**

Tenders for the West Nowra Rural Fire Station had closed and the 16 February 2016 Council meeting would consider a report on the matter. Additional Council funding would be sought to ensure the project was not delayed.

MOTION: By consent

RESOLVED that the report of the Director Assets & Works in relation to the West Nowra Rural Fire Station be received for information.

CARRIED

5. Fire Control Centre Operations/Administration Extensions File 3434E

Construction of the Fire Control Centre Operations/Administration Extensions were well advanced with the walls and roof in place. The Emergency Operations Centre was expected to be operational by April, allowing RFS staff to be temporarily relocated whilst their area is finished. The Fire Control Officer expressed satisfaction with the contractors, BATMAC, for their professional approach to the delivery of the works.

MOTION: By consent

RESOLVED that the report of the Director Assets & Works regarding the Fire Control Centre Operation/Administration Extensions be received for information.

CARRIED

6. Group Support Facility, Fire Control Garage/storage shed extensions File 3434E

MOTION: By consent

RESOLVED that the report of the Director Assets & Works regarding the Group Support Facility, Fire Control Garage/Storage Shed Extensions be received for information.

CARRIED

7. Broughton Vale/Berry Rural Fire Station File 14693E

Mark Williams referred to Attachment B to the report and noted the triangle shaped block (Kangaroo Valley Road) was the preferred site for the combined Broughton Vale/Berry Rural Fire / Ambulance Station due to access to the Princes Highway. The alternate site on North Street was more difficult to access due to its location in a residential area. A meeting of the RFS, Roads and Maritime Services and Health Infrastructure had been convened for the following week to discuss concept plans. Examples of joint facility sites were being considered by Health Infrastructure consulting design engineers. Health Infrastructure hoped to secure the site as soon as possible but the works were unlikely to commence for some time. It was confirmed that the preferred site could accommodate a joint station.

MOTION: Moved: Martin Gaffey/ Second: Paul Gooley

RESOLVED that the report of the Director Assets & Works regarding the Broughton Vale/Berry Rural Fire Station be received for information.

CARRIED

With the arrival of Cllr Kearney she proceeded to chair the meeting.

REPORT OF THE FIRE CONTROL OFFICER, NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

8. Infrastructure Preface

File 1227E

Mark Williams noted the report outlined the current and proposed capital infrastructure works and the budget available for the works. He noted the amount of \$1,040,000 will be included in the 2016/17 Rural Fire Fighting Fund estimates bid as follows: (i) \$775,000 to bridge the shortfalls in projects 6,7,8,9 & 10 and (ii) \$265,000 to fund the full amount for the Currarong Station extension. Projects 6-11 were partially funded and as such the RFS was committed to completing the projects.

It was clarified that Currarong Station extension was a priority as it would take some time to secure funding and plan for a larger bay to house a Category 1 vehicle. The current vehicle was a smaller Category 2 vehicle of approximately 15 years old and its accommodation could not fit a Category 1 vehicle.

It was commented that brigades needed to have the opportunity to have input into the design of refurbishments, which may impact on their final cost. This should be included in the meeting notes.

It was recommended that the Committee endorse projects 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and the Currarong Station extension (project 11) to ensure Council's budget provides for the works.

MOTION:

Moved: Ben Stewart/ Second: Paul Gooley

RESOLVED that the Committee endorse projects 6 (Kangaroo Valley ablutions/extension), 7 (Shoalhaven Heads extension), 8 (Kioloa Station extension), 9 (Tabourie Station extension), 10 (Milton Station extension) and 11 (Currarong Station extension) to the value of \$1,040,000.

RESOLVED that refurbishments to fire stations receive the endorsement of the brigades concerned.

CARRIED

[It was noted that there was a typographical error in the report, denoting the Currarong Station extension as project 12 when it was project 11 according to the schedule of capital works.]

9. IEMC 92 Albatross Road, South Nowra Master Plan

File 26118E

The RFS and Council were working through how to fund all services including the pad mount transformer for the site. Although expensive, the provision of the facility would future-proof the site in terms of its electricity needs.

MOTION:

By consent

RESOLVED that the report of the Fire Control Officer (District Manager) regarding the IEMC 92 Albatross Road, South Nowra Master Plan be received for information.

CARRIED

10. Fire Control Centre Operations/Administration extensions **File 3434E**

It was confirmed that the budget was a fixed budget and the costs indicated covered full fit out and the knowledge wall.

MOTION: By consent

RESOLVED that the report of the Fire Control Officer (District Manager) regarding the Fire Control Centre Operations/Administration extensions be received for information.

CARRIED

11. Group Support facility, Fire Control Garage/storage shed extensions **File 3434E**

The roof, shed and roller doors to the Group Support facility would be fitted the following week and it was anticipated that the works would be completed early March. Ideally the Minister would be in attendance for the opening of the facility. It was noted that some of the unused funds may be transferred to other RFS projects.

MOTION: By consent

RESOLVED that the report of the Fire Control Officer (District Manager) regarding the Group Support facility, Fire Control Garage/storage shed extensions be received for information.

CARRIED

12. West Nowra Rural Fire Station **File 36004E**

MOTION: By consent

RESOLVED that the report of the Fire Control Officer (District Manager) regarding the West Nowra Rural Fire Station be received for information.

CARRIED

13. Greenwell Point Rural Fire Station **File 40018E**

MOTION: Moved: Mark Williams / Second: Colin Lonergan

RESOLVED that the Committee endorse the variation to expend approx. \$5,000 on air conditioning of the new additions.

CARRIED

14. Kangaroo Valley Station Additions **File 17441E**

The Fire Control Officer (District Manager) noted that projects over \$75,000 were required to be tendered under Council's procurement policy. This cost threshold normally resulted in an increase in the cost of the project due to the addition of a project management function. He hoped that the RFS and Council could work together to bring these costs down.

MOTION: By consent

RESOLVED that the report of the Fire Control Officer (District Manager) regarding the Kangaroo Valley Fire Station be received for information.

CARRIED

15. Shoalhaven Heads extensions **File 6862E**

MOTION By consent

RESOLVED that the report of the Fire Control Officer (District Manager) regarding the Shoalhaven Heads extensions be received for information.

CARRIED

16. Kioloa Station extensions **File 5726E**

MOTION: By consent

RESOLVED that the report of the Fire Control Officer (District Manager) concerning the Kioloa Station extensions be received for information.

CARRIED

17. Tabourie Station Extensions **File 5362E**

MOTION: By consent

RESOLVED that the report of the Fire Control Officer (District Manager) concerning the Tabourie Station extensions be received for information.

CARRIED

18. Milton/Catering Station extensions **File 10473E**

A review of the catering function had been requested at the last RFS Senior Management Team meeting. It was noted that the extensions would benefit both brigades through additional storage facilities.

MOTION: By consent

RESOLVED that the report of the Fire Control Officer (District Manager) concerning the Milton/Catering Station extensions be received for information.

CARRIED

19. Currarong Station Additions **File 14578E**

MOTION: By consent

RESOLVED that the report of the Fire Control Officer (District Manager) concerning the Currarong Station Additions be received for information.

CARRIED

20. Training/Logistics/SMSS Facility (TLSF) **File 1227E**

The Director, Assets & Works noted that the QS Indicative Cost report was under review. Project Manager, David Wagstaff, was working out the proportionate costs to the “owners” of the proposed facility.

MOTION: By consent

RESOLVED that the report of the Fire Control Officer (District Manager) concerning the Training/Logistics/SMSS Facility (TLSF) be received for information.

CARRIED

21. Broughton Vale/Berry Rural Fire Station **File 14693E**

MOTION: Moved: Ben Stewart / Second: Paul Gooley

RESOLVED that the Fire Control Officer (District Manager) continue to work with Council, State Member Gareth Ward, NSW Ambulance, HINFRA and RMS to secure the identified land parcel.

RESOLVED that the Fire Control Officer (District Manager) continue to work with HINFRA and NSW Ambulance in the design and costing of the proposed joint/conjoined facility.

CARRIED

22. Wandandian Station extensions **File 12668E**

The Director, Assets & Works, noted that Wandandian CCB supported continued use of the site for emergency staging purposes.

MOTION: By consent

RESOLVED that the report of the Fire Control Officer (District Manager) concerning the Wandandian Station extensions be received for information.

CARRIED

Action: RFS staging crews to examine the needs for the site for staging purposes.

23. Basin View Station extensions **File 7049E**

MOTION: By consent

RESOLVED that the report of the Fire Control Officer (District Manager) concerning the Basin View Station extensions be received for information.

CARRIED

24. Conjola Station extensions **File 6163E**

MOTION: By consent

RESOLVED that the report of the Fire Control Officer (District Manager) concerning the Conjola Station extensions be received for information.

CARRIED

25. Beaumont Station extensions **File 30481E**

MOTION: By consent

RESOLVED that the report of the Fire Control Officer (District Manager) concerning the Beaumont Station extensions be received for information.

CARRIED

26. Huskisson Station extensions **File 7450E**

MOTION: By consent

RESOLVED that the report of the Fire Control Officer (District Manager) concerning the Huskisson Station extensions be received for information.

CARRIED

27. Bendalong/Cunjurong Station Seed Funds **File 25365E**

The Fire Control Officer advised that unfortunately the funding previously assigned to this site had been reallocated to other projects. However, he gave an assurance that if works were required to support the foreshadowed combined brigade, funding would be considered for this purpose.

MOTION:

Moved: Andrew Fielding / Second: John Ashton

RESOLVED that the Committee

- a) reaffirm the decision to cease any expenditure on the existing Bendalong RFB station;
- b) proceed with the amalgamation of the Bendalong and Cunjurong Point RFBs, to be located in the existing Cunjurong Point RFB Station, and
- c) urge the District Manager to form a steering committee with membership from both brigades to work towards the amalgamation and identify any requirements for the existing Cunjurong Pt station.

CARRIED

28. 2016/17 Rural Fire Fighting Fund Estimates **File 2371E**

MOTION:

By consent

RESOLVED that the report of the Fire Control Officer (District Manager) concerning the 2016/17 Rural Fire Fighting Fund Estimates be received for information.

CARRIED

29. 2015 Beecroft Weapons Range s44 **File 5609E**

The Fire Control Officer noted that an outcome of the inquiry into the 2015 Beecroft Weapons Range s44 fire could see the Shoalhaven RFS have access to an air base within HMAS Albatross. South coast New South Wales and Victoria would benefit from such an air base in the Shoalhaven due to the speed at which a retardant line could be laid.

MOTION:

By consent

RESOLVED that the report of the Fire Control Officer (District Manager) concerning the 2015 Beecroft Weapons Range s44 be received for information.

CARRIED

30. Staff Movements **File 19090E**

There were no matters raised.

GENERAL BUSINESS

31. Additional Item - Workplace Health & Safety (WH&S) **File 1227E**

There were no matters raised.

32. Additional Item - Code of Conduct **File 1227E**

There were no matters raised.

Next meeting – Will be held on Thursday 12 May 2016 in the Council Chamber of Council’s Administrative Building.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7:30pm.

REPORT OF DIRECTOR ASSETS & WORKS

RURAL FIRE SERVICE STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, 12 MAY 2016

ASSETS AND WORKS

1. Rural Fire Service – Capital Works Program

File 2371e

SECTION MANAGER: Martin Upitis

PURPOSE:

To advise the RFS Strategic Planning Committee the decision of Council in relation to the Capital Works Program for the 2106/17 financial year.

RECOMMENDED that the report be received for information

DETAILS

The capital program is progressing as the works in the Fire Control Centre, Operations and Administration are on track. The West Nowra Fire Station tender has been awarded to Momentum and the earthworks have commenced. The following capital works program was adopted at Council's meeting on 19 April 2016, supporting the Committee's resolution of 11 February 2016.

Project	2014/15 Allocations	2015/16 Allocations	2016/17 Estimates
Kangaroo Valley Stn Additions	\$5,000	\$150,000	\$245,000
Shoalhaven Heads extensions	\$5,000	\$225,000	\$170,000
Kioloa station extensions	\$5,000	\$120,000	\$95,000
Tabourie Station extensions	\$5,000	\$75,000	\$100,000
Milton/Catering Station extensions	\$5,000	\$30,000	\$165,000
Currarong Stn Additions	\$10,000		\$265,000
West Nowra Station construction	\$920,000		\$680,000

Project	2014/15 Allocations	2015/16 Allocations	2016/17 Estimates
Fire Control Centre Operations/Admin extensions	\$650,000	\$700,000	
Group Support facility/shed extensions	\$600,000		
Broughton Vale new station seed funding	\$50,000		
Greenwell Point extensions/upgrade	\$285,000		
IEMC Master Plan, Logistics and other stations	\$80,000		
Totals for Capital Works	\$2,620,000	\$1,300,000	\$1,720,000



B. Stewart
DIRECTOR, ASSETS & WORKS

RURAL FIRE SERVICE STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, 12 MAY 2016

REPORT OF THE FIRE CONTROL OFFICER

INFRASTRUCTURE PREFACE:

The below table shows the current Infrastructure component of the Strategic Capital Expenditure Program (SCEP). This table is detailed in order of funding allocated and priorities as to these and future. (These priorities may change from time to time as required.)

It should be noted that the RFS now requires projects that are funded (either partial or in full) to be completed prior to any revolving/journaling of funds to other projects.

#	PROJECT NAME	ALLOCATED	COST EST	SHORTFALL
1	IEMC Master Plan	\$ 30,000	U/K	N/A (RFS)
2	FCC/EOC extension	\$1,350,000	1,350,000	nil
3	Grp Support Shed extension	\$ 600,000	445,000	(155,000)
4	West Nowra Fire Station (new)	\$ 920,000	1,600,000	680,000
5	Greenwell Pt extensions	\$ 260,000	80,000	(180,000)
6	Kangaroo Valley ablutions/extension	\$ 155,000	400,000	245,000
7	Shoalhaven Heads extension	\$ 230,000	400,000	170,000
8	Kioloa Station extension	\$ 125,000	220,000	95,000
9	Tabourie Station extension	\$ 80,000	180,000	100,000
10	Milton Station extension	\$ 35,000	200,000	165,000
11	Currarong Station extension	\$ 10,000	275,000	265,000
12	Training, Logistics, SMSS Facility (TLSF) (new)	\$ 30,000	9,500,000	9,470,000
13	Broughton Vale Station (new)	\$ 50,000	950,000	950,000
14	Wandandian station extension	\$ 5,000	185,000	180,000
15	Basin View station extension	\$ 5,000	175,000	170,000
16	Conjola station extension	\$ 5,000	195,000	190,000
17	Beaumont station extension	\$ 5,000	160,000	155,000
18	Huskisson station extension	\$ 5,000	185,000	180,000
19	<i>IEMC Pad Mount Transformer</i>	\$ 0	300,000	300,000
	TOTALS	\$3,900,000	\$16,800,000	\$12,940,000

All of these are in various forms of completion, from seed/investigation/planning, through to construction. As shown above, all have funding allocated and are listed as committed projects.

The sum of \$1,720,000 has been bid in the 2016/17 RFFF estimates.

This is \$680,000 above the amount listed in the last meetings report, as a result of the inclusion of funding for the shortfall in the West Nowra Fire Station project as previously reported to the SPC & endorsed by Council.

The amount bid for will allow for the following:

- \$610,000 to bridge the shortfalls in projects 6,7,8 & 9 above, allowing these to be completed.
- \$165,000 to partially fund for project number 19.

-
- \$265,000 to Fund the full amount for project number 11 to allow for its completion.

Note: Other projects listed will be bid for in following years estimates or on request of Council. It should be noted that there will be significant funding contribution towards the cost of project #12 from other external RFS sections (SMSS & State Logistics) who are being housed in the proposed facility.

Each of these items is dealt with separately and in more detail throughout this report, in accordance with the numbering in the table above.

SUBMITTED for information.

1. IEMC 92 Albatross Road, South Nowra Master Plan 26118E

Current RFFF budget allocated	\$30,000.00
Cost estimate of project:	\$U/K

Since reviewing and endorsing version “G” of the Master Plan, and attending a Councillor presentation on this, No formal changes to the Master Plan have been made to the RFS’ knowledge since the last report.

Reports have been received from SCC on the cost for the Electricity requirements for the IEMC precinct.

This includes the necessity for a new “Pad Mount” transformer. This transformer will be able to supply sufficient power to the Precinct once fully completed.

Whilst formal planning is underway for this to be implemented, (as the WNFS will require this on site to supply power), the cost has been estimated at \$300,000.00

Negotiations are underway between SCC and RFS in relation to the funding of this project (See further detail on this in item No. 19 of this report.)

No further information is to hand in relation to the other essential service requirements for the IEMC Precinct.

Since last report SCC has advised the sub division of the “Dog Track Road” is progressing and should be completed by mid to late June.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council continue to develop the requirements for the remaining essential services for the IEMC Precinct with regard for future development on the site.

2. Fire Control Centre Operations/Administration extensions 1227E

Current budget allocated	\$1,350,000.00
Cost estimate of project:	\$1,350,000.00

Construction continues and is on time with completion estimated in mid June.

RFS staff moved into the existing EOC 2 weeks earlier than programmed to allow for seamless continuation of works into separable portion 2 of the project. (RFS admin fitout)

Official handover of the new RFS Ops room and EOC has occurred. RFS have also commenced the fitout of the knowledge wall and to date the room has already been used for training and meeting purposes.

SUBMITTED for information.

3. Group Support facility, Fire Control Garage/storage shed extensions 1227E

Current budget allocated:	\$600,000.00
Cost estimate of project:	\$600,000.00
Variance:	\$ NIL

Construction of this addition and the concreting of the ring road as imposed by SCC has been completed.

Whilst a surplus in funding was originally identified for this project, in addition to the substantial increase in costs associated with the ring road construction, this surplus is being used for:

- Lighting upgrade: changing of all lighting for the shed to LED's, additional outdoor lights for night operational use & added security.
- Concreting of the grass strip between carpark retaining wall and shed and new flag pole location.
- Security fencing and gates for ring road and main entry.

SUBMITTED for endorsement.

4. West Nowra Rural Fire Station 36004E

Budget allocated:	\$ 920,000.00
Cost estimate of project:	\$1,600,000.00
Variance:	\$ 680,000.00

The amount of \$680,000 to fund the identified shortfall has been included into the 2016/17 estimates.

The tender has been awarded to Momentum Built Pty Ltd and construction commenced on 29 March.

The building contract is for a 24 week period with completion estimated at mid September.

As previously mentioned, a new "Pad Mount" transformer will be required on the IEMC site for all future power needs, including the WNFS.

This is being treated as a separate project and reported in item 19 of this report.

SUBMITTED for information.

5. Greenwell Point Rural Fire Station

1227E

Current budget allocated	\$260,000.00
Cost of project:	\$ 80,000.00
Variance:	(\$180,000.00+)

Construction has been completed on this station.

Additional costs were experienced due to the need for Air conditioning, new carpet, and some minor electrical works and removal of waste fill and provision of additional gravel.

The project is now complete. Remaining funds will be transferred to project No. 19 (Pad Mount transformer IEMC)

This will be the last report on this project and it will be removed from the Infrastructure table.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Committee endorse this report.

6. Kangaroo Valley Station Additions

1227E

Current budget allocated:	\$155,000.00
Cost estimate of project:	\$400,000.00
Variance:	\$245,000.00

The amount of \$245,000 to fund the identified shortfall has been included into the 2016/17 estimates.

As previously advised, draft plans have been developed and a meeting held with the Brigade to endorse these.

The brigade provided some alternative options which are still under investigation.

Council has been requested to provide information on the preferred options, works limit comparisons and associated estimated costs.

In relation to the requirement for this and other project(s) to be let to tender, (based on project cost), Council is continuing to investigate options, including the possibility to group a number of projects together for one contract, therefore potentially reducing the project management costs.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council provide a response to the RFS on the two proposed plans with comparative notes and preference to each, including works required and cost estimates of same.

7. Shoalhaven Heads extensions **1227E**

Current budget allocated:	\$230,000.00
Cost estimate of project:	\$400,000.00
Variance:	\$170,000.00

The amount of \$170,000 to fund the identified shortfall has been included into the 2016/17 estimates.

Draft plans have been developed and a meeting held with the Brigade to endorse these. These are now being formalised and submitted to Council for Development Approval.

In relation to the requirement for this and other project(s) to be let to tender, (based on project cost), Council is continuing to investigate options, including the possibility to group a number of projects together for one contract, therefore potentially reducing the project management costs.

SUBMITTED for information.

8. Kioloa station extensions **1227E**

Current budget allocated:	\$125,000.00
Cost estimate for project:	\$220,000.00
Variance:	\$ 95,000.00

The amount of \$95,000 to fund the identified shortfall has been included into the 2016/17 estimates.

Draft concept plans are still being developed. Once received, discussions will be held and input from the Brigades before finalisation and DA submission.

In relation to the requirement for this and other project(s) to be let to tender, (based on project cost), Council is continuing to investigate options, including the possibility to group a number of projects together for one contract, therefore potentially reducing the project management costs.

SUBMITTED for information.

9. Tabourie Station extensions **1227E**

Current budget allocated	\$ 80,000.00
Cost estimate of project:	\$180,000.00
Variance:	\$100,000.00

The amount of \$100,000 to fund the identified shortfall has been included into the 2016/17 estimates.

Draft concept plans have been developed and meeting held with the Brigade who have endorsed these.

These are now being formalised and submitted to Council for Development Approval.

In relation to the requirement for this and other project(s) to be let to tender, (based on project cost), Council is continuing to investigate options, including the possibility to group a number of projects together for one contract, therefore potentially reducing the project management costs.

SUBMITTED for information.

10. Milton/Catering Station extensions 1227E

Current budget allocated	\$ 35,000.00
Cost estimate of project:	\$200,000.00
Variance:	\$165,000.00

Whilst the amount of \$165,000 was originally included into the 16/17 estimates, due to the current review of catering requirements and provision of same within the District, the Snr Management Team, has requested this project be placed on hold and subsequently given a lower priority rating.

As a result, the amount of \$165,000 has been resubmitted for Item No. 19 (Pad Mount Transformer)

The Committee needs to discuss this matter in relation to the need to continue with this project planning or to reallocate the \$35,000 seed funds elsewhere.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the SPC discuss the status of this project with regard to the current review of catering provision requirements in the District and if seed funding should be reallocated to another project or planning continue.

11. Currarong Station Additions 1227E

Current budget allocated	\$ 10,000.00
Cost estimate of project:	\$275,000.00
Variance:	\$265,000.00

The amount of \$265,000 to fund the identified shortfall has been included into the 2016/17 estimates.

Draft concept plans are still being developed. Once received, discussions will be held and input from the Brigades before finalisation and DA submission.

In relation to the requirement for this and other project(s) to be let to tender, (based on project cost), Council is continuing to investigate options, including the possibility to group

a number of projects together for one contract, therefore potentially reducing the project management costs.

SUBMITTED for information.

12. Training/Logistics/SMSS Facility (TLSF) 1227E

Current budget allocated	\$ 30,000.00
Cost estimate of project:	\$9,500,000.00
Variance:	\$9,470,000.00

Plans have now been finalised for this facility, and quantity estimation for the costs has been received by Council. (as reported to last meeting)
Copies of the plans have been provided to SMSS/SL and they have agreed in principle to the design.

Council has also provided the breakdown of costs of the facility into separable portions so as to allow for negotiations to occur with all contributing parties.
RFS Infrastructure Management (Sydney) have been briefed and have now taken carriage to secure commitment from other parties and facilitate the project going forward.

SUBMITTED for information.

13. Broughton Vale/Berry Rural Fire Station 1227E

Current budget allocated	\$ 50,000.00
Cost estimate of project (approx.)	\$1,000,000.00
Variance	\$ 950,000.00

RFS is unable to report on any positive activity since last report.

Unfortunately little to no information has/is being provided by Health Infrastructure (HINFRA), however evidence is that they are continuing with the securing of the land from RMS which was originally identified by the RFS as ideal for the siting of a new station. This evidence shows only the NSW Ambulance as a user, no mention of RFS is included.

Both Council management and RFS State Infrastructure have been briefed on this matter with agreement they will make contact with HINFRA, RMS and seek the formal position and way forward for this issue.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council and the District Manager make contact with RMS seeking with a view to securing the identified land parcel originally identified as available for RFS station.

That NSW Ambulance be advised they are welcome to work with RFS/Council in the co-location of an Ambulance station, however, not at the loss of the site to the RFS.

14. Wandandian station extensions 1227E

Current budget allocated:	\$ 5,000.00
Cost estimate for project:	\$175,000.00

Variance: \$170,000.00

Draft concept plans are still being developed. Once received, discussions will be held and input from the Brigades before finalisation and DA submission.

In relation to the requirement for this and other project(s) to be let to tender, (based on project cost), Council is continuing to investigate options, including the possibility to group a number of projects together for one contract, therefore potentially reducing the project management costs.

SUBMITTED for information.

15. Basin View Station extensions 1227E

Current budget allocated: \$ 5,000.00

Cost estimate for project: \$175,000.00

Variance: \$170,000.00

Draft concept plans are still being developed. Once received, discussions will be held and input from the Brigades before finalisation and DA submission.

In relation to the requirement for this and other project(s) to be let to tender, (based on project cost), Council is continuing to investigate options, including the possibility to group a number of projects together for one contract, therefore potentially reducing the project management costs.

SUBMITTED for information.

16. Conjola Station extensions 1227E

Current budget allocated: \$ 5,000.00

Cost estimate of project: \$195,000.00

Variance: \$190,000.00

Draft concept plans are still being developed. Once received, discussions will be held and input from the Brigades before finalisation and DA submission.

In relation to the requirement for this and other project(s) to be let to tender, (based on project cost), Council is continuing to investigate options, including the possibility to group a number of projects together for one contract, therefore potentially reducing the project management costs.

SUBMITTED for information.

17. Beaumont Station extensions 1227E

Current budget allocated: \$ 5,000.00

Cost estimate of project: \$160,000.00

Variance: \$155,000.00

Draft plans have been developed and a meeting held with the Brigade to endorse these. These are now being formalised and prepared for submission of Development Approval. This project is able to be separated into stages and therefore would likely remain under the threshold requiring tenders to be let.

SUBMITTED for information.

18. Huskisson Station extensions 1227E

Current budget allocated:	\$ 5,000.00
Cost estimate of project:	\$185,000.00
Variance:	\$175,000.00

Draft concept plans are still being developed. Once received, discussions will be held and input from the Brigades before finalisation and DA submission.

In relation to the requirement for this and other project(s) to be let to tender, (based on project cost), Council is continuing to investigate options, including the possibility to group a number of projects together for one contract, therefore potentially reducing the project management costs.

SUBMITTED for information.

19. IEMC "Pad Mount" Transformer 1227E

Current budget allocated:	\$
Cost estimate of project:	\$300,000.00
Variance:	\$300,000.00

As previously discussed, the IEMC precinct is currently at maximum capacity of the electrical supply.

The construction of the West Nowra Fire Station and any other future development requires a new Pad Mount Transformer to be placed on site.

This has now been costed and is currently being planned for construction.

Negotiations are underway between Council and the RFS in relation to the cost apportionment and future reimbursement of set amounts from future (non RFS) development on the IEMC site.

Once agreed, this will be formalised and become part of the IEMC precinct management plan.

The amount of \$165,000 has been included into the 2016/17 estimates 'reassigned' from Catering/Milton.

The amount of \$135,000 will be transferred from the surplus of the Greenwell Pt station project.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Committee endorse the actions as listed in this report.

20. Bendalong/Cunjurong Pt/Manyana amalgamation 1227E

RFS management has met with the Captains of both Brigades in respect to the proposed amalgamation. Whilst these discussions were lengthy, items of general note are as follows;

Bendalong:

- Opposed to amalgamation
- Not interested in participating in proposed steering committee
- Threatened resignation of all Bendalong members as result of proposed merger.

Cunjurong Pt/Manyana:

- Generally understanding and accepting of requirement to merge
- Agrees with principle and to participate in steering committee
- Asked if need would exist to rename Brigade if Bendalong don't participate.

The District Manager has provided both verbal and written briefing notes to the Regional Manager.

Brigades have been requested to nominate two persons to act as representatives on the Steering Committee. Responses are due by May 30.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the District Manager continues with the forming of a steering committee with membership from both Brigades (if possible) as well as Group Officer and District staff representation.

This committee will be formed regardless of participation of the Bendalong Brigade and will discuss and work towards the amalgamation of the brigades and identify any infrastructure requirements for the existing Cunjurong Pt station.

21. 2016/17 Rural Fire Fighting Fund Estimates 1227E

Council resolved to endorse the 2016/17 RFFF estimates at its May meeting.

The District Manager wishes to formally thank Council for its ongoing and outstanding support of the RFS and its commitment to ensuring the volunteers in the District are afforded the best possible facilities and equipment.

These estimates see the continuation of enhancement funding for infrastructure works as listed in this report as well as several appliances and support vehicles

22. Staff Movements 1227E

Ron Lynch has retired. A replacement for this position is currently being sourced and will hopefully be filled by the end of June.

Staff continue to undertake regular training and assessments in a wide variety of specialist skills and qualifications. This often necessitates time out of the office and away from family and friends. This commitment by staff is very much appreciated.

23. Group Officer Elections and Brigade Annual General Meetings 1227E

Voting in the Group Officers elections closes on 30 April. Results will be made available to all Brigades and Council by May 10.

Brigade Annual General Meetings have commenced and will be held up until June 16. Information can be provided on request to any member or Councillor time/date for these meetings.

Superintendent Mark Williams
District Manager

Next meeting – 11 August 2016