

**DPOP 2022/2023 SUBMISSIONS
RECEIVED DIRECT VIA COUNCIL CONTACT DETAILS**

Submission No	Item #	Summary of Submission	Issues	General Manager & Directors Response to Submission
1	1	Grahame Street bridge (submitted in previous DPOP) can we attach a walkway bridge on the outside of the bridge therefore widening the bridge for vehicular traffic. Note the school bus is always on the wrong side of the bridge when it tuns onto the bridge coming from Scone direction.	Aberdeen - Traffic / Bridge issues	The Graeme Street Aberdeen bridge safety will be reviewed by Council's Traffic Committee and Strategic Assets team. Design works for a potential solution will be investigated which will be used to enhance suitable grant funding opportunities.
2	1	Fees & Charges Saleyards: Cattle sold - Vendor: If a fee increase is inevitable a suggested increase would be from \$13.50 to \$13.75. Cattle Sold - Agent: If a fee increase is inevitable a suggested increase from \$4.50 to \$4.75. Total increase from the current charge of \$18.00 to \$18.50	Saleyards - Fees & Charges	Council agrees with your submission, noting a net increase of 2.7%. A further review of saleyards Fees & Charges will be conducted during 2022/2023 year.
	2	Special Sale Rules: Scone Associated Agents would like to make a recommendation to Council for special sales excluding Hunter Valley Angus / Store sales. We feel that Council should consider fees for special sales ran at Scone Saleyards. The fee would be 0.25% of gross payable to Council aswell as the Vendor & Agent fee.		Council agrees with your submission. A further review of saleyards Fees & Charges will be conducted during 2022/2023 year.
		Recommendation		
		If another Agent that is not in the Association would like to run a special sale at Scone Regional Livestock selling Centre that they have to use a Associated Agent and pay 0.5% of gross of sale to Council. They are then allowed to advertise their business. If they would like to sell but do not want to pay the 0.5%. They still need one of the Associated Agent, they are not allowed to advertise the business name but can put their name as a contact on SAA Agents advertising. Special sale yard fees apply.		Council agrees with your submission. A further review of saleyards Fees & Charges will be conducted during 2022/2023 year.
3	1	Does not support the proposed landing fees at Scone Memorial Airport. Why can Scone offer FREE camping facilities and services to caravans and campervans, but not to aviators?	Landing fees - Scone Airport	Council considers the landing fees to be reasonable, with only a CPI based increase applied from 2022/2023. With the exception of the limited RV parking area in Scone, Council does actually charge fees in our campgrounds and caravan park. It is noted that once landing there is free parking for the first 12 hours at the airport.
4	1	Does not support the proposed landing fees at Scone Memorial Airport.	Landing fees - Scone Airport	Council considers the landing fees to be reasonable, with only a CPI based increase applied from 2022/2023.
	2	Does not support the proposed overnight parking fees at Scone Memorial Airport.	Overnight Parking fees - Scone Airport	Council considers the aircraft parking fees to be reasonable with the first 12 hours free then \$2.25 per hour, which is an increase of 25 cents per hour more that the 2021/2022 fee charge.
		I am considering hanaring my airplane(s) at SCN but if fees are raised I might look elsewhere. You should be aware that those in the recreational/private aviation community i.e. pilots and airplane owners and their families and friends, do spend time and monies in the towns to which they fly. If you impose higher fees for the use of the airport the light aircraft community may well go elsewhere.		Council considers the landing fees to be reasonable, with only a CPI based increase applied from 2022/2023.
5	1	Does not support the proposed landing fees at Scone Memorial Airport.	Landing fees - Scone Airport	Council consider the landing fees to be reasonable, with only a CPI based increase applied from 2022/2023.
	2	Does not support the proposed overnight parking fees at Scone Memorial Airport.	Overnight Parking fees - Scone Airport	Council considers the aircraft parking fees to be reasonable with the first 12 hours free then \$2.25 per hour, which is an increase of 25 cents per hour more that the 2021/2022 fee charge.
		I <i>cannot</i> support landing or parking fees for light "general aviation" (GA) aircraft, that is, the type often owned and flown by visiting pilots that typically weigh less than 3,500lbs / 1,500Kg. These aircraft would be subject to a landing fee in the \$20-25 range for each landing in addition to a parking fee of approximately \$75 should they spend two days in Scone before returning home.		Council consider the landing and parking fees to be reasonable, with only a CPI based increase applied from 2022/2023.
		It is noted Scone does not currently have metered parking for residents or visitors to town, nor any toll or "entry fee" to town for visitors arriving by road, such as the 'Grey Nomads' in their 4-Tonne Landcruiser towing a 3.5-Tonne caravan, indeed Upper Hunter Shire Council even provides RV camping and sewage dump point facilities <i>completely free of charge</i> to these visitors at the Bill Rose 'RV Park', to encourage such tourists to the region, and I applaud Council for doing so.		Council notes and thanks you for your comments.

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		In closing, I draw your attention to Cr R. Campbells comments from the December 2020 Ordinary Meeting where he said emphatically stated <u>"We want this airport to be used much much more in the future, and if we're going to just, just do it uh and then just think we haven't had a strike here since whatever it was we're looking back, let's look to the future, we want as many planes as can come in more planes in the future that's going to make it the usage of the airport much more worthwhile."</u>		Council notes your comments however there has been a significant investment into the airport infrastructure which needs to be supported by reasonable fees and charges
		Abolishing landing fees for privately-owned, light GA aircraft would go a long way towards achieving this, with the attendant benefits for the town as a whole.		Council considers the landing fees to be reasonable, with only a CPI based increase applied from 2022/2023. With the exception of the limited RV parking area in Scone, Council does actually charge fees in our campgrounds and caravan park.
		(1) https://www.pprune.org/pacific-general-aviation-questions/646418-unfriendliest-airport-ga-australia.html		
		(2) https://www.recreationalflying.com/topic/37859-recreational-aircraft-landing-fees-feedback-needed-please		
6	1	Does not support the proposed changes to fees and charges for sporting grounds and arena complexes.	Sportsgrounds - Fees & Charges	Fee structure to revert back to annual charge with increase of approx. 2.5% (rounded up nearest \$5). Any new Associations or Clubs will be charged under the new fees structure. Consultation with existing sporting, equestrian and school users will be undertaken over the next 12 months.
		Since being accepted into the St Andrew's reserve permanent user groups we as Upper Hunter Team Penning have maintained the grounds, improved the grounds and its facilities. Just to name a few: 1. Power upgrade in Canteen 2. Cattle yard upgrades and maintenance (roughly \$4,500) 3. Monthly upkeep of the grounds, spraying, weeding, mowing, planting of new trees and so forth 4. 100% flood clean up that alone with hours spent, machinery and materials would come to a total of \$25,000 5. We have had the power poles on the ground tested and they are deemed as unsafe and need to be removed, we have secured 8 new power poles and LED solar stadium lights that are awaiting to be put in. This is for the use of all who hire the grounds as well as all user groups. 6. Replaced the flooring in the current Judges stand (\$1,000) And this is just to name a few and this year alone.....		Council notes and thanks you for your comments. Council Staff have met with the St Andrews Users groups, with a number of actions to be followed up. Power upgrade will require grant funding along with any other request that are covered under routine maintenance.
7	1	Considering the continued state of the Cullingral Road and the deterioration that occurs because of the texture of the road surface, can this road be included in the DPOP submission for the coming year for gravel resurfacing and correction of the road drainage. The width of the road has narrowed, because of the wash aways and needs to be included in the correction of the road width and surface restoration.	Cullingral Road - Gravel Resurfacing	Council's will review and consider all requests for the future resheeting programs if notified by the community.
8	1	Does not support the proposed changes to fees and charges for sporting grounds and arena complexes.	Sportsgrounds - Fees & Charges	Fee structure to revert back to annual charge with increase of approx. 2.5% (rounded up nearest \$5). Any new Associations or Clubs will be charged under the new fees structure. Consultation with existing sporting, equestrian and school users will be undertaken over the next 12 months.
	2	Does not support the proposed changes to fees and charges for camping.	Camping fees	Camping fees structure amended to incorporate fixed charge for servicing of amenities for non-ticketed events. Ticketed events will continue to be charged camping fees as per the Fees & Charges. Further consultation with Clubs will be undertaken.
		Increase of fees in addition to costs such as camping, cattle hire, Truck hire, insurance, run cost, food ect. will make it unaffordable.		Fee increase will be contained to CPI.
		Recommendation:		
		In Gresford they have a small camping ground attached to the horse sports ground, in this area they have powered sites which are locked by a padlock, there is a sign near by with a camping cost \$20.00 a night and a phone number an elderly man came and unlocked the padlock and took the money and gave a receipt. Also the showers had a \$1 charge for gas hot water with a slot machine in each shower.		Camping options will be provided to users to allow Clubs to manage.

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9.a	1	Barton/Susan Streets Scone, this gully is not up to the road standards that we, the Scone Community, require from your Council. That section of the road should be either closed to all traffic or made one-way, (traffic monitors will determine which one-way it will be), until the GRANT money is obtained and FULLY upgraded	Barton/Susan Street - Roads - Drainage	Council has addressed these issues and replied by correspondence to residents along with several CRM requests. Council will continue to monitor and undertake maintenance as and when required.
	2	Number 4219, The Barton/Birrell streets water pipes from the town water supply, are so old that these pipes need replacing, and not in 2050 but in the 2022-23 year. Your staff have told me that this replacement is in the 2022-23 budget. Would you point out to me, just where the detail is to confirm the staff's quotes, and the timeline.	Barton/Birrell Street - Water & Sewer	Council has addressed these issues and replied by correspondence to residents along with several CRM requests. Council will continue to monitor and undertake maintenance as and when required.
	3	Barton Street Water Pipes. Over the last 5 to 6 years there have been over 40 breakages or leaks in these pipes, with 2 more just last week. I know of a portion of about 100 metres, was completed last year. Your staff have told me that this replacement is in the 2022-23 budget. Would you point out to me just where the detail is to confirm the staff's quotes, and the timeline please.	Barton Street - Water & Sewer	Council has addressed these issues and replied by correspondence to residents along with several CRM requests. Council will continue to monitor and undertake maintenance as and when required.
9.b		Email trail between Keith Thompson & Dave Layzell. State Government and Federal Government provides funding for roads, bridges etc within the local government area but it is up to Council to apply for such funding and how they distribute it.		Council distributes funds based on funding criteria and several other key factors including its road hierarchy which is available if requested.
9.c	4	Levelling of Stafford Street Scone, outside the Hospital facilities etc.	Stafford Street Scone	There are no immediate plans to undertake this project however, Council will consider it in future years DPOP budget preparations.
		Unfortunately, these emails have just been ignored. I have looked in the budget etc, which was presented last Wednesday Night, but I am again not able to find where this levelling is budgeted in 2022-23, and as you can see it is outstanding since 2017-18 year. I look forward to seeing action as well as receiving notification of this work being included in this budget for 2022-23.		
Request before writing a submission		Request for information before they put in a submission	Clifflands Road Scone	Clifflands Roads is on Council's initial seal program, Survey and design works to start in the 2022/2023 year.
		Before we submit our Submission for the Council DPOP I have some questions regarding the Local Road Budget Expenditure going forward into 2022 - 2025.		
		Reading the current Draft Council DPOP overview of the budget summary for allocations of future road projects, it is unclear if any future works are committed or budgeted for the initial seal of Clifflands Road.		
		Can you please provide us with answers to our questions regarding the Draft Council DPOP budget going forward?		
		* Cliffland Road is documented at Council as a priority road for an "entire initial seal" has the design and or the "shovel ready" planning been completed to date?		
		* Can you confirm if any budget funding in the current Draft Council's DPOP has been allocated to the project either for further to the above or entire or part initial seal of Clifflands Road?		
		* Has any grant funding for Clifflands Road initial seal been applied for to date?		
10	1	There are many people in the Upper Hunter that could improve their health with a heated pool. A pool only open for a half of the year does not support the health and recreational needs of the communities in the shire.	Heated pool	Council does not have the available capital budget to construct or operating budget to maintain the operations of a heated pool. Grant funding opportunities will continue to be reviewed when and as they arise to see if the project would be eligible however, a full business case would need to be completed on the operations of the facility before committing to any such project.
		The fact that the land next door to the existing swimming pool, the former BP site is now owned by Council and that there are plans that have been drawn to the support of numerous community members and groups, provides an incentive for Council to look for funding to cover the infrastructure. A heated pool offers options for exercise, rehabilitation and for anyone training seriously this will reduce travel and time for training. A heated pool will relax tight muscles and loosen up stiff joints. A year-round pool will give an option to exercise all the time with the buoyance of the water minimised the effect of gravity and decreases the stresses placed on joints during movement. People who are unable to support their body weight on land can exercise more effectively in the water.		Council notes the comments and refers to above commentary

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	2	I feel not enough importance is placed on social and affordable housing and would like to see more attention paid to supporting the vulnerable people living in our community. While Council may not see this as their core role the community and your advocacy is.	Social & affordable housing	Social housing is not identified as a community priority in the current or draft Community Strategic Plan. Nevertheless, Council has resolved to, subject to available funding, prepare an affordable housing background report on housing needs and issues in the Upper Hunter Shire LGA including research and analysis of the housing market and housing affordability. The background report would consider a range of strategies to address any identified housing affordability issues and include preliminary recommendations for Council's consideration should it proceed to the development of an Affordable Housing Strategy. To date, Council has been unable to secure the funding needed to complete the report. Council will continue to advocate for the provision of more social and affordable housing to meet the needs of our community.
	3	With an increasing gap in childcare places across the Upper Hunter there needs to be an increase to additional childcare places for families in Council owned childcare facilities. Unfortunately, Council will not attract new business or families looking to relocate if they do not have the childcare places.	Childcare	Council's Early Learning Centre (ELC) is a long day care centre licensed to take up to 57 children. For the past few years, the ELC has faced significant challenges in recruiting qualified staff, including an early childhood teacher, and have been unable to operate at full capacity due to staff shortages. This situation has been compounded by the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on staffing levels. As a result, the number of children attending the service per day has been averaging around 38 for the past three years. Fortunately, The ELC has been able to recruit additional staff recently and the outlook is more positive with respect to maximising childcare places. Council also operates Upper Hunter Family Day Care across the Upper Hunter and Muswellbrook Shire Council Local Government Areas. There are 12 active carers that operate under the scheme, providing up to 48 places for children under school age and 36 places for children of school age. Council is constantly trying to recruit new carers to join the service.
	4	The shire has one of the best if not the best sporting grounds at the Bill Rose Sporting Complex however all fields need the same effort put into them providing equal exposure to all sports.	Bill Rose ground conditions	To be considered in the Bill Rose Master Plan.
		Currently due to the increase in youth playing sport Scone Park cannot accommodate the numbers. Murray Bain oval is being used for the overflow. The club have put forward a proposal to upgrade the lighting at Murray Bain to bring it to a level that will improve vision and safety. I believe this proposal should be investigated and funded to accommodate the children using the fields every week.	Lighting Upgrade - Murray Bain Oval	The lighting project has been included in the 2022/2023 DPOP however it requires 100% grant funding. Council will pursue a project scope for the project to enable an application to be lodged when funding opportunities arise.
11.a	1	Does not support the proposed changes to fees and charges for sporting grounds and arena complexes.	Sportsground fees	Fee structure to revert back to annual charge with increase of approx. 2.5% (rounded up nearest \$5). Any new Associations or Clubs will be charged under the new fees structure. Consultation with existing sporting, equestrian and school users will be undertaken over the next 12 months.
	2	No assistance from Council when filling out the grant applications.	Assistance with Grant Funding Applications	Council has a Grants Officer who can assist clubs and other community groups with grant applications

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	3	Canteen upgrade, needs to be bigger, also does not pass Aust Food Standards Code mainly due to the canteen not being vermin proof.	Canteen upgrade Harrison Oval	The project would be subject to grant funding. Council will continue to seek funding opportunities as and when they arise.
		Club fundraising and grants have added nearly \$70k worth of improvements to Harrison & Gordon Oval. Club does own mowing		Council appreciates the efforts of the Club.
11.b		Follow up from previous letter dated 21/5/2022 - Comparisons between grounds across the shire that LAs use	Sportsground facilities	Council maintains the grounds using the same methodology and criteria for all grounds within the Shire
12	1	Does not support the proposed changes to fees and charges for sporting grounds and arena complexes.	Sportsgrounds - Fees & Charges	Fee structure to revert back to annual charge with increase of approx. 2.5% (rounded up nearest \$5). Any new Associations or Clubs will be charged under the new fees structure. Consultation with existing sporting, equestrian and school users will be undertaken over the next 12 months.
	2	Does not support the proposed changes to fees and charges for camping.	Camping fees	Camping fees structure amended to incorporate fixed charge for servicing of amenities for non-ticketed events. Ticketed events will continue to be charged camping fees as per the Fees & Charges. Further consultation with Clubs will be undertaken.
		Comment:		
		The Merriwa Pony Club was established in 1946 and was the first Pony Club in Australia. Just this past year, 2021, we have celebrated our 75th anniversary, the only club in Australia to have reached this milestone.		Council notes your comments and congratulates the Club on its long history, wishing it continuation into the future.
13	1	Does not support the proposed changes to fees and charges for sporting grounds and arena complexes.	Sportsgrounds - Fees & Charges	Fee structure to revert back to annual charge with increase of approx. 2.5% (rounded up nearest \$5). Any new Associations or Clubs will be charged under the new fees structure. Consultation with existing sporting, equestrian and school users will be undertaken over the next 12 months.
		Our teams begin training in early March, with the season ending this year on 03.09.22. Taking these dates into consideration our season window is approximately 26 weeks. Due to the severe lack of adequately lit Rugby League facilities in Scone, the growing popularity of our sport and the growth in female participation resulting in extra teams, we are forced to train over 4 (four) nights of the week at 3 (three) separate facilities; Scone Park, Murray Bain Oval and 1 (one) session per week at Bill Rose Sporting Complex.		
		Scone Park: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday		
		Murray Bain: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday		
		Bill Rose: Thursday		
		= 9 bookings per week X 26 weeks = 234 bookings.		
		This season we have 3 (three) Mini/Mod home games in which we use both Scone Park and Murray Bain Oval equating to a further 6 (six) bookings. We also have Girls League Tag, which would host the same number of rounds per season 3 (three).		
		The International (Under 12s-16s) teams playing in the Newcastle competition have 10 home games scheduled and we can assume 1 (one) home final. 2 (two) of these International games will align with our mini/mods.		
		Total Bookings: 250 (approximate based on above information)		
		The proposed ground fees for ongoing bookings: \$50 per day plus 20% surcharge = \$60		
		Total proposed ground fees @ 250 bookings X \$60 = \$15,000.		
		As per the proposed document, Scone JRL's current 2021/22 fees are \$1470, which is still substantially higher than our neighbouring Muswellbrook and Singleton Junior Rugby League clubs are charged. Muswellbrook are currently not charged a fee for ground usage. Singleton council also do not charge Singleton JRL a fee, although there is a \$2 per player levy payable to a local sporting council group to contribute to the facilities. In comparison the UHSC proposed fees equate to \$46 per registered player given we currently have 325 registered players.		
		The proposed increase in fees to our junior football club is 1000%!		

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14	1	Access, Equity, and Inclusion Statement - If the Council honestly believe in this statement, they would not be treating people like anybody, they would be working with all groups within the community, treating females equally, the Council would be approachable and the community would be free to approach the Council, it's councillors without fear of anyone being treated with contempt.	Access, Equity & Inclusion Statement	Note - THIS IS BEING DEALT WITH IN THE CSP REPORT
This submission	2	Sustainability Statement - Working with the community towards implementing the best practices. Long way to go. Being approachable and honest, and having more community consultation would be a start.	Sustainability Statement	Council has adopted a resolution that it will be Carbon neutral by 2030.
	3	Pg 13 of the proposal. Quality Infrastructure - Working on improving the road network and forming a roads committee/s would be a great start. If you really want to connect the community and have them work together roads would be a great place to start. Without roads, people can't get anywhere. The dangers that the roads in the Upper Hunter Shire are the worst. To have a farmer tell me that he can't get his cattle out for sale because the truck carrying company will not allow any of their trucks up the road is beyond belief.	Quality Infrastructure	Roads committee was considered by Council previously.
	4	Responsible Governance - There is a lot of improvement in this area needed. Proper systems would be a place to start. Council's office does not answer it's phones, doesn't return phone calls, and does not acknowledge emails, to name a few.	Responsible Governance	A review of Council's Customer Service Strategy will be undertaken in 2022/2023 which will include identifying a range of actions to improve customer service levels and response times. Some improvements to Council's phone system and CRM system have recently been implemented.
	5	Pg 14 - I note with amazement that under the Community Strategic Plan Goals on this page that putting customers at the centre of everything we do, is not there. Being that the people of this shire, your customers pay their rates, water rates and that council is supposed to be there representing and working for the people of the shire that "putting them at the centre of everything we do" would be a top priority.	Community Strategic Plan Goals	Whilst there is no specific CSP goal, Council agrees that customers are at the centre of everything we do.
	6	Pg 15 - Game Changers - I believe that tourism is a must for the shire. The light night that was held last week was a great idea, I congratulate the team for putting that on. We need to have more events. Maybe having community consultation on tourism is an idea and forming a tourism subcommittee would also be an idea.	Game Changers	Thank you for your comments they are noted. The Community committees are a great mechanism to get feedback.
	7	Don't like about Upper Hunter Shire - Agree with all of these. But I will add another. Access for the aged and disabled. Access to places for these people is not thought of and in real need to be fixed. Pathway to the toilets in parks, some toilet doors and the size of the facilities are not suitable to people with wheelie walkers or wheelchairs, parking spots need to be better designed. The one in front of the council office needs something done with it for a start.	Access for aged and disabled	This should be included in the Disability Inclusion Action Plan (DIAP).
	8	Improvements - Agree with these only I would put treating all towns and villages equally at the top of the list along with roads along with better communication and consultation. Again, on this list is access to facilities for the disabled and consultation with the aged and disability services in the community for their advice. Council seems to forget these groups.	Improvements	Council believes that the distribution of expenditure is relatively equal across all areas
	9	Responsible Governance - All that is noted on this page needs a lot of work. Leadership skills/training is something that is in great need. With the right leaders the rest should fall into place. It will make things easier for the Council if they are more open and transparent and do not have the "the community doesn't matter" attitude, for getting the community to work with the council. At the moment the community trust with the council is at an all low and they think and say, why would I waste my time talking to, putting a submission into council because they are not going to listen or take any notice of what I have to say. This needs to change.	Responsible Governance	The Community committees are a great mechanism to get feedback to enable Council to meet the requirements of the Community.
	10	Making Council a safe place to work for council employees is essential, but it is also essential for the council to be a safe place to work for councillors. I have watched over the years with horror how some councillors have been spoken to and treated.	Responsible Governance	Councillors are required to abide by the Code of Conduct.

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	11	Finally, I believe that the council needs to add to this document that they work on making social housing a priority and available. Housing in the Upper Hunter Shire is so needed, there is a shortage of housing and rentals. Maybe the council could improve their DA process and make it quicker to get these through.	Social & affordable housing	Social housing is not identified as a community priority in the current or draft Community Strategic Plan. Nevertheless, Council has resolved to, subject to available funding, prepare an affordable housing background report on housing needs and issues in the Upper Hunter Shire LGA including research and analysis of the housing market and housing affordability. The background report would consider a range of strategies to address any identified housing affordability issues and include preliminary recommendations for Council's consideration should it proceed to the development of an Affordable Housing Strategy. To date, Council has been unable to secure the funding needed to complete the report. Council will continue to advocate for the provision of more social and affordable housing to meet the needs of our community. Considering that Council's median DA assessment time is currently 17 days, it is unlikely that Council's DA processes would cause any significant delays in the delivery of social housing projects.
	12	I also believe that the Council needs to be more active in fixing the problem of homelessness. In the 30+ years I have lived in the area I have not seen the amount of homelessness in so great number.	Homeless	Council continues to support a number of community based organisations that provide homelessness support services to the community. Council also provides emergency accommodation for victims of domestic violence and homelessness.
	13	I also know that council needs to work with and be more inclusive of people with disability. I work with people with disability, and I have pointed out in this document some of the problems I see in the community. I know that my workplace is from one of the council employees but hasn't heard from the council again. I believe a subcommittee needs to be formed on this subject and again, having a place to house our service is in need. We must be out of our current centre by the end of the year, and we have not yet found anywhere to go. Maybe the council can help us with this in some way.	Disability inclusiveness	Council intends to reestablish its Access and Inclusion Committee as a sub-committee of the Environmental and Community Services Committee to oversee and monitor the implementation of Council's Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2022-2026 once adopted. Staff would be happy to discuss how Council may assist with the relocation of a community service.
	14	I personally would love to work with the council and councillors to make life and the shire a place that people want to live or visit, and those residents want to stay. However, I don't see this happening unless the council has a change of attitude where they disregard what residents are saying, charging community groups and events a small fortune to hire a venue or equipment. These things belong to and have been or are being paid for by the residents and they are still paying for them if they want to use them. Residents are tired of not being considered, consulted with, looked after, and of being ignored.	Community venues - fees & charges	A modest charge is applied for the hire to enable funds for the maintenance of the Community halls.
15	1	<p>We acknowledge an increase to user charges is necessary and the proposed charges bring the Upper Hunter Shire rates to levels generally consistent with charges imposed by peer councils for use of council owned sporting facilities.</p> <p>Our concerns relate to the application of a common user charge across all sporting complexes within the shire regardless of the quality of infrastructure available within the facility. There is significant disparity between Bill Rose Sports Complex, specifically our home ground of Peter Rose Oval and the facilities at what we consider premium fields namely Scone Park, McKinnon Oval, No. 1 Oval Merriwa and Wilson Memorial Oval exist. We consider it unfair to be charged the same rate when comparison between facilities available at the premium fields and Peter Rose Oval is considered.</p> <p>The nominated premium fields have access to modern facilities and competition quality lighting permitting night item competition games. They also possess adequate facilities to accommodate the licensed sale for alcohol and to charge spectator admission fees which provides them with a significantly greater capacity to generate revenue.</p>	Sportsgrounds - Fees & Charges	Fee structure to revert back to annual charge with increase of approx. 2.5% (rounded up nearest \$5). Any new Associations or Clubs will be charged under the new fees structure. Consultation with existing sporting, equestrian and school users will be undertaken over the next 12 months.

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	2	Lighting on Peter Rose Oval is below standard which limits times of play for us to daylight, requiring us to book additional fields which drives up user fees. The lack of competition standard lighting as per Australian Standard 2560.2.3 prohibits competition matches and prevents our entry into popular Friday night and mid-week competitions, further limiting our growth as a club.	Peter Rose Oval - Lighting	Council will consider this in the Bill Rose Master Plan which is currently being prepared. However, the project would be subject to grant funding.
	3	Share change rooms with Scone Hockey which results in access to only one change room during the play season. It has been common for visiting teams to change in the carpark or their vehicles or for female hockey players to inadvertently interrupt male players changing, as the home change room also doubles as the female players toilets.	Change rooms sporting fees	Council will consider this in the Bill Rose Master Plan which is currently being prepared. However, the project would be subject to grant funding.
		Interim solution this year as Hockey season has not proceeded.		
	4	Drainage and surface quality issues also limit the use of Peter Rose Oval. It is not uncommon for Peter Rose Oval to be closed for training or competition matches on the same day as matches on the premium fields are played.	Peter Rose Oval - drainage	Maintenance to be schedule as funds and staff are available, also this will be considered in the Bill Rose Master Plan however it will be subject to grant funding.
	5	Despite surface quality issues, Peter Rose Oval experiences high and varied use throughout the entire year with limited time to rest the ground. This ranges from athletic carnivals to daily use by local schools and members of the community, whereas the users of the premium fields have exclusive and controlled use of the respective facility and amenities buildings.	Peter Rose Oval - surface quality	Maintenance to be schedule as funds and staff are available, also this will be considered in the Bill Rose Master Plan however it will be subject to grant funding.
	6	We're also concerned at attempts to accommodate additional winter sport on Peter Rose Oval and believe Peter Rose Oval cannot sustain additional use. Internally, in response to these concerns and to our detriment, we regularly cancel training sessions and in 2021 we cancelled our summer soccer competition.	Peter Rose Oval - overuse	Council will consider this in the Bill Rose Master Plan which is currently being prepared.
	7	Lack of security and control points on Peter Rose Oval which has resulted in playing surfaces being damaged by vehicles (as recently as June 2021) and offensive graffiti being marked on buildings.	Peter Rose Oval - graffiti & security	Council will consider this in the Bill Rose Master Plan which is currently being prepared, currently Muswellbrook Security monitor the site.
	8	We request council consider implementing the following measures into the proposed user charges policy:		
		1. Grading facilities and applying a rate commensurate with the facility - taking into account such things as quality of lighting, playing surfaces and capacity for revenue generation		To be taken into consideration with new fee structure and Clubs consultation.
		2. Recognition of Primary Users with support and protection against over-use of the facility		
		3. Seasonal charges in lieu of per day/per use charges for primary users.		
16	1	Recommended that Council consult with residents earlier in the year to determine problems, desires and priorities. Many see the public sessions as information delivery instead of consultation.	Consultation period	It is suggested that Council will now use of the Community Committees to start this process in the future.
	2	The actual document is not user-friendly and too large for the average citizen to digest.	Layout of DPOP	Council has attempted to streamline the document over the last year however this is difficult given the wide and varying services that it provides. Further review and streamlining will be considered in future years DPOP budgets.
	3	Responses to Strategic Objectives	Strategic Objectives	
		1.1 - Concerned Council will sell Gumman Place		Council has not resolved to sell Gumman Place but is investigating options to improve service delivery.
		1.6 - Concerned Council will reduce support of festival of the fleeces		Council will continue to support the Festival of the Fleeces (FOTF) event, however the event will be run by a community based committee rather than Council. There has been a positive handover by Council staff to the FOTF Committee during the June event
		3.2 - As per 1.1		Council has not resolved to sell Gumman Place but is investigating options to improve service delivery.
		4.4 - Greater effort required to maintain road work, particularly in western region		Council's resource allocation is based on the length of road and not land area.
		4.5 - Additional communication with community (more than electronic social media)		Council communicates in a variety of ways in addition to social media including newspapers, radio, posters, media releases to various outlets (including the Ringer) and electronic newsletters and through the newly formed Town Community Advisory Committees.
		5.4 - As per 4.5		As above

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Submission No	Item #	Summary of Submission	Issues	General Manager & Directors Response to Submission
		5.5 - Open forum sessions to prepare DPOP		In order to better consult and engage with local communities (including the next DPOP) we have implemented a new Community Advisory Committee structure, which includes a Merriwa District Committee. These will commence in July 2022
		Service Summaries & Activity budgets		
	4	Item 0469 - why is there a budget of \$250K operating expenditure for "landfill operations - Merriwa/Cassilis" when there is no longer any landfill operations at the two waste transfer stations.	Waste Managent	Council will rename this item 'Resource recovery - Merriwa/Cassilis'
	5	Installation of under-tree lighting in Merriwa CBD not in DPOP despite Mayors support of project subject to grant funding.	Street lighting	Council will considered this project in potential grant funding opportunities and future years DPOP budget preparations.
	6	Concern for Councils planned action to "review model of delivery Visitor Information Services". Any reduction in available services will have adverse affect on community. Funding to reinstate pre-covid opening hours to be included in budget. Review of services should include widespread public consultation.	Visitor information services	Council will be continuing with the reduced hours in the VICs whilst a review of tourism services is undertaken in 2022/2023. Consultation will take place as part of this process.
	7	Council should design and access funding for 2 new bridges on Ringwood Road. Only 5% of total capital works budget is for bridges in the western portion of the shire.	Ringwood Road - Bridges x 2	Current and future funding is allocated to the timber bridges replacement program, along with the consideration for the replacement of our ageing concrete structure. Once these program are completed UHSC will consider the upgrade of concrete causeways.
	8	Please advise the following:	Footpaths & Cycleways	
		1. What capital works have been carried out in 2021/2022 on the Merriwa cycleway to the value of \$50K, as there does not appear to have been any works carried out at this stage?		Design and actual works have only just commenced on the project with the major portion of the project to be delivered in 2022/2023.
		2. Were landowners adjacent to the cycleway on Moobi Road required to make a financial contribution towards the cost of these works in accordance wi8th Council's policy?		Yes, all new footpath require financial contributions as per Council's adopted policy.
		3. Will landowners adjacent to the proposed footpath on Waverley Street be required to make financial contribution towards the cost of footpath in accordance with Council's policy?		Yes, all new footpath require financial contributions as per Council's adopted policy.
		4. Could you please advise how the \$150K expenditure in 2021/2022 for Bettington Street footpath is funded, as we are unaware of any consultation being made about debiting these works to the Merriwa Reserved Funds?		Council has funded this project by both grant funding and the Merriwa reserve in order to extend the project and benefit to the Merriwa CBD area. This strategy was discussed at length with Community bodies and agreed upon prior to commencing the project.
	9	No repairs, sealing or patching works identified for roads in western portion of the shire. Generic term provide no indication of where works to occur.	Roads & Bridges - Regional	Council has expended funds on sealing and patching works West of Bunnan however, due to the wet weather works completed have been difficult to maintain.
	10	Only expendiutre on regional roads in the western portion is to rebuild MR358 caused by engineering failure.		Council also has expenditure on MR214 Ulan Road and MR618 Vinegaroy Road.
	10	Confusion between regional and local roads. (MR105 - Moonan to Barrington Rd)	DPOP - regional vs local road	Council's road hierarchies include -Regional Road - MR105 Gundy Intersection with New England Hwy to Gundy Bridge Hunter, MR 105 Gundy Bridge to Bell Bridge. Local Road Rural 1 - Moonan Brook Road Intersection with Hunter Road (MR105) to Barrington Forrest Road.
	11	Unidentifiable generic terms such as 'urban & rural reseals', village seals', local sealed roads heavy patching', urban streets K&G renewal', culvert subsidence'. Would like to see a planned works program for the next 12 months to include a list of roads in the DPOP.	DPOP - generic terms not explained	Council notes your comments and will consider them in future DPOP budget preparations.
	12	Portioning for works under this category - 1 in western, 7 in eastern, 1 in Murrurundi		Gravel road maintenance program is currently on Councils website and tabled at the Infrastructure Services monthly meeting.

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Submission No	Item #	Summary of Submission	Issues	General Manager & Directors Response to Submission
	13	The Cassilis Sewer Scheme should remain a priority project and Council should apply for grant funding	Cassilis Sewer Scheme	The based on the current scope and recent estimated costings for the project indicates that there is a substantial shortfall in available funds to complete the project. Council is currently investigating options and possible funding sources to delivery an alternate project scope. Further community consultation will be undertaken at that point.
	14	Do not support the proposed changes to fees and charges for sporting grounds and arena complexes.	Sportsgrounds - Fees & Charges	Fee structure to revert back to annual charge with increase of approx. 2.5% (rounded up nearest \$5). Any new Associations or Clubs will be charged under the new fees structure. Consultation with existing sporting, equestrian and school users will be undertaken over the next 12 months.
	15	Projects proposed by MDPA		
		1 - Site preparation for a Reverse Vending Machine (RVM) including parking and loading areas, connection to electricity and quarterly power charges, machine maintenance and cleaning (in accordance with any agreement negotiated between TOMRA and UHSC)	Reverse Vending Machine (RVM)	TOMRA is yet to commit to the establishment of a Reverse Vending Machine in Merriwa. Once a commitment has been made, a suitable site will need to be identified before undertaking site preparation.
		2 - Consultancy costs to investigate business and employment opportunities within the Shire	Consultation - business & employment opportunities	Council is in the process of recruiting a new Manager Business Services whose primary role will have a major focus on Economic Development within the Shire.
		3 - Extending the opening hours of the Merriwa VIC to the pre-Covid times.	Merriwa VIC - Opening Hours	Council will be continuing with the reduced hours in the Visitor Information Centres (VICs) whilst a review of tourism services is undertaken in 2022/2023. Consultation will take place as part of this process.
		General Comments:		
		DPOP does not provide details about staffing levels, assets and plant etc. Rumoured approx 30 vacant staff positions across the shire. It is considered that too many employees are engaged in administrative tasks instead of providing hands-on services. The use of contractors for works should be limited in favour of local Council employees where appropriate.	Staffing levels at council	This information is associated with and included in Council's Workforce Management Plan which will be available to the community in July 2022.
		To make DPOP document more interesting, suggested captions be included with photographs to explain the location and/or relevance of each photograph.	DPOP - include captions with photos	Council notes your comments and will considered this approach in future DPOP presentations.
		Distribution of Capital Projects heavily biased towards Scone.	Distribution of funding	Council funds are distributed across all areas of the Shire based on asset needs and in most cases grant funding opportunities provide to Council.
17	1	Charge for water supply and sewerage services should appear on the Water / Sewerage Account instead of the General Rates account	Rates	Council has no plans to issue a separate notices for water and sewer annual charges.
	2	Repair works dor Gummun Lane has been omitted from this DPOP. It was included in the 2021 DPOP for allocation in the 2022/2023 financial year.	Repair works - Gummun Lane	Council will review this project and if warranted considered it in future years DPOP budget preparations.
18	1	Investigate Council's ability to provide increased social and low income housing. It would be wonderful if funds could be found to actually build or buy some houses for such a project, but for Council to at least be vocally pushing the State and Federal Governments to fund such a worthwhile thing as social housing would be excellent and would also not cost much. While social housing may not be strictly within Council's remit, it is most definitely an issue that affects constituents of Upper Hunter Shire. Given 1/3 of Australians are renters, and the severe shortage of rentals available in this area, this is an issue that does affect Council	Social & affordable housing	Social housing is not identified as a community priority in the current or draft Community Strategic Plan. Nevertheless, Council has resolved to, subject to available funding, prepare an affordable housing background report on housing needs and issues in the Upper Hunter Shire LGA including research and analysis of the housing market and housing affordability. The background report would consider a range of strategies to address any identified housing affordability issues and include preliminary recommendations for Council's consideration should it proceed to the development of an Affordable Housing Strategy. To date, Council has been unable to secure the funding needed to complete the report. Council will continue to advocate for the provision of more social and affordable housing to meet the needs of our community.

**DPOP 2022/2023 SUBMISSIONS
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Submission No	Item #	Summary of Submission	Issues	General Manager & Directors Response to Submission
	2	Inclusion in the budget is funds for more cattle panels for the White Park Complex	White Park - Cattle panels	Council notes your request and will consider this in grant funding applications and future DPOP budget preparations.
	3	Warbirds Visitor Attraction Centres hangar will need air conditioning for the upcoming summer in order to allow people to view the planes in a reasonable temperature and continue generating revenue, but also so the planes within the hangar are not negatively impacted on by the likely extreme heat in summer	Warbirds - A/C for attraction centre	Council is looking at other options including whirly-birds and larger ceiling fans.
19	1	Do not support the proposed changes to fees and charges for sporting grounds and arena complexes	Sportsgrounds - Fees & Charges	Fee structure to revert back to annual charge with increase of approx. 2.5% (rounded up nearest \$5). Any new Associations or Clubs will be charged under the new fees structure. Consultation with existing sporting, equestrian and school users will be undertaken over the next 12 months.
20	1	Do not support the proposed changes to fees and charges for camping.	Camping fees	Fee structure to revert back to annual charge with increase of approx. 2.5% (rounded up nearest \$5). Any new Associations or Clubs will be charged under the new fees structure. Consultation with existing sporting, equestrian and school users will be undertaken over the next 12 months.
	2	Have never had to pay for camping for an unpowered site at any rodeo where they have been a competitor. Also questioned who would collect the money off the competitors / campers?		Camping fees structure amended to incorporate fixed charge for servicing of amenities for non-ticketed events. Ticketed events will continue to be charged camping fees as per the Fees & Charges. Further consultation with Clubs will be undertaken.
21	1	Does not support the proposed changes to fees and charges for sporting grounds and arena complexes.	Sportsgrounds - Fees & Charges	Fee structure to revert back to annual charge with increase of approx. 2.5% (rounded up nearest \$5). Any new Associations or Clubs will be charged under the new fees structure. Consultation with existing sporting, equestrian and school users will be undertaken over the next 12 months.
22	1	Does not support the proposed changes to fees and charges for sporting grounds and arena complexes.	Sportsgrounds - Fees & Charges	Fee structure to revert back to annual charge with increase of approx. 2.5% (rounded up nearest \$5). Any new Associations or Clubs will be charged under the new fees structure. Consultation with existing sporting, equestrian and school users will be undertaken over the next 12 months.
	2	Does not support the proposed changes to fees and charges for sporting grounds and arena complexes.	White Park - fees & Charges	Fee structure to revert back to annual charge with increase of approx. 2.5% (rounded up nearest \$5). Any new Associations or Clubs will be charged under the new fees structure. Consultation with existing sporting, equestrian and school users will be undertaken over the next 12 months.
	3	Booking system for White Park	White Park - Booking system	Council are currently reviewing the procedures for White Park, including the booking system. Also, a new Equine Facilities Coordinator role has been created which will greatly improve operations.
	4	Maintenance of White Park - grass, unclean toilets, no soap etc.	White Park - Maintenance	A new Equine Facilities Coordinator role has been created which will greatly improve operations and maintenance of the facility.
23		Joint Submission: St Andrews Reserve Aberdeen user groups consisting of: Aberdeen Pony Club, Upper Hunter Team Penning and Aberdeen Bushman's Campdraft & Roughriders Association		
	1	Do not support the proposed changes to fees and charges for sporting grounds and arena complexes	Sportsgrounds - Fees & Charges	Fee structure to revert back to annual charge with increase of approx. 2.5% (rounded up nearest \$5). Any new Associations or Clubs will be charged under the new fees structure. Consultation with existing sporting, equestrian and school users will be undertaken over the next 12 months.
	2	Do not support the proposed changes to fees and charges for camping.	Camping fees	Camping fees structure amended to incorporate fixed charge for servicing of amenities for non-ticketed events. Ticketed events will continue to be charged camping fees as per the Fees & Charges. Further consultation with Clubs will be undertaken.

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Submission No	Item #	Summary of Submission	Issues	General Manager & Directors Response to Submission
		Recommendations:		
		Proposal 1:		
		Continued yearly user group allowance fee		
		Combined user group yearly fee of \$2500 - the 3 user groups will split this yearly fee according to usage of grounds and will be agreed upon mutually		
		Cancelling of one-off competitor fees		
		Camping fees to be removed or charged at a weekend flat rate of \$100 - as per Council General Managers advice.		
		Proposal 2:		
		Continued yearly user group allowance fee		
		Rise of yearly fees to, UHTP \$800, APC \$750 & ACRA \$550		
		Cancelling of one-off competitor fees		
		Camping fees to be removed or charged at a weekend flat rate of \$100 - as per Council General Managers advice.		
24	1	Does not support the proposed changes to fees and charges for sporting grounds and arena complexes.	Sportsgrounds - Fees & Charges	Fee structure to revert back to annual charge with increase of approx. 2.5% (rounded up nearest \$5). Any new Associations or Clubs will be charged under the new fees structure. Consultation with existing sporting, equestrian and school users will be undertaken over the next 12 months.
25	1	Does not support the proposed changes to fees and charges for sporting grounds and arena complexes.	Sportsgrounds - Fees & Charges	Fee structure to revert back to annual charge with increase of approx. 2.5% (rounded up nearest \$5). Any new Associations or Clubs will be charged under the new fees structure. Consultation with existing sporting, equestrian and school users will be undertaken over the next 12 months.
	2	Does not support the proposed changes to fees and charges for camping.	Camping fees	Camping fees structure amended to incorporate fixed charge for servicing of amenities for non-ticketed events. Ticketed events will continue to be charged camping fees as per the Fees & Charges. Further consultation with Clubs will be undertaken.
26		Summary below:		
	1	Working collaboratively to address social disadvantage	Disability inclusiveness - Cassilis	Council intends to reestablish its Access and Inclusion Committee as a sub-committee of the Environmental and Community Services Committee to oversee and monitor the implementation of Council's Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2022-2026 once adopted.
	2	increase promotion of healthy lifestyle	Footpaths & Cycleways - Cassilis	
	3	Advocate for support services and facilities for the community	support services - Cassilis	Council will continue to work with community groups and government organisations to deliver community support services and facilities; to advocate for the community and seek government funding for priority community projects.
	4	Protected Community	Tourism - Cassilis	Council is promotes tourism across all of the shire with consultation with Community groups. If events are to be held in Casillis than please contact Council if assistance or promotion is required.
	5	Ensure all actions, decisions and policy response to natural hazards and climate change remain current	Mitigation of future floods - Cassilis	Climate change and natural hazards will continue to be key considerations in all Council decisions, where relevant.

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Submission No	Item #	Summary of Submission	Issues	General Manager & Directors Response to Submission
	6	Implement and regularly review strategic lands use plans, environmental planning instruments and development controls which reflect the needs and expectations of the broad community	Governance - Policy for housing on smaller blocks of land <100ha	Council is currently updating the Upper Hunter DCP and has commenced a review and update of the Upper Hunter Land Use Strategy. A housekeeping amendment to the Upper Hunter LEP is also underway. A review of the minimum lot sizes under the Upper Hunter LEP is a significant project that will be considered for funding in future years.
	7	Provide diversity in tourist attractions	Tourism - Cassilis	Council will have a more focus approach on shire-wide tourism during 2022/2023 now that the Covid pandemic has subsided.
	8	Promote the Upper Hunter's unique brand identity	Tourism - Cassilis	Council will have a more focus approach on shire-wide tourism during 2022/2023 now that the Covid pandemic has subsided.
	9	Provide safe and reliable water and sewerage services to meet demands of current and future generations	Cassilis Sewer Scheme	Project in its current form has become cost prohibitive. Council are reviewing a range of options before approaching funding body and community consultation.
	10	Upgrade and maintain the road network and bridges	Bridges - Cassilis	Councils programed works are based on funds available.
	11	Advocate and improve access to communication services	Regional community hub - Cassilis	Council will continue to advocate for communication services across the Shire.
	12	Open and effective communication methods and technology are utilised to share information about Council plans, intentions, actions and progress. Email key personnel in Cassilis to put information on the community notice board.	Communication - Cassilis	As discussed at the consultation meeting Council can provide material for the community notice board.
	13	Community consultation - not enough time between the Cassilis & Merriwa meeting resulting in Cassilis meeting being cut sh	Communication - Cassilis	Council has noted this and will endeavour to schedule the meetings in the future in order to provide sufficient time for consultation.
	14	Effective management of risk underpins all Council decisions, service delivery and behaviours - consultation with community feels like an informtion session rather than Council working with community members.	Consultation period	Council notes your comments, however engagement with the Cassilis community has improved over the last 2 years. The Merriwa District Community Advisory Committee will provide a good platform for Cassilis representatives to engage with Council.
27	1	Council to consider and adopt a spending strategy with all grant funded projects	Governance	Council has a list of projects that are pending grant funding. Projects are assessed and ranked and grant funds allocated accordingly as they become available
	2	Strategy plan for upgrade of Clifflands Road	Clifflands Road Scone	Council currently has Clifflands Road on its initial seal program with survey and design works to commence in 2022/2023.
		Road structure / condition of:		
	3	Kelly Street to Muffett Street	Kelly Street to Muffett Street	Works scheduled and commenced this financial year and continuing into 2022/2023.
	4	Muffett Street and Philip Street intersection	Muffet Street and Philip Street intersection	Works scheduled and commenced this financial year and continuing into 2022/2023.
	5	Muffett Street and Sherwood Street intersection	Muffett Street & Sherwood street intersection	Works scheduled and commenced this financial year and continuing into 2022/2023.
	6	Sherwood Street dish drain requires constant maintenance. Replacement of drain with a box drain was promised to be included previous DPOPs.	Sherwood Stree drainage	Works scheduled and commenced this financial year and continuing into 2022/2023.
	7	Support from Council regarding the general appearance of the Scone Industrial Estate	Scone Industrial Estate	Council will review the current condition of the estate and liaise with the occupants accordingly.
	8	Undefined footpath between Philip Street & Sherwood Streets always overgrown and hazard for pedestrians	Philip Street & Sherwood Street - Footpath	Council has noted this concern and will consider in future DPOP budgets.
28	1	Do not support the proposed changes to fees and charges for sporting grounds and arena complexes	Sportsgrounds - Fees & Charges	Fee structure to revert back to annual charge with increase of approx. 2.5% (rounded up nearest \$5). Any new Associations or Clubs will be charged under the new fees structure. Consultation with existing sporting, equestian and school users will be undertaken over the next 12 months.

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Submission No	Item #	Summary of Submission	Issues	General Manager & Directors Response to Submission
	2	Disappointed that Council did not communicate the proposed changes directly with SGS rather than them hear from staff member that was on a sporting committee	Communication - consultation regarding fees and charges	Council notes the lack of consultation and has reverted the fees back to annual charge with increase of approx 2.5%. Consultation with existing sporting, equestrian and school users will be undertaken over the next 12 months.
29	1	Do not support the proposed changes to fees and charges for sporting grounds and arena complexes	Sportsgrounds - Fees & Charges	Fee structure to revert back to annual charge with increase of approx. 2.5% (rounded up nearest \$5). Any new Associations or Clubs will be charged under the new fees structure. Consultation with existing sporting, equestrian and school users will be undertaken over the next 12 months.
30	1	Do not support the proposed changes to fees and charges for sporting grounds and arena complexes	Sportsgrounds - Fees & Charges	Fee structure to revert back to annual charge with increase of approx. 2.5% (rounded up nearest \$5). Any new Associations or Clubs will be charged under the new fees structure. Consultation with existing sporting, equestrian and school users will be undertaken over the next 12 months.
	2	Do not support the proposed changes to fees and charges for camping.	Camping fees	Camping fees structure amended to incorporate fixed charge for servicing of amenities for non-ticketed events. Ticketed events will continue to be charged camping fees as per the Fees & Charges. Further consultation with Clubs will be undertaken.
		Recommendation		
		1 - Implementation of inspection of showground with council representative a week prior to booking and at completion. This will ensure all facilities are fit for purpose prior to the event and proceeding the event.		Council will be implementing pre & post inspection for venue that don't already have this process in place.
		2 - Writtten agreed rules / practices for hiring the showground so that all useres have a clear understanding of their responsibilities in caring for and maintaining the showground facilities.		Council's reserves & parks booking form has Terms and Condition of use included.
		3 - overall ground hire fees per day are reasonable, however having to pay a hire fee to set up event adds to cost of running the event. Could there be consideration to having a set up fee for half day hire in the event there are no conflicting bookings?		The preparation costs for grounds and venues are the same no matter if the hire was for a half or full day.
		4 - Local user groups of Merriwa showground contribute to the maintenance of the showground at their own cost, eg: aerating the ground, fixing cattle yards/gates - latches/hinges, cleaning.		Standard practice across the UHSC, without community volunteers the cost to run small event would be unaffordable.
	3	Would like to formally request a standing exemption of camping fees levies for their school event; in the event such is implemented across the board.	Camping fees Exemption	Camping fees structure amended to incorporate fixed charge for servicing of amenities for non-ticketed events. Ticketed events will continue to be charged camping fees as per the Fees & Charges. Further consultation with Clubs will be undertaken.
31	1	Do not support the proposed changes to fees and charges for sporting grounds and arena complexes	Sportsgrounds - Fees & Charges	Fee structure to revert back to annual charge with increase of approx. 2.5% (rounded up nearest \$5). Any new Associations or Clubs will be charged under the new fees structure. Consultation with existing sporting, equestrian and school users will be undertaken over the next 12 months.
	2	Do not support the proposed changes to fees and charges for camping.	Camping fees	Camping fees structure amended to incorporate fixed charge for servicing of amenities for non-ticketed events. Ticketed events will continue to be charged camping fees as per the Fees & Charges. Further consultation with Clubs will be undertaken.
32	1	Do not support the proposed changes to fees and charges for sporting grounds and arena complexes	Sportsgrounds - Fees & Charges	Fee structure to revert back to annual charge with increase of approx. 2.5% (rounded up nearest \$5). Any new Associations or Clubs will be charged under the new fees structure. Consultation with existing sporting, equestrian and school users will be undertaken over the next 12 months.

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Submission No	Item #	Summary of Submission	Issues	General Manager & Directors Response to Submission
33	1	Overall budget position & transparency	Budget & transparency	Council notes your comments and endeavours to provide budgets to the community that are available and transparent. Council is open and available to discuss all aspects of its budget as and when requested by the Community. Council has included your suggestion regarding the efficiency gain and applied it across the main service areas of Council.
	2	Do not support the proposed changes to fees and charges for sporting grounds and arena complexes	Sportsgrounds - Fees & Charges	Fee structure to revert back to annual charge with increase of approx. 2.5% (rounded up nearest \$5). Any new Associations or Clubs will be charged under the new fees structure. Consultation with existing sporting, equestrian and school users will be undertaken over the next 12 months.
	3	Saleyards - as per issue 1 - transparency	Budget & transparency	Council continues to remain optimistic about the future of the saleyards. At the commencement of the project the ensuing drought could not have been predicted.
	4	Scone Memorial Airport	Budget & transparency	The Warbirds Over Scone event was impacted by the weather. A report will go to Council on the event, including the significant positive economic impact to the community. A number of feasibility studies were undertaken before the project was given the green light. With reference to Temora, this actually attracts around 40k visitors per year, so we consider our longer term estimates to be reasonable.
	5	Campbells Corner	Budget & transparency	Council considers Campbells Corner to be a significant Community Asset. At the time of this report there is only 2 vacancies with leases about to be signed for both shops. The library will not occupy both floors. We have engaged Morrison Low (at not cost to Council) to develop a business case for the best use of the upstairs area. Now that the roof is complete Council is planning the next stage which will include addressing all compliance issues, the fascade and the new library.
	6	MR358	Budget & transparency	Council has been open and transparent with the community in regards to MR358 matter with a number of community consultation meetings held in Merriwa over the last 12 months. Council is committed to rectify the failings of the road in order to re-open the vehicle passageway north.
35	1	Further investment in engaging more staff or external expert planning consultants to assist with the current overload of the 351 Undetermined DA application sitting with Planning Department dating back to 2006.	Staffing - Planning Department	Council does not have 351 undetermined DA applications. There are currently 57 applications in the system, the vast majority of which have been submitted in recent months and are on hold pending the submission of further information by the applicant.
36	1	Do not support the proposed changes to fees and charges for sporting grounds and arena complexes	White Park - Fees & Charges	Fee structure to revert back to annual charge with increase of approx. 2.5% (rounded up nearest \$5). Any new Associations or Clubs will be charged under the new fees structure. Consultation with existing sporting, equestrian and school users will be undertaken over the next 12 months.
	2	No communication to changes directly impacting users and is indicative of the indifference often shown towards regular users of White Park	Communication - consultation regarding fees and charges	Council notes the lack of consultation and has reverted the fees back to annual charge with increase of approx 2.5%. Consultation with existing sporting, equestrian and school users will be undertaken over the next 12 months.
	3	Local users not given a priority for 'annual' events.	White Park - Booking system	Council notes your concern. Further consultation through the White Park users group committee meetings will hopefully alleviate your concerns.

**DPOP 2022/2023 SUBMISSIONS
RECEIVED DIRECT VIA COUNCIL CONTACT DETAILS**

Submission No	Item #	Summary of Submission	Issues	General Manager & Directors Response to Submission
37	1	Do not support the proposed changes to fees and charges for sporting grounds and arena complexes	Sportsgrounds - Fees & Charges	Fee structure to revert back to annual charge with increase of approx. 2.5% (rounded up nearest \$5). Any new Associations or Clubs will be charged under the new fees structure. Consultation with existing sporting, equestrian and school users will be undertaken over the next 12 months.
38	1	Further investment in engaging more staff or external expert planning consultants to assist with the current overload of the 351 Undetermined DA application sitting with Planning Department dating back to 2006.	Staffing - Planning Department	Council does not have 351 undetermined DA applications. There are currently 57 applications in the system, the vast majority of which have been submitted in recent months and are on hold pending the submission of further information by the applicant.
39	1	Further investment in engaging more staff or external expert planning consultants to assist with the current overload of the 351 Undetermined DA application sitting with Planning Department dating back to 2006.	Staffing - Planning Department	Council does not have 351 undetermined DA applications. There are currently 57 applications in the system, the vast majority of which have been submitted in recent months and are on hold pending the submission of further information by the applicant.
40	1	Further investment in engaging more staff or external expert planning consultants to assist with the current overload of the 351 Undetermined DA application sitting with Planning Department dating back to 2006.	Staffing - Planning Department	Council does not have 351 undetermined DA applications. There are currently 57 applications in the system, the vast majority of which have been submitted in recent months and are on hold pending the submission of further information by the applicant.
41	1	Further investment in engaging more staff or external expert planning consultants to assist with the current overload of the 351 Undetermined DA application sitting with Planning Department dating back to 2006. Investing in this extra resource could also assist with the future planning and implementation of the upcoming Land Use Strategy.	Staffing - Planning Department	Council does not have 351 undetermined DA applications. There are currently 57 applications in the system, the vast majority of which have been submitted in recent months and are on hold pending the submission of further information by the applicant. Council has engaged consultant planners to review and update the Upper Hunter Land Use Strategy.
42	1	Further investment in engaging more staff or external expert planning consultants to assist with the current overload of the 351 Undetermined DA application sitting with Planning Department dating back to 2006.	Staffing - Planning Department	Council does not have 351 undetermined DA applications. There are currently 57 applications in the system, the vast majority of which have been submitted in recent months and are on hold pending the submission of further information by the applicant.
43.a	1	Do not support the proposed changes to fees and charges for sporting grounds and arena complexes - specifically White Park	White Park - Fees & Charges	Fee structure to revert back to annual charge with increase of approx. 2.5% (rounded up nearest \$5). Any new Associations or Clubs will be charged under the new fees structure. Consultation with existing sporting, equestrian and school users will be undertaken over the next 12 months.
	2	Local users not given a priority for 'annual' events.	White Park - Booking system	Council notes your concern. Further consultation through the White Park users group committee meetings will hopefully alleviate your concerns.
	3	Safety issue with areas not fenced off to separate horses & pedestrians	White Park - Safety	Council notes your safety concerns and will investigate the issue to provide a suitable and safe remedy.
43.b	4	Do not support the proposed changes to fees and charges for sporting grounds and arena complexes - specifically Merriwa Showgrounds	Sportsgrounds - Fees & Charges	Fee structure to revert back to annual charge with increase of approx. 2.5% (rounded up nearest \$5). Any new Associations or Clubs will be charged under the new fees structure. Consultation with existing sporting, equestrian and school users will be undertaken over the next 12 months.
	5	Do not support the proposed changes to fees and charges for camping.	Camping fees	Camping fees structure amended to incorporate fixed charge for servicing of amenities for non-ticketed events. Ticketed events will continue to be charged camping fees as per the Fees & Charges. Further consultation with Clubs will be undertaken.
44	1	Further investment in engaging more staff or external expert planning consultants to assist with the current overload of the 351 Undetermined DA application sitting with Planning Department dating back to 2006.	Staffing - Planning Department	Council does not have 351 undetermined DA applications. There are currently 57 applications in the system, the vast majority of which have been submitted in recent months and are on hold pending the submission of further information by the applicant.

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Submission No	Item #	Summary of Submission	Issues	General Manager & Directors Response to Submission
45	1	Do not support the proposed changes to fees and charges for sporting grounds and arena complexes	Sportsgrounds - Fees & Charges	Fee structure to revert back to annual charge with increase of approx. 2.5% (rounded up nearest \$5). Any new Associations or Clubs will be charged under the new fees structure. Consultation with existing sporting, equestrian and school users will be undertaken over the next 12 months.
46	1	To assist in the implementation of the upcoming Land Use Strategy Council engage a further 2-3 consultants to work in the planning department.	Staffing - Planning Department	Council has engaged consultant planners to review and update the Upper Hunter Land Use Strategy.
47	1	Do not support the proposed changes to fees and charges for sporting grounds and arena complexes	Sportsgrounds - Fees & Charges	Fee structure to revert back to annual charge with increase of approx. 2.5% (rounded up nearest \$5). Any new Associations or Clubs will be charged under the new fees structure. Consultation with existing sporting, equestrian and school users will be undertaken over the next 12 months.
	2	No communication to changes directly impacting users	Communication - consultation regarding fees and charges	Council notes the lack of consultation and has reverted the fees back to annual charge with increase of approx 2.5%. Consultation with existing sporting, equestrian and school users will be undertaken over the next 12 months.
	3	Local users not given a priority for 'annual' events.	White Park - Booking system	Council notes your concern. Further consultation through the White Park users group committee meetings will hopefully alleviate your concerns.
		Comment:		
		Shed at White Park (western side) built and funded by Scone Pony Club but used by other parties that do not pay them a fee		Council notes your comment and appreciates your contributions and commitment to White Park.
48	1	Can a bridge be constructed over the Bow River that is approximately 3km west on the Ringwood Road, Merriwa. Rationale: The present cement causeway if a single lane construction with a 90 degree bend approach from the west that mostly has water running over the causeway. The cement surface becomes slippery with a slime buildup on the causeway. With the increased traffic use and the dangerous approach the causeway has traffic slipping off into the water.	Bridges - Local	Council will review the proposed project and investigate options to undertake design which could be utilised to seek grant funding options but it will be costly and without design I doubt it will get into next years program. Maybe best to put investigation money into the upcoming dpop with construction the following year if a bridge is deemed feasible.
49	1	Do not support the proposed changes to fees and charges for sporting grounds and arena complexes	Sportsgrounds - Fees & Charges	Fee structure to revert back to annual charge with increase of approx. 2.5% (rounded up nearest \$5). Any new Associations or Clubs will be charged under the new fees structure. Consultation with existing sporting, equestrian and school users will be undertaken over the next 12 months.
50	1	Suggestion for the \$60k co-contribution for Merriwa Cycleway & Walking Path to be invoiced to all land parcels within the Merriwa township.	Merriwa Cycleway	Council has adopted the policy "Financial Management – Debtors - Debt Recovery – New Kerbing, Guttering & Paving for Footpaths and Cycleways" that provides details of Council requesting co-contributions from residents. This policy is a public document and available if requested.
51	1	No safe turning right lane off the highway into the Cemeteries and Common Road for both property owners and community visiting the cemeteries.	WHS & Safety Issues	Council notes your concern and will review the safety issues raised and your recommendations.
		Recommendation:		
		1 Request RMS put a turn right merging into left lane at the end of the north bound lane of the by-pass from Scone exit to Common Road due to traffic travelling at speeds of 100km both ways.		
		2. buy an easement through the paddock around the two old cemeteries. Come off one of the roads up at the new industrial sub-division off Makaybe Diva Street down the bottom of the old cemetery and come out on Common Road in line with the Lawn Cemetery road. This is the preferred option to remove funeral procession traffic from the highway.		