

Item 10: Operations

10.1 Bushfire Recovery - Acceptance of EPA Grant Funding

REPORT BY THE MANAGER - INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING
TO 02 FEBRUARY 2022 ORDINARY MEETING
GOV400098, A0060099, A0170022

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. **receive the report by the Manager - Infrastructure Planning on the Green Waste & FenceCycle Grants;**
2. **accept EPA funding totalling \$470,000 under Stream B of the Bushfire Generated Green Waste Clean Up and Processing Program (Green Waste Program) and FenceCycle program;**
3. **amend the 2021/22 Budget to include expenditure programs as follows, funded from grant funding;**
 - 3.1 **Green Waste program \$353,000**
 - 3.2 **FenceCycle Program \$117,000; and**
4. **authorise the General Manager to finalise and sign the respective funding agreements with the EPA.**

Executive summary

In October 2021 the NSW Government committed more than \$33 million to assist local councils with the continued clean up as communities rebuild following the devastating 2019-20 summer bushfires. The purpose of this funding is to help affected councils collect, manage, and recycle a State total of 165,000 tonnes of green waste and thousands of kilometres of burnt fencing waste as part of the NSW Government's bushfire recovery.

Mid-Western Regional Council has been successful in application for funding under both funding streams.

Disclosure of Interest

Nil

Detailed report

Fifteen Councils from some of the worst bushfire affected LGA's in NSW will receive grants under the Green Waste program while six councils will receive funding as part of the FenceCycle program.

Mid-Western Regional Council has been successful in application for funding under both programs and will receive a total of \$470,000 to assist with the cost of the following:

1. Collection, transport and disposal for reuse of woodchip/mulch generated from bushfire recovery works currently stockpiled in numerous locations around the LGA including the locations of Ilford/Running Stream, Clandulla and Rylstone.
2. Collection, transport and disposal for recycle metal fencing material from previously identified landholdings in the Ilford/Running Stream area.

The funding is subject to the conditions of the Funding Deed of Agreements and requires the General Manager to sign on behalf of Council in acceptance of these conditions.

The scope of activities is to be completed by 30 June 2022.

Community Plan implications

Theme	Looking After Our Community
Goal	Effective and efficient delivery of infrastructure
Strategy	Provide infrastructure and services to cater for the current and future needs of our community

Strategic implications

Council Strategies

Not Applicable

Council Policies

Not Applicable

Legislation

Not Applicable

Financial implications

The funding agreement provides for 100% grant funding. No contribution is required to be made by Council. A budget allocation is recommended in order to accept the funding as follows.

Green Waste program	\$ 353,000
FenceCycle program	\$ 117,000 (this sum includes contingency \$23,400)

Budget Year	Operating Performance Ratio	Own Source Revenue	Building & Infrastructure Renewal
2021/22	-	x	-
Future Years	-	-	-

Associated Risks

Council staff will manage the construction risk associated with the projects.

RAY KEARNS
MANAGER - INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING

JULIAN GEDDES
DIRECTOR OPERATIONS

18 January 2022

Attachments: Nil

APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION:

JULIE ROBERTSON
ACTING GENERAL MANAGER