

6.2 Support for the reopening of Gulgong - Rylstone Rail Line

NOTICE OF MOTION LISTED BY CR KATIE DICKER
TO 16 AUGUST 2023 ORDINARY MEETING
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MOTION

That Council formally write to the NSW Minister for Regional Roads and Transport the Hon. Jenny Aitchison asking that funds for the reopening of the Gulgong – Rylstone line to existing 19 TAL standards, be included in the NSW budget estimates session commencing 24 October 2023.

Background

This is a follow on from Council's unanimous resolution 383/22 in December 2022 to "*support the continued representation to the State Government on passenger rail services.*"

The line is a strategic link in the State's rail network, providing an alternate route to Newcastle and the North. It also represents a duplication of the predominantly single track of the Main West linking Lithgow to Dubbo.

Benefits to our Region:

- Facilitates an express rail service Dubbo – Gulgong – Mudgee – Rylstone – Sydney
- Allows the forest industry to remodel logistics to allow logs currently passing through our streets to be transported by rail.
- Regular tourist train visits including special events trains e.g. Flavours, NRL matches etc.

Officer's comments

It is important to understand that a rail link to Dubbo also needs to be supported to allow passengers to travel from Dubbo to Sydney via Gulgong.