



AGENDA

Friday, 6 May 2022

Please find below Teams invite for the May BROC Meeting for those who wish to use it.

Topic: BROC Meeting
Time: May 6, 2022 10:00 PM Canberra, Melbourne, Sydney

Join Teams Meeting

Microsoft Teams meeting
Join on your computer or mobile app

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Venue:	Moree Plains Shire Council Level 1 Max Centre 30 Heber Street Moree NSW 2400	Date:	Friday, 6 May 2022
Chair:	Cr Kate Dight - Inverell	Time:	10.00 am (local time) (Tea/Coffee from 9.30 am)
Invitees:	Snr Sgt Chris Mitchell, District Disaster Management Coordinator – Cross Border Disaster Management Philippe Benoliel, Field Solutions Group Moree Plains Shire Council (Special Activation Precinct & Tourism)		
File Ref:	G/21		

1.	Meeting Open
2.	Apologies
	Bill Lansbury, Department of Transport and Main Roads Ann Leahy MP, Member for Warrego & Shadow Minister for Local Government, Disaster Recovery and Volunteers

3.	Minutes of Meeting 11 February 2022 Bingara - Gwydir Shire Council (attached minus presentations)																							
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water Forum • BROC Priority Issues for each Council • Bursary Suggestion • QLD Cross Border Commissioner 																							
4.	Correspondence																							
4.1	Inwards:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bank Statements and Fixed Term Certificate - National Australia Bank & Credit Union • Response from Bourke Shire Council re: invitation to join BROC • List of Priorities – Bulloo Shire Council 																						
4.2	Outwards:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter of Appreciation to Cr Peter Petty, former Chairperson • Letters inviting Bourke & Brewarrina Shire Councils to join BROC 																						
4.3	Matters arising from Correspondence																							
5.	Financial Report as at 11 April 2022																							
5.1	Transactions since last meeting: National Australia Bank – 69-022-2187 <table border="1" data-bbox="277 1182 1450 1368"> <tr> <td>Opening Balance as at 12 January 2022</td> <td>\$15,478.11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Interest</td> <td>0.39</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Membership - Inverell</td> <td>500.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Balance as at 11 April 2022</td> <td>\$16,280.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> National Australia Bank – Term Deposit 42-388-8697 <table border="1" data-bbox="277 1476 1450 1552"> <tr> <td>Lodged 27 December 2021 for 12 months @ 0.45%</td> <td>\$10,536.57</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Maturity Date – 27 December 2022</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> Warwick Credit Union – Fixed Term Deposit 100005924 <table border="1" data-bbox="277 1659 1450 1805"> <tr> <td>Opening Balance as at 31 January 2022</td> <td>\$ 11,401.10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Interest Paid 0.4%</td> <td>\$ 11.49</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reinvested 22 January 2022 @ 0.4%</td> <td>\$ 11,412.59</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Maturity Date – 22 April 2022</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>		Opening Balance as at 12 January 2022	\$15,478.11	Interest	0.39	Membership - Inverell	500.00	Balance as at 11 April 2022	\$16,280.50			Lodged 27 December 2021 for 12 months @ 0.45%	\$10,536.57	Maturity Date – 27 December 2022		Opening Balance as at 31 January 2022	\$ 11,401.10	Interest Paid 0.4%	\$ 11.49	Reinvested 22 January 2022 @ 0.4%	\$ 11,412.59	Maturity Date – 22 April 2022	
Opening Balance as at 12 January 2022	\$15,478.11																							
Interest	0.39																							
Membership - Inverell	500.00																							
Balance as at 11 April 2022	\$16,280.50																							
Lodged 27 December 2021 for 12 months @ 0.45%	\$10,536.57																							
Maturity Date – 27 December 2022																								
Opening Balance as at 31 January 2022	\$ 11,401.10																							
Interest Paid 0.4%	\$ 11.49																							
Reinvested 22 January 2022 @ 0.4%	\$ 11,412.59																							
Maturity Date – 22 April 2022																								
5.2	Matters arising from Financial Report																							
6.	Guest Speakers																							
	10.30 am Snr Sgt Chris Mitchell, District Disaster Management Coordinator – Cross Border Disaster Management (proposal to establish a formal group covering																							

	<p>the cross border region).</p> <p>10.45 am Philippe Benoiel, Field Solutions Group (a challenger telecommunications carrier) – Regional Connectivity Project.</p> <p>11.00 am Moree Plains Shire Council, Overview of Moree’s Special Activation Precinct</p> <p>11.15 am Moree Plains Shire Council, The Wonders of Moree Plains and Working Together as a Region on Tourism</p>
7.	Items Listed
7.1	<p>Water Forum Idea Update on the water forum idea mentioned a few meetings ago to be provided by Balonne Shire Council</p>
7.2	<p>Advocacy Opportunities - List of Priorities from Individual Councils Lists to be tabled. Bulloo and Inverell Shire Councils lists attached</p>
7.3	<p>Bursary Suggestion (Tenterfield Shire Council) Noting the comment in the outgoing Chairperson’s report for the AGM, more information was requested on the concept of providing a BROCC Bursary. Details including: What it should be for? How much will it be for? Who can apply? How will the successful candidate be chosen? etc. Tenterfield Shire Council to provide further details at today’s meeting.</p>
7.4	<p>QLD Cross Border Commissioner (Balonne Shire Council – letter attached) Copy of letter attached requesting reconsideration of decision to not support creation of QLD Cross Border Commissioner role.</p>
7.5	<p>Carbon Farming (Balonne Shire Council) Discussion item suggested by Balonne Shire Council.</p>
7.6	<p>Cross Border Disaster Management (Balonne Shire Council) District Disaster Management Coordinator, Snr Sgt Chris Mitchell to present at the meeting regarding his desire to establish a formal group covering the cross border region.</p>
8.	Action Log
9.	Next Meeting – Ordinary Meeting - Friday, 12 August 2022 at Thargomindah (Bulloo Shire Council)
10.	General Business

11.	Meeting Closed

7.2 BROC – LIST OF PRIORITIES

At the February BROC Meeting Councils were invited to bring to the next meeting a list of dot points/issues of concern for their Council.

The lists provided will be shared and discussion on how the collective can assist through collaboration is envisaged. In preparation for this item, the following priority lists have been provided:

Bulloo Shire Council:

- Sealing of Warri Gate Road
- Affordable Housing Supply
- Appointment of a Queensland Cross Border Commissioner
- Improved Telecommunications

Inverell Shire Council:

- Water security
- Access to health services
- Cost shifting
- Road funding
- Financial assistance grants
- Energy security and affordability
- Telecommunications Blackspots / Reliable Mobile and Internet Services
- Skills and Education
- Housing
- Disaster preparedness and fair funding

7.4 QLD CROSS BORDER COMMISSIONER (BALONNE SHIRE COUNCIL – LETTER)



FROM THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Mayor

REF: 564748
Tuesday, 17 August 2021

Mr Damien Walker
Director General
Department of State Development,
Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning
P.O. Box 15009
City East Queensland 4002

Dear Damien,

On behalf of Mayors O'Toole and Springborg we want to thank you for your letter of June 25 in relation to our recent deputation with the Honourable Steven Miles MP, Deputy Premier and Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning about a Queensland Cross Border Commissioner.

Whilst we acknowledge your response and the commitment of the Government through the Office for Rural and Regional Renewal it is our view that these mechanisms do not provide or have the same level of decision making and gravitas to respond to questions or issues as and when they arise in a timely manner.

Departmental Officers whilst incredibly supportive and well intentioned simply do not have the level of authority, autonomy, or delegation to make decisions on behalf of the Government of the day. The Cross Border Commissioner structure adopted by NSW is a far more effective and less bureaucratic model and way of doing business that has demonstrated its decision-making ability time and time again over issues affecting both sides of the border.

As council's sitting on the border with NSW, we live with these issues and concerns daily, and residents look to their respective councils for leadership even on issues over which we have no control or authority. Effective representation at the state level is the only truly efficient way to resolve these issues and "feeding it up" through the bureaucracy is anything but that.

We also take this opportunity to draw your attention to 2 published reports (copies attached) produced by the NSW Government entitled "Report on the Business Plan 2015-2020" and "Strategic Plan 2020-2025." Both documents provide an excellent overview of the Cross Border Commissioner and most importantly some of the successes to date:

- First Minister agreements committing to action on cross-border issues have been signed with Queensland (2017), ACT (2016) and Victorian Governments (2020). The NSW-ACT Agreement was renewed in 2020, and the agreement between NSW and Queensland are due for renewal in early 2021. The signing of the inaugural agreement between NSW and Victoria in 2020 was achieved during a difficult period for communities on the NSW-Victoria border. These three agreements, on our most populated borders, provide a significant opportunity to resolve long-term cross border issues.

- Key working groups established to deliver outcomes on priority issues in education, policing, transport and business, and quarterly meetings established with border stakeholders and parliamentary and local government representatives. This early engagement has laid the foundations and built the networks and trust required to support communities in their most difficult times, including bushfires and Covid-19 border closures – with satisfaction with our engagement on border closures rated 4.7 stars out of five.
- Establishment of the \$20 million NSW Cross-Border Commissioner's Infrastructure Fund, resulting in investment in the Canberra Region Rugby League Centre of Excellence, recreation facilities for Mungindi, digital connectivity around Moree, and development of a second entry into the Gold Coast Airport precinct. This targeted investment would not otherwise have happened and makes a difference to the way people live and work in cross border communities.
- Improved collaboration between border jurisdictions, including the relationship with the Victorian Cross-Border Commissioner, new guidelines for sharing information between government agencies, the 2018 Commonwealth Games on the Gold Coast and inclusion of interstate emergency services in Local and Regional Emergency Management Committees in border regions. This work has started the process and set the standards to "ask the border question" and build lasting change for the benefit of cross-border communities.
- Connecting with cross border communities to identify and resolve cross border issues, with 58% of respondents either satisfied or very satisfied with our work, over 65% describing us as transparent and 53% describing us as knowledgeable. There are important opportunities to engage the 29% neutral respondents while continuing the work we do well. Our primary stakeholders told us that when it mattered most during the 2020 border closures 91% of them found the experience positive or very positive.

We urge you to earnestly reconsider your decision on this matter and can assure you we will be continuing to advocate for the creation of this role to support our border communities.

Yours sincerely



Cr Samantha O'Toole
Balonne Shire Mayor



The Honourable Cr Lawrence
Springborg AM

ACTION ITEM LOG

Officer	Item	Listed	Outcome
Exec	Reininvite Mr Newton (Bindaree Beef) to a future meeting Andrew Macdonald, representative from Bindaree Beef presented at the meeting in Inverell on 12 February 2021 re: the current state of the beef industry and the future outlook for the meat processing industry.	15/02/19	Actioned. Suggest item be removed from log.
Exec	Exclusion Fencing That BROC write to the relevant NSW State Minister with a view to amending the Legislation regarding the special rates scheme with particular respect to exclusion fencing and make representations to IPART. No response received apart from an apology from Minister Hancock.	09/08/19	29/01/20 Letters to Hon Adam Marshall MP & Hon Shelley Hancock MP extending an invitation to tour at St George
Exec/Chair	The Coffey Scheme – A Water Infrastructure Plan for the Future That BROC support and become a driver for the Coffey Scheme with the Chair to form a delegation and organise a meeting with the politicians in the relevant areas.	08/11/19	
Exec/Chair	Road Network Strategy – New England Joint Organisation Chair of BROC and Bruxner Way Joint Committee to seek information from the State Government regarding the extended timeframe as this matter was an election promise. Joint application submitted mid September 2020 and acknowledged. No further information to date. TSC Director Infrastructure reports we were unsuccessful (report attached - received in late September). Applications have now opened for the full round of the Regional Road Transfer and Road Classification Review and close on the 24th December for which we can submit another application. Note it is not just a process of re-submission, it is an entirely new application with different information requirements.	08/11/19	
Exec/Chair	Engagement with NSW and Queensland State Governments That BROC commence the process to increase engagement with both NSW and	13/03/20	Invitation extended to Ann Leahy MP and

ACTION ITEM LOG

Officer	Item	Listed	Outcome
	Queensland State Governments by holding one (1) meeting per year with the relevant State Parliamentarians, commencing 2020. Anne Leahy MP, Member for Warrego as the Queensland contact.		Adam Marshall MP to attend meetings – added to mailing list
Exec/Chair	Fast Internet Connectivity Item for future discussion. Digby Whyte/Angus Witherby Invitation extended to Phillippe Benoliel from Field Solutions Group to address Group.	13/03/20	Phillippe Benoliel to address Group 6 May 2022.
Exec	NAB Account 69-022-2187 That BROCC apply for a Credit Card to be attached to this account in the name of the current Treasurer (Noelene Hyde) with the card to be cancelled and reissued as the Executive Council changes. Suggest to wait until AGM Feb 2022 to determine new Treasurer.	14/08/20	Currently being actioned.
Balonne	Water Forum Update on the water forum idea mentioned a few meetings ago to be provided by Balonne Shire Council at the next meeting.	11/2/22	Item added to Agenda for 6 May 2022.
Chair	BROCC Strategic Planning Exercise Councils to come back to next meeting with list of issues & priorities. Councils requested to provide list for meeting to be held 6 May 2022.	11/2/22	Item added to Agenda for 6 May 2022.
Tenterfield	Bursary Suggestion Tenterfield Shire Council to provide further detail to the May 2022 meeting regarding the suggestion to provide a BROCC bursary.	11/2/22	
Exec	QLD Cross Border Commissioner Copy of letter from Balonne Shire Council to Damien Walker, Director General, QLD Dept State Development Infrastructure Local Government & Planning requesting reconsideration of decision to not support creation of QLD Cross Border Commissioner role to be tabled at next BROCC meeting. Letter tabled for consideration at 6 May 2022 meeting.	11/2/22	To be considered 6 May 2022.
Exec	Chairperson Report AGM A letter of appreciation be forwarded to Cr Peter Petty for the positive contribution that he had made to BROCC. Letter sent.	11/2/2022	Actioned. Suggest item be removed from log.
Exec	Presence at BROCC meetings Cr Coulton strongly encouraged all councils	11/2/22	Actioned. Suggest item

ACTION ITEM LOG

Officer	Item	Listed	Outcome
	to attend BROC meetings in person wherever possible. Note included on notice for May 2022 meeting encouraging attendance in person.		be removed from log.
Exec	Invitation to Join BROC Invitations be extended to Brewarrina & Bourke Shires to join BROC. Invitations extended to both Councils.	11/2/22	Actioned. Suggest item be removed from log.