

# **QUILPIE SHIRE COUNCIL**

# Community Newsletter



# **Council in Caretaker Mode**

The 2024 Queensland local government elections are scheduled for March 2024. The Caretaker Period for the Local Government quadrennial election commenced on 29 January 2024.

For the most part, council continues to operate as usual. However, councillors are prohibited from making decisions about certain matters as follows:

- appointment, remuneration or termination of a chief executive officer
- contracts greater than \$200,000 or 1% (whichever is greater) of the local government's net rate and utility charges
- significant procurement activities, such as establishing preferred supplier arrangements, or establishing exceptions to obtaining quotes or tenders when entering into a contract
- · making, amending or repealing local laws
- making, amending or repealing a local planning instrument under the Planning Act 2016 (i.e. a planning scheme, or a temporary local planning instrument).

Caretaker period concludes at the conclusion of the election, which is the day on which the last declaration of a poll conducted in the election is displayed in the office of the returning officer.

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AFTER SCHOOL CRAFT (5-9 YO) & YOUTH ACTIVITIES (10-16 YO)

QUILPIE COMMUNITY
MEDICAL SERVICES UPDATE



# Weather events keep council busy

Council staff have had a busy start to the year responding to several weather events across the shire.

The welcomed weather does come with its challenges and impacts, with more than 2,000km of state and local roads to maintain in our shire.

### Check before you travel

If you are planning to travel, make sure you keep up to date with road conditions and closures through Quilpie's Disaster Dashboard at <a href="https://www.dashboard.quilpie.qld.gov.au/">www.dashboard.quilpie.qld.gov.au/</a>

The disaster dashboard includes information about river heights, road conditions and closures, power and phone outages, as well as helpful contacts.

You can also check council's Facebook page for updates.

### Report a damaged road

Residents can also assist by lodging a customer request to report road damage.

Customer requests can be lodged by phone, in person, in writing, by email or via council's website.

# See a problem?

Ask us to inspect, remove, replace, repair or reinstate

Residents can lodge a customer request with council to inspect, remove, replace, repair or reinstate any council facilities or amenities. Requests can include:

- · Road maintenance and repairs
- Reporting maintenance issues or concerns about public amenities
- Reporting illegal dumping/littering
- · Managing pest plants or animals
- Improved street lighting
- · Mowing council owned land
- · Wandering animals
- · Removing dead animals.

Requests can be made by phone, in person, in writing, by email or via the website.





# February Council Meeting Wrap Up

- Quilpie Diggers Race Club requested Council's consideration to purchase a 2024 sponsorship package for the Quilpie Cup event being held on 11th of May 2024. Council agreed to purchase a Gold Sponsorship Package for the 2024 Quilpie Cup for \$2000.
- The Eromanga Rodeo Committee requested a cash contribution of \$4,300 and in-kind support for preparation works at Eromanga Rodeo grounds in preparation for the 2024 Eromanga Rodeo. Council approved a direct cash contribution of \$4,300 to assist with insurance and ambulance, as well as some inkind support.
- Council authorised amendment of council's credit card limit to \$80,000 and the number of purchasing cards held.
- Council endorsed Mining Lease ML300436
   which encroaches on the Road Reserve 81 Seg
   47519042 and delegated power to the Chief
   Executive Officer, pursuant to section 257 of
   the Local Government Act 2009 to negotiate,
   finalise and execute any and all matters
   associated with or in relation to this matter.
- Council adopted the Community Assistance
   Policy, the Art Culture & Development Policy
   and the Councillor Recognition of Service
   Policy.
- Council resolved to approve the Development Application for a Material Change of Use to establish a warehouse, transport depot and caretaker's accommodation on land situated at Diamantina Developmental Road, Quilpie, formally descried as Lot 6 on SP273738, subject to conditions.

- Council resolved to issue a change decision notice approving a minor change to an existing Development Permit for a new industrial shed at 35 Sommerfield Road, Quilpie, formally descried as Lot 53 on NK95.
- Council resolved to withhold on undertaking a
  heavy formation grade on the road reserve
  between the Diamantina Development Road and
  the boundary of Lot 2 W524 for a period of 12
  months and instead supply gravel to small
  causeways within the road reserve between the
  Diamantina Development Road and the boundary
  of Lot 2 W524.
- In accordance with section170 (3) of the Local Government Regulation 2012, council resolved to amend the budget. The 2023/24 Amended Budget (January 2024) is available on Council's website.
- Council approved water agreement templates for various club connections outside the scope of the Quilpie Drinking Water Quality Management Plan and the Future Toompine Bore water connections and delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer in accordance with the Local Government Act 2009 to enter into a contract, withdraw from contract, negotiate, finalise and execute any and all matters associated with forming a Water Access, subject to Council's normal procurement policies and practices.

## **NEXT ORDINARY MEETING**

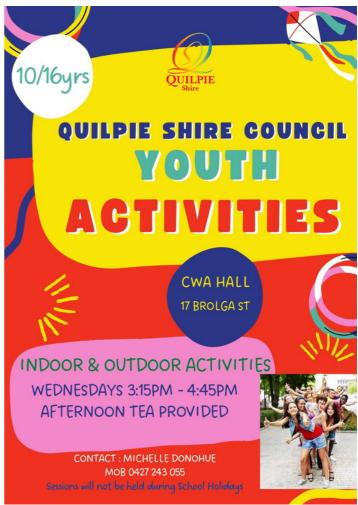
TUESDAY 12 MARCH 2024
QUILPIE SHIRE COUNCIL BOARDROOM
50 BROLGA STREET, QUILPIE
COMMENCING 9:30AM



# **Engineering works update**

- Council crews have been busy completing construction works on the Grey Range for the Department of Transport and Main Roads.
- There is currently a construction crew sealing another 2km on the Quilpie Adavale Road.
- Maintenance crews are working around the shire undertaking emergency works to make our roads safe due to recent rain events.
- Quilpie Thargomindah Road at South Comongin Crossing remains closed, due to flooding of the Bulloo River. Old Charleville Rd and Napoleon Rd are the bypass flood route.
- Please drive to current road conditions caused by the recent rain, rutting and water may be on the road network.
- Council's Water and Sewage Department are undertaking asset inspections of the sewer network and a fire hydrant inspection program.







### Quilpie Community - Medical Services

### Dear Community Member

I hope this communique finds you well. Firstly, I would like to wish you all the very best for a healthy and happy 2024.

Further to my last community letter of mid-December 2023, I am pleased to provide an update on the provision of medical services in the Quilpie community and what South West Hospital and Health Service (HHS) is doing to address and maintain services.

It is pleasing to inform you once again that Quilpie has experienced minimal gaps in medical services recently as we continue to secure regular locums with our medical calendar reflecting only a few remaining vacancies.

At present, the Quilpie General Practice continues to have a number of regular locum doctors. Unfortunately, there was two weeks at the start of January where Quilpie was without a medical officer. Dr Ben Vogelzang, Dr Max Higgs and Dr Llewyn Waters will continue from mid-January to be on a rotational basis until June 2024.

The dedication and commitment of these locum doctors to the Quilpie community has ensured continuous medical support.

As you are aware, our medical recruitment team works tirelessly to secure locums. However, there may be instances where locums who have indicated their intention to provide clinical services in Quilpie may cancel their assignments at short notice. In such cases, we will communicate any changes to the community through our Facebook page and the Quilpie Medical Practice.

We are currently undertaking a recruitment process for a full-time Nurse Practitioner (NP) to work alongside our medical team. This approach has proven beneficial in other communities within the South West helping mitigate against medical officer vacancies. Nurse Practitioners are highly skilled and can perform a wide range of activities that would enhance the healthcare services available to you.

For after-hours or emergency presentations, our nurses at Quilpie Multipurpose Health Service (MPHS) are trained to assess your needs. They can consult with a doctor when necessary and also collaborate with the Telehealth Emergency Management Support Unit (TEMSU) and Retrieval Services Queensland (RSQ). These expert services offer videoconference support to rural and remote areas, along with aeromedical retrievals, ensuring access to specialized medical care.

### South West Hospital and Health Service

Building better health in the bush

Thank you again for your patience and understanding during these times of workforce challenges. The pursuit of rural and remote doctors demands a collaborative effort between government, healthcare providers and communities.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership in ensuring the best possible healthcare for Quilpie. Please do not hesitate to contact our Director of Nursing Jenna Nunn at the Quilpie MPHS if you would like to provide any feedback or please feel free to send any feedback through to our SWHHS-Consumer\_Feedback@health.qld.gov.au.

Together, we will continue to work towards a healthier and more vibrant community.

Dr Anthony Brown

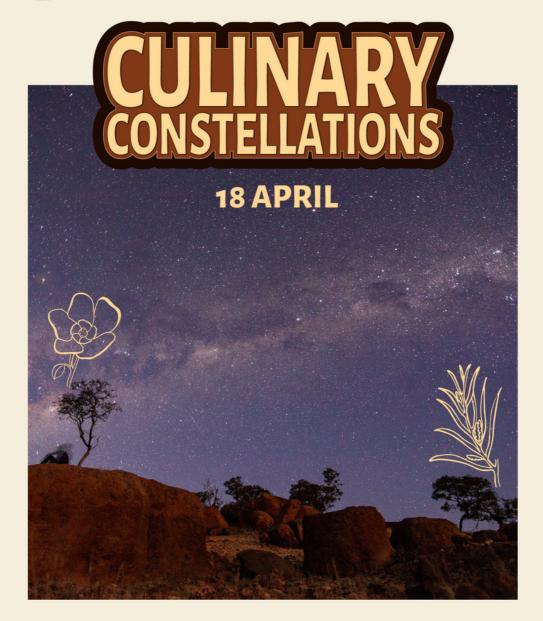
Health Service Chief Executive

8 February 2024

QLD MUSIC TRAILS PRESENTS







# **QUILPIE**

Immerse yourself in a once-in-a-lifetime fusion of degustation and artistic brilliance beneath the vast outback night sky. Indulge in a 5-course dinner curated by chef Mark Olive, alongisde a live music performance and guided star-gazing experience.

JOIN THE OUTBACK TRAIL

GET TIX @ QLDMUSICTRAILS.COM

QMF: QUMUSIC





# Goodbye 3G. Hello to a better network experience.

To help provide you with an improved experience, we're evolving our mobile network. This means that on 30 June 2024 we're switching off our 3G network. Our 4G and 5G networks will be available instead and offer an improved experience, representing the next leap forward in mobile network technology.

We're here to help you get ready for an improved network experience.

To find out more visit: www.telstra.com/3Gclosure