

Agenda

Centroc Water Utilities Alliance

1 December 2016

Mr Russell Deans*	Bathurst Regional Council	Mr Jon Francis	Orange City Council
Mr Charlie Harris	Blayney Shire Council	Mr Kent Boyd*	Parkes Shire Council
Mr Tim Long*	Cowra Shire Council	Mr Andrew Francis*	Parkes Shire Council
Ms Myrka Robichaud	Hilltops Council	Mr Tekohi Rivera	Lachlan Shire Council
Mr Mahendram Manoharan	Hilltops Council	Mr Gavin Rhodes	Central Tablelands Water
Mr Trevor Sultana	Cabonne Shire Council	Ms Leonie Freeth	Central Tablelands Water
Mr David Tinlin	Forbes Shire Council	Mr Bill Twohill	Weddin Shire Council
Mr Rhys Brownlow	Lithgow City Council	Mr Luke Moloney*	Upper Lachlan Shire Council
Ms Claire Cam	Mid Western Regional	Mr Wayne Beatty*	Orange City Council
Mr Sam Golam	Oberon Shire Council	Ms Meredith Macpherson	CWUA Program Manager
Mr Chris Schumacher	Oberon Shire Council	Ms Jennifer Bennett	Centroc

* Denotes CWUA Executive Members.

The next meeting of the Centroc Water Utilities Alliance is on [Thursday 1 December 2016](#) at Cowra Shire Council Chambers, 115 Kendal Street, Cowra. The meeting will commence at 10am with refreshments on arrival from 9.30am.

The Agenda includes a Stakeholder Engagement Session from 10.00-10.45am followed by morning tea and the formal (closed) meeting from 11.00am-1.00pm. See Agenda attached over the page.

Your prompt arrival at 9.45am for a 10am start will be appreciated.

Please contact Meredith Macpherson with any queries on 0427 451 085.

10.00am - 10.45am- Government Stakeholder Session
10.00-10.20- Update from NSW Health- WNSWLHD (TBC)
10.20-10.45- Mr Matt Parmeter- Update from DPI Water

10.45-11.00am- Morning Tea

11.00am – 1.00pm- CWUA Meeting

CWUA Meeting AGENDA

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10.	Proposed Meeting Dates for 2017	

Please note that on advice from the Centroc Executive there is a revised format for Business papers using the “traffic light” notification for status of actions. The key for this is as follows:

Red= Action Amber=Attention Green=In progress Pink=for determination



3. Confirmation of the minutes of the CWUA meeting 15 September 2016, Cowra Shire Council

Attendance – members in bold

*Executive Members

Mr Russell Deans*	Bathurst Regional Council	Mr Chris Schumacher	Oberon Shire Council
Mr Charlie Harris	Blayney Shire Council	Mr Wayne Beatty*	Orange City Council
Mr Tim Long*	Cowra Shire Council	Mr Jon Francis	Orange City Council
Mr Peter Ford	Cowra Shire Council	Mr Andrew Francis*	Parkes Shire Council
Mr Paul Gregg**	Cowra Shire Council	Mr Tekohi Rivera	Lachlan Shire Council
Mr Mahendram Manoharan	Hilltops Council	Mr Gavin Rhodes	Central Tablelands Water
Mr Munir Ahmed	Forbes Shire Council	Mr Trevor Sultana	Cabonne Shire Council
Mr Rhys Brownlow	Lithgow City Council	Ms Sarah Burge	Cabonne Shire Council
Ms Claire Cam	Mid Western Regional		
Mr Sam Golam	Oberon Shire Council	Ms Meredith Macpherson	CWUA Program Manager

* Denotes CWUA Executive Members.

** Chair Centroc Operators Group

Meeting Chaired: Mr Andrew Francis

Meeting opened: 10.10am -Adjourned for Government Stakeholder Presentation by Mr Mark Nave- NSW Health at 10.15

Meeting re-convened at 11.00am

2. Apologies: Ms Leonie Freeth,

Resolved	Mr T Long / Mr W Beatty
That the apologies be accepted for the above CWUA members for the meeting on 15 September 2016.	

3. Confirmation of the minutes of the CWUA Meeting 30 June 2016

Resolved	Mr T Long/Mr W Beatty
That the Minutes of the meeting of 30 June 2016 be adopted.	

3a. Summary of Recommendations from GMAC and the Centroc Board

Resolved	Mr T Long/Mr W Beatty
That the CWUA note the summary of recommendations from GMAC and the Centroc Board.	

4. Matters in Progress

Resolved	Mr R Brownlow/Mr W Beatty
That the CWUA:	
1. Note the Matters in Progress and deletion of the following items as recommended 01-15-6b;10-15-6h;02-16-6d.1;04-16-6g; 04-16-Late Report;06-16-4-1&2 I,ii &4; 06-16-6a; 06-16-6b; 06-16-6g 2& 3; 06-16-7; and	
2. Note that the NSW Water Directorate is forming a working group for the purpose of collaborative discussions with DPI Water to inform decisions regarding the reform of the regulatory framework;	
3. Agree to revisit the potential of a regional NAMA program under the guidance of the Asset Valuation Working Party comprising, Mr Tim Long (Cowra), Mr Wayne Beatty(Orange), Mr Andrew Francis (Parkes) and Mr Ben O'Regan (Bathurst);	

Minutes and Matters in Progress

4. Seek a joint meeting with the Centroc HR Team to discuss further roll-out of the Pilot Workforce Planning project;
5. Request assistance from the Centroc Training Team to complete workforce mapping for water operators at Lachlan Shire Council; and
6. Note Oberon Shire Council's interest in the CSU Engineering student placement program.

5. Correspondence

Resolved

Mr T Long/Mr R Brownlow

That the CWUA note the incoming and outgoing correspondence.

Mr Matt Parmeter – DPI Water – entered the room 11:55am
 Provided a brief update on the appointment of Mr Michael Blackmore to the role of Director Urban Water Branch

6. Reports

6a. Cost Savings and Efficiencies

Resolved

Mr T Long /Mr S Golam

That the CWUA note the report on objective 1B.3a Deliver Cost Savings and other efficiencies;

1. Update the *Drinking Water Management System Status /Gap Analysis* Table as required;
2. Review and update the Five Year Procurement Plan;
3. Give consideration to a regional solar and battery storage program at WTPs or pump stations;
4. Agree that the membership of the Drinking Water Management Working Party be updated to include; Mr Jon Francis (Chair), Mr Tekohi Rivera (Lachlan) and Mr Andrew Francis (Parkes).

6b Workforce Training & Skills

Resolved

Mr T Long /Mr R Deans

That the CWUA note the report on objective: 1b. 3b: grow staff skills and ensure workforce is adequately trained for compliance based service delivery; and

1. Confirm that the offer for the CWUA to host WIOA training in Water Distribution Systems be accepted to be run separately to the COG meeting in early 2017.

6c. Workforce Sustainability

Resolved

Mr T Long/Mr R Deans

That the CWUA note the report on Objective: 1B. 3c: support members in assuring sustainable workforce; and

1. Form a Working Party to review the opportunity for a regional engagement program for CSU Engineering Student Placements including: Mr Andrew Francis (Parkes), Mr Chris Schumacher (Oberon), Mr Trevor Sultana (Cabonne) , Mr Tim Long (Cowra) and a representative from Bathurst (TBA)

6d. Local Government Management of LWU

Resolved

Mr W Beatty/Mr G Rhodes

That the CWUA note the report on Objective: 1B. 3d: Promote Local Government as the agencies of choice delivering water utilities management in regional NSW and further afield.

6e. Water Utilities Management

Resolved

Mr C Schumacher/Mr S Golam

That the CWUA note the report on objective: 1b. 3e: Advise the Centroc Board regarding Water Utilities Management.

Minutes and Matters in Progress

6f. Best Practice Compliance

Resolved	Mr M Mahendram/Mr R Deans
That the CWUA note the report on OBJECTIVE: 1B. 3F: Full compliance with Best Practice requirements and provide updates to status tables as required.	

6g. Regional Best Practice Strategies

Resolved	Mr T Long/Ms C Cam
That the CWUA note the report on OBJECTIVE: 1B. 3F: Implement regional best practice strategies.	

6h. Support for LWU Management

Resolved	Mr J Francis/Ms C Cam
That the CWUA note the report on OBJECTIVE: 1B. 3H: To support Councils as they manage their Local Water Utilities assets.	

6i. Promotion of the CWUA

Resolved	Mr C Harris /Mr R Brownlow
That the CWUA note the report on OBJECTIVE: 1B. 3I To promote the CWUA as an example of Councils working collaboratively.	

7. Cold Call Surveys

Resolved	Mr T Long/Mr W Beatty
That the CWUA advise the following providers that the CWUA notes the information provided: - Trifactor - Broven.	

8. Contract Performance

Resolved	Mr R Brownlow/Mr T Long
That the CWUA : 1. Note the trial of on-line surveys to monitor and provide feedback from members on each of the regional contracts.	

9. Advice to GMAC/Board

No advice provided.

10. Meeting Dates

Next meeting: Thursday 1 December with an Executive WebEx proposed between meetings.

11. Presentation to the next meeting- TBC

Meeting Closed: 1.10pm

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3a. Minutes from GMAC and the Centroc Board for Water Infrastructure**Minutes from GMAC****Item 7b - Water Infrastructure- 17 April 2014**

Resolved	Mr G Wilcox/Mr A McMahon
That GMAC note the Water Infrastructure report and:	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. approves that the AS4000 is not used for future work and that the Centroc draft contract be reviewed and utilised for all Centroc work; 2. commends to member Councils that <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. they conduct a review and gap analysis of work undertaken by the consultants contracted by NSW Health to identify where the work did not meet the NSW Guidelines for Drinking Water Managements Systems; b. that following this each Council arrange a meeting with their local Public Health Unit to ensure their Drinking Water Quality Management Systems prior to the September 2014 deadline; and c. that these reviews should be on-going; and 3. commend to the Board that the CWUA Business Plan 2014-2016 be adopted for incorporation into the Centroc Management Plan. 	

7b Water Infrastructure- 31 July 2014

Resolved	Mr A Hopkins/Mr D Sherley
That GMAC note the Water Infrastructure report.	

7b Water Infrastructure-30 October 2014

Resolved	Mr G Styles/Mr A Hopkins
That GMAC note the Water Infrastructure report and	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. lodge a submission to the Agricultural Competitiveness Green Paper; 2. provide advice to members on advocacy to be undertaken with regard to various issues to do with water security as advised in the report; and 3. approach ministers The Hon. Troy Grant and The Hon. Paul Toole regarding the above. 	

7b Water Infrastructure-5 February 2015

Resolved	Mr G Styles/Mr G Rhodes
That GMAC note the Water Infrastructure report and commend to the Board that it:	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. advocate against advice from NOW that the Best Practice Framework will become mandatory and penalties imposed for non-compliance in the review of the Local Government Act scheduled for 2016, particularly in light of current delays in the review of plans by NOW; and 2. seek a prequalification process for review of best practice plans to assist with removing the backlog for this region 	

7b Water Infrastructure – 7 May 2015

Resolved	Mr K Boyd/Mr G Styles
That GMAC note the report and commend to the Board it:	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. adopts the revised Advocacy Plan for Water; 2. adopt the Regional Strategic Business Plan for water and sewer; and 3. receive a report from a region wide workshop on optimising the use of the Priority Infrastructure Matrix in the context of the current funding framework subsequent to June 30 	

Minutes and Matters in Progress

7b Water Infrastructure- 30 July 2015**Resolved****Mr K Boyd/R Bailey**

That GMAC note the Water Infrastructure report; and

1. commends to the Board that it adopt the final report for the CEEP2, Nexus Between Water and Energy Program and the Water Loss Management Toolkit;
2. agrees that advice is provided to the Board under the auspices of the sponsoring GM regarding distribution of funding of \$180,614 following acceptance of the audited Financial Report by the Department of Industry; and
3. receive a report from the CWUA regarding the methodology for asset revaluation for water and sewer scheduled for delivery in 2017.

Policy re water county councils and water utilities alliances – Cr Somerville**Resolved****Mr G Styles/Ms R Ryan**

That the advice by Cr Somerville be reviewed and advice regarding its fit with existing Centroc policy be circulated for General Manager feedback.

7b Water Infrastructure – 29 October 2015**Resolved****Mr K Boyd/Mr B Steffen**

That GMAC note the Water Infrastructure report and

1. commend to the Board that the delegate to the Central Tablelands Regional Water Security Advisory Committee be the Chair or his delegate;
2. commend the Project Slippage Policy to the Board;
3. include the slippage policy in the review of Contract management fees, and
4. provide advice through the Executive to the Hon Niall Blair at the Regional Roundtable on the ongoing issues Councils are experiencing with the Best Practice Framework.

7b Water Infrastructure – 7 February 2016**Resolved****Mr G Styles/Mr J Bell**

That GMAC:

1. Commend the revised Advocacy Plan to the Board for adoption;
2. Commend to the Board that rather than writing to Minister Blair, request advice from Mr M Parmeter on the provenance of his request;
3. Commend to the Board that the Management Plan be amended to remove item 1B 2a. and that a watching brief be maintained on the reform of DPI Water to determine an appropriate strategic approach.
4. Commend that a further submission be made through the Executive to the IPART Draft Report on the Review of reporting and compliance burdens on Local Government including opposing draft recommendations 10 and 11 and challenging the suggestion that structural reform of NSW's LWUs is required to resolve issues relating to capacity to meet regulatory objectives.

7b Water Infrastructure- 28 April 2016**Resolved****Mr R Bailey/Mr K Boyd**

That GMAC Commend to the Board that a submission be made through the Executive to the Legislative Council Inquiry into augmentation of water supply for rural and regional NSW and the Board have circulated the advice on remunicipalisation.

Minutes and Matters in Progress

7b Water Infrastructure- GMAC meeting 28 July 2016

Resolved	Mr D Sherley/ Mr A Hopkins
That GMAC note the Water Infrastructure report and commend to the Board that:	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A meeting be convened between Centroc representatives, the Belubula Landholders Association and Lachlan Valley Water to re-affirm the joint communique issued in November 2014 and develop an updated communique that can be used to support advocacy; 2. A letter of support is provided to Central Tablelands Water for their application to Infrastructure NSW for the unfunded section of the Central Tablelands Regional Water Security project being the pipeline connection from Blayney to Carcoar. 3. A letter is sent to DPI Water seeking a targeted stakeholder session with Centroc representatives on the review of the Lachlan Water Sharing Plan. 4. A submission is made through the Executive to the IPART Review of Water NSW operating licences. 5. Request DPC follow up the status of White Paper; and 6. Note the request from Griffiths City Councils Build more Dams Action Group for support for Government funding of a feasibility study to revisit a scheme to divert Clarence River tributaries west to the Dumaresq River. 	

7b Water Infrastructure- October 2016

Resolved	Mr G Rhodes/ Mr K Boyd
That GMAC note the Water Infrastructure Report and	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. lodge a submission through the Executive to the National Health and Medical Research Council consultation on Health based targets for drinking water to add-value to submissions by individual members LWUs and 2. Include in this submission the suggestion this region pilot a more informed approach. 	

Minutes from the Centroc Board**Item 8b -Water Infrastructure- February 2014 Centroc Board Meeting**

Resolved	Mr K Boyd/Cr R Penny
<i>That the Board note the Water Infrastructure report and:</i>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>adopt the Regional Integrated Water Cycle Management Plan and CWUA Water Sampling Policy templates;</i> 2. <i>through the Executive, advocate as a matter of urgency for a review of the Centroc Water Security Study with urban water security as the key focus;</i> 3. <i>agree that the project team formed to progress regional infrastructure solutions to water security for the region (Options F2A) re-scope the consultant brief and review preliminary cost estimates and timeframes to review the Centroc Water Security Study;</i> 4. <i>support the Needles Gap Dam in concert with the inclusion of a proper assessment of the Lake Rowlands and Carcoar dam elements for urban water security in the Centroc region;</i> 5. <i>undertake advocacy towards the State election that includes funding for the Country Towns Water and Sewer Scheme;</i> 6. <i>seek funding of a review of the Centroc Water Security Study inclusive of the potential of Carcoar Dam with urban water security as the focus be sought through:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. <i>the state government's decentralisation taskforce \$40m;</i> ii. <i>potential funding through the Federal Government with support to be sought from the Hon John Cobb, Member for Calare; and</i> iii. <i>potential funding through Centroc councils; and</i> 7. <i>Include The Hon Angus Taylor and Minister Katrina Hodgkinson in any advocacy undertakings.</i> 	

Minutes and Matters in Progress

Item 7b - Water Infrastructure -May 2014 Centroc Board Meeting**Resolved****Cr W Tuckerman/Cr B West**

That the Board note the Water Infrastructure report; and

- 1. adopt the CWUA Business Plan 2014-2016 for incorporation into the Centroc Management Plan;*
- 2. commend the following projects as Centroc priorities for the Restart NSW Funding:*

Parkes

- **Replacement of existing river intake constructed during the last drought as interim infrastructure-** involves a new intake chamber, 2 submersible pumps and associated electrical work, the off take pipe and trash rack as well as scour and flow diversion structures, with new pipe work to increase capacity to pump station. And possible connecting pipework to an additional bore. Estimated total cost \$2m

Cabonne

1. **Construction of two water treatment plants which will be located in Cumnock and Yeoval.** Raw water will be sourced from the Bell River (Cumnock) and Buckinbah Creek supplemented by a bore (Yeoval) into two off-creek storages that will provide ~190 days of water security for each town. The total capital cost estimate for the proposed schemes is \$4.5 million.

Lachlan

- **Condobolin Bores-** To provide an alternative source of water supply to Condobolin Water Treatment Plant (WTP) to improve the water supply security and increase the water supply diversity for Condobolin.
- LSC - \$300K To fund Stage 1- Seeking Funds for Stage 2 (Approx \$7.5 M)
- **Condobolin Filtration Plant-** To improve the efficiency of the filtration plant operation
- LSC - \$160K - Seeking Funds to implement (Approx \$1,400K)
- **Goobang Creek off line storage for Condobolin Water Supply-** To provide extra water storage thus improving the flexibility of the raw water supply to Condobolin township
- LSC - \$40K - Seeking Funds to raise Goobang Weir
- **Tullibigeal Pipeline-** To upgrade the existing pipeline
- LSC - \$80K to fund breakdown repairs and replace sections of pipe. Seeking Funds to renew aging pipelines or construct a parallel new pipeline? and Improve reliability of the water supply to the community by constructing in parallel to the existing 250KL a similar tank but with a higher capacity (say 0.6ML)
- **West Weir Project-** To upgrade the West Weir to create in river storage
- LSC \$40K to fund the study- LSC is seeking funds to implement the study recommendations. Approximately \$1M

Boorowa- construction of a pipeline to a neighbouring supply

- Preferred option to undertake detailed investigations and designs to connect the Boorowa Water Supply System to the Goldenfields Water County Council bulk water supply, with the closest connection point at Harden. Preliminary sizing indicates that a 250mm diameter transfer pipeline approximately 39km in length, at an estimated cost of \$12M.

CTW- augmentation of Lake Rowlands- as per CWSS

Upper Lachlan - shovel ready \$7m integrated water security project on the basis of NSW Public Works advice that can commence 1 July 2014:

- A new outlet pump station at Crookwell Dam to access additional storage capacity at low levels;

Minutes and Matters in Progress

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new 4 ML/d water treatment plant; • Substituting treated drinking water with fit-for-purpose bore water for parks and gardens watering; and • Subsidy on water efficient household devices to reduce household potable water consumption. <p>3. adopt the Final Report for the Learning and Sharing Energy Efficiency Program; and</p> <p>4. commend Centroc staff for producing such a comprehensive document.</p>

7b Water Infrastructure- August 2014 - Centroc Board Meeting

Resolved	Mr K Boyd/Mr B Steffen
<p>That the Board note the Water Infrastructure report and</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. endorse the development of a strategic regional water security infrastructure priority listing to support applications from the region under the Restart NSW-Water Security for the Regions program; and 2. increase its advocacy activities in support of current policy and opportunities. 	

7b Water Infrastructure- November 2014 – Centroc Board Meeting

Resolved	Mr G Styles/Cr M Hayes
<p>That the Board note the Water Infrastructure report; and</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. lodge a submission to the Green Paper on Agricultural Competitiveness; and 2. receive advice on distribution of water funding for comparison in Priority Regional Infrastructure Plan. 	

8a. Proposed new storage on the Belubula- Centroc Board Meeting- November 2014

Resolved	Cr K Keith/Cr D Manwaring
<p>That the Centroc Board endorses the following policy advice regarding the proposed new storage on the Belubula:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The prosperity of our region is closely tied to both healthy towns and a successful agricultural sector. • Water security is limiting economic development in the towns, industry, mining and agricultural sectors of the Lachlan Valley. • Investment in additional water storage to provide water security improvements is supported by all three organisations. • Options that offer substantive improvements for both urban water security and agricultural water security should be supported. • Failure of urban water supplies is socially unacceptable. • We look forward to being part of evaluations and informing the decision-making process related to storage investments in the region going forward 	

8b Water Infrastructure – 26 February 2015- Centroc Board Meeting

Resolved	Mr G Styles/Mr K Boyd
<p>That the Board notes the Water Infrastructure report and:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. adopts the Advocacy Plan for Water with a review of the key message relating to the support of Alliances; 2. changes to the Advocacy Plan be circulated; 3. endorses the Centroc/Central West RDA Priority Infrastructure Plan-Water tranche for advocacy purposes in the lead up to the State election; 4. endorses an annual review of the matrix to be undertaken in collaboration with RDA Central West, sponsoring General Managers and other interested General Managers and for feedback to be sought from RDA Central West on this proposal and the costs associated; 	

Minutes and Matters in Progress

5. advocates against advice from NOW that the Best Practice Framework will become mandatory and penalties be imposed for non-compliance in the review of the Local Government Act scheduled for 2016, particularly in light of current delays in the review of plans by NOW; and
6. seeks a prequalification process for review of Best Practice plans to assist with removing the backlog of plans needing State attention.

9b Water Infrastructure – 28 May 2015- Centroc Board Meeting**Resolved** **Mr K Boyd/Cr D Somerville**

That the Board note the report and

1. adopts the revised Advocacy Plan for Water;
2. adopts the Regional Strategic Business Plan for water; and
3. receive a report from a region wide workshop on optimising the use of the Priority Infrastructure Matrix in the context of the current funding framework subsequent to June 30.

7b Water Infrastructure Report- 12 August 2015- Centroc Board Meeting**Resolved** **Mr K Boyd/Mr D Sherley**

That the Board note the Water Infrastructure report; and

1. adopt the final report for the CEEP2, Nexus Between Water and Energy Program and the Water Loss Management Toolkit; and
2. receive advice under the auspices of the sponsoring GM regarding distribution of funding of \$180,614 following acceptance of the audited Financial Report by the Department of Industry.

7b Water Infrastructure Report- 26 November 2015- Centroc Board Meeting**Resolved** **Mr G Styles/Mr D Sherley**

That the Board note the Water Infrastructure report; and

1. Agree that the delegate to the Central Tablelands Regional Water Security Advisory Committee be the Chair or his delegate; and
2. That it adopt the Project Slippage Policy including General Managers in the procedure and that it be included in the review of Contract Management Fees.

7b Water Infrastructure Report – 25 February 2016- Centroc Board Meeting**Resolved** **Mr G Styles/Mr B Steffen**

That the Board;

1. adopt the revised Advocacy Plan for Water;
2. note the advice from Mr M Parmeter
3. rather than writing to Minister Blair, request advice from Mr M Parmeter on the provenance of his advice;
4. Commend that the Management Plan be amended to remove item 1B 2a. and that a watching brief be maintained on the reform of DPI Water to determine an appropriate strategic approach.
5. Commend that a further submission be made through the Executive to the IPART Draft Report on the Review of reporting and compliance burdens on Local Government including opposing draft recommendations 10 and 11 and challenging the suggestion that structural reform of NSW's LWUs is required to resolve issues relating to capacity to meet regulatory objectives; and
6. co-ordinate a meeting as soon as practicable between Minister Blair, Forbes, Parkes and CTW to progress the priorities identified in the Centroc Water Infrastructure Matrix.

7b Water Infrastructure Report- 12 May 2016 - Centroc Board Meeting**Resolved****Mr K Boyd/Cr K Keith**

That the Board note the Water Infrastructure Report and

1. a submission be made through the Executive to the Legislative Council Inquiry into augmentation of water supply for rural and regional NSW within existing policy; and
2. send letter of congratulations to the award winning members of the Centroc Water Utilities Alliance.

7b Water Infrastructure Report – August 2016**Resolved****Mr K Boyd/Cr J Davis**

That the Board note the Water Infrastructure Report and:

1. Seek a meeting between Centroc representatives, the Belubula Landholders Association and Lachlan Valley Water to re-affirm the joint communique issued in November 2014 and develop an updated communique that can be used to support advocacy;
2. Provide a letter of support to Central Tablelands Water for their application to Infrastructure NSW for the unfunded section of the Central Tablelands Regional Water Security project being the pipeline connection from Blayney to Carcoar.
3. Write to DPI Water seeking a targeted stakeholder session with Centroc representatives on the review of the Lachlan Water Sharing Plan;
4. Make a submission through the Executive to the IPART Review of Water NSW operating licences;
5. Request DPC follow up the status of White Paper;
6. Note the request from Griffith City Council's *Build More Dams Action Group* for support for Government funding of a feasibility study to revisit a scheme to divert Clarence River tributaries west to the Dumaresq River; and
7. Note Sam Samra's passing and his substantive life work on data to demonstrate Councils' capability in water management.

4. Matters in Progress – As at 21 November 2016

Item	By	Progress
<p>11-12-7d- Water Resources Working Party Develop a regional school based trainee program utilising resources provided by the NSW Public Sector Industry Training Advisory Body</p>	<p>Ms K Barker Centroc Training & Energy Program Manager</p>	<p>Referred to HR Team. Suggest deletion</p>
<p>03-14-10 - Collection of Additional demand Management & WSUD Indicators</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Write to NSW Office of Water seeking advice on the purpose of the data collection. 2. Provide a report to GMAC regarding the NSW Office of Water Performance Monitoring criteria for LWU Manager's to report outlining: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i) The evolution of performance indicators over a significant number of years with ever increasing number of indicators required on an annual basis; ii) the breadth of data requiring greater involvement of other Council Departments including, Planning, Environment and Finance; iii) the direct relationship between the provision of this data and subsidies; iv) inclusion of this data in national benchmarking reports through the National Water Commission; and v) Seeking greater liaison across Council Departments in the collection of this data. 	<p>Ms M Macpherson</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Best Practice Framework review by DPI Water currently in progress. Centroc continues to advocate for input to the review process seeking greater alignment of data requirements. <p>Advice will be provided to GMAC and the Board accordingly.</p>
<p>05-14- 8b. Drinking Water Quality Management System Status Update</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The MOU be progressed with NSW Health through Mr Ingo Steppat as the contact nominated by NSW Health with a meeting to be convened asap and that the MOU not seek to change existing boundaries for Public Health Units. 4. That matters arising item 01-14-7b- 1 be amended to <i>member Councils ensure that an annual review of water quality data is included in DWMS to identify any long-term trends in their systems and that where Councils may have issues that assistance be provided through the CWUA Program Manager.</i> 	<p>Ms M Macpherson DWMS Working Party</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>28 November 2013</i>- Board resolve that a MOU be developed to strategically guide collaboration between NSW Health and Centroc Local Water Utilities to progress best practice in drinking water quality. <p><i>6 March 2014</i> – correspondence sent to NSW Health seeking nominated contact to progress the development of an MOU.</p> <p><i>17 April 2014</i>- response from NSW Health nominating Mr Ingo Steppat, Senior Environmental Health Officer Western/Far Western NSW LHD as the</p>

	<p>contact.</p> <p>Subsequent correspondence and follow-up undertaken to prepare discussion draft.</p> <p><i>19 September 2014</i> –following numerous attempts a meeting is convened with the nominated NSW Health contact Mr Ingo Steppat where it was agreed Centroc would develop a discussion draft MoU based on advice from Mr Steppat.</p> <p><i>6 May 2015</i>- Despite repeated follow-ups and lengthy delays in obtaining appropriate advice from NSW Health, a working draft was provided to Mr Steppat. Centroc is then unable to secure a meeting to progress.</p> <p><i>6 October 2015</i> - Follow-up was undertaken by the Sponsoring General Manager and the Chair with Mr Scott McLachlan given the delays and potential of this type of activity to enable future JOs.</p> <p>Mr McLachlan nominated Dr Therese Jones as the contact person for MOU development.</p> <p><i>12 October 2015</i>- On advice from Mr McLachlan correspondence sent to Dr Jones seeking a meeting to progress the development of the MOU.</p> <p><i>30 November 2015</i> -Centroc representatives met with Dr Jones to progress with a revised discussion draft with supporting documentation forwarded to Dr Jones for feedback on 15 December.</p> <p><i>22 February 2016</i> - A follow-up meeting was held with Mr McLachlan and advice on progress sought numerous times from Dr Jones over this period.</p> <p><i>14 June 2016</i> - a draft of the MOU</p>
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Minutes and Matters in Progress

		<p>reviewed by NSW Health was returned to Centroc by Dr Jones.</p> <p>26 July 2016 - A meeting was held in Orange attended by Mr A Francis, Dr Therese Jones, Ms M Macpherson and Ms J Bennett to progress.</p> <p>1 August 2016 – Meeting Minutes and actions were sent to attendees where NSW Health committed to provide a revised version.</p> <p>16 August 2016- Follow up sought by phone and email.</p> <p>At the time of writing, no response has been received.</p> <p>Work is underway to procure a suitably qualified consultant to run a workshop with representatives from the CWUA and NSW Health. Applying a strategic risk based approach the aim is to develop a shared understanding and alignment of communication in the compliance framework.</p> <p>4. On-going. An Annual Review Template has been developed by NSW Health to assist and is available at: http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/enviroment/water/Pages/water-utilities.aspx</p>
<p>11-14-6g. Advocacy</p> <p>1. commend to GMAC that it recommend the Board include advocacy regarding advice from NOW that the Best Practice Framework will become mandatory and that penalties will be imposed for non-compliance in the review of the Local Government Act scheduled for 2016, particularly in light of current timeframes for the review of Plans by NOW.</p>	<p>Ms M Macpherson</p>	<p>Resolved by GMAC and the Board at Feb 2015 meetings. Advocacy on-going.</p> <p><i>Refer to incoming correspondence from Mr Frank Garofalow regarding review of regulatory framework.</i></p>
<p>01-15-6a- Cost Savings and Efficiencies</p> <p>4. An audit of member’s status regarding Asset Management Plans be undertaken.</p>	<p>Ms M Macpherson</p>	<p>4. Partially completed.</p> <p><i>Refer to 09-16- Matters in Progress regarding review of the NAMAf program.</i></p>

Minutes and Matters in Progress

<p>01-15-6e- Water Utilities Management</p> <p>1. Undertake a desk top audit on information that members have on ground water sources including a review of the Drought Management Plans to be started by end of 2015.</p>	Ms M Macpherson	1. Yet to be progressed.
<p>01-15-6g- Regional Best Practice Strategies</p> <p>1. Undertake a review of the CWUA Business Plan in the 3rd quarter of 2015;</p>	Ms M Macpherson	1. Following consultation with the CWUA Executive and in consideration of <i>Fit for the Future</i> it is resolved that the period of the CWUA Management Plan be extended with any issues to be dealt with on a meeting by meeting basis.
<p>01-15-6h- Support for LWU Management</p> <p>1. Regarding item 2. Councillor training, this item is no longer required; remove from actions on review of the CWUA Business Plan.</p>	Ms M Macpherson	Refer 01-15-6g.
<p>05-15-6f. Best Practice Compliance</p> <p>Keep a watching brief of the roll-out of the trade waste management project being undertaken in Oberon.</p>	Ms M Macpherson	See 11.15.a
<p>07-15-6a. Cost Savings and Efficiencies</p> <p>2. On advice from the Western Area Local Health District EHO seek a report from the DWM Working Party that addresses the categories of incidents where LWUs are required to report to the PHU under category 6 of the Drinking Water Guidelines;</p> <p>3. Provide the DWMS Status Table to GMAC, regulators and the Operators Group to report and monitor progress towards achieving compliance;</p>	Ms M Macpherson	<p>2. Work commissioned by Orange City Council on behalf of the DWQM Working Party.</p> <p><i>Further work underway on risk categories as part of MOU development. See 5-14-8b.</i></p> <p>3. on-going.</p>
<p>10-15-6c. Workforce Sustainability</p> <p>1. Provide advice to Centroc regarding Council's willingness to engage in workforce mapping ensuring that the Centroc Training service has access to the Manager Water and Sewer and HR staff for a brief meeting to collect data with Lachlan and Young agreeing to participate.</p>	Ms M Macpherson	<p>Meetings held in Lithgow, Mid Western and Boorowa to progress workforce mapping in early 2016.No progress has been made since then..</p> <p>Follow-up to be undertaken with Lachlan. Refer</p>
<p>10-15-10. Cold Call Surveys</p> <p>1. Request a presentation from an industry specialist with an understanding of current development in data management without a commercial interest.</p>	Ms M Macpherson	On-hold pending NSW Water Directorate project being undertaken on data management
<p>11-15.a Round Table Discussion</p> <p>A Poll was taken of member's top 5 priorities for asset management contracts the results were:</p> <p>1. Asset Valuation</p>	Ms M Macpherson	<p>Five Year Procurement Plan updated accordingly.</p> <p><i>At their October meeting GMAC was</i></p>

Minutes and Matters in Progress

<p>2. Water main condition assessment 3. Trade Waste 4. Mains cleaning 5. Manhole rehabilitation</p>		<p><i>asked to provide approval for the procurement of these services to be completed in 2017 and 2018.</i></p>
<p>11-15.b Round Table Discussion Agreed that a Working Group be appointed for each Program/Activity with a CWUA member appointed as a team leader to work with the CWUA Program Manager and to report back to the Alliance on program progress and related issues:</p> <p><u>Water Main Condition Assessment</u> Wayne Beatty - leader David Bennie Andrew Francis Luke Moloney</p> <p><u>Trade Waste</u> Phil King - leader Wayne Beatty Charlie Harris Claire Cam Chris Schumacher</p>	<p>Ms M Macpherson and Working Groups</p>	<p><i>Water main condition assessment to be considered as part of the Asset Valuation discussions. Teams to be reviewed once procurement process is agreed.</i></p>
<p>11-15.c Round Table Discussion In relation to Asset Valuation that:</p> <p>1. Methodology be agreed in consultation with the Auditor that takes into consideration the componentisation of assets and useful life;</p>	<p>Ms M Macpherson and Working Group</p>	<p>Refer 02-16-6h. <i>Underway as part of asset valuation contract with Australis Asset advisory services.</i></p>
<p>02-16 -6a. - Cost Savings and Efficiencies That the CWUA;</p> <p>1. Give consideration to a regional solar and battery storage program at WTPs or pump stations;</p> <p>2. Recommend that Councils needing an independent Fluoride audit write to NSW Health seeking an audit.</p>	<p>Ms M Macpherson</p>	<p>1. Workshops held 4 March, 15 August on Council-led Energy Innovation Project for Central NSW Councils.</p> <p>Input sought from members 31 March, 3 May and 30 June.</p> <p><i>To date advice received from Orange, Parkes, Dubbo, Bathurst, Blayney, Cabonne, Weddin, Cowra, Hilltops and Oberon regarding water sites. Work is underway to consider a funding ready project.</i></p> <p><i>2. On-going. See report on Benchmarking and Analysis of DWMS Data.</i></p>
<p>02-16 – 6d.- Local Government Management of LWU That the CWUA :</p> <p>2. Co-ordinate a strategic engagement workshop with DPI Water on regional water planning.</p>	<p>Ms M Macpherson</p>	<p><i>2. Advocacy on- going. See outgoing correspondence seeking engagement with Centroc on Regional Water Planning.</i></p>

Minutes and Matters in Progress

<p>02-16. 9– Cold call surveys That a presentation be sought from Pure Technologies, Mr Mark Trembath</p>	Ms M Macpherson	Presentation will be sought at the next available opportunity
<p>04-16-6d. Local Government Management of LWU Support a submission be lodged through the Centroc Executive to the Legislative Council Inquiry into augmentation of water supply for rural and regional NSW.</p>	Ms M Macpherson	<i>Completed. Suggest deletion</i>
<p>04-16-6h. Support for LWU Management That member's interest in participation in a regional National Asset Management Assessment (NAMAF) is canvassed for discussion at the next meeting.</p>	Ms M Macpherson	<i>Email sent- 20 June 2016 No interest from members to date. Recirculated 18 November.</i>
<p>06-16-6g Regional Best Practice Strategies 1. That in line with agenda item 4. Matters in Progress 3 (i) Mr Josh Devitt, CSU Engineering is contacted regarding the potential for a CSU Engineering student placement to assist with on the ground delivery of a Regional Demand Management program over the summer months (October – February) utilising collateral provided by Smart Approved WaterMark;</p>	Ms M Macpherson	<i>1. Refer 06-16-4 To be progressed.</i>
<p>06-16-6h. Support for LWU Management 1. Leveraging the training agreement with North Coast TAFE that the CWUA work with Mr Murray Thompson to develop training for Water Loss Management to be roll-out across the region; and 2. Canvas potential support from the NSW Water Directorate for the development of training for the Water Loss Management Toolkit, with a view to training being trialled in the region and rolled out to other Councils across the State.</p>	Ms M Macpherson	<i>Yet to be progressed.</i>
<p>06-16-8. Contract performance That the CWUA; 1. Provide feedback to the providers of the outcome of their performance monitoring; and 2. Seek a variation to the Dam Surveillance contract with Water NSW for a Dam engineer to complete a review/re-write of Council's Dam Safety Emergency Plans at a price to be negotiated on a case-by case basis as required.</p>	Ms M Macpherson	<i>1. on-going- as discussed at the September 2016 CWUA meeting, the CWUA to trial on-line surveys to monitor and provide feedback from members on each of the regional contracts. 2. Advice sought – outside scope. Will require a new contract pending number of Councils interested.</i>
<p>09-16- Matters in Progress 1. Agree to revisit the potential of a regional NAMAF program under the guidance of the Asset Valuation Working Party comprising, Mr Tim Long (Cowra), Mr Wayne Beatty(Orange), Mr Andrew</p>	Ms M Macpherson	<i>1. Presentation on NAMAF and request for expressions of interest re-circulated 18 November.</i>

Minutes and Matters in Progress

Francis (Parkes) and Mr Ben O'Regan (Bathurst); 2. Seek a joint meeting with the Centroc HR Team to discuss further roll-out of the Pilot Workforce Planning project.		<i>2. To be progressed in early 2017.</i>
09-16-6b- Workforce Training & Skills 1. Confirm that the offer for the CWUA to host WIOA training in Water Distribution Systems be accepted to be run separately to the COG meeting in early 2017.	Ms M Macpherson	<i>1. In progress</i>
09-16-6c- Workforce Sustainability 1. Form a Working Party to review the opportunity for a regional engagement program for CSU Engineering Student Placements including: Mr Andrew Francis (Parkes), Mr Chris Schumacher (Oberon), Mr Trevor Sultana (Cabonne) , Mr Tim Long (Cowra) and a representative from Bathurst (TBA)	Ms M Macpherson	<i>1. yet to be progressed.</i>

5 Correspondence**5a Incoming Correspondence GREEN**

No	Date	Who	Subject
1	19 September 2016	The Hon Niall Blair Minister for Primary Industries and Minister for Lands and Water	Funding for the Centroc Water Security Study
2	7 November 2016	Ms Nicola Helme, AWA	Transition of AWA Pilot participants to WIOA
3	8 November 2016	Mr Frank Garofalow, DPI Water	review of the regulatory framework for the management of Water Supply and Sewerage.

5b Outgoing Correspondence BLUE

No	Date	Who	Subject
1	22 September 2016	Infrastructure NSW	CTW Letter of Support
2	11 October 2016	Clr Dino Zappacosta, Chair, Build More Dams Action Group, Griffith City Council	Feasibility study to revisit a scheme to divert the Clarence River
3	18 October 2016	Mr Gavin Hanlon, DPI Water	Engagement with Centroc on Water Resource Planning
4	18 October 2016	Ms Alison Morgan, DPC	Proposed review of the regulatory framework for the management of Water Supply and Sewerage
5	4 November 2016	National Health & Medical Research Council	Submission on Draft Health Based Targets

6 Reports YELLOW- CWUA Management Plan






6a Cost Savings & Efficiencies









Report by Meredith Macpherson dated 22/11/16





Section 1	Regional Sustainability
Objective 1B	Upgrade and ensure sustainability of transport and water infrastructure
Subject	Water Infrastructure Update
Sponsoring General Manager	Mr Kent Boyd

Management Action Plan 2014/2016

Deliver the CWUA Plan for 2014-2016 where its objectives are:

OBJECTIVE 1B.3a) Deliver cost savings and other efficiencies		
Action	Comment	status
1. Resource sharing plan implemented	<p>A review of the Plan was undertaken through a facilitated workshop with Ms Emma Pryor, MWH on 21 August. A summary of the workshop including updates to the action was endorsed at the CWUA Meeting 8 October 2015.</p> <p>Refer to Matters in Progress 01-15-6g. A review of the Resource Sharing Plan will be undertaken as part of the review of the CWUA Business Plan timing subject to <i>Fit for the Future</i> reform.</p>	
2. Resource sharing plan reviewed	See above.	
3. Investigate the feasibility of procuring products in procurement plan	The CWUA continues to implement its 5 year Procurement Plan reviewed at bi-monthly CWUA meetings. A review of 5 year Procurement Plan was undertaken at the November 2015 CWUA meeting. Refer Matters in Progress 11.15 Roundtable discussion.	
4. Procure Best Practice Strategic Work collectively	See action 3 above.	
5. Develop regional response to drinking water management plans	<p>A DWM Working Party acts in an advisory capacity monitoring progress to achieving regional compliance and meeting via WebEx as requested by the CWUA.</p> <p>The <i>Drinking Water Management System Status Table</i> for the monitoring and reporting of progress on DWMS Plan implementation and regional response to issues raised by the Public Health Unit is circulated to members for update prior to meetings. An updated version will be tabled at the meeting.</p> <p><i>A regional response will be the subject of the workshop with City Water Technology to be held on 30 November.</i></p>	

<p>6. Support members in assuring trade waste policies are current</p>	<p>Refer to Matters in Progress 11.15 Roundtable discussion and Five Year Procurement Plan for scoping of Trade Waste Management implementation /monitoring</p>	
<p>7. Audit member status regarding asset management plans</p>	<p>Refer to Matters in progress 01-15-6a. 4</p>	
<p>8. Regional Business Plan delivered</p>	<p>The Regional Strategic Business Plan was delivered by NSW Public Works on 12 March 2015 and adopted by the Centroc Board at its meeting on 28 May 2015.</p> <p>Recommended actions from this will be assessed when the CWUA Business Plan is reviewed in 2017. Refer to Matters in Progress 01-15-6g.</p>	
<p>9. Regional Workforce Development Plan – five Councils (Jenny James Project)</p>	<p>The pilot project has been completed with units of competency required by each Council’s candidates for Certification confirmed and training completed.</p> <p>This project has now entered stage 2 See report on Workforce Development Project in Agenda item 6b Workforce Training & Skills. <i>See incoming correspondence from AWA.</i></p>	
<p>10. Collective procurement of training</p>	<p>Delivered on an on-going basis. See report on Workforce Development Project in Agenda item 6b Workforce Training & Skills.</p> <p>Interest is sought on procuring SAFEgroup Automation Telemetry/SCADA training in the region.</p>	
<p>11. Procure membership of the Save Water Alliance collectively.</p>	<p>The Savewater Alliance ceased operation in March 2015.</p> <p><i>Procurement of program aimed at saving water underway through Smart WaterMark. Advice regarding Participation Agreements sent to individual members (21 & 22 November)</i></p>	
<p>12. Identify collective procurement of strategic work required for dam safety</p>	<p>5 year Contract with Water NSW for Dam Surveillance commenced in July 2014. Refer to 5 Year Procurement Plan.</p> <p><i>See Matters in progress for advice regarding the request to seek a variation to the Dam Surveillance contract with Water NSW for a Dam engineer to complete a review/re-write of Council’s Dam Safety Emergency Plans.</i></p>	
<p>13. Reduce energy costs to members for water and sewer function – CEEP 2</p>	<p>The Final report for the <i>Centroc Nexus between Water & Energy Program</i>, was accepted by the Department of Industry in July 2015 and adopted by Centroc Board August 2015.</p> <p>A report on the Program outcomes identifying potential actions will be considered as part of the CWUA Business Plan review.</p>	

	<i>Further work is underway to scope a battery/storage project for pump stations. See Regional Renewable Energy Innovation Project Report below.</i>	
14. Roll out of CCTV	3 year regional contract expired on 30 April 2015 and was retendered. Three separate contracts have been entered into by individual Councils with: - Sewer Services (CCTV) - All About Pipes (smoke testing) -ADS Environmental Services (smoke testing)	
15. Regional review of meter reading – is there potential for a regional contract?	A presentation was provided to the July 2015 meeting by Taggle systems. See Matters in Progress 10.15.10. <i>A few councils have expressed interest through the Regional Directors of Corporate Services team in smart water meters including Cabonne (domestic meters in Canowindra and Molong), Forbes and Parkes.</i> <i>Advice is sought regarding the level of interest in a regional procurement process being scoped.</i> <i>See report provided by Dubbo City Council –Investigation into Automated Meter Reading.</i>	
16. Regional Panel – Pipe Relining	<i>Advice circulated 2 August on an LGP panel for Pipes, Pipe Relining, Pumps, Water Meters, Pre-cast Concrete Products and Associated Fittings, Products and Services.</i> <i>A report will be prepared by the Centroc procurement officer comparing the costs associated with the Centroc contract.</i>	
17. Regional roll out of smoke testing program	See advice under action 14. Above.	

Regional Renewable Energy Innovation Project

Centroc and Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) have contributed funds to the scoping of regional renewable energy projects.

The Renewable Energy Innovation Project consists of the following stages:

- Workshop 1 – held in Orange on 13 November 2015
- Workshop 2 – held in Orange on 4 March 2016
- EOI application to ARENA
- ARENA application

Workshops 1 and 2 have now been run, with the final report on the findings from these workshops forming an attachment to this report. The report includes the suggested regional projects as identified through the workshops with Council staff.

A meeting was held with the working party on 15 August, where the proposed ARENA-funded project 'Localising Energy Transmission Transition' was defined and forms an attachment to this report.

The next steps in this project will be finalising the list of sites identified by councils that could potentially benefit from solar and battery storage, then seeking a meeting with ARENA prior to developing the Expression of Interest.

Centroc was approached by a consultant on the energy panel advising that OEH had funding that could be used for a scoping study of which sites would be best suited to solar and battery storage. Upon further investigation, what initially commenced as discussions for a fully funded project investigating the potential at 6 different types of sites (admin, WTP, STP, pump station, bore and streetlighting), turned out to be around 20% funding for a level 2 audit of solar and battery storage at 2 sites from OEH with Centroc and member councils having to pay the difference. This project has been put on hold until further funding can be found.

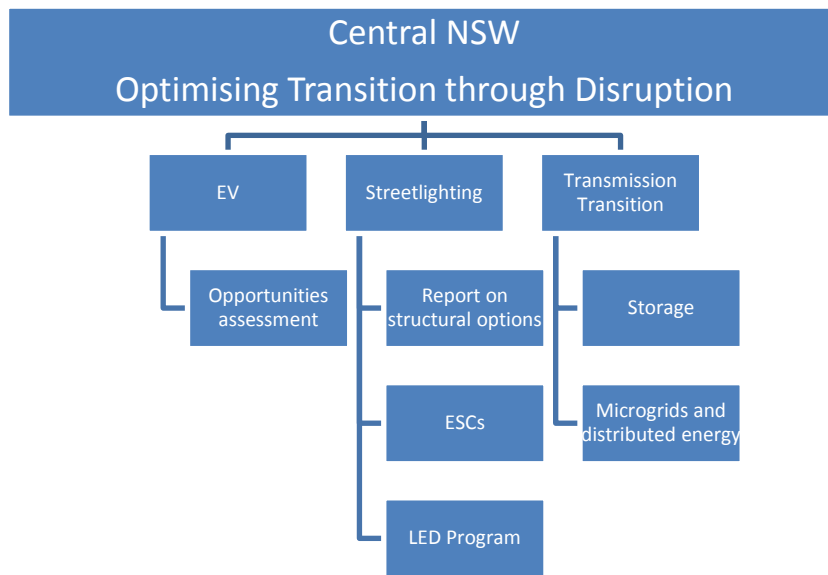
An excerpt from the Renewable Energy Innovation Project final report is as follows:

“Recognising the likelihood of energy disruption in the next decade, Centroc members proposed a range of sustainable energy project opportunities that were either under active consideration in their municipalities, or that were considered as opportunities for development locally or across the region. This program would inform a region wide conversation around opportunities optimisation for outcomes for communities during a period of energy disruption.

Under the broad ranging “banner” of optimising community outcomes through a period of energy disruption, themes were developed to provide a focus for potential sustainable energy deployment activity within the Centroc region.

The themes include:

- 1. Water pumping (solar and storage);*
- 2. Distributed solar and battery storage on public and private facilities including micro grids;*
- 3. Biomass based energy generation;*
- 4. Hydro power generation;*
- 5. A regional electric vehicle charging network;*
- 6. Public lighting replacement program; and*
- 7. Wind power with storage capacity.*



Proposed next steps for making progress with implementation with each of the themes were identified. In summary, the recommended next steps included:

- *Stakeholder engagement to progress, strengthen and prioritise projects related to each theme,*
- *Building Centroc stakeholders’ knowledge, networks and capacity to deliver projects in each theme area,*
- *Resource mapping and energy use profiling to allow for closer consideration of opportunities (particularly in relation to cost-benefit considerations and financing options), and*
- *Considerations for undertaking a regional approach and for clarifying the benefits of collaborative action.*

Work has commenced on themes 1, 5 and 6 which appeared to be the most desirable projects to councils who participated in the workshops.

Determination
That the CWUA consider interest in scoping a regional program for procurement of automated meter reading.

Recommendation/s
That the CWUA note the report on objective 1B.3a Deliver Cost Savings and other efficiencies;
1. Update the <i>Drinking Water Management System Status /Gap Analysis</i> Table as required; and
2. Review and update the Five Year Procurement Plan.

Attachments:

1. Centroc response to NHMRC consultation on Health Base Targets
2. Dubbo City Council –Investigation into Automated Meter Reading.

Program / Activity	1 July 2013-30 June 2014	1 July 2014-30 June 2015	1 July 2015-30 June 2016	1 July 2016-30 June 2017	1 July 2017-30 June 2018	FUTURE
Drought	Review Regional Drought Plan recommendations Develop implementation plan. Reviewed for Management Plan 2014-2016	Scope review				Deliver review *Subject to regional water planning as part of DPI functional review; and review of CWUA Management Plan delayed due to LG reform
Demand	Review Regional Demand Plan recommendations. Develop implementation plan. Reviewed for Management Plan 2014-2016	Scope review *Regional Plan including individual councils as appendices				Deliver review → * see above
IWCM	Reviewed scope and delivery of IWCM strategy development for members at March 2014 meeting. Agreed not to proceed.					
Strategic Business Planning	Deliver SBPs including Regional Plan.	Contract completed March 2015 with delivery of Regional SBP		Scope review	Deliver review	
Developer Servicing Plans		Tender completed – Feb 2015. Contract commenced 1 May 2015- 18 months with options for two x 6 month extensions	Deliver DSPs			
Drinking Water System Management Plans	Plans developed	Lodged Sept 2014 Monitoring & reporting on implementation progress developed and actioned.	Regional improvement plan implemented → * Subject to Workshop & Data analysis project- underway			
Asset Valuations			Tender for regional methodology and valuation of complex assets let June 2016	Contract to commence 1 September	Delivery by March 2017 For 30 June 2017 audit.	
CCTV	Deliver Year 2 of 3 year contract	Commence contract review October. Deliver Year 3 (up to April).RFT/RFQ up March 2015.	New Contract commences 1 July. Year 1 delivery of 3 year contract	Year 2 delivery of 3 year contract. Commence contract review October. Implement new	Deliver year 1 of 3 year contract	

				contract (from May)		
Smoke testing	Deliver Year 2 of 3 year contract	Commence contract review October. Deliver Year 3 (up to April).RFT/RFQ up March 2015	New Contracts commence 1 July. Year 1 delivery of 3 year contract	Year 2 delivery of 3 year contract Commence contract review October. Implement new contract (from May)	Deliver year 1 of 2 year contract	
Pipe relining	Contract commenced 1 July	Deliver year 1 (to July 2015)	Deliver year 2 (to July 2016) *Deeds of Assignment signed with 8 Councils	Tender for new contract?		
Savewater! membership	Deliver year 1 of 2 year contract	Deliver year 2. Savewater ceases 31 March	Review of Demand Management program Underway			
Dam Management Safety/audit/surveillance	State Water Contract commenced -1 March 2014 for 5 years.	Deliver	Deliver	Deliver	Deliver –through to April 2019	
Water Loss Management	Scope regional plan (2013-early 2014). Pilot as part of CEEP2 with Parkes & Lithgow with a view to regional roll-out	WLM Toolkit completed and regional workshop held in March 2015.	Scope regional roll-out→	implement	implement	
Trade Waste Management Implementation/monitoring				Scope project 1. engage consultant to develop policies/templates. 2. Resource for inspections & reporting (shared?)	implement	
Backflow Prevention Management						
Regional Panel Contract						
Manhole Rehabilitation				Develop specs for contract to commence 1 October 2017.		
Mains Cleaning – pipe scouring/flushing		* referred to DWMWP to determine priority				
Water main			Scope → *Subject to asset val			

Condition assessment						
Hydrant Valve Maintenance * purchase of a trailer						
One-Off Performance Audit			Tender let-June 2016	Contract to commence 1 September 2016		

6b Workforce Training & Skills






Report by Meredith Macpherson dated 22/11/16


Section 1 Regional Sustainability

Objective 1B	Upgrade and ensure sustainability of transport and water infrastructure
Subject	Water Infrastructure Update
Sponsoring General Manager	Mr Kent Boyd

Management Action Plan 2014/2016

Deliver the CWUA Plan for 2014-2016 where its objectives are:

OBJECTIVE: 1B. 3B: To grow staff skills and ensure workforce are adequately trained for compliance based service delivery		
Action	Comment	Status
1. Develop an operators group who share advice and experience regarding on ground service delivery and receive advice from agencies regarding service delivery	The COG met on 15 November in Cowra and heard presentations from Calix on manhole protection and from Hygrade Water on specialty water main products by Hawle. <i>Following a drop in attendance at the last three meetings discussions are underway with the Chair and others on strategies to ensure this group remains engaged.</i>	
2. Regional Workforce Development Plan – five Councils (Jenny James Project)	Project completed.	
3. Regional mentoring plan (both formal and informal) roll out	A formal and informal trial of the regional mentoring plan has been undertaken through the CEEP2 – Water Loss Management project. Other opportunities for a formal trial are being sought. <i>A copy has been provided to the NSW Water Directorate for wider distribution.</i>	
4. Regional mentoring plan (both formal and informal) stage 2 implemented	Subject to completion of Action 3 above.	
5. Develop a regional apprenticeship “grow our own” program -subcommittee to scope a program to support a workforce in water utilities from HR and CWUA	Refer to matters in progress item 01-15-6b.1 As part of the ‘grow your own’ trainee program, a database has been developed, showing each Council’s trainee/cadet details with a view to utilising existing trained staff in member councils where the Council who had the trainee could not offer them a permanent job on completion of their traineeship. To date the database has not been utilised by any councils.	

<p>6. Deliver compliance based training to Centroc members</p>	<p>Delivered on an on-going basis.</p> <p>Training courses that have been requested by the water operators and supervisors that Centroc staff are working towards having delivered are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Activated Sludge & Biological Nutrient Reduction •Backflow Prevention & Awareness •Code of Practice – Fluoride <p>As reported previously, the AWA Certification Pilot for the National Framework has now concluded with a total of 12 operators being deemed “certified” under the program with a further two receiving a Recognition of Achievement as they each have at least one mandatory unit yet to complete.</p> <p>Centroc staff worked with Boorowa, Lithgow & Mid-Western to undertake a mapping exercise of their water operators to determine which units of competency from the water operations training package they would need to complete. The work for Mid-Western was completed in February with the other 2 councils yet to be finalised. At the last CWUA meeting Lachlan expressed interest in the project and work will commence for them in the coming weeks.</p> <p>Centroc applied for funding from State Training Services to deliver Code of Practice in Fluoride and successfully received 20 places in the training. It is proposed that this training will be delivered by Murray Thompson through TAFE North Coast and will complement the training that has already been delivered in the region.</p> <p><i>It remains very difficult to secure the numbers needed to run training for the CWUA with training requested currently being cancelled due to lack of interest.</i></p>	
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NWP National Water Training Package

The NWP National Water Training Package Business Case Discussion Paper is now available for review and feedback.

This Business Case Discussion Paper, developed on behalf of the Water Industry Reference Committee (IRC), contains information on the proposed review of the NWP50715 - Diploma of Water Industry Operations qualification. Please [click here](#) to view the Business Case Discussion Paper.

<p>Recommendation/s</p> <p>That the CWUA note the report on objective: 1b. 3b: grow staff skills and ensure workforce is adequately trained for compliance based service delivery.</p>
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6c Workforce Sustainability

Report by Meredith Macpherson dated 22/11/16


Section 1 Regional Sustainability

Objective 1B	Upgrade and ensure sustainability of transport and water infrastructure
Subject	Water Infrastructure Update
Sponsoring General Manager	Mr Kent Boyd

Management Action Plan 2014/2016

Deliver the CWUA Plan for 2014-2016 where its objectives are:

Objective: 1B. 3c: To support members in assuring sustainable workforce		
Action	Comment	status
1. Regional Workforce Plan delivered	<p>The development and delivery of a regional Workforce Plan is contingent on the completion of the workforce mapping currently underway.</p> <p><i>There is little interest in pursuing this within member Councils at this time.</i></p> <p>Refer Agenda item <i>6b Workforce Training & Skills</i> for report on stage 2 of the Workforce Development Project.</p> <p><i>LGNSW has completed work on Workforce Development Planning that will further assist Councils in this regard.</i></p>	
2. Regional Workforce Plan implemented.	Refer action 1.	
3. Individual workforce plans for member Councils collated and reviewed for regional opportunities	<p>Refer action 1.</p> <p><i>No progress has been made on this. Centroc Training Team's offer to assist still stands.</i></p>	
4. Opportunities from regional review of Individual workforce plans for member Councils implemented	Refer action 3.	
5. Develop a regional apprenticeship "grow our own" program	Refer action 1.	

6. Develop training courses appropriate to LWU in regional NSW	<i>See agenda item 6b. for an update on training being sourced for LWUs.</i>	
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Recommendation/s That the CWUA note the report on Objective: 1B. 3c: support members in assuring sustainable workforce.

6d. Local Government Management of LWU

Report by Meredith Macpherson dated 22/11/16

Section 1






Regional Sustainability


Objective 1B	Upgrade and ensure sustainability of transport and water infrastructure
Subject	Water Infrastructure Update
Sponsoring General Manager	Mr Kent Boyd

Management Action Plan 2014/2016

Deliver the CWUA Plan for 2014-2016 where its objectives are:


Objective: 1B. 3d: Promote Local Government as the agencies of choice delivering water utilities management in regional NSW and further afield



Action	Comment	Status
1. Key messages developed	An updated Advocacy Plan for Water was adopted at the February 2016 Board meeting. It is iterative and member's feedback is welcome. Please request a copy if required.	
2. Media releases for member use	On an as needed basis. See Advocacy Plan	
3. Submissions developed as requested from State and Federal agencies Attendance at hearings Journal articles and presentations or papers at conferences	On an as needed basis. <u>Recent submissions:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Response to NHMRC consultation on implementation of Health Based Targets in the ADWG Framework</i> <u>Presentations:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>CWUA Chair provided a presentation at the IPWEA State Conference on the water loss management Toolkit- Oct 2016.</i> • <i>An abstract to present at the OZWater Conference in May 2017 has been accepted. Copy is provided as an attachment.</i> 	
4. Advice provided to the Board for advocacy purposes	Refer to Action 1. <i>See below advice provided to the November 2016 Meeting of the Centroc Board relating to Advocacy, Inter-governmental collaboration and Regional Strategic Planning.</i>	
5. Advertising campaign through Save Water Alliance program	Save Water Alliance ceased operations as at 31 March. <i>Refer Matters in Progress</i> <i>Work underway to participate in a campaign through Smart WaterMark.</i>	
	Refer to Action 3	







6. Advocacy by Centroc Executive	For further advice on Advocacy by the Centroc Executive see Water Infrastructure Report to the August 2016 Board Meeting below.	
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Water Infrastructure Report to the Board Meeting –November 2016

In the context of the Centroc Management Plan priorities for water infrastructure the following advice was provided to the November meeting of the Centroc Board and is provided for information.

Actions	Comments	
<p>1. Advocacy</p> <p>a. Lobby for funding for water supply security.</p>	<p>a. Refer to Advocacy Plan for Water endorsed at the February Board meeting.</p> <p>Centroc continues to lobby for alignment of the region’s water security infrastructure priorities with State and Federal Government priorities including the potential dam on the Belubula and various pipeline projects.</p> <p>Advocacy to ensure that Centroc is consulted on feasibility studies and decisions on a new storage for the region is on-going. Progress is slow.</p> <p><u>Status of the Belubula and Lachlan Water Security Investigations</u></p> <p>A Media Release issued by the NSW Nationals on 23 August confirmed that WaterNSW is calling tenders for a strategic partner to assist with the Lachlan Valley Priority Catchment Water Security Investigations with four companies shortlisted.</p> <p>Investigations will involve feasibility studies and cost-benefit analysis to better calculate the water needs of the Lachlan region and identify how a new dam could be used with other options to meet the water security needs of the region.</p> <p>Potential social, economic and environmental impacts and other complementary options and benefits such as flood mitigation will be explored.</p> <p>Phase two investigations are expected to take two years.</p> <p>WaterNSW will indicate likely timeframes and potential opportunities for stakeholder involvement once the strategic partner is confirmed.</p> <p>In the meantime questions can be emailed to: Belubulastudy@waternsw.com.au Information and updates will also be made available on the project webpage http://www.waternsw.com.au/projects/belubula as they come to hand.</p> <p>A meeting has been convened for 17 November between the Chair and Deputy Chair, Centroc and representatives from the Belubula Landholders Association and Lachlan Valley Water to re-affirm and update the joint communique issued in November 2014 to support advocacy. A verbal update will be provided.</p> <p><u>Computer modelling of the region’s water supply and demand</u></p> <p>As previously reported, advice from WaterNSW is that work on refining a computer model to accurately assess the hydrology of the Lachlan Valley is progressing.</p>	

Actions	Comments	
	<p>Refer to 1b for advice regarding the latest request for funding to review the CWSS.</p> <p>Advocacy continues with DPI Water seeking alignment of regional water planning with Local Government in this region consulted and actively engaged at decision making level. See outgoing correspondence to Mr Gavin Hanlon and report below on the release in October of the <i>Delivering Water Resource Plans for New South Wales Roadmap 2016-2019</i> found on the DPI Water website.</p>	
<p>1 Advocacy b. Seek funding and develop programming for the outcomes of the Centroc Water Security Study.</p>	<p>Refer to 1a and 1c.</p> <p>At a meeting 10 May, Minister Blair requested correspondence from Centroc seeking funding for a review of the Centroc Water Security Study.</p> <p>In subsequent correspondence Centroc offered to work with the State Government jointly to deliver an updated water security study gifted to the State as a pilot for other regions.</p> <p>See incoming correspondence from the Minister on 19 September advising that there is no funding available and referring discussion to Mr Peter Ledwos, Regional Manager, Water regulation. Follow up is underway in light of the recently released <i>Roadmap</i>- see report below.</p> <p><u>Central Tablelands Regional Water Security Advisory Committee</u> At the November 2015 meeting the Board endorsed the Chair to represent Centroc on the Central Tablelands Regional Water Security Advisory Committee, a consultative and advisory forum for the delivery of water security projects by Orange City Council, Central Tablelands Water and Cabonne Council with funding from Restart NSW.</p> <p>Meeting no. 6 of this committee scheduled for 9 September was postponed.</p> <p>See outgoing correspondence for the letter of support provided to Central Tablelands Water for their application to Infrastructure NSW for the unfunded section of this project being the pipeline connection from Blayney to Carcoar.</p> <p>This project is identified as a Priority Regional Water Infrastructure project in the Water Infrastructure Matrix.</p>	
<p>1. Advocacy c. Proffer the Water Infrastructure identified in the Priority Infrastructure Multi Criteria Analysis matrix developed in collaboration with Central West RDA.</p>	<p>Refer to 1a. and 1b.</p> <p>Opportunities to promote water security Infrastructure priorities as identified in the infrastructure matrix are sought on an on-going basis.</p> <p>A paper on Prioritisation of Regional Water Security Infrastructure was well received at the LGNSW Water Management Conference in Broken Hill 28-30 August.</p> <p>The CWUA is looking at opportunities to optimise work being done on Drinking Water Management Systems across the region to identify regional priorities for the upgrade of Water Treatment Plants. Further advice will be provided as this work evolves. See</p>	

Actions	Comments	
	<p>report on Analysis and Benchmarking of Regional Drinking Water Quality Data.</p> <p>A quote has been sought from MWH to review the Matrix Plan for the water tranche with the CWUA. Advice is also being sought on specific issues including quantifying avoided costs.</p> <p>See 1d. for advice on promotion of the Infrastructure Prioritisation matrix.</p>	
<p>1. Advocacy d. Promote Local Government as the agency of choice delivering water utilities management in regional NSW and further afield.</p>	<p>1d. On an as needed basis.</p> <p>Opportunities to present papers at conferences to raise awareness of LG management of LWUs through the Alliance model are sought on an ongoing basis.</p> <p>The presentation to the LG NSW Water Management Conference in Broken Hill in August resulted in an invitation for the CWUA Program Manager to meet with representatives in Queensland of the QLD Water Regional Alliance Program. This will be pursued in 2017.</p> <p>The CWUA was invited to present to the IPWEA NSW Conference, 28 October, on its Water Loss Management Toolkit.</p>	
<p>1. Advocacy e. Advocate to ensure water and sewer infrastructure management and ownership is retained by Local Government.</p>	<p>1e. On an as needed basis.</p> <p>In line with the resolution at the 2016 National General Assembly that international research on the municipalisation of water and sanitation services over the past 15 years is recognised in advocacy, an abstract has been submitted for a paper to the AWA OzWater Conference in May 2017 promoting LG management and ownership of LWUs. A copy of the abstract submitted is provided as an attachment.</p>	
<p>1. Advocacy f. Promote Local Government as the agency of choice delivering quality water.</p>	<p>1f. On an as needed basis. See Advocacy Plan for Water. Refer 1d and 1e.</p>	
<p>1. Advocacy g. Respond to Murray Darling Basin Authority Plan impacts and programs.</p>	<p>1g. On-going as needed.</p> <p>Refer to Matters in Progress and outgoing correspondence to DPI Water, Deputy DG, Mr Gavin Hanlon seeking targeted stakeholder consultation with LG on the development of Water Resource Plans.</p> <p>See report below on <i>Delivering Water Resource Plans for New South Wales Roadmap 2016-2019</i>.</p>	
<p>1. Advocacy h. Provide advice on the options for the delivery of water utility services on a co-operative regional basis through a “Regional Water Alliance”.</p>	<p>1h. On-going.</p>	
<p>2. Inter-governmental relations a. Develop a MoU with the NSW Office of Water to enable collaboration on agreed priorities including: I. Compliance with Best Practice framework and regulatory requirements; II. Reducing cost and compliance burden;</p>	<p>2a. Given the extensive change to DPI Water from a functional review currently underway, the Board resolved in February 2016, that the Management Plan be amended to remove item 1B 2a. and that a watching brief be maintained to determine an appropriate strategic approach.</p> <p>Advice from meetings with DPI Water Executive Team, 10 May and</p>	

Actions	Comments	
<p>III. Alignment with Council’s IP and R processes.</p>	<p>Minister Blair, 11 May was that an issues paper on the DPI Functional Review would be released shortly for stakeholder consultation. To date there is no sign of an issues paper.</p> <p>See outgoing correspondence to Ms Alison Morgan, DPC seeking advice on progress on the issues paper. An email response received from Ms Morgan, 25 October confirms correspondence has been forwarded to DPI Water who will provide a formal response to Centroc.</p> <p>In the interim, advice from Mr Frank Garofalow Director Water regulation is that the current framework needs to be “optimised”. Verbal advice to the LG NSW Water Management Conference is that consultation with industry on reform of the regulatory framework will be undertaken through the NSW Water Directorate.</p> <p>A copy of the Advocacy Plan for Water has been provided to Water Directorate members from this region and the CWUA Program Manager has accepted an invitation to attend the Water Directorate’s Strategic Planning session on 10 November.</p> <p>More recently, verbal advice from Mr Dillip Dutta, Manager Utility Planning at DPI Water on 17 October is that targeted consultation will be undertaken in early 2017 on the reform of the regulatory framework.</p>	
<p>2. Inter-governmental relations b. Develop a MoU with the Department of Health to enable collaboration on agreed priorities including: I. Drinking water management systems;</p>	<p>2a. See update at Matters in Progress.</p> <p>A meeting was held with Dr Therese Jones on 26 July to follow up on development of the MOU. NSW Health is reviewing the current draft. An email was sent on 16 August seeking a progress update and again on 20 and 22 September. A follow up meeting was held with Mr Scott McLachlan on 23 September.</p> <p>At the time of writing there has been no response.</p> <p>Work is underway to procure a suitably qualified consultant to run a workshop with representatives from the CWUA and NSW Health. Applying a strategic risk based approach the aim is to develop a shared understanding and alignment of communication in the compliance framework particularly in relation to issues such as boil water alerts where community confidence can be impacted.</p>	
<p>3. Regional Strategic Planning a. Engage with key agencies on the fit with Central NSW Council programming and priorities and varying agency plans. I. Are there plans for this region? II. The fit with Council programming III. Opportunities for the JO in this space IV. Scope programming in water management practices – long term – including irrigation. Environmental issues and government service provision issues to be assessed.</p>	<p>3a. Opportunities to collaborate on alignment of programming, priorities and plans with various state agencies is on-going and continues to be challenging.</p>	

Recommendation/s

That the CWUA note the report on Objective: 1B. 3d: Promote Local Government as the agencies of choice delivering water utilities management in regional NSW and further afield.

Attachments:

3. OZWater 2017 Conference Abstract




6e. Water Utilities Management

Report by Meredith Macpherson dated 22/11/16

Section 1	Regional Sustainability
Objective 1B	Upgrade and ensure sustainability of transport and water infrastructure
Subject	Water Infrastructure Update
Sponsoring General Manager	Mr Kent Boyd


Management Action Plan 2014/2016





Deliver the CWUA Plan for 2014-2016 where its objectives are:




OBJECTIVE: 1B. 3E: Advise the Centroc Board regarding Water Utilities Management		
Action	Comment	Status
1. Technical Committee to provide advice as requested from the Board and at each meeting as an agenda item.	Advice provided on an on-going basis. <i>See operational advice provided in the Water Infrastructure Report to the November Board Meeting below.</i>	
2. Desk top review of "what's out there" regarding groundwater sources, their quality and security.	Refer to Matters in Progress 01-15-6e- 1.	
3. Review of water allocations with a view to advocacy support for the area.	As above. Conduct a desktop review of who holds what water allocations across the region using Drought Management Plans as a guide. Confirmed at CWUA meeting January 2015 as not a high priority. <i>See below report on Delivering Water Resource Plans for NSW.</i>	



Water Infrastructure Report to the Board Meeting –November 2016

The following advice was provided to the November meeting of the Centroc Board pertaining to Operational support to members for the management of LWUs.

<p>4. Operational Support Deliver the CWUA Plan for 2014/2016 where its objectives are:</p>	<p>At a meeting of CWUA Executive in June 2016 it was resolved that in consideration of the LG reform process the period of the CWUA Management Plan be extended and that any issues be dealt with on a meeting by meeting basis.</p> <p>In line with the CWUA Business Plan 2014-2016 work is progressing on actions against each of the objectives listed.</p> <p>Highlights are as follows:</p>	
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<p>4. Operational Support a. Deliver cost savings and other efficiencies;</p>	<p>Cost savings and efficiencies achieved through regional procurement of the following contracts:</p> <p><u>Asset Management</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dam surveillance - Pipe relining - CCTV Condition Assessment of Gravity Sewer Mains - Smoke Testing - Asset Valuation Services <p><u>Best Practice Compliance</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Developer Servicing Plans - Auditing of Performance Reporting for Water Supply and Sewerage <p>Refer 4f. for advice on progress to achieving Best Practice Compliance and Audit of Performance Reporting for Water Supply and Sewerage.</p> <p>See Agenda item- <i>Procurement and Contract Report</i> for analysis of cost savings from regional procurement by the CWUA.</p>	
<p>4. Operational Support b. Grow staff skills and ensure workforce are adequately trained for compliance based service delivery;</p>	<p>With a strategic focus on ensuring Water Treatment Operators are trained in compliance based service delivery, the Centroc training team continues to deliver training at the request of members in an extremely challenging environment.</p> <p>See Agenda item- <i>Training and HR Managers Group Report</i> for a full report on training coordinated for the CWUA.</p> <p><i>NOTE:</i> Centroc has received a request from NSW Water Directorate to provide a range of support in training for water operators to other councils across NSW. The proposal is currently with the Executive and will be progressed under their auspices.</p>	
<p>4. Operational Support c. Support members in assuring sustainable workforce;</p>	<p>Demonstrating a workforce trained in compliance based service delivery, particularly where the supply of quality drinking water is involved, is a key to any advocacy promoting Local Government as the agency of choice delivering water and sewer.</p> <p>As previously reported the Centroc training team’s offer to assist member Councils to complete in-house mapping of Water Operators to identify training needed for them to be certified under the National Certification Framework still stands.</p> <p>It continues to be difficult to get traction on this in the current climate.</p> <p>At its September meeting the CWUA resolved to seek a combined CWUA- Training and HR Managers Group meeting to progress.</p> <p>See Agenda item- <i>Training and HR Managers Group Report</i></p>	
<p>4. Operational Support d. Promote Local Government as the agency of choice delivering water utilities management in regional NSW and further afield;</p>	<p>Currently being undertaken on an ad hoc basis. Refer to 1d.</p>	

<p>4. Operational Support e. Advise the Centroc Board regarding Water Utilities Management;</p>	<p>Advice provided on an ad hoc basis.</p>	
<p>4. Operational Support f. Achieve full compliance with Best Practice requirements;</p>	<p>All CWUA Member councils have completed Demand, Drought, IWCM Evaluation Studies (and in some cases full plans) and Strategic Business Plans with work currently underway on Developer Servicing Plans. Some members are now working on new and revised IWCMs in line with the revised DPI Water Guidelines to meet funding requirements.</p> <p>Strategic advice is being sought from the CWUA Executive with regard to maintaining the currency of Best Practice reporting given the difficulties of working with DPI Water during their reform process.</p> <p>Refer to 2a. for advice regarding advocacy on streamlining the compliance burden.</p> <p><u>Independent Audit of Performance Monitoring Data</u></p> <p>Bowden Sloan & Associates were awarded a contract to complete an independent audit of performance monitoring data for 11 member Councils. The term of the contract is 1 September 2016 to 30 June 2017 with mandatory audits of Bathurst and Orange already completed to meet DPI Water’s 7 October deadline. On-site visits for the remaining 9 Councils are currently underway. This is part of a broader strategy to ensure availability and integrity of data.</p> <p><u>Regional Response to Drinking Water Management Systems</u></p> <p>In line with the resolution from the January 2015 CWUA meeting, a Drinking Water Management System Status/Gap Analysis table is used as a communication tool for GMAC, the Board, regulators and stakeholders and is part of the CWUAs commitment to Drinking Water Quality Management. A copy is provided as an attachment.</p> <p>The CWUA provided administrative and financial support to NSW Health in running a workshop in the region on 19 August. Attended by 20 water utility managers and operators, the workshop focussed on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - drinking water quality incident management and response; - practical implementation of drinking water management systems; <p>and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - tools available to help utilities monitor and review their water quality. <p>See report on Benchmarking and Analysis of Drinking Water Quality Data and on Consultation on Health Based Targets for Drinking Water.</p>	
<p>4. Operational Support g. Implement Regional Best Practice strategies;</p>	<p>Regional Best Practice strategies are implemented as per direction from regional plans.</p> <p>Regional Plans were reviewed as part of the two yearly review of the CWUA Business Plan in October 2013 and priorities from these incorporated in the Business Plan.</p> <p>In consideration of the reform of LG, regional operational priorities</p>	

	<p>together with the 5 Year Procurement Plan were reviewed at the November 2015 CWUA meeting and will guide strategies pending review of the CWUA Business Plan in 2017.</p>	
<p>4. Operational Support h. Support Councils as they manage their water utilities’ assets; and</p>	<p>Progress is underway on the following actions to meet this objective as identified in the CWUA Business Plan:</p> <p><u>Asset Valuation</u> A meeting of the CWUA’s Asset Valuation Working Group comprising Engineers and Finance staff from 5 councils was held on 30 March. While the original aim was to develop a regional methodology and guidance for in-house asset valuation for water and sewer assets, at the April CWUA Meeting it was resolved that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The CWUA undertake a regional procure of asset valuation services for water and sewer, specifically Sewerage Treatment Plants, Water Filtration Plants and Dams, and that this be undertaken in two stages as follows: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Phase 1 Methodology to undertake Asset Valuation to include a milestone for the methodology to approved by the CWUA in consultation with the auditor; and b. Phase 2 Asset Valuation to include Site Inspections. <p>Tenders were assessed on 13 July and Australis Asset Advisory Group subsequently contracted for the period 1 September 2016 to 30 June 2017 with work already under way across the region.</p> <p>The Working Group will monitor the progress of members in meeting audit requirements providing mentoring and support where needed.</p> <p>The CWUA reviewed its Five Year Procurement Plan at its November 2015 meeting and agreed the following priorities for Asset Management for 2016-2017:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Asset valuation (underway) 2. Water main condition assessment 3. Trade Waste 4. Mains cleaning 5. Manhole rehabilitation <p>Further review will be undertaken at the December CWUA meeting.</p> <p><u>Centroc Operators Group</u> The next meeting of the COG is scheduled for 15 November in Cowra and will focus on reticulation.</p>	
<p>4. Operational Support i. Promote the CWUA as an example of Councils working collaboratively.</p>	<p>Currently being undertaken on an adhoc basis. Refer to 1d.</p>	

Delivering Water Resource Plans for New South Wales

On 1 July 2016, DPI Water announced the commencement of 28 new, replacement and amalgamated water sharing plans across NSW.

The Water Sharing Plans for the Lachlan Regulated River, Macquarie and Cudgegong Regulated Rivers Water Sources commenced in 2004 and were replaced on 1 July 2016. Due to the minor nature of changes to the replacement plan and associated minimal impact, there was no formal public consultation process undertaken.

Implementation of the Basin Plan will occur during the life of these plans. It is anticipated that this will require some changes to these replacement Water Sharing Plans.

Based on advice on the DPI water website that Stakeholder Advisory Panels have already been established in the Lachlan, Gwydir and Macquarie surface water areas for water resource planning, the Board resolved to write to DPI Water seeking a targeted stakeholder session with Centroc on review of the Lachlan Water Sharing Plan.

<http://www.water.nsw.gov.au/water-management/water-sharing/plans-review#meet>

NSW Water Resource Plan Roadmap 2016-2019

Since the Board's resolve to seek a targeted stakeholder session, a new document has appeared on the DPI Water website titled *Delivering Water Resource Plans for New South Wales Roadmap 2016-2019 - October 2016*.

The Roadmap aims to help water users understand how Water Resource Plans will be developed, outlining the processes, key timelines and principles for the creation of the plans. DPI Water has also committed to provide monthly progress reports against this Roadmap on how the Department is tracking against key timelines.

Water Resource Plans will set out arrangements to share water for consumptive use. They will also establish rules to meet environmental and water quality objectives and will take into account potential and emerging risks to water resources.

The plans will be tailored to each area's individual make up, while being consistent with the Basin Plan. However, the new Water Resource Plans must:

- set out held environmental water and planned environmental water including the rules and arrangements associated with the water
- provide for the Basin-wide environmental watering strategy
- set out how much water can be taken annually for consumptive use in a way that meets the long-term sustainable diversion limit (SDL), including the rules around the consumption of this water
- include a plan to manage water quality standards
- set out the circumstances when trade within and between groundwater SDL units, and trade from groundwater to surface water SDL units is allowed
- outline how water will be managed during extreme events
- show how Aboriginal values and uses have been considered
- set out how interception activities including run off dams, commercial plantations, mining activities and floodplain harvesting will be managed and monitored. This needs to include any actions that can be taken to remedy any issues
- outline the risks to the resource and strategies to address them.

The *Roadmap* outlines the NSW Government's key principles for water resource plans in line with the Intergovernmental Agreement on Implementing Water Reform in the Murray –Darling Basin, the National Water Initiative and the Water Management Act 2000 the foundational principles of which include that:

- WRPs will be based on extensive consultation with stakeholders and the community
- WRPs will balance social, economic and environmental needs of the community and catchments.
- Stakeholder Advisory Panels will guide the development of the surface water WRPs.

Of concern is that the Roadmap states that work with Stakeholder Advisory Panels for the Lachlan and Macquarie surface areas commenced in July 2016 and is scheduled for completion at the end of October.

To view the Roadmap: <http://www.water.nsw.gov.au/water-management/water-resource-plans>

The Murray-Darling Basin Authority has openly acknowledged that the biggest issue encountered in Basin Planning previously was the lack of engagement with stakeholders representing urban water and the balance with economic and environmental needs.

As the NSW Government Roadmap proposes *a triple –bottom-line approach to the Murray Darling Basin Plan which puts local communities first* – Centroc has written to the Deputy DG Gavin Hanlon asking how DPI Water plan to engage with communities in our region and to offer support in ensuring an appropriate balance of social-economic and environmental water needs that has broad based acceptance.

Centroc is concerned to ensure engagement with DPI Water in any discussions with regard to water resource planning as it impacts on the Central NSW region. To date there is no evidence of engagement with LG in this region on the development of Water Resource Plans.

See outgoing correspondence to Mr Gavin Hanlon, Deputy Director General, DPI Water.

STOP PRESS:

The NSW Government has agreed to develop water resource plans as part of implementing the Murray-Darling Basin Plan 2012 (the Basin Plan). The *Macquarie-Castlereagh Water Resource Plan (surface water)* and *Lachlan Water Resource Plan (surface water)* are currently being developed and cover all surface water in the Macquarie-Castlereagh and Lachlan valleys. Status and Issues papers have been released for comment by 11 January.

It's really important that members review these as they could have significant impact on urban water security in your LGA particularly as they include issues/comments such as:

Changing resource assessment assumptions

Change the minimum inflow sequence to a less conservative percentile 99th to 98th

This proposal is aimed at improving water availability for general security water users. The Lachlan hydrological model uses the minimum inflow sequence to ensure that the storage doesn't run dry for the period of record.

The result of using a less conservative MIS may be an increase in water availability but in very dry times the storage may run out of water earlier.

<http://www.water.nsw.gov.au/water-management/water-resource-plans/lachlan-wsp>

<http://www.water.nsw.gov.au/water-management/water-resource-plans/macq-cast-wsp>

Copies of the status and issues papers, together with other supporting information can be obtained from the DPI Water website – www.water.nsw.gov.au



Media Release

23 November 2016

NSW water resource planning consultation kicks off in the Lachlan and Macquarie-Castlereagh catchments

Water users and the broader communities in both the Lachlan and Macquarie-Castlereagh catchments are invited to comment on the *Status and Issues Paper (surface water)* for their respective catchment, prepared as part of the development of the region's surface water resource plan.

Department of Primary Industries Water, Director Water Planning & Policy, Alison Kirk, said 22 water resource plans will be developed for surface and groundwater in the NSW Murray-Darling Basin regions by 2019 - a key requirement of the Commonwealth Basin Plan.

"Today we start the consultation process in both the Lachlan and Macquarie-Castlereagh catchments with the release of the *Status and Issues Paper* for surface water resources," said Ms Kirk.

"The first step in developing each region's water resource plan is identifying the status of water resources in the area. That includes identifying issues around water availability, access and sustainability, as well as looking at existing planning mechanisms."

Ms Kirk said NSW has set strict principles guiding the development of water resource plans.

"The plans must balance social, economic, cultural and environmental needs of the local communities without restricting availability of water to licence holders.

"Stakeholder feedback is critical to delivering on those principles and meeting the needs of local water users."

Ms Kirk continued, saying the establishment of Stakeholder Advisory Panels for each of the plan areas was vital for widespread and meaningful stakeholder and community engagement.

"Regional water planners will also conduct targeted consultation with affected stakeholders, while water users are able to contact their local water planner if desired.

"During the development of water resource plans, our door is always open to stakeholders.

"I strongly encourage all interested stakeholders to review the *Status and Issues Paper* for their respective catchment and give feedback.

"This will ensure that the final water resource plan deals with local issues in a balanced and practical way," Ms Kirk said.

Copies of the status and issues papers, together with other supporting information can be obtained from the DPI Water website – www.water.nsw.gov.au

The exhibition period is open until Wednesday 11 January 2016. Written submissions must be received by that date.

Recommendation/s

That the CWUA note the report on objective: 1b. 3e: Advise the Centroc Board regarding Water Utilities Management.







6f. Best Practice Compliance






Report by Meredith Macpherson dated 22/11/16

Section 1	Regional Sustainability
Objective 1B	Upgrade and ensure sustainability of transport and water infrastructure
Subject	Water Infrastructure Update
Sponsoring General Manager	Mr Kent Boyd

Management Action Plan 2014/2016

Deliver the CWUA Plan for 2014-2016 where its objectives are:

OBJECTIVE: 1B. 3F: Full compliance with Best Practice requirements		
Action	Comment	Status
1. Regional IWCM, Demand Management and Drought Management ongoing review	Regional Plans reviewed as part of two yearly review of CWUA Business Plan -October 2013. To be reviewed in line with the next scheduled CWUA Business Plan review.	
2. All members have drinking water management plans	Refer to report to this meeting under Agenda item 6a <i>Cost Savings & Efficiencies</i> - action 5 including Drinking Water Management System Status /Gap Analysis table distributed for update prior to the meeting.	
3. All members are compliant with trade waste	Refer to Five Year Procurement Plan with further scoping of a regional trade waste project to be undertaken. Refer to Matters in Progress item 11.15 a & b.	
4. All members are compliant with NOW pricing policy (Note – Centroc policy is to change the 75:25 best Practice Pricing Guidelines)	Refer to Advocacy Plan where this is included as an issue for advocacy with DPI Water and the State Government. Further advice provided in the Regional Strategic Business Plan which makes recommendations regarding 75:25 rule.	
5. Performance reporting is on time, quality and standardised across the region – review progress.	Refer to Matters in Progress item 0-16-6f and item 11 below.	
6. Regional Business Plans developed	Strategic Business Plans have been completed for all 13 Councils engaged in the NSW Public Works contract. The Regional Strategic Business Plan was adopted by the Centroc Board at its May 2015.	
7. Stage 2 IWCM scoped	<i>Member's interest in regional procurement of stage 2 IWCMs has been canvassed at past CWUA meetings</i>	

	<p><i>(Jan 2014) and more recently via email.</i></p> <p><i>Feedback has been that the best results have been achieved when appointing an internal Project Manager to coordinate the IWCM, whether that is a contractor or new/existing staff member it has to be resourced if a turn-around of less than 8 months is the target.</i></p> <p><i>A jointly procured consultant could then provide the specific technical and modelling advice and pull the final document together. The brief for a regional exercise needs to be framed with this approach. An indicative budget for full IWCM process is about \$200k at this stage.</i></p> <p><i>Discussion and consideration of the approach to take on IWCM development in the current climate is encouraged.</i></p>	
<p>8. Regional DSP program including councillors</p>	<p><i>Slow progress is being made on the completion of DSPs under a contract with Water Oz.</i></p> <p><i>Centroc is currently seeking to procure the services of an independent auditor required under the recently issued DPI Water Guidelines for the development of DSPs after 1 July 2016.</i></p> <p><i>Copies of the DSP Project Progress Report is provided as an attachment.</i></p>	
<p>9. Supporting Councils with Section 60 Approvals</p>	<p>Support provided by Centroc as required.</p>	
<p>10. Regional review of customer categories and alignment with NOW direction/versus Council systems</p>	<p>See item 5 above.</p>	
<p>11. Independent Audits of NOW Performance Indicators for all CWUA member Councils</p>	<p>See item 5 above.</p> <p><i>Bowden Sloan & Associates were awarded the contract to complete independent audits of performance monitoring data commencing from 1 September.</i></p> <p><i>A Project Inception webex was held on 6 September Mandatory audits have been completed for Orange and Bathurst with audits for other members currently underway.</i></p>	

Best Practice Plan Status

Please provide advice regarding status.

Key:

Approved
DPI Water needs to act
Council needs to act
Consultants needs to act

IWCM Plans		
Status	Council	Comment
Approved	Bathurst, CTW (Blayney, Cabonne, Weddin), Forbes, Upper Lachlan, Young, Parkes	Agreement reached by CTW with DPI water regarding qualifications around approval.
DPI Water needs to act	Cowra, Oberon	
Council needs to act	Mid Western , Orange	Lithgow and Boorowa in discussion with DPI Water regarding qualifications around approval.
Consultants needs to act	Lachlan* ?, Boorowa, Lithgow	Funding through DPI Water to PWs

Strategic Business Plans		
Status	Council	Comment
Approved		
DPI Water needs to act	Plans lodged for Young, Lachlan, Oberon, Weddin, Cabonne, Orange, Parkes, Blayney, Forbes, Boorowa, Upper Lachlan, Cowra, Lithgow	
Council needs to act		
Consultants needs to act		

Recommendation/s
That the CWUA note the report on OBJECTIVE: 1B. 3F: Full compliance with Best Practice requirements and provide updates to status tables as required.

Attachment:

4. DSP Project Progress Report


6g. Regional Best Practice Strategies

Report by Meredith Macpherson dated 22/11/16

Section 1	Regional Sustainability
Objective 1B	Upgrade and ensure sustainability of transport and water infrastructure
Subject	Water Infrastructure Update
Sponsoring General Manager	Mr Kent Boyd

Management Action Plan 2014/2016

Deliver the CWUA Plan for 2014-2016 where its objectives are:

OBJECTIVE: 1B. 3F: Implement regional best practice strategies		
Action	Comment	Status
1. As per direction from regional plans	Refer Agenda item 6f. Best Practice Compliance-action 1. Regional Plans were reviewed as part of the two yearly review of the CWUA Business Plan in October 2013 and priorities from these for the next three years identified and incorporated in the Business Plan.	
2. Implementation of Demand Management across the CWUA region	Refer to Agenda item 6a Cost Savings & Efficiencies-action 11. <i>See advice in matters in progress regarding trial of a Regional Water Conservation and Demand Management program through Smart Approved WaterMark who has acquired the extensive digital resources of Savewater.</i>	

Recommendation/s
That the CWUA note the report on OBJECTIVE: 1B. 3F: Implement regional best practice strategies.


6h. Support for LWU Management





Report by Meredith Macpherson dated 22/11/16

Section 1	Regional Sustainability
Objective 1B	Upgrade and ensure sustainability of transport and water infrastructure
Subject	Water Infrastructure Update
Sponsoring General Manager	Mr Kent Boyd

Management Action Plan 2014/2016

Deliver the CWUA Plan for 2014-2016 where its objectives are:

OBJECTIVE: 1B. 3H: To support Councils as they manage their Local Water Utilities assets		
Action	Comment	Status
1. Asset valuation process developing a regional in-house methodology with support from the auditor and Directors of Corporate Services	<p>Refer to Matter in Progress 11.15c</p> <p>As resolved at the February CWUA meeting, an Asset Valuation Working Party including Engineers and Finance representatives met in Orange on 30 March to scope a regional in-house methodology that can be used as guidance by members for the valuation of water and sewer assets due for completion on 30 June 2017.</p> <p>Following discussion at the April CWUA meeting it was resolved to undertake a regional procure of asset valuation services for water and sewer, specifically including Sewerage Treatment Plants, Water Filtration Plants and Dams, and that this be undertaken in two stages as follows:</p> <p>a. Phase 1 Methodology to undertake Asset Valuation to include a milestone for the methodology to approved by the CWUA in consultation with the auditor; and</p> <p>b. Phase 2 Asset Valuation to include Site Inspections.</p> <p><i>Australis Asset Advisory Service was awarded the contract with a Project Inception Meeting held on 15 September. This resulted in a variation to include valuation of additional assets at a number of councils.</i></p> <p><i>This project is progressing well with site inspections now complete. The methodology has been delayed though expected within the next fortnight. A verbal update can be provided and minutes from Project Steering Committee meetings are provided as an attachment.</i></p>	
2. Councillor training - regional benchmarking	See matters in progress 01-15-6h 1.	

	This item is no longer required.	
3. Ensuring data integrity Gap analysis/audit of records	Refer to Matters in Progress 01-15-6f- Best Practice Compliance- item, 1.	
4. Water Loss Management	<p>Graphically designed and printed versions of the WLM Toolkit were sent to members through the NSW Water Directorate who provided funding assistance to enable the Toolkit to be distributed to its members across NSW.</p> <p>Consideration is being given to next steps for a regional roll-out including the potential for training and other support material.</p> <p><i>A presentation on the WLM Toolkit was provided at the IPWEA State Conference in October 2016.</i></p>	
5. Backflow Prevention	<p>Refer to Five Year Procurement Plan</p> <p><i>Training in Backflow Prevention is scheduled for December. See Training report at Agenda item 6b.</i></p>	

Recommendation/s
That the CWUA note the report on OBJECTIVE: 1B. 3H: To support Councils as they manage their Local Water Utilities assets.

Attachments:

- 4. Asset Valuation- Project Steering Committee WebEx Meeting Minutes



6i. Promotion of the CWUA

Report by Meredith Macpherson dated 22/11/16

Section 1	Regional Sustainability
Objective 1B	Upgrade and ensure sustainability of transport and water infrastructure
Subject	Water Infrastructure Update
Sponsoring General Manager	Mr Kent Boyd

Management Action Plan 2014/2016

Deliver the CWUA Plan for 2014-2016 where its objectives are:

OBJECTIVE: 1B. 3I To promote the CWUA as an example of Councils working collaboratively		
Action	Comment	Status
Develop a communication strategy	Currently being undertaken on an ad hoc basis. Refer to the Advocacy Plan and recent submissions to present at conferences. Please note that work is underway to update the Centroc Website for the CWUA and to investigate opportunities to provide a dedicated page for the Operators Group.	
Implement the communication strategy	As above.	

Recommendation/s
That the CWUA note the report on OBJECTIVE: 1B. 3I To promote the CWUA as an example of Councils working collaboratively.

7. Cold Call Surveys

These will be tabled at the meeting.

8. Contract Performance

As you would be aware, we normally seek feedback from members on each of the regional contracts at the quarterly meetings of the CWUA. This can be quite a tedious process at meetings and may not fully reflect the feedback of each Council, but more so the group as a whole. Centroc has now come up with an alternate way to capture the feedback on a quarterly basis, which we will trial over the coming months. Please follow the links to complete the survey. It shouldn't take more than 60 seconds to complete each one.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/allaboutpipes>

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ADSEnvironmental>

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/sewerservices>

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/damsurveillancewatersw>

CCTV of Sewer and Stormwater Mains

The following table shows the utilisation rates of each council for the CCTV contract. The spend shown is for the period 1 July 2015 – 30 September 2016:

Council	Sewer Services
Bathurst	\$0
Blayney	\$0
Cabonne	\$0
Cowra	\$0
CTW	\$0
Forbes	\$0
Hilltops	\$47,514
Lachlan	\$0
Lithgow	\$28,335
Mid-Western	\$41,939
Oberon	\$0
Orange	\$0
Parkes	\$45,852
Upper Lachlan	\$0
Weddin	\$28,085
Total	\$191,726

Smoke Testing of Sewer Service Lines

The following table shows the utilisation rates of each council for the Smoke Testing contract. The spend shown is for the period 1 July 2015 – 30 September 2016:

Council	ADS Environmental	All About Pipes
Bathurst	\$0	\$0
Blayney	\$0	\$0
Cabonne	\$0	\$0
Cowra	\$0	\$0
CTW	\$0	\$0
Forbes	\$0	\$0
Hilltops	\$0	\$0
Lachlan	\$0	\$0
Lithgow	\$45,979	\$0
Mid-Western	\$0	\$0
Oberon	\$0	\$0
Orange	\$0	\$0
Parkes	\$0	\$0
Upper Lachlan	\$0	\$0
Weddin	\$0	\$0
Total	\$45,979	\$0

Dam Surveillance – April to June 2016	Water NSW
Bathurst	\$0
Blayney	\$0
Boorowa	\$7,500
Cabonne	\$0
Cowra	\$5,638
Forbes	\$0
Lachlan	\$0
Lithgow	\$0
Mid-Western	\$0
Oberon	\$0
Orange	\$22,550
Parkes	\$5,100
Upper Lachlan	\$5,638
Weddin	\$5,638
Young	\$0
Total	\$52,064

9. Advice to GMAC & the Board

Please consider any advice from this meeting for referral to GMAC and the Board

10. Proposed Meeting Dates for 2017

Meeting dates will be set in line with the schedule for GMAC and the Board yet to be confirmed. A full schedule will be circulated via email.

* Please note that these may be subject to change.