

## Council Meetings

The Ordinary meeting of Council is responsible for dealing with matters relating to finance, works, development, planning, health, building and community services. This meeting also makes a decision on Committee recommendations and is the forum for making the final decision of Council.

Residents and ratepayers are cordially invited to attend Council meetings.

2024 Council Meeting Dates:

Tuesday, 27 August Corowa Chamber	Tuesday, 22 October Corowa Chamber
Tuesday, 26 November Urana Chamber	Tuesday, 17 December Corowa Chamber

## Council adopts 'Future Federation' strategic plans

Council adopted its 'Future Federation' strategic plans for 2024/25 at its June Council meeting.

The 'Future Federation' Delivery Program, incorporating the Operational Plan and Annual Budget, is an important document that sets out Council's action plan for achieving the community priorities outlined in the Community Strategic Plan (CSP). It identifies the specific projects, programs and activities that Council will conduct to progress community priorities, as well as initiatives required to fulfil Council's legislative responsibilities. This is supported by the Annual Budget which outlines how Council will fund the delivery of services and projects to its community. It funds services like managing waste, maintaining infrastructure, community facilities and parks, operating libraries, events and services to people at all stages of life.

Council endorsed a 17% increase to general rates for 2024/25. This is consistent with the IPART approval for a temporary increase to general rate income for a two-year period of 19% in 2023/24 and 17% in 2024/25. Further hard copy and online communication and information about the increase will be provided to ratepayers when 2024/25 rate notices are distributed.

In adopting the plans, Federation Council Mayor Pat Bourke said the overall plan's primary focus was to ensure Council services are sustainable into the future, while delivering on the important objectives outlined in the Community Strategic Plan.

Mayor Bourke said the next six months will be a time to engage further with the community on Council service level expectations and work on future financial sustainability solutions together. View the plans on Council's website.



## Fischer Community Leadership Program Applications Open

The Fischer Community Leadership Program is an initiative that enables and empowers leadership within the community from the grassroots up. The focus of the program is to develop leadership skills and create a group of community leaders that are equipped to take action and make a difference.

Participants will dive deep in leadership fundamentals, connecting with local leaders and guest speakers, with a focus on building and strengthening core leadership skills. A key component of the program will involve project management, with participants undertaking the scoping and planning of small community-led projects.

Applications are invited from anyone living or with a connection to the Federation Council local government area.

- Venue: Urana Waterfront Pavilion
- Face to Face sessions: Friday 13 September and Friday 20 September, 2024.
- Online sessions: 7pm - Monday 30 September and Tuesday 8 October, 2024.

Apply now [www.fischerleadership.com.au](http://www.fischerleadership.com.au)

## 2024 Council Elections

Federation Council's election will be administered by the NSW Electoral Commission and the election will be held on Saturday, 14 September 2024. Did you miss the Candidate Information Sessions and interested in finding out more about becoming a Councillor?

View the recording of the online information session [www.localelearning.com.au/course/federation-council-candidate-course-2024](http://www.localelearning.com.au/course/federation-council-candidate-course-2024)

This is essential information for all potential candidates considering standing for election in the local government elections. Further information is available from Council's website.

## Positions Vacant

Federation Council is committed to being a quality Council with a strong focus on the delivery of services that continually meet community expectations. If you are committed to excellent customer service, being a competent team player and have a focus on results orientation that drives strategic thinking and fosters a culture of innovation, learning and continuous improvement, then one of our positions are for you! Visit our website for our detailed advertisements and position descriptions.

## Tiered Supervision Model - Howlong Pool - Have your Say!

A service delivery review has been undertaken of the Howlong Pool which considers options for service delivery models that align with existing practices across Council's range of public pool facilities. Council has endorsed the Tiered Supervision Model as the preferred model for the Howlong Pool.

Council is seeking feedback from the community and pool stakeholders before implementing the new service delivery model. You are encouraged to complete the survey on Council's website to have your say today! View further information and complete the survey on Council's website.

## The Curious Explorers Exhibition Celebrates Book Week at Corowa Art Space



The Corowa Library and Corowa Art Space are partnering to celebrate all things youth literature for 2024 Book Week. Held 17 – 23 August, this year's theme is 'Reading is Magic'. The theme celebrates reading stories and their amazing power to transport minds whilst encouraging kids to be curious about the wonders in our world.

To mark the occasion, the Corowa Art Space will transform into a literary wonderland with a special Book Week exhibition. Alongside this, a variety of activities will be held, inviting young visitors to immerse themselves in the world of words and imagination.

Vintage library posters as well as displays of favourite top 10 ranking children's books from over the years will welcome visitors into the Corowa Art Space with a trip down memory lane. Young visitors will be able to take part in a lucky dip, where they can select a free mystery book from the Library's archives to take it home to enjoy.

As the main attraction, touring exhibition The Curious Explorers will take visitors behind the scenes to see the work undertaken by artist Dorothy Roddy during the book illustration process. The Curious Explorers book is full of Australian charm as it follows Lex and Mila's adventure of discovery through their back yard. Visitors can meander through the Space and read the captivating words of author Leonie Napier as they take in the delightful sketches, story boards and original oil paintings.

On Wednesday 21st August creative duo Leonie and Dorothy will be holding a book reading and signing event where you can grab your own copy of The Curious Explorers book, as well as join in on a craft activity later in the day. For more details and to reserve a spot at either event, ring the Corowa Library on (02) 6033 8941 or visit Council's website.

The Curious Explorers exhibition will be on display at the Corowa Art Space from 9th August until 2nd September.

Opening hours are  
Wednesday - Friday  
10am to 4pm,



and Saturday - Sunday from 10am to 2pm.

## Youth Councillors lead the way at the Regional Youth Leadership Summit



The Federation Youth Councillors were invited to take part in the Regional Youth Leadership Summit hosted by the Hay Youth Taskforce on Wednesday 26 June at the Hay Services Club & Fitness Centre.

Federation Council Mayor, Cr Patrick Bourke said, "Youth Deputy Mayor, Dayna Carter and Youth Councillors, Alyssa Walda, Max Sampson and Isabel Carrol joined 70 other young people from across the Riverina Murray including Hay, Albury, Griffith, Lockhart, Bland (West Wyalong) and Balranald."

"The day was facilitated by Wil Massara and Bonnie Ryan-Rowe from Youth Leadership Academy Australia (YLAA) and involved a full day program of participants sharing their ideas, working and collaborating in teams and building their leadership skills," he said.

The morning session covered teamwork and collaboration, self-leadership, introduction to creating change, solutions discussion, agency and ownership, and communication framework.

After lunch the young people were broken into small groups and were task with developing an initiative to address common issues in rural and regional areas such as youth crime, social media bullying, mental health supports, vaping, and family and domestic violence. The day ending with the young people pitching their Regional Project Plans to their peers and youth leaders.

## Draft Debt Management & Hardship Policy

At Council's June ordinary meeting, Council endorsed the draft Debt Management & Hardship Policy for public exhibition for a period of 28 days. The draft policy in the first instance outlines how Council seeks to recover outstanding payments using a process that promptly determines how each debt will be paid outside a formal court process. Council acknowledges that from time to time some ratepayers will face difficulties paying fees and charges and is committed to taking a fair and flexible approach to managing their debts. Council is inviting residents to review the draft policy and provide any feedback by 5pm, Wednesday 7 August 2024. The draft policy is available for viewing from Council's website or at any Council office. Anyone interested in providing feedback should do so in writing, addressed to the General Manager, PO Box 77, Corowa NSW 2646 or email to: