



MEDIA RELEASE

COUNCIL ADOPTION OF EXTERNAL AUDIT'S RECOMMENDATIONS

In this week's Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Wednesday, 24 February 2021, Council adopted the 113 recommendations from the Grassroot Connections and Nexia Australia External Audits.

It is important to know that by adopting these recommendations in no way locks Council into a particular course of action, but rather provides a blueprint for Council staff to commence the process of making changes to our systems. There are a number of initiatives that will require further research, investigation, business planning, community consultation, and most importantly, negotiation with potential funding partners. In many cases this will be the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications, but there will be many other avenues as well.

The important step taken means we now have a pathway forward for the operational arm of Council, to improve systems, improve service delivery outcomes, and improve the foundations of the organisation.

This will not be an easy task and will in many cases, take several years to resolve. This blueprint is a result of the work undertaken by the now suspended Council, and they should be congratulated for these actions to correct the course the Council had found itself in, due in part to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Under the Interim Administrator's guidance over the next two months, this program will be regularly reported back to Council and the community, providing updates on progress and next steps. The program will also be delegated to each Management area of Council, to ensure all sections of Council are engaged in the process.

Andrew Roach

GENERAL MANAGER
26 February 2021