

EC3 – Adoption of Smart Shire Strategy

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TRIM 9647

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The purpose of this report is to provide background and context for the draft Smart Shire Strategy developed through collaborative versions.
- It is recommended:
 - that Council adopts the exhibited Draft Smart Shire Strategy.
 - that those persons and agencies who made submissions to Council regarding this matter be thanked and notified of Council's decision.

REPORT

Wollondilly's Smart Shire Strategy has been developed in a collaborative process to identify digital initiatives valued by our community. The Smart Shire Summit, online engagement, Councillor and staff workshops were undertaken from May 2017. Ideas collected in these forums were then researched and considered through additional collaboration with community, industry, and Council's Leadership Team. The resulting strategy was then placed on public exhibition for additional input. Submissions received are provided as an attachment to this report.

This people and outcome focused process has clarified how smart technology and digital opportunity can enhance liveability, sustainability, and productivity for the Wollondilly community. The strategy extends the Rural Living vision from the Community Strategic Plan to "Rural living empowered by smart technology." The Smart Shire Strategy has been developed to align with Council's corporate strategies and will be integrated into existing documents over time. Initially, a separate strategy assists in developing cross-stakeholder, collaborative approaches across departments, governments, academia, industry and the community.

The Smart Shire Strategy fits into a broader Smart Cities context globally. The United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goal 11 aims to make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable. This links to the Australian Government's Smart Cities Plan launched in April 2016 setting the vision for cities and the plan for maximising their potential. It identifies the need to rethink the way cities are planned, built and managed in order to respond to growth and take advantage of future economic opportunities.

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This rethink is coordinated through City Deals bringing together the three levels of government, the community and private enterprise to create place-based partnerships. Aligning necessary planning, investment and governance can accelerate growth and job creation, stimulate urban renewal and drive economic reforms.

Commitments in the Western Sydney City Deal include a Smart Western City Program and a Western Sydney Digital Action Plan. Additionally, this aligns to the Greater Sydney Commission Western City District Plan in place-based infrastructure priorities, adapting to changing technologies, streets as places, and in monitoring performance of the plan.

Council needs to adopt the Smart Shire Strategy to provide a framework to deploying smart technology within Wollondilly. The digital world moves rapidly, change is constant, and standards are quickly evolving. Agility and flexibility are necessary to leverage opportunities and mitigate potential risks. A business case process will be taken in implementing the strategy to support innovation.

CONSULTATION

Community engagement took place in the following stages:

- Survey on Engage.Wollondilly in conjunction with the Smart Shire Summit event. The collaboration event, led by Delos Delta, supported both physical and web based participation.
- Councillor and staff collaboration workshops facilitated by Delos Delta.
- Draft Strategy distributed to staff, Councillors, industry, and a small group of community members for comment.
- Draft Strategy 1.2 distributed to Council Leadership Team and feedback collected during individual meetings.
- Draft Strategy 1.3 presented to Councillor workshop and approved for public exhibition.
- Draft Strategy 1.3 on public exhibition for comment.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

No funding has been allocated for this project, it is suggested that funding be secured through normal budget review process based on business case development and external funding opportunities.

ATTACHMENTS INCLUDED IN SEPARATE BOOKLET

1. Smart Shire Strategy
2. Summary of Submissions Table
3. Copy of the submissions will be provided to Councillors under separate cover

Efficient and Effective Council
Report to the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Monday 16 April 2018

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RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council adopts the exhibited Draft Smart Shire Strategy.
2. That those persons and agencies who made submissions to Council regarding this matter be thanked and notified of Council's decision.