

ITEM NO: 14**SUBJECT: LACHLAN REGIONAL TRANSPORT COMMITTEE****FILE NO: F04614**

Recommendations:

1. *That the Council appoint a delegate and alternate delegate to the Lachlan Regional Transport Committee for the term of this Council.*
 2. *That the Council thank former Councillor McInnes for her contribution to this committee.*
-

Report by Group Manager, Community & Corporate:**Introduction**

The Lachlan Regional Transport Committee was formed some 17 years ago with the objectives of:

- Providing the best form of public transport for rural people;
- Re-opening branch rail lines and to retain the western rail line;
- Retaining and increase the movement of heavy bulk products by rail thereby reducing road damage, cost of repairs, and potential motor vehicle accidents;
- Retaining existing rail infrastructure and buildings for heritage value and community use; and
- Promoting tourism, eg steam trains and other heritage trains.

The benefit to the Blue Mountains is that any re-opening of rail links for the transport of bulk products may well reduce the number of truck movements across the Blue Mountains. It may also assist in strengthening the Blue Mountains tourism industry.

Background

The Member Councils are Blayney Shire; Blue Mountains; Cabonne; Dubbo; Lithgow; Lachlan; Oberon; Parkes; Weddin and Young.

The committee is currently chaired by the President Bill Barwood and Secretary/Treasurer Max Duffy.

The committee meets each quarter at different hosting Councils. The minutes are circulated to the nominated Council representative by the Committee Secretary.

Achievements of the Committee

The committee continues to advocate on transport and road safety issues on behalf of member Councils.

Terms of Reference for the Committee

N/A

Future Membership

The previous Councillor representative on the Lachlan Regional Transport Committee was Councillors McInnes. This meeting is requested to nominate a Councillor as delegate and another as the alternate delegate to the Committee. The length of representation will be for the term of the Council.

Recognising previous contribution

It is recommended that former Councillor McInnes be thanked for her contribution to the Committee.

Sustainability Assessment

Criteria	Positive	Negative
Social	Potential involvement in local and regional partnerships to enhance social capital in the local government area	Nil
Environmental	Potential involvement in local and regional partnerships to enhance environmental outcomes in the local government area	Nil
Economic	Potential involvement in local and regional partnerships to enhance economic development in the local government area	Nil

Financial implications for the Council

There are no additional funding implications associated with the committee.

Conclusion

That the Council continue to support the Lachlan Regional Transport Committee through ongoing Councillor representation.

* * * * *