



NORTHERN
RIVERS
JOINT ORGANISATION

NORTHERN RIVERS JOINT ORGANISATION
Annual Performance Statement
2019-20

Sustainable. Resilient. Prosperous.



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Welcome and Introduction

The Annual Performance Report provides an account of the Joint Organisation's performance for its six Member Councils and the Northern Rivers community.

The report details progress, achievements and outcomes against commitments identified within the Strategic Regional Priorities 2018 – 2022 and financial management over the 2019-2020 year.

In June 2018, the Northern Rivers Regional Organisation of Councils (NOROC) was formally dissolved and the Northern Rivers Joint Organisation was formed. The Northern Rivers Joint Organisation held its inaugural Board meeting in August 2018 and at this meeting a Chair was elected. An Interim Executive Officer had been appointed with primary responsibilities being to follow the pathway for setting up a joint organisation in accordance with the Joint Organisation Implementation Guide. The recruitment process for an Executive Officer (21 hours/week) concluded in December 2018, with the appointee commencing in January 2019.

The Annual Performance Report is an opportunity to acknowledge the regional initiatives and early progress towards achieving the vision articulated in the Strategic Regional Priorities document. It is also important to promote the outcomes that ultimately lead to a strengthening of the region, building on the demonstrated successes, unique character and diversity of member councils: Byron, Ballina, Kyogle, Lismore, Richmond Valley and Tweed.

This report also meets requirements under the *NSW Local Government Act (1993)* and will be presented to the Minister for Local Government, The Hon Shelley Hancock MP.

The Northern Rivers Joint Organisation wishes to publicly acknowledge the commitment and collaborative spirit of Mayors, General Managers and staff from the member councils. The financial investment and time commitment is significant, and reflects the shared values, commitment and generosity evident in the Northern Rivers community.

The Northern Rivers Joint Organisation acknowledges the Bundjalung People, the traditional owners and custodians of the lands in our Region, and pays respect to the Elders past, present and emerging.

Hard copies of this report will be available upon request, and electronic copies accessible at <http://www.northernriversjo.nsw.gov.au>

Performance and Value

A key responsibility of the Joint Organisations in meeting their core functions under the Local Government Act 1993 is to identify Strategic Regional Priorities and collaborate on strategies to achieve those identified priorities for the benefit of communities.

At a meeting of the Board of the Northern Rivers Joint Organisation at Tweed Shire Council on 8 February 2019, the Strategic Regional Priorities 2019 – 2022 document was formally launched. A workshop was then held where the five Strategic Regional Priorities were workshopped to identify the highest priority areas to pursue advocacy and project outcomes for the region.

1. Thriving, healthy and biodiverse natural environments

For the biodiversity and health of our waterways, habitats and wildlife to be protected and enhanced to deliver environmental, economic and recreational benefits for current and future generations of residents and visitors.

Project outcome

- Support the proposed Northern Rivers Watershed Initiative
- Advocate for change to forestry policy and planning regulations to encourage native forestation

2. Improved community wellbeing now and into the future

For our region to be able to offer its residents a range of affordable, appropriate housing choices and access to health care, mental health care, aged care and other services that enhance wellbeing

Project outcome

- Increased social housing, including crisis and emergency accommodation, to be on par with the state average of 4% housing stock, within people's community of interest

3. A physically and digitally connected region

For our communities, businesses and visitors to be connected through a diverse range of safe, inclusive, low impact private and public transport options and high quality, reliable internet and mobile telecommunication services

Project outcome

- Accelerated road repair program through doubling the funding of the Commonwealth Roads to Recovery Program and the NSW Government's Regional Roads Repair Program over the next four years.

4. Innovative, sustainable energy, water and waste management

For our region to establish itself as a leader in renewable energy production; effective, sustainable water management; and innovative approaches to waste management to improve environmental and service delivery outcomes

Project outcome

- Develop a Northern Rivers Renewable Energy Investment Prospectus
- Lobby NSW Government for review and removal of waste levy.

5. A diversified, prosperous and sustainable regional economy

For our region to have a strong, diversified economy that provides increased employment and business opportunities and financial wellbeing for communities while protecting and maintaining our region's unique character

Project outcome

- Investigate removal of BCR criteria for funding applications
- Investigate establishment of UNESCO Biosphere Reserve

2019 - 2020 HIGHLIGHTS

KEY FUNCTION 1: PLANNING AND PRIORITISATION

The 2019 – 2020 highlights reflect progress and outcomes of efforts dedicated to promoting and achieving the identified Strategic Regional Priorities and delivering on the core functions prescribed for Joint Organisations of Councils across NSW.

The Board endorsed ten Advocacy Briefs. These formed a solid platform for advocacy representations to Local, State and Federal members of Parliament and introductory meetings to pave the way for the pursuit of future funding opportunities to support and enable the implementation of key identified projects.

The progress of these priorities was undermined by the onset of the COVID 19 pandemic in February 2020 which saw the Northern Rivers Joint Organisation categorised as being in and, then subsequently, out of regional travel bubbles limiting the ability of the Chair and EO to travel and forcing the cancellation of some meeting and a temporary realignment of priorities.

1. Thriving, healthy and biodiverse natural environments

PROJECTS - Advocate for changes to Forestry policy and planning regulations to encourage private native forestation AND the Northern Rivers Watershed Initiative.

NSW MINISTER FOR WATER, PROPERTY AND HOUSING - *Northern Rivers Watershed Initiative* An initial meeting was held in May 2019 with the then newly appointed Minister Pavey, following the formation of the NSW Cabinet. Follow up information was sought from Associate Member Rous Water to ensure Minister Pavey was provided with up to date information on river health classifications.

BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION TRUST - Liaison established with Biodiversity Conservation Trust North Coast Regional Manager with introduction provided by Minister Kean's office. Discussions covered funding options and background information on:

- Conservation Partners Program
- Conservation Management Program
- Biodiversity Offsets Program

2. Improved community wellbeing now and into the future

PROJECT – Increased social housing, including crisis and emergency accommodation, to be on par with the State average of 4% of housing stock, within people’s community of interest.

NORTH COAST COMMUNITY HOUSING - NCCH presented to the August 2019 NRJO Board Meeting in relation to liaison ongoing for provision of housing data and regional collaboration opportunities.

SOCIAL FUTURES - The EO obtained the 2019 Housing and Homelessness Fact Sheet: Key Northern Rivers statistics, and provided this document to Minister Pavey’s office.

HOUSING AFFORDABILITY SUPPLY AND HOMELESSNESS FORUM – The EO participated in the 9 August forum on Housing Affordability and Homelessness hosted by the Member for Lismore, Janelle Saffin MP. The Northern Rivers Joint Organisation’s priority position on this issue was one of the six urgent actions adopted by the forum.

ANNUAL AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT SUMMIT Feb 2020 Melbourne – The Chair attended this summit on behalf of the NRJO as the summit related directly to the JO’s priority of increasing social housing in the region.

KEY STRATEGIC PARTNERS:

NORTH COAST COMMUNITY HOUSING – A not-for-profit company providing long-term social housing for people with special needs and residents with low and moderate incomes. Its footprint mirrors that of the Northern Rivers Joint Organisation and also extends south to Clarence Valley.

A strong collaboration has been formed to support the achievement of this strategic priority and discussions on regional solutions are ongoing.

SOCIAL FUTURES – A well-established social justice organisation based in Northern NSW that encompasses homelessness and housing supports, youth and family services, programs that promote genuine participation for people with disability, community sector support, professional development, and systemic advocacy.

The Northern Rivers Joint Organisation has established strong relationships with the leadership team and communications staff in relation to media strategies and support to the Northern Rivers Housing Forum campaign for the six urgent identified actions for the Northern Rivers and the Housing and Homelessness Fact Sheet: Key Northern Rivers statistics.

3. A physically and digitally connected region

***PROJECT** - Accelerated road repair program through doubling the funding of the Commonwealth Roads to Recovery Program and the NSW Government's Regional Roads Repair Program over the next four years.*

FREIGHT AND SUPPLY CHAIN STRATEGY

The landmark strategy “*From Roots to Routes: An innovative Vision of freight for the Northern Rivers*” was a joint project with Northern Rivers Joint Organisation (NRJO), RDA Northern Rivers, NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet and Southern Cross University launched on May 1 2019.

Further to this strategy on October 2019 a Summerland Way to Mt Lindesay Highway Cross Border Freight Corridor Meeting which was convened at Kyogle Council. In attendance was the NRJO Chair; The Hon Kevin Hogan, Federal Member for Page; Jason Clifford, Manager Freight Industry Partnerships, Freight Industry, Customer Strategy and Technology, Transport for NSW; and Patrick Murphy, Advisor to the Hon S Buchholz MP.

DEPUTY PREMIER MINISTER FOR REGIONAL NSW INDUSTRY AND TRADE – In August 2019 the NRJO Chair and Hon John Barilaro MP held discussions regarding the regional roads transfer process and the JO's Freight Strategy.

MINISTER FOR REGIONAL TRANSPORT AND ROADS- In August 2019 the Chair met with the Hon. Paul Toole MP regarding the NSW Governments funding of roads and bridges, the strategic improvements identified in the Northern Rivers Freight and Logistic study, and connectivity to international freight airports

4. Innovative, sustainable energy, water and waste management

***PROJECTS** - removal or improved distribution of the waste levy AND develop a Northern Rivers Renewable Energy Prospectus AND study into Microwaste facility*

CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND NET ZERO EMISSIONS

Arising from strengthening of networks and relationships developed through the Regional Leadership Executive (RLE) meetings, liaison and teleconferencing with Senior Project Officer - Regional Preparedness, Climate Resilience Programs, Climate Change and Sustainability Division at DPIE, has been ongoing since the Executive Officer's initial RLE meeting in February 2019.

SUSTAIN ENERGY - NORTHERN RIVERS RENEWABLE ENERGY WORKING GROUP

The membership of this group and attendance at meetings has proved beneficial for development of collaboration and funding opportunities relevant to project areas. The group is very committed to supporting NRJO in developing a Northern Rivers Renewable Energy Prospectus which is a key priority for the 2020-2021 financial year

LGNSW SUSTAINING THE REGIONS WORKSHOP 1-2 OCTOBER

The EO with LGNSW co-facilitated a workshop on waste and recycling showcasing key projects and initiatives from NR councils.

The Chair sat on a panel which focussed on Joint Organisations and collaboration.

MEETING WITH MINISTER ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

On October 31 the Chair and EO met with Hon. Matthew Kean MP to discuss the Waste Levy. Meeting were also held with the Shadow Minister for Environment and Heritage, Kate Washington MP

NRJO LOOKING AT WASTE MICRO INDUSTRIES FOR THE NORTHERN RIVERS

The Northern Rivers Joint Organisation is using the Capacity Building funding to develop a business case to establish a 'Centre of Excellence' for waste micro industries in the Northern Rivers. The business case will have the SMaRT (Sustainable Materials Research and Technology) vision developed by UNSW Centre for SMaRT as its foundation.

The focus will be converting waste materials into value-added recycling and upcycling materials; minimising the energy-intensive transportation of waste; promoting and supporting viable local economies and jobs; and developing a facility that embodies distributed manufacturing. An appropriate site for a microfactory facility will be identified to process materials using waste materials as a resource, through innovative thinking and practices, which will enhance sustainability and produce value-added green and market-competitive materials and products.

Consultants have been appointed and the final project report is planned for February 2021.

ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER CONTAMINATED LANDS

Significant strides have been made with the appointment of a contaminated lands officer coming on board. Key achievements included:

- Developed a program evaluation and priority setting survey to better understand the current capabilities, limitations and priorities of each of the six councils.
- Sought and received a commitment from member councils for a regionally consistent approach to the management of contaminated land.
- Developed a series of four contaminated land capacity building training modules that were specifically designed for council staff.
- Represented the Northern Rivers councils at numerous state government meetings and webinars where information was disseminated with councils.

5. A diversified, prosperous and sustainable regional economy

PROJECTS – Investigate removal of BCR criteria for funding applications AND establish UNESCO Biosphere Reserve.

REMOVAL OF BCR CRITERIA FOR FUNDING APPLICATIONS - extensive discussions were held with the Deputy Premier the Hon John Barilaro MP and Mr Greg Warren MP the Shadow Minister for Local Government.

NORTHERN RIVERS BRAND: The NRJO was part of a collaborative partnership of regional businesses, industry bodies and government representatives that has developed the Northern Rivers NSW brand, an exciting opportunity for businesses and organisations across the Northern Rivers. Launched in April 2020, the Northern Rivers NSW Brand is the symbol of a new economic and cultural era for one of New South Wales’ oldest, diverse and alluring regions, representing the seven local government areas of the Northern Rivers of NSW, from the Tweed border to the Clarence Valley.

In an ever-competitive world, businesses and their communities need a point of difference and scale. The Northern Rivers NSW Brand ties these communities together, harnessing the power of the region’s 250,000+ population in a single voice. Physically connected by the rivers of northern NSW, these communities are now connected by a common brand demonstrating tangible scale.



KEY FUNCTION 2: INTER-GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

One of the key functions of Joint Organisations is identifying and taking up opportunities for inter-governmental relations. The information provided under Key Function 1 section of this Annual Performance Statement also highlights the strong relationships that have been built. The Northern Rivers Joint Organisation has been proactive in this area and built on existing well-established networks and participated in a broad range of key Government stakeholder groups:

- Minister for Local Government established a Joint Organisation Advisory Committee to provide advice to the Minister for Local Government on options and models to secure the ongoing sustainability of the JO network.

The first meeting of the JOAC was held on September 30th 2019 and NRJO Chair and EO were part of this Committee that reported to the Hon Shelley Hancock MP, Minister for Local Government:

- Minister for Health and Medical Research, Hon. Brad Hazzard MP, held discussions with the Chair around strategies for the attraction and retention of doctors to rural areas.
- As part of the contract for provision of support services by Regional Development Australia Northern Rivers, close collaboration occurs with involvement in shared projects.
- Valuable relationships have developed with all agency leads who attend the Regional Leadership Executive meetings and the Northern Rivers Joint Organisation takes an active role in the sub-committees convened by Regional NSW. Agencies include Public Works, Local Health District, Family and Community Services.
- Liaison with the Regional NSW occurs monthly with meetings on shared projects including projects that the Northern Rivers Joint Organisation invested in including Future Northern Rivers Campaign and developing a regional brand for NSW Northern Rivers. Both projects have come to fruition and the Brand was launched in April 2020.
- Active engagement with Director Regions, Northern for Local and Regional Planning at the Department of Regional NSW in relation to significant changes impacting Local Government, for example the Local Strategic Planning Statements.
- Successful partnership with TAFE NSW and Regional Industry Education Partnerships at Training Services NSW to activate a Women in Construction program within most of the member councils.
- Active engagement with Transport for NSW as covered under the Freight and Supply Chain Strategy.

KEY FUNCTION 3: ADVOCACY AND LEADERSHIP

ELECTIONS JUNE 2020

Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 provides that the election of the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson of the Joint Organisation is to be held every two years following the Joint Organisation's establishment. In June 2020 an election was held for the positions of Chair and Deputy Chair of the Northern Rivers Joint Organisation. Cr Danielle Mulholland was elected to the position of Chair and Cr Isaac Smith to the position of Deputy Chair.

Members established the framework, policy and procedures for advocacy and leadership from the Northern Rivers Joint Organisation. As a group of Councils, the opportunity to advocate as a group that represents a larger population and geography is a powerful mechanism for promoting community needs.

All Five Strategic Regional Priority areas have been addressed with the relevant ministers and the Chair has reported extensively to the Board on successful outcomes of these advocacy efforts.

The following issues and areas were also highlighted as part of these discussions:

- Support for Local Government and the Joint Organisation Model and future funding
- Agriculture and Economic Development
- Renewable Energy
- Energy Infrastructure
- Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs) and the removal of the minimum per capita grant criteria
- Skills Shortages in the Northern Rivers

Representations on behalf of members on positions of advocacy and leadership to the NSW Government and Australian Government representatives were made and have been acknowledged by the Board as very worthwhile.

It is considered good practice to ensure that Local Members of Parliament and apprised of the advocacy positions, so regular updates are provided. Meetings also occur with members of the opposition, with the view of establishing these networks and relationships for the long term future.

The Chair and Executive Officer are active members of the Joint Organisations' Executive Officer and Chairpersons Networks for Joint Organisations of Councils in NSW.

Financial Report

A full copy of the Audited Financial Statements for the 2019/2020 year is provided on the website at <http://www.northernriversjo.nsw.gov.au>

Income

	Notes	Year ended 30 June 2020 \$	11 May 2018 to 30 June 2019 \$
Income from continuing operations			
Member council contributions	2a	128,600	102,893
User charges and fees	2b	33,725	33,725
Interest and investment revenue	2c	5,090	7,061
Grants and contributions provided for operating purposes	2d	150,000	800,000
Other income	2e	43,664	36,602
Total income from continuing operations		361,079	980,281
Expenses from continuing operations			
Employee benefits and on-costs	3a	104,541	50,488
Project expenses	3c	280,088	128,157
Administrative expenses	3b	113,947	108,774
Total expenses from continuing operations		498,576	287,419
Net operating result for the year		(137,497)	692,862
Gain on transfer of assets from former entities NOROC		-	440,893
Net result for the period		-	440,893
Total comprehensive income		(137,497)	1,133,755

The above Income statement and Other Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Northern Rivers Joint Organisation

Statement of financial position as at 30 June 2020

	Notes	2020 \$	2019 \$
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	1,021,504	1,195,754
Receivables	5	6,777	9,714
Total current assets		1,028,281	1,205,468
Non-current assets			
Total non-current assets		-	-
Total assets		1,028,281	1,205,468
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Payables	6	32,022	69,117
Provisions	7	-	2,596
Total current liabilities		32,022	71,713
Non-current liabilities			
Total non-current liabilities		-	-
Total liabilities		32,022	71,713
Net assets		996,260	1,133,755
EQUITY			
Accumulated Surplus		996,259	1,133,755
Total equity		996,259	1,133,755

The above Statement of financial position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Expenses

Northern Rivers Joint Organisation

Notes to the financial statements
Year ended 30 June 2020

Note 3 Expenses from continuing operations

	2020	11 May 2018 to 30 June 2019
	\$	\$
(a) Employee benefits and on costs		
Salaries and wages	82,955	34,209
Travelling	3,981	3,341
Employee leave entitlements	(2,596)	2,596
Superannuation	6,590	2,842
Workers' compensation insurance	1,891	1,494
Other	11,720	6,008
Total employee costs expended	104,541	50,488

Accounting policy for employee benefits and on-costs

Employee benefit expenses are recorded when the service has been provided by the employee.

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense as they become payable. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that a cash refund or a reduction in the future payments is available.

(b) Administrative expenses

Contractor and consultancy costs	82,631	94,150
Advertising	-	620
Audit	6,500	6,500
Board Costs	18,888	3,220
Catering	1,988	1,389
Office Expenses	3,326	2,415
Other	614	480
Total administrative expenses	113,947	108,774

(c) Project expenses

Contractor and Project Contributions	279,838	110,950
Advertising	-	10,618
Catering	250	975
Printing	-	2,411
Other	-	3,203
Total project expenses	280,088	128,157

Accounting policy for expenses

Other Expenses are recorded on an accruals basis as the JO receives the goods or services.

Auditors' remuneration

Auditors of the Joint Organisation - NSW Auditor-General:

(i) Audit and other assurance services

Audit and review of financial statements	6,500	6,500
Total fees paid or payable to the Auditor-General	6,500	6,500

Total remuneration of auditors

6,500	6,500
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Northern Rivers Joint Organisation Profile

The Northern Rivers Joint Organisation was formed in June 2018 and is a partnership between six Local Government Areas in the Northern Rivers Region of NSW.

As the peak body for local government in the Northern Rivers, the organisation is the recognised voice for our region’s Councils. In addition, there is significant collaboration through resource sharing and procurement of materials, services and professional development. Not only do these endeavours bring Councils together in a spirit of cooperation but they save money for Councils and communities.

The Northern Rivers Joint Organisation covers an area of more than 10,000 square kilometres extending from Tweed Heads in the North to just beyond Evans Head in the south, and to Woodenbong and Tabulam in the west.

Member councils are the six Local Government Areas of Ballina, Byron, Lismore, Richmond Valley, Kyogle and Tweed Northern Rivers region of Northern NSW.

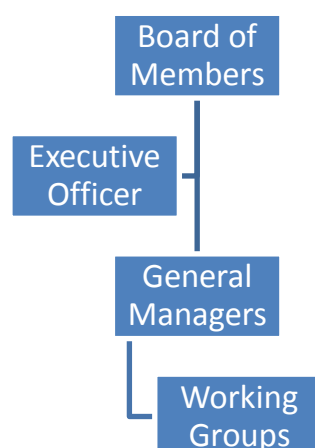
Member Representatives

The Board of the Northern Rivers Joint Organisation includes the Mayors of member Councils.

- Councillor Danielle Mulholland, Chair and Mayor Kyogle Council
- Councillor Katie Milne, Mayor Tweed Shire Council
- Councillor Simon Richardson, Mayor Byron Shire Council
- Councillor David Wright, Mayor Ballina Shire Council
- Councillor Isaac Smith, Mayor Lismore City Council
- Councillor Robert Mustow, Mayor Richmond Valley Council

The NSW Government is a non-voting Member and is represented by the Director – Regional NSW for the Northern region.

The organisational structure is as follows:



The Mayors receive advice and information about strategic and operational opportunities from the General Managers of member Councils. Working Groups are established with key experienced personnel from within each member Council. The Board, the General Managers Group and various working groups meet regularly throughout the Northern Rivers region. The organisation employs an Executive Officer to guide the organisations activities. The administration of the organisation is reliant on the support of the staff of RDA Northern Rivers.

Associate Members

Associate members of the Northern Rivers Joint Organisation are

- the NSW Government, as represented by a nominee of the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, currently Director, North Coast, Regional NSW
- Rous County Council,
- Regional Development Australia – Northern Rivers,
- Destination North Coast,
- Scenic Rim Regional Council,
- Tenterfield Shire Council,
- Clarence Valley Council,
- Combined North Coast Rural Industry Consultative Committee and North Coast Agriculture Natural Disaster Advisory Group

Working Groups

Group	Meeting Frequency
NSW Water Directorate Executive Committee	Quarterly
North Coast Regional Leadership Executive	Quarterly
Water NSW Customer Advisory Group for the Coastal Valleys	Twice yearly
Procurement Committee	Quarterly
Northern Rivers Human Resources Interest Group	Monthly
Risk Committee	Quarterly
Northern Safety Management Group	Quarterly
Far North Coast Revenue Professionals	Twice yearly
Records & IT Group	Ad Hoc
Northern Rivers IT Group	Quarterly
Northern Rivers IT Systems Admin Group	Yearly
Civica Northern NSW Users Group	Quarterly
Northern Rivers Water Managers Group	Twice yearly
Northern Rivers Development and Construction Manuals Group	Quarterly
Natural Resource Management Group	Twice yearly
North East Weight of Loads Group	Annually
Roads Group	Ad Hoc
Northern Rivers Local Emergency Management Committee	Quarterly

Northern Rivers Bush Fire Risk Management Committee	Quarterly
Regional GIS Users Group	Ad Hoc
Supervisors Group	Ad Hoc
Drinking Water Management System Implementation Group	Twice a year
Northern Rivers SCADA Group	Ad Hoc
RMS Peer Exchange Group	Quarterly
Planners Group	Every two months
North East Waste Group	Quarterly
Northern Rivers Public and Environmental Health Forum	Quarterly
Northern Rivers Food Group	Quarterly
Mental Health Forum	Every two months
Domestic Violence Forum	Every two months
Arts Northern Rivers	Quarterly
North East Region Discussion Group for Building Surveyors	Quarterly
OSMS Officer Forum	Yearly
Regional Koala Communication Plan working group	Quarterly

Member Conduct

Members are Councillors and are elected by the residents and ratepayers to act in the best interests of the community.

To guide the conduct of elected members, Council Code of Conduct and standards of conduct, behaviour, accountability and responsibilities apply to ensure public confidence is maintained.

The community expects the business of Local Government is to be conducted with efficiency, transparency and impartiality.

To mitigate any personal or private interests that may compromise the conduct and decisions of a Member, declaration of conflicts of interest is a standing agenda item for all Board meetings.

Member Allowances

The Chair is paid a stipend of \$10,00 per annum. Members are not paid an annual fee. Members expenses incurred by representing their Council discharging their functions and responsibilities may be paid.

Statutory Information

Contracts Awarded

August 2019 the NRJO received \$150,000 from the NSW Government through the Joint Organisation Capacity Building Fund.

Government Information Public Access (GIPA)

The Northern Rivers Joint Organisation received zero formal access and zero informal applications for the reporting year under *Government Information (Public Access) Act, 2009 (GIPA)*.

Public Interest Disclosures

Northern Rivers Joint Organisation is required to have a Public Interest Disclosures Policy under section 6D of the Public Interest Disclosures Act, 1994 (the PID Act).

There have been no known Public Interest Disclosures on any activities.

Overseas Travel

Northern Rivers Joint Organisation representatives made no overseas trips during the 2019-2020 financial year.

Remuneration Executive Officer

The total remuneration package of the Executive Officer for the 2019/2020 financial year was \$101,308 for the period 1 July 2019 -30 June 2020

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