

<b>MEETING NAME</b>	Agriculture & Rural Industries Strategic Reference Group
<b>ATTENDEES</b>	C Whitten (Acting Manager Shire Planning), S Kacir (Environmental Services Team Leader), Mark Ruddiman (Acting Team Leader Strategic Planning), Adam Halliday (Bio-Security Officer (Weeds)), Mayor Matt Gould (Chair), James Bell, Lloyd Jones, Marwan El-Chamy, Phillip Bartolo, Richard Stephens (online), Vincent Hewson (online) and a minute taker.
<b>APOLOGIES</b>	Councillor Ally Dench (Deputy Chair)
<b>DATE</b>	29 April 2026
<b>TIME</b>	4.05pm

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>NOTES</b>
Declaration of Interests	Nil.
Confirmation of Minutes	<p>The minutes of the previous meeting held on 4 February 2026 were confirmed.</p> <p>Mover: Marwan El Chamy Seconder: James Bell</p>
Matters Arising from Previous Minutes	<p>The minutes from the previous meeting were discussed as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Mayor discussed Council's submission in response to the Select Committee inquiry into Rural Housing and Second Dwellings Reform and clarified with the group what the submission was calling for. The groups questions and concerns were responded to.</li></ul>

## Briefings/Updates

### Horticulture LEP Amendment (Planning Proposal – Horticulture in Rural Zones)

- The Mayor provided an update on the Horticulture LEP Amendment and advised the group he has a meeting with the NSW Minister for Water next week. The group mentioned their concern and noted they think this should be escalated within Water NSW.
- The Mayor discussed with the group the focus on the farmers market and it being added to this years budget, of which was from the recommendation of the group.
- The group had a discussion regarding agritourism.

### Draft Development Control Plan – Tourist and Visitor Economy Uses

- The Acting Team Leader Strategic Planning presented to the group on the Draft Development Control Plan with a focus on the Tourist and Visitor Economy Uses. The presentation outlined updates to the DCP post feedback received from Council and SRG's last year.
- The group had a discussion with staff to clarify any questions they may have had.
- Acting Manager Shire Planning advised an updated version of the DCP will come back to the group for further feedback in the future.

### Shire Planning Update

- Acting Manager Shire Planning provided information on the proposed draft Statewide Community Participation Plan which is currently on exhibition including:
  - The NSW Government is proposing a state plan that will supersede all council local community participation plans
  - Proposed exemption of public exhibition of Local Development Applications (no neighbour notification required if the DA is permissible in the zone, it meets all planning controls in the LEP, DCP or SEPP, and does not include a 4.6 variation)
  - It identifies some primary production and rural development and Tourist and Visitor accomodation as being exempt (agritourism, commercial farms, extensive agriculture, farm buildings, and farm stay accommodation)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The group discussed potential implications from the proposed changes.</li> </ul> <p><b><i>ACTION 14: Workshop to come to a future meeting on details on NSW Revenue Land tax Crackdown - land tax exemptions for agricultural properties that have diversified into agritourism.</i></b></p>
Workshops	<p>Biosecurity Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental Services Team Leader and Biosecurity Officer - Weeds presented to the group on the draft Biosecurity - Weeds Strategy which will be publicly exhibited later this year.</li> </ul> <p>Dwellings in Rural Zones</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acting Team Leader Strategic Planning presented to the group on what dwelling types are permissible in our rural zones and what they are.</li> <li>• Discussion was opened up to the group to address their questions regarding permissibility of dwelling types and to workshop what changes they would like to see to the local environmental plan to support farming housing needs..</li> <li>• A further workshop is required to continue the discussion.</li> </ul> <p><b><i>ACTION 15: List of Priority Weeds to be shared with the group.</i></b></p> <p><b><i>ACTION 16: A further workshop to come to the group on Dwellings in rural zones.</i></b></p>
Engagement News and Updates	Nil
General Business	Nil

MEETING CLOSE: 6.25pm

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, 22 July 2026

REFERENCE: CM 15598~2#56