

24 July 2024

Proposed land transfer to Wilcannia Local Aboriginal Land Council

Central Darling Shire Council wants to gift 17 allotments of land to the Wilcannia Local Aboriginal Land Council. The land is located in the Mallee Estate.

In the past six months, the Council General Manager has been in discussion with the Wilcannia Local Aboriginal Land Council about the land. In March 2024 the General Manager wrote to the organisation offering the Council owned seventeen allotments. The proposal was to gift the allotments at no cost. Council would seek financial assistance for conveyancing and land surveying fees with the assistance of the Local Aboriginal Land Council and from the State Government for the land transfer.

At the July Council meeting the Council agreed that the General Manager would continue negotiations for the land transfer. If the land transfer goes ahead Council will provide a weekly waste collection service and aid in road maintenance activities such as pothole repairs. However, Council would not be in a position to provide road or other infrastructure replacement or renewal programs.

In the event that the Land Council rejects the offer of the land a report will come back to Council outlining other options for the disposal of the land through public sale or gifting to a government identity for community social housing needs.

Over the past 12 months, the General Manager has been looking at Council owned land which may be surplus to Council needs. With the view of the reclassification of Council owned land being converted from Community to Operational land which can be sold or gifted for future development for community social housing.

Ends

Council Media Contact: Gabrielle Johnston 0472 787 022

Administration Centre – 21 Reid Street Wilcannia Mailing Address – PO Box 165 Wilcannia 2836 Email <u>council@centraldarling.nsw.gov.au</u> Phone 08 8083 8900