



# BUSINESS PAPER

## LATE REPORT

Thursday 16 April 2026  
10:00am  
Council Chambers

### **COUNCIL'S VISION**

To build and maintain sustainable communities while retaining the region's natural beauty.

### **COUNCIL'S MISSION**

To provide services and facilities to enhance the quality of life and economic viability within the Council area.

### **COUNCIL'S AIMS**

To perform services in a cost efficient, effective and friendly manner in order to achieve Council's Mission in meeting the annual objectives and performance targets of the principal activities Council undertakes on behalf of the community.

**SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA  
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

I would like to acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of this Land. I would also like to pay respect to the Elders past and present, of the Wiradjuri Nation, and extend that respect to other Aboriginals present.

**SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA**

**15 LATE REPORT .....**

15.1 Council Fuel Supply Update

---

## Chief Executive Officer - 16 April 2026

---

**ITEM 0.0**                      **Council Fuel Supply Update**

**FILE REFERENCE**   **I26/88**

**AUTHOR**                      **Chief Executive Officer**

### **ISSUE**

To provide Council with an update on current fuel supply conditions impacting operations and to outline how Upper Lachlan Shire Council's response aligns with broader local government sector experience.

**RECOMMENDATION**      That -

1. Council receive and note the report as information only.

---

### **BACKGROUND**

Councils across Australia are currently experiencing fuel supply constraints, particularly in relation to diesel availability and delivery reliability.

The Australian Local Government Association has recently highlighted that fuel supply pressures are emerging as a national issue for local government, with implications for:

- Delivery of essential services
- Financial sustainability due to rising costs
- Operational continuity in regional and rural areas

ALGA has further emphasised that councils play a critical frontline role in maintaining essential community services, and that fuel security is therefore a key operational risk.

### **REPORT**

Upper Lachlan Shire Council has been working closely with Country Mayors Association (CMA), Local Government NSW (LGNSW) and the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) to advocate for fuel access for regional areas and fuel security for Local Government.

Through this collaborative approach, several consistent impacts have been identified across councils, including but not limited to;

#### Service Delivery Risk

- Potential disruption to waste collection, road maintenance and water/sewer services
- Increased vulnerability in regional areas reliant on bulk fuel deliveries

**Chief Executive Officer**  
**COUNCIL FUEL SUPPLY UPDATE cont'd**

Financial Pressure

- Increased fuel costs due to supply constraints
- Exposure to spot purchasing and reduced contract certainty

Supply Chain Constraints

- Distribution challenges rather than absolute fuel shortages
- Competition for fuel across agriculture, freight and emergency services

Need for National Coordination

- Advocacy for councils to be recognised as essential service providers in fuel allocation frameworks

These findings align closely with ULSCs situation where we have experienced or are likely to experience:

- Intermittent constraints on bulk fuel supply
- Reduced flexibility in delivery timeframes
- Heightened need to actively manage depot fuel stocks
- Increased supply costs

At present, fuel supply remains sufficient to maintain 'business as usual' and a reserve for critical operations, however the situation requires ongoing monitoring and active management.

In line with this, council has developed a fuel shortage - operational business continuity plan and implemented several proactive operational controls.

Security Measures

- After-hours access to depot fuel bowsers suspended
- Pumps secured outside operational hours
- Increased monitoring of fuel usage and storage levels
- Reinforced site security (gates, access control, CCTV awareness)

Fuel usage prioritised for:

- Essential waste collection services
- Water and sewer operations
- Emergency response and essential infrastructure works

Fleet and Workforce Management

- Staff directed to ensure vehicles are fuelled during standard hours
- Reduction in non-essential travel
- Improved coordination of vehicle use across teams

**Chief Executive Officer**  
**COUNCIL FUEL SUPPLY UPDATE cont'd**

Supply Chain Engagement

- Ongoing engagement with fuel suppliers regarding delivery schedules
- Monitoring of allocation limits (if applicable) and contingency planning

**Conclusion**

Fuel supply constraints are being experienced across several sectors including the local government sector, with national-level recognition of the issue through ALGA.

Upper Lachlan Shire Council has implemented appropriate and timely operational measures to manage this risk, however due to the volatility of the conflict, it is important that council remains dynamic in its approach to business continuity and essential service delivery.

**POLICY IMPACT**

Nil

**OPTIONS**

Nil

**FINANCIAL IMPACT OF RECOMMENDATIONS**

Nil

**RECOMMENDATION** That -

1. Council receive and note the report as information only.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Nil