



MediaRelease



Laidley Library upgrade

A big ticket project in Council's 2016/17 Budget will be an all-new Library and Customer Service Centre for Laidley.

Council will contribute \$600,000 towards the development. A grant of \$264,000, under the Local Government Grants and Subsidies Program (LGGSP), will further help facilitate the project.

Council's Mayor Tanya Milligan said the community had voiced their concerns over the unsuitability of the current Library – and Council listened.

“The current Laidley Library has been plagued by flooding in both the 2011, and particularly the 2013 flood event.

“Both residents and staff were fed-up with temporary facilities and longed for a permanent library.

“We understand how important a library is to the residents of Laidley and that is why we have prioritised this as a major project in the 2016/17 Budget.

“While Council's adopted budget 2016/17 is responsible, we want to ensure the Lockyer Valley region continues to thrive and an important part of that is investing in new community infrastructure. Particularly those that provide a vital service, such as a library, to the community,” Mayor Milligan said.

Fulton Trotter Architects have provided a concept design for a refurbished Library and Customer Contact Centre.

The concept design incorporates the refurbishment of the Old Laidley Town Hall and the removal of the adjacent administration building.

At a recent Council meeting, Councillors moved to relocate the Laidley Library operation to temporary accommodation situated at the Laidley Community Youth Centre car park located in William Street, Laidley during the refurbishment of the existing building in Spicer Street. Council's Customer Service and Contact Centre services will be relocated to Neilson's Place.

Council's Deputy Mayor and Facilities Portfolio Councillor, Jason Cook, said tender documentation would be finalised August, with a successful tender to be awarded by the end of September.

“After that it will be all systems go, with demolition of the old administration building allowing the refurbishment to get underway from mid-October.

“We will also address the pedestrian connection to McNulty Park and ensure that is improved,” he said.

It is anticipated the new Laidley Library and Customer Service Centre will be completed towards the end of March 2017.