



Bland Shire Council
Business Paper
Ordinary Council Meeting
15 March 2016



OUR VISION, MISSION AND VALUES



ETHICAL DECISION MAKING AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST
A guiding checklist for Councillors, Officers and Advisory Committees

Ethical Decision Making

- Is the decision or conduct legal?
- Is it consistent with Government policy, Council's objectives and Code of Conduct?
- What will the outcome be for you, your colleagues, the Council, anyone else?
- Does it raise a conflict of interest?
- Could your possible conflict of interest lead to private gain or loss at public expense?
- Can the decision be justified in terms of public interest?
- Would it withstand public scrutiny?

Conflict of Interest

- A conflict of interest is a clash between private interest and public duty. There are two types of conflict: Pecuniary – regulated by the Local Government Act and Office of Local Government and, Non-pecuniary – regulated by Codes of Conduct and policy. ICAC, Ombudsman, Office of Local Government (advice only).

The test for conflict of interest

- Is it likely I could be influenced by personal interest in carrying out my public duty?
- Would a fair and reasonable person believe I could be so influenced?
- Conflict of interest is closely tied to the layperson's definition of "corruption" – using public office for private gain.
- Important to consider public perceptions of whether you have a conflict of interest

Identifying Problems

1st - Do I have private interest affected by a matter I am officially involved in?

2nd - Is my official role one of influence or perceived influence over the matter?

3rd - Do my private interest's conflict with my official role?

Whilst seeking advice is generally useful, the ultimate decision rests with the person concerned.

Agency Advice

Officers of the following agencies are available during office hours to discuss the obligations placed on Councillors, Officers and Advisory Committee members by various pieces of legislation, regulation and Codes.

Contact	Phone	Email	Website
Bland Shire Council	6972 2266	council@blandshire.nsw.gov.au	www.blandshire.nsw.gov.au
ICAC	8281 5999 Toll Free: 1800 463 909	icac@icac.nsw.gov.au	www.icac.nsw.gov.au
Office of Local Government	4428 4100	dlg@dlg.nsw.gov.au	www.dlg.nsw.gov.au
NSW Ombudsman	9286 1000 Toll Free: 1800 451 524	nswombo@ombo.nsw.gov.au	www.ombo.nsw.gov.au

Common Acronyms Used in Bland Shire Council Reports and Documents

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ACAT	Aged Care Assessment Team
AFZ	Alcohol Free Zone
AGM	Annual General Meeting
ALIA	Australian Library and Information Association
AMP	Asset Management Plan
BCA	Building Code of Australia
BFMC	Bush Fire Management Committee
BFMP	Bush Fire Management Plan
BSC	Bland Shire Council
BWW	Business West Wyalong
CASA	Civil Aviation Safety Authority
CBD	Central Business District
CDAT	Community Drug Action Team
CDO	Community Development Officer
CENTROC	Central West Regional Group of Councils
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CLRS	Councillors
CPD	Continuing Professional Development
CPI	Consumer Price Index
CPP	Cowal Partnering Program
Cr	Councillor
CRO	Community Relations Officer
CSP	Community Strategic Plan
CSU	Childrens Services Unit
CT	Community Technology
CWA	Country Women's Association
DA	Development Application
DAES	Director Asset & Engineering Services
DCCDS	Director Corporate, Community & Development Services
DCP	Development Control Plan
DEMO	District Emergency Management Officer
DEOCON	District Emergency Controller
DisPlan	Disaster Plan (Local DisPlan, District DisPlan, State DisPlan)
DP	Delivery Program
DPI	Department of Primary Industries
EA	Executive Assistant
EAP	Employee Assistance Program
ED	Economic Development
EDVETACW	Economic Development, Visitor Economy & Tourism Advisory Committee of the Whole
EEO	Equal Employment Opportunity
EOI	Expression of Interest
EPAA	Environmental Planning & Assessment Act
ERA	Eastern Riverina Arts
EWSA	Educator Workplace Safety Audit
EWV	Events West Wyalong
EYLF	Early Years Learning Framework
FAG	Financial Assistance Grant
FDC	Family Day Care
FFTF	Fit for the Future
FRRR	Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal
FYI	For your information
GIPA	Government Information (Public Access) Act
GM	General Manager
GTAN	Government Training & Assistance Network
GWCC	Goldenfields Water County Council

HACC	Home and Community Care
HR	Human Resources
ICAC	Independent Commission Against Corruption
IPART	Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal
IPR or IP&R	Integrated Planning and Reporting
ITAV	It Takes A Village Program
JO	Joint Organisation
K&G	Kerb and gutter
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
LALC	Local Aboriginal Lands Council
LBDC	Little Bangs Discovery Club
LCGMCAC	Lake Cowal Gold Mine Closure Advisory Committee
LEMC	Local Emergency Management Committee
LEMO	Local Emergency Management Officer
LEOC	Local Emergency Operations Centre
LEOCON	Local Emergency Operations Controller
LEP	Local Environmental Plan
LG	Local Government
LGA	Local Government Act or Local Government Area
LGNSW	Local Government New South Wales
LIAC	Legal Information Access Centre
LTFP	Long Term Financial Plan
M	Million
Manex	Management Executive
MHDA	Mental Health Drug & Alcohol
MLC	Member of the Legislative Council
MML	Murrumbidgee Medicare Local
MOW	Meals on Wheels
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MP	Member of Parliament
MPHN	Murrumbidgee Primary Health Network
MPR	Multi Purpose Room
MR	Main Road
MRU	Mobile Resource Unit
NAIDOC	National Aboriginal & Islander Observance Committee
NGO	Non-Government Organisation
NQF	National Quality Framework
NSRF	National Stronger Regions Fund
NSWEC	New South Wales Electoral Commission
NSWPLA	New South Wales Public Libraries Association
NSWRFS	NSW Rural Fire Service
OGM	Office of the General Manager
OLG	Office of Local Government
OP	Operational Plan
P&G	Parks & Gardens
PA	Per Annum
PC	Personal Computer
PCBU	Person Conducting a Business or Undertaking
PHaMs	Personal Helpers and Mentors
PLA	Public Library Association
POEO	Protection of the Environment Operations Act & Regulations
PSITAB	NSW Public Sector Industry Advisory Board
PSSA	NSW Primary Schools Sports Association
R2R	Roads to Recovery
Rd	Road
RDA	Regional Development Australia
RDO	Rostered Day Off
Rec	Recreation
REROC	Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils

RFS	Rural Fire Service
RMAP	Risk Management Action Plan
RMS	Roads & Maritime Services
RRL	Riverina Regional Library
RTO	Registered Training Organisation
RV	Recreational Vehicle
SEDTA	Senior Economic Development & Tourism Advisor
SEPP	State Environmental Planning Policy
SES	State Emergency Service
SH	State Highway
SLA	Service-level agreement
SLNSW	State Library New South Wales
SRC	Summer Reading Club
SRV	Special Rate Variation
St	Street
STW	Sewerage Treatment Works
TASAC	Tourist Attraction Signposting Assessment Committee
TCORP	Treasury Corporation
TVET	TAFE Delivered Vocational Education & Training
USU	United Services Union
VC	Victoria Cross
VIC	Visitor Information Centre
WAPS	Workforce Assessment Plan & Strategy
WHS	Work Health & Safety
WWBC	West Wyalong Bowling Club
WWFHG	West Wyalong Family History Group
WWRL	West Wyalong Rugby League



Council Meeting Agenda

15 March 2016

commencing at 6:30PM

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Let us acknowledge the Wiradjuri people, their elders past and present, traditional custodians of the land we now share.

Let us be inspired by the resilience, innovation and perseverance of past generations.

Let us honour those who protect this great land, may you draw strength from your God or Faith

so that we may, here today, on behalf of our community, - build a vibrant future together.

("Pause for Reflection").

2.0 ATTENDANCE

2.1 Councillors

Cr P Grellman

Cr L Hampton

Cr K Keatley

Cr T Lord

Cr L McGlynn

Cr B Monaghan

Cr L Pike

Cr N Pokoney

Cr P Templeton

2.2 Staff

General Manager – Ray Smith

Director Asset & Engineering Services – Will Marsh

Director Corporate, Community & Development Services – Adele Casey

Executive Assistant – Julie Sharpe

2.3 Apologies

3.0 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

3.1 Ordinary Meeting held on 16 February 2016

- **Confirmation**

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 16 February 2016 be confirmed as a correct record of proceedings.

- **Corrections**

- **Business Arising**

4.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

A pecuniary interest is an interest that a person has in a matter because of a reasonable likelihood or expectation of appreciable financial gain or loss the person or another person with whom the person is associated.

A person does not have a pecuniary interest in a matter if the interest is so remote or insignificant that it could not reasonably be regarded as likely to influence any decision a person might make in relation to a matter.

Councillor/Officer	Item	Nature of Interest

5.0 PUBLIC FORUM

6.0 MAYORAL MINUTE

7.0 NOTICES OF MOTION

8.0 DELEGATES & ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS

Section 1 – Delegates & Advisory Committee Reports & Minutes *(for information)*

9.0 STAFF REPORTS

That the Council receive the staff reports.

Section 2 – Office of the General Manager <i>(reports for decision)</i>		
9.1	Progress Report on the Delivery Program 2013-2016	30
9.2	Service Delivery and Organisation Structure Review (March 2016)	93
9.3	Refurbishment of the Perseverance Street Sports Complex Stadium – Progress Report (March 2016)	99
9.4	Local Government Innovation Fund – Round One	101
9.5	Bland – Temora NSW Rural Fire Service - Draft Estimates 2016/17	103
Section 3 – Corporate, Community & Development Services <i>(reports for decision)</i>		
9.6	Financial Statements – February 2016	105
9.7	Making Of Rates 2016/17	111
9.8	Community Grants and Donations Policy	117
9.9	Strengthening Communities Grant – Weethalle Rodeo	121
9.10	Strengthening Communities Grant – West Wyalong Harness Racing Club	123
Section 4 – Asset & Engineering Services <i>(reports for decision)</i>		
9.11	Local Emergency Management Arrangements	125
Section 5 – Reports for Information		
9.12	Asset & Engineering Services Report	128
9.13	Bland Shire Library Monthly Update	131
9.14	Children Services Monthly Update	133
9.15	Community Services Report	135
9.16	Development Services Activity Report	139
9.17	Economic Development & Tourism Report -February	142

10.0 URGENT BUSINESS WITHOUT NOTICE

11.0 QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

- Matters to be dealt with arising out of the proceedings of former meetings of the Council
- Other Matters

12.0 CLOSURE OF THE MEETING TO DISCUSS CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 10A(2) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT

12.1 Expressions of Interest – Purchase of 184 Main Street West Wyalong

Local Government Act 1993 (section 10A (2) (d) (i)

The matters and information are commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed, prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

12.2 Strategic Property Purchase

Local Government Act 1993 (Section 10A (2) (d) (i)

The matters and information are commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed, prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

12.3 West Wyalong Caravan Park

Local Government Act 1993 (section 10A (2) (d) (i)

The matters and information are commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed, prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

12.4 Request To Waive Interest On Outstanding Rates

Local Government Act {Section10A(2)(b)}

The matters and information are the personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer

12.5 Investigation into Locations for a Visitor Information Centre (Revised – March 2016)

Local Government Act 1993 (section 10A (2) (d) (i)

The matters and information are commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed, prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

13.0 RESUMPTION OF THE MEETING AND CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CLOSED SECTION OF THE MEETING

14.0 CLOSE OF THE MEETING

SECTION 1 – DELEGATES & ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS

Our leadership

Setting a benchmark for community standards

Vision: A well run council acting as the voice of the community

DP15.2 Working in partnership with community groups, advisory committees, Government Departments, businesses and Council staff

Officer's Recommendation:

That the Council receive and note the delegate and advisory committee reports from Councillors and Advisory Committee meeting minutes as presented.

Section 1 – Delegates & Advisory Committee Reports & Minutes (for information)

Committee	Date/s	Minutes attached
Access Advisory Committee (Cr Grellman)	19 th February 2016	✓
Australia Day Awards Committee of the Whole (Whole of Council)		
Australian Rural Roads Group Inc (Cr Grellman)		
Bland Rural Fire District Zone Liaison Committee (Cr Keatley, Cr Grellman - alternate)	23 rd March 2016	
Bland – Temora RFS Zone Bushfire Management Committee (Cr Keatley, Cr Grellman - alternate)	23 rd March 2016	
Country Mayors Association of NSW (Mayor & General Manager)	5 th November 2015 11 th March 2016	✓
Cowal Gold Project Community Environmental Monitoring & Consultative Committee (CEMCC) (Mayor Pokoney, Deputy Mayor Cr McGlynn - alternate, Cr Hampton - observer)	2 nd March 2016	
Cultural Advisory Committee (Cr McGlynn, Cr Keatley)	14 th March 2016	
Goldenfields Water County Council Board (Cr Templeton)	25 th February 2016 28 th April 2016	
Heritage Advisory Committee (Cr McGlynn, Cr Grellman)	6 th April 2016	

Lake Cowal Gold Mine Closure Advisory Committee <i>(Mayor Pokoney, Deputy Mayor Cr McGlynn, GM)</i>		
Internal Audit Committee <i>(Cr Templeton, Cr Monaghan)</i>		
Local Traffic Advisory Committee <i>(Mayor Pokoney, Cr Grellman - alternate)</i>		
Murrumbidgee Primary Health Network <i>(Cr Monaghan)</i>		
Museums Advisory Committee <i>(Cr Lord, Cr Keatley)</i>	31 st March 2016	
Newell Highway Taskforce <i>(Cr Lord)</i>		
NSW Association of Mining Related Councils <i>(Cr McGlynn, Cr Hampton)</i>	13 th November 2015 19 th February 2016	✓ ✓
Plant Committee <i>(Cr Grellman, Cr Templeton, Cr Lord)</i>		
Public Libraries NSW South-West Zone		
Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils (REROC) <i>(Mayor Pokoney)</i>	8 th December 2015 23 rd February 2016	
Riverina Regional Library Advisory Committee <i>(Cr Lord, Cr Monaghan - alternate)</i>	28 th October 2015	
Riverina Regional Tourism <i>(Cr Lord)</i>		

**MINUTES OF THE BLAND SHIRE ACCESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD
AT THE WEST WYALONG COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE ON FRIDAY 19 FEBRUARY
2016 - COMMENCING AT 10:30AM.**

Present: R Black, Cr P Grellman, G Platz, W Bowles, A Casey (Director Corporate, Community and Development Services), R McDonnell (Community Development Officer).

Apologies: F Mitchell

ITEM 1 WELCOME

W Bowles opened the meeting at 10:37am and thanked everyone for their attendance.

ITEM 2 COFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on Friday 6 February 2015 were accepted.

Moved: P Grellman **Seconded:** A Casey Carried

ITEM 3 MATTERS ARISING

3.1 Actions from previous meeting

3.1.1 Access Grant Guidelines

The Access Grant Guidelines were reviewed and tabled by the committee. A suggestion was put forward that the use of the term 'encouragement award' should be reviewed prior to the adoption of the guidelines. It was reported to the committee that the guidelines would not take effect until the end of the financial year once final grant budget allocations are known.

3.2 International Day of People with Disability 2015

It was reported to the committee that there were approximately 35 – 40 community members in attendance at the 2015 International Day of People with Disability celebrations. It was further noted that all feedback received was positive. The committee put forward their desire to hold the 2016 celebrations at Cafe Peckish following the positive feedback and great atmosphere of the previous event. It was further noted that the new Dentist located in the Main Street should be the recipient of an Access Award at this year's celebrations.

ITEM 4 GENERAL BUSINESS

4.1 Mobility Access Map

Committee members were provided with a copy of the new Mobility Access Map for review. All committee members noted they are thrilled with the new Mobility Map and reported they would like copies of the map distributed to local motels and hotels along with a letter regarding accessibility as part of a campaign to increase access awareness within the community and promote the availability of the remaining Access Incentive Scheme Grant funding. There was further a proposal put forward to develop an access friendly rating scale for hotels and motels so that these businesses are able to promote how access friendly they are to the community and tourists. It was suggested that Development Services staff may be able to assist in this process. Rebecca and Adele are to discuss the matter with Development Services Staff and report back to the next meeting.

4.2 Location of future meetings

At the request of Committee Members, Access Advisory Committee meetings will continue to be held at the West Wyalong Community Health Centre.

4.3 Update/environmental scan

A Casey provided the committee with an update regarding Council's current position in relation to the state governments Fit for the Future proposal and what this may mean for Council and the committee in the future. It was reported to the committee the amount of Access Incentive Scheme grant funding noted in the draft budget for 2016/2017 has been reduced to \$10,000 as a result of the need to decrease Council budgets across the board.

4.4 Timeframes for 2016

Meetings will continue to be held on the first Friday of February, May, August and November. It was further reported that current terms will expire in accordance with the cycle on which Council is elected, with members being required to nominate again should they wish to continue on the committee.

4.5 New members

Members of the committee noted that due to a reduction in numbers they feel it is necessary to investigate co-opting some new members. A number of names were put forward for the Community Development Officer to contact with an invitation to join the committee.

Members reported their desire to formally recognise the significant contribution of former committee member Alison Templeman and the huge impact Alison had on the committee and raising awareness of access issue with the Bland Shire Community. Alison was an extremely proactive member of the committee since its inception and had a profoundly positive effect on both the committee and the Bland Shire community. Alison will be greatly missed by all who had the pleasure of working with her.

4.6 Riding for the Disabled meeting

The committee was informed of local resident Sarah Gillett's plans to launch a Riding for the Disabled (RDA) Centre in West Wyalong and informed of the community meeting that that will be held to gather support for the cause. Committee members were asked to attend if possible to show support for the service and distribute information regarding the meeting throughout their networks.

ITEM 5 MEDIA

The media item for this quarter will be an advertisement in the Advocate promoting remaining funds in the Access Incentive Scheme budget to local businesses, specifically targeting motels and hotels in accordance with the committee's priority of improving access in these premises.

ITEM 6 PRIORITIES

The priorities for this quarter include:

- Contacting new members to be invited onto the committee
- Promotion of remaining Access Incentive Scheme Funding
- Working with local motels and hotels to improve access within these premises and promote their level of access friendliness to the community and tourists

ITEM 7 FINANCE

There is currently \$9,465 available in the Access Incentive Scheme Grant budget

ITEM 8 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the upcoming meeting has been set for Friday 6 May, 2016 at 10:30am.

ITEM 9 CLOSE OF MEETING

W Bowles closed the meeting at 11:51am.



Country Mayors Association of NEW SOUTH WALES

Chairman: Cr Rod Kendall
PO Box 20 Wagga Wagga NSW 2650
02 69269111
ABN 92 803 490 533

MINUTES

GENERAL MEETING

THURSDAY, 5 NOVEMBER 2015, COUNTRY EMBASSY, SYDNEY

The meeting opened at 9.30am

1. ATTENDANCE:

Albury City Council, Cr Hank Van de Ven, Mayor
Albury City Council, Mr Frank Zaknich, General Manager
Armidale Dumaresq Council, Cr Herman Beyersdorf, Mayor
Armidale Dumaresq Council, Mr Glen Wilcox, General Manager
Bathurst Regional Council, Cr Gary Rush, Mayor
Bathurst Regional Council, Mr David Sherley, General Manager
Bega Valley Shire Council, Cr Michael Britten, Mayor
Bellingen Shire Council, Cr Mark Troy, Mayor
Berrigan Shire Council, Cr Bernard Curtin, Mayor
Berrigan Shire Council, Mr Rowan Perkins, General Manager
Bland Shire Council, Cr Neil Pokoney, Mayor
Boorowa Council, Cr Wendy Tuckerman, Mayor
Boorowa Council, Ms Anthony McMahon, General Manager
Carrathool Shire Council, Cr Peter Laird, Mayor
Carrathool Shire Council, Mr Ken Murphy, Acting General manager
Clarence Valley Council, Mr Scott Greensill, General Manager
Coffs Harbour City Council, Mr Stephen McGrath, General Manager
Coonamble Shire Council, Cr Michael Webb, Mayor
Deniliquin Shire Council, Cr Ashley Hall, Mayor
Deniliquin Shire Council, Mr Des Bilske, General Manager
Dubbo City Council, Cr Mathew Dickenson, Mayor
Dubbo City Council, Mr Mark Riley, General Manager
Eurobodalla Shire Council, Cr Lindsay Brown, Mayor
Griffith City Council, Cr John Dal Broi, Mayor
Griffith City Council, Mr Brett Stonestreet, General Manager
Harden Shire Council, Cr John Horton, Mayor
Harden Shire Council, Mr Trevor Drowley, General Manager
Jerilderie Shire Council, Cr Ruth McRae, Mayor

Jerilderie Shire Council, Mr Craig Moffitt, General Manager
Leeton Shire Council, Cr Paul Maytom , Mayor
Leeton Shire Council, Ms Jackie Kruger, General Manager
Lithgow City Council, Cr Maree Stratham, Mayor
Lithgow City Council, Mr Roger Bailey, General Manager
Lockhart Shire Council, Cr Peter Yates, Mayor
Lockhart Shire Council, Cr Roger Schirmer Deputy Mayor
Moree Plains Shire Council, Cr Katrina Humphries, Mayor
Murray Shire Council, Cr John Pocklington, Mayor
Murray Shire Council, Ms Margot Stork, General Manager
Narrabri Shire Council, Cr Cathy Redding, Deputy Mayor
Shoalhaven City Council, Cr Allan Baptise, Assistant Deputy Mayor
Tamworth Regional Council, Cr Col Murray, Mayor
Tamworth Regional Council, Mr Paul Bennett, General Manager
Tumbarumba Shire Council, Cr Ian Chaffey, Mayor
Uralla Shire Council, Cr Michael Pearce, Mayor
Urana Shire Council, Cr Patrick Burke, Mayor
Urana Shire Council, Mr Adrian Butler, General Manager
Wagga Wagga City Council, Cr Rod Kendall, Mayor
Wakool Shire Council, Cr Neil Gorey, Mayor
Wakool Shire Council, Cr Ann Crowe, Deputy Mayor
Wakool Shire Council, Mr Bruce Graham, General Manager
Walcha Shire Council, Cr Janelle Archdale, Mayor
Walcha shire Council, Mr Jack O'Hara, General Manager
Warrumbungle Shire Council, Cr Peter Shinton, Mayor
Warrumbungle Shire Council, Mr Steve Loane, General Manager
Yass Valley Council, Cr Rowena Abbey, Mayor
Yass Valley Council, Mr David Rowe, General Manager

Guests

LGNSW, Cr Keith Rhoades, President
LGNSW, Cr Greg Matthews, Vice President Rural
RAMROC, Cr Terry Hogan, Chairman
RAMROC, Mr Ray Stubbs, Secretary
Corowa Shire Council, Cr Paul Miegec, Mayor
Corowa Shire Council, Mr Chris Gillard, General Manager
Oberon Shire Council, Cr Kerry Gibbons, Deputy Mayor
Oberon Shire Council, Mr Gary Wallace, Acting General Manager

APOLOGIES:

As submitted

SPECIAL GUESTS:

Hon Peter Primrose MLC, Shadow Minister for Local Government, Shadow Minister for Innovation and Better Regulation
Hon Paul Green MLC, Christian Democratic Party
Hon Niall Blair MLC, Minister for Primary Industries, Minister for Land and Water

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

RESOLVED that the minutes of the General Meeting held on 6 August 2015 be accepted as a true and accurate record (Harden Shire Council Council / Moree Plains Shire Council).

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

NIL

4. Presentation

Hon Peter Primrose MLC, Shadow Minister for Local Government, Shadow Minister for Innovation and Better Regulation

Rather than talk about matters that he may think interested the meeting Peter threw the meeting over to questions from the floor. The Oppositions stand on Fit for the Future is that you need to look at financial viability of local Government such as Rating, Cost Shifting, freezing FAGs etc before you look at structures. Nobody knows what the Fit for the Future process is or what the next step is going to be. The 18th December is the last sitting day for Parliament so debate has been gagged until next year. Any Legislative change has to be passed by the Legislative Council and presumably any amalgamation proposals will be referred to the Boundaries Commission. The Hands of Treasury and TCorp are very much evident in the Fit for the Future process. The question needs to be asked as to whether IPART has the right to make assessments. The Oppositions preferred option is voluntary amalgamations. There is no evidence that bigger is better.

5. Presentation

Hon Paul Green MLC

Paul is a member of the Christian Democratic Party which holds the balance of power in the Legislative Council. He is temporary Chair of Committees, Chairman of General Purpose Standing Committee No 6, Vice Chairman of General Purpose Standing Committee No 2 and a member of the Standing Committee on State Development. He has been involved in a number of Inquiries across the State. Holding the balance of power does not give you the right to be obstructionist but you have a duty to ensure good government by influencing legislation. The general Purpose Standing Committee No 6 has held an inquiry into Local Government in NSW and the Fit for the Future program. The inquiry looked into financial management of Local Government, rate pegging, rate exemptions, freezing of FAGs, cost shifting, the contribution that water makes to financial stability and boundary changes. The report has 17 recommendations and 9 findings. The Christian Democrats will be meeting with Ministers and doing all in their power to have the recommendations adopted.

6. Membership

RESOLVED That Bega Valley Shire Council and Lockhart Shire Council be admitted as members of the Association (Moree Plains Shire Council / Eurobodalla Shire Council)

7. CORRESPONDENCE

Outward

- (a) Hon Anthony Roberts MP, Minister for Industry, Resources and Energy, Hon Troy Grant MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Justice and Police, Minister for the Arts and Minister for Racing, Hon John Barilaro MP, Minister for Regional Development, Minister for Skills and Minister for

Small Business, and Mr David Harris MP, Shadow Minister for Regional Development requesting reconsideration of the closure of the "Country Embassy" Trade and Investment Centre

- (b) The Hon Rob Stokes MP, Minister for Planning, The Hon Duncan Gay MLC, Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, and The Hon Paul Toole MP, Minister for Local Government thanking them for their presentations to the meeting held on 6 August 2015
- (c) Mr Andrew Penn, CEO, Telstra Corporation Ltd, Mr Inaki Berroeta, CEO, Vodafone Hutchison Australia, Australian Competition and Consumer Commission, The Hon Paul Fletcher MP, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Communications, Marine Rescue NSW, NSW Police Force, NSW Rural Fire Service, and NSW State Emergency Services requesting that Telstra and Vodafone be required to support rural and regional Australia, by confirming that they will include new and updated base stations/towers, funded under all rounds of the Australian Government Mobile Blackspot Programme, in the Wholesale Products they offer to all mobile service providers.
- (d) The Hon Joe Hockey MP, Treasurer, and The Hon David Elliott, Minister for Corrections, Minister for Emergency Services and Minister for Veterans Affairs seeking more funding for mitigation and not supporting cutbacks in federal funding for restoration of flood damaged assets after natural disasters.
- (e) The Hon Tony Abbott, Prime Minister expressing support for the Inland Rail project.

Inward

- (a) Mr Inaki Berroeta, CEO, Vodafone Hutchison Australia Pty Limited Re Mobile Black Spot Programme (Copy Attached)
- (b) Mr Andrew Penn, CEO, Telstra Corporation Limited, Re Mobile Blackspot Programme (Copy Attached)
- (c) The Hon Michael Keenan MP, Minister Assisting the Prime Minister on Counter Terrorism, Re Natural Disaster Funding (Copy Attached)
- (d) The Hon Anthony Roberts MP, Minister for Industry, Resources and Energy Re Country Embassy (Copy Attached)
- (e) Senator The Hon James McGrath Assistant Minister to the Prime Minister Re Inland Rail (Copy Attached)

NOTED

8. FINANCIAL REPORT

RESOLVED That the financial reports for the last quarter were tabled and accepted (Shoalhaven City Council / Carrathool Shire Council)

Adjournment of Meeting 11.18am

RESOLVED That the General Meeting be adjourned to allow the Annual General Meeting to be held (Dubbo City Council / Tamworth Regional Council)

Recommencement of General Meeting 11.45am

RESOLVED That the General Meeting be reconvened (Armidale Dumaresq Council / Carrathool Shire Council)

9. General Business

(a) Discussion Paper Natural Disaster Funding

RESOLVED That the Association write to the Federal and State Ministers for the Environment requesting that all costs approved for claimed emergencies for plant, equipment and personnel be fully compensated (Warrumbungle Shire Council / Harden Shire Council)

(b) Murray Darling Basin Plan

RESOLVED That the RAMROC submission be circulated to members and then referred to the Executive to determine the support of the Association (Moree Plains Shire Council / Tamworth Regional Council)

(c) Future Meeting Venue

The "Country Embassy" Trade and Investment Centre will close in May 2016 and an alternate meeting venue needs to be found. The Chairman is to be at a meeting with the Premier this afternoon and will seek to have the Jubilee Room at Parliament House made available to us at favourable terms

10. Presentation

Hon Niall Blair MLC, Minister for primary Industries, Minister for Lands and Water

Poles and Wires legislation has provided additional investment opportunities in water which will benefit the Country Towns Water Supply scheme. A blueprint for water projects across NSW is being developed. The State Government has made a written submission on the Murray Darling Basin Plan. Regional Weeds Committees are to be reduced to eleven by Local Lands Services. The Crown Lands Review will result in eight pieces of legislation being rolled into one. A Local Land Pilot is to assess what is Local and State land and how to manage them in the future. If Councils object to taking over management of land it will not be transferred. The Department of Primary Industries Strategic Plan was released last week. It is driven by economic growth and contains a \$300 million drought package.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 1.00pm.

Cr Rod Kendall

Chair – Country Mayor's Association of NSW



**Minutes of
NSW Association of Mining Related Councils Inc.
Ordinary Meeting
Thursday 13th November 2015
Cabonne Shire Council Chambers
99-101 Bank Street
Molong**

The meeting commenced at 10 26 am

Attendance

Cr Peter Shinton	Warrumbungle Shire Council (Chair)
Cr Chris Connor	Wollongong City Council (Deputy Chair)
Cr Lilliane Brady (OAM)	Cobar Shire Council (Deputy Chair)
Steve Loane	Warrumbungle Shire Council
Gary Woodman	Cobar Shire Council
Mr Ron Zwicker	Wollongong City Council
Cr Sharon Wilcox	Cabonne Shire Council
M/S Heather Nicholls	Cabonne Shire Council
Cr Liz McGlynn	Bland Shire Council
Cr Leeanne Hampton	Bland Shire Council
Cr Catherine Collyer	Narrabri Shire Council
Cr Owen Hasler	Gunnedah Shire Council
Mr Andrew Spooner	Campbelltown City Council
Mr Greg Lamont	Narromine Shire Council
Cr Tony Ellis	Narromine Shire Council
Cr Bob Pynsent	Cessnock City Council
M/S Rebecca Ryan	Blayney Shire Council
Cr Allan Ewin	Blayney Shire Council
Cr Michael Bansik	Wollondilly Shire Council
Cr Holee Jenkins	Singleton Council

Staff

Mr Don Tydd	Executive Officer
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Guests

Mr Tim Hanson	National Heavy Vehicle Regulator
Mr Warwick Giblin	OzEnvironmental Pty Ltd



Apologies

Cr Gordon Bradbery OAM	Wollongong City Council
Cr Col Mitchell	Wollondilly Shire Council
Mr David Henry	Wollondilly Shire Council
Cr John Martin OAM	Singleton Council
Cr Neil Pokoney	Bland Shire Council
Cr Robyn Faber	Narrabri Shire Council
Cr Conrad Bolton	Narrabri Shire Council
Mr Stewart Todd	Narrabri Shire Council
Cr Scott Ferguson	Blayney Shire Council
Cr Col Stewart	Liverpool Plains Shire Council
Mr Ron Van Katwyk	Liverpool Plains Shire Council
Cr Nuatali Nelmes	Newcastle City Council
Cr Paul Hawker	Campbelltown City Council
M/S Donna Ausling	Liverpool Plains Shire Council
Cr Jim Nolan	Broken Hill City Council
Cr Michael Greenwood	Parkes Shire Council
Cr Peter Bishop	Upper Hunter Shire Council
Mr Brad Cam	Mid Western Regional Council
Cr Rebecca Ryan	Gunnedah Shire Council
M/S Julie Goodwin	Accounts Administrator
Mr Peter Kalowski	Wentworth Shire Council

1, One minute Silence in Respect of the Passing of the Late Councillor Hans Allgayer, former Association delegate, Gunnedah Shire Council.

All present observed a one minute silence in respect to the passing of the Late Councillor Hans Allgayer.

Councillor Owen Hasler, Mayor and Association delegate, Gunnedah Shire Council spoke to the meeting on the life of the Late Councillor Hans Allgayer. Councillor Hasler said he had lost a close friend and colleague. The late Councillor Allgayer had been a very active member of the Gunnedah Community including membership of the Gunnedah West Rotary Club and he had been involved in many community programs including personal involvement in the redevelopment of the area known locally as Pensioners' Hill.

As a Councillor with Gunnedah Shire Council over many years he had been closely involved in many of the council projects and other developments throughout the Gunnedah Shire and Gunnedah itself.

He had been a leading member of the local mining community and had been employed to assist with the development of the Whitehaven underground coal mine near Narrabri.

He had achieved many personal goals internationally including climbing Mount Kilimanjaro and walking the Kokoda Trail.



Councillor Hasler's comments were supported by Councillor Banasik who said he had enjoyed the company of the Late Councillor Allgayer at the Association's meetings over many years.

2. Apologies

34 /2015 Resolved that the apologies be received and noted.

(Cr O Hasler/ Cr L Brady)

3. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interests

35 /2015 Resolved delegates now disclose any pecuniary interests and reasons for declaring such interests in the matters under consideration at the meeting.

Ron Zwicker declared an interest through holding AGL shares.
Cr Allan Ewin declared an interest through dealings with NewCrest Mining.

4. Adoption of Minutes, Ordinary Meeting held Thursday 13th August 2015, Parkes Room, Level 47, MLC Centre, Martin Place Sydney.

36/2015 Resolved that minutes of the Association's Ordinary meeting held in the Parkes Room, Level 47, MLC Centre, Martin Place Sydney, 13th August 2015 be received and noted.

(Cr Brady/ Cr Wilcox)

5. Standing Orders- Meeting adjourned at 10 30am

37/2015 Resolved the meeting be adjourned at 10 30am to hear presentation by Mr Tim Hanson.

(Cr Wilcox/ Cr Brady)

6. Presentation by Mr Tim Hanson, Stakeholder Specialist, Engagement and Partnerships, National Heavy Vehicle Regulator.

Mr Hanson spoke to his overhead presentation on the activities of the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator and its involvement with local government.



At the conclusion of his presentation, he answered several questions from delegates.

Steve Loane further commented that revenue needed to be redirected to local government for the costs involved with monitoring heavy vehicle movements through local council areas.

The Chair thanked Mr Hanson for his presentation.

7. Standing Orders--Resumption of meeting 11 07am.

38/2015 Resolved the Ordinary meeting resume.

(Cr Wilcox/ Cr Jenkins)

8. Chairperson's Minute- Voluntary Planning Agreements

37/2015 Resolved the Chairperson's Minute be received and noted.

(Cr Shinton/Cr Wilcox)

9. Report by Councillor Hasler- First Meeting Department of Planning and Environment's Resources Advisory Panel

Councillor Hasler spoke to his report.

39/2015 Resolved:

Councillor Hasler's Report be received and noted.

(Cr Wilcox/Cr Brady)

40/2015 Resolved

1. Association of Mining Related Councils remain part of the Department of Planning and Environment's Resources Advisory Panel and,
2. The Chairperson, Councillor Peter Shinton represents the Association on the Panel and if for any reason he is unavailable, Councillor Owen Hasler be the alternate delegate.

(S Loane/Cr Hasler)



10. Recommendations- Executive Committee meeting held Thursday 2015

10.1. Meeting with Senior Staff, NSW Department of Planning and Environment- Planning Agreements

41/2015 Resolved the Association note that the Department of Planning and Environment is awaiting a report on discussions between this organisation and the NSW Minerals Council in relation to future planning agreements. This matter to be further discussed at the Association's February 2016 meeting.

(Cr Connor/G Lamont)

10.2. Commonwealth Government's Response to FIFO DIDO Enquiry

42/2015 Resolved an invitation be extended to The Honourable Warren Truss, MHR, to attend a future meeting of the Association in 2016 to discuss with this organisation the current Commonwealth Government's response to the previous Government's FIFO DIDO Enquiry. This is based on some member councils concerns with the present lack of a positive response to some of the previous findings.

(Cr Hasler/ Cr Brady)

11. Executive Officer's Report

43/2015 Resolved the Executive Officer's report be received and noted.

(Cr Wilcox/ Cr Brady)

12. Accounting Administrator's Report

44/2015 Resolved the Accounting Administrator's report be received and noted.

(Cr Wilcox/ Cr Brady)

13. Meeting Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11 25am for a short break and resumed at 11 35am.



14. Presentation by Mr Warwick Giblin, Managing Director, OzEnvironmental, current Association directions with Planning Agreements formerly known as Voluntary Planning Agreements.

Mr Giblin spoke to his presentation and answered many questions from delegates on the NSW Minerals Council's draft documents for future planning agreements. He also highlighted issues in those documents which needed discussion by the Association.

The detailed discussions concluded at 12 35pm including how any of the proposals could be legally enforced on other local government councils that were not part of the Association. Mr Giblin's presentation was to be circulated by e mail at the conclusion of the meeting.

Mr Giblin then referred to Recommendation five (5) from the Association's Executive Committee meeting held on the 29th October 2015 in relation to this matter.

Recommendation five (5) from Executive Committee Meeting 29th October 2015.

1. That the AMRC form a VPA Project group of three Council delegates who have experience in negotiating VPAs, plus a designated and appointed VPA Project Manager. The VPA Project Group is to be responsible for representing the interests of AMRC in dialogue with the DP&E, MC and any other relevant stakeholders and to peer review relevant documents and material developed by the MC and DP&E;
2. That an Environmental Expert Panel member who is demonstrably qualified and has a proven track record in preparing and negotiating VPAs be appointed as the VPA Project Manager;
3. That the VPA Project Manager work closely with the three Council delegates in helping the MC and DP&E develop a suitable process;
4. That the VPA Project Manager report in writing monthly to the Executive of the AMRC on progress and current and emerging issues, and more frequently as and when required;
5. That the Executive provide direction to the VPA Project Group as required;
6. That the VPA Project Group engage closely and regularly with the DP&E to strive to win its support for any proposed VPA process modifications it considers to have merit;



7. That the VPA Project Group work to persuade the MC to ground truth the robustness and accuracy of the Umwelt designed socio-economic tool using information on the proposed Shenhua and Cobbora Coal Projects and refine the tool accordingly;
8. That the VPA Project Group provide a scope of work and deliverables required for MC to prepare a Roads contribution tool that the MC will then ground truth using information on the proposed Shenhua and Cobbora Coal Projects and the AMRC will assist to refine; and
9. That the VPA Project Group engage with IPART to ascertain its views on the MC proposal on arbitration.

Resolution: Appointment of an Association VPA Project Group

45/2015 Resolved

1. That the AMRC form a VPA Project group of four Council delegates who have experience in negotiating VPAs, plus a designated and appointed VPA Project advisor.

The four Council delegates are: Councillor Catherine Collier, Councillor Hollee Jenkins, Mr Greg Lamont and Mr Steve Loane with power to coopt other members as required.

The VPA Project Group is to be responsible for representing the interests of AMRC in dialogue with the Department of Planning and Environment (DP&E), NSW Minerals Council (MC) and any other relevant stakeholders and to peer review relevant documents and material developed by the MC and DP&E;

2. That an Environmental Expert Panel member who is demonstrably qualified and has a proven track record in preparing and negotiating Voluntary Planning Agreements (VPAs) Mr Warwick Giblin, Managing Director, OzEnvironmental, be appointed as the VPA Project Advisor at an initial budget of \$15,000;

3. That the VPA Project Advisor work closely with the four Council delegates in helping the MC and DP&E develop a suitable process;

4. That the VPA Project Advisor report in writing monthly to the AMRC Executive Committee on progress and current and emerging issues, and more frequently as and when required;

5. That the Executive Committee provide direction to the VPA Project Group as required;



6. That the VPA Project Group engage closely and regularly with the DP&E to strive to win its support for any proposed VPA process modifications it considers to have merit;

7. That the VPA Project Group work to persuade the MC to ground truth the robustness and accuracy of the Umwelt designed socio-economic tool using information on the proposed Shenhua and Cobbora Coal Projects and refine the tool accordingly;

8. That the VPA Project Group provide a scope of work and deliverables required for MC to prepare a Roads contribution tool that the MC will then ground truth using information on the proposed Shenhua and Cobbora Coal Projects and the AMRC will assist to refine; and

9. That the VPA Project Group engage with The Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) to ascertain its views on the MC proposal on arbitration.

(Cr Brady/ Cr Pynsent)

15. General Business

15.1 Association’s Strategic Planning Document

Greg Lamont raised the matter of the Association’s Strategic Planning Document and the need for the Association’s activities to be reported in terms of the document adopted two years ago. He believed the Executive Committee should review the document. He also believed the Association’s activities could be reported through a regular newsletter.

15.2 Quorums at Meetings

Councillor Hasler raised the matter of what constitutes a quorum at the Association’s meetings. If it was on the number of delegates, then today’s meeting would not have a quorum. If it was based on the number of member councils, then with thirteen member councils represented today at the meeting there was a quorum. The matter needed investigation via the constitution with a report to the Executive Committee.

There being no further businesses, the meeting concluded at 1 14pm

The Minutes (Pages 1-8) were confirmed at a meeting held on Friday 19th February 2016 and are a true and accurate record of proceedings of the meeting held on Thursday 13th November 2015.

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**Cr Peter Shinton
Chairperson**



**Minutes of
NSW Association of Mining Related Councils Inc.
Ordinary Meeting
Friday 19th February 2016
Parkes Room, Level 47
MLC Centre, Martin Place
Sydney**

The meeting commenced at 9.30 am

Attendance

Cr Peter Shinton	Warrumbungle Shire Council (Chair)
Cr Chris Connor	Wollongong City Council (Deputy Chair)
Cr Lilliane Brady (OAM)	Cobar Shire Council (Deputy Chair)
Cr Peter Abbott	Cobar Shire Council
Mr Ron Zwicker	Wollongong City Council
Cr Liz McGlynn	Bland Shire Council
Mr Robert Hunt	Lachlan Shire Council
Cr Dennis Brady	Lachlan Shire Council
Cr Owen Hasler	Gunnedah Shire Council
Mr Michael Silver	Gunnedah Shire Council
Mr Andrew Spooner	Campbelltown City Council
Cr Tony Ellis	Narromine Shire Council
Cr Holee Jenkins	Singleton Council
Cr John Martin (OAM)	Singleton Council
Cr Scott Ferguson	Blayney Shire Council
Cr Nuatali Nelmes	Newcastle City Council
M/S Donna Ausling	Liverpool Plains Shire Council
Cr Robert Webster	Liverpool Plains Shire Council
Cr Jim Nolan	Broken Hill City Council
Cr Michael Greenwood	Parkes Shire Council
Cr Bob Wheeldon	Wentworth Shire Council

Staff

Mr Don Tydd	Executive Officer
M/S Julie Goodwin	Accounts Administrator

Apologies

Cr Gordon Bradbery OAM	Wollongong City Council
Cr Col Mitchell	Wollondilly Shire Council



Mr David Henry
Cr Michael Banasik
Mr Greg Lamont
Cr Neil Pokoney
Cr Catherine Collyer
Cr Robyn Faber
Cr Conrad Bolton
Cr Paul Hawker
Cr Peter Bishop
Mr Brad Cam
Cr Rebecca Ryan
Mr Steve Loane
Cr Bob Pynsent
M/S Rebecca Ryan
Cr Sharon Wilcox
M/S Heather Nicholls

Wollondilly Shire Council
Wollondilly Shire Council
Narromine Shire Council
Bland Shire Council
Narrabri Shire Council
Narrabri Shire Council
Narrabri Shire Council
Narrabri Shire Council
Campbelltown City Council
Upper Hunter Shire Council
Mid Western Regional Council
Gunnedah Shire Council
Warrumbungle Shire Council
Cessnock City Council
Blayney Shire Council
Cabonne Shire Council
Cabonne Shire Council

1. Apologies

01/2016 Resolved that the apologies be received and noted.
(Cr L. Brady/ Cr Jenkins)

2. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interests

02 /2016 Resolved delegates now disclose any pecuniary interests and reasons for declaring such interests in the matters under consideration at the meeting.

Ron Zwicker declared an interest through holding AGL shares.

3. Adoption of Minutes, Ordinary Meeting held Friday 13th November 2015, Cabonne Shire Council Chambers, 99-101 Bank Street Molong.

03/2016 Resolved that minutes of the Association's Ordinary meeting held in the Cabonne Shire Council Chambers, 99-101 Bank Street Molong, Friday 13th November 2015 be received and noted.
(Cr Hasler/ Cr Jenkins)

4. Matters Arising From The Minutes

Cr Ellis asked what progress had been made with Item 15-1 the Association's strategic planning document.



The Chairperson, Councillor Shinton advised the matter would be dealt with under recommendation 7 from the recent meeting of the Executive Committee.

5. Recommendations- Executive Committee meeting held Thursday 2015

04/2016 Resolved that the meeting consider recommendations from the Executive Committee meeting held 5th February 2016.
(Cr L. Brady/ Cr Conner)

5.1. Invitation to Parliamentarians to Attend Meetings

05/2016 Resolved the Treasurer and Minister for Industrial Relations, The Honourable Gladys Berejiklian be invited to the Association's August 2016 meeting.

(Cr Hasler/ Cr Conner)

5.2. Western NSW Mining and Resource Development Taskforce

Note Item 5.2

Prior to consideration of this matter it was duly advised by the mover of this recommendation at the Executive Committee meeting (Cr Hasler) that the organisation referred to was the Land Use Conflict Taskforce and not the Western NSW Mining and Resource Development Taskforce as stated in the original recommendation. There had not been consultation with the Councils, community groups or, expert groups when the Taskforce visited the North West of NSW. This amendment was noted by meeting delegates and the recommendation changed to reflect Councillor Hasler's advice on this matter.

5.2. 06/2016 (1) Resolved a letter be forwarded to the NSW Premier advising that Association member Gunnedah Shire Council with an interest in the establishment of the Land Use Conflict Taskforce through its geographical location, was not advised of the establishment of the organisation and there appeared to be a lack of consultation with external stakeholders when the Taskforce visited the North West region. This was contrary to advice received from the Head of Premier and Cabinet in 2015 at a meeting of Namoi Councils where it was stated there would be consultation and,



(2) The Association apply for membership of the Western NSW Mining and Resources Taskforce.

(Cr Hasler/ Cr L. Brady)

5.3. Commonwealth Government's Response to FIFO-DIDO Enquiry

07/2017 Resolved that a further letter be forwarded to The Honourable Darren Chester MP, Minister for Infrastructure and Transport asking that if he cannot attend a future meeting of the Association to discuss FIFO/DIDO Enquiry issues, he be asked to approach another Government Minister or, a senior representative of his Department to attend.

(Cr Hasler/Cr D. Brady)

5.4. Quorums At Meetings

07/2016 Resolved the Association hold a Special Meeting to amend clause 12 of its constitution to read:

“At a general meeting, a quorum shall exist when the majority of member councils are represented”.

(Cr Martin / Cr Jenkins)

5.5. Renewable Energy

08/1016 that renewable energy becomes part of the Association's charter and consideration be given to an amendment to the organisation's constitution to reflect the inclusion of this energy source.

(Cr Ferguson/ Cr Hasler)

5.6. Financial Statements

09/11016 Resolved cash journal for the period 1st October 2015- 31st December 2015 and financial statements for the period 1st October 2015 to 31st December 2015 be received and noted.

(Cr Connor/Cr Jenkins)

5.7. 2013-2016 Strategy Document

10/2016 Resolved the Association appoint a panel with Councillor Chris Connor as Chair and invite three (3) other delegates to be members, they



being Councillor Jim Noland, Councillor Owen Hasler and Councillor Dennis Brady.

The Panel to review all aspects of the Association's current strategy document, formulate a new document and to bring it up to date with current technologies and frameworks. A review of the organisation's web site framework and content also to be included in the Panel's brief.

(Cr Connor/Cr Hasler)

Standing Orders

11/2016 Resolved Standing Orders be suspended at 10 00am to allow the presentation from Mr Warwick Giblin

(Cr Nolan/Cr Connor)

Presentation by Mr Warwick Giblin, Progress Report on Discussions with NSW Minerals Council on Planning Agreements (Formerly Known as VPAS)

Cr Shinton welcomed Mr Giblin to the meeting.

Mr Giblin advised the discussions with the NSW Minerals Council (MC) so far were an encouraging start to resolving this issue. He spoke to his presentation and highlighted some flaws in the MC's approach and there was still a lot of work to be done.

The MC's document relating to a Ministerial direction for any adopted proposals to apply to all NSW councils had been placed on the "back burner" for the time being. There was a need for the Association to know more on the role that IPART could play in this matter. In reference to the proposed MOU, this would be discussed at a meeting to be held on Monday 22nd February 2016 where he expected a softening of the MC's approach on this matter.

Any future planning agreement/template would need to be a standard document with issues such as commencing dates, payment of costs and CPI considerations which needed consistency.

The discussions with the MC were a good opportunity to solving the issues.

Delegates Questions/Comments

Cr Hasler referred to a recent meeting of the Namoi Joint Organisation of Councils where a delegate had made a comment that there had been a deal done between the Association and the MC on this matter which was not true. He wondered if member councils were receiving the current information on this matter through their delegates. This did not seem the case with the recent comments by the delegate at the Joint Organisation meeting.



He was also concerned that this matter could drag on and take up to a year to resolve. The Department of Planning and Environment was keen to progress this matter and there was a need for a quicker solution.

Mr Giblin in response to this comment advised the appointed Association Panel was making progress with this matter. In relation to the time frame, the MC was keen to move this matter on.

Cr Martin commented on the basis that he was independently chairing the Panel/MC meetings. In his opinion there was a lot of information to consider in the discussions on the planning agreements (VPAS). He was concerned as to the complicated process required to get results many of which were long term issues. He also had concerns on the process as laid out in the draft documents. He used an example from Singleton Shire Council where the process had taken five years. Mining companies had their own priorities with such agreements. Future socio –economic effects from mining in NSW are very broad particularly the issue of “who pays”.

Mr Giblin commented the Umwell model could be written into the negotiations to address some of these issues. There was a need for Panel members to understand these matters.

In relation to road contributions the template could not cover all situations.

Cr Wheeldon commented that a template was a good idea and it should reduce conflict between the parties.

Cr Nolan believed a template was a good idea but should be able to be varied.

Cr Hasler further commented that VPAs get to a point where companies could agree on some things e.g. timeframes.

Cr Abbott commented that if Council staff were involved in the negotiations they needed more expertise.

Mr Silver observed that the socio economic details in EIS's were improving. He was concerned that the Department of Planning and Environment was not taking a lead on this matter and there was a need to put pressure on the Department for this matter to be resolved at that level.

He mentioned the REM plan. Gunnedah Shire Council, Liverpool Plains Shire Council and Narrabri Shire Council had used this model, however its accuracy depended upon how the information was utilised with the model particularly road costings.

Mr Giblin commented the UMWELL model was economic but was not good on social costings.



Cr Lilliane Brady asked what mines would be involved.

Mr Giblin advised he had no details but would find out this information.

Cr Wheeldon asked what processes would be included if IPART was involved?

Mr Giblin made comment on where IPART would be involved.

Cr Martin commented that companies and councils should not get to a "deadlocked "situation.

Cr Hasler reported on Gunnedah Shire Council's experience with IPART. He commented someone has to make a decision if there is an impasse and the Department of Planning and Environment will not.

Cr Noland commented on the situation of renewable energy involving wind and solar farms and the developments in the Broken Hill area where there were no VPAS involved. One proposed wind farm had 100 turbines and this would have socio economic impacts. He asked Mr Giblin what he thought would happen when future remediation was necessary.

Mr Giblin advised he believed the incorporation of renewable energy into the Association's charter was a good idea and VPAS would be needed for these developments.

Robert Hunt questioned Mr Giblin on his opinion on the worker location model in some agreement formulas.

Mr Giblin advised he does not like this type of model as it can favour the adjoining council over the council where the development is.

This concluded Mr Giblin's presentation and he left the meeting after being thanked by the Chair, Councillor Shinton.

Standing Orders

12/1016 Resolved the meeting resume at 10 35am -recommendations from Executive Committee meeting 5th February 2016.

(Cr Martin/Cr Nolan)



5.8. Review of Discussions between Association and NSW Minerals Council on Planning Agreements (Formerly Known as Voluntary Planning Agreements)

13/2016 Resolved that the Executive Committee note the progress being made with discussions between the Association and the NSW Minerals Council on Voluntary Planning Agreements (VPAS). Further, Mr Warwick Giblin, Consultant appointed to review this matter be invited to address the next meeting of the Association to be held on Friday 19th February 2016 and that a further \$7,000 be allocated from the Association's cash reserves to cover costs for anticipated finalisation of the discussions.

(Cr Hasler/ Cr Jenkins)

5.9. Post Mining Issues and Mining Rates

14/2016 Resolved the Muswellbrook Shire Council Mayor, Councillor Martin Rush be invited to address the Association at its meeting to be held on the 4th August 2016 or, the 4th November 2016 on post mining and mine rating issues. Further, a representative of the NSW Minerals Council also be invited to attend one of the indicated meetings.

(Cr Martin/Cr Jenkins)

6. Executive Officers Report (For Information)

Councillor Hasler made comment on **Item 6.6 Dust Monitoring Gunnedah Coal Basin**. He thanked the Association for its support and lobbying of the State government, its departments and agencies on the issue. He pointed out the reporting was different to the Hunter Valley monitoring (real time) and was a delayed time model. There were four sites in the Gunnedah coal basin using mining company equipment. There was a question as to the accuracy of the data. It was possible a real time system may be installed in the future. Residents in the Gunnedah area were being asked to provide feedback on the new system. There had been some headway over the past three years with this matter and it was essential for the Basin to have an effective system in place prior to the ramp up of mining.

15/2016 Resolved the Executive Officer's report (for information) be received and noted.

(Cr L Brady/ Cr Connor)



7. Presentation by the Honourable Mick Veitch MLC, Shadow Minister for Primary Industries, Shadow Minister for Lands & Shadow Minister for Western NSW

The Executive Officer advised delegates that prior to the meeting commencing he had received a telephone message from Mr Veitch's office advising he had to return to his home as a matter of urgency due to a family member's illness. He therefore would not be attending today's meeting and sent his apologies.

8. General Business

8.1 Resources for Regions Grant Program

Councillor Hasler raised the matter of the recent announcement of a new round of funding under the program (\$32m) and expressed his concern given the previous grants had totalled approximately \$208m. He was also concerned there had been a change in the guidelines with a total emphasis on applications being encouraged from regional organisations meaning fewer funds to go round. It appeared there was more justification of regional applications over local council applications.

Cr Lilliane Brady commented in some cases there was some value in the government's latest approach especially for regional road funding applications.

Councillor Hasler further commented on local priorities as compared to regional priorities.

Cr Wheeldon and Cr Connor made comment on this matter.

Robert Hunt advised that Lachlan Shire Council had already been approached by CENTROC to participate in a joint regional approach.

Cr Greenwood commented that it is important to know what happens after this round of funding.

8.2 Association's Panel for discussions of Planning Agreement matters With NSW Minerals Council

Councillor Jenkins questioned delegates in relation to the Panel currently having two Singleton Councillors involved and their thoughts on this matter. Councillor Martin commented he was the independent Chair appointed for meetings and this was his only role at this stage.

By consensus, it was agreed that Councillor Jenkins should continue as a Panel member.



8.3 Continuance of Operations- North Parkes Mine

Councillor Greenwood advised under a recent announcement, the North Parkes Mine would continue its operations until 2042.

8.4 Effect on The Association from Proposed Council Mergers

Councillor Greenwood asked what effects the current proposed mergers of some NSW Councils may have on the Association.

The Executive Officer advised (at this stage) if the present proposals go ahead, the Association may lose two shire councils, Cabonne and Blayney. Financially this would mean that the Association may from 2017-2018, be in a "balanced " budget situation rather than the present surplus. He was continuing to investigate any opportunities for new members.

Councillor Hasler commented the merger proposals could affect other local government organisations particularly Local Government NSW.

Meeting Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11 04am and resumed at 11 48am.

9.0 Presentation by Mr David Kitto, Department of Planning and Environment on Proposed Changes to the Operation of Community Consultative Committees (CCCS).

Councillor Shinton introduced Mr Kitto. Mr Kitto explained his role in the Department and the areas of NSW he is responsible for. Industries include mining, CSG and renewable energy projects.

Mr Kitto advised the meeting the draft CCC guidelines went on display on Thursday 18th February 2016 and were open to comment until 31st March 2016. Some consultation with major stakeholders had already taken place. CCCS had been operating for fifteen years with the mining industry and the results had been mixed. The new guidelines were designed to make the committees work more effectively.

CCCS had been set up previously following mining exploration. It was apparent that a lot more consultation was needed prior to the approval of the development.

It was necessary for expansions of the CCC concept to all major developments and also set up in the post development phase. It was apparent that to avoid problems after development that there was a need for early introduction of a CCC. Flexibility would be a key factor in the operations of future CCCS.



Mr Kitto explained the process for the appointment of a CCC Chair and members of the committee. There would be a more formal appointment process and an independent review of appointees. There would be a new toolkit for the committees' operations. The Departmental Secretary would have the ability to intervene if any committee was found not to be working effectively.

Delegates Questions and Comments

Cr Martin explained that CCCS had been operating in the Singleton Council area for thirty five years. Their operations had been fairly successful. Independent chairs had helped resolve some of the problems. He believed that taking away the responsibility from councils for committee nominations would be helpful. There had been good community representation on the committees in the Singleton area but often problems occurred when representatives from mining areas expressed personal views on some matters. He was supportive of the new guidelines.

Mr Kitto advised the Chair could be from Council but the Department was flexible on these issues.

Ron Zwicker raised the matter of the lack of Departmental representation on the committees. He had the experience of having to defend Departmental policies as a council representative which resulted in some problems.

Mr Kitto advised Departmental Compliance Officers will attend some CCC meetings under the revised guidelines.

Cr Hasler advised he had been a CCC member and he saw the new draft guidelines as a positive move. However, there was a need to change some of the wording in the document.

Cr Connor supported the changes in the guidelines and asked Mr Kitto what triggers the setting up of a CCC?

Mr Kitto explained that the local council is a useful mechanism for flagging the setting up with then due advice to the Department. The CCC should be in operation from the beginning of the development.

Mike Silver expressed the view that some CCCS benefited from members coming from outside the local government area where the development was taking place.

Mr Kitto commented the local council will have considerable input into the appointment of the CCC Chairperson.



Cr Wheeldon raised his concerns as to the Department not having the same obligations as the local council and other organisations.

Mr Kitto advised this issue was a problem in western areas of the state. Often there were few submissions and the Department realised that a CCC was often not the best vehicle to resolving such local matters. It was a case by case review process. He observed that there was a need for more consultation between the Department and Councils. He advised VPAS should be utilised as a tool (if possible) for financial contributions and should be in the consent.

Cr Lilliane Brady raised the problem of Councils negotiating/dealing with mining companies operating underground mines.

Mr Kitto advised Council can negotiate a VPA with a company and set up a CCC for the development.

Councillor Wheeldon raised the matter of contributions. Wentworth Shire had a problem with this issue.

Mr Kitto commented that this was a local problem and should be dealt with through discussions between Council and the Department.

Cr Ferguson asked what projects should have CCCS?

Mr Kitto advised the CCC should be in place when development commences not when EIS is in place – it needed to be a long process.

Cr Ferguson gave the example of Arcadia Mines as a company which had a successful relationship with the local CCC. He complimented the company on its attitude.

At the conclusion of Mr Kitto's presentation, the Chair thanked him for his attendance at today meeting.

Additional General Business

Some delegates asked that the remaining meeting dates be confirmed. The Executive Officer verbally advised the dates but confirmed he would forward related details by e mail in the near future.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 12 23pm.

The Minutes (Pages 1- 12) were confirmed at a meeting held on Friday 19th February 2016 and are a true and accurate record of proceedings of the meeting held on Friday 13th May 2016.

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**Cr Peter Shinton
Chairperson**

SECTION 2 – OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

9.1 Progress Report on the Delivery Program 2013-2016

Our leadership

Setting a benchmark for community standards

Vision: A well run council acting as the voice of the community

DP14.3 Ensure the General Manager takes on a high level role in implementing the Community Strategic Plan and associated documents

Author: Executive Assistant

Officer's Recommendation:

That the Council receive and note the report on progress for implementation, up to 31st December 2015, of the Delivery Program 2013 – 2016.

Introduction

The attached schedule is the seventh progress report for implementation of the Delivery Program 2013 – 2016. It covers the period commencing 1st July 2015 and ending 31st December 2015.

The Integrated Planning and Reporting framework for NSW local government was implemented at Bland Shire Council from 1st July 2012.

The Delivery Program is a statement of commitment to the community from each newly elected council. In preparing the program, Council is accounting for its stewardship of the community's long-term goals, outlining what it intends to do towards achieving these goals during its term of office and what its priorities will be. It is designed as the single point of reference for all principal activities undertaken by Council during its term of office. All plans, projects, activities and funding allocations must be directly linked to this Program.

Supporting the Delivery Program is an annual Operational Plan. It spells out the details of the Program – the individual projects and activities that will be undertaken each year to achieve the commitments made in the Delivery Program.

The General Manager must ensure that progress reports are provided to the council, with respect to the principal activities detailed in the Delivery Program, at least every 6 months.

Conclusion

The Delivery Program 2013 – 2016 came into effect from 1st July 2013 and the attached report details the actions, projects, improvements and initiatives that have been undertaken for the six month period to 31st December 2015.

Overall it has been a most successful period but there are still many challenges facing council in its endeavours to provide adequate and cost effective services and facilities.

Council's performance against the Actions in the Delivery Program and Operational Plan and the key achievements, programs and projects are internally monitored on a quarterly basis.

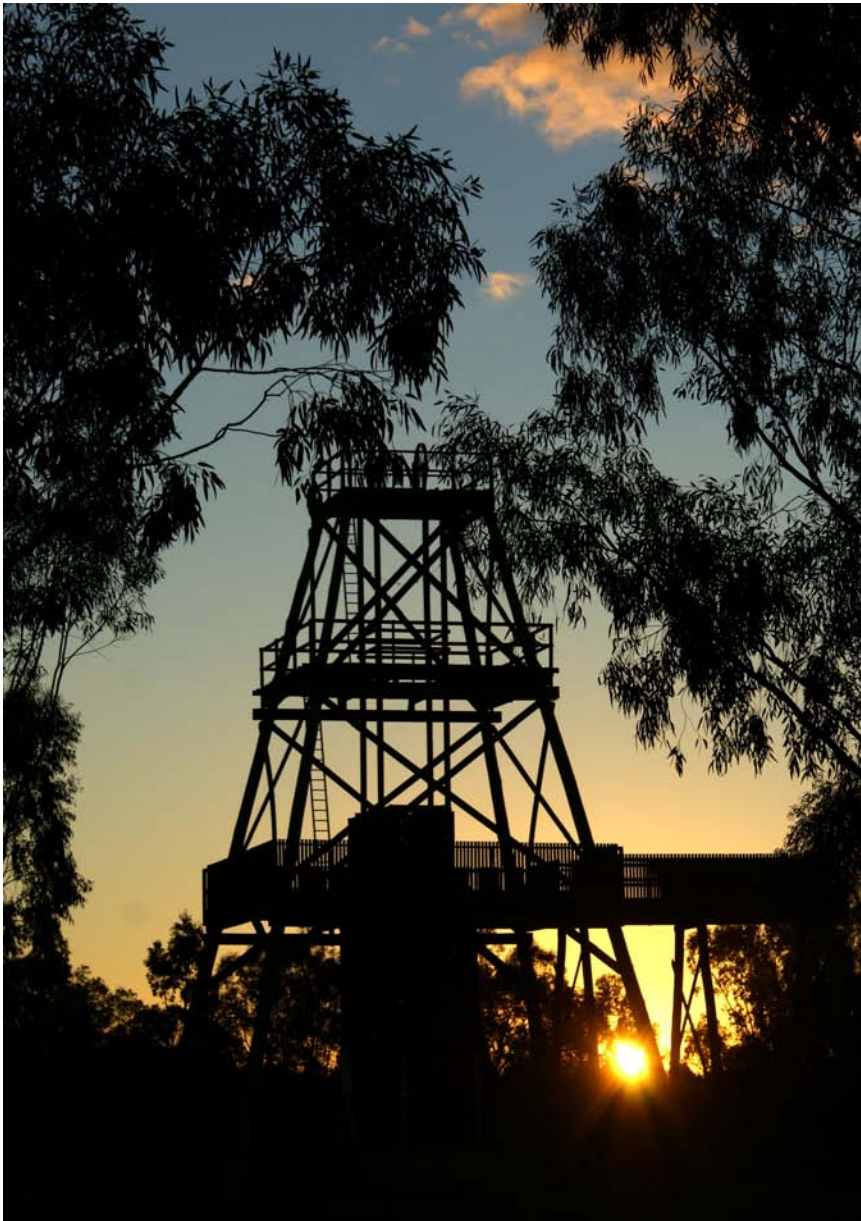
Overall performance against the 2015/16 Operational Plan Actions are presented in the table below. These Action Icons are further presented in the five Community Strategic Plan themes within the Delivery Program Progress Report.

These achievements reflect a strong teamwork approach, between the elected representatives, council staff and the community. Whilst some performance measures can be clearly quantified, it does not necessarily mean the community is aware of, or fully appreciates, or is fully satisfied with, the extent of progress made.

2015/16 Operational Plan Actions as at 31st December 2015		
Total number of Actions:		354
 Completed		75
 In progress		260
 Not progressed		19

Delivery Program 2013-2016

Progress Report to 31 December 2015



Responsible Officer Key

Title	Abbreviation
Councillors	CLRS
General Manager	GM
Director Corporate, Community & Development Services	DCCDS
Director Asset & Engineering Services	DAES

Measuring Progress Towards Achieving Our Goals

The following information details the actions, projects, improvements and initiatives that have been undertaken during the period 1st July 2015 to 30th December 2015 in Council’s Delivery Program 2013 – 2016 and Operational Plan 2015/16. Overall it has been a most successful period but there are still many challenges facing council in its endeavours to provide adequate and cost effective services and facilities. These achievements reflect a strong teamwork approach, between the elected representatives, council staff and the community.



2015/16 Operational Plan Actions	
Total number of Actions:	354
 Completed	75
 In progress	260
 Not progressed	19



Our people

Vision: A strong, healthy, connected and cohesive community

Bland Shire will continue to be a community where people feel safe and care for each other, have a sense of belonging and can contribute meaningfully to our local community and neighbourhood through participation in community life.

2015/16 Operational Plan Actions	
Total Actions for theme:	105
 Completed	23
 In progress	79
 Not progressed	3



Our greatest and most important asset

Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	2015/16 Target Year	Responsible Officer
		Progress to 31 December 2015	

CSP Objective: 1. Ensure health and support services and facilities address the physical, mental and general health needs of the community

1.1 Lobby to preserve and expand health, medical and hospital services	Annual representation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing membership with Murrumbidgee Medicare Local Board. Community meeting held November 2015. 	DCCDS
1.2 Liaise and communicate with area health services and relevant health and allied health providers, both locally and regionally on behalf of the community	Quarterly contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meetings with health services conducted regularly. Information shared amongst all health service areas. Referral meetings conducted regularly. Seniors Expo and BSC partnered with various groups to provide service information to aged within the community. 'The other talk' program presented in partnership with MPH.N. Partnered with Temora MHDA and staff from MML and the local Ambulance service to deliver a community drug form to the community in July with the purpose of educating the community on the services available locally and the effects of 'ice' use. 	DCCDS
1.3 Liaise with aged care providers on behalf of the frail, aged, disabled and their carers	Quarterly contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schedule fortnightly meetings with all providers of frail, aged and disability care. Continue to network with local providers and RDO. Ongoing review of HACC services to meet guidelines. Respite services are available both in home or centre as required to meet client needs. 	DCCDS
1.4 Facilitate relevant advisory health and community support committees	Quarterly meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bland Shire Interagency meeting held on 28 July 2015. Meeting scheduled for November 2015 was cancelled due to lack of RSVP's. Next meeting scheduled for February 2016. 	DCCDS

Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	2015/16 Target Year	Responsible Officer
		Progress to 31 December 2015	

CSP Objective: 2. Partner with relevant bodies to strengthen community health and safety in the Bland Shire

2.1 Foster and maintain partnerships with relevant community groups and Government agencies to promote safety in the community	Bi-annual program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One safety education programs delivered. Trying to get funding from RMS for others. • Current member of local Liquor Accord. No meeting held in this reporting period. • Work health & safety and risk management information provided for volunteers and contractors. • Applying for funding from RMS for a learner driver workshop. • NRMA Safer driver's workshop held on 2 and 3 July 2015. Workshop booked to capacity with all young participants reducing their log book requirements by 20 hours. • Information and contact details for Aussie Drivers provided to community members to ensure lessons can be accessed locally. Plans to hold NRMA Driving workshop in April 2016. • Council continues to partnership with in the Food Authority. • The Scores on Doors Program is continuing. • Partnership with NSW Public Heath is continuing. • Health information distributed to CSU families and cook book include section on healthy eating. 	DCCDS DAES

Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	2015/16 Target Year	Responsible Officer
		Progress to 31 December 2015	

<p>2.2 Provide access to relevant community health and safety information to increase community awareness of personal and property security</p>	<p>Bi-annual program</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigations continuing into the establishment of a local Community Drug Acting Team. Limited interest from the community noted. • Council's Facebook page utilised regularly to provide information to the community including information regarding use of the drug ice and the associated dangers for users, families and communities. • Council's youth Facebook page utilised to provide information about body image and eating disorder awareness week to local youth. • Information regarding the changes to laws around the use of mobile phones in vehicles and NSW RFS information regarding fire conditions published on Facebook page. • The I'm Alert – Interactive Food Safety Program is available on Council's website. • The I'm Alert Responsible Dog Ownership training is available on Council's website. • Financial support provided for the 2015 Dramatic Minds Festival. • 'The Other Talk' program was held at West Wyalong High School in November 2015. • Swimming pool inspections are undertaken in accordance with Council's Swimming Pool Inspection Program Policy. • Food Safety Certificate for registered FDC Educators planned for early 2016. 	<p>DCCDS</p>
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Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	2015/16 Target Year	Responsible Officer
		Progress to 31 December 2015	

CSP Objective: 3. Nurture a strong sense of community and enrich the cultural life for the residents of the Bland Shire

<p>3.1 Encourage and foster a strong spirit of volunteering and community pride</p>	<p>Annual program/event</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteer program proposal developed with plans to work directly with local schools and organisations to seek out appropriate youth volunteering opportunities. • Partnership with TAFE West Wyalong established with plans to engage local organisations using volunteers to deliver a free course around volunteer management to assist organisations in the recruitment and management of volunteers. • Morning tea held to celebrate National Volunteer week 2015. • Information regarding local youth volunteering opportunities noted on Council’s Facebook pages. • Discussions held with local youth group regarding volunteering opportunities and the idea of linking local youth directly with community organisations requiring volunteers. • Construction commenced for Reg Rattey memorial. Arrangements underway for opening in April 2016. Update provided at December 2015 Council meeting. • Bland Shire Ambassador program is ongoing. • In kind support provided constantly to local community groups. Council grants programs strongly promoted through various channels. Multiple applications received and reports presented to the July, August and September 2015 Council meetings. • Partnership forged with TAFE to offer a fee free Volunteer Management TAFE course to members of local volunteer organisations. • Plans in place to develop and deliver a social media skills workshop to local organisations to assist them in the promotion of services/events/volunteer opportunities. 	<p>DCCDS</p>
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Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	2015/16 Target Year	Responsible Officer
		Progress to 31 December 2015	

<p>3.2 Promote, facilitate and support a thriving cultural/regional arts community</p>	<p>Bi-annual event</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership of Eastern Riverina Arts maintained with Board meeting attended. • Successful 2015 Youth Week program delivered. • Regular support provided to Council's Cultural Advisory Committee. Meetings continue to be held quarterly with requests actioned as necessary. • Successful Stop Motion Animation Workshop held over two days in July as part of Council's youth holiday program. • Plans in place to hold the Wedding Reception Interactive Theatre production in West Wyalong in early 2016. • Highly successful holiday programs held July, September/October school holidays. Level of youth engagement greatly increased. • Trip to Altina Wildlife Park scheduled for January 2016 as part of School holiday activities. • Partnership with Eastern Riverina Arts. • Workshops for young people as part of the July 2015, April 2016 holiday program. • Business paper report presented to July meeting calling for investigation of a theatre space. Verbal report presented to August Cultural Advisory Committee meeting. 	<p>DCCDS</p>
<p>3.3 Support and strengthen our indigenous culture and history</p>	<p>Quarterly meetings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GM and Mayor attend meetings of the LALC Board. • Aboriginal flag flown on identified days of Aboriginal significance. • Grant funding secured for community NAIDOC celebration. • Organisation of NAIDOC event referred to Indigenous Cultural Officer. • Visit from Indigenous Storyteller, Larry Brandy and restocked Aboriginal resources at CSU. 	<p>DCCDS</p>

Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	2015/16 Target Year	Responsible Officer
		Progress to 31 December 2015	

<p>3.4 Monitor and provide up to date and relevant resources and programs within the library</p>	<p>Bi-annual review</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A regular library program continues to be well supported by staff, patrons and the community in general. • Weeding of the library’s collection was recently undertaken by RRL staff. The process is a critical part of collection maintenance to ensure that the RRL regional collection is kept fresh, relevant and up to date. • Australian children’s author/illustrator, Roland Harvey visited 26-30 October 2015. 10 schools participated and feedback was overwhelmingly positive. • SLA currently investigating availability of authors for a planned visit in October 2016. • Library grants investigated and applied for as relevant. • The library is currently investigating the purchase of ipads specifically for staff training purposes and additional library-related uses. • Attended online demonstration of a MEKEL MACH 2 Microform Scanner and ZEUTSCHEL ZETA Book Scanner. • Riverina Regional Library staff training days to be held in October. • Status of ipad purchases ongoing. • All library staff attended the RRL staff training day/s held in Wagga. Training included Libero updates, new e-Resources, LIAC and DI@YL. • All library staff attended the RRL staff training day/s held in Wagga. Training included Libero updates, new e-Resources, LIAC and DI@YL. • Riverina Regional Library continues to provide a weekly delivery of new material – in particular books (ie. popular fiction, non-fiction, large print), DVDs and music CD’s – for both adult and children. • From all accounts, Bland Shire Library patrons are extremely happy with the current turnover of new material. • Library staff currently reviewing audio-book collection in lieu of e-audio and budget allocation. • The library is currently waiting on a delivery of donated playaways. 	<p>DCCDS</p>
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Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	2015/16 Target Year	Responsible Officer
		Progress to 31 December 2015	
3.5 Implement and review recommendations contained in the Community Plan	Annual review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing monitoring of Community Plan conducted by Committees. • Partnership established with Rotary to deliver movie nights to the village communities of Barmedman, Tallimba and Weethalle. • Partnerships forged with Temora MHDA, Local Police and Ambulance Services and MML to deliver Community 'Ice' Forum. • Partnerships established with Walking Wounded organisation to deliver the Tribute to the Anzacs event. • Partnerships established with village schools to implement successful Nation Tree Day activities. • Partnership established with Eastern Riverina Arts with plans to bring the 'Dust of Uruzgan' tour to the community in April 2016. • Partnership forged with Riverina TAFE to bring fee free Volunteer management course to local community. • Partnership established with Business West Wyalong to re-establish the Christmas Carnival in West Wyalong. • Highly successful 'Girls Night In' event held as part of September holiday program. • 'The Other Talk' program held in November in an attempt to raise of awareness of the safety issues concerning young people and drug use and promote conversations between parents and young people. • Support provided to West Wyalong Women's Bowling Club to assist with grant application. • Social media support provided to Barmedman Modified Tractor Pull Association and Barmedman Show Society to assist both organisations to improve promotion of their upcoming events and activities. • Support provided to Ungarie Advancement Group around promotion of the Ungarie Art and Craft markets. • Support provided to Barmedman Development Association with the plans to purchase to premises that houses the Barmedman Coffee Shop. • Support provided to Business West Wyalong with the reestablishment of the West Wyalong Christmas Carnival. 	DCCDS

Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	2015/16 Target Year	Responsible Officer
		Progress to 31 December 2015	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support provided to Naradhan Reserve Trust to assist with applying for grant funding. • Ongoing promotion of grant funding opportunities provided to the community and organisations through email distribution, face to face communication and through Councils Facebook page. • Currently working with the Ungarie Advancement Group around the development of a Internet/computer skills workshop for Ungarie community members. • Support provided to Barmedman Development Association who provided volunteer opportunities and build skills in hospitality and customer service. • Successful National Tree Day activities held in Barmedman, Tallimba, and Weethalle. • Partnership forged with Jessica Smith (positive body image advocate) and local hair and beauty/skin care providers to deliver 'Girls Night In' event to local youth. • Partnership with youth focus group maintained to ensure youth of the community have an active voice and are able to contribute directly to upcoming programs and events. • Partnership with Temora MHDA solidified to bring 'The Other Talk' program to West Wyalong in November 2015. • Partnership with High School continued with a discussion/consultation session held with year 9 Geography around the topic of communities. • Nominations launched in October for community awards program. Increased numbers received from previous year. Australia Day Awards Committee meeting held in December. 	
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Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	2015/16 Target Year	Responsible Officer
		Progress to 31 December 2015	

CSP Objective: 4. Ensure services are accessible for all residents including the aged, people with a disability, young people and families

4.1 Work with the community to determine future needs and network with relevant Government Departments and Non-Government Organisations	Annual service surveys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FDC Service survey completed October 2015 and results compiled. Preschool Service survey issued, 9 returned. Survey results were added to the Bland Preschool Quality Improvement Plan. Survey for Aged Care Services in progress. Verbal discussions held with local youth and parents at youth events to gather feedback about the success of specific events. Consultation session held with year 9 Geography class around issues affecting the community and the strengths and weaknesses of the community. 	DCCDS
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Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	2015/16 Target Year	Responsible Officer
		Progress to 31 December 2015	

<p>4.2 Offer youth services and events to all towns and villages in the Shire</p>	<p>Quarterly program/event</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Successful tree day activities and BBQ's held in Barmedman, Tallimba and Weethalle. • Plans in place to deliver computer skills program to Ungarie community. • Highly successful movies night events held in Barmedman, Tallimba and Weethalle in September/October School holidays. • Regional Youth Network meetings attended to ensure partnerships are maintained with neighbouring Councils. • Discussions held with TAFE around delivering employment skills activities to local youth. • Ongoing collaboration occurring with TAFE and High School in the investigation of youth opportunities. • A number of youth scholarship opportunities identified and posted on Councils Youth Facebook page. • Bland Shire Youth engagement strategy developed. • Current engagement with local youth occurring in accordance with tactics outlined in Youth Engagement Strategy. • Focus group with students from West Wyalong High School established and ongoing meetings maintained. • Discussions held around areas of need and improvement with ideas actioned and youth engagement levels greatly improved in July school holiday activity program. • Focus group disbanded to allow for Christmas Holiday break. Call to be put out to students in early 2016 to establish new group to ensure collaboration between Council and Youth is maintained. • Investigations undertaken into the most effective ways to engage youth and will continue to occur to ensure Council youth engagement methods remain current. • Council youth Facebook and Instagram pages developed with youth engagement on each of these social media platforms continuing to increase. 	<p>DCCDS</p>
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Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	2015/16 Target Year	Responsible Officer
		Progress to 31 December 2015	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnerships strengthened with local school to ensure engagement can occur through identified school channels. Currently 160 + followers of Councils Youth Facebook page and 126 followers on their Instagram with that number continuing to rise steadily. Ongoing partnership with High School maintained to ensure all school communication channels are utilised. Ongoing face to face interaction with youth focus group functioning as a highly effective youth communication method. 	
4.3 Provide quality toy library facilities and promote to residents	Bi-annual review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Toy library stocktake scheduled for January 2016. Changeover of toys at Bland Shire Library occurs each term. Mobile toy library for Family Day care to be re-instated in Feb 2016. Promotion of toy library done through play sessions and ITAV sessions. 	DCCDS

Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	2015/16 Target Year	Responsible Officer
		Progress to 31 December 2015	

<p>4.4 Provide and monitor quality library services to the aged, people with a disability, young people and families</p>	<p>Bi-annual review</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The library’s housebound service continues to operate on a fortnightly basis, delivering a variety of material to residents within West Wyalong including Waratah Village. • The library’s housebound delivery service extends to Barmedman and Ungarie with the cooperation of Community Transport. • Regular toy library changeover at the Bland Shire library occurs each term. • Christmas sessions were held for both FDC and regular Storytime patrons with over 60 people attending the latter. • Storytime hiatus over Christmas break. Will resume in February 2016. • Baby Bounce continues to be held fortnightly during school term. Currently attended by a small but regular group of mothers with their babies. The library continues to promote Baby Bounce via handouts, website, social media, etc. Small group of regulars attended a Christmas session to end the year. • Baby Bounce continues to be held fortnightly during school term. • Currently attended by a small but regular group of mothers with their babies. • The library continues to promote Baby Bounce via handouts, website, social media, etc. • A launch of the library’s summer reading club was held at the end of November. Over 100 children aged 5-16 have registered. The reading and literacy program has several sponsors to assist with the provision of prizes. A variety of activities has been organised for SRC registered members during the school holidays. • The library continues to provide a Library Book Deposit Station to the villages of Barmedman, Ungarie and Weethalle. Library staff is continually liaising with each respective book deposit station to ensure a high standard of service is being provided. • The Library continues to provide a range of learning opportunities for all ages. • The library continues to provide support for its Day Book Club held monthly 	<p>DCCDS</p>
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Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	2015/16 Target Year	Responsible Officer
		Progress to 31 December 2015	
		in the library. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The library also lends support to various book clubs not affiliated with the library. • Currently seeking interest form patrons re: establishing an embroidery group. • Pop-up library at Holland Park Pool. • Currently liaising with Leeton Library who have a number of Book Club kits available for free. • Will utilise RRL's book club kits in the future. 	

Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	2015/16 Target Year	Responsible Officer
		Progress to 31 December 2015	

<p>4.5 Provide quality and affordable Family Day Care, Mobile Resource Unit, Vacation Care and Preschool services</p>	<p>Accreditation and licensing requirements met</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing through well stocked resources, an active parent Committee, Qualified staff, providing further courses and workshops for educators to further their knowledge and understanding. • All quality care and educational requirements met and all resources up to date and in good working order. • Mobile Resource Unit playgroup services maintained. • Vacation care schedules for July, December and January programs distributed to Community. • Supporting family day care educators ongoing. • Parent Committee meetings held each term. Movie night, school photos, mini Olympics, enrolment/open day, Teddy Bears Picnic and Ladies Night. • Local show participation; Teddy bears picnics, excursions. • Visits are to schedule. Training opportunities provided. • Child Protection training held in September 2015. • Parent surveys have been returned. Quality improvement plan updated.. Linking all documentation to NQF and EYLF (programs, observations, learning stories etc). • Coordination Unit provides ongoing training and awareness to all scheme educators. • All services are currently meeting the regulatory requirements of rating and assessment. • Children's expo not taking place this year, due in 2017. • Child Protection Training to be conducted in September, Autism spectrum workshop and Environments workshop to be held in November. • Investigate and implement sustainable practices within CSU ongoing. • Providing a range of educational programs and information that include sustainability for children and families ongoing. 	<p>DCCDS</p>
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Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	2015/16 Target Year	Responsible Officer
		Progress to 31 December 2015	

4.6 Provide and monitor quality HACC services and promote healthy aging to the residents of the community	Annual event/activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aged Care Expo held in November 2015. Very successful with good feedback from stall holders and public. 	DCCDS
4.7 Encourage cooperation and cross promotion of children and youth services	Quarterly calendar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seniors Week activities not progressed at this stage. Quarterly calendar for activities and services to commence in 2016. 	DCCDS
4.8 Monitor and promote the diverse range of services available to the community within the Bland Shire	Annual review and promotion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Website visual upgrade completed and content updated regularly. Local Government Week events held in local villages. Council displays at West Wyalong Show ongoing. Weekly Council notices page in West Wyalong Advocate continuing. Social media presence strengthened with introduction of Instagram and Youth Facebook pages. Noticeboard updated at least weekly. Ongoing promotion in newspaper and community newsletters. New community newsletter to be launched in January. Large number of media releases, posters and flyers issued promoting Council events and programs. Updated Community Services Directory finalised, printed and circulated among local businesses to a welcome reception. Scholarships advertised November 2015, close early February 2016. Highly successful International Day of people with Disability Day celebrations and access awards held on 3 December 2015. 	GM DCCDS

Our places

Vision: Providing great community facilities for everyone to enjoy

Bland Shire Council will continue to provide excellent and accessible community facilities in a responsible manner and foster the contribution of community groups and organisations for the betterment of the Bland Shire.

2015/16 Operational Plan Actions	
Total Actions for theme:	36
 Completed	3
 In progress	3
 Not progressed	0



Where our sense of community shines

Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	Target Year 2015/16	Responsible Officer
		Progress to 31 December 2015	

CSP Objective: 5. Provide equal access to Council’s services and facilities for residents and visitors to the Shire

5.1 Connect with the community utilising forums, committees and elected members	Annual village forums	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Forums completed for 2015-2016. 	DAES
5.2 Access external grant and funding opportunities to improve Council’s community facilities	At least 1 application submitted per quarter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application to Evolution for funding from Cowal Partnering program successful to assist with the establishment of an annual local Triathlon event. Application lodged through the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal for funding to assist with the cost of bringing Batyr to the West Wyalong High School. External grant applications completed on a regular basis as and when appropriate. Obtained grant for Ungarie flood study. Submission made for fixing Country Roads- one joint with Narrandera Council for Kolkilbertoo Road and one for MR 57 (north). Bridges – one for Ungarie bridge over Humbug Creek. 	GM DAES DCCDS

Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	Target Year 2015/16	Responsible Officer
		Progress to 31 December 2015	

<p>5.3 Utilise social media to connect with and inform residents, retailers, business, industry and visitors</p>	<p>Monthly monitoring</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Youth Facebook and Instagram accounts created. Number of social media followers continues to increase. Regular posts placed on all pages promoting Council, local services, local business and the community. • New techniques utilised to maximise audience of social media posts. • Facebook page updated and maintained regularly. • The library continues to ensure that it's Facebook page is constantly updated and maintained. • Riverina Regional Library staff continues to post regular book reviews and library related links on the Bland Shire Library Facebook page. • Bland Shire Library staff continues to promote programs, services and events via its Facebook page. • Bland Shire Library staff continues to promote programs, services and events via its Facebook page. • Usage and engagement continue to increase. During a five day period between November 30 and December 4, 2015 Council posted 11 times and attracted a total reach of 10,486 people. 	<p>DCCDS</p>
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Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	Target Year 2015/16	Responsible Officer
		Progress to 31 December 2015	

<p>5.4 Provide an informative and accessible user friendly Council website utilised to promote community services and events and keep exploring new communication methods</p>	<p>Monthly website updates</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigating use of software to allow for ticket bookings online for community triathlon in April. • Permission slips for youth activities posted on website. • Online based forms continue to be utilised regularly. • Online nomination forms made available for Australia Day award nominations, Christmas lights map and Christmas lights bus tour. • Community calendar updated regularly on Council website. • Online forms and permissions slips updated regularly. • Preschool events promoted on Councils website. • FDC and MRU content reviewed. 	<p>DCCDS</p>
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Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	Target Year 2015/16	Responsible Officer
		Progress to 31 December 2015	

CSP Objective: 6. Facilitate equal access for residents to community and government services

<p>6.1 Council services and programs create opportunities to connect and are relevant and responsive to the needs of our community including innovative service provision to isolated residents</p>	<p>Minimum of 2 events/programs in villages each year</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Barmedman play group session running successfully. • Family and Community services funding agreements signed for further term. • Family Day Care Funding obtained. • Ongoing support provided to Council Access and Cultural Advisory Committees. • Council Access grant provided to West Wyalong Medical Centre to assist with the costs of fitting an automatic door. • Council grants provided to the Barmedman Show Society to assist with entertainment costs for the show and the West Wyalong Bowling Club to assist with costs associated with their upcoming tournament. • Council funding also provided to the West Wyalong Town Band to assist with the purchase of new uniforms and maintenance of instruments. • Grants also awarded to the West Wyalong Family District History Group and Business West Wyalong. • Successful Movie Night events held in Barmedman, Tallimba and Weethalle in September/October school holidays. • Tree Day events held in three village communities in July 2015. • Regular visits from Mobile Recourse Unit to targeted area within the Bland Shire. • HACC services provided to villages as required. • Ungarie Day Care continues on a fortnightly basis. • The library continues to maintain a positive working relationship with all schools within Bland Shire, CSU, Little Wattle Day Care Centre and other Children’s Services. • CSU continue to pick up and drop off RRL tubs. 	<p>GM DCCDS</p>
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Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	Target Year 2015/16	Responsible Officer
		Progress to 31 December 2015	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource sharing with CSU e.g. toy library. • Provision of children’s programs (all ages) e.g. Book Week, Author Visit, regular school visits. • Support of reading and literacy programs (all ages) . • Regular FDC storytime. • Regular storytime sessions for Preschool and Little Wattle Day Care classes. • include home school children in all programs and activities. • RRL delivery/pick-up reduced to one day per week – to be revised in 2016. • Events are promoted on the Bland Shire Council’s, Business West Wyalong and external websites, Facts Friday and monthly reports as this allows for events that are not scheduled to be promoted which cannot be achieved with a quarterly paper based calendar. The regular events are published in the Newell Highway brochure and the West Wyalong visitor’s guide. • Continuation of ITAV program and mobile services into 2016. 	

Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	Target Year 2015/16	Responsible Officer
		Progress to 31 December 2015	

6.2 Assist with access to visiting services information	Quarterly review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MML health directory regularly featured on home page of Council website. • Utilise the BSC Community Services booklet for visiting services information. • Partnership forged with ERA to deliver the Stop Motion Animation Workshop delivered to local youth. • Partnership forged with NRMA to deliver the Safer Drivers program to local youth. • The Other Talk' program held at West Wyalong High School in November 2015. • Plans to deliver 'Dust of Uruzgan' tour to the community in April 2016. • Links to visiting Government services placed on Council's website and promoted on social media and/or community noticeboard where appropriate. 	DCCDS
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Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	Target Year 2015/16	Responsible Officer
		Progress to 31 December 2015	

CSP Objective: 7. Plan, provide and support a range of community and cultural activities to meet the needs of residents and visitors

7.1 Relevant Advisory Committees to support Council to meet objectives within the Community Strategic Plan	Committees meet at least quarterly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and update of Community Plan ongoing. Council’s grant funding guidelines recently reviewed in conjunction with Access Committee with numerous changes made to guidelines to streamline the process for applicants. Council’s Advisory Committees consulted regarding the distribution of Access Incentive Scheme funding and Cultural Development grant funding. 	DCCDS
7.2 Assist community groups to access external funding opportunities	At least 2 groups supported annually	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community groups (including the West Wyalong Women’s Bowling Club and the Barmedman Modified Tractor Pull Association) assisted in applying for grant funding, both internally and externally. Community groups including the Naradhan Reserve Trust, Business West Wyalong, Meals on Wheels, and the West Wyalong Primary School P and C Association assisted to apply for funding under the Southern Phone Grants program. Grant funding opportunities identified and distributed to relevant individuals and organisations through email, social media and verbal communication. 	DCCDS




Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	Target Year 2015/16	Responsible Officer
		Progress to 31 December 2015	

7.3 Advocate relevant Government bodies and Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) for services and facilities	1 submission per year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submissions to government and non government organisations for MLHD – community consultation, SLNSW – service provision and NWSPLA – Library issues across state, Fit for the Future, joint organisations proposal, pool regulations. 	DCCDS
7.4 Assist community groups to provide activities to the wider community	1 group assisted per year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assisted a large number of community groups with the promotion of events through community noticeboard, social media and assistance with event promotion resources such as flyers and posters. Worked closely with Events West Wyalong, Barmedman Show Society and Barmedman Modified Tractor Pull to help promote events. Also assisted various other groups including Bellarwi CWA, Caragabal sheep races, Ungarie Show, the Rural Fire Service and many more. 	DCCDS

Our infrastructure

Vision: Maintaining & improving the Shire's assets & infrastructure in a changing climate

Bland Shire Council will strive to face and meet the challenges faced by a large road network and aging infrastructure to best meet community needs in a financially responsible manner while also investigating opportunities for improvements to infrastructure and efficiencies

2015/16 Operational Plan Actions	
Total Actions for theme:	62
 Completed	27
 In progress	32
 Not progressed	3



Reviewing, renewing and improving our core community assets

Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	Target Year 2015/16 Progress to 31 December 2015	Responsible Officer
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CSP Objective: **8. Work in partnership with key stakeholders to improve road infrastructure for vehicle and pedestrian access**

8.1 Lobby Government for additional funding to ensure roads are maintained at an acceptable standard throughout the Shire	Annual representation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing as opportunities arise. 	DAES
8.2 Continued membership of Newell Highway Task Force	Annual membership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cr Lord continues as Council's delegate to the Newell Highway Taskforce. Information and meeting minutes are provided to Council for information. 	GM
8.3 Lobby Government to improve conditions on the By-Pass	Quarterly contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Currently working with them on Stage 2, Compton Road upgrade, and on Stage 3 Showground Road (east) upgrade, and on future plans for the other stages. 	DAES
8.4 Maintain and improve general vehicle and pedestrian access within the Shire	Annual maintenance program developed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pedestrian Access Mobility plan completed in 2015. 	DAES

Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	Target Year 2015/16 Progress to 31 December 2015	Responsible Officer
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CSP Objective: 9. Manage waste and recycling to improve the utilisation of existing resources, including exploring new technologies

9.1 Continued monitoring of viable recycling options	Annual review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Always on the lookout for cost effective options for recycling. Supporting proposal for can/bottle deposit in the NSW Government's discussion paper. 	DAES
9.2 Consult with the community and relevant stakeholders regarding waste management options throughout the Shire	Annual consultation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working with REROC. Working with SEDATA on other Government submissions. 	DAES
9.3 Research alternate technologies relating to waste management	Annual review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigating participation in the National TV and Computer product stewardship scheme in association with REROC. Investigations into innovative waste management are continuous. 	DAES
9.4 In consultation with relevant communities, implement and monitor Council's waste management strategy to increase the life of existing resources	Quarterly monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talking to community for rural and regional options in relation to waste management strategies. Monitoring of waste strategy ongoing. 	DAES

Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	Target Year 2015/16 Progress to 31 December 2015	Responsible Officer
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CSP Objective: 10. Manage stormwater and sewerage resources

10.1 Investigate and manage local flooding issues	Annual review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Currently working with consultant on Ungarie Flood Study grant and organising cleaning out of the West Wyalong stockyard retention dam. 	DAES
10.2 Ensure adequate water storage and management for future use within Council’s community facilities	Annual review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Periodically monitoring of stormwater recycling plan. No changes. Ongoing monitoring of irrigation System . Performance is satisfactory with the understanding that irrigation systems are reasonably high maintenance. 	DAES
10.3 Identify funding opportunities to maximise future water storage options	At least 1 submission per year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> External funding investigations ongoing. No funding opportunities during this period. Increasing the capacity of the airport dam in progress. Talks regarding how airport grazing lease effects the construction are continuing. Trying to buy water rights. 	DAES
10.4 Effectively manage and maintain stormwater infrastructure	Annual maintenance program and budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stormwater Asset Plan in progress. Check of stormwater asset schedule continuing. 	DAES
10.5 Effectively manage and maintain sewerage infrastructure	Annual maintenance program and budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sewerage Asset Plan in progress. Condition rating on the sewerage pipes are continuing. 	DAES

Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	Target Year 2015/16 Progress to 31 December 2015	Responsible Officer
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CSP Objective: 11. Ensure that public places and facilities are well maintained and easily accessible to foster community pride in their infrastructure

11.1 Ensure users of Council’s facilities enter into agreements	Annual review of agreements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Around 60% of MoU’s signed. Draft MoU sent to the Cricket and AFL for McAlister Oval. • Liaison with user groups to enter into Memorandum of Understandings in progress. • Developing and fostering current and exiting relationships with user groups ongoing. 	DAES
11.2 In collaboration with users and budgetary constraints provide facilities that are maintained to acceptance standards	Annual works program and budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open Space Asset Management Plan is being reviewed. • Local Heritage Assistance Grants are promoted within the community. Council continues to participate in and provide the Heritage Advisory Service to the community. • Shade structure at IGA car park completed. • Report to the December 2015 Council meeting to finalise lease negotiations. Lease Agreement to be signed in January 2016. • Main street illumination scheme in progress. The matter has again being discussed with lighting consultants. A number of different aspects are being considered. 	DAES DCCDS

Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	Target Year 2015/16 Progress to 31 December 2015	Responsible Officer
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11.3 Facilitate access for the community and visitors to all public places and facilities	Annual review of Access Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sports and parks booking process promoted. • Access Incentive Scheme Grant awarded to House of Fashion in August 2015. • Access Incentive Scheme Grant awarded to the West Wyalong Medical Centre to assist with costs of installing an automatic door. • Access Incentive Scheme heavily promoted thorough. • International Day of People with Disability celebrations and local Access Awards. • Assessment of public facilities/buildings completed. • Refurbishment of Toppy Hall quotes are being obtained and works to commence in January 2016. 	GM DAES DCCDS
11.4 Maintain parks, ovals and recreational facilities to approved standards and budget	Annual works program and budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inspections of parks, ovals and facilities ongoing. • Playground inspections conducted fortnightly for all playgrounds within the shire. • Routine maintenance and works program implemented. • User fees for use of Council’s sport and recreation facilities ongoing. 	DAES
11.5 Effectively manage and maintain cemeteries within the Shire	Annual works program and budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance at Wyalong Cemetery ongoing. • Village cemeteries regularly inspected. 	DAES

Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	Target Year 2015/16 Progress to 31 December 2015	Responsible Officer
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CSP Objective: 12. Review Council’s building assets to meet the needs of the community

12.1 Complete a building review to determine if community needs are being met	Asset register updated annually	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review done periodically and not programmed for 2016. 	DAES
12.2 Develop a maintenance program to ensure the integrity of Council’s buildings	Annual maintenance program and budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council building maintenance completed according to maintenance budget and program. Maintenance program to be reviewed for the 2016/2017 budget preparations 	DAES

Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	Target Year 2015/16 Progress to 31 December 2015	Responsible Officer
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12.3 Use planning and heritage policies and controls to protect and improve the unique built environment	Annual policy review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A review of current heritage policies has been undertaken utilising the templates provided by NSW Environment and Heritage. • Local Heritage Assistance Grants are promoted within the community. Council continues to participate in the Heritage Advisory Service. Heritage Assistance Funding Guidelines have been renewed and updated. • Controls in the Local Environmental Plan and Development Control Plan continued to be enforced. • The review of the Development Control Plan has not commenced due to the uncertainty surrounding the future of Bland Shire Council. 	DCCDS
12.4 Manage Council's facilities to meet health and safety expectations	Annual inspections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Occupational health & safety audits completed. • Council property breakdown maintenance not completed due to budget constraints. Maintenance program to be developed for consideration in next budget preparation. • Implementation of signs as remote supervision continued with a review of some aspects. • Screen for West Wyalong landfill completed. 	DAES DCCDS

Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	Target Year 2015/16 Progress to 31 December 2015	Responsible Officer
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12.5 Responsibly manage asset renewal and maintenance	Annual maintenance program and budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asset Management and renewal plan not to be reviewed for this financial year. Asset disposal policy adopted by Council in September 2015. 	GM DAES DCCDS
12.6 Determine community need and develop design for indoor multi-purpose facility		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stronger Regions Fund grants application unsuccessful for Perseverance street sporting complex including three court facility. Ongoing investigations into options to resolve fire fighting requirements. Development application lodged for approved facility design. Report to the December 2015 Council meeting to amend scope of works due to unsuccessful grant application and to invite tenders in January 2016 for construction. Further report to March 2016 Council meeting EOIs for construction services completed. Sports Stadium Refurbishment Steering Committee disbanded at Council's September 2015 meeting. Council will continue to liaise with the existing Stadium management Committee. Meeting held with Stadium Management Committee representatives on 2nd December 2015 to provide an update on the project. Management options being investigated. 	

Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	Target Year 2015/16 Progress to 31 December 2015	Responsible Officer
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CSP Objective: 13. Develop, implement and monitor appropriate programs, schedules, plans and budgets for the effective and efficient management of Council’s assets and infrastructure

13.1 Implement and monitor a street cleaning program	Annual review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Street cleaning program ongoing. 	DAES
13.2 Works programs are developed, reviewed and implemented in accordance with road hierarchy and budget allocations	Annual program and budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation of transportation infrastructure operating program ongoing. 	DAES
13.3 Maintain street trees to approved standards and budget	Annual program and budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation of preferred street tree species list ongoing. Monitoring and actions upon requests completed within approved budget. 	DAES
13.4 Kerb and Guttering programs are developed and implemented in accordance with budget	Annual program and budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementing and monitoring the 2012-2022 transportation infrastructure operating program ongoing. 	DAES
13.5 Effectively manage and maintain town and village upkeep throughout the Shire	Annual program and budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No review proposed in 2015 – 2016. Implementation and monitoring ongoing. 	DAES




Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	Target Year 2015/16 Progress to 31 December 2015	Responsible Officer
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13.6 Airport facilities are maintained to approved standards and budget	Annual program and budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Airport maintenance program ongoing. 	DAES
13.7 Effectively management and maintain Council's Works Depots	Annual review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council's works depot effectively managed and maintained. 	DAES

Our leadership

Vision: A well run council acting as the voice of the community

Bland Shire Council will aim to set a benchmark in the community for leadership, governance and customer service. Council will seek to build and strengthen community partnerships and foster participation from all Bland Shire communities in the decision making process.

2015/16 Operational Plan Actions	
Total Actions for theme:	205
 Completed	22
 In progress	73
 Not progressed	10



Setting a benchmark for community standards

Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	Target Year 2015/16	Responsible Officer
		Progress to 31 December 2015	

CSP Objective: 14. To provide quality leadership, governance and management

		<i>Progress</i>	
14.1 Ensure councillors are provided with appropriate support and resources to carry out their civic duty	Annual review of policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of facilities and expenses for Councillor’s policy adopted by council Sept 2015. Councillors advised of opportunities for training as they become available Review of Code of Meeting practice continuing. Establishment of a Councillor Portfolio program to be considered in 2016 following determination of Council’s Fit for the Future submission. Review of councillor handbook to be progressed in mid 2016 following determination of Council’s Fit for the Future submission. Developing of Councillor’s induction program to be progressed in mid 2016 following determination of Council’s Fit for the Future submission. Elections held in September 2015 and results provided to Office of Local Government, NSW Councils and local media. Preparation for the Mayoral and Deputy mayoral elections to be progressed in mid 2016 following determination of Council’s Fit for the Future submission. Review of internal processes for councillor support and requests pending installation of Tech One initial discussions held and to be further progressed in early 2016. 	GM

Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	Target Year 2015/16	Responsible Officer
		Progress to 31 December 2015	

<p>14.2 Ensure Councillors take ownership and a strong leadership role in implementing the Community Strategic Plan</p>	<p>6 monthly progress report on implementing the Delivery Program</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Paper reports continue to be linked to IPR framework. • Delivery Program Progress Reports provided every 6 months. • 2014/15 Annual Report completed within required timeframes. • Manex continue to quarterly monitor the Operational Plan and Capital Projects for inclusion in the Delivery Program Progress Report. • Planning continues for the End of Term Report to be presented in August 2016 and the review phase of the IPR documentation. Timeline to be released in early 2016. 	<p>GM</p>
<p>14.3 Ensure the General Manager takes on a high level role in implementing the Community Strategic Plan and associated documents</p>	<p>Quarterly Operational Plan progress reports to Manex</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarterly update to 31st December 2015 to be completed in January 2016 and provided to Manex prior to inclusion in the Delivery Program Progress Report. • Planning continues for the End of Term Report to be presented in August 2016 and the review phase of the IPR documentation. Timeline to be released in early 2016. • Submission completed and lodged for the annual AR Brett Awards Program. Judges advised that submission made the second cut but was not successful. 	<p>GM</p>

Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	Target Year 2015/16	Responsible Officer
		Progress to 31 December 2015	

<p>14.4 Ensure the long term financial sustainability of Council through effective and prudent financial management</p>	<p>Monthly reports to Council</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarterly Budget Review Statement for 2015-16 produced and sent to the GM & Directors within 2 weeks of the end of the quarter. • Overdue debtor accounts and rate assessments have been sent for debt collection with Council's contracted collection agency. • The 2014-15 Financial Statements have been completed and audited. They were submitted to the OLG within the designated time frame. • Investments have been managed effectively, investing in secure term deposits, the term of the deposit has been selected based on future cash requirements and best rate of interest at that time. • The Long Term Financial Plan was completed with the available information at the time and has been incorporated in the Strategic Plan. Revisions are continuing as variations are proposed by the State Government, Councillors and Council directors. • At this stage there are no overdue matters or issues raised within the areas of payment to suppliers and contractors. 	<p>DCCDS</p>
<p>14.5 Take advantage of new and emerging technology to improve services</p>	<p>Annual review</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuously reviewing of network infrastructures and updating when required. • New wireless equipment installed to improve connectivity to Depot. • At this stage there are no overdue matters or issues raised within the areas of payment to suppliers and contractors. • Business continuity management and interruption response analysis conducted November 2015. • Draft IT Disaster Recovery Plan provided to Jardine Lloyd Thompson for comment. • Technology regularly reviewed as per organisations needs. 	<p>DCCDS DAES</p>

Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	Target Year 2015/16	Responsible Officer
		Progress to 31 December 2015	

CSP Objective: 15. Develop strong community partnerships

15.1 Regular consultation with key industry, business and stakeholders	Bi-monthly contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing attendance and participation in meetings and events as required. Initial introductions with Evolution Mining representatives held and invitation extended through their Community Relations Advisor to address Council. Open communication between Council and key local industries ongoing as required. 2016 schedule of meetings drafted for review and issue in January. 	GM DCCDS DAES
15.2 Working in partnership with community groups, advisory committees, Government Departments, businesses and Council staff	At least 4 programs/projects annually	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Village Community Forums held on 1st October 2015. Fit for the Future Public Forum held on 10th November 2015. Council reviewed its committee schedule and representation at its September 2015 meeting. General Manager maintains ongoing participation and representation at the Riverina Pilot Joint Organisation. 	GM DCCDS DAES
15.3 Assist and/or foster community events and initiatives through Council sponsored grants/sponsorship opportunities	Quarterly promotions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council grant program promoted regularly through community radio, word of mouth, local media and email distribution. Council grants distributed to West Wyalong Town Band, House of Fashion, West Wyalong Women’s Bowling Club and the Barmedman Show Society. Council grants awarded to the West Wyalong Medical Centre, Business West Wyalong, the Mirrool Silo Kick Committee, the West Wyalong Clay Target Club and the West Wyalong Family History Group. 	CLORS DCCDS

Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	Target Year 2015/16	Responsible Officer
		Progress to 31 December 2015	

CSP Objective: 16. Provide opportunities in a variety of forums for all stakeholders to contribute to Council’s decision making

16.1 Encourage village residents to participate in community forums	Annually	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community input into agenda for community forums. Forum outcomes reported back to community in progress. Village Community Forum held on 1 October 2015. 	DAES
16.2 Monitor and provide innovative and accessible communication strategies to all Shire residents to encourage active participation	Bi-annual review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advertisements through West Wyalong Advocate and community newsletters ongoing. Active and increased presence utilising community mailing list and social media. Target audience identified for each program/project and advertised accordingly using various mediums (e.g. press, social media, newsletters, mail drops etc) Public Forum included in monthly Council meeting notice and opportunities provided for those interested. 	GM DCCDS
16.3 Ensure all Council communications are targeted and clearly branded	Bi-annual review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of Council branded signs and banners ongoing for funding recipients. Logo displayed in accordance with Corporate Style Guide. 	DCCDS

Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	Target Year 2015/16	Responsible Officer
		Progress to 31 December 2015	

CSP Objective: 17. Lead the community by example with sustainable, effective, efficient and customer focused practices

<p>17.1 Review Council’s customer service charter and regularly monitor Council services to ensure they are provided in a professional, timely and friendly manner and are responsive to community need</p>	<p>Annual review</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practices and performance are monitored to ensure customer service levels meet the standards set in Council’s Customer Service Charter. The results of the recent Customer Service Survey will be analysed and current practices reviewed to address any identified service gaps. Customer service staff have been trained in Tech One and ongoing training and support is in place. Incoming correspondence is processed on the day it is received and distributed to designated action officers. A report of outstanding actions is submitted to Manex fortnightly for follow up. Delivering of purchasing services ongoing. Development Assessment staff aim to process applications within statutory timeframes. 	<p>GM DCCDS DAES</p>
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Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	Target Year 2015/16	Responsible Officer
		Progress to 31 December 2015	

<p>17.2 Provide a sustainable, productive, highly skilled and committed workforce which supports current and future service delivery needs</p>	<p>Annual review</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workplace relations Management ongoing. • Learning and Development Plan developed and implemented. • Cost effective recruitment services ongoing. • Workforce plan implementation ongoing. • Process improvement and efficiencies across Council's functional areas is dependent on the outcome of the Fit for the Future program. to be progressed in early 2016. • Delegations register adopted at November 2015 Council meeting Program for issue to affected staff being finalised for distribution in January 2016. • Reviewing recruitment and selection methods ongoing. • School based trainee appointed. • Collecting and reporting on 'advertising sourced' data not progressed. • Ongoing review and update of position descriptions. • Individual training plans for trainees, apprentices and cadets completed for 2015. • Training opportunities for employees ongoing. • Tech1 training completed. • Research into E-learning program opportunities ongoing. • Process for tracking training needs developed. • Ongoing exploration of external funding opportunities for training and education. • Database of staff licences and qualifications developed and maintained. • 'On the Job' induction program ongoing. • Staff competencies ongoing. • Audiometric screening conducted on 17 Sept for all outdoor staff. • PD's have been reviewed and updated to include anyone/areas that may be at risk. • Local medical centre have been approached about the possibility of conducting skin checks for our staff. • Policies and procedures updated for flexible work practices and arrangements for staff and promoted to staff. 	<p>GM</p>
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Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	Target Year 2015/16	Responsible Officer
		Progress to 31 December 2015	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retirement planning sessions and phased retirement options are ongoing. • Employee health and wellbeing programs completed. • The Employee Assistance program ongoing. • Monthly staff service details provided to Manex and relevant supervisors, staff recognised at Monthly staff meetings. • Periodic reminders for staff achievement awards included in Facts Friday. • Staff Achievement Awards presented during the Bland But Not Boring Appreciation Breakfast in December 2015. • Reporting staff issues to Manex ongoing. • Improving cross functional communication to be developed following results from EEO and Employee Engagement Survey and progressed in early 2016 following the release of the IPART results. • Employee representation on workplace committees ongoing. • Return to work program ongoing. • Review of HR policies and procedures is ongoing. 	
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Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	Target Year 2015/16	Responsible Officer
		Progress to 31 December 2015	

<p>17.3 Develop, implement and monitor HR programs to solidify Council’s reputation as an employer of choice</p>	<p>Quarterly reporting to Consultative Committee and EEO Committee meetings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Government week celebrations held in villages in conjunction with National Tree Day. • Implementation of EEO Management plan ongoing. • Opportunities for resources sharing arrangements with other councils to be further considered following the outcomes of Council’s Fit for the Future submission. • Developing a mentoring and coaching program in progress. • The feasibility of job rotation is reviewed periodically as opportunities arise. • EEO and Employee Engagement Survey completed for 2015. • Identifying and nurturing talent ongoing. • Reporting on succession plan and initiative ongoing. 	<p>GM DCCDS</p>
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Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	Target Year 2015/16	Responsible Officer
		Progress to 31 December 2015	

17.4 Review and implement Council policies and comply with WH&S and Risk Management requirements	Quarterly reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WHS meetings held as required. Council Risk Management Action Plan developed and maintained. Hazard inspections in progress. May not complete all Council operations this year due to other work pressures but will endeavour to increase rate of inspections. WHS Audits ongoing. Maintained WHS Management Systems. Safety checks ongoing. Safe work, WHS and risk management processes ongoing. 	DAES
17.5 Ensure Council’s workforce is provided with appropriate equipment and resources to meet the needs of Council and the community	Annual review and budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant and equipment replacement program developed. Replacement in progress. Upgrade of computer, phones and other IT equipment ongoing. Knowledge transfer and capture initiatives not progressed. 	GM DAES DCCDS

Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	Target Year 2015/16	Responsible Officer
		Progress to 31 December 2015	

CSP Objective: 18. Develop and maintain a framework of plans and policies that ensures open and transparent Council communication




<p>18.1 Develop, implement and promote best practice governance policies and procedures</p>	<p>Quarterly review of Policy Register</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual GIPA report for 2014-2015 has been completed and forwarded to the Information and Privacy Commissioner and the Minister for Local Government. • All formal and informal GIPA applications have been completed within the statutory timeframe. • Government information (Public Access) Act publication guide. • Permanent record staff are undertaking formal qualifications in Records Management. Record staffs attended regional training by State Records when it becomes available and also complete on-line training. Record staff attends quarterly meetings of a Local Record Management Networking Group. • Regular retention and disposal of Council’s paper based records is undertaken in accordance with the State Records Disposal Authority. Implementing a disposal program for electronic documents has commenced. • The Policy Register and Council’s website are updated as policies and procedures are adopted by Council/Manex. • Review of corporate insurance completed. • Manex quarterly monitor progress with the recommendations from the Office of Local Government Promoting Better Practice Review. • Meeting schedule for Internal Audit Committee to be determined. • Independent Chair of the Internal Audit Committee resigned from Committee. 	<p>DCCDS DAES</p>
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Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	Target Year 2015/16	Responsible Officer
		Progress to 31 December 2015	
18.2 Council’s plans, policies and documents continue to be put on effective public display for comment and feedback from the community	Continual use of the West Wyalong Advocate and the Bland Shire website	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council plans and policies advertised when required. 	DCCDS

Our prosperity

Vision: Growing our population and jobs

Bland Shire Council will strive to attract new tourists, new industry and business, support existing businesses and promote leading edge practices to help stimulate investment and employment to ensure a vibrant future.

2015/16 Operational Plan Actions	
Total Actions for theme:	46
 Completed	0
 In progress	43
 Not progressed	3



Ensuring a vibrant and sustainable future

Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	Target Year 2015/16	Responsible Officer
		Progress to 31 December 2015	

CSP Objective: 19. Visitors and tourists are welcomed and make a positive contribution to the community and economy

19.1 Work with business and property owners to rejuvenate their businesses and shop fronts and encourage the maintenance of buildings with character	Bi-annual promotions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heritage Assistance Program continues to be promoted. Verandah Upgrade Program continues to be promoted. Council continues to promote the painting of facades as part of the Local heritage Funding Program. Project has been completed. Façade painting is funded from the Local Heritage Fund. 	DCCDS
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Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	Target Year 2015/16	Responsible Officer
		Progress to 31 December 2015	

<p>19.2 Work with the tourism industry to identify and develop products and services that appeal to visitors of the Shire</p>	<p>Quarterly review of products and services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Economic Development, Visitor Economy & Tourism Advisory Committee of the Whole was facilitated and regular meetings are held as scheduled. The Bland Shire Council made the decision to disband the Economic Development, Visitor Economy & Tourism Advisory Committee of the Whole at the September 2015 Council meeting. • The SEDTA maintain a relationship with and meets with Business West Wyalong and Events West Wyalong on a regular and ongoing basis. The SEDTA involved Business and Events West Wyalong with the Business Enterprise Centre workshops, Small Biz Bus visits to West Wyalong. • The SEDTA has an active participation and representation in the relevant regional tourism and business meetings and events including Riverina Regional Tourism, Eastern Riverina Regional Tourism, Regional Development Australia Riverina and Central West, Events West Wyalong, Business West Wyalong, The Gold Trails, The Newell Highway Promotions and Task Force Committees, Destination NSW, AusIndustry and Trade & Investment. • Ongoing and the SEDTA has promoted the League of Extraordinary Communities to both the Australian Federal & State Governments and is working on developing some marketing collateral. The SEDTA has met with marketing companies and the Charles Sturt University. • Reports provided to Council on potential strategic property acquisition opportunities as they arise. • The SEDTA developed a Draft Economic Strategic Plan. The General Manager has asked the Council for comments. • Dump point has arrived and installation is being organised at Coinda Park. 	<p>GM</p>
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Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	Target Year 2015/16	Responsible Officer
		Progress to 31 December 2015	

<p>19.3 Visitor information is kept relevant and up to date</p>	<p>Monthly review</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The VIC information is reviewed and updated on a regular basis and when and where appropriate. • The local tourism publications and website information is reviewed and updated on a regular basis and when and where appropriate. • This is ongoing and the soft and hard tourism infrastructure is reviewed and updated on a regular basis and when and where appropriate with a new Newell Highway Brochure released in February 2015 and an updated West Wyalong brochure released in March 2015. • A wetlands brochure was developed and released in March 2015. • Discussions have progressed on the publication of a Bland Shire map. • Visitor information shelters are being developed for Barmedman, Weethalle and Ungarie and will be installed in 2016. • A interpretive sign is being developed for the wetlands. • The SEDTA has provided comments and projects to the Riverina Regional Tourism Board for the updating of the Riverina Regional Tourism Destination Management Plan. The Destination Management Plan will be reduced from three Destination Management Organisations to two and the Fit for the Future review may necessitate further changes. • Costs to establish a Visitor Information Centre at the old Elders Building has been prepared and presented to Council. The review of other possible Visitor Information sites has been undertaken and has been presented to Council. • Adoption of best practices and technology to improve the overnight visitor spend in the Bland Shire is reviewed regular basis and when and where appropriate acted on. 	<p>GM</p>
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Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	Target Year 2015/16	Responsible Officer
		Progress to 31 December 2015	

CSP Objective: 20. Plan for a range of industries that build on the strengths of the Bland Shire to stimulate investment and employment

20.1 Encourage and actively seek out business and industry to relocate within the shire	Monthly contact with at least 1 potential new business/industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Business Development Assistance program is actively promoted. 	GM
20.2 Have ongoing engagement and communication with the shire’s existing and prospective industry and business including diversification into alternate industries/businesses	Monthly contact with business community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is ongoing and the SEDTA maintain a relationship with and meets with Business West Wyalong on a regular and ongoing basis. The SEDTA involved Business West Wyalong with the Business Enterprise Centre workshops, Small Biz Bus visits to West Wyalong. Ongoing and the SEDTA maintains a strong working relationship and engagement with and meets with Regional Development Australia, Enterprise Connect, AusIndustry, Department of Planning & Environment, NSW Trade & Investment, NSW Environment Protection Authority, NSW Environment Protection Authority, Roads and Maritime Services NSW Trade and Investment, Crown Lands, Department of Primary Industries, State Training Services Riverina, Industry Capability Network, Office of Environment and Heritage and Australia Bureau of Statistics on a regular basis. Country Change and the Country Expo are under review and may not continue in 2016. The SEDTA developed a Draft Economic Strategic Plan. The General Manager has asked the Council for constructive comments. 	GM
20.3 Actively promote the Business Development Assistance to new and existing businesses	Monthly promotions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Business Development Assistance program is actively promoted. The SEDTA proactively markets, promotes and encourages new and existing retail business and industry. 	GM

Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	Target Year 2015/16	Responsible Officer
		Progress to 31 December 2015	

CSP Objective: 21. Promote leading edge communication technology to link everyone within and outside Bland Shire

21.1 Lobby for and work with industry, Government and education providers to ensure Bland Shire residents and businesses have access to competitive telecommunication services	Bi-annual representations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This task is undertaken on a regular ongoing basis, with regular emails being sent to businesses in the Bland Shire making them aware of new technologies. Changes implemented to maximise community engagement on social media. This is ongoing and the SEDTA undertakes this task on a regular ongoing basis, with regular emails being sent to businesses in the Bland Shire making them aware of the roll out of the NBN Fixed Wireless Broadband Network in the Bland Shire with information sessions being held in West Wyalong and Ungarie. The NBN is planning to commence construction on the fixed wired network in 2016. SEDTA submitted a response to the Federal Governments Mobile Phone Black Spot Program and Telecommunication Review and included these comments in the Newell Highway and Agricultural submissions. 	GM
21.2 Analyse, interpret and promote emerging social trends and Government initiatives in technology to benefit the community	Bi-annual promotions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Development Officer attended social media training specific to Local Government in Sydney in August. Tools already being introduced to Council’s social media accounts. Partnered with TAFE to provide workshop/learning opportunities for volunteer groups. Opportunities to link new Government initiative to Bland Shire explored on an ongoing basis. Community Development Officer attended social media training specific to Local Government in Sydney in August. Tools already being introduced to Council’s social media accounts. 	DCCDS

Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	Target Year 2015/16	Responsible Officer
		Progress to 31 December 2015	

CSP Objective: 22. Work with our communities and businesses to use our resources in a sustainable way for the future of the Bland Shire

22.1 Through partnership with stakeholders foster our education, learning and training industry and increase employment opportunities within the Shire	Quarterly representations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance of Councils traineeship and apprenticeship program opportunities is ongoing. • Fostering partnerships with education sector is ongoing. • Educating the community on benefits of protecting our environment continue. Staff attendance at show day. • This is ongoing and this task is undertaken on a regular ongoing basis, arranged for the Business Enterprise Centre to conduct business workshops in West Wyalong and visits by the Small Biz Bus. The SEDTA promotes other educational and information activities to the local businesses.. • SEDTA regularly liaises with retail and industry to assist in creating employment opportunities in the Bland Shire. • SEDTA works with businesses to be aware of and adopt new technologies on a regular basis. • Additional traineeship or apprenticeship opportunities are on hold awaiting outcome of IPART report. are ongoing. • Graduate program not progressed, awaiting outcome of IPART report. • Ongoing facilitation of work experience and/or cadetship opportunities. 	GM DAES DCCDS
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Delivery Program Strategies	Performance Target	Target Year 2015/16	Responsible Officer
		Progress to 31 December 2015	

22.2 Ensure a sustainable environment for current and future generations through effective management and planning for the long term future by ensuring appropriate land is zoned and available to support business and industrial growth	Annual land review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A parcel of land has been identified and Council has agreed to purchase the land and has delegated the General Manager to finalise the purchase. Controls in the Local Environmental Plan and Development Control Plan continued to be enforced. The proposal for the rezoning of Airport land to industrial land has not progressed due to uncertainty of the future of Bland Shire Council. 	GM DCCDS
22.3 Promote agricultural practices which are leading edge and efficient	Annual promotion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A workshop/program in the agricultural industry has been completed with staff attendance at Show days. 	DAES
22.4 Liaise with utility providers to ensure a quality sustainable service to the community	Quarterly contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cr Templeton continues as Council's delegate to Goldenfields Water County Council and information and meeting minutes are provided for to Council for reference. Communicating local issues with utility providers are raised as need arise. 	GM



9.2 Service Delivery and Organisation Structure Review (March 2016)

Our leadership

Setting a benchmark for community standards

Vision: A well run council acting as the voice of the community

DP14.3 Ensure the General Manager takes on a high level role in implementing the Community Strategic Plan and associated documents

Author: General Manager

Officer's Recommendation:

- 1. That the information contained in the report on the review of council's Organisation Structure and Service Delivery is received and noted;**
- 2. That the councillors acknowledge the ongoing efforts of all staff in endeavouring to make Bland Shire Council Fit for the Future**

Introduction

Council has requested that the general manager, with the support of both directors, undertake a review of council's current service delivery levels and the current organisation structure.

Accordingly an extensive review has been undertaken with the Fit for the Future framework and Improvement Plan used as a basis for determining staff replacement opportunities and the implications for the levels of service currently being provided.

Included with this report are a summary of the areas that were reviewed and the outcomes arising from decisions made by the Executive Team with the objective of addressing both the financial and service level implications.

The opportunity was also taken to review council's current motor vehicle fleet arrangements and these details are set out later in this report.

Local government service provision has transformed significantly over recent decades and local councils have moved beyond the traditional narrow emphasis on 'roads, rates and rubbish' towards broader objectives to promote the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of communities. Over a similar period, community expectations of local government have increased while other levels of government have devolved various functions (cost shifting?).

While some council services have experienced higher demand from the community, (such as sporting and cultural facilities) and in the case of Bland Shire Council the maintaining of the second longest road network in the State, most councils have also been subject to increased legislative requirements (such as asset management and strategic planning). The overall effect is that councils must provide a greater range of services while endeavouring to meet higher standards.

These challenges have become increasingly difficult due to the financial pressures placed on councils (such as Fit for the Future) and the fact that costs have been increasing at a far greater rate than generated income.

Service and organisation structure reviews mean different things to different councils but the common objective is to ensure 'value for money' for the ratepayers.

I now refer councillors to the summary of the review noting the significant projected savings from the natural attrition of staff, the reduction in council's motor vehicle fleet and the reduction in the payment of the 'housing allowance'.

Conclusion

The natural attrition of staff has seen a redistribution of workloads amongst existing staff which is resulting in improving internal efficiency / building organisational skills and knowledge / reducing costs with minimal effect on service delivery.

There have also been a number of other reviews completed including a 360 degree review of all management and supervisory staff. This was not a performance measurement exercise but rather more of an opportunity for those reviewed by their peers to reflect on the outcomes and to identify areas for improvement.

A Staff Workforce Culture Taskforce was also established late last year to review and report on culture issues that need addressing to ensure a more productive workplace. I am just in the process of responding to the Taskforce's initial report.

Council will also be aware of the recent JRA review of the Engineering Services section with the key findings being:

1. Council's unit costs for renewal activities (resheeting and resealing) are at the lower end of comparable benchmark rates for REROC, RAMROC and similar rural councils indicating unit service costs are effective and efficient comparable with similar Councils.
2. Plant utilisation costs and plant management practices are good compared to similar councils.
3. Allocation of expenditure and work practices is comparable with similar councils.
4. There is a perception from what appears to be a small section of the community that council service levels and efficiency is not satisfactory. This does not align with available evidence.

Over the past three (3) financial periods Bland Shire Council has been one of 79 NSW councils involved in a Local Government Operational and Management Effectiveness Survey and the results for Bland Shire reflect quite favourably compared to other NSW councils, particularly amongst rural councils.

Now in its third year, the assessment program can show trend data and provide meaningful results to councils, enabling identification of best practice across the sector – and where resources need to be allocated in pursuit of business improvement.

The program – created by Local Government (LG) Professionals, NSW in collaboration with PwC Australia– identifies how councils are performing across key operational and management variables. More than half of NSW's local councils have voluntarily participated.

The first benchmarking results reveal many sustained improvements. More NSW councils (59%, up from 43% three years ago) now have a CFO who is part of the senior leadership team, and the concentration of finance effort allocated to valuable business insight activities is now 20% (up from 16% two years ago)

More NSW councils (62%, up from 43% two years ago) now have a formal IT strategy. 28% of NSW councils (up from 17%) rank analytics and business intelligence tools as a priority.

A small snapshot of the results as they relate to Bland Shire Council is as follows:

Measure	Council	FY 13	FY 14	FY 15
Span of Control (Other staff per manager)	Bland Shire	2.8	2.4	2.3
	Survey	3.5	3.5	3.5
Capital Expenditure per resident	Bland Shire	\$750	\$670	\$860
	Survey	\$520	\$510	\$490
Percentage of Operational Plan actions achieved	Bland Shire	75%	98%	92%
	Survey	77%	83%	83%
Average Council Meeting Duration (Minutes)	Bland Shire	123	146	141
	Survey	145	146	145
Key Service Area – Roads and Bridges cost per resident per annum	Bland Shire			\$1316
	Survey			\$235

The Bland Shire should be proud of the fact that it has a workforce dedicated to self improvement and the acquisition of additional skills and knowledge in order that they can provide the most efficient and cost effective delivery of services across a very wide and diverse range of activities.

Furthermore, the results detailed in this report were not an outcome from the request for such a report but they clearly reflect an ongoing desire by staff, at all levels, to achieve the best outcomes for council and community.

Review of Motor Vehicle Fleet

It was also considered timely to undertake a review of council's current motor vehicle fleet as it relates to the provision of vehicles to staff and the cost of such arrangements.

Council currently have 16 staff members with private use of a vehicle. This is after taking into account the reduction in vehicles as outlined in my report. The break up is as follows:

1x GM / 2 x Director / 1 x Manager / 12 x Operational staff

The table below shows the light fleet trend over the past 8 years and highlights attempts by senior management to reduce fleet numbers and therefore costs in this area. The table also reflects the trends in the light fleet market, highlighting that sedans have become less popular and that SUV's have become more popular.

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2016
Wagons	4	12	17	17	15	19
Utilities	20	20	22	22	22	17
Sedans	15	14	6	7	5	0
Totals	39	46	45	46	42	36

Financial Implications

Service and Organisation Review

Based on the summary provided with this report the projected savings from the natural attrition of staff over the past 12 months, the reduction in the need for council vehicles and the reduction in the need to pay some housing allowances is approximately - **\$638,750.00**

Motor Vehicle Fleet Review

The total cost to council of the 16 vehicles per annum is approximately **\$150,000.00**.

(These costs include Fuel / oil & grease / Tyres & Tubes / Spare Parts / Labour / Registration / Insurance and miscellaneous.)

Assuming an average 50% private use 50% business use, particularly with the operational vehicles, the cost that should be met by council as part of its annual operating expenditure would be **\$ 75,000.00**

The income generated by the payment of lease fees and remuneration package deductions is approximately **\$105,000.00**

Consequently, the income clearly covers the cost.

Taking this one step further you could calculate the cost vs. income as representing a 70% private use and 30% business use however this will always be a point of conjecture. It is apparent however that the private use of a council vehicle, which on many occasions is a condition of employment, is not a financial burden to council or the ratepayers.

Council has a comprehensive Motor Vehicle Policy in place covering all of the issues identified by LGNSW including, but not limited to: contribution payments, authorised drivers, accidents, car security and cleanliness and traffic and parking infringements.

There is also a detailed procedure that identifies the standard of vehicle applicable to each staff position and which I might add has been downgraded over the past few years.

In undertaking this review it also became evident that there is significant savings to be made by councillors making better use of council vehicles when travelling to and from conferences, forums and council related meetings. It is accepted that on some occasions this may not be convenient but to give councillors an indication of the possible savings the following costs have been identified:

These figures cover the period from March 2014 to December 2015.

Reimbursement to councillors for use of own vehicle - **\$17,000.00**

Cost calculated if a council vehicle had been used - **\$2,500.00**

Potential savings - **\$14,500**



SERVICE DELIVERY AND ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE REVIEW - MARCH 2016

OPERATIONAL AREA	OUTCOME OF REVIEW	PROJECTED SAVINGS	\$
Human Resources	On the retirement of the Senior HR Coordinator this position was abolished and the responsibilities are now shared amongst the HR team (3) and the general manager for strategic HR issues.	Reduction of (1) position	\$110,000
Development Services	On the appointment of an internal applicant to the position of Manager – Development Services the position of Town Planner has been abolished and the responsibilities have been absorbed by the new Manager.	Reduction of (1) position Reduction of (1) vehicle	\$105,000 \$9,375
Child Care Services	As a result of reduced funding, staffing has been rearranged to ensure \$0 based budgeting		
WHS & Risk Management	Previous reorganisation absorbed WHS into another position leaving ½ a position in Risk filled by a part time employee. This ½ position has now been absorbed into an existing position.	Reduction of (½) position	\$40,000
Finance and Administration	Administration team currently operating with one less position. Ongoing arrangements will depend on incumbents return arrangements following maternity leave. Vacant position within Finance. Position has unsuccessfully been advertised, currently looking at options.	Reduced Position	\$15,000
Asset Management	On the resignation of the Senior Coordinator Assets it has been decided to handle the role with a team of 5 employees plus engage a consultant when assistance may be needed	Reduction of (1) position Reduction of (1) vehicle Consultant Estimated Cost	\$110,000 \$9,375 +\$50,000

Economic Development and Tourism	<p>The results of the most recent community survey indicate that three of the top five issues raised by the community are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Attracting industry to the Shire (2) - Generating local employment opportunities (3) - Tourism promotion (5) <p>Council has established significant resources to meet the demands of Economic Development and Tourism into the immediate future including a new industrial estate, a possible food processing plant and the development of ED & T Strategies.</p> <p>Consequently, the need for a Senior Economic Development and Tourism Advisor is warranted.</p>		
Indigenous Cultural Officer	This is a partly funded position by the former Barrick Gold Mine which has now been absorbed by Evolution Mining. The position is in its first year of a two year partnership.		
Urban Maintenance	On the resignation of one member of the village maintenance crew and one member of the Parks crew, their positions have not been replaced	Reduction of two (2) position	\$100,000
Rural Maintenance	On the resignation of one member of the rural maintenance crew, their position has not been filled	Reduction of one (1) position	\$50,000
Workshop	It is presumed that one employee will not be returning and on his resignation the workshop crew will be reduced by one position.	Reduction of one (1) position	\$70,000
HACC Services	As a result of reduced funding, staffing has been rearranged to ensure \$0 based budgeting		
Community Services	On the resignation of the Administration Officer, the position has not been filled but will be reduced to 50%	Reduction of (½) position	\$25,000
	Reduction in Housing Allowance payments x 3		\$45,000
	Projected Savings – Motor Vehicles (annual running costs) x 2		\$18,750
	Projected Savings – Staff (Full x 7 - Half x 2 – Reduced x 1)		\$575,000
	Total Projected Savings in the next financial year		\$638,750

9.3 Refurbishment of the Perseverance Street Sports Complex Stadium – Progress Report (March 2016)

Our infrastructure *Reviewing, renewing & improving our core community assets*

Vision: Maintaining and improving the Shire's assets and infrastructure in a changing climate

11.2. In collaboration with users and budgetary constraints provide facilities that are maintained to acceptable standards.

Author: General Manager

Officer's Recommendation:

- 1. That the information regarding the progress of the West Wyalong Sports Stadium refurbishment project be received and noted:**
- 2. That an Extraordinary meeting of Council be convened at 6.30pm on Tuesday 5 April to consider the tenders for this project:**
- 3. That the general manager prepare a further report detailing possible options for the future management of the refurbished facility; and**
- 4. That provision be made in the 2016 – 2017 budgets to cover the future management costs of the facility as well as the setting of fees and charges for the use of the facility.**

Introduction

Council will be aware of the issues that have occasioned the slight delay with this project, particularly the time lost whilst waiting for the outcome of the National Stronger Regions Fund application and the need to provide on-site fire fighting facilities.

The Development Application has been approved under delegated authority given that there were no objections received and the fact that it was a time saving measure.

All tender specifications and documentation has been finalised and issued to the prospective tenderers following the mandatory on-site meeting that was held on 15 February 2016.

Council staff have also met with representatives of the stadium committee to discuss the proposed timeframe for the project and for the need to ensure that all competitions are finalised and that the facility is fully vacated prior to the commencement of works.

Preliminary discussions were also held regarding the future management of the refurbished facility and this will be the subject of a further report to council in due course.

The timeline now is as follows:

- ***Closing Date for Tenders – 18 March 2016***
- ***Evaluation of Tenders – 21-24 March 2016***
- ***Consideration / Acceptance of Tenders – 5 April 2016***
- ***Handover of site and Commencement of Works – 11 April 2016***

Conclusion

Based on the acceptance of a tender by Council on 5 April 2016 works will commence almost immediately and the entire site will become a construction zone for the duration of the project.

Financial Implications

Council has capped the expenditure on this project at \$2M and there has already been expenditure to date of around \$300,000.00 for consultancy fees and other minor items that have been necessary to reach the tender stage.

The final cost of the project cannot be determined until the receipt of the tenders.

9.4 Local Government Innovation Fund – Round One

Our leadership

Setting a benchmark for community standards

Vision: A well run council acting as the voice of the community

DP14.3 Ensure the General Manager takes on a high level role in implementing the Community Strategic Plan and associated documents

Author: General Manager

Officer's Recommendation:

- 1. That Council supports the submission of an application under the Local Government Innovation Fund, Round 1; and**
- 2. That the subject and purpose of the application be determined by the general manager.**

Introduction

Council is in receipt of the Guidelines issued by the NSW OLG regarding the Local Government Innovation Fund.

The Innovation Fund is a \$4 million grants program, established under the NSW Government's Fit for the Future reforms. The program aims to help small councils in regional NSW overcome some of the challenges they face in sustaining their communities and maintaining local services.

The Fund will be over 2 rounds of \$2 million each with individual councils being able to apply for up to \$150,000.00 and groups of councils up to \$400,000.00. The grants are only available for councils with populations of less than 10,000.

There must be a co-contribution from the council of at least 30% of the grant total.

The grants are mainly for implementation costs but up to 20% can be allowed for project planning and administration.

The key assessment criteria includes: community benefit / innovation and learning / value for money / sustainable improvements / capability and capacity.

The Executive Team have identified the areas of: Asset Management / Road Network / Depreciation Methods. However, we are still considering the most beneficial area which would meet the program criteria.

Conclusion

Applications close on 1st April 2016 for round 1 and a council resolution is required supporting the submission of an application. Consequently, given the short timeframe, I am recommending that council support in principle the submission of an application but with the actual purpose of such an application being left to the discretion of the Executive Team.

Financial Implications

The council contribution of 20%, if the application is successful, can only be determined once the purpose and overall cost of the application is known. I would expect that there would be sufficient funds within the current budget to meet this obligation.

9.5 BLAND – TEMORA NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE - DRAFT ESTIMATES 2016/17

Our leadership

Setting a benchmark for community standards

Vision: A well run council acting as the voice of the community

DP15.4 Ensure the long term financial sustainability of council through effective and prudent financial management.

Author: General Manager

Officer's Recommendation:

That Bland Shire Council advise the NSW Rural Fire Service that it is not in a financial position to meet the increased RFS budget for the Bland – Temora Zone while such budget includes the purchase of a CAT 6 and the construction of two (2) new double bay sheds noting that such inclusions represent an approximate 22% increase while NSW councils are restricted to a 1.8% rate pegging limit for 2016/17.

Introduction

Council is in receipt of the draft estimates for 2016/2017 relating to the operations of the Bland – Temora RFS Zone.

There is a provision for the purchase of two (2) new CAT 6 bulk water carriers with one for the Bland Shire and one for the Temora Shire.

Over the past few years there has been an emphasis on refurbishment of existing plant rather than replacement which was providing a financial benefit without placing at risk the existing red fleet. However, although the purchase of the two CAT 6's is included in the long term plant replacement program, it comes at a time when councils such as Bland and Temora are endeavouring to meet the stringent Fit for the Future reform criteria,

The draft estimates also make provision for the construction of two (2) new double bay sheds proposed for the Naradhan and Bland Creek brigades.

Last year's estimates made provision for five (5) new single bay fire stations, which are basically stand alone sheds and which are portable, thus allowing for their removal if circumstances so arise.

- Back Creek
- Blow Clear – Wamboyne
- Clear Ridge
- Pucawan Quandary
- Sandy Creek

Conclusion

These are 'draft' estimates and council has the ability to reject any major capital items if it is considered they are cost prohibitive and are not essential items for the ongoing viability of the RFS operations in the Bland – Temora Zone.

Financial Implications

The double bay sheds are estimated to cost \$150,000.00 each and taking into account that council would need to meet 11.7% as per RFS Contributions, the additional cost to Bland Shire Council would be \$35,100.00

The purchase of a CAT 6 at an estimated cost of \$414,700.00 with an 11.7% contribution equates to an additional cost to Bland Shire Council of \$48,520.00.

In total this represents an additional cost, above the normal estimates, of \$83,620.00.

When taking this increase into account with the normal estimates it represents an increase over last year's RFS budget of approximately 22%. The rate pegging limit for 2016/17 is 1.8% which will generate around \$ 110,000.00 in extra rate income!

Council, in developing its budget for 2016/17 will be looking to trim around \$1 million and this will not be achieved by expenditure of funds on non essential assets and facilities.

SECTION 3 – CORPORATE, COMMUNITY & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

9.6 Financial Statements – February 2016

Our leadership

Setting a benchmark for community standards

Vision: A well run council acting as the voice of the community

DP14.4 Ensure the long term financial sustainability of Council through effective and prudent financial management.

Author: Director Corporate, Community & Development Services

Officer's Recommendation:

1. That Council receive and note the statement of Bank Balances, Rates Collections and Investments for the month of February, 2016
2. That Council confirms the payment of accounts, for the period 01 February to 29 February 2016, summarised in the accounts summary totalling \$1,202,786.14

STATEMENT OF BANK BALANCES, RATES COLLECTIONS AND INVESTMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 2016.

BANK BALANCES AS AT 29TH FEBRUARY, 2016

ACCOUNT	BALANCE
General Fund	\$ 5,455,082.04
BCard	\$ 15,990.00
	\$ 5,471,072.04
Invested Funds	
Fixed Deposits	\$14,200,000.00
Deposits at Call	\$ 987,938.02
	\$15,187,938.02
Net Balance	\$20,659,010.06
Percentage of investment to Net Balance	73.52%

STATEMENT OF BANK BALANCES AS AT 29.02.16
SUBMITTED TO THE ORDINARY MEETING MARCH 15, 2016

Balance as at 01.02.16 \$ 749,062.42

Add Receipts

For month of February 2016 \$ 5,908,805.76

Includes

Receipt Date.	Receipt Name	Received Total
2/2/16	Westpac – Redeem Investment	\$1,000,000.00
5/2/16	RMS – Block Grant	\$253,750.00
25/2/16	Roads to Recovery	\$2,202,085.00

Less Payments

For month of February 2016 \$1,202,786.14

Includes

Payment Date.	Payee Name	Payment Total
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Cash Balance \$ 5,455,082.04

Limit of Overdraft Arranged with Bank \$ 350,000.00

ACCOUNTS SUMMARY

The following is a summary of accounts paid for the period February 01, 2016 to February 29, 2016.

I CERTIFY,
That the accounts included in the accounts summary and totalling as detailed under:-

Fund		Voucher No's	Total
Cheques		024786 - 024808	\$ 106,237.08
Auto-pay	Creditors	E006912 – E007152	\$ 768,556.97
Auto-pay	Payroll	31/1 - 28/2	\$ 315,999.81
February Bank Charges & Commission etc			\$ 350.33
Direct Debits		Repayments & Vehicle Lease	\$ 11,641.95
			\$ 1,202,786.14

1. Are fully supported by vouchers and invoices and have been fully registered.
2. The responsible officer concerned has certified that the goods for which respective accounts are submitted have been rendered to order and/or that the services for which respective accounts are submitted have been rendered according to order.
3. Official orders have been issued for the supply of such goods and services. The goods for which respective accounts are submitted have been checked with the entries in the goods order book.
4. The prices and computations of every account are correct.
5. The prices for the goods supplied or services rendered under the contract or quotation in accordance therewith and in all cases the prices charged are according to order and as far as I am able to ascertain fair and reasonable.
6. The provisions of the Local Government Act, 1993 and Regulations in connection therewith have been complied with.

Further I also certify that the Ledger has been reconciled with the bank statements for the last preceding monthly period.

.....
Director of Corporate, Community & Development Services

CERTIFICATE OF GENERAL MANAGER

This accounts summary, a copy of which was submitted to each member of Council on the 15 March 2016, has been checked and is fully supported by vouchers and invoices. These vouchers have been duly certified as to receipt of goods, the rendition of services, to prices and computations, and to costings.

.....
General Manager

CERTIFICATE OF CHAIRMAN OF ORDINARY MEETING

I certify that this accounts summary, covering amounts totalling \$1,202,786.14 was submitted to the Ordinary Meeting on the 15 March 2016 and that the amounts are presented to Council for confirmation of payment.

.....
Chairman of Ordinary Meeting

Rating Year From
1/07/2015

Rates Financial Transaction Summary

Period Ending
29/02/2016

	Period To Date					Year To Date				
	Arr. Levy	Arr. Int	Cur. Levy	Cur. Int	Total	Arr. Levy	Arr. Int	Cur. Levy	Cur. Int	Total
<u>Council Total</u>										
** DEBIT **										
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$554,225.78	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$554,225.78
Adjustment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$360.00	\$0.00	\$852.74	\$1,080.00	\$2,292.74
Credit/Debit Allocation	\$282.24	\$0.00	\$1,313.28	\$13.42	\$1,608.94	\$93,141.33	\$0.00	\$98,653.43	\$1,266.49	\$153,061.25
Fees (i.e. Legal or Dishonour)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$235.36	\$0.00	\$235.36	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$23,112.16	\$0.00	\$23,112.16
Interest	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,635.33	\$4,635.33	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,442.23	\$31,858.23	\$35,300.46
Advalorum Levy	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,711,969.25	\$0.00	\$5,711,969.25
Base Levy	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$441,106.53	\$0.00	\$441,106.53
Service Levy	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,167,658.00	\$0.00	\$2,167,658.00
Supplementary Levy	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$249.49	\$0.00	\$24,739.43	\$0.00	\$24,988.92
Pensioner Rebate Government	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,230.99	\$0.00	\$2,230.99
Pension Rebate Sewer	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$612.47	\$0.00	\$612.47
Receipt via other Agencies	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,052.55	\$0.00	\$804.44	\$15.01	\$1,872.00
Receipt via BPay	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$455.00	\$0.00	\$4,563.29	\$0.00	\$5,018.29
Refund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$2,272.00	\$0.00	\$2,472.00
Transfer within Module	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,188.00	\$0.00	\$1,188.00	\$7,268.34	\$0.00	\$5,871.12	\$0.00	\$13,139.46
<u>Total</u>	\$282.24	\$0.00	\$2,736.64	\$4,648.75	\$7,667.63	\$656,952.49	\$0.00	\$8,447,888.08	\$34,219.73	\$9,139,060.30
** CREDIT **										
Credit/Debit Allocation	-\$273.24	\$0.00	-\$1,305.87	-\$29.83	-\$1,608.94	-\$4,175.91	\$0.00	-\$149,041.55	-\$146.24	-\$153,363.70
Supplementary Levy	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$589.80	\$0.00	-\$31,341.12	\$0.00	-\$31,930.92
Pensioner Rebate Government	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$127,670.03	\$0.00	-\$127,670.03
Pension Rebate Sewer	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$37,664.99	\$0.00	-\$37,664.99
Receipt via other Agencies	-\$2,189.59	\$0.00	-\$4,698.55	-\$21.78	-\$6,909.92	-\$24,559.52	\$0.00	-\$114,970.15	-\$250.44	-\$139,780.11
Receipt via Australia Post	-\$2,944.84	\$0.00	-\$279,843.22	-\$569.84	-\$283,257.90	-\$35,460.91	\$0.00	-\$1,144,069.31	-\$1,172.81	-\$1,180,703.03
Receipt via BPay	-\$6,281.66	\$0.00	-\$648,701.80	-\$879.81	-\$655,863.27	-\$105,931.19	\$0.00	-\$2,434,641.10	-\$2,839.33	-\$2,543,411.62
Receipt via Direct Deposit	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$150.00	\$0.00	-\$825.00	\$0.00	-\$975.00
Receipt	-\$4,534.98	\$0.00	-\$250,657.72	-\$350.83	-\$255,543.53	-\$97,978.99	\$0.00	-\$2,273,169.69	-\$1,260.99	-\$2,372,409.67
Receipt via Payroll	-\$40.00	\$0.00	-\$2,428.63	-\$0.37	-\$2,469.00	-\$616.07	\$0.00	-\$40,711.75	-\$31.18	-\$41,359.00
Transfer external to Module	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$478.50	\$0.00	-\$478.50
Transfer within Module	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$1,188.00	\$0.00	-\$1,188.00	-\$1,189.13	\$0.00	-\$10,734.25	-\$1,216.08	-\$13,139.46
Write Off Balance	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$936.89	-\$40.66	-\$977.55	-\$5.03	\$0.00	-\$3,253.33	-\$146.69	-\$3,405.05
<u>Total</u>	-\$16,164.31	\$0.00	-\$1,189,760.68	-\$1,893.12	-\$1,207,818.11	-\$270,666.55	\$0.00	-\$6,368,570.77	-\$7,063.76	-\$6,646,291.08
<u>Group Total</u>	-\$15,882.07	\$0.00	-\$1,187,024.04	\$2,755.63	-\$1,200,150.48	\$386,295.94	\$0.00	\$2,079,317.31	\$27,155.97	\$2,492,769.22

INVESTMENTS

The following table gives details of Council's Funds invested at 29th February 2016. The funds consist of monies from the Bank Accounts of the Trust Funds, Reserve Accounts, Sewerage Fund and Combined General Account.

DATE	INVESTED WITH WHOM	INVESTED AMOUNT	TERM	YIELD	DATE DUE
05-August-2014	Bank of QLD (Floating Rate Note)	1,000,000.00	731 days	0.95% + BBSW	05-August-2016
19-January-2016	Bank of QLD (Term Deposit)	1,000,000.00	182 days	3.05%	19-July-2016
03-December-2015	NAB (Term Deposit)	1,000,000.00	91 days	2.98%	03-March-2016
01-February-2016	NAB (Term Deposit)	1,000,000.00	91 days	3.02%	02-May-2016
22-January-2016	NAB (Term Deposit)	1,000,000.00	122 days	3.05%	23-May-2016
16-November-2015	NAB (Term Deposit)	1,500,000.00	182 days	2.89%	16-May-2016
14-October-2015	Bank of QLD (Term Deposit)	1,000,000.00	154 days	2.85%	16-March-2016
01-October-2015	NAB (Term Deposit)	1,000,000.00	183 days	3.00%	01-April-2016
23-February-2016	Bankwest (Term Deposit)	2,000,000.00	120 days	3.00%	22-June-2016
08-September-2015	Bendigo Bank (Term Deposit)	400,000.00	366 days	2.95%	08-September-2016
08-September-2015	Bendigo Bank (Term Deposit)	400,000.00	366 days	2.95%	08-September-2016
08-September-2015	Bendigo Bank (Term Deposit)	400,000.00	366 days	2.95%	08-September-2016
15-December-2015	Bankwest (Term Deposit)	1,000,000.00	91 days	3.05%	15-March-2016
15-September-2015	Bankwest (Term Deposit)	1,000,000.00	182 days	2.85%	15-March-2016
25-September-2015	People's Choice (Term Deposit)	500,000.00	180 days	2.95%	23-March-2016
	ANZ Deposit at Call	50,749.81	Cash at Call		
	CBA Deposit at Call	937,188.21	Cash at Call		
	TOTAL:	15,187,938.02			

I certify that the above investments have been made in accordance with Section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993, the Regulation and Council's Investment Policies.

I certify that the above investment has been reconciled with Council's General Ledger Accounts.

Director Corporate Community & Development Services

9.7 Making Of Rates 2016/17

Our leadership

Setting a benchmark for community standards

Vision: A well run council acting as the voice of the community

15 – To provide quality leadership, governance and management.

Author: Director Corporate, Community and Development Services

Officer's Recommendation:

That the Council makes the rates for the 2016/2017 year to allow for inclusion in the 2016/17 budget preparation.

Bland Shire Council will, under Section 497 of the NSW Local Government Act 1993, levy Ordinary Rates on all rateable properties within its area. The rates that are proposed to be levied are set out hereunder. All Council Rates & Charges are exempt from Goods and services tax (GST).

The rate pegging limit for Ordinary Rates, as advised by The Minister for Local Government, has been set at 1.8% for the 2016/17 rating year. The below recommendations have been calculated on a 1.8% rate increase.

The Council will adopt the Revenue Policy and budget document at a later date, however for the budget document income to be accurate, Staff request the following rates be adopted at this time.

RECOMMENDATION 1

Officer's Recommendation:

ORDINARY RATE

A. That it is hereby RECOMMENDED that Ordinary Rates be made for the year commencing on 1 July 2016 on all rateable land within the area of the Council of Bland as follows:

(a) Farmland Rate

A base amount of eighty dollars (\$80.00) per assessment plus an ad-valorem amount of point zero zero five zero eight three cents (0.005083c) in the dollar on the land value of all rateable land categorised as farmland, the base amount to yield two point nine six percent (2.96%) of the total amount payable by the levying of the Farmland rate.

(b) Mining Rate

A base amount of one hundred and sixty seven dollars (\$170.00) plus an ad-valorem amount of point zero zero eight one zero one cents (0.008101c) in the dollar on the land value of all land categorised as mining land, the base amount to yield three point zero zero percent (3.00%) of the total amount payable by the levying of the mining rate.

(c) Gold Mining Rate

A base amount of one hundred and seventy dollars (\$170.00) plus an ad-valorem amount of point zero three two four eight three cents (0.032483c) in the dollar on the land value that is categorised as gold mining land, the base amount to yield zero point zero two percent (0.02%) of the total amount payable by the levying of the mining rate.

RECOMMENDATION 2

Officer's Recommendation:

B. That it is hereby RECOMMENDED that Ordinary Rates be now made for the year commencing on 1 July 2016 on all rateable land within the area of the Council of Bland as follows:

(a) Residential Rate

A base amount of eighty dollars (\$80.00) per assessment plus an ad-valorem amount of point zero zero six zero six one cents (0.006061c) in the dollar on the land value of all rateable land categorised as residential, the base amount to yield thirty point one three percent (30.13%) of the total amount payable by the levying of the Residential rate.

(b) Business Rate

A base amount of one hundred and forty seven dollars (\$147.00) plus an ad-valorem amount of point zero one one eight nine six cents (0.011896c) in the dollar on the land value of all land categorised as business land, the base amount to yield twenty six point nine five percent (26.95%) of the total amount payable by the levying of the Business Rate.

But excepting there-from any land within the following areas of the Council of Bland which are hereby taken to be separate centres of population for the purposes of Section 529 (2) (b) of the Local Government Act 1993; and centres of activity for the Purposes of Section 529 (2) (d) of that Act:

- * Land within the West/Wyalong Differential General Rating District as defined in the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 8 December 1992
- * Land within the Town Improvement District of Barmedman as defined in the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 8 November 1940 and notified in the NSW Government Gazette of 15 November 1940.
- * Land within the Town Improvement District of Ungarie as defined in the minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 10 December 1926 and notified in the NSW Government Gazette of 24 December 1926.

RECOMMENDATION 3

Officer's Recommendation:

WEST WYALONG - WYALONG

THAT Ordinary Rates be now made on all rateable land within that part of the area of the Council of Bland within the West Wyalong/Wyalong Differential General Rating District as defined in the Minutes of the Council held on 8 December 1992, as follows:

(a) Residential (West Wyalong/Wyalong) Rate

A base amount of one hundred and forty seven dollars (\$147.00) per assessment plus an ad-valorem amount of point zero one two seven nine eight cents (0.012798c) in the dollar on the land value of all rateable land, the base amount to yield twenty two point zero eight percent (22.08%) of the total amount payable by the levying of the Residential (West Wyalong/Wyalong) rate.

(b) Business (West Wyalong/Wyalong) Rate

A base amount of one hundred and seventy dollars (\$170.00) per assessment plus an ad-valorem amount of point zero two one one eight two cents (0.021182c) in the dollar on the land value of all rateable land categorised as business land, the base amount to yield eleven point four two percent (11.42%) of the total amount payable by the levying of the Business (West Wyalong/Wyalong) rate.

RECOMMENDATION 4

Officer's Recommendation

BARMEDMAN

THAT Ordinary Rates be now made on all rateable land within that part of the area of the Council of Bland within the Town Improvement District of Barmedman as defined in the Minutes of the Council held on 8 November 1940 and notified in the NSW Government Gazette on the 15 November 1940, as follows:

(a) Residential (Barmedman) Rate

A base amount of eighty dollars (\$80.00) per assessment plus an ad-valorem amount of point zero one four seven six eight cents (0.014768c) in the dollar on the land value of rateable land, that is categorised as residential land, the base amount to yield thirty seven point four three percent (37.43%) of the total amount payable by the levying of the Residential (Barmedman) rate.

(b) Business (Barmedman) Rate

A base amount of eighty dollars (\$80.00) per assessment plus an ad-valorem amount of point zero one five zero three eight cents (0.015038c) in the dollar on the land value of all rateable land categorised as business land, the base amount to yield thirty five point six zero percent (35.60%) of the total amount payable by the levying of the Business (Barmedman) rate.

RECOMMENDATION 5

Officer's Recommendation:

UNGARIE

THAT Ordinary Rates be now made on all rateable land within that part of the area of the Council of Bland within the Town Improvement District of Ungarie as defined in the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 10 December 1926 and notified in the NSW Government Gazette of the 24 December 1926, as follows:

(a) Residential (Ungarie) Rate

A base amount of eighty dollars (\$80.00) per assessment plus an ad-valorem amount of point zero four zero six one five cents (0.040615) in the dollar on the land value of all rateable land, the base amount to yield thirty five point eight nine percent (35.89%) of the total amount payable by the levying of the Residential (Ungarie) rate.

(b) Business (Ungarie) Rate

A base amount of eighty dollars (\$80.00) per assessment plus an ad-valorem amount of point zero four four four one six cents (0.044416) in the dollar on the land value of all rateable land categorised as business land the base amount to yield twenty eight point six five percent (28.65%) of the total amount payable by the levying of the Business (Ungarie) rate.

9.8 Community Grants and Donations Policy

Our leadership

Setting a benchmark for community standards

Vision: A well run council acting as the voice of the community

14.4 Ensure the long term financial sustainability of Council through effective and prudent financial management

Author: Community Relations Officer
Director Corporate, Community and Development Services

Officer's Recommendation:

That the Council adopts the *Community Grant and Donations Policy* as presented.

Introduction

Bland Shire Council recognises the importance of assisting non profit community groups and organisations that are interested in, and are working towards, the enhancement and wellbeing of its community. The Community Grants Program provides funding support to such community groups and organisations in their endeavours to establish strengthen and/or implement projects which will benefit the Bland Shire community.

The purpose of the policy is to:

- Ensure an open and transparent decision making process is in place for requests of support from Council and
- Provide an accessible and equitable process for non profit organisations seeking support from Council.

As previously administered, the grants will be assessed by the relevant committee (if applicable) or staff and presented to Council for determination.

Conclusion

The policy has been developed in line with the Local Government Act 1993 and ensures that all grants, donations and scholarships are provided in an open and transparent manner in line with the Division of Local Government requirements as outlined in their circular regarding transparency and accountability.

Financial Implications

Council's budget process allocates funds to each stream and is reflected in Council's annual budget and Long Term Financial Plan.

POLICY STATEMENT

COMMUNITY GRANTS & DONATIONS

POLICY ADOPTED: **Date to be inserted**

Policy Objective:

Bland Shire Council recognises the importance of assisting non profit community groups and organisations that are interested in, and are working towards, the enhancement and wellbeing of its community. The Community Grants Program provides funding support to such community groups and organisations in their endeavours to establish, strengthen and/or implement projects, which will benefit the Bland Shire community.

The purpose of the policy is to:

- Ensure an open and transparent decision making process is in place for requests of support from Council and
- Provide an accessible and equitable process for non profit organisations seeking support from Council.

This policy is the overarching document supporting the individual guidelines for each funding stream.

Policy Statement:

Community Grants Program

The Community Grants program has five streams:

1. Strengthening Communities Funding

Provides funding to increase community participation and access to information, services or facilities that strengthen the social fabric of communities within the Shire. Funding is also available to assist with undertaking new, or to build upon existing sustainable projects and events.

2. Heritage Funding

Provides incentive funding in partnership with the NSW Heritage Office to:

- a. Assist property owners in the restoration and conservation of their heritage houses or business premises.
- b. Assist community groups or individuals in the Bland Shire with the printing costs associated with heritage publications.

3. Access Incentive Scheme

Bland Shire Councils Access Incentive Scheme aims to:

- Provide financial assistance to improve access to and within buildings,
- Encourage the development of partnerships between local business, community organisations/ services, local government and the general public,
- To encourage a greater awareness of access issues in the community

4. Cultural Development

The Cultural Development Grant aims to provide support to local non-profit community based organisations to provide cultural events and projects that meet the needs and benefit residents in our community.

Through the Community Grants program, Bland Shire Council is aiming to:

- Recognise encourage and value the contribution of local residents to their local community
- Foster partnerships which unite the community in positive, dynamic and safe activities
- Promote the cultural richness of the community, including our strong heritage
- Create sustainable partnerships which encourage learning and self sufficiency
- Develop the skills and interests of the community including innovative programs, activities, community festivals and events

Donations Program

The donations program has two streams:

1. Section 355 Committees

Provides a mechanism by which interested persons can have an active role in the provision/management of Council facilities and services. The committee operates under the banner of Council and has specific reporting requirements.

2. Rates Donations

Provision is available to local sporting, charitable and non profit community organisations for an equivalent amount to the ordinary rates paid by the organisation excepting in the case where land comprises licensed premises.

Through the Donations program, Bland Shire Council is aiming to:

- Provide support for community based non profit organisations
- Allow community organisations to best utilise their funds to grow the social fabric of our community
- Facilitate equitable distribution of community resources.

Bland Shire Scholarship Program

The Bland Shire Scholarship Fund, provides access to scholarship funding to assist residents of the Bland Shire to further their tertiary studies.

Definitions:

Section 355 Committee

Under the Local Government Act 1993 Council is able to delegate some of its functions to a committee of Council. Council uses this delegation and appoints community people to manage its facilities or functions through a committee of management.

Responsibilities:

This policy applies to members of the public, community groups and non profit organisations wishing to access funding under Council's "Community Grants and Donations" program.

Council employees and Councillors may apply for funds under the "Community Grants and Donations" program on the same basis as any member of the public.

Funding Conditions:

- The granting of all donations and sponsorships are made under the policy

- All donations, funding and sponsorship are one off payments and must be applied for each year
- To encourage and promote sustainability, grants and donations for all recurrent community events and programs will reduce on a sliding scale of at least 25 per cent per annum or funding application, to a maximum of 10 per cent of the initial funding level for the life of the project/event
- Funds will only be paid on receipt of invoice from the successful organisation. The only exception to this is the Bland Shire Council Scholarship.
- All funds received must be acquitted. Any further application for funding will not be considered until such acquittal has been received and accepted. The only exception to this is the Bland Shire Council Scholarship, however a progress report is expected from the applicant.
- All funding received must be acknowledged by the recipient in all letters, advertising, media and promotional material.

References:

Local Government Act, 1993
 Section 356
 Section 377
 Section 555

Appendices:

<...List any Appendices to the policy (ie procedures, forms, etc)...>

Authorisation:

Status	Committee	N/A	
	Manex	N/A	
Owner	Director Community & Development Services		
EDRMS Doc. ID	365925		
Superseded Policy			
Date of Adoption/ Amendment	Revision Number	Minute Number	Review Date
26 May 2009	0		
21 August 2012	1		August 2015

Related Council Policy / Procedure

9.9 Strengthening Communities Grant – Weethalle Rodeo

Our people

Our greatest and most important asset

Vision: A strong, healthy, connected and cohesive community

DP 3.2

Promote, facilitate and support a thriving cultural/regional arts community

Author: Community Development Officer

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council approve the Strengthening Communities Grant application from the Weethalle Rodeo Committee (under the auspice of the Weethalle Show Society Inc.) for the amount of \$4000 to assist with the provision of livestock, specialist rodeo staff and equipment for the Weethalle Rodeo on the condition that all risk and safety requirements as outlined by Council are fully complied with.

Introduction

The Weethalle Rodeo Committee (a sub-committee of the Weethalle Show Society Inc) is seeking a \$4000 Strengthening Communities Grant from Council to assist with the costs of hosting a Rodeo and Gymkhana in Weethalle on Saturday 30 April 2016.

The Weethalle Rodeo Committee aims to provide an event that will increase tourism and boost the economy of the Weethalle and Bland Shire communities with an extensive program on offer for competitors of all ages. The event will provide an entertaining day of Gymkhana and Rodeo action in front of an expected crowd of more than 300 people, followed by live entertainment.

It is expected that the event will attract both local and regional competitors and spectators, providing great exposure and a significant boost to the Weethalle community.

The Weethalle Rodeo committee have been fundraising for a number of months and advise they have raised approximately \$12,500 to date from raffles and fundraisers. If approved, the funds requested from Council will be utilised to meet the balance of the \$16,500 quoted cost to provide livestock, specialist staff (clowns, pick up men, chute boss etc) and equipment (chutes, enclosed arena and timing) required to run the event.

As the event is taking place at a Council owned facility and due to the nature of the activities, a number of risk and safety requirements have been imposed by Council. It is recommended that should Council funding be approved, it would only be disbursed on the condition that all required risk and safety actions as outlined by Councils Contract Compliance and WHS Officer and Manager of Facilities and Risk have been fully complied with.

Conclusion

The Weethalle Rodeo will provide a strong tourism and economic boost to the Weethalle and Bland Shire economy with participants and spectators expected to travel from around the local and extended region to attend. It is hoped that the event will become fully self sustainable and be held on a yearly basis ensuring a long term economic boost to the community. This request meets the objectives set out in Councils Community Strategic Plan.

Financial Implications

There is currently \$6571 available in Council's Strengthening Communities Grant Fund.

9.10 Strengthening Communities Grant – West Wyalong Harness Racing Club

Our people

Our greatest and most important asset

Vision: A strong, healthy, connected and cohesive community

DP 3.2

Promote, facilitate and support a thriving cultural/regional arts community

Author: Community Development Officer

Officer's Recommendation:

That Council approve the Strengthening Communities Grant application from the West Wyalong Harness Racing Club for \$2000 to assist with the cost of advertising for the West Wyalong Carnival of Cups.

Introduction

The West Wyalong Harness Racing Club has applied for a Strengthening Communities Grant of \$2000 to assist with the costs of running the 2016 West Wyalong Carnival of Cups race meeting.

The event has ran successfully for more than 40 years, however the club is seeking to reinvigorate the event this year with a new standing start series, additional sponsors, huge prize money and more extensive advertising in the hopes of attracting additional participants and a greater crowd. The West Wyalong Harness Racing Club is seeking \$2000 from Council to assist with the costs of implementing the expansive advertising program that is planned for this year's event.

The West Wyalong Harness Racing Club aims to provide a quality race meeting attracting national exposure for West Wyalong as the event is supported by Harness Racing NSW with live coverage throughout Australia by SKY Racing.

The West Wyalong Harness Racing Clubs Carnival of Cups event provides an opportunity to promote West Wyalong and the Bland Shire on a national level, with the potential to offer a significant boost to local tourism and the local economy. Additionally, the event further provides a day of great entertainment for locals and tourists alike with up to 700 people commonly turning out for the racing, entertainment and children's activities on offer. The club anticipate that number to increase this year as a result of the additional advertising and reinvigoration of the event, which will also include a \$1200 fashions on the field prize.

The West Wyalong Harness Racing Club has demonstrated a huge effort and contribution by both their organisation and external stakeholders with a total project budget of over \$90,000 made possible by extensive local and state sponsorship.

Conclusion

The West Wyalong Harness Racing Carnival of Cups event will provide national exposure to West Wyalong and the Bland Shire, attract tourists to the community, provide opportunities for local and regional competitors, and provide a source of social interaction and entertainment for the local and extended community. Local businesses and the economy will greatly benefit from the influx of visitors. This request meets the objectives set out in Council's Community Strategic Plan.

Financial Implications

There is currently \$6571 available in Council's Strengthening Communities budget.

SECTION 4 – ASSET & ENGINEERING SERVICES

9.11 Local Emergency Management Arrangements

Our infrastructure *Reviewing, renewing & improving our core community assets*

Vision: Maintaining and improving the Shire's assets and infrastructure in a changing climate

11. Ensure that public places and facilities are well maintained and easily accessible to foster community pride in their infrastructure

Author: Director Assets and Engineering Services

Officer's Recommendation:

- 1. That Council appoint council's Environment Foreman (currently Glenn Neyland) as the Bland Shire Local Emergency Management Officer and the Chair (shared) of the Bland Shire Local Emergency Management Committee.**
- 2. That council appoint council's Director of Engineering Services (currently Will Marsh) as the Chair (shared) of Bland Shire Local Emergency Management Committee.**
- 3. That council appoint council's Coordinator Design and Contracts (currently Allan Curran) as the alternate Bland Shire Local Emergency Management Officer and as Bland Shire Council's representative on the Local Emergency Management Committee**

Background

Currently the Bland Shire Local Emergency Management Officer (LEMO) is Mark Thompson, Senior Coordinator Assets. Mark Thompson is also the Chair of the Bland Shire Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC). Mark Thompson has resigned from Bland Shire Council and therefore these positions are currently not occupied.

There is now a need to appoint staff to these positions for they are mandatory under the State Emergency and Rescue Management Act.

Local Emergency Management Officer - It is recommended that council's Environment Foreman (currently Glenn Neyland) become the Bland Shire Local Emergency Management Officer and that council's Coordinator Design and Contracts (currently Allan Curran) become the alternate Bland Shire Local Emergency Management Officer.

Chair of the Bland Shire Local Emergency Management Committee - It is recommended that the position be shared between the council's Director Assets and Engineering Services (currently Will Marsh) and council's Environment Foreman (currently Glenn Neyland), whichever is available at the time.

Conclusion

Council adopt the positions outlined in the report.

Financial Implications

None.

SECTION 5 – REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

Officer's Recommendation:

That the following reports, provided for information only, be received and noted:

- 9.12 - Asset & Engineering Services Report
- 9.13 - Bland Shire Library Monthly Update
- 9.14 - Children Services Monthly Update
- 9.15 - Community Services Monthly Report
- 9.16 - Development Services Activity Report
- 9.17 - Economic Development & Tourism Report - February

9.12 Asset & Engineering Services Report

Our infrastructure *Reviewing, renewing & improving our core community assets*

Vision: Maintaining and improving the Shire's assets and infrastructure in a changing climate

13. Ensure that public places and facilities are well maintained and easily accessible.

Author: Director – Engineering Services

Introduction

The following work was carried out:-

1. NATIONAL AND STATE ROAD MAINTENANCE

- Routine maintenance as per single invitation contract carried out on MR57 South and SH17.
- Heavy patching carried out on MR57 South.

2. REGIONAL ROADS MAINTENANCE

- Bitumen patching carried out on MR57 north and MR398.

3. LOCAL ROADS CONSTRUCTION

- RTR Tallimba Road shoulders and heavy patching in progress.

4. SHIRE ROADS MAINTENANCE

- Bitumen patching carried out on the following:-
 - Waarbilla Road
 - Quandialla Road
 - Wargin Road
 - ByGoo Road
 - Williams Crossing Road
 - Tallimba Road
- Gravel Resheeting
 - Lewes Road
 - Euratha Road
 - Mud Hut Road
 - Alleena Road
- Kirpy Programme
 - Monia Gap Road
 - Brennans Tank Road
 - Adlers Lane
 - Beckom Road
 - Clear Ridge Road
 - East Bland Road
 - Sandy Creek Road
 - Gunn Road
 - South Yalgogrin Road

- Guide posting has been done on a number of rural sealed roads, minor gravel patching and drainage works has been done on a number of unsealed roads within the shire.

5. VILLAGE MAINTENANCE

- All parks mown and tidied
- Village main streets swept and rubbish removed
- Trees trimmed and fallen branches picked up
- Village entrances and streets mown and trimmed
- All village park play grounds inspected for safety
- Irrigation checks carried out at Barmedman, Tallimba, Ungarie and Mirrool

6. PARK MAINTENANCE

- McCann Park, Barnado Park and small parks and areas mown, trimmed and maintained
- Council chambers and H.A.C.C maintenance carried out
- Aero drome slashing and maintenance work carried out
- Barnado Park has had water pipe line repairs carried out
- Boundary dam pumps repaired
- Clean up at parks and gardens depot
- McCann Park prepared for Saturday markets

7. OVALS MAINTENANCE

- Maintenance to sporting ovals and surrounds
- Maintenance to lawn and monument cemetery
- Maintenance to Herridge park, Cooinda Park and Wyalong Court House
- Cooinda Park tree watering carried out
- Line marking for athletics, cricket and touch football
- Ron Crowe oval preparations for knockout
- Redman oval mainline repaired

8. TOWN MAINTENANCE

- Main street gardens tidied, watered and replanted
- Star lane cleaned and tidied
- Town areas mown and trimmed
- Town trees trimmed and watered when needed
- Small pot holes repaired in roads
- Clean out town drains
- West Wyalong and Wyalong spraying on nature strips carried out
- Water street car park maintenance
- Supplied traffic control for funerals and road works in town

9. NOXIOUS WEEDS/ENVIRONMENTAL

- Rail corridors and five Grain handling sites were inspected for the presence of Spiny Burr Grass and St John's Wort.
- Eight inspections were carried out on private property.
- Contract hazard reduction work was carried out on Crown Land blocks in Wyalong.

- The following noxious weeds and other controls were undertaken:
 - **Spiny Burr Grass** – Barmedman, Calleen, Ungarie, West Wyalong, Yiddah Graincorp area, Staniforths Lane, Newell Highway, Mid-western Highway, Kolkilbertoo Road, Buttenshaws Lane, Lake Road, Kikoira Road, Dundas Road, Rankins Springs Road, McCartens Lane, Overdale Lane, Merrengreen Road, Bena Road, Hatelys Lane, Goldfields Way, Quandialla Road, Cottingleys Lane, Clear Ridge Road, Gunns Road, McDermotts Lane, Buralyang Road, Bashams Lane, Bygoo Road, Rankins Springs Road, Beckom Road, Youngs Lane, Wilsons Lane, Bena Road, Wargin Road.
 - **Prairie Ground Cherry** – Newell Highway.
 - **Coolatai Grass** – Newell Highway.
 - **St John's Wort** – Newell Highway.
 - **Silver leaf Nightshade** – Dundas Road, Kikoira Road, Lake Road, Ungarie Town.
 - **Johnson Grass** – Newell Highway.
 - **Galvanised Burr** – McDermott's Lane, Dundas Road, South Yalgogrin Road, Monia Gap Road, Bogan Gap Road, Clear Ridge Road, Lake Cowal Road,
 - **Scotch Thistle** – Lake Cowal Road.
 - **Bathurst / Noogoora Burr** – Ungarie, Troths Lane, Quandialla Road, Mary Gilmore Way, Kildary Road, Morangorell Road, Warbilla Road, Back Creek Road, Cottingleys Lane, Clear Ridge Road, Lake Cowal Road.
 - **Khaki Weed**- Euroka Road, Dundas Road.
 - **Roadside vegetation control of shoulders (Mow)** – West Wyalong-Condobolin Road, Lake Road, Bena Road, Crown Camp Road, Kikoira Road, Boreamble Road, Naradhan Road, Dundas Road.
 - **Roadside vegetation control of shoulders (Spray)** - Rankins Springs Road, Bygoo Road, Quandialla Road, Beckom Road, Kolkilbertoo Road, Bena Road, Crown Camp Road.
 - **General Weed Control** – Catheads and Khaki Weed; Ungarie, West Wyalong, Barmedman, Ungarie Drainage, Ungarie Showground.
 - **Bushfire Hazard Reduction work** – Ungarie, West Wyalong.

9.13 Bland Shire Library Monthly Update

Our people

Our greatest and most important asset

Vision: A strong, healthy, connected and cohesive community

DP 3.4 Monitor and provide up to date and relevant resources and programs within the library

DP 4.4 Provide and monitor quality library services to the aged, people with disability, young people and families

Author: Library Assistant

Summer Reading Club

SRC finished on a high with over 30 children attending the finale party and presentations. Eleven children received certificates and vouchers for the most books read in their age categories.

Storytime

Storytime has commenced for the New Year. The first session was quiet but numbers have since increased. The themes have been frogs, yawn and snore and whales.

Baby Bounce

The first baby bounce of the year saw four mothers and their babies attend. This programme caters for mothers and babies up to 12 months old. They enjoyed a 30 minute programme introducing babies to reading and literacy through rhyme, song books and props.

Knit & Knatter

Five new members joined the Knit & Knatter group recently and they have been busy knitting squares for the 'Wrap with Love' charity. The regular members knitted a display of the roses and hearts for the Library Lover's week. They are now knitting Easter eggs for our display at Easter.

Needles & Thread

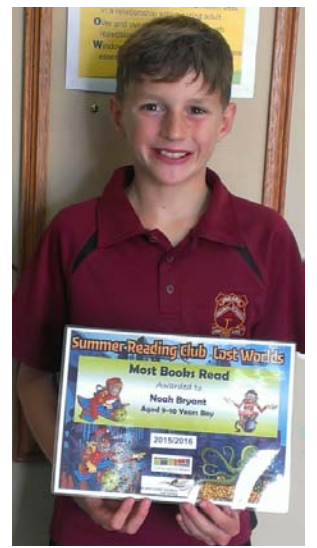
Our first meeting was held on the Tuesday 16 February. Five clients attended and spend the afternoon discussing their past and current work. A display of their work will be available for viewing during 2 – 15 March. An article will be placed in the local paper to promote the group and to encourage new members.

Library Lover's Week

Eddie Thomas was the lucky winner of our competition; simply by borrowing during the week of the 8 – 12 February patrons were entered into the draw. They needed only to write their phone number on the back of their receipt and placing it into the entry box.

Pre-School visits

Three classes of children have been booked to visit the Library. We will be offering stories, songs, music, dance and craft.



9.14 Children Services Monthly Update

Our people

Our greatest and most important asset

Vision: A strong, healthy, connected and cohesive community

DP 4.5 - Provide quality and affordable Family Day Care, Mobile Resource Unit, Vacation Care and Preschool services

Author: CSU Coordinator

Children's services Unit

A meeting was held this month with representatives from all of children's services to make plans and goals for the Children's Services Unit as a whole. There were only a small number of people in attendance at this meeting but all were very enthusiastic.

Quotes have been requested for new blinds in the classrooms and new flooring in the Gecko Room classroom and kitchen/prep area.

Quotes have also been requested to establish the 'outdoor classroom' area.

Mobile Resource Unit Playgroup & Ungarie Preschool

West Wyalong attendance numbers are constantly high, with several new families joining our service this year. Caragabal and Quandialla are showing a decline in attendance numbers. We have increased advertising and communication via media. Aria Park, Weethalle, Barmedman and Ungarie playgroups are steady with children settling in well to routine again. February has seen us welcoming new families and allowing the families to settle back in.

Ungarie Preschool commenced in February and we are still accepting enrolments with more new children commencing in Term 2.

Bland/Temora Family Day Care

Playgroups have recommenced for the year at both West Wyalong and Temora. There are currently two new prospective educators undergoing induction and assessment.

Coordination Unit staff have been looking at options for an alternate premises for playgroup to be held in Temora, with the plan to vacate the current Temora premises by the end of March.

Plans are underway to investigate the need for educators in villages throughout the shire, with advertising and promotion to occur in Weethalle, Ungarie and Barmedman. Promotional materials are currently being developed and a schedule planned to visit these areas along with the mobile resource unit in term 2.

It takes a village (ITAV)

The scrapbooking sessions are always popular with everyone busy making cards and pictures. Staff have also held group chats to discuss possible future activities and workshops. Participants have also enjoyed learning about quilling, which many of them had not tried before and many took some of their work to continue at home.

As one of the previous requests received from participants was to learn to crochet, staff arranged for Rhonda Humphries to visit and teach the ladies some basics this month.

Bland Preschool

We have now reached the middle of Term 1, with the children all settled in and making beautiful friendships with their peers and educators. Our three year old Friday class has now begun full days from 9:00am – 3:00pm. Our 4 year old classes are well into exploring different learning journeys.

So far this year the year Carlie's class has explored colour recognition, self help, dinosaurs and palaeontology. With Ashley's class concentrating on number and colour recognition, name writing and enhancing our dramatic play and have just begun the butterfly lifecycle.

Bland Preschool will be joining Cathy in the library on 2 March, 7 March and the 9 March. The children have a fantastic time at the library and so do the educators.

Along with the library visits Bland Preschool are also having a visit from the Taronga Zoomobile on Thursday 10 March. The children will be taking part in fire drills / lockdowns in week 7 & 8.

At our Preschool Parent Committee we had a fantastic turn out with the following positions being accepted:

Election of Office Bearers

President: Amee Wright
Moved – Kim Anderson Seconded – Rosalie Bonekamp

Vice President: Holly Brooks
Moved – Belinda Miller Seconded – Sheridan Webster

Secretary: Deanne Blackstock
Moved - Kim Charpentier Seconded – Amee Wright

Treasurer: Leanne Cox
Moved – Deanne Blackstock Seconded – Holly Brooks



9.15 Community Services Monthly Report

Our people

Our greatest and most important asset

Vision: A strong, healthy, connected and cohesive community

DP3. Nurture a strong sense of community and enrich the cultural life for the residents of the Bland Shire

Author: Community Development Officer and Community Relations Officer

West Wyalong Gold Triathlon

Plans are fully underway as Bland Shire Council prepares to host the inaugural West Wyalong Gold Triathlon on Sunday 3 April 2016. Race day proceedings will kick off from 8am with the CB Engineering Enticer event which involves a 1.5km run/10km ride/200m swim/1.5km run. Following this event will be the L & R Group Junior for competitors under the age of 12 years. This event incorporates a 700m run/5km ride/100m swim/700m run. Following this will be the Evolution Sprint, the main event for the day in which the competition is set to be hot with participants expected to travel from right around the region to attend. This event incorporates a 3km run/20km ride/400m swim/3 km run with great prize money on offer for the winners of the open female and male categories.

An extensive regional advertising campaign has been hugely successful generating massive local and regional interest with over 6000 people having seen the Facebook advertising campaign to date. Registrations are now open for the event with a number of registrations from both regional and local competitors already being received. The Triathlon is expected to create a huge influx of visitors providing a much need boost to local tourism and the economy.

A number of community organisations who responded to an expression of interest have also been engaged to cater for the event, ensuring that profit from the sales of food and beverages remain with local community organisations.

In the lead up to the Triathlon Angus Westaway from the L&R Group has kindly agreed to host Mini Triathlons at Holland Park Pool every Thursday from 10 March – 31 March commencing at 6:00pm. This will give people a chance to figure out what to wear, how to transition from one discipline to the next and an opportunity to get a feel for how things will take place on race day.

The triathlon has also created numerous volunteering opportunities with a number of local youth and community members already on board to assist on the day. Local youth who assist will be provided with a certificate of recognition to add to their resumes.

Seniors Week in the Bland Shire

Seniors Week 2016 in the Bland Shire is set to be hugely successful. With a number of entertaining and engaging activities on offer there is sure to be something for everyone.

The West Wyalong Mens Shed will host an open day and free community barbecue on Friday April 1 from 10am-noon at the West Wyalong Men's Shed, 123 Railway Road, West Wyalong. Men, women and children of all ages are invited to come along and see the members at work, view some of their recent and ongoing projects and enjoy a delicious barbecue lunch together.

Tuesday 5 April provides a jam packed day of entertainment with the “Selfies by Oldies” exhibition launch, followed by an English style morning tea and screening of the hit movie “The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel”.

The “Selfies by Oldies” exhibition will remain on display in the Bland Shire library from Wednesday 6 April-Wednesday 27 April.

The hottest event on the Seniors Week calendar, the Official Bland Shire Seniors Week awards and celebration will take place Thursday 7 April commencing at 10.30am at McCann Park. This free event provides the opportunity to celebrate Seniors Week with live performances from local school students, the presentation of Bland Shire Seniors Week awards and a delicious morning tea served by Café Peckish, followed by a visit from Mr Whippy with free ice cream for all seniors. It is also planned to offer free buses from Ungarie and Weethalle (provided there are a minimum number of bookings) and pick-ups from West Wyalong and Wyalong.

Youth week

The ever popular NRMA Driving lessons will again be held in West Wyalong on Thursday 21 April. The lessons, offered by fully qualified driving instructors, provide young Bland Shire residents with the opportunity to greatly improve their driving techniques ensuring our young residents have the best driving education and remain safe on the road.

Other youth focused activities are also planned to take place during youth week and the April 2016 School Holidays.

The Wedding Reception

Community Services staff are thrilled to have secured a spot on the first Australian tour of Interactive Theatre Internationals ‘The Wedding Reception’ interactive theatre show. Brought to us by the same organisation who delivered the highly succesful Faulty Towers dining experience to the West Wyalong community in 2014, the Wedding Reception will be held at the West Wyalong Bowling Club on 22 May 2016. Having already toured extensively in the UK to rave reviews, the show promises of jam packed night of entertainment as guests are fully immersed in the 2 hour comedy show as wedding reception guests. The outstanding new show features award winning performers in multiple roles and it expected to be extremely well received by the community.

Batyr

With thanks to a \$4500 Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR) grant, Bland Shire Council has been able to secure funds to deliver the Batyr foundation one day workshop at the West Wyalong High School on Wednesday 27 April. With youth from both West Wyalong and Ungarie expected to attend, it is hoped that exposure to the workshop will assist in breaking down the stigma attached to mental health issues within our youth community and encourage acceptance of and conversation around mental health issues. Batyr programs connect secondary school students with young speakers who have successfully managed an experience with mental ill health with the organisation having worked very successfully in a number of other rural based communities including Tamworth and Cobar.

Fred Smith's Dust of Uzurgan tour

Through our ongoing partnership with Eastern Riverina Arts (ERA), Bland Shire Council has been successful in securing a position on Fred Smith's 'Dust of Uzurgan' tour which is scheduled to take place at Wyalong Memorial Hall on Friday 8 April at 7:30pm. The Dust of Uzurgan show coincides perfectly with the unveiling of the Reg Rattey VC Memorial which will take place in West Wyalong on Saturday 9 April. It is expected that the show, which involves songs, storytelling and a collection of highly moving images will greatly appeal to local residents as it offers a heartfelt, yet at times humorous, glimpse into the war in Afghanistan through the eyes of both the Australian Soldiers and the Afghans who live in war torn areas.

Lifestyle courses

Bland Shire Council is excited to have collaborated with local chef extraordinaire Peter Charpentier to offer a 5 week cooking class designed for all abilities. Over the course of the 5 classes participants will learn how to break down a chicken from scratch and utilise all the parts to make a number of different and delicious dishes. Different dishes will be constructed every week with such things as a soup, an appetiser, a braised dish, pesto and Pete's famous spinach and artichoke dip all on the tantalising menu. The classes will be held on a weekly basis in the hospitality room at the West Wyalong High School commencing on Wednesday 6 April.

Website

Bland Shire website statistics – September 2015-February 2016

	September	October	November	December	January	February
Pageviews	7037	7696	7052	6951	7383	7716
Visits	2968	3075	3219	3251	3341	3452
Visitors	1706	1700	1728	1956	2023	1915

Bland Shire website usage – 1 March 2015-29 February 2016

Pageviews	91,585
Visits	38,699
Unique visitors	18,633

10 most viewed pages on the Bland Shire website - February 2016

1. Careers
2. West Wyalong Triathlon
3. Your Council
4. Holland Park Pool
5. Tips
6. Planning and Development
7. Villages – Barmedman
8. Our Indigenous Culture
9. Tenders and EO's
10. Contact Us

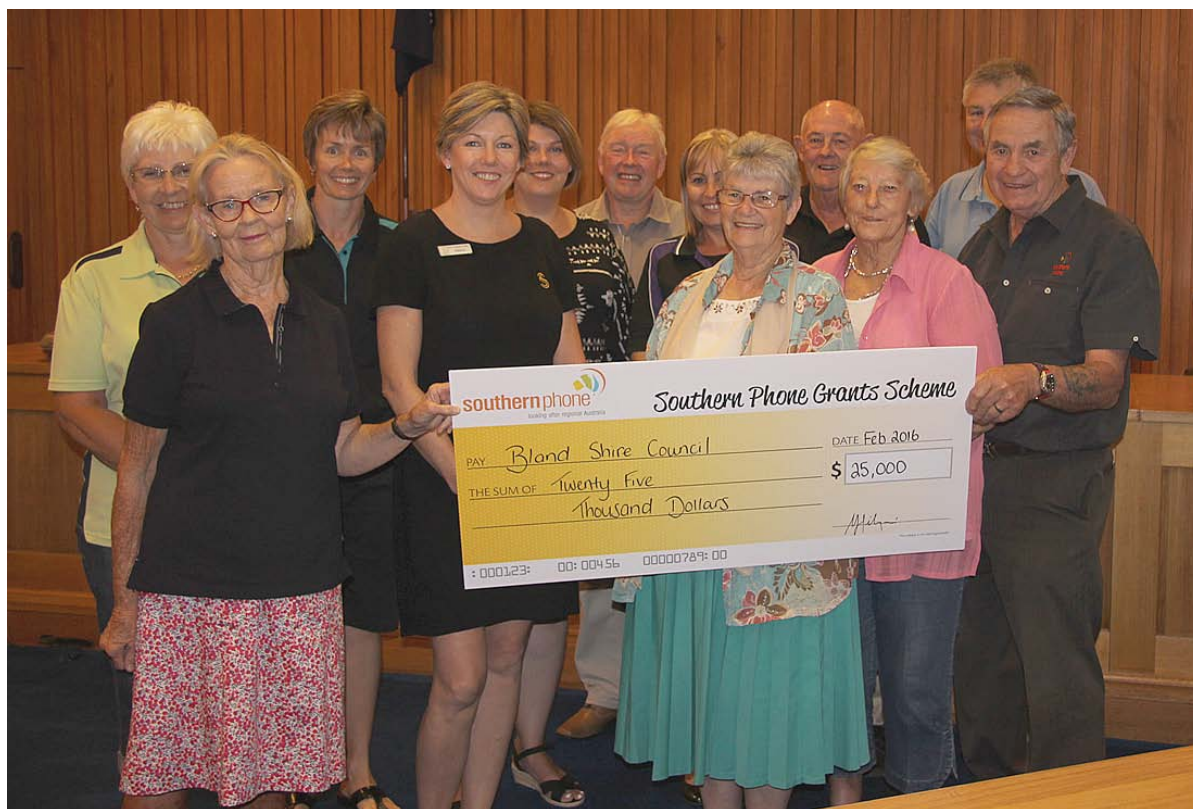
10 most viewed pages on the Bland Shire website – last 12 months

1. Careers
2. Your Council
3. Holland Park Pool
4. Library
5. Tips
6. Villages – Barmedman
7. Directors
8. Our Indigenous Culture
9. Planning and Development
10. Things to see and do

Southern Phone grants

Southern Phone chairperson Bill Hilzinger visited West Wyalong on Tuesday 16 February to present Southern Phone community grants to seven local community organisations. Council worked closely with Southern Phone and local community organisations to facilitate the grants program.

A total of \$25,000 in grants was distributed to Business West Wyalong, the Naradhan Reserves Trust, West Wyalong Public School P&C Association, Western Wheelers Car Club, West Wyalong Community Radio, the Local Emergency Services Management Committee and West Wyalong Meals on Wheels.



9.16 Development Services Activity Report

Our leadership

Setting a benchmark for community standards

Vision: A well run council acting as the voice of the community

DP17 Lead the community by example with sustainable, effective, efficient and customer focused practices

Author: Manager Development Services

Planning and Building Activities Update

Development Applications

The Council has received the following Development Applications during February 2016:

Application No	Address	Development
DA2015/0154	36 Gladstone Street, West Wyalong	Storage shed
DA2015/0155	29 Bellarwi Road, West Wyalong	Removal of one (1) tree
DA2015/0156	3 Cypress Street, West Wyalong	Removal of one (1) tree
DA2015/0157	28 O'Hares Lane, Beckom	New rural hay/machinery storage shed
DA2015/0158	38 Court Street, West Wyalong	Demolition of an existing dwelling
DA2015/0159	95 Gilbert Street, Wyalong	New garage with skillion
DA2015/0160	64 Bellarwi Road, West Wyalong	Storage shed

The following DA applications were approved during February 2016:

Application No	Address	Development	Approval Date
DA2015/0151	10 Gorman Street, West Wyalong	Removal of one (1) tree	2/2/2016
DA2015/0152	Newell Highway, West Wyalong	Demolish shed and construct an aircraft hanger	1/2/2016
DA2015/0153	Adjacent to 171 Main Street, West Wyalong	Use of footpath – "A" frame advertising sign	5/2/2016
DA2015/0154	36 Gladstone Street, West Wyalong	Storage shed	15/2/2016
DA2015/0155	29 Bellarwi Road, West Wyalong	Removal of one (1) tree	5/2/2016
DA2015/0156	3 Cypress Street, West Wyalong	Removal of one (1) tree	12/2/2016
DA2015/0157	28 O'Hares Lane, Beckom	New rural hay/machinery storage shed	29/2/2016
DA2015/0160	64 Bellarwi Road, West Wyalong	Storage shed	29/2/2016

Planning Certificates

Council issued 33 Section149 certificates during February 2016.

Heritage Conservation Activities

The Heritage Advisor met with the contractor for the reinstatement of the verandah at Thom's Corner to ensure that all development consent requirements are met and that the project is carried out within the Heritage Funding Guidelines.

The Advisor also visited 148 Main Street to provide heritage conservation advice. Preliminary drawings for verandah reinstate have been prepared as well as colour scheme for the building.

Public Health Activities Update

Food Premises

Council staff undertook **13** food premises inspections during February 2016. Of these **12** were compliant and **1** was non compliant.

An application has been received by Council under the Local Government Act for a mobile ice cream van.

Regulatory Activities Update

Dog Attacks

There was 1 dog attacks reported during February 2016. From this none were declared as dangerous or menacing dogs and resulted in no Penalty Infringement Notices being issued.

Companion Animal Seizure and Impound Activities February 2016

Seizure Activities:	Dogs	Cats
Seized	9	13
Returned to Owner	0	0

Impounding Activities:	Dogs	Cats
Animals in pound at start of month	7	7
Incoming Animals		
Transferred from Seizure Activities	9	13
Dumped at Pound	12	19
Surrendered	4	14
Total Animals in Pound	32	53

Outgoing Animals		
Released to Owner	6	0
Euthanased	5	34
Rehoused	16	11
Sold	1	0
Died at Pound	0	0
Stolen	0	0
Escaped	0	3
Total Animals Leaving Pound	28	48
Animals in Pound at end of Month	4	5

9.17 Economic Development & Tourism Report - February

Our prosperity

Ensuring a vibrant and sustainable future

Vision: Growing our population and jobs

DP15.0 The proportion of residents satisfied with the level of economic development support Council provides to the business community
 DP 16.0 Community satisfaction with the quantity and quality of tourist information and resources provided by Council
 19.0 Visitors and tourists are welcomed and make a positive contribution to the community economy
 DP19.1 Work with business and property owners to rejuvenate their businesses and shop fronts and encourage the maintenance of buildings with character
 DP19.2 Work with the tourism industry to identify and develop products and services that appeal to visitors of the Shire
 DP19.3 Visitor information is kept relevant and up to date
 DP20.0 Plan for a range of industries that build on the strengths of the Bland Shire to stimulate investment and employment
 DP20.1 Encourage and actively seek out business and industry to relocate within the shire
 DP20.2 Have ongoing engagement and communication with the shire's existing and prospective industry and business including diversification into alternate industries/businesses
 DP20.3 Actively promote the Business Development Assistance to new and existing businesses

Author: Senior Economic Development & Tourism Advisor

Newell Highway Website Analytics

	August	September	October	November	December	January	February
	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2016	2016
Pageviews	9,926	10,262	8,140	8,067	11,050	10,767	8,001
Visits	3,465	3,627	2,931	2,954	4,022	4,104	3,026
Visitors	2,531	2,644	2,165	2,169	2,936	3,101	2,285
Desktop	41.3%	42.1%	43.2%	44.4%	38.1%	37.7%	44.6%
Mobile	32.8%	34.5%	35.2%	35.3%	41.8%	41.2%	34.1%
Tablet	25.9%	23.4%	21.6%	20.2%	20.1%	21.1%	21.3%

The NSW Free Flight Society

The NSW Free Flight Society events that will be held in 2016 include:

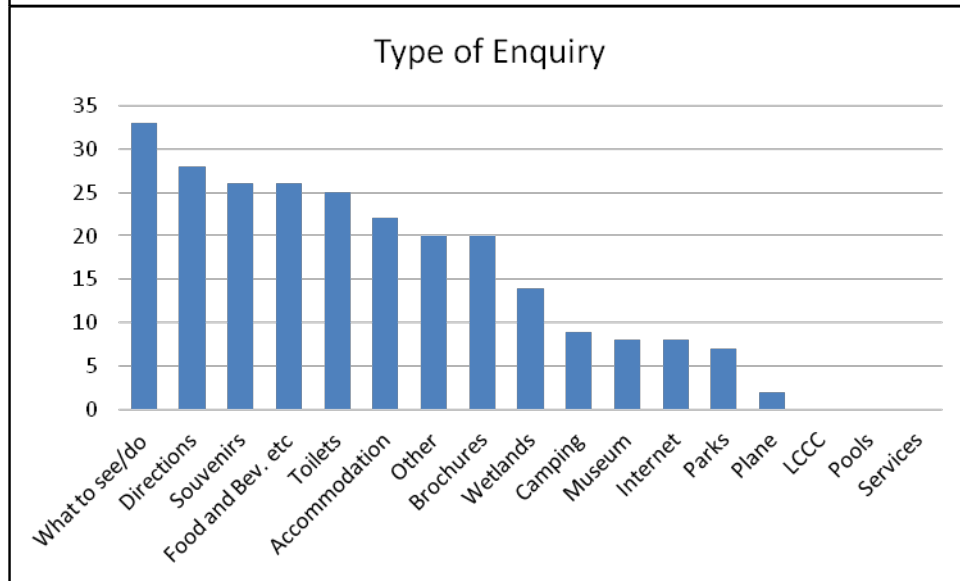
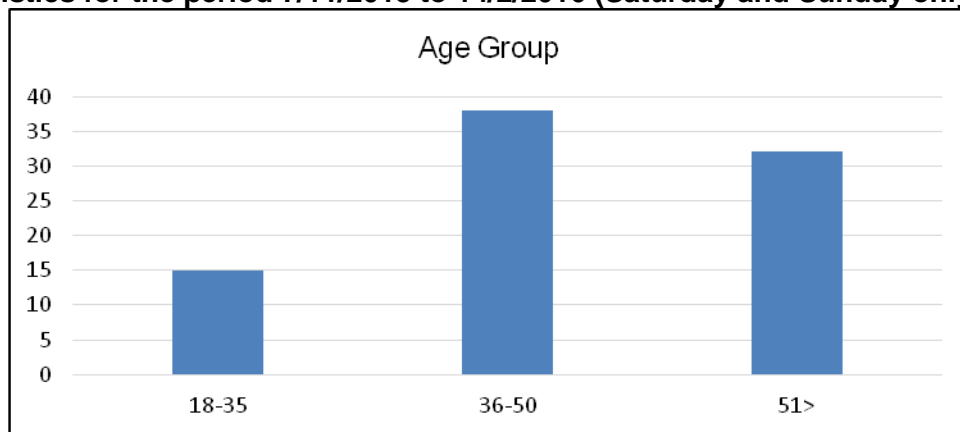
- April 16 – 17 the Southern Cross Cup
- May 28 – 1 June the 69th National Free Flight Championships
- June 2 – 4 the NSW Free Flight State Championships
- October 1 – 3 the NSW Vintage Power State Championships
- October 29 – 3 Wings Over West Wyalong

The Small Biz Bus

The Small Biz Bus will be visited West Wyalong on Friday 12 February and had eight businesses visit the bus.



VIC Statistics for the period 7/11/2015 to 14/2/2016 (Saturday and Sunday only)



2016 Bland Shire Events

JANUARY

Australia Day Festivities - Bland Shire
Dean Wood Jam Night - West Wyalong

FEBRUARY

West Wyalong Markets - West Wyalong
Rugby League Knockout - West Wyalong

MARCH

Candy Stripe Fair - West Wyalong
West Wyalong Swap Meet - West Wyalong
West Wyalong Twilight Markets - West Wyalong
Clean up Australia Day - Bland Shire
West Wyalong Easter Bowls Carnival - West Wyalong
Seniors Week - West Wyalong
West Wyalong Clean Up Australia Day - West Wyalong
West Wyalong Easter Harness Race Day - West Wyalong
Brower's Charity Walk – Weethalle

APRIL

Seniors Week - West Wyalong
West Wyalong Markets - West Wyalong
West Wyalong Triathlon - West Wyalong
West Wyalong Campdraft - West Wyalong
Unveiling of Reg Rattey VC Memorial - West Wyalong
Ladies Day Out - West Wyalong
NSWFFS Southern Cross Cup - West Wyalong
West Wyalong Harness Carnival of Cups - West Wyalong
Weethalle Rodeo – Weethalle

MAY

West Wyalong Markets - West Wyalong
Biggest Morning Tea - West Wyalong
69th National free Flight Championships - West Wyalong
Masonic Debutante Ball - West Wyalong

JUNE

West Wyalong Markets - West Wyalong

JULY

West Wyalong Markets - West Wyalong

AUGUST

Local Government Week - West Wyalong
West Wyalong Markets - West Wyalong
Weethalle Show - Weethalle

SEPTEMBER

Barmedman Show - Barmedman
West Wyalong Markets - West Wyalong
West Wyalong Charity Campdraft - West Wyalong

OCTOBER

Mirrool Silo Kick - Mirrool
Barmedman Tractor Pull - Barmedman
Barmedman Show - Barmedman
West Wyalong Show - West Wyalong
West Wyalong Markets - West Wyalong
In the West Festival - West Wyalong
West Wyalong camp Draft - West Wyalong
NSWFFS Victoria State Champs - West Wyalong
Ungarie Show – Ungarie

NOVEMBER

West Wyalong Markets - West Wyalong
Business West Wyalong Christmas Carnival - West Wyalong
NSWFFS Wings over West Wyalong - West Wyalong

DECEMBER

West Wyalong Christmas Markets - West Wyalong
Carols by Candlelight - West Wyalong