

Bland Shire Council

Business Paper

Council Meeting

16 August 2022



OUR VISION, MISSION AND VALUES



Affirmation of Office

I solemnly and sincerely declare and affirm that I will undertake the duties of the office of councillor in the best interests of the people of Bland Shire and the Bland Shire Council and that I will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the Local Government Act 1993 or any other Act to the best of my ability and judgment.

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 interests 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	olg@olg.nsw.gov.au	www.olg.nsw.gov.au
NSW Ombudsman	9286 1000 Toll Free: 1800 451 524	nswombo@ombo.nsw.gov.au	www.ombo.nsw.gov.au

Council advises that an audio recording of the proceedings of this meeting will be taken and made publicly available on the website.

1.0 OPENING MEETING AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

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 APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR A LEAVE OF ABSENCE BY COUNCILLORS

2.1 Attendance

Councillors

Cr Bruce Baker

Cr Monica Clark

Cr Rodney Crowe

Cr Jill Funnell

Cr Kerry Keatley

Cr Tony Lord

Cr Liz McGlynn

Mayor Brian Monaghan

Cr Roger Moore

Staff

General Manager – Grant Baker

Director Corporate & Community Services – Alison Balind

Executive Assistant – Julie Sharpe

2.2 Apologies

2.3 Applications for a leave of absence by Councillors

3.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

3.1 Ordinary Meeting held on 19 July 2022

- **Corrections**
- **Business Arising**
- **Confirmation**

4.0 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

Councillor/ Officer	Item	Nature of Interest	How Managed
		<input type="radio"/> Non-Pecuniary <input type="radio"/> Pecuniary	<input type="radio"/> Verbal Disclosure <input type="radio"/> Written Disclosure <input type="radio"/> Left meeting

5.0 MAYORAL MINUTE(S)

5.1 Accounting Treatment of Rural Fire Service ('Red Fleet') Assets

REPORT

I am calling on Councillors to support the local government campaign on the financial accounting treatment of Rural Fire Service (RFS) mobile assets known as the 'Red Fleet'.

A long-standing dispute over the accounting treatment of the Red Fleet has come to a head with the Auditor-General's 2021 Report on Local Government on 22 June 2022. The Audit Report reemphasises the State Government determination that RFS assets are the "property" of councils and must be recorded in Council's financial statements with Council required to therefore absorb all depreciation costs.

Further to this, Council is in receipt of correspondence from its Auditors advising the following: There has been no change in the position that Councils have ultimate control of RFS assets (whether exercised or not). Therefore, NSWAO are expecting to see red fleet assets assessed via quantification for recording in this year's financial statements. There are three landing points:

1. Recognition of RFS assets – guidance below.
2. Review of the RFS asset listing but no recognition in Council financial statements– if material, this will result in a qualified audit opinion (i.e. except for RFS assets...). Our materiality thresholds are very low as they calculated based on expenses (say 2%), not on IPP&E, so our expectation is that they will be material.
3. Do nothing – this will result in a qualified audit opinion (due to limitation of scope). This communication reinforces the Audit Office Local Government Report notion that RFS mobile and other fire-fighting assets can somehow be deemed to be council assets and applies more pressure on councils and the Office of Local Government (OLG) to conform with this determination, even though councils do not have effective management or control of these assets.

Council staff have made preliminary enquiries of the Bland Temora Zone to undertake a stocktake and requested access and keys for those Red Fleet and building assets "vested" in Council. Council was advised that access could be provided with the preferred method being the allocation of RFS personnel for a three day period to accompany Council's representative to all sites. This option is not considered a suitable or efficient approach and I would recommend Council not proceed with the stocktake.

Councils across the State and Local Government NSW (LGNSW) refute this determination. Councils do not have any say in the acquisition, deployment, or disposal of these assets. Comparable assets held by Fire & Rescue NSW (FRNSW) and the State Emergency Service (SES) are not vested anywhere other than with the organisations that purchase, use, maintain and dispose of them. Councils and LGNSW have also raised concerns that the requirement breaches Australian Accounting Standards. The State Government's own Local Government Accounting Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting provides for councils to determine whether to record RFS assets on their books as council assets. This position has been confirmed by the Secretary of the Department of Planning and Environment in his letter to the Auditor-General dated 7 June 2022, presented in Appendix1 on page 47 of the 2021 Local Government Audit Report.

Council notes advice from LGNSW that many councils are refusing to comply with the Auditor General's instructions. Councils remained firm in 2021, resisting pressure to record RFS assets with the majority (68), choosing not to record the RFS mobile assets in accordance with the Local Government Accounting Code. This was the same number of councils as in 2020. LGNSW is encouraging councils to continue resisting pressure from the Audit Office and make their own determinations notwithstanding overtures that ongoing non-compliance with the Auditor General's instructions may result in future qualified financial reports.

The latest Audit Report has made further impositions on (Council) by:

- recommending Council undertakes a stocktake of RFS assets and records the value in Council's financial statements;
- warning that if Council does not recognise the assets, it will be found non-compliant and will have a high risk finding reported; and
- calling on the NSW Department of Planning and Environment (OLG) to intervene where councils do not recognise rural firefighting equipment.

The Government's blanket determination is not only nonsensical, but also inconsistent with the treatment of the comparable assets of other emergency service agencies such as Fire & Rescue NSW (FRNSW) and the State Emergency Service (SES). There is no rational reason for maintaining this anomaly.

LGNSW has been advocating this position on councils' behalf and has written to the NSW Treasurer the Hon. Matt Kean MP, Minister for Emergency Services, the Hon. Steph Cooke MP, Minister for Local Government the Hon. Wendy Tuckerman MP and the Auditor-General, Ms Margaret Crawford to express the local government sector's strong objection to the NSW Government's determination, applied by the Auditor-General, that RFS assets are the property of councils for accounting purposes and amend the Rural Fires Act 1997.

LGNSW has advised it will continue its advocacy efforts on councils' behalf and is asking all affected councils in NSW to consider adopting a resolution advising the Audit Office that Council will not carry out the RFS stocktakes on behalf of the NSW Government and will not record RFS assets on Council's financial statements.

Recommendation:

THAT:

- 1. Council writes to the the Treasurer the Hon Matt Kean MP, local State Member for Cootamundra and Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience the Hon Stephanie Cook MP and the Minister for Local Government Wendy Tuckerman MP:**
 - a. Expressing Council's objection to the NSW Government's determination on ownership of Rural Fire Service assets;**
 - b. Advising of the impact of the Government's position on Council finances of this accounting treatment;**
 - c. Informing that Council will not carry out RFS assets stocktakes on behalf of the NSW Government and will not record RFS assets in Bland Shire Council's financial statements;**
 - d. Calling on the NSW Government to take immediate action to permanently clear up inequities and inconsistencies around the accounting treatment of Rural Fire Service (RFS) assets by acknowledging that rural firefighting equipment is vested in, under the control of and the property of the RFS; and**

- e. Amending s119 of the Rural Fires Act 1997 so that the effect is to make it clear that RFS assets are not the property of councils.
2. Council writes to the Shadow Treasurer Daniel Mookhey MLC, the Shadow Minister for Emergency Services Jihad Dib MP, the Shadow Minister for Local Government Greg Warren MP, the Greens Spokesperson for Local Government Jamie Parker MP and the leaders of the Shooters, Fishers and Farmers, Animal Justice and One Nation parties Robert Borsak MLC, Emma Hurst MLC and Mark Latham MLC:
 - a. Advising Members, of Bland Shire Council’s position, including providing copies of correspondence to NSW Government Ministers; and
 - b. Seeking Members’ commitments to support NSW Councils’ call to amend the Rural Fires Act 1997 as set out in correspondence.
3. Bland Shire Council writes to the Auditor General advising that notwithstanding any overtures of future qualified audits, it will not carry out RFS stocktakes on behalf of the NSW Government and will not record RFS assets in Council’s financial statements, noting that the State Government’s own Local Government Accounting Code of Practice and Financial Reporting provides for councils to determine whether or not they record the RFS assets as council assets.
4. Council promotes these messages via its digital and social media channels and via its networks.
5. Re-affirms its complete support of and commitment to local RFS brigades noting that Bland Shire Council’s action is entirely directed towards the NSW Government’s position that rather than being owned and controlled by local brigades, RFS assets are somehow controlled by councils, which councils consider to be a cynical financial sleight of hand abdicating the NSW Government’s responsibilities at the cost of local communities.
6. That Bland Shire Council affirms its support to Local Government NSW (LGNSW) and requests LGNSW continue advocating on Council’s behalf to get clarification finally from the State Government about the accounting treatment of RFS assets.
7. That should the Audit Office make good on its threat to issue qualified audits to those Councils who do not record RFS assets in their annual financial statements, that Bland Shire Council will accept a qualified audit opinion in relation to the accounting for RFS Assets on the 2021/2022 financial statements.

6.0 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

7.0 REPORTS TO COUNCIL

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8.0 NOTICES OF MOTIONS / QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

9.0 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

Closure of the meeting to discuss confidential business under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act

9.1 Business Park Proposal

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

The matters and information are the following:

c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

Resumption of the meeting and consideration of recommendations of the Closed section of the meeting

10.0 CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES



Our Leadership - A well run Council acting as the voice of the community

DP10.6 Regular consultation with key industry, business and stakeholders

Committee	Date/s	Minutes attached
Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee (Cr Lord)	28 July 2022 1 November 2022	<i>Refer to item 7.10</i>
Australia Day Awards Committee of the Whole (Whole Council)		
Bland Rural Fire District Zone Liaison Committee (Cr Baker)		
Bland – Temora RFS Zone Bushfire Management Committee (Cr Baker)		
Community Reference Group (Whole Council)		
Country Mayors Association of NSW (Mayor Monaghan)	4/5 August 2022 18 November 2022	✓
Cowal Gold Project Community Environmental Monitoring & Consultative Committee (CEMCC) (Cr McGlynn)	29 June 2022 28 September 2022	✓
Goldenfields Water County Council Board (Cr McGlynn, alternate Cr Lord)	8 August 2022 25 August 2022	✓
Lachlan Regional Transport Committee (LRTC) (Cr Lord)	1 October 2022	
Local Traffic Advisory Committee (Cr Moore)		
Murrumbidgee Primary Health Network Board (Cr Funnell)		

Newell Highway Taskforce <i>(Cr Lord)</i>	30 August 2022	
NSW Association of Mining & Energy Related Councils (MERC) <i>(Cr McGlynn)</i>	2 September 2022	
NSW Public Libraries Association <i>(Cr Clark)</i>		
Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils (REROC) <i>(Mayor Monaghan)</i>	26 August 2022	
Riverina Joint Organisation <i>(Mayor Monaghan)</i>	26 August 2022	
Riverina Regional Library Advisory Committee <i>(Cr Clark)</i>		

355 Committee	Date/s	Minutes attached
Barmedman Community Centre		
Barmedman Tidy Towns		
Mirrool Silo Kick Challenge Committee	10 July 2022	✓
Ungarie Advancement Group	15 June 2022 18 May 2022	✓ ✓
Ungarie Retirement Village Association		
Ungarie Showground Racecourse & Recreation Reserve Committee		
Weethalle Community Committee		
Wyalong School of Arts & Hall Committee		

Recommendation:

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



Country Mayors Association of NEW SOUTH WALES

Chairperson: Cr Ken Keith OAM
PO Box 337 Parkes NSW 2870
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MINUTES

RURAL SKILLS FORUM

THURSDAY, 4 AUGUST 2022 AUDITORIUM, CLUB YORK, SYDNEY

The Forum opened at 12.50pm.

1. ATTENDANCE:

Ballina Shire Council, Cr Sharon Cadwallader, Mayor
Bathurst Regional Council, Cr Robert Taylor, Mayor
Bathurst Regional Council, Mr Aaron Jones, Acting General Manager
Bega Valley Shire Council, Mr Anthony McMahon, CEO
Blayney Shire Council, Cr Scott Ferguson, Mayor
Cabonne Shire Council, Cr Kevin Beatty, Mayor
Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council, Cr Charlie Sheahan, Mayor
Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council, Mr Glen Atear, Deputy General Manager
Dubbo Regional Council, Cr Mathew, Mayor
Dubbo Regional Council, Mr Murray Wood, CEO
Federation Council, Cr Patrick Bourke, Mayor
Forbes Shire Council, Cr Phyllis Miller, Mayor
Forbes Shire Council, Mr Steve Loane, General Manager
Gilgandra Shire Council, Cr Doug Batten, Mayor
Glen Innes Shire Council, Cr Rod Banham, Mayor
Glen Innes Shire Council, Mr Dennis McIntyre, Acting General Manager
Goulburn Mulwaree Council, Cr Bob Peter Walker, Mayor
Goulburn Mulwaree Council, Mr Aaron Johansson, CEO
Gunnedah Shire Council, Cr Jamie Chaffey, Mayor
Hilltops Council, Cr Margaret Roles, Mayor
Kiama Municipal Council, Cr Neil Reilly, Mayor
Kiama Municipal Council, Ms Jane Stroud, General Manager
Kyogle Council, Cr Kylie Thomas, Mayor
Lachlan Shire Council, Cr John Medcalf, Mayor
Lachlan Shire Council, Mr Greg Tory, General Manager
Leeton Shire Council, Cr Tony Reneker, Mayor
Liverpool Plains Shire Council, Cr Doug Hawkins, Mayor
Lockhart Shire Council, Cr Greg Verdon, Mayor

Lockhart Shire Council, Mr Peter Veneris, General Manager
Moree Plains Shire Council, Cr Mark Johnson, Mayor
Moree Plains Shire Council, Mr Mike Tobin, Acting General Manager
Murray River Council, Mr Terry Dodds, General Manager
Narrabri Shire Council, Cr Ron Campbell, Mayor
Narrabri Shire Council, Cr Catherine Redding, Deputy Mayor
Narrabri Shire Council, Ms Gillian Goddard, Small Business Liason Officer
Narrandera Shire Council, Cr Neville Schenka, Mayor
Narromine Shire Council, Cr Craig Davies, Mayor
Oberon Council, Cr Mark Kellam, Mayor
Oberon Council, Mr Gary Wallace, General Manager
Parkes Shire Council, Cr Ken Keith, Mayor
Snowy Monaro Regional Council, Cr Narelle Davis, Mayor
Tamworth Regional Council, Cr Russell Webb, Mayor
Tamworth Regional Council, Mr Paul Bennett, General Manager
Temora Shire Council, Cr Rick Firman, Mayor
Temora Shire Council, Mrs Elizabeth Smith, Director Administration and Finance
Uralla Shire Council, Cr Robert Crouch, Deputy Mayor
Wagga Wagga City Council, Cr Dallas Tout, Mayor
Wagga Wagga City Council, Mr Peter Thompson, General Manager
Warrumbungle Shire Council, Cr Ambrose Doolan, Mayor
Warrumbungle Shire Council, Mr Roger Bailey, General Manager
Weddin Shire Council, Cr Craig Bembrick, Mayor
Weddin Shire Council, Ms Noreen Vu, General Manager
To attract skilled labour
Wingecarribee Shire Council, Ms Lisa Miscamble, General Manager
LGNSW, Cr Darriea Turley, President
LGNSW, Mr Scott Phillips, CEO
Cr Jacob Cass Country Universities Centre

APOLOGIES:

As submitted

Welcome and Introduction of proceedings Cr Ken Keith OAM, Chairman, Country Mayors Association of NSW

Today's Forum evolved out of the Association members review of priority issues. Australia has dropped the ball on education and skills over the past 10 years and have created huge issues for rural NSW. With rate pegging councils do not have the resources and are unable to increase wages to compete for staff. Added to that in Parkes staff are being poached by government and the mining industry. Parkes Shire is working with the regional growth Development Corporation to develop a strategy to attract and retain skilled labour. There has been a dramatic reduction in the development of TAFE courses over the past five years. Course enrollments since 2016 have decreased on average by 12.7% although post COVID there has been a modest recovery. Only 29% of people enrolled in courses in 2021 completed their course. One of the main problems is the lack of apprenticeships and traineeships in rural towns.

Hon Fiona Nash, National Commissioner for Rural Education

The former government appointed her to the role of Commissioner last year and it is the first time there has been a national focus on Education and skills. As Commissioner she also looks at the workforce and how it is impacted. The role is diverse but is not involved in funding but giving advice to government on solutions to challenges. Solutions come from the ground up. There is a need to address workforce shortage on a local basis. Skills retention is a major focus and there hasn't been enough focus on how to grow workforces regionally. Access to education through schools and TAFE is very important. There needs to be better success to career advice. Access to childcare is a barrier. There is a disparity between the city and country across the board a country student is less likely to get a degree or complete higher education. There is a role for councils to connect with people leaving country communities and wanting to come back.

Hon Alister Henskens, Minister for Skills and Training

NSW has the most skilled workforce in Australia and delivered a major investment in fee free training. Delivery and opportunities are more than ever with \$3.1 billion provided in the budget for skills and training. The labour shortage is causing many problems. If you don't have people to train that is a major problem. There is provision in the budget for \$80 million over four years for additional fee for free places to be provided. There is a roll out of pathway programs in regional areas with programs in 144 schools throughout the state providing workplace placements as well as training at the high school level. The restriction that only one vocational subject could be a HSC subject has been removed. \$2 billion has been allocated for TAFE including a large capital investment. NSW is training 45% of all TAFE students in Australia and NSW has the largest take up in regional Australia. Councils across NSW will take time to rebuild flood affected areas and the Government is introducing flood specific courses at TAFE to increase skill needs. There is also other skills work with emergency services and with emergency management courses. Asbestos affected courses in flood areas are also being introduced.

Mr Tim Crakanthorp, Shadow Minister for Skills and TAFE, Shadow Minister for Tertiary Education

The economy is dependent on skilled migration which stopped due to COVID. TAFE enrollments have dropped. COVID had shortages but when it stopped job opportunities increased. Past cuts in skills and education budgets have caused downturn but increased budgets does not fix everything. The new Federal Government has a good skills and education policy. Now the 1 in 10 workers in construction has to be a cadet or trainee. Additional budget to skills and education has been promised. One aspect that has been overlooked is the formation of a national body that addresses skills and education needs throughout Australia. NSW Labor wants to revive the manufacturing sector which will create jobs. Completion rates at TAFE are not high. The purpose of educating is to get people into jobs but on-line education has pros and cons as connections are not good enough and many families do not have the technology. Courses have been reconstructed because of this. TAFE courses are being cancelled and rap around courses lost which is not logical. Courses have to be aligned. NSW Labor will ensure that 50% of railway

stock is produced in the State and will increase tender wages. We will establish a Job First Commission and will be taking on the recommendations of the McKell Institute. Labor wants to get students into training and have a skilled workforce. TAFE needs to be rebuilt to provide courses that students want. Labor invites Country Mayors to provide input into their future plans and policies.

Mr Edward Cavanagh, Director of Policy, McKell Institute

The McKell Institute is a research body that works with Government and Business to generate skill changes in communities. Their current project involves data input to identify what problems are being experienced in retaining and attracting skills to regional and rural communities. Generally communities identify their own problem areas but they are rarely solved. The project is about providing jobs in country areas and looking at the broad structural issues that affect the skills shortage in country areas. Migration to rural NSW has created new problems. The Institute is working with the University of Wollongong detailing community market trends and then build up a Local Government area database. The Institute wants to analyse all of the issues highlighted and they need councils to take the statistical realities to government. Its local solutions for local problems. The Institute wants councils to add to it with powerful stories and they will visit those communities as part of their field work in October and November this year. The results can be used in the State election context.

Cr Jacob Cass, Centre Manager, Parkes Country Universities Centre

The Country Universities model is a wide one and started in Cooma in 2013 to create opportunities for youth and encourage local high value jobs. The model has grown throughout the State and is a study space that provides high speed internet shared with other students and connects students with technology. It has a people centric focus. It is community owned and governed and funded by the three levels of government. The centres have several partnerships including cornerstone universities and industry support. 1462 students are registered across three states and 48% of students are first in their families to study. Students can study through any university and in fact they study through 140 different institutions. Most students are in the 20-44 years age bracket. The centres support learning and have academic and administration assistance. Pathways include tertiary education, traineeships, and apprenticeships. Parkes Young Professionals is a network of young professionals who can share experiences. Partnerships include universities, government, local business, schools, industry and community and the Parkes Business Innovation Hub is a 20 seat meeting room with video conferencing.

Cr Rick Firman Chairman and Julie Briggs CEO Riverina Joint Organisation to outline Riverina's Development Skills Shortages Project

The Riverina Workforce Development project has focus areas and works towards a regional workforce and an employer of choice. Four strains of activities cover high school students and university students. The career journey is professional placements, connectivity, a graduate program and "Start Yourselves". "Start Yourselves" involves start

your career here with work inspirational days, meetings between schools and council, resource materials, project officer support, work experience and a better understanding of councils. There are “Come and Try” days over a three day period. Come and try Civil Engineering, Civil Construction, Mapping/GIS, Horticulture and Town Planning and Building. There is professional placement with Charles Stuart University and Wollongong University, and credited placements and voluntary placements offered in any area of Councils operations. There is a student ambassador that showcases diversity at work. There are graduate programs aligned to specific purposes and a fast tracked pathway. That does not guarantee work. Challenges include council resourcing, finding enough placements, finding graduate placements, costs associated with “Come and Try” days, and the importance of partnerships like “Compact”

Suggestions for positive change

- Community service obligation allows for reduction in numbers in rural and remote LGA's based on the already established community service obligation that TAFE is committed to with flexibility of numbers for specific courses in communities
- That TAFE NSW specifically isolate metropolitan from regional, rural and remote in all areas like student courses, enrollments, completions, apprenticeships and traineeships and funding distribution
- TAFE NSW to deliver a more detailed and transparent annual report that highlights performance and outcomes for each LGA and when it distinguishes from metro and regionals to include industry profiles
- That the HECS debt mechanism be used as a catalyst to support and improve councils currently struggling to attract and retain skilled staff
- Identify what type of courses are undertaken in LGA's that involve face to face tuition
- More support and incentive for local business to train trainees
- Encourage the State Government to train their own trainees and apprentices
- Engage with the Minister and his advisors to promote and discuss problems facing regional and rural NSW
- Advocate for the aged workforce to return to the workforce and provide training and mentoring
- Reduce competition between the States for the skilled workforce
- The McKell Institute be supported by CMA in its endeavors to increase skills and to retain skills in country NSW

There being no further business the meeting closed at 5.05pm.

Cr Ken Keith OAM
Chairman Country Mayor's Association of NSW



Country Mayors Association of NEW SOUTH WALES

Chairperson: Cr Ken Keith OAM
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MINUTES

GENERAL MEETING

FRIDAY, 5 AUGUST 2022 THEATRETTE, PARLIAMENT HOUSE, SYDNEY

The meeting opened at 8.31 a.m.

1. ATTENDANCE:

Armidale Regional Council, Mayor, Cr Sam Coupland, Mayor
Armidale Regional Council, Mr James Roncon, General Manager
Bathurst Regional Council, Cr Robert Taylor, Mayor
Bathurst Regional Council, Mr Aaron Jones, Acting General Manager
Bega Valley Shire Council, Cr Russell Fitzpatrick, Mayor
Bega Valley Shire Council, Mr Anthony McMahon, CEO
Bellingen Shire Council, Cr Steve Allan, Mayor
Bellingen Shire Council, Ms Liz Jeremy, General Manager
Bland Shire Council, Cr Brian Monaghan, Mayor
Bland Shire Council, Mr Grant Baker, General Manager
Blayney Shire Council, Cr Scott Ferguson, Mayor
Broken Hill City Council, Mr Jay Nankivell, General Manager
Cabonne Shire Council, Cr Kevin Beatty, Mayor
Cabonne Shire Council, Mr Brad Burns, General Manager
Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council, Cr Charlie Sheahan, Mayor
Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council, Mr Glen McAtear, Deputy General Manager
Dubbo Regional Council, Mathew Dickerson, Mayor
Dubbo Regional Council, Mr Murray Wood, CEO
Federation Council, Cr Patrick Bourke, Mayor
Forbes Shire Council, Cr Chris Roylance, Deputy Mayor
Forbes Shire Council, Mr Steve Loane, General Manager
Gilgandra Shire Council, Cr Doug Batten, Mayor
Gilgandra Shire Council, Mr David Neeves, General Manager
Glen Innes Shire Council, Cr Rod Banham, Mayor
Glen Innes Shire Council, Mr Dennis McIntyre, Acting General Manager
Goulburn Mulwaree Council, Cr Bob Peter Walker, Mayor
Goulburn Mulwaree Council, Mr Aaron Johansson, CEO
Griffith City Council, Cr John Doug Curran, Mayor
Griffith City Council, Mr Brett Stonestreet, General Manager

Gunnedah Shire Council, Cr Jamie Chaffey, Mayor
Gunnedah Shire Council, Mr Eric Growth, General Manager
Gwydir Shire Council, Cr John Coulton, Mayor
Gwydir Shire Council, Mr Max Eastcott, General Manager
Hilltops Council, Cr Margaret Roles, Mayor
Inverell Shire Council, Cr Paul Harmon, Mayor
Kempsey Shire Council, Mr Craig Milburn, General Manager
Kiama Municipal Council, Cr Neil Reilly, Mayor
Kiama Municipal Council, Ms Jane Stroud, General Manager
Kyogle Council, Cr Kylie Thomas, Mayor
Lachlan Shire Council, Cr John Medcalf, Mayor
Lachlan Shire Council, Mr Greg Tory, General Manager
Leeton Shire Council, Cr Tony Reneker, Mayor
Leeton Shire Council, Ms Jackie Kruger, General Manager
Liverpool Plains Shire Council, Cr Doug Hawkins, Mayor
Lockhart Shire Council, Cr Greg Verdon, Mayor
Lockhart Shire Council, Mr Peter Veneris, General Manager
Mid-Western/Mudgee Regional Council, Mr Brad Cam, General Manager
Moree Plains Shire Council, Mr Mick Tobin, Acting General Manager
Narrabri Shire Council, Cr Ron Campbell, Mayor
Narrandera Shire Council, Cr Neville Schenka, Mayor
Narrandera Shire Council, Mr George Cowan, General Manager
Narromine Shire Council, Cr Craig Davies, Mayor
Narromine Shire Council, Ms Jane Redden, General Manager
Oberon Council, Cr Mark Kellam, Mayor
Oberon Council, Mr Gary Wallace, General Manager
Orange City Council, Cr Jason Hamling, Mayor
Parkes Shire Council, Cr Ken Keith, Mayor
Snowy Monaro Regional Council, Cr Narelle Davis, Mayor
Snowy Valleys Council, Cr Ian Chaffey, Mayor
Snowy Valleys Council, Mr Hamish McNulty, Interim General Manager
Tamworth Regional Council, Cr Russell Webb, Mayor
Tamworth Regional Council, Mr Paul Bennett, General Manager
Temora Shire Council, Cr Rick Firman, Mayor
Temora Shire Council, Mrs Elizabeth Smith, Director of Administration and Finance
Tenterfield Shire Council, Cr Bronwyn Petrie, Mayor
Uralla Shire Council, Cr Robert Crouch, Deputy Mayor
Uralla Shire Council, Ms Kate Jessep, General Manager
Wagga Wagga City Council, Cr Dallas Tout, Mayor
Wagga Wagga City Council, Mr Peter Thompson, General Manager
Warrumbungle Shire Council, Cr Ambrose Doolan, Mayor
Warrumbungle Shire Council, Mr Roger Bailey, General Manager
Weddin Shire Council, Cr Craig Bembrick, Mayor
Weddin Shire Council, Ms Noreen Vu, General Manager
Wingecarribee Shire Council, Mr Viv May, Interim Administrator
Wingecarribee Shire Council, Ms Lisa Miscamble, General Manager
LGNSW, Cr Darriea Turley, President
LGNSW, Mr Scott Phillips, CEO
OLG Ally Dench, Executive Director
OLG Karen Purser
Mark Honey

APOLOGIES:

As submitted

SPECIAL GUESTS:

- (a) Darriea Turley, President, LGNSW
- (b) The Hon Anthony Roberts MP, Minister for Planning, Minister for Homes
- (c) Ms Amy Dumbrell, Acting Director, Biodiversity Offsets Scheme and Dr Louisa Mamouny, Acting Executive Director, Biodiversity Credit Supply Fund and Taskforce
- (d) Mr Justin Clancy MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Health
- (e) Mr Greg Warren MP, Shadow Minister for Local Government, Shadow Minister for Veterans and Shadow Minister for Western Sydney

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

RESOLVED that the minutes of the General Meeting held on 27 May 2022 be accepted as a true and accurate record (Temora Shire Council / Gwydir Shire Council).

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

NIL

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Outward

- (a) The Hon Jim Chambers MP, Treasurer, stressing that funding for Local Government should remain at the levels of the previous government and preferably at a higher level
- (b) The Hon Anthony Albanese MP, Prime Minister, stressing that funding for Local Government should remain at the levels of the previous government and preferably at a higher level
- (c) Mr Chris Minns MP, Leader of the Opposition NSW, urging bi-partisan support to ensure all 44 recommendations of the Legislative Council Inquiry into Health Outcomes and Access to Health and Hospital Services in Rural, Regional and Remote NSW are adopted
- (d) The Hon Dominic Perrottet MP, Premier NSW, urging bi-partisan support to ensure all 44 recommendations of the Legislative Council Inquiry into Health Outcomes and Access to Health and Hospital Services in Rural, Regional and Remote NSW are adopted
- (e) The Hon Wendy Tuckermann MP, Minister for Local Government, seeking urgent amendment to clause 34 subsection 2 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment (Development Certification and Fire Safety) Regulation 2021
- (f) The Hon Anthony Roberts MP, Minister for Planning and Minister for Homes, seeking urgent amendment to clause 34 subsection 2 of the Environmental

Planning and Assessment (Development Certification and Fire Safety)
Regulation 2021

- (g) Ms Anna Bowden, Head of Social Impact, Royal Far West, thanking her for her presentation to the 27 May 2022 meeting
- (h) The Hon Kevin Anderson MP, Minister for Lands and Water, Minister for Hospitality and Racing, thanking him for his presentation to the 27 May 2022 meeting
- (i) The Hon Wendy Tuckermann MP, Minister for Local Government, thanking her for her presentation to the 27 May 2022 meeting
- (j) The Hon Paul Toole MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, Minister for Police, thanking him for his presentation to the 27 May 2022 meeting
- (k) Adjunct Professor, Ruth Stewart, Commissioner, National Rural Health Commission, thanking her for her presentation to the Health Forum on the 26 May 2022
- (l) Mr Richard Colbran, Chief Executive officer, NSW Rural Doctors Network, thanking him for his presentation to the Health Forum on the 26 May 2022
- (m) Mr Ryan Park MP, Shadow Minister for Health, Shadow Minister for Mental Health, Shadow Minister for the Illawarra and South Coast, thanking him for his presentation to the Health Forum on the 26 May 2022
- (n) The Hon Bronnie Taylor MLC, Minister for Women, Minister for Regional Health and Minister for Mental Health, thanking her for her presentation to the Health Forum on the 26 May 2022
- (o) The Hon Bronnie Taylor MLC, Minister for Women, Minister for Regional Health and Minister for Mental Health, forwarding to her the list of participants suggestions to move forward with Regional and Rural Health
- (p) The Hon Dominic Perrotet MP, Premier NSW, inviting him to present to next meeting to be held on the 5 August 2022
- (q) The Hon Catherine King MP, Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government, inviting her to present to next meeting to be held on the 5 August 2022
- (r) Mr Edward Cavanough, Executive Director and Director Policy, McKell Institute, thanking him for participating in the Executive Committee meeting held on the 9 June 2022 and inviting him to be a presenter at the Skills Forum on the 4 August 2022
- (s) The Hon Anthony Albanese MP, Prime Minister, regarding the deployment of overseas doctors
- (t) The Hon Mark Butler MP, Minister for Health and Aged Care regarding the deployment of overseas doctors
- (u) The Hon Catherine King MP, Minister for Infrastructure, Regional Development and Local Government regarding continuous funding for the Building Better Regions program
- (v) Cr Linda Scott, President ALGA, seeking support for the continuance of the Building Better Regions program
- (w) Cr Darriea Turley, President, LGNSW, seeking support for the continuance of the Building Better Regions program

Inward

- (a) Mr Marcus Ray, Group Deputy Secretary, Planning and Assessment regarding employment zones reform

- (b) Mr Brett Whitworth, Deputy Secretary, Planning Policy, regarding clause 34 subsection 2 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment (Development Certification and Fire Safety) Regulation 2021
- (c) The Hon Dugald Sanders MP, Minister for Agriculture, Minister for Western NSW, regarding standards for breeding dogs
- (d) The Hon James Griffith MP, Minister for Environment and Heritage, regarding the NSW Biodiversity Offset Scheme
- (e) The Hon Dominic Perretot MP, Premier NSW, advising that the Government is currently considering the recommendation of the Legislative Council Inquiry into Health Outcomes and Access to Health and Hospital Services in Rural, Regional and Remote NSW
- (f) Leeton Shire Council, forwarding letter from LGNSW to the Treasurer, Minister Cooke MP, Auditor General, and Minister Tuckerman MP, regarding treatment of RFS assets
- (g) Letter from the Department of Planning and Environment to the Auditor General regarding the treatment of RFS assets
- (h) Riverina Joint Organisation regarding the proposal to introduce a Domestic Waste Charge peg

NOTED

5. President Cr Darriea Turley, LGNSW Update

Cr Turley provided a report on the work of LGNSW since the last meeting including Annual Conference 2022, Local Government Week and Awards Dinner, Emergency Services Levy and Rural Fire Service Assets, State Budget, Upper House Inquiry into floods, and advocacy into Parliamentary Inquiry into elections held under COVID 19 conditions, Domestic Waste Charges Review, addressing council staff shortages, ePlanning and NSW Planning Portal, rural and regional health and recent advocacy wins

6. Mr Tom O'Dea, Head of NBN Local NSW

There are 21 NBN professionals looking after Regional and rural shareholders. NBN is a Government Business Enterprise which sells to telecommunication providers and is accountable to the Federal Government. NBN has delivery partnerships with contractors and subcontractors. It is the provider that supplies the modems of varying quality. Household owners often place the modems in their homes that are not efficient. NBN's purpose is to lift digital capability at a local level. On the ground NBN have Community Engagement Managers, business leads and community ambassadors. Part of their staff engagement is that staff have to live in the area they serve. The focus is delivering digital capability, developing regional infrastructure, supporting regional performance and integration within local communities. 12.1million homes are connected, 8.5million are connected to a plan and 76% have 50mbps wholesale speed. In regional Australia 3.4million premises are connected. \$750million is being invested in upgrading the fixed wireless network and extending the range of the fixed wireless network with benefits of extended coverage, faster speeds, improved busy home speeds, and enhanced data levels. NBN needs to get the message out and needs insights, opportunities and the voice of customers from councils.

7. The Hon Anthony Roberts, Minister for Planning, Minister for Homes

The government is committed to having diversity of housing. Regional housing pressures have been caused through migration and more people are staying in the regions and the need for housing intensifies. The 2022 budget housing package includes \$500million to unlock land and \$174million to support key workers moving to the regions. The Housing Strategy 2041 has been developed and there are lessor assessment times. A regional Housing Taskforce has been set up to examine the barriers to the provision of housing and affordability in the regions and all their recommendations have been accepted. \$34million has been set aside over 4 years to implement the Taskforce recommendations. A Regional Housing Flying Squad has been created to assist regional councils. Under the next phase of the Accelerated Housing Infrastructure Fund \$120million has been set aside for high growth regional areas. The shortage of Planners in regional areas is being addressed by allowing councils to outsource the assessment of housing DA's to consultants. The Regional Housing Flying Squad program is be considered for a twelve month extension. Agritourism is a booming industry and the government is helping farmers to diversify their businesses. Certain agritourism activities will be listed as exempt or complying development. All of the nine Regional Plans are being reviewed responding to impacts and linked to other State strategies. Tribute was paid to the leaders of the flood affected areas and an Independent Inquiry report will be released soon. \$150million will be available to build and replace social houses and \$10million allocated to replace police homes. Money is being allocated to close the GAP. There is always going to be challenges with new technology such as the planning portal.

8. Financial Report

RESOLVED That the financial reports for the last quarter were tabled and accepted (Inverell Shire Council / Lachlan Shire Council)

9. Presentation of Emeritus Mayor Award by Cr Darriea Turley, President LGNSW

Cr Darriea Tulley presented retired Mayor Mark Honey, Kiama Municipal Council, with his Emeritus Mayor certificate and pin

10. Introduction of the Country Mayors Lapel Badge

Cr Firman Executive member outlined the purpose of the lapel pins to promote the Country Mayors Association and to recognize the professionalism of its members. The lapel pins were handed out to attending Mayors. Those not attending will be given their pins at future meetings

11. Ms Amy Dumbrell, Acting Director, Biodiversity Offsets Scheme and Dr Louisa Mamouney, Acting Executive Director, Biodiversity Credit Supply Fund and Taskforce

The Biodiversity Offset Scheme has had a history since 1995 with a shift to method based in 2007 and in 2014 an offset policy for major projects became compulsory. In 2016 the Biodiversity Conservation Act was passed and in 2020 the Australian Government endorsed the scheme. In 2021 the Integrated Improvement and Assistance Program commenced and in 2022 the review of LMBC commences. The Biodiversity Scheme aims to avoid, minimize and offset the impacts of development on biodiversity consistent with the principles of ecological sustainable development. It is required under DA's. \$550million Biodiversity credits have been traded and 36,000 hectares of land protected. The scheme is being improved by refining it, and scaling up, through a strategy to increase credit supply, identifying pain points, a local government support program, additional assessors and a help desk. The Biodiversity Credits Supply Fund and Taskforce have identified that credits are too hard to attain and expensive and that buyers and sellers are hard to identify. Problems need to be resolved to make a significant difference in the coming months by fast tracking of Biodiversity credits, operate a credit supply fund and enhance conservation benefits. It can be made easier by targeting support, streamlining processes, provide upfront support, simplifying the BSA agreement, opportunities to connect, more information, addressing barriers and communication and engagement.

RESOLVED That the Country Mayors Association make representations to the NSW Government on the gross failings of the Biodiversity Scheme, the inadequacies of the review to address the real problems of the scheme, and the ongoing economic hardship and loss of development of regional NSW (Narromine Shire Council / Gilgandra Shire Council)

12. Mr Justin Clancy MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Health

Mr Clancy thanked CMA for its insights into regional and rural health and the wellbeing of our communities. There is no quick fix for regional and rural health but the 2022 State budget has provided a significant boost to operational and capital expenditure including the allocation of additional staff with \$883million over 4 years to attract regional and rural workers. Tailored programs are to be introduced to take up positions and increased training opportunities. The elective surgery waitlist will get additional funding over the next 2 years. Hospital and health facility upgrades have been important for health outcomes and in the next 4 years there will be \$3billion spent on capital infrastructure including staff accommodation in regional NSW. \$740million over 5 years will be spent on palliative care covering an extra 600 nurses and other staff, and social care is to have a virtual connection to provide equity and care and there will be virtual care access to health specialists. A virtual intensive care unit has been announced in Broken Hill for remote NSW. Travel and accommodation support has been expanded in the budget. A new Regional Health Division was established in April this year and will look at the recommendations of Legislative Council report and other issues. The new Advisory Panel will be working on the Regional Health Plan which has had 1,200 face to face meetings held to develop it. The draft plan will be available for comment in September this year.

13. Mr Greg Warren MP, Shadow Minister for Local Government, Shadow Minister for Veterans, and Shadow Minister for Western Sydney

Mr Warren thanked Country Mayors for the opportunity to meet with members. He advised that he had written to the Emergency Services and Local Government Ministers regarding the treatment of RFS assets and advised there needs to be a legislative change. There needs to be changes made in respect to Joint Organisation funding and legislative requirements and that both issues were on labors radar.

14. Scholarship Sub Committee of the Executive Committee

RESOLVED that NSW Country Mayors Association adopt an Inprinciple position with implementing a suitable Scholarship program, to assist in addressing skills shortages in our communities and further
That the NSW CMA Executive be authorised to compile Criteria and Structure of Scholarship programme, to report back to NSW CMA for final endorsement.
(Gunnedah Shire Council / Temora Shire Council

15. Suggestions for positive change for Regional and Rural Health

- (1) Local Health Districts need to introduce measures to hold on to internees
- (2) Develop a system to get overseas doctors into are communities
- (3) Support UNE, CSU, and SCU to establish new medical schools
- (4) Investigate administration and boundaries of Health Districts
- (5) Have Primary Care nurses connected to hospitals
- (6) Indigenous Training of indigenous people for their communities
- (7) Advocacy approach and strategy to be developed by Country Mayors
- (8) Ensure the State Government reports on the progress of the Inquiry
- (9) The Commonwealth Government to explain what they are doing in respect of the Inquiry
- (10) Thank those that have worked hard under a difficult situation
- (11) Councils build health plans
- (12) The issue is workforce. Where is the workforce and where do you get it
- (13) Travel allowances to be simplified
- (14) Need bipartisan support of the 44 recommendations and continuation of Minister for Regional Health (Letters have been sent to the Premier and Leader of the Opposition)
- (15) Re-establish Hospital Boards

RESOLVED that the suggestions be left in the hands of the Executive to monitor and followup (Parkes Shire Council / Gunnedah Shire Council

16. Wakefield Park Development

Goulburn Mulwaree Council advised of Wakefield Park Raceway's appeal to NSW Land and Environment Court against consent conditions imposed. The appeal was upheld but the Court imposed stricter noise management conditions that impact on the definition of an event which could make the raceway unviable

17. Demerger Proposal of Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council

RESOLVED that Country Mayors write a letter to the Boundaries Commission supporting their decision which recommends the demerger of the councils should proceed (Parkes Shire Council / Gunnedah Shire Council)

18. Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting is scheduled for Friday, 18 November 2022

NOTED

There being no further business the meeting closed at 12.40pm.

Cr Ken Keith OAM
Chairman Country Mayor's Association of NSW

Country Universities Centre

Country Mayor's Association Meeting

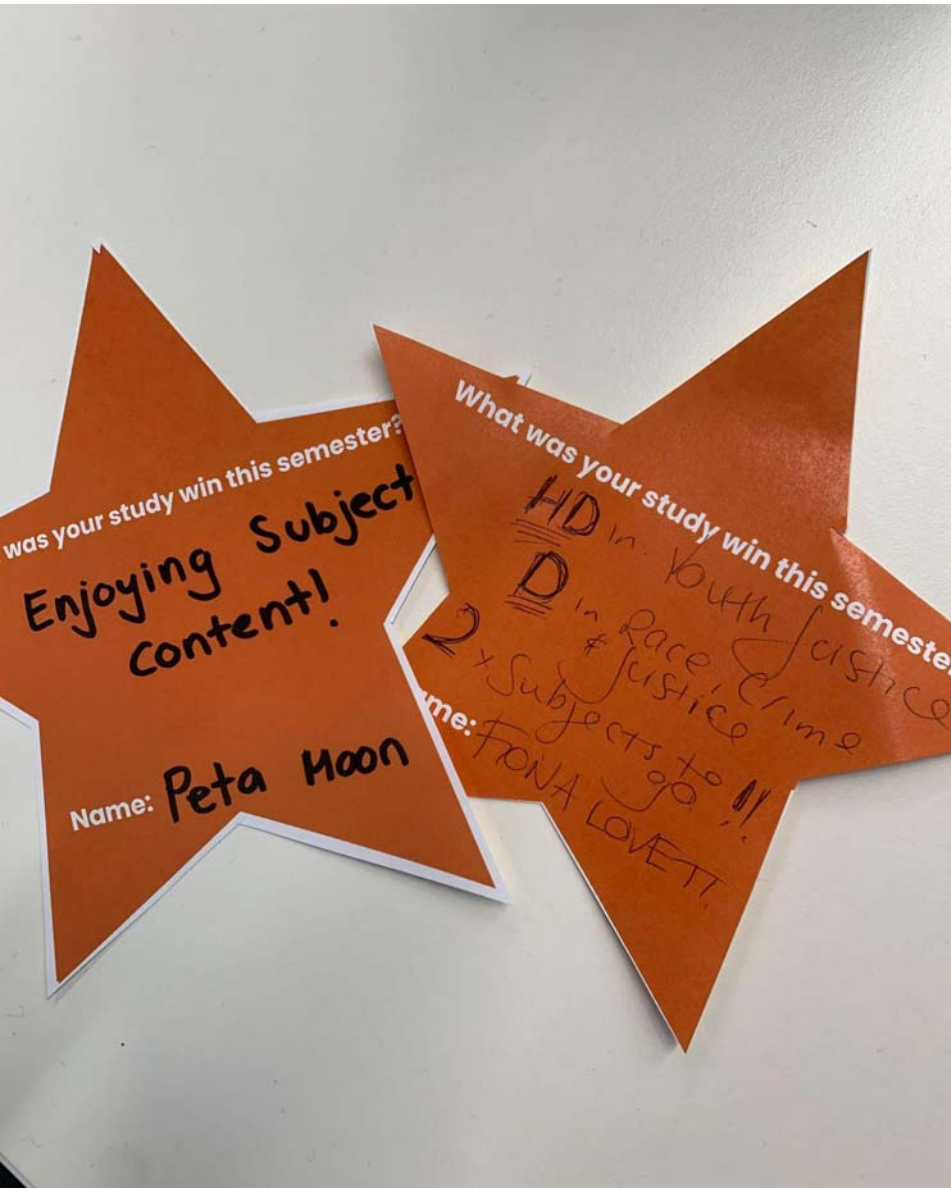


It all started in Cooma, 2013

The goals of the centre were to:

- create opportunities for youth to remain in the community and be successful
- encourage local high value jobs for the increasing knowledge economy
- provide educational opportunities for professionals, partners and families coming to the area
- encourage local academic and professional networks





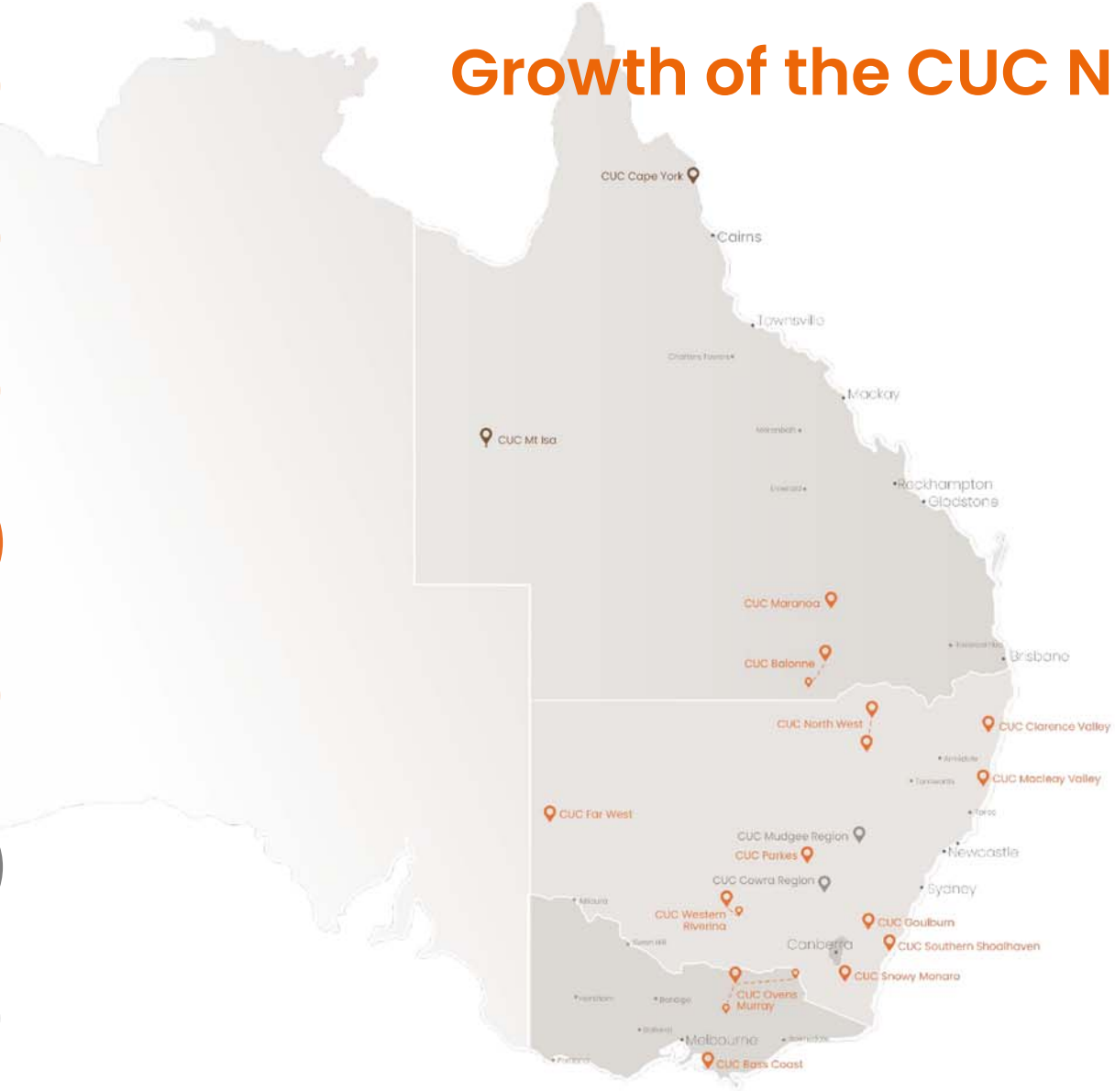
It continues in Parkes, 2022

The goals of the centre are to:

- create opportunities for youth to remain in the community and be successful
- encourage local high value jobs for the increasing knowledge economy
- provide educational opportunities for professionals, partners and families coming to the area
- encourage local academic and professional networks

Growth of the CUC Network

- CUC Snowy Monaro **2013**
- CUC Goulburn
CUC Far West **2018**
- CUC Clarence Valley
CUC North West
CUC Western Riverina **2019**
- CUC Parkes **2020**
- CUC Macleay Valley
CUC Balonne
CUC Bass Coast
CUC Maranoa
CUC Sth Shoalhaven **2021**
- CUC Ovens Murray
CUC Cape York
CUC Mt Isa **2022**
- CUC Cowra Region
CUC Mudgee Region **2023**



What can I find at the CUC?

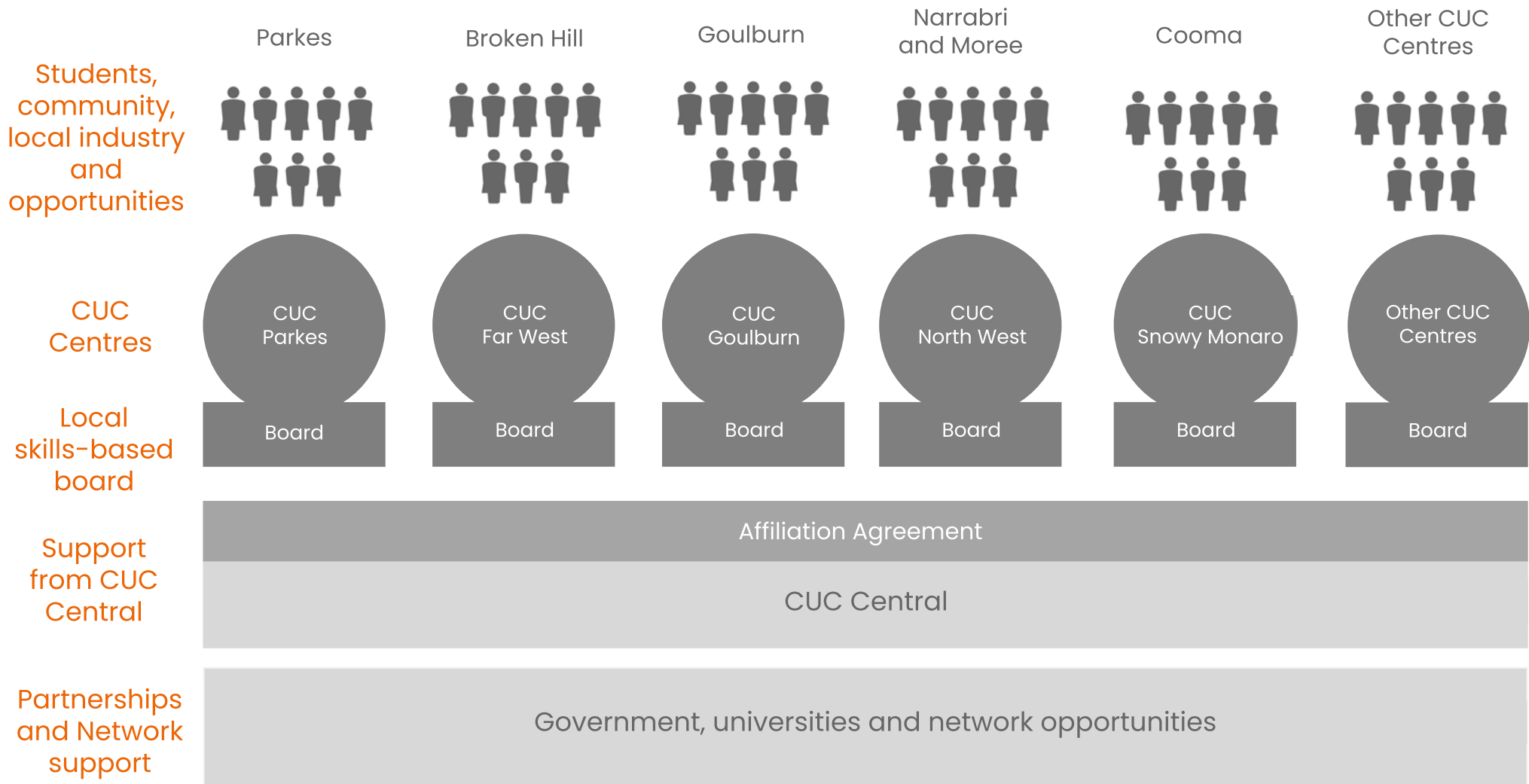
- Dedicated study spaces
- Open 7-days per week, 7am to midnight
- High-speed internet (100 mbps)
- Centre Managers and Learning Skills Advisors (LSA's) for face-to-face support
- Other students in your region





CUC Community-Owned Model

- Community owned and governed
- Successful regional development is led by local communities and aligned with regional strengths
- Place based solutions
- Funded by Commonwealth Government, NSW Government, Local government, philanthropic support, university partnerships and industry sponsorship
- Over \$3.8 Million local in-kind and community support



Funding Partnerships

2013 – First Corporate and Local Government Partners

2015 – First University Partner

2017 – NSW Government Funding for 5 Centres to be established in NSW

2018 – Commonwealth Government Regional University Centres Program Cohort 1

2019 – Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation

2019 – Three cornerstone university partnerships

2020 – Commonwealth Government Regional University Centres Program Cohort 2

2021 – Five cornerstone university partnerships

2022 – Ongoing Commonwealth Government Funding for Cohort 1 Centres

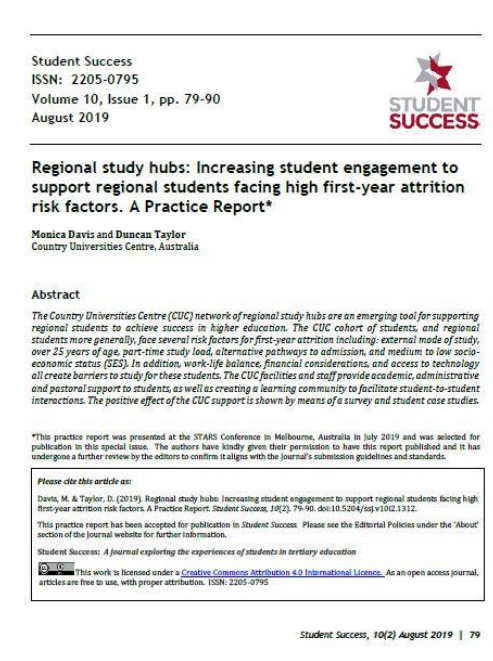
2022 – Commonwealth Government Regional Universities Centre Program Cohort 3 Funding

2022 – Commonwealth Government Funding for Regional Partnerships Pool Program



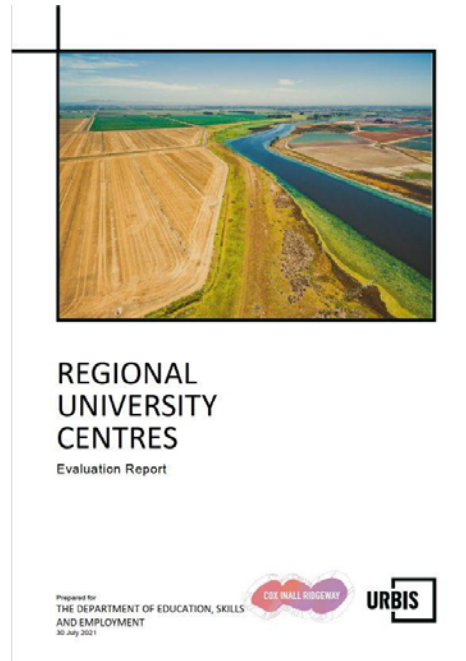
Methods of Evaluation

Peer-reviewed research



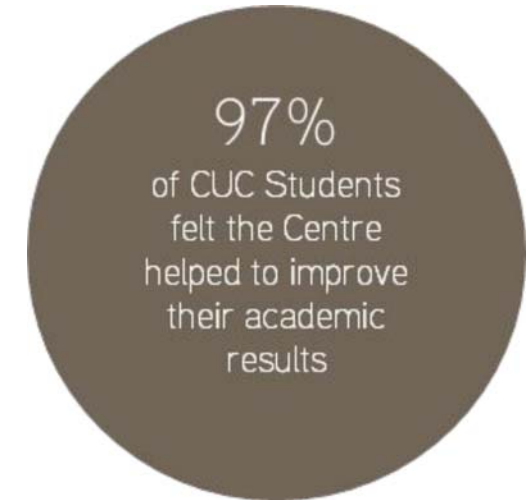
Journal of Student
Success

Independent Evaluation of the Program



2021 Cox Inall Ridgeway/Urbis
Evaluation of the Regional
Universities Centre Program

Student Feedback



CUC Student Survey

Semester 1 2022

1,462 students registered with the CUC



8.0% of students have Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander heritage



96% of students are Regional or Remote



57% of students are Low Socio-Economic Status (IEO Index)



80% of students are female, and 20% are male



48% of students are the first in their family to study



51% of students study part-time



5.4% of students have a disability



62% of student are 25 years of age or older

Institutions that CUC students' study through

Australian Universities



CUC students' study at 39 different Australian Universities



85% of CUC students study through an Australian University



CUC students' study through 140 unique institutions, including universities, NUHEPS, RTOs, professional associations and more



Other Institutions that CUC students' study through

18

Non-university higher education providers (3% of students)

48

RTO or VET providers (8% of students)

2

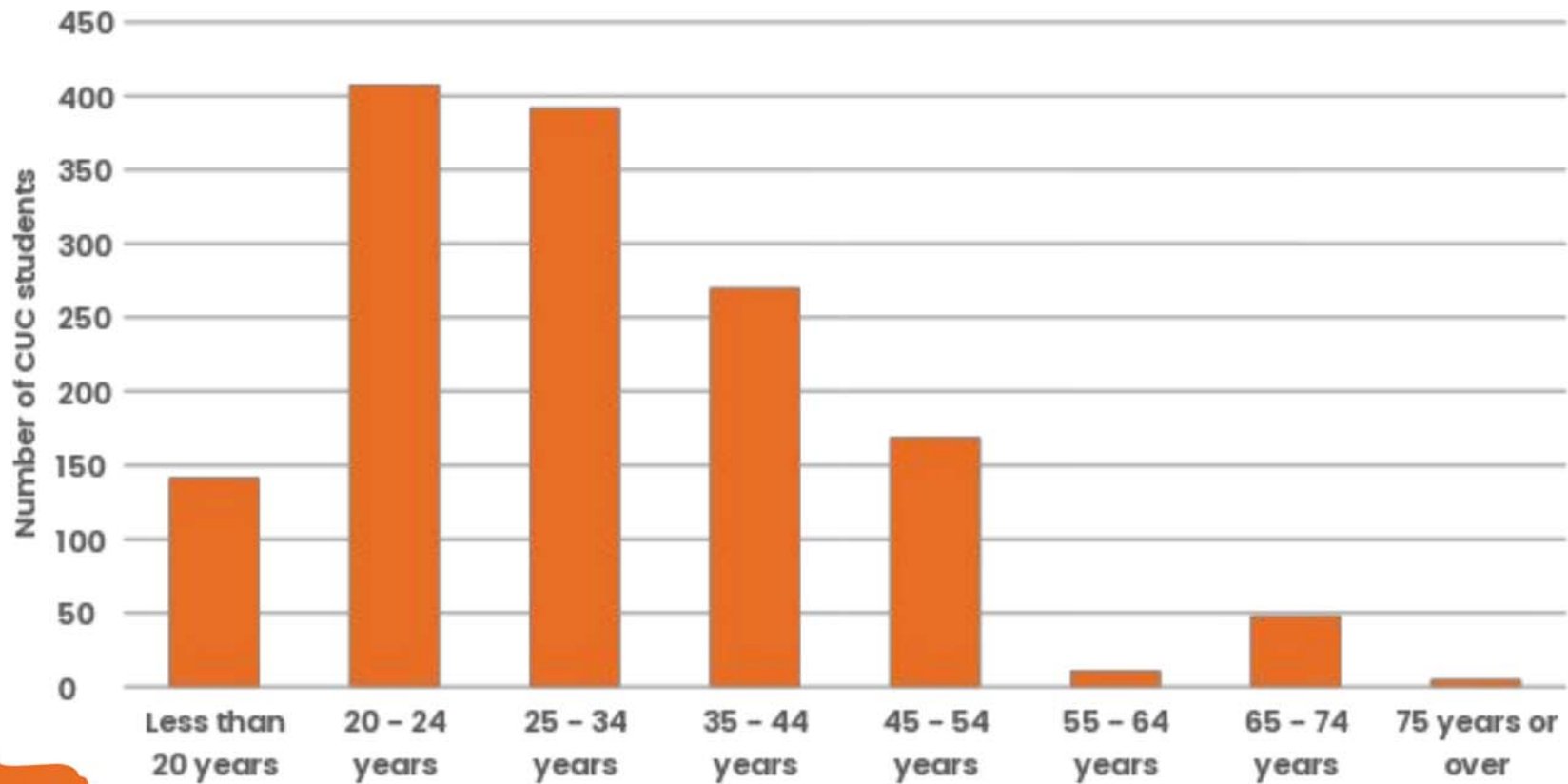
International universities (0.1% of students)

13

Professional Associations (such as Australia and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists) (2% of students)

CUC Semester I 2022

Age ranges of CUC students



CUC Semester I 2022

Model of Student Support



- Offering students choice to study any degree from any institution
- Face-to-face support from Centre Managers and Learning Skills Advisors (LSA's)
- Flexible access to facilities and out-of-hours availability to LSA's
- Local student networks
- Complementing university supports

Country Universities Centre Parkes

Our Story





Centre Statistics as at Semester 1, 2022

REGISTERED STUDENT NUMBERS

77

Students since opening

55

Registered Students in Semester 2, 2021

72

Registered Students in Semester 1, 2022

2021/22 KPIs

NSW State Government: 45 Students

CUC Central: 66 Students

REGISTERED STUDENT DATA

GENDER

71% female
29% male

TOP 3 PROVIDERS

CSU
UNE
UoS

STUDY MODE

67% part-time
33% full-time

INDIGENOUS HERITAGE

9% identify as ATSI

FIRST IN FAMILY

53% yes
47% no

TOP 3 FIELDS OF STUDY

Education
Business
Law & Criminology

Students in focus

Aspiration and Access



Ankush Dogra

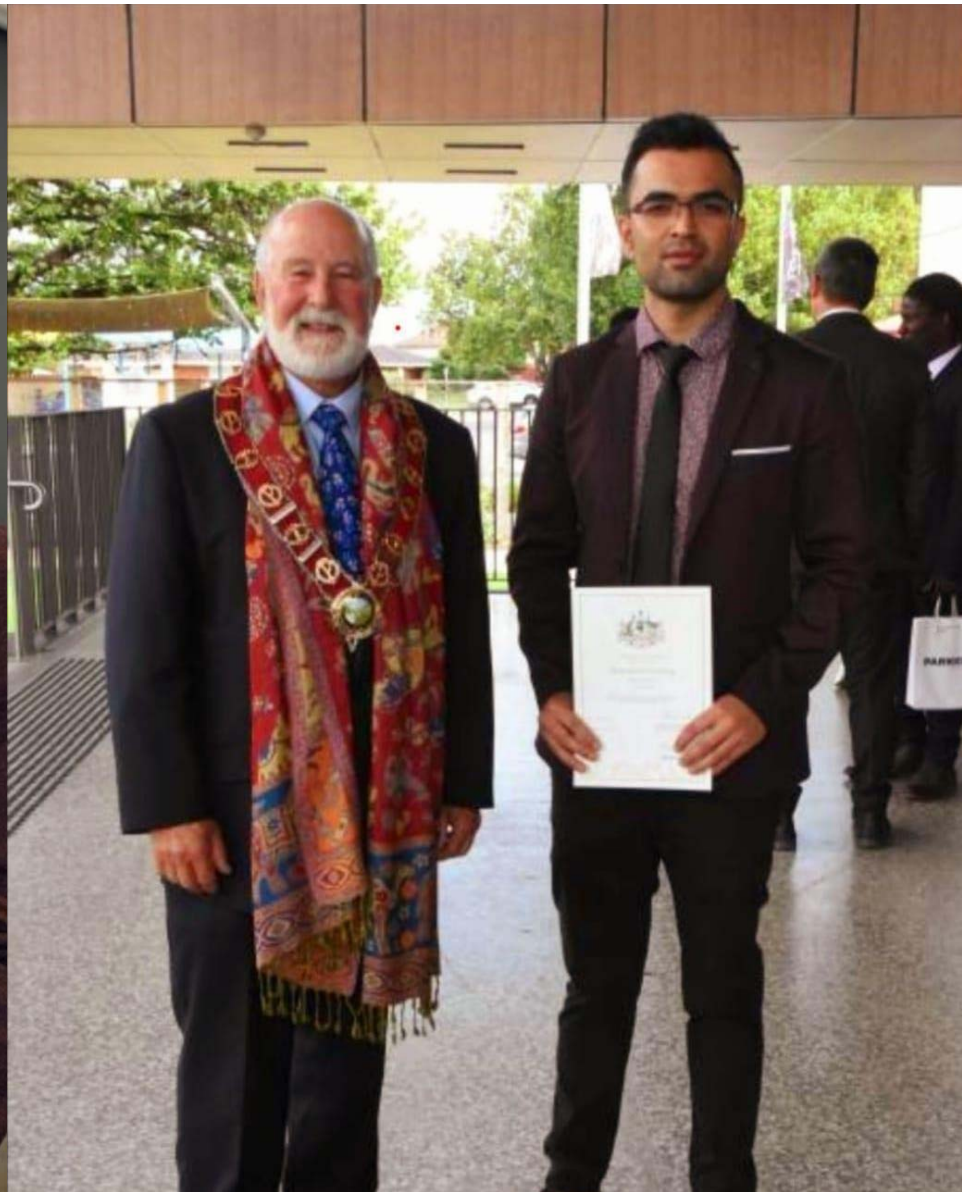
Area of study: Bachelor in Applied Cloud Technology

University: La Trobe University

Registered with CUC Parkes: December 2020

“ Jacob has been my biggest supporter. The help he gave me navigating enrolments and my citizenship was invaluable, and his help with employment pathways have me working in my field. ”





Dawn Ball

Area of study: Bachelor of Foreign Language

University: University of New England

Registered with CUC Parkes: January 2021

“When I first came to the CUC, I couldn't turn on a computer. Jacob taught me the basics of computers and I averaged a distinction for 2021.”





Madeline Swan

Area of study: Graduate Certificate in Applied Digital Marketing

University: University of New England

Registered with CUC Parkes: November 2020

“ I came home from campus as a University dropout. I felt like a failure. CUC Parkes gave me power back. Without the Centre and the support, while staying in my community, I'd of never graduated. ”



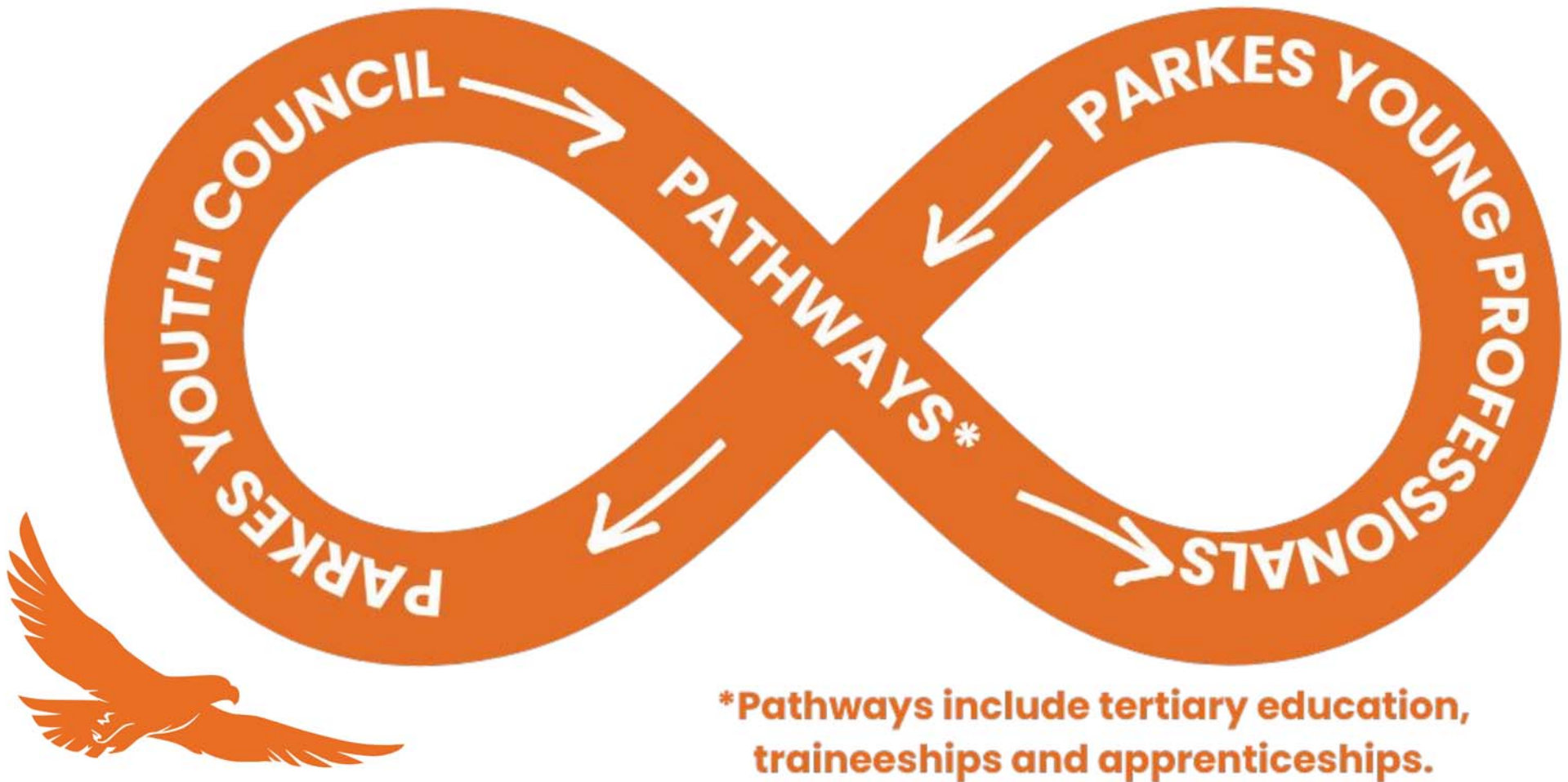


Innovation in Parkes

Attraction, retention and growing our own



The cycle of growing our own



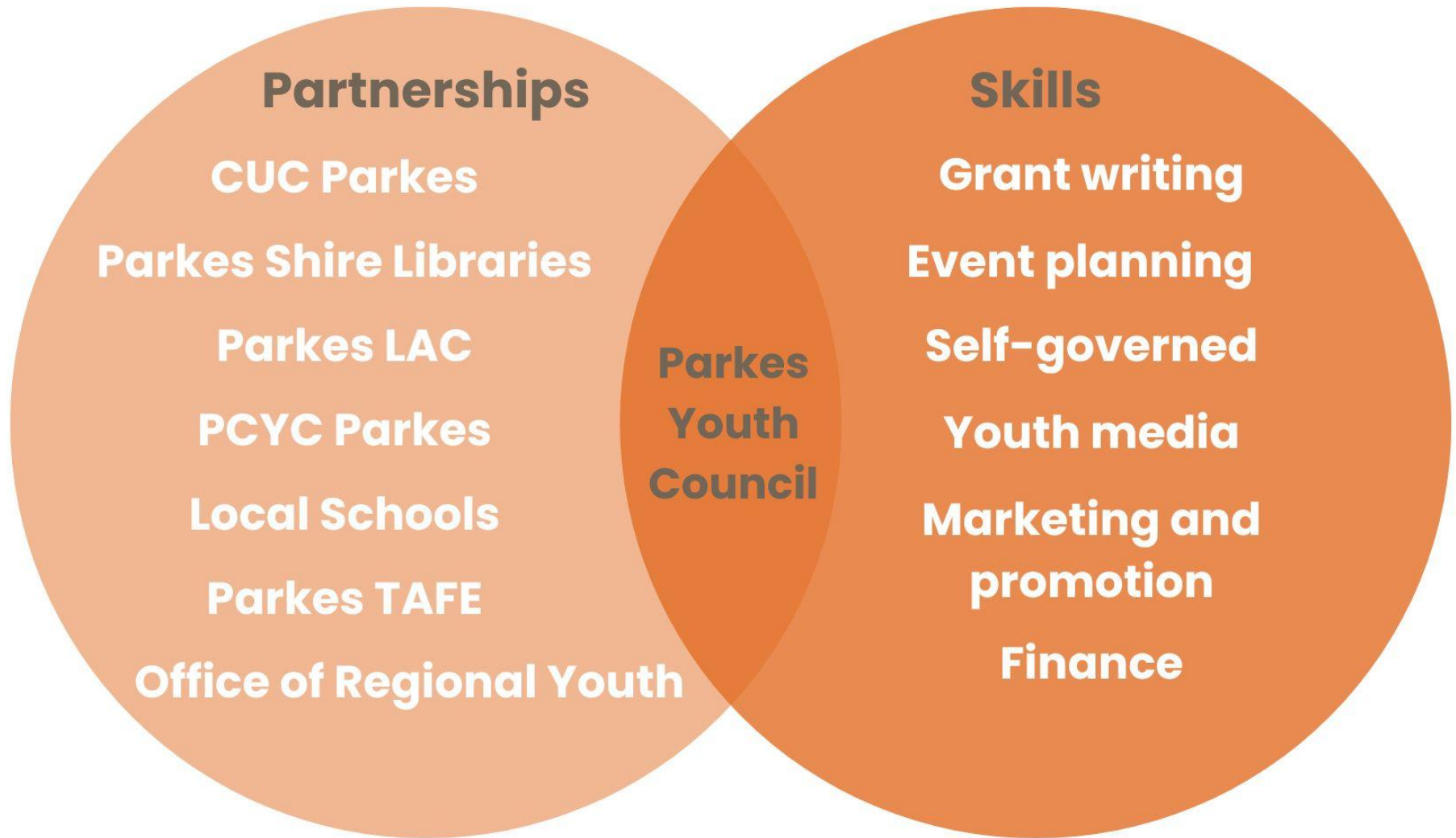
Parkes Youth Council

Parkes Youth Council is a partnership between CUC Parkes, the Office of Regional Youth, Parkes Shire Libraries, Parkes PCYC and Parkes Local Area Command.

Initiative Goals

- Build aspirations in youth by allowing for a self-managed model
- Offer unique youth activities including holiday programs and ongoing programs such as a Parkes Youth Newspaper and Blog
- Create an Undergraduate pipeline for the CUC





BUILDING ASPIRATION

Parkes Young Professionals

Parkes Young Professionals is free 18+ event supported by the Country Universities Centre Parkes and aims to create a network of young professionals in our Shire who can socialise and share experiences to benefit our wider workforce.

Initiative Goals

- Provide a social networking opportunity for local, relocating and transient workers
- Offer a unique attraction to the Parkes employment landscape
- Create a Post Graduate pipeline for the CUC





RETAINING SKILLS IN OUR COMMUNITY

The future of CUC Parkes

Expansion and partnerships



Partnerships

- Universities and VET providers
- Government stakeholders
- Local businesses and chamber
- Schools and home-schooling communities
- Industry
- Community



Pathways to Industry

- Promote pathways at all levels of education
- Invest in growing our own with traineeships and apprenticeships
- Start building aspiration from primary school
- Flexible working conditions
- Workplace culture that empowers professional development



Parkes Business Innovation HUB

- Office space for short and long usage
- 20 seat meeting room
- Hot desk working space for walk-in use
- Training room to facilitate corporate and community training
- Video conferencing space
- Pathways to industry



Questions?



**MINUTES OF MEETING
Cowal Gold Operations
Community Environmental Monitoring
and Consultative Committee (CEMCC)**

Date: Wednesday 29 June 2022
Time: 9.13am, Forbes Shire Council
Minutes taken by: Lynsey Reilly

Attendees:

Independent Chairperson: Lisa Andrews (LA)
Evolution: Grace Derrick (GD), Lynsey Reilly* (LR)
Community Members: Lucy Buttenshaw (LB)*, Angus Stitt (AS), Kate Dean*
Forbes Shire Council: Cr Chris Roylance (CR)
Cr Brian Mattiske (BM)
Bland Shire Council: Cr Liz McGlynn (LM)
Lachlan Shire Council: Cr Dennis Brady (DB)
Independent Scientist: Max Finlayson (MF)*

Apologies: Simon Coates, Renee Pettit, Vicky Swadling, Ally Coe, Laurie Hutchinson (LH), Bruce Dent

*Attended via Microsoft Teams

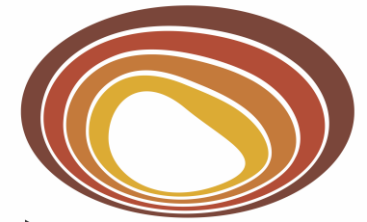
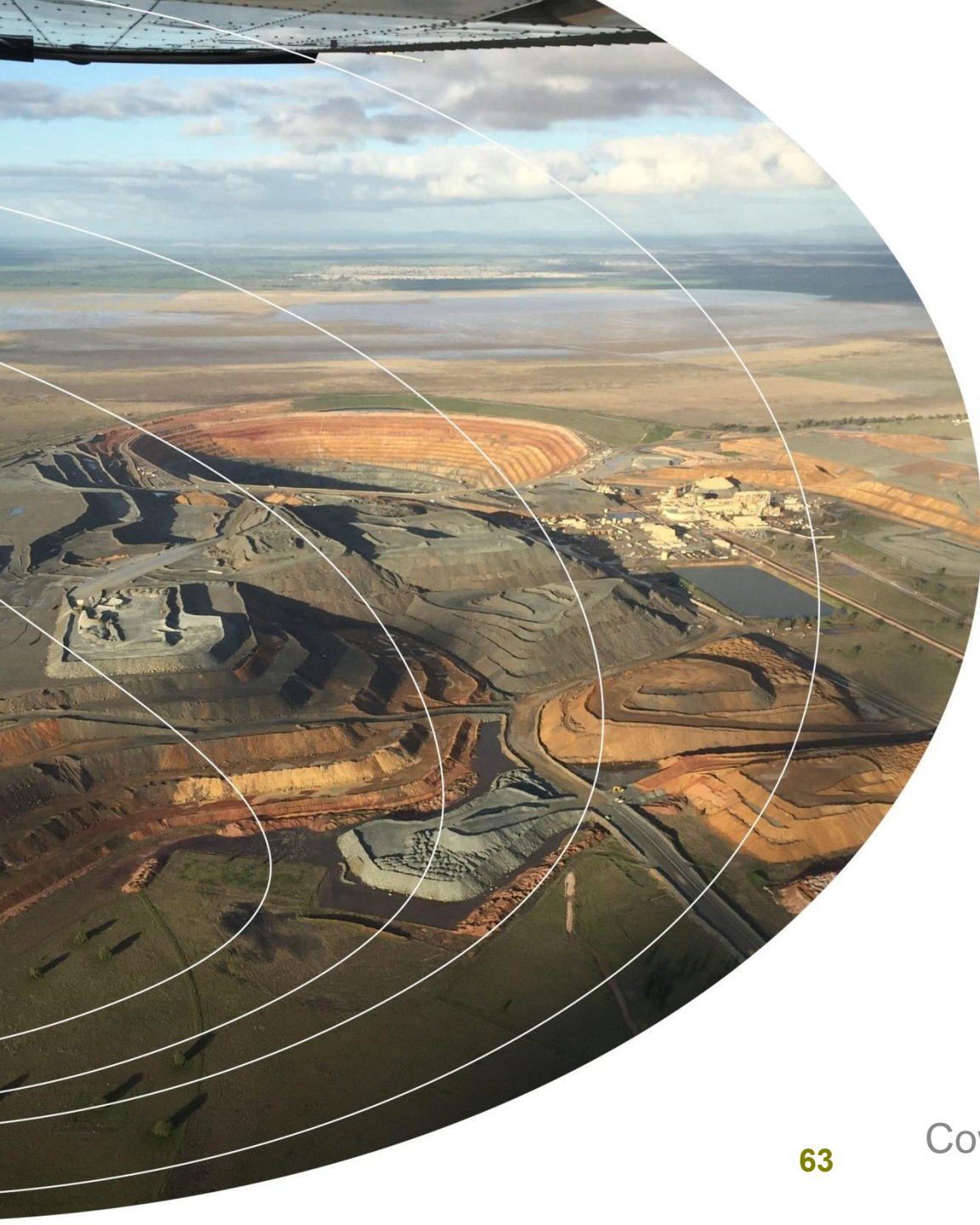
ITEM	ACTION						
<p>1. Welcome</p> <p>Independent Chair, LA, opened the meeting at 9.13am and welcomed all in attendance. Acknowledgment of Country.</p> <p>Welcomed new CEMCC committee members, Grace Derrick and Lynsey Reilly, Evolution Mining.</p>	<p>Apologised for commencing late due to technical difficulties with video-conferencing.</p>						
<p>2. Declaration of Interest</p> <p>LA advised there were no changes to previous declarations by CEMCC members, nor to hers; Independent Chair of the CEMCC, appointed by the Secretary of the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, and receives payment via a Trust established by the Bland Shire Council.</p>							
<p>3. Confirmation of Previous Minutes</p> <p>Moved by: CR Seconded by: BM</p>							
<p>4. Business Arising from Previous Minutes</p> <p>Carry over items 1, 2, & 3</p>							
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>ITEM</th> <th>ISSUE</th> <th>RESPONSIBILITY</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td align="center">60</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	ITEM	ISSUE	RESPONSIBILITY			60	<p>Action 1: MF to make presentation of bird</p>
ITEM	ISSUE	RESPONSIBILITY					
		60					

1	Bird survey presentation to take place when MF and Peter Gell can attend next face to face meeting.	MF (Carry over)	<p>survey next face to face CEMCC meeting. MF requested that this action be moved to EVN for presentation by Peter Gell.</p> <p>Action 2: EVN to provide annual update on rehabilitation landform design after Q3/Q4 audit.</p> <p>Action 3: MF to Provide CEMCC meeting attendees information about the developments at the Lake Cowal Conservation Centre in meeting in November.</p>
2	EVN to provide annual update on rehabilitation landform design after Q3/Q4 audit.	SC (Carry over)	
3	Provide CEMCC meeting attendees information about the developments at the Lake Cowal Conservation Centre when these are formally available.	MF (Carry over)	
<p>5. Correspondence (as emailed with the meeting notice on 17/2/22) with 2 additional items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · 10/3/22 – Email to members with the Community Newsletter which also included the OPC planning and assessment process and dates. · 25/3/22 - Email to members with the draft minutes for review/comment. · 31/3/22 – Email from ERM regarding the Independent Environmental Audit, which was forwarded to members for stakeholder feedback. · 4/4/22 – Email to members with the final draft minutes, presentation & OPC newsletter. · 14/4/22 – Email to ERM advising that there had been no submissions received from members for inclusion in the audit. · 30/4/22 – Email to Dept of Planning with the CCC Annual Report for 2021-2022. · 14/6/22 - Email to members with the Meeting Notice, Agenda, and Correspondence Report for this meeting. · 22/6/22 – Email from RP advising that SC is an apology and that Grace Derrick, Environmental advisor, will be presenting on Simon’s behalf. · 23/6/22 – Email from RP advising that Lynsey Reilley has joined the community team as Superintendent – Community & Indigenous Relations & will be attending these meetings. · 24/6/22 – Email to LR with the governance forms for completion and return. · 24/6/22 – Email from EVN advising they will be seeking modification to its underground development consent (with accompanying documentation). Forwarded to members for their information the same day. · 26/6/22 – Email to members with a reminder for this meeting. · 28/6/22 – Email to members attending via video, with the presentation. 			
<p>6. Reports</p> <p>GD provided a detailed account of Cowal Gold Operations (CGO’s) Environment Department’s activities over the last quarter and a status of the underground project along with a quick introduction of the OPC.</p>			<p>See attached presentation.</p>

<p>CR enquired about the construction work force planning, especially in relation to the Solar Farm. GD advised that EVN's planning is in relation to the Underground project, however, they are in discussions with Bland Shire Council.</p> <p>BM asked about blasting activities, stating that sometimes he can hear noise and feel vibrations, depending on weather conditions. GD confirmed that the EIS has stated that there will be no impact from underground blasting.</p> <p>BM enquired, how far off the site EVN are drilling. GD advised north and south of the current mining operations, focusing on OPC resources.</p> <p>GD provided details of community complaints and the activities and support undertaken by the Cowal Community & External Relations team in the previous quarter.</p> <p>Discussions on the proposed Community Open Day, Saturday 8 October. EVN will be providing buses from Condobolin, Forbes & West Wyalong.</p>	<p>LA asked if Open Day information could be sent to her so that it may be distributed to CEMCC members for their information and distribution to their networks.</p>
<p>General Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MF requested a link to the environmental/audit report. 	<p>Agreed.</p>
<p>7. Meeting Schedule for 2022</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wednesday 28th September, EVN CGO, which will incorporate a site inspection. Wednesday 30th November, Lake Cowal Conservation Centre (LCCC). 	<p>Site inspection to be arranged.</p>
<p>8. Meeting Closed – 10.03am with LA thanking all for their attendance and contribution.</p>	

ACTION ITEMS

ITEM	ISSUE	RESPONSIBILITY
1	Confirm if Peter Gell can attend September meeting to present bird survey data.	SC
2	EVN to provide annual update on rehabilitation reforms and outcome documents.	SC
3	Provide CEMCC meeting attendees' information about the developments at the Lake Cowal Conservation Centre when these are formally available.	MF
4	Evolution to provide Open Day information when available.	LR
5	Organise next meeting on site (28 September).	SC
6	Send environment/audit report links	GD/LA



Evolution
MINING

Community Environmental Monitoring & Consultative Committee

Acknowledgement of country

We would like to begin by acknowledging the Traditional Custodians of the land where we meet, The Wiradjuri people.

From the Great Dividing Range in the east and bordered by the Macquarie, Lachlan and Murrumbidgee rivers, we are honoured to operate on these lands.

We pay our respects to the Elders past, present and emerging.



Legal Obligations

Development Consent (DA 14/98) – granted February 1999

- MOD12 granted May 2016
- MOD13 granted February 2017
- MOD14 granted 4 October 2018, federal approval granted 25 January 2019
- MOD15 granted 26 August 2019
- MOD16 granted 30 September 2021

State Significant Development 10367 – granted 30 September 2021

Mining Lease Tenements

- MOP (July 2020 – **June 2022**) – **replaced by Forward Program as of 2 July**
- Mining Lease 1535, issued June 2003
- Mining Lease 1791 issued June 2019

Environmental Protection Licence 11912 – granted Dec 2003

- EPL variation approved April 2018
- EPL variation approved 26 June 2019
- EPL variation approved 16 April 2020
- EPL variation approved 6 May 2021
- **EPL variation approved 9 June 2022 (5 Year Review)**

Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permits

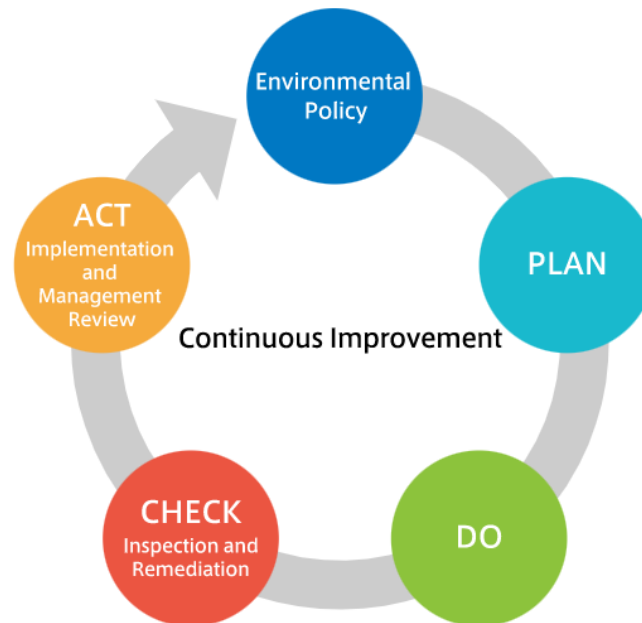
- Permit 1468 and Consent 1467 (associated with ML 1535 area, water pipeline area and borefield area)
- Permit 1681 and Consent 1680 (associated with travelling stock reserve)
- AHIP C0004570 (associated with ML 1791, relocated TSR area and immediate surrounds)
- Care Agreement C0004976 for the transfer and keeping of Aboriginal objects

Water Access Licences

- WAL 31864
- WAL 36569
- WAL 36615 E42 Pit
- WAL 36617 E42 Pit lower MDB
- Lachlan River WALs

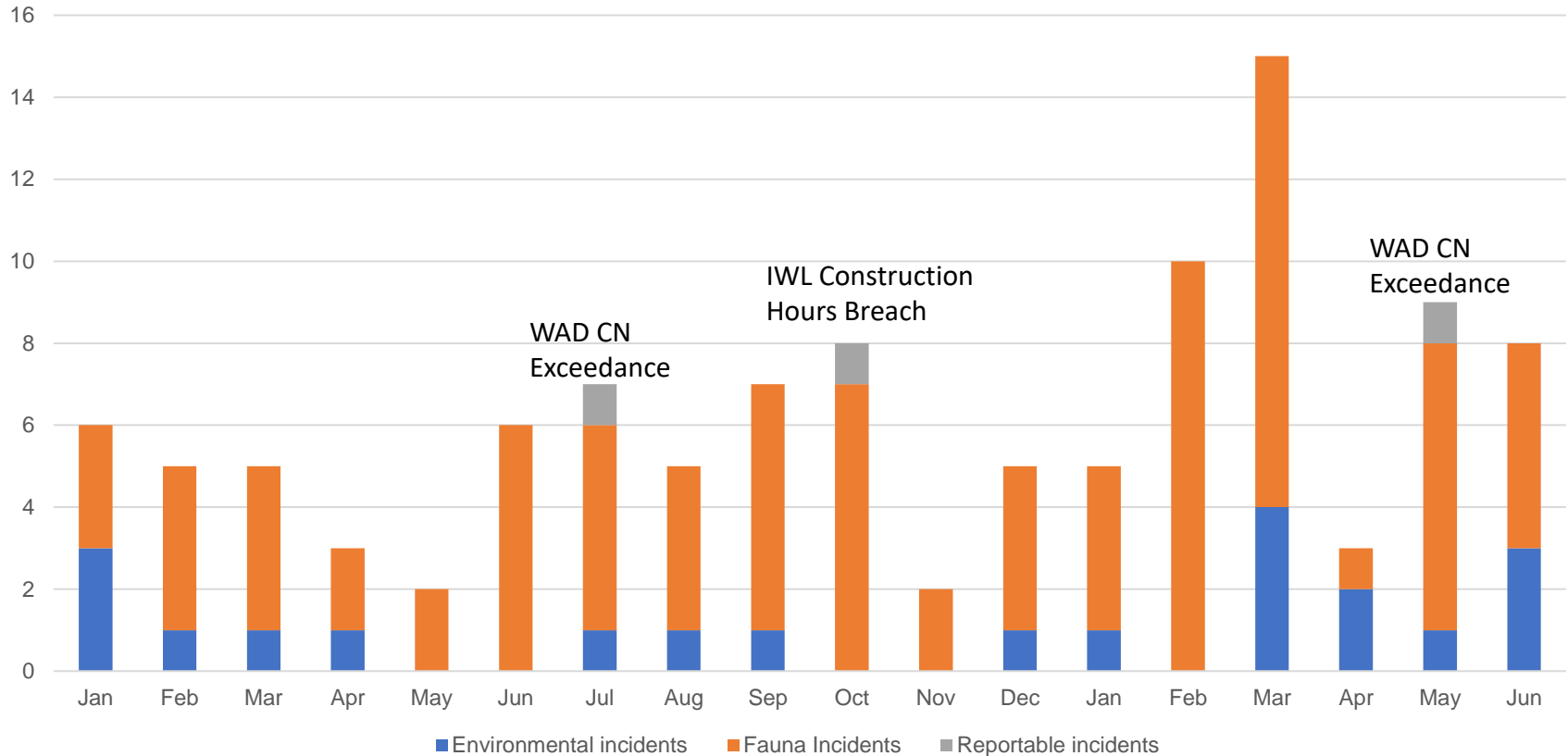
Compliance Audits

✓ Evolution Group Assurance Audit	April	2022
✓ Bund Integrity Audit	April	2022
✓ Independent Environmental Audit	April	2022
✓ Hazard Audit	May	2022
✓ Chemical Safety Audit	May	2022
■ ISO14001 Surveillance Audit	Aug	2022



Environmental Incidents

Environmental Incidents By Month



Note: Environmental Incidents include spills, environmental health, non-conformances with operating conditions
 Current as of 22/06/2022

- **Environmental management plan updates:**
 - Environmental Management Strategy – Updated April 2022
 - Erosion and Sediment Control Management Plan – Updated April 2022
 - Transport Management Plan – Updated April 2022
 - Noise Management Plan – Updated March 2022
 - Water Management Plan – Updated April 2022
 - Soil Stripping Management Plan
 - Air Quality Management Plan
 - Rehabilitation Management Plan including Rehabilitation Strategy
 - Indigenous Archaeology Management Plan
 - Land Management Plan
 - Biodiversity Offset Management Plan
 - Flora and Fauna Management Plan
 - Heritage Management Plan
 - Cyanide Management Plan
 - Monitoring Programme for Detection of any Movement of Lake Protection Bund, Water Storage and Tailings Structures and Pit Void Walls
 - Hazardous Materials Management Plan
 - Construction Workforce Accommodation Plan (new) – approved March 2022

CGO Environmental Management

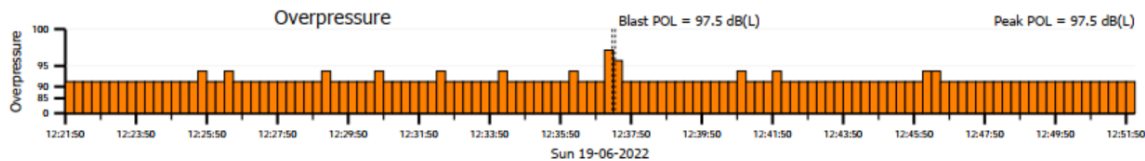
Air Quality

- No complaints were received relating to dust at the CGO during the reporting period
- Monthly depositional dust and weekly Hi-Vol dust sampling conducted
- Continued EBAM monitoring at several locations to provide real-time monitoring for PM10



Blasting and Operational Noise

- Three blast-related events exceeded the maximum Sunday compliance level for overpressure of 95 dB(L)
 - 12/06/2022: Level recorded at 95.9 dB(L) – Cowal North (BM08.1)
 - 19/06/2022: Level recorded at 97.5 dB(L) – Hillgrove (BM02)
 - 26/06/2022: Level recorded at 97.5 dB(L) – Cowal North (BM08.1)
- No other blast related events exceeded the maximum compliance level of 120 dB(L). Compliance remains within the allowable exceedance of 5% of the total number of blasts over a 12-month period.



- No non-compliances of the noise impact assessment criteria were reported during **quarterly attended monitoring 16-18 May**

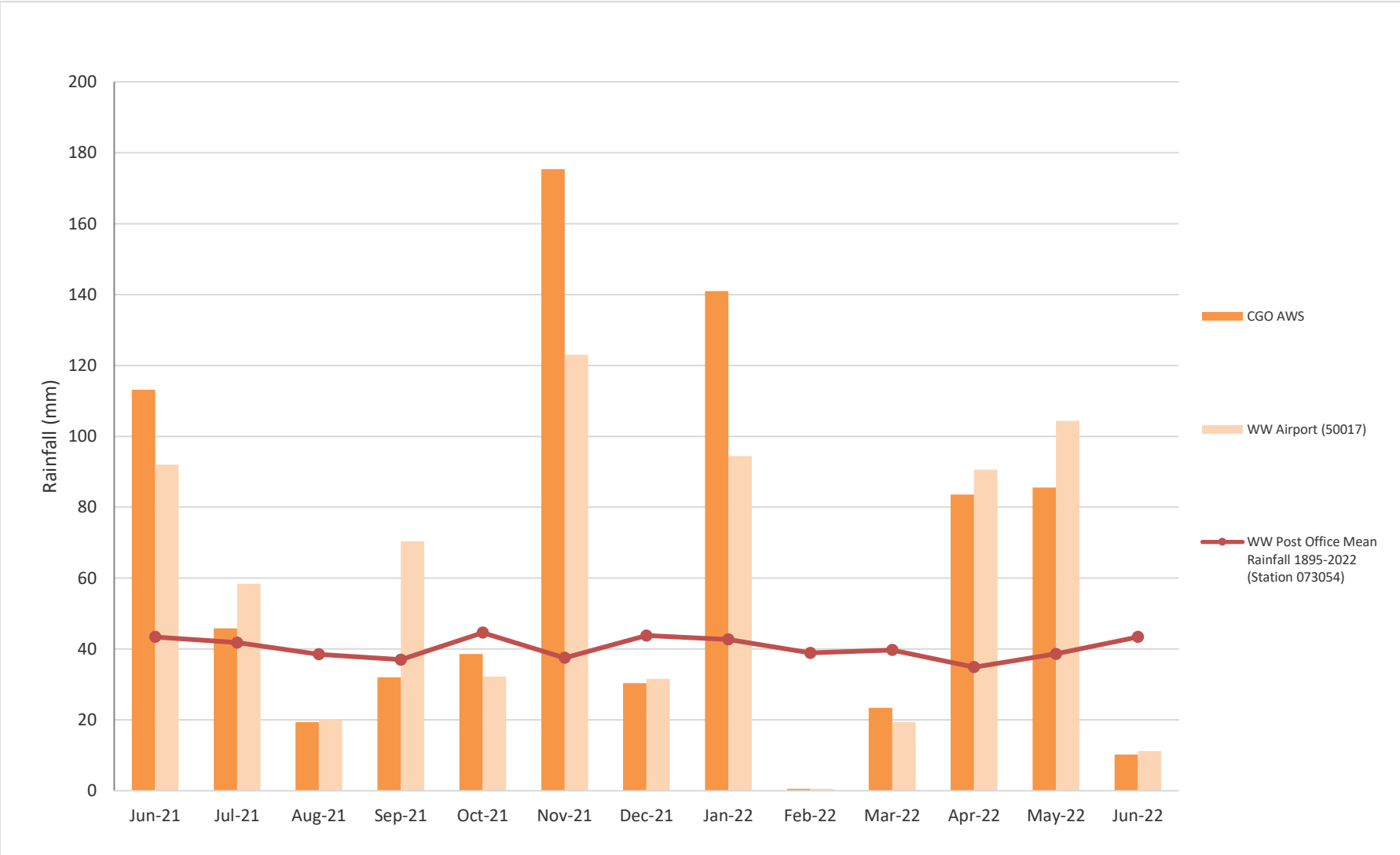


Surface Water and Lake Water

- No environmental incidents or complaints were received relating to surface water or lake water at the CGO during the reporting period
- Weekly lake water quality testing is continuing
- Lake Cowal water level is continually rising and falling consistent with weather events.

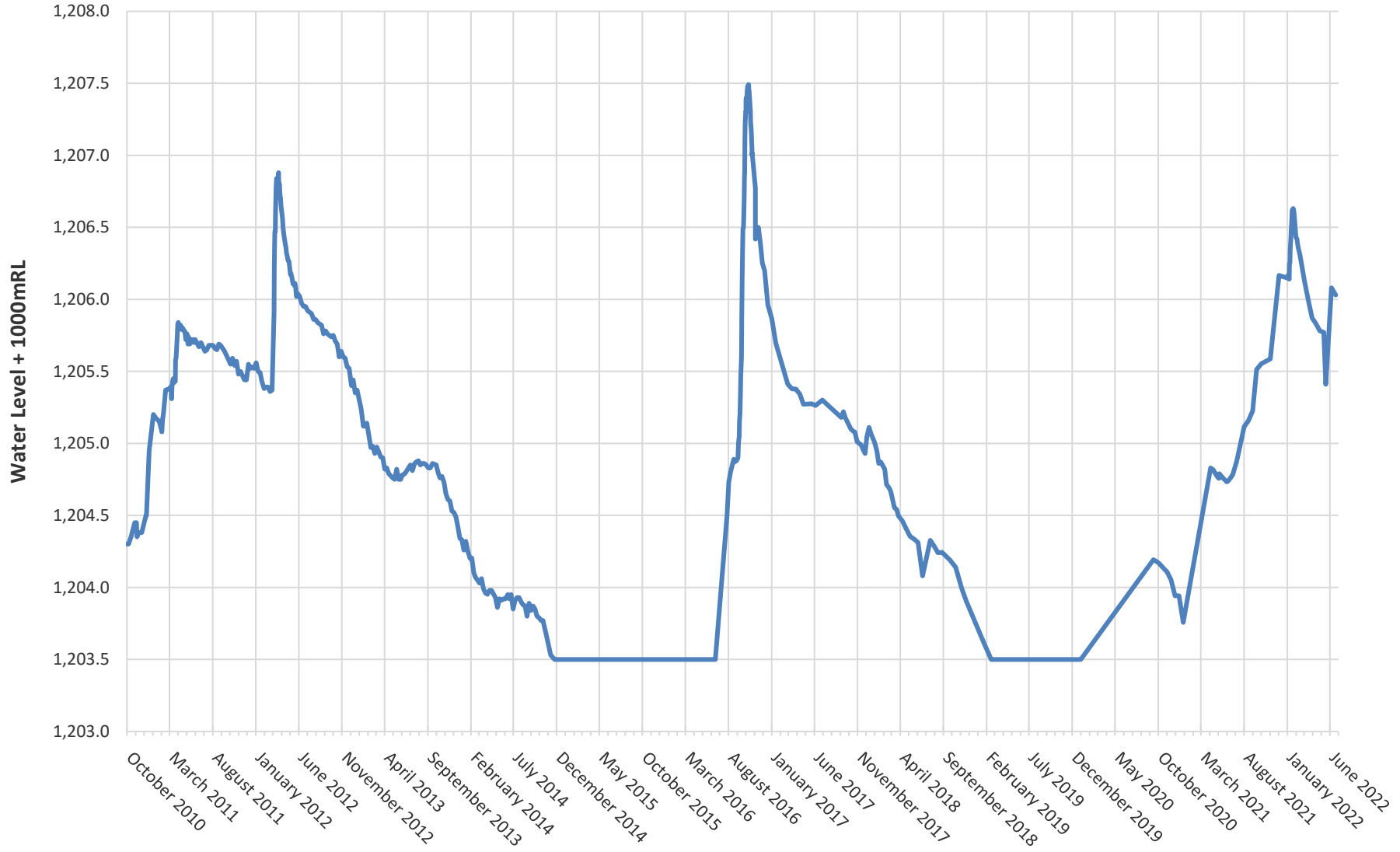


Rainfall



Current as of 22/06/2022

Lake Cowal Water Levels



74

Groundwater

- No environmental incidents or complaints were received relating to groundwater at the CGO during the reporting period
- Groundwater quality results remain stable and illustrates that the water management control measures implemented on site appear to successfully prevent groundwater contamination
- Evolution continue to explore for saline water sources
- Evolution has continued trial with telemetry units on monitoring bores to provide real time data
 - **New monitoring bores** to be installed within Lake Cowal for the UG project



Fauna and Flora

- No deaths of animals by cyanide in the CGO Tailings Storage Facilities area since operations began in April 2006
- No environmental incidents or complaints were reported or received at the CGO relating to threatened flora or fauna during the reporting period
- Fauna deaths on ML 1535 and ML 1791 reported and investigated as required under Development Consent (DA 14/98)
 - Necropsies completed by veterinarian as required



Cyanide

- One cyanide related incident during the reporting period
- No cyanide related fauna deaths
- WAD cyanide measured at the processing plant exceeded 30ppm limit.
 - Shutdown procedure followed and discharged to IWL remained under DA and EPL Limits. **Incident reported to EPA and DPE on 26 May.**



Rehabilitation



Current MOP period 1 July 2020 - 30 June 2022.
Forward Program and RMP being prepared.



Exploration On Lake Drilling



- Drill rig deployed in October for exploration drilling
- Drilling to continue until early FY23
- Robust environmental controls in place
- CGO will utilize this drill rig to install “Nested Piezometers” as required by SSD 10367

Independent Environmental Audit



- Triennial Independent Environmental Audit (IEA) undertaken by Environmental Resources Management (ERM) from **11-13 April 2022**
- Audit period: **1 May 2019 to 13 April 2022**
- Audit findings: ten non-compliances, two opportunities for improvement and six recommendations made against compliant conditions.
 - Historic non-compliances (reported and closed)
 - Administrative Management Plan updates
 - Annual reporting inclusions
- It is noted that non-compliances identified during the audit do not pose immediate risk to the environment and are generally administrative in nature.

Full audit report and CGO response available on [public website](#)



**Independent
Environmental Audit DA
14/98 Mod 16, SSD 10367,
EPL 11912, ML 1535 &
1791**

Evolution Mining Cowal Gold Operations

26 May 2022
Project No.: 0641147



Hazard Audit

- The Triennial Hazard Audit was undertaken by Pinnacle Risk Management from **17-19 May 2022**
- The audit covered key operational changes since 2019, with a focus on the processing plant
- Audit Findings: Observations around processing plant maintenance and inclusions for the CGO Emergency Response Plan.

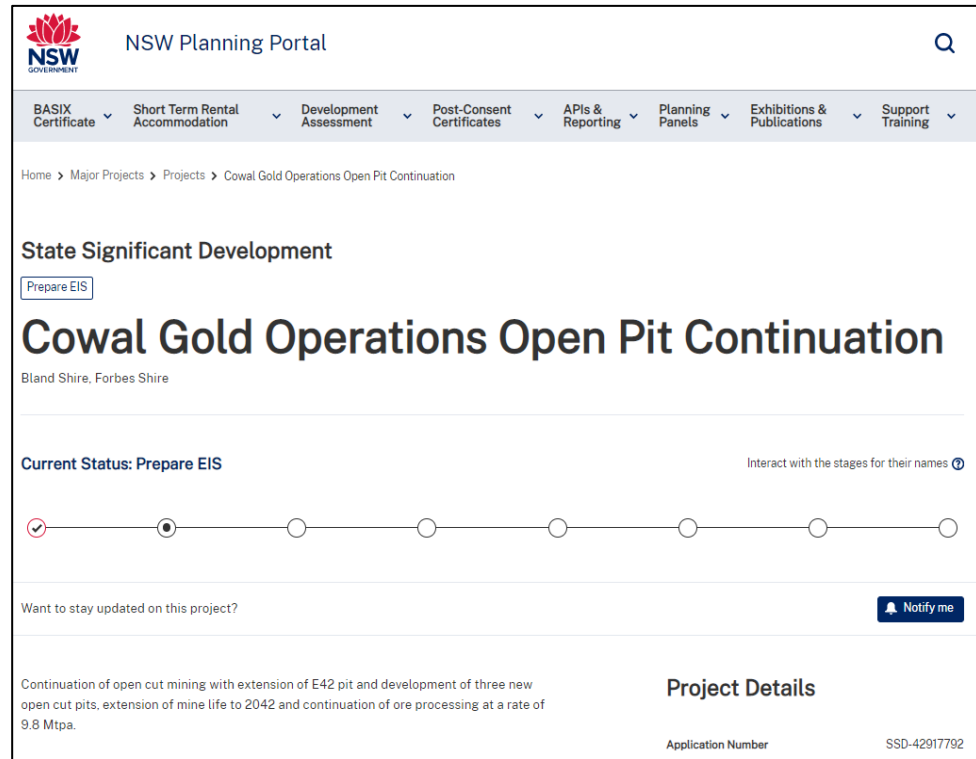
Audit Report and Corrective Action Plan
being uploaded to the public website



**HAZARD AUDIT REPORT FOR
EVOLUTION MINING PTY LIMITED,
COWAL GOLD OPERATIONS, NSW**

Open Pit Continuation Project Update

- Following on from the extensive consultations in March & April 2022, the CGO Study Team submitted the **OPC Scoping Report** to the NSW Dept. of Planning.
- The Scoping Report was reviewed by Government Agencies and the feedback consolidated into the **Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARS)**.
- The SEARs have just been made public and released to CGO. The SEARs identify what information needs to be included in the **Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)**.
- As the EIS Technical & Social Studies progress, further consultations with the Community, CEMCC and Government Agencies will take place later this year.



The screenshot shows the NSW Planning Portal interface. At the top, there is the NSW Government logo and the text 'NSW Planning Portal'. Below this is a navigation menu with dropdowns for 'BASIX Certificate', 'Short Term Rental Accommodation', 'Development Assessment', 'Post-Consent Certificates', 'APIs & Reporting', 'Planning Panels', 'Exhibitions & Publications', and 'Support Training'. The breadcrumb trail reads 'Home > Major Projects > Projects > Cowal Gold Operations Open Pit Continuation'. The main heading is 'State Significant Development' with a 'Prepare EIS' button. The project title is 'Cowal Gold Operations Open Pit Continuation' located in 'Bland Shire, Forbes Shire'. A progress bar shows the current status as 'Prepare EIS', which is the first of seven stages. Below the progress bar is a 'Notify me' button. The project details section contains the text: 'Continuation of open cut mining with extension of E42 pit and development of three new open cut pits, extension of mine life to 2042 and continuation of ore processing at a rate of 9.8 Mtpa.' and the application number 'SSD-42917792'.

<https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/projects/cowal-gold-operations-open-pit-continuation-0>

Underground Project



UG Admin buildings being installed



UG Paste Plant area preparation and vertical paste pilot hole drilling in preparation for larger rig in next stage of project



Underground Project

Northern Services Corridor
preparation and construction



View facing west, showing the
ramp onto Northern Services
Corridor area

CGO Community Relations

Complaints Report



Schedule 2 of the Development Consent (DA 14/98) includes Condition 9.4(a)(v), which requires that a complaint register, updated on a monthly basis, be made publicly available on the Cowal Gold Project website.

April

DETAILS	<p>18/4/2022 Received complaint through community line in regard to work being completed at Boundary Street, accommodation village. The complaint was due to the fact works were happening on a public holiday and before 7.30am. Also, no water was cart being used, causing large amounts of dust to affect nearby neighbours.</p> <p>Action: EVN representative attended construction site and ceased worked immediately. EVN underwent full investigation. Contractors briefed on hours of work compliance.</p> <p>12/4/2022 Received a complaint through the community line in regard to EVN employees parking out in front of Wyalong Museum, restricting community access.</p> <p>Action: employees involved were notified and instructed on parking etiquette around pick up/drop off points.</p> <p>Comms went out to site. EVN looking into other options for parking to avoid business/household being affected.</p>
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May

DETAILS	<p>22/5/2022 Received a phone call through Cowal Community complaints line, local resident voicing their frustration that works was being completed at Boundary Street accommodation village on a Sunday.</p> <p>Action: Works was stopped immediately. Internal investigation into subcontractor commenced.</p> <p>23/5/2022 Received a phone call through the Cowal Community Complaints line, from a community member who lives next to EVN bus pick up point, to inform us that cars are parked out the front of their house, for long periods of time, restricting access.</p> <p>Action: Cars involved were notified immediately. Comms went out site to inform all EVN employees of parking etiquette around bus pick up/off points. EVN looking into alternate parking area to alleviate community parking complaints.</p>
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Complaints Report



Schedule 2 of the Development Consent (DA 14/98) includes Condition 9.4(a)(v), which requires that a complaint register, updated on a monthly basis, be made publicly available on the Cowal Gold Project website.

June

DETAILS	<p>15/6/2022 Business owner called into the Evolution town office to notify us that his business driveway access was being obstructed by a parked vehicle owned by an Evolution employee.</p> <p>The vehicle obstruction is at a bus pickup/drop off point.</p> <p>Action: Vehicle owner was notified immediately and presented in town soon after to move the vehicle that was obstructing access for business owner.</p> <p>Comms went out to site notifying EVN employees of parking etiquette around bus pick up/drop off points.</p> <p>EVN looking into alternate parking area to alleviate community parking complaints.</p>
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Sponsorships, donations & scholarships



Cowal Partnering Program (CPP)

Round 1, 2022 - \$107, 940 committed to our three shires. Successful applications included:

- Forbes Country Music Club
- Forbes Rugby Union Club
- Forbes & District Historical Society
- Forbes Little Athletics
- Wiradjuri Dreaming Centre
- Forbes Community Mens Shed
- Forbes U3A
- Bland Preschool
- Riding for the Disabled
- Weethalle Show Society
- Wyalong Public School
- Barmedman Development Association
- Western Plains Regional Development
- Lake Cargelligo AFL & Netball Club
- Condobolin Corroboree

Round 2, CPP now open, closes 26th of August 2022



Through the Cowal Partnering Program, Evolution supports Bland, Forbes and Lachlan Shire communities, making them better places to live, work and grow.

Clubs, not-for-profits and organisations are invited to apply for funding, in-kind support or material donations that deliver outcomes across:

- Safety
- Economic development
- Health & wellbeing
- Education
- Environment
- Arts, culture & sport

For more information about the Cowal Partnering Program:

Visit www.evolutionmining.com.au/cowal
email: cgo.community@evolutionmining.com
call the Community Relations Team on 02 6974661 or
alternately scan the QR code to access guidelines and
application form

Shared Values Project

The Galari Agricultural Company enterprise was established earlier this year.

GAC is a livestock enterprise focused on sheep and wool production whilst providing training to and employment of Indigenous Peoples. Profits from GAC will be used to support the ongoing operation of the GAC, WWC, as well as establishing a training and cultural hub at the property.



Sponsorships and donations

Recent CGO Support

- \$2000 donation from CGO
Fundraising committee donated to Macey Yerbury's Dance for sick kid's campaign
- Defibrillator Initiative, all schools & childcare Centres given life saving equipment and training
- Gold Sponsor for the Women in Mining Network workshop 2022, to be held in August at Orange
- \$2000 Donation to the Men's Health Rural Education Van Tour. The MHERV has provided over 1000 health checks to date.



Sponsorships and donations

Site Initiatives

- NAIDOC WEEK, unveiling of the Indigenous Artwork on Truck tray from local Indigenous artist, Kheely Turner.
- STEPtember - raising vital funds for children with Cerebral Palsy.

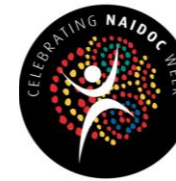
Cowal Cares

Employee Volunteer Program

- West Wyalong High School P & F Association \$250

Upcoming Events

- NAIDOC WEEK events
 - NAIDOC Elders Luncheon & Community Ball, Condobolin
 - WCC Family/Community fun day
- Official Opening ceremony of Galari
- Major Sponsors, Grazing Down the Lachlan
- Active Citizen, mentoring program for Indigenous Youth
- Melbourne cup tour – Forbes, Condobolin & West Wyalong
- Community Open Days
- Evolution Christmas Employee events



GET UP!
STAND UP!
SHOW UP!
3-10 JULY 2022



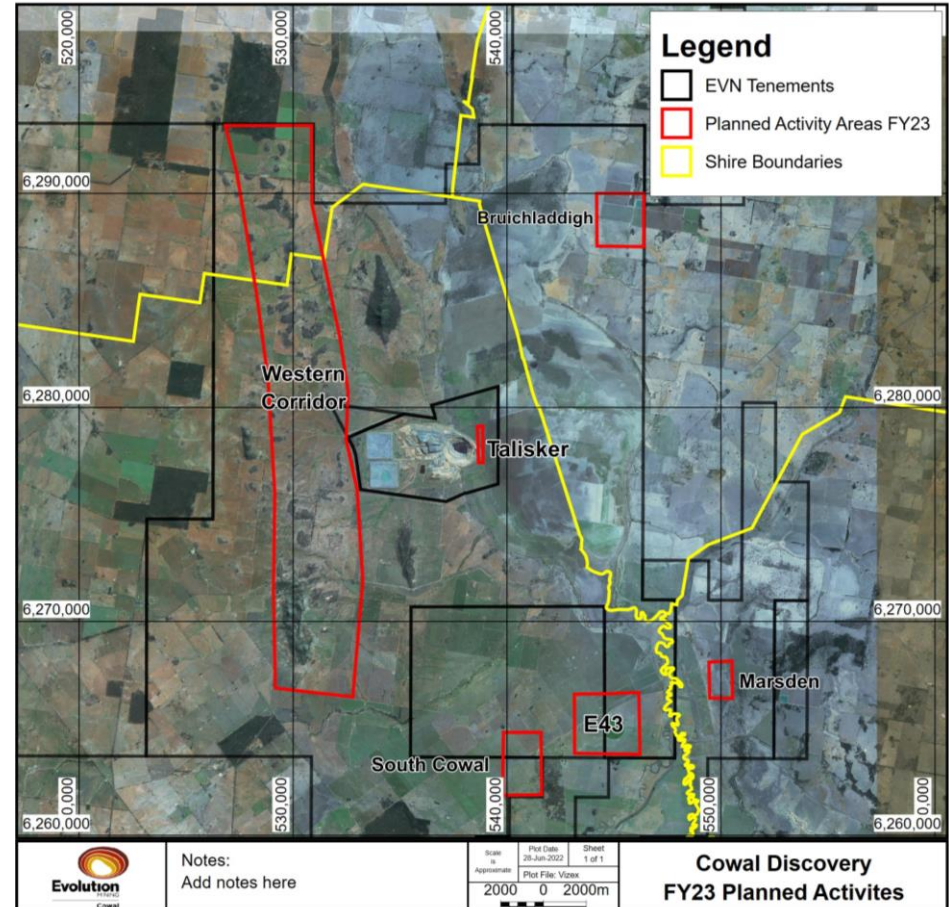


CGO DISCOVERY UPDATE CEMCC JUNE 2022

CGO Regional Exploration

Exploration Activities

- Planned regional activities during FY23 include diamond drilling (Marsden, South Cowal, E43, Talisker), aircore drilling (Bruichladdigh, E43) and auger drilling (Western Corridor)
- Govt approvals are in place for drilling at Talisker, E43/South Cowal (DD), Bruichladdigh (AC) and Billy's Lookout (Auger). Permitting for E43 AC and Marsden will commence shortly
- Land Access discussions will commence shortly where arrangements are not currently in place.



Acronyms List

AHD	Australian Height Datum	DPI	NSW Department of Primary Industries
ANZECC	Australian and New Zealand Environment and Conservation Council	DPI-Water	NSW Department of Primary Industries – Water
AQMP	Air Quality Management Plan	DRE	NSW Division of Resources and Energy (now DRG)
ARI	average recurrence interval	DRG	NSW Division of Resources and Geoscience
ARMCANZ	Agriculture and Resource Management Council of Australia and New Zealand	DUAP	NSW Department of Urban Affairs and Planning
Barrick	Barrick (Cowal) Limited	EA	Environmental Assessment
Bland LEP	<i>Bland Local Environmental Plan 2011</i>	EC	electrical conductivity
BLMP	Blast Management Plan	e.g.	example
BoM	Bureau of Meteorology	EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
BOMP	Biodiversity Offset Management Plan	EL	Exploration Licence
CEMCC	Community Environmental Monitoring and Consultative Committee	EMS	Environmental Management Strategy
CGM	Cowal Gold Mine	EP&A Act	<i>NSW Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979</i>
CGO	Cowal Gold Operations	EP&A Reg	<i>NSW Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation, 2000</i>
CMP	Cyanide Management Plan	EPA	NSW Environment Protection Authority
CN _{WAD}	weak acid dissociable cyanide	EPBC Act	<i>Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999</i>
Coffey	Coffey Services Australia Pty Ltd	EPL	Environment Protection Licence
CWMP	Compensatory Wetland Management Plan	ERP	Emergency Response Plan
dB	decibel	ESCMP	Erosion and Sediment Control Management Plan
dba	A-weighted decibel	ESD	ecologically sustainable development
DECCW	NSW Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water DISRD	ETL	electricity transmission line
Regional	Development	et al.	and others
DP&E	NSW Department of Planning & Environment	Evolution	Evolution Mining (Cowal) Pty Limited
DPIE	NSW Department of Planning, Industry & Environment	FFMP	Flora and Fauna Management Plan
		FHA	Final Hazard Analysis
		Forbes LEP	<i>Forbes Local Environmental Plan 2013</i>

Acronyms List

GEM	Geo-Environmental Management Pty Ltd	Mining SEPP	<i>State Environmental Planning Policy (Mining, Petroleum Production and Extractive Industries) 2007</i>
GL	gigalitres	ML	Mining Lease
H	horizontal	ML/annum	megalitre per annum
ha	hectare	ML/day	megalitre per day
HAZOP	Hazard and Operability Study	MOP	Mining Operations Plan
HEC	Hydro Engineering & Consulting Pty Ltd	MOP Guidelines	NSW Division of Resources and Energy's ESG3: Mining Operations Plan Guidelines September 2013
HIPAP	Hazard Industry Planning Advisory Page		
HWCMP	Hazardous Waste and Chemical Management Plan		
IACHMP	Indigenous Archaeology and Cultural Heritage Management Plan		
ICDS	Internal Catchment Drainage System	Moz	million ounces
INP	NSW Industrial Noise Policy	Mt	million tonnes
i.e.	that is	Mtpa	million tonnes per annum
kg	kilogram	NAF	non-acid forming
kL/t	kilolitres per tonne	NGER Act	<i>Commonwealth National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act, 2007</i>
km	kilometre	NOW	NSW Office of Water
km ²	square kilometre	NMP	Noise Management Plan
kV	kilovolt	NPW Act	<i>NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act, 1974</i>
LAeq	equivalent continuous noise level	NPWS	NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
LMP	Land Management Plan	NSW	New South Wales
LCF	Lake Cowal Foundation	OEH	NSW Office of Environment and Heritage
LGA	Local Government Area	PEL	Pacific Environment Limited
LPBMP	Monitoring Programme for Detection of any Movement of Lake Protection Bund, Water Storage and Tailings Structures and Pit-Void Walls	PHA	Preliminary Hazard Analysis
		PIRMP	Pollution Incident Response Management Plan
m	metre	PM _{2.5}	particulate matter less than 2.5 micrometres in size
m/s	metres per second	PM ₁₀	particulate matter less than 10 micrometres in size
m/day	metres per day	PSNL	project-specific noise limit
mg/L	milligram per litre	RL	relative level
		RMP	Rehabilitation Management Plan

Acronyms List

RMS	NSW Roads and Maritime Services
RO	Reverse Osmosis
ROM	run-of-mine
RVEP	Remnant Vegetation Enhancement Programme
SEPP 33	<i>State Environmental Planning Policy No. 33 (Hazardous and Offensive Development)</i>
SEPP 55	<i>State Environmental Planning Policy No. 55 (Remediation of Land)</i>
SMBS	sodium metabisulfite
SSMP	Soil Stripping Management Plan
SWGBMP	Surface Water, Groundwater, Meteorological and Biological Monitoring Programme
t/ha	tonnes per hectare
tph	tonnes per hour
THMS	Transport of Hazardous Materials Study
TSF	tailings storage facility
TSP	total suspended particulate
TSMP	Threatened Species Management Protocol
UCDS	Up-catchment Diversion System
V	vertical
VCP	Vegetation Clearance Protocol
WAL	Water Access License
WCC	Wiradjuri Condobolin Corporation
WMP	Water Management Plan
XQ	extra quiet
μS/cm	microSiemens per centimetre
%	percent
o	degrees

**Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of GOLDENFIELDS WATER COUNTY COUNCIL
held at TEMORA OFFICE on 8 August 2022**

The meeting commenced at 10.01am

PRESENT

Cr M Stadtmiller, Cr B Callow, Cr A McAlister, Cr L McGlynn, Cr K Morris, Cr G Sinclair, Cr A White.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Mr A Drenovski (General Manager), Mr G Veneris (Production and Services Manager), Mr T Goodyer (Operations Manager), Miss S Jung (Engineering Manager), Mrs A Coleman (Executive Assistant).

1. ATTENDANCE OF COUNCILLORS BY AUDIO VISUAL LINK

BOARD RESOLUTION

22/060 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs McGlynn and McAlister that the Board permit the following Councillors to attend this Extraordinary meeting by Audio-Visual Link: Cr K Morris and Cr B Callow.

2. LEAVE OF ABSENCE/APOLOGIES

BOARD RESOLUTION

22/061 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Sinclair and White that a leave of absence be granted to Crs John Piper.

3. WEBCASTING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

Attendees of this meeting are reminded that;

- a) The meeting is being recorded and made publicly available on Council's website, and
- b) Persons attending the meeting should refrain from making any defamatory statements.

4. STATEMENT OF ETHICAL OBLIGATIONS

Councillors are reminded of the oath or affirmation of office they have taken under section 233A of the Act.

The governing body of a county council is responsible for managing the affairs of the county council. Each councillor as a member of the governing body has a responsibility to make considered and well-informed decisions to ensure that the exercise of the functions of Goldenfields Water are performed to benefit the whole of the area of operations of Goldenfields Water.

In addition, Councillors are reminded of their obligations under council's code of conduct to disclose and appropriately manage conflicts of interest.

5. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

I would like to acknowledge the Wiradjuri people who are the Traditional Custodians of the Land. I would also like to pay respect to their people both past and present and extend that respect to other Aboriginal Australians who are present.

6. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Nil

7. DECLARATION OF NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Nil

8. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 and the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005, in the opinion of the General Manager the following business is of a kind as referred to in section 10A (2) of the Act and should be dealt with in part of the meeting closed to the media and the public.

BOARD RESOLUTION

22/062 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs McAlister and Sinclair that Council move into CONFIDENTIAL SESSION.

9. MATTERS TO BE SUBMITTED TO CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

9.1. MATTERS SUBMITTED BY ENGINEERING OFFICE

**9.1.1. WEST WYALONG WATER RELIABILITY PROJECT – PIPELINE
CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT**

This report is CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with Section 10A(2)(d)(i) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following:

- d) Commercial information of a confidential matter that would, if disclosed:
 - (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, or

BOARD RESOLUTION

22/063 RESOLVED on the motion of Crs McAlister and Sinclair that the Board resolves:

- 1. To accept Precision Pipe Networks Pty Ltd's decision not to proceed with Contract 02/2022**

2. Pursuant to s55(3)(i) of the Local Government Act 1993, the Board considers that a satisfactory result would not be achieved by inviting tenders before entering into a contract for the work of the West Wyalong Water Reliability Project pipelines construction due to extenuating circumstances, being that:
- a. In February 2022 Council tendered these works as Tender 02/2022 West Wyalong Water System Augmentation – Pipeline Construction Tender, which received a suitable number of tenders to consider that the market has been adequately tested
 - b. A further tender process would prejudice Council’s ability to meet timing obligations for construction of the works under the Council’s grant funding arrangements, and
 - c. Having regard to the information contained within the tenders submitted, the Council considers that there are reasonable prospects that negotiations with any of the conforming tenderers will result in a contract for the construction of the pipelines works being entered into
3. the Board approve the General Manager to negotiate and enter into a contract for the West Wyalong Water Reliability Project pipeline construction works with any of the tenderers who submitted a conforming bid for tender 02/2022.

22/064 BOARD RESOLUTION

RESOLVED on the motion of Crs Sinclair and White that that there being no further confidential items that the Board revert back to Open Session, and that the resolutions made in Confidential Session be made public.

The General Manager read out the resolution made in CONFIDENTIAL session.

10. NEXT MEETING

The next ordinary meeting of Council is scheduled to be held Thursday 25 August 2022 at 10.00am.

11. CLOSE OF BUSINESS

There being no further business requiring the attention of council the meeting was declared closed.

Meeting Minutes

Mirrool Silo Kick Committee

Sunday 10/07/22

Meeting Commenced:

Present: As per attendance sheet attached

Apologies: Liz Walsh, Eric & Val Robinson, Brett Prentice, Marie Beams, Liz McGlynn, Steve Maguire, Joey Catlin & Jack Maguire.

Treasurers Report

Bruce verbally outlined what we have in our accounts.

AGM to be held prior to end of August

Previous Meeting Minutes:

Moved as accepted by Erin Wolski
Seconded by Tania Bryce

General Business from previous meeting:

Silo Kick Trophy – Jason Bryce to follow up about the trophy being engraved and the signs of the winners to get the display board up to date.

- 20.6.21 Jason still to complete
- 16.7.2. Still to do
- 12.9.21- still to do
- 10-7-22 -Ongoing

Shower Refurbishment

Bruce Baker moved that the silo committee go ahead with council approval to refurbish the shower room in the amenities block. Need to get the materials and appropriate tradesman to complete.

- 16.7.21 Val advised that they are finding it difficult to get a tradesman with a ticket to do it. Bruce Baker advised that council are happy for us to complete the work but they have to be licensed.
- 12.9.21 Advised that Jamie Grintell has agreed to do the work but we have to supply the material. Val advised she will follow up with Bunnings to supply what we need
- 12/06/2022 – No Change
- 10-7-22 – No Chnge

Potable water in Caravan Park

Jonathan asked when the dump point is installed whether the tap at that location could be signposted as non-potable and the outlets at the back of the fire shed and in the park be signposted as potable

- This was agreed to by the committee
- 12.9.21 – Still to be done
- 12/06/22 – Still to be done
- 10/7/22- Still to be done

New Business

2022 Silo Kick Challenge

Discussed the holding of the Silo Kick for 2022 and all agreed it would be held this year

- Jason Bryce to contact Billy Brownless to see if it is possible for him to come this year.
Jason has texted but no response
- Mitch Maguire to get Jack ? to contact Dipper –
Tom Maguire to contact
- Conversation around who else we could contact to come for the day – Liam Martin –
Graeme Maxwell to contact.
- Jason Bryce to follow up getting signed jumpers.
10/7/22 Still to do.
Chris Wolski has contacts at Barters and he may be able to get some from them.
Chris has also spoken to Peter Reardon
BMD has made advances about sponsorship. J Scott to follow up with Pat Crow re
contact details so a letter can be sent
- Tania Bryce is looking into whether we could get the heritage train from Griffith.
Contact would be Craig Sutton at Bland Shire.
Tania has been away and will follow up

- Val has spoken to Rob Wardell regarding the OHS for the rail on Silo Kick Day
- Jonathan Scott to contact Marina Uys Bland Shire regarding starting Advertising for this year being the 30 year anniversary.
JS Need to update Marina with program
- Jason Bryce to get in contact with TV and Radio 4 to 6 weeks out for advertising
- Erin Wolski to approach NAB regarding merchandise to give away.
Erin requested a letter which was provided then she will be able to obtain the required merchandise
- Jack Maguire to approach McDonalds in Temora and Wagga regarding the supply of merchandise
Jack has this and is ongoing
- The subject of the PA system came up. Tom Pursehouse is retiring. Jason Bryce advised that we already have a system for the movies on the silo's but unsure if we have microphones for it. Jason to follow up with council.
Tom has agreed to do it again this year
- Jason Bryce to follow up with Kotsur and Fastflow regarding this year's event
- ❖ Discussion was had regarding levels of sponsorship and Prizemoney:
 1. Platinum – Above \$1000
 2. Gold - \$1000
 3. Silver - \$500
 4. Bronze - \$250
 5. First Prize for the silo kick set at \$3000

New Business

- Subject of Market stallholders in the park for the day was raised. Libby from Hay keen to attend. Others may include Hats from Pats
- Contact to be made with Pat Cleary regarding extra Portaloos for the day
- J Scott raised the proposal from Robert Luke the music promoter who has asked regarding having a music festival from Thursday to Sunday. Silo Committee agreed it was out of their desire to hold but were not against the idea as long as it did not interfere with the running of the Silo Kick Challenge. Also raised was the fact that any music provided on the Saturday night should be the hotel's responsibility
- EV Charging Station – Due to the costs involved the committee decided against having this done at this point in time

NEXT MEETING – AGM - 31/07/2022

No more business – Meeting closed 17.30

UNGARIE ADVANCEMENT GROUP GENERAL MEETING

HELD WEDNESDAY 15TH JUNE 2022 @ UNGARIE C.W.A. ROOMS.

Meeting Opened: 7.10pm

Present: Carol Barrett, Kerry Keatley, Wendy Keatley, Vanessa Williams, Lindsey Henley.

Apologies: Brony Mason, Michelle Irvine, Claire Delaney.

Minutes of the previous Meeting were read:

Moved that they be accepted as Read- Wendy Keatley
2nd- Vanessa Williams.
Passed.

Business arising from the Minutes:

* **Work at the Museum progressing-** The wall with the rotten wall panelling has been repaired by Don Duncan and Kerry Keatley, however then 3" of rain fell, the roof leaked once again, and the panelling got damp. It is hopeful that it will dry out and not require any further repairs. Since the rain however, Plumber Joe Dodds has been at the Museum, and repaired the box guttering on the roof, plus cleared the blocked down pipe at the rear, so there should be no more problems with leaks inside the building.

Unfortunately there has been no news regarding when painting will commence on the interior of the Museum. Kerry Keatley will follow that up with the Council.

* **Grant Application Successful !-** The Ungarie Advancement Group has been successful in its application for a Grant of \$80,000 to go towards staging the 150 Year Celebrations in September. The program of activities for the Celebrations can now be worked out, and attractions booked in. Conditions of the Grant are that the events sponsored must be free admission, therefore we are unable to use the funds for any attractions at the Show, such as fireworks, or a Band at the evening.

* **Chainsaw Sculptor-** Bland Shire Council has booked the artist for 5 days leading up to the Celebrations. It is planned that he will be working in Ungarie, creating wood sculptures. The cost of this Chainsaw artist is to be paid out of the Grant money, and it thought that it will cost \$1000/ day. It is not known whether we will also have to source as well as pay for the logs required. It was suggested that we could book the artist to appear at the Ungarie Show on the Saturday, however this cost would have to be paid by the Advancement Group or Show Society.

* **Bland Shire Council Section 355 Committee Meeting:** Held 5pm on Wednesday 25th May 2022 at the Bland Shire Council Conference Room, and was attended by Kerry Keatley and Carol Barrett, representing the Ungarie Advancement Group/ Garden Group/Historical Society, and Kurrupark Retirement Village. Mr Scott Robb represented the Sports and Recreation Grounds committee.

The Meeting was led by Council's Regional Risk Manager for Statewide Mutual, Mr Damien Connell. Mr Connell is a member of a Section 355 Committee in his home town, as well as working as a Risk Manager for Council Insurer, Statewide Mutual. As he explains, he has a foot in each camp, he knows the frustration of trying to achieve outcomes for his Community, while Council expects their 355 Committees to abide by a multitude of rules. Mr Damien Connell provided some very valuable and entertaining insights into the reasons behind a good many of the rules that Council seek for their 355 Committees to adhere to. Damien Connell also asked why Ungarie had three 355 Committees, as he felt that they should all be amalgamated into a single 355 Committee

File: Gov-355-UNG	Action
Action Officer: 1 PR06	<input type="checkbox"/>
REC'D	22 JUL 2022
Copy to:	Bland Shire Council

for the town. We are not the only town to have more than one 355 Committee, and as we explained, the roles of each of the 355 Committees are quite different, as are the ways that we are funded.

* **Security Fencing @ Pool** – Cost of hiring the security fence, as well as having it set up at the Pool so that campers can use the Toilet and Shower facilities will be \$1000.00.

* **“Blue Cap” Stage Coach Robbery Re-Enactment**- The Lachlan Re-Enactment Group will cost \$5000.00 to bring their actors, horses and stage coach for the 150 Year Celebrations. It may be possible that we could ask if the group could also put on a performance at the Show.

Treasurers Report

Kerry Keatley and Carol Barrett attended the S.W.S.C.U. to rectify the problem with the money for the Ungarie Community Postal Agency being deposited into the General Working Account. While there, I requested that I could be able to view the Ungarie Historical Society Account online. The S.W.S.C.U. arranged a new login for me so that I am able to view all accounts that I am signatory to.

Current Bank Balances:-

Ungarie Historical Society	\$ 6279.42
Ungarie Advancement Group- General Account	\$ 2597.18
Ungarie Garden Group	\$ 1273.42
Post Office Agency	\$ 4875.22

Carol Barrett moved that the Treasurers Report be accepted as Read.

2nd: Vanessa Williams

Passed.

General Business

* **Ezi app Tours**- Vanessa will look into getting 3 Bluetooth speakers that can be used on the Ezi app History Tours on the morning of Saturday 10th September.

* **Site Map for Camping on 150 Year Celebration Weekend**- Vanessa has developed a map that will be published online to allow visitors to see where camp sites will be available for the weekend of 9th/10th/11th September 2022.

* **Friday evening Welcome & Book Launch**- It was initially planned to start the evening at 6pm, however Lindsey said that he has been asked by some older members of the Community for an earlier start as they only have daylight driver licences. A much earlier start would be a real inconvenience to those members of the Community that work 9.00- 5.00pm. A solution would be a Community Courtesy Bus to transport elderly people from West Wyalong to the Ungarie Memorial Hall for the Welcome & Book Launch, to commence at 5.30pm. Suggested that we could hire the Ungarie Magpie’s Football Bus, or Kelly’s bus(s).

Ungarie Memorial Hall to open @ 4.00pm

Book Launch @ 5.30pm

Followed by Cake Cutting & Movies.(Henderson’s movies and Ross Harmer’s movies)

* **Cake for Book Launch**- It has been requested that there be a cake to be cut at the Book Launch. Vanessa has tentatively booked Dagma to make the cake, to be decorated with the cover picture of the Book. The Meeting agreed that this would be a good choice.

* **Ordering for A Book of Memories-** 1000 Copies have been ordered for the First Print. At the price of \$25.00 each, Lindsey needs to sell 600 books to reimburse Bland Shire Council for their investment in paying for the publishing. Forward ordering of the books has shown a strong demand.

* **Catering for Friday Evening-** The Memorial Hall to be hired to do the catering. This would involve Tea, Coffee, Non- alcoholic Punch, Sandwiches, and Grazing Platters.

* **Invitations for Book Launch-** Invitations to be sent to the 37 residents that are the subject of the Book of Memories. Some of the residents featured have passed away since sharing their stories, so the invitations will be sent to their families instead.

* **Sunday Activities-** Letter to be sent to the Ungarie Bowling Club to share with them that there will be a larger than normal demand for their Sunday Breakfast, and to ask that they possibly extend the serving time to help cater for this. Also suggest to them that they could hold their "Chicken Run" Bowls earlier and invite visitors to take part.

* **Souvenirs for 150 Year Celebrations-** The Ungarie Advancement Group have ordered more Big Football Stubby Holders to sell over the weekend.

- Kerry and Wendy Keatley have organised Hat Bands to be sold as a fund raiser for Can Assist.

- Vanessa Williams has ordered Tea Towels & Tote Bags with the names of Ungarie and its localities printed on them.

- Kerry Keatley has ordered Caps and 100 x Big Football Polo Tops to be sold over the weekend.

* **Hire of Period Costumes-** Kerry Keatley has discovered that the Wagga Wagga School of Arts has period costumes that they will hire out for \$30/costume. He suggested that we could hire a bulk quantity of the costumes for the members of the Advancement Group to wear over the weekend.

* **Name Tags for the Welcoming-** Purchase name tags to give to people at the Welcoming. Carol to ask at the West Wyalong Newsagency for availability and price, while Vanessa will ~~check online~~ for suppliers.

* **Portable Toilet Facilities-** Kerry has investigated the cost of hiring toilets for the 150 Year Celebrations. It would cost \$7000 to hire and deliver approx 20- 22 toilets to town.

* **Narrator for Stage Coach Re-enactment-** Ross Harmer has said that he would like a professional to narrate the re-enactment, however the meeting felt that if a local such as Nicholas Batty was available to do the narration, it would be better.

* **Hiring the C.W.A. Rooms for Meetings-** As the Advancement Group is holding a much greater number of meetings than usual, it was felt that it was only fair that the C.W.A. be compensated for the extra use of their rooms. After having spoken to the C.W.A., it was felt that \$15/ night would be fair compensation. Moved by Lindsey Henley.

2nd: Vanessa Williams.

Passed.

Meeting Closed: 9.10pm.

UNGARIE ADVANCEMENT GROUP GENERAL MEETING
WEDNESDAY 18TH MAY 2022
held at the UNGARIE C.W.A. ROOMS.

Meeting Opened: 7.10pm

Present: Carol Barrett, Vanessa Williams, Kerry Keatley, Wendy Keatley, Lurensa Rowling.

Apologies: Mary Gregg, Sonya Ward, Brony Mason, Michelle Irvine, Lindsey Henley.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting were Read

Moved that they be Accepted as read:- Vanessa Williams.

2nd: Wendy Keatley.

Passed.

Business arising from the Minutes:

* Memorial Plaque for Jeffery de Rozario: Kerry Keatley has organised for the Plaque for be engraved. The plaque cost \$50.00.

* Water Refill Station for Bing Wallder Park: Goldenfields Water is no longer making these Water Refill Stations available to Communities due to the cost of maintaining and repairing them. Councillor Liz McGlynn is going to approach Goldenfields Water to ask that the Water Refill Station be given to Ungarie as a present for its 150 Year Celebrations. It seems that the company may be willing to provide the Water Refill Station if the Bland Shire Council agrees to maintain and repair it in the event that it should break down.

*Ungarie Museum Report: Bland Shire Council have sent out their Building Maintenance Worker, as well as a Pest Inspector to check and see if the building has been infested with termites. Following the inspection, we were very pleased to hear that there were no termites evident in the Museum building. There is still an issue with the box gutters leaking into the building. Fixing the gutters is to be a priority. Council has agreed to paint the outside of the Museum, as well the inside of the building (walls and ceiling). Repairs to the interior wall panelling and the concrete door surround have been made in readiness for the painting to start ASAP if this job is to be completed before the 150 Years Celebrations on 9th/10th /11th September 2022.

*Community Notice Board: At a previous meeting, the bus shelter was suggested as a suitable site for the Community Notice Board that Lurensa Rowlings wishes to put up, however she does not like it as a location. The recesses in the Museum external walls were also suggested, however Lurensa wants a notice board larger than these recesses. She also would like it located where there is passing foot traffic. Lurensa still plans to purchase the Notice board, but we need to find an appropriate location to mount it. Another possible location could be the back of the Community Book Library.

*Free Tip Day: Council's free tip day is to be on Sunday 5th June 2022. We will advertise the day and encourage people to use the opportunity to clean up their properties.

Treasurers Report

The Treasurers Report, as per the attached page, was presented. Moved that it be accepted as read: Carol Barrett.

2nd: Lurensa Rowling.

Passed.

General Business

* **Bland Shire Council Community Reference Group Meeting-** Held at 6.30pm on Tuesday 10th May 2022, at the Bland Shire Council for Council to hear applications for Grants to hold Community Events. The Council has been given \$239,000 towards Grants to encourage events within the Bland shire Council. Advancement Group members Carol Barrett and Vanessa Williams attended to put forward our proposal to be given \$80,000 toward staging the 150 Year Celebrations. Kerry Keatley and Liz McGlynn prepared financial figures for the Celebrations, and taking into account the possibility of having to supply toilet facilities for the 3 days, came up with the figure of \$80,000. We gave a verbal run down of proposed activities for the 3 days, including the re-enactment of "Blue Caps Stage Coach Robbery". Councillors seemed very impressed with our plans to date, but there was some very stiff opposition from several West Wyalong Groups that came prepared with power point presentations, and drone footage of their proposed events sites.

* **Community Forum Meeting-** Bland Shire Council will be holding an information session for 355 Committees, on Wednesday 25th May 2022, at 5.00pm. They have organised a Guest Speaker, Mr Damien Connell, Council's Regional Risk Manage for Statewide Mutual.

* **Chainsaw Carving-** Craig Sutton from Bland Shire Council has told Kerry Keatley that the Chainsaw Carving Artist that was did the wood carvings in West Wyalong, will be available in the week leading up to our 150 Year Celebrations. If this artist was contracted to create wood sculptures in Ungarie, possible sites for the new Sculptures could be the old Hayes Store site, or Hendersons Park. Craig Sutton had suggested the R.S.L. Park, however the meeting feels that another sculpture would detract from the R.S.L. murals.

* **Grant Application-** There has been no news from the Bland Shire Council regarding the success or otherwise of the Advancement Groups Grant Application, however Kerry Keatley is confident that we will get at least \$50,000 to fund Ungarie's 150 Year Celebrations. Until we have verification that we have been successful in getting at least some of the funds that we applied for, we will not be able to finalise plans for the 150 Year Celebrations.

* **Sporting Grounds Committee Meeting-** There is to be a Meeting of the Grounds Committee tomorrow evening, and following this, we should know what will happen with the Amenities block at the Showground. With the Grounds Committee's plans to build a new Amenities block, it had been suggested that the old amenities block would be demolished prior to the Show & 150 Years Celebration weekend, and this would cause a huge problem for these events.

* **Camping beside the Swimming Pool-** To help cater for the number of campers expected on the 9th/10th/11th September, it was suggested that we could use the shower and toilet facilities at the Ungarie Swimming Pool, and visitors could camp in the area between the Pool and Retirement Village. The Swimming Pool would have to be screened off from the public, and this could be done using the security fencing that Lindsey Henley uses on demolition sites. Kerry Keatley has spoken about this suggestion with Council's General manager, and they gave informal approval.

* **"Blue Cap" Stagecoach Robbery Re-enactment-** Ross Harmer, of West Wyalong Movies, has sent Kerry a copy of a suggested script for the re-enactment. A suggestion has been made that Nicholas Batty could be asked to narrate the re-enactment following the excellent job that he did speaking on Anzac Day.

* **Extra Activities for 150 Year Celebrations-** Suggest that the Central Hotel open for Lunch on at least Saturday 10th September. Ask Ungarie Central School to open on Saturday 10th from 9am- 12 noon so that visitors can look around. Also ask that the UCS Harvester Magazines be on display in the Library. Possible display of Sporting Champions of Ungarie.

Meeting Closed- 8.40pm.

UNGARIE ADVANCEMENT GROUP
TREASURERS REPORT for 18th May 2022.

General Account

Opening Balance \$ 6706.60

28th April 2022

Deposits

Donation from Ungarie Pre-Loved \$ 500.00

Australia Day ~ Sale of Left Over meat etc \$ 95.80

& Sale of Souvenirs

New Balance \$ 7302.40

Less Ungarie C.P.A. Payments deposited
by Council into wrong Account

23rd Dec. 2021

\$ 2220.75

21st Jan. 2022

\$ 2654.47

\$ 4875.22

\$ 2427.18

Garden Group Account

\$ 1273.42

REPORTS TO COUNCIL

Section 1 - Office of the General Manager

7.1 LGNSW Annual Conference 2022 – Confirmation of Attendees



Our Leadership - A well run Council acting as the voice of the community

DP10.1 Councillors are provided with appropriate support and resources to carry out their civic duty.

Author: Executive Assistant

Introduction

This year's annual LGNSW Conference plans to return to the pre-COVID format and is being held in the Hunter Valley from Sunday 23rd – Wednesday 25th October 2022 at the Crowne Plaza.

It has been the practice that Bland Shire Council is represented at this conference by the mayor of the day, the general manager and up to two (2) councillors.

Council is allocated one voting delegate at this conference and it has been the usual practice to nominate the mayor of the day as the voting delegate with the remaining councillors and general manager attending as observers.

The draft conference program is available at: <https://lgnswconference.org.au/program/>

Early bird registrations close on Wednesday 17th August with the closing date for the submission of motions is 25th September.

There is a separate report for this meeting dealing with the proposed motions for the conference.

Financial Implications

Funds for this purpose have been allocated in the current budget for up to four (4) delegates. The average cost per delegate for travel, accommodation, meals and conference registration for this particular Conference is estimated at \$2,300.00.

Summary

This Conference is the annual policy-making event for all councils of NSW as well as Associate members and the NSW Aboriginal Land Councils. It is the pre-eminent event of the local government year where local councillors come together to share ideas and debate issues that shape the future of local government in NSW.

In order to ensure appropriate accommodation is available and to meet the deadline for the early bird registrations it would be convenient if council could identify the representatives at this meeting.

Recommendation:

- 1. That council identifies the representatives to attend the LGNSW Annual Conference being held in the Hunter Valley from 23 – 25 October 2022; and**
- 2. That the Mayor be nominated as Council's voting delegate.**

7.2 Strengthening Communities Grant Applications



Our People - A Strong, healthy, connected and inclusive community

DP 3.1.5 Facilitate and support groups that build skills and social inclusion including workshops/presentations

Author: Community Development Officer and Community Relations Officer

Introduction

West Wyalong Community Church Strengthening Communities Application

The West Wyalong Community Church has applied for a Strengthening Communities grant of \$3045 to assist with the cost of installing a Defibrillator at the Church. The church provides regular services, pray meetings and a youth group and Sunday school, in addition to weddings, funerals. The church is seeking to install a defibrillator to ensure the safety of members and the extended community when using the church and in the vicinity. Having a Defib onsite will provide an extra level of security in ensuring that the machine will be available for the community should an emergency arise. Defibs have been shown to be an effective lifesaving mechanism in the treatment of sudden cardiac arrest.

If successful in their application, the Community Church plan to purchase their defibrillator from The Defib Shop, the same company that Bland Shire Council uses and have the defib serviced by The Defib Shop regularly (at their own cost) to ensure it remains fit for use.

West Wyalong Camp Draft Strengthening Communities Application

The West Wyalong Charity Campdraft Committee is seeking sponsorship from Council towards its annual event on 16-18 September.

The new look committee is looking to grow the event into one of the biggest on the campdraft circuit by targeting participants from across New South Wales and Victoria as well as equine enthusiasts, sports lovers, members of the livestock and agricultural sectors and general community members.

They are seeking a Strengthening Communities grant of \$4000 to assist with the costs of running the event including advertising and promotion, transport of livestock and insurance.

Financial Implications

Council currently has \$40,000 available in its Strengthening Communities Grant fund.

Summary

The installation of a Defib at the West Wyalong Community Church would ensure greater safety for church users and the extended community, many of whom attend the church for weddings, funerals and other events. Defibs are lifesaving machines that have been used to save the life of many people who suffer a sudden cardiac arrest.

The Charity Campdraft is a valued local event which brings a large number of visitors to West Wyalong each year and provides a welcome boost to the local economy.

It also provides a source of entertainment to the community and fundraising opportunities for local community organisations through the provision of catering and other services.

These requests align with Council's Community Strategic Plan and the Strengthening Communities program guidelines.

Recommendation:

That Council approve Strengthening Communities funding to:

- a. West Wyalong Community Church to assist with the cost of installing a Defibrillator at the Church, up to \$3045.**
- b. West Wyalong Charity Campdraft Committee to assist with the costs of holding its annual event on 16-18 September 2022, up to \$4,000.**

7.3 NSW Public Spaces Charter



Our Leadership - A well run Council acting as the voice of the community

DP13.2 Develop, implement and promote best practice governance policies and procedures.

Author: Manager Development and Regulatory Services

Introduction

The NSW Government has prepared a NSW Public Spaces Charter to support the planning, design, management and activation of public spaces. The Charter identifies 10 principles for quality public space to support those who make decisions about public spaces in NSW.

The ten principles are:

- Open and welcoming
- Community focused
- Culture and creativity
- Local character and identity
- Green and resilient
- Healthy and active
- Local businesses and economies
- Safe and secure
- Designed for place
- Well-managed.

All NSW Government agencies and local councils have been invited to become a signatory to the Charter. Becoming a signatory will give Council access to other resources such as the Practitioner's Guide that is currently under development and may assist in obtaining future grant opportunities.

Financial Implications

Nil to this report.

Summary

The NSW Government has invited Council's to be a signatory to the NSW Public Spaces Charter.

Recommendation:

That Council become a signatory to the NSW Public Spaces Charter.

NSW Public Spaces Charter

Ten principles for public space in NSW



NSW Department of Planning,
Industry and Environment

October 2021



Acknowledgement of Country

The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land and pays respect to Elders past, present and future.

We recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' unique cultural and spiritual relationships to place and their rich contribution to society. NSW is Aboriginal land, so throughout this document Aboriginal peoples are referred to specifically, rather than First Nations, or Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Aboriginal peoples take a holistic view of land, water and culture and see them as one, not in isolation to each other. The NSW Public Spaces Charter is based on the premise upheld by Aboriginal peoples that if we care for Country, it will care for us.

Published by the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

dpie.nsw.gov.au

NSW Public Spaces Charter

Image on front cover: Noreuil Park, Albury. Courtesy of Destination NSW.

Artwork (left) by Nikita Ridgeway.

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Ministerial foreword

As the first NSW Minister for Public Spaces, it's clear to me that public space is everyone's business. This is why it's a priority of the NSW Government to increase access to quality, green public spaces, and why we have developed the NSW Public Spaces Charter.

The charter provides ten principles for quality public space that have been designed to maximise the social, cultural, environmental and economic benefits that public space delivers.

The charter has been more than a year in the making and is based on deep and broad engagement. It's truly a community-led tool, designed in collaboration with practitioners and reflecting what communities love about public spaces and what they tell us should be improved.

In November 2021 the NSW Government released survey results showing almost half of respondents were using public spaces and parks more than ever before.

Indeed, our love for public spaces has never been more in focus. It's no secret that the pandemic has emphasised the inherent need we have for safe and welcoming public space. At the height of COVID-19, many of us experienced newfound joy and delight in public spaces that we may have previously taken for granted. This showed how much we need them on a physical, emotional and psychological level.

The Government is responding to the community with this new charter. We're setting the bar to help change how people think about, view, and engage with great public spaces.

This unifying set of principles, based on solid evidence and research, will underpin the creation and improvement of high-quality public spaces across NSW.

All our public spaces should reflect the values, needs and aspirations of the communities they serve, including those who are vulnerable and hard-to-reach. Ensuring public spaces are

equitable and inclusive will lead to the creation of a more just State. Making public spaces that enable social interaction in beautiful places is an amazing vision that I believe everyone can share.

I encourage every organisation that creates, cares for, and uses public spaces in NSW to sign up to the charter. Let's work together to bring forth a new legacy for public space. Let's use these principles to transform how we think about and deliver quality public spaces that help all NSW communities love the places they live.



The Hon. Rob Stokes, MP
Minister for Planning and Public Spaces
Minister for Transport and Roads



Statement of Country

*Barangaroo Reserve.
Photographer: Alison Page
and Nikolas Lachajczak*

Country is a holistic worldview that incorporates humans, non-humans, more-than-humans and all the complex networks and systems that connect them. Country is known to be alive and sentient, and continually communicating. Country is not constrained by boundaries, lines on a map, or edges of a site. Instead, Country soars high into the atmosphere, plunges far into the ocean, and deep into the earth's crust. Country has diverse and distinct ways of expressing and being understood depending on the people, place, and context. Country is associated with Aboriginal people's cultural groups, it is where their ancestors still walk, and the places to which they belong. But it is much more than this. Country is known in physical, spiritual, and cultural ways. Tangibly it might include the flora, fauna, geology, elements, and waters. Intangibly Country includes expressions about place, spirit, narratives, identity, cultural practice, Law, lore, languages, and customs. Country holds all these individual aspects together harmoniously, storing knowledges like an eternal library.

While it may not have been built in the way it is currently understood, Aboriginal people have always designed and managed the environment, in collaboration with Country. The built environment is part of Country and needs to be cared for and designed as such. Likewise, relating to Country through public spaces enables those

spaces to embody the spirit of place as story, culture and life are celebrated there. Because Country communicates and holds all knowledges, Country can guide what it needs to be healthy, and how it must be designed and managed, including in public spaces. Being in and activating public spaces as an extension of Country is part of caring for Country. Allowing Country to be lead designer or planner ensures the inclusion of all who access spaces, not just humans, as Country is inherently inclusive. Knowledge Holders of Country are descended from Country and know it best. Working together with them is key to understanding how to connect with and care for Country. Everyone is responsible for caring for Country as we all live, learn, work, and play on Country.

With thanks to the Elders, Knowledge Holders, kin, and family who have generously shared their knowledges and means of connecting to Country. With thanks to Country for providing these words and understandings.

Dr Danièle Hromek

Dr Hromek is a Budawang woman of the Yuin nation. She works as a cultural designer and researcher considering how to Indigenise the built environment by creating spaces to substantially affect Indigenous rights and culture within an institution.



*Western Sydney Parklands.
Courtesy of Greater Sydney Parklands*



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Introduction

Public space is where public life happens.

It guides and shapes our experience of the places where we live, work and visit, filling them with vibrancy and energy as we connect, interact and share with others. It begins the moment you leave your front door and connects us to both work and leisure, and public and personal life. It includes the streets we walk or cycle in, the town squares we socialise in, libraries we learn in, community halls we gather in and parks, playgrounds and sport fields where we relax or play. It provides a wealth of social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits that are critical to the health, wellbeing and prosperity of communities.

People are at the heart of public space. The way they use it transforms it into a meaningful place with layers of shared experiences, collective memories and a mixture of identities. When people feel attached to public space, they are more likely to adopt, use and care for the space themselves and have a more powerful sense of belonging to their community.

*Greek Festival of Sydney, Darling Harbour.
Courtesy of Placemaking NSW*

Public spaces are all places publicly owned or of public use, accessible and enjoyable by all for free and without a profit motive. They include:



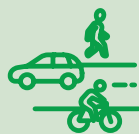
PUBLIC OPEN SPACES

parks, gardens, playgrounds, public beaches, riverbanks and waterfronts, outdoor playing fields and courts, and bushland that is open for public access



PUBLIC FACILITIES

public libraries, museums, galleries, civic/community centres, showgrounds and indoor public sports facilities



STREETS

streets, avenues and boulevards; squares and plazas; pavements; passages and lanes, and bicycle paths

The quality of public space is just as important as its accessibility, as quality makes people feel safe, welcome and included. The quality of a public space is reflected not only in its physical form—how it's designed, maintained and integrated with its environment—but also through the activities it supports and the meaning it holds. It can be evaluated by asking:

- Am I able to get there?
- Am I able to play and participate?
- Am I able to stay?
- Am I able to connect?



The purpose of the charter

The NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment has developed the NSW Public Spaces Charter to support everyone in NSW to have access to high-quality public space that allows them to enjoy and participate in public life. The charter identifies 10 principles for quality public space that distil and reflect evidence-based research, best practice and consultation with Aboriginal peoples, community members and representatives from state and local government, industry, the business and cultural sectors and a diverse range of public space experts.

The charter's principles are premised on the understanding that there isn't a one-size-fits-all approach to public space. Every public space has its own unique history, heritage, context and is supporting the different needs and uses of a specific community. There are significant and important differences in landscape, climate, amenity, population density and social and cultural demographics across Greater Sydney and regional and rural New South Wales. All these factors influence where and how people use public space and what the priorities are for their community. There are no set rules as to where and how the charter applies – it could apply to the management of a national or regional scale parkland, just as it could to the design of a new pocket park.



*Wagga Beach,
Wagga Wagga.
Courtesy of Wagga
Wagga City Council*

The 10 principles

The charter identifies 10 principles for quality public space, to support all those who advocate on behalf of, provide advice on, make decisions about, or plan, design, manage and activate public spaces in NSW.



The values

The charter is also built on the following core values that resonate strongly across all the principles. These values should always be considered when applying the principles.

Courtesy of Destination NSW



Connection to Country

All public space in NSW is on Country, which is at the core of every Aboriginal person's identity and sense of belonging. It is the place from which Aboriginal languages and cultures are derived, which determine families, kinship and communities. Aboriginal peoples are the Traditional Custodians of all public space in New South Wales. Acknowledging and valuing Aboriginal peoples and cultural knowledge when public space is planned, managed and delivered can promote and strengthen connection to Country and create healing for both Aboriginal communities and non-Aboriginal peoples too.

Courtesy of Adam Hollingworth

Equity and inclusion

Public space is a community asset that should support a society in which everyone can participate, prosper, and reach their potential. Inclusion in public spaces and in the processes to plan, design, manage and activate them is central to creating equitable public spaces and ensuring all people can access the benefits they provide.



Community engagement

Engaging the community as active participants in decision-making processes when planning, designing, managing and activating public space will help ensure that it reflects their values, needs and aspirations. Participatory processes, collaboration and co-design in public space projects help build trust, which then increases people's use of and attachment to the space. Ensuring that vulnerable and hard-to-reach communities are engaged in these processes leads to more welcoming and inclusive public space.

*Kids on Q, Campbelltown.
Courtesy of Campbelltown City Council*

Who should use the charter

The charter can be used by any organisation or practitioner involved in the planning, design, delivery, management or evaluation of public space. Becoming a signatory to the NSW Public Spaces Charter will help your organisation to provide or advocate for better public spaces. It will also allow your organisation to access the charter's community of practice, one-on-one support from the department, promotional opportunities and data sharing. Examples of how the charter can be used are outlined below.



The community can use the 10 principles to understand the value and benefits of quality public space. The charter will help the community to participate in the conversation about how public spaces should be planned, designed, managed and activated.



Local businesses and chambers of commerce can use the 10 principles to better understand how they can leverage public spaces for their business and advocate for public spaces in their area.



Public space managers can use the 10 principles to inform plans of management and the policies and programming that respond to the needs of their users.



Development professionals such as architects, heritage specialists and arborists can use the 10 principles to inform the design and delivery of a public space.



Strategic and statutory planners can apply the 10 principles as they develop planning proposals, local planning instruments and plans for precincts, local government areas, districts or regions.



Industry bodies can use the 10 principles to inform and support members involved in the planning, design, delivery, management or evaluation of public space.



Public policy makers can incorporate the 10 principles within policy and advice that informs NSW Government and council investment priorities.



Developers can draw from the 10 principles to plan for and provide quality public spaces within their developments.



To become a signatory to the charter, register your interest by emailing Public.Space@planning.nsw.gov.au

Using the charter

We have developed the charter to support all those who advocate on behalf of, provide advice on, make decisions about, or plan, design, manage and activate public spaces in NSW.

It is intended to align with other government and non-government strategies and policies for creating great places, where people can easily access a diversity of public spaces to enjoy the outdoors, interact with others or just relax.

The charter can also be used by the community to understand what quality public space is and to inform their participation when they are engaged in decisions about how public space is planned, designed, managed and activated.

Practitioner's guide

An accompanying practitioner's guide supports the charter. We have developed this to help practitioners understand the charter and how they can embed it into their work. The guide also explains the 10 charter principles and how practitioners should apply these when planning, designing, managing and activating public space.

For each of the 10 principles, the guide:

- explains the principles
- describes what the principle will look like in action
- provides practitioner tips to support how the principle can be followed as public space is planned, designed, managed and activated

- provides relevant examples
- links to relevant, supporting policies or plans.

Great Public Spaces Toolkit

The charter and practitioner's guide are also supported by the [Great Public Spaces Toolkit](#), which provides in-depth case studies and free resources to support local government, state agencies, industry and the community. The toolkit includes the Great Public Spaces Guide and the Evaluation Tool for Public Space and Public Life, which can be used by anyone who wants to better understand the strengths and areas for improvement in a public space.

Become a signatory

While we have developed the charter for use by anybody involved in the planning, design, delivery or management of public space, the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment encourages organisations and practitioners to become signatories to it. In becoming a signatory to the NSW Public Spaces Charter, an organisation or individual is showing a commitment to embed the 10 principles when they plan for, design, manage or activate public spaces.

Signatories to the charter will be supported with advice from the NSW Public Spaces Charter project team on how to develop an action plan to implement the Charter in their organisation or practice. They will also have access to a community of practice, delivered quarterly. The community of practice will be focused on building the capacity of signatories to apply the charter, by connecting them to public space experts and providing opportunities for information and data sharing and for promoting their own public space projects or practice.

To register your organisation's interest in becoming a signatory to the charter, email PublicSpace@planning.nsw.gov.au

While the department does not intend to subject the charter to regular review, we may update it as required to reflect contemporary practice and emerging research.



Unity Place, Burwood.
Courtesy of Burwood Council

10 PRINCIPLES



*Stirling Brown,
Mavis Feirer, Queenie
Walker, Janelle Brown
and Robyn Bancroft in
Market Square, Grafton
Photographer: Alison Page
and Nikolas Lachajczak*

Open and welcoming



Everyone can access public space and feel welcome, respected and included.



Prince Alfred Square, Parramatta. Courtesy of Destination NSW

Public space should be inclusive of all people, regardless of their gender, age, sexuality, race, ethnicity, religion, cultural background, socioeconomic status, ability and/or personal values, so social, cultural, environmental and economic benefits are shared equitably.

For public space to be inclusive, it must be culturally, physically and socially accessible, and perceived by the community to be so. They should be places where everyone feels safe, welcome and able to participate in public life. They should offer a diversity of uses and well-designed experiences that are free of charge regardless of income, ability or where they live. Amenities such as seating, shade and shelter, end-of-trip facilities, accessible toilets and inclusive play spaces that anyone can use and enjoy should be provided.

The physical design of a space, how people get there and move through and between public spaces, is critical. Public space should be designed and maintained to ensure the highest possible level of accessibility, so that people of all ages and with differing cognitive, sensory, physical, or developmental abilities can use them with dignity and ease. They should have

clear entrances and exits, open sightlines, visible wayfinding and clear navigation. They should be well integrated with surrounding land uses and public transport options, and easy to walk or cycle to.

Individual public spaces can have distinct purposes and functions, and may not be able to cater to every need. Planning public spaces to be linked and equitably distributed can create a more connected network of spaces that work together, and support each other.

Creating open and welcoming public spaces requires early and ongoing engagement with communities regarding how they are planned, designed, managed and activated. Including diverse groups of people, including Aboriginal peoples, young people, people with disability, people experiencing homelessness and culturally and linguistically diverse people in shaping public spaces can help create more accessible, inclusive and welcoming public spaces for everyone. It is especially important to have strategies in place to engage community members and groups who have historically felt excluded from these processes.

Community focused



Public space brings people together and builds strong, connected and resilient communities.

Public spaces are the meeting and gathering places where we socialise with friends and loved ones and experience social connections that are fundamental to individual and community health and wellbeing.

Public space is important because it can bring us side-by-side with people whom we don't know, to share space and experiences with others who are different from us. This can create mutual understanding, empathy and trust, which over time strengthens the social capital of communities. Social capital is what makes communities cohesive and resilient, providing them with the relationships and networks of support that they need to withstand and adapt to broader economic and social shifts.

A key outcome when planning, designing, managing and activating a public space should be how it facilitates formal and informal social interaction and fosters social connectedness amongst diverse people, cultural communities, age groups, religious groups, families and friends.

Public spaces must also be places that promote equity, inclusion, social justice and democracy. They should allow free expression, collective action, public debate and opportunities for people of all backgrounds to participate in civic life.

Public space that is community-led, with a strong foundation of inclusive and equitable engagement, collaboration and co-design is more likely to meet the desires, expectations, traditions and needs of its community. Involving the community, including diverse, under-represented and hard-to-reach groups, in decisions about how public space is planned, designed, managed and activated builds trust and ultimately a sense of belonging and attachment to place.

*Kerrabee Soundshell, Moama.
Courtesy of Murray River Council/Rebecca Pilgrim*





Culture and creativity

Public space provides a platform for culture and creative expression that makes places more colourful, animated and thought-provoking.

All public space is on Country, which is deeply embedded with knowledge and memories that are the starting point for considering the culture of a place. Aboriginal peoples have always used ceremony, rituals and storytelling to engage with the spirit of a place, activate memories and connect with Country.

It's important that Aboriginal peoples can access public spaces for cultural practices, which incorporate any practice that connects them to their culture, Country and Dreaming. Cultural practices may involve caring for Country activities and are not restricted to traditional practices.

By listening to Aboriginal peoples and sharing the stories of Country, we can all strengthen our understanding of, and connection to, place and to each other. In being sites for truth-telling about our history and the impacts of colonisation, public spaces can also become places of reconciliation and healing.

Culture and creativity are powerful tools for communities to create a positive narrative about who they are and what they want their futures to look like. Arts and culture brings people together, allowing them to share experiences that powerfully builds community. Places with a rich and exciting cultural and creative offering are more liveable and distinct, with people more likely to want to live, work and spend time there.

Public space can embed arts, music, literature, screen, performance and cultural experiences, public art and events directly into the heart of communities. Supporting local opportunities for cultural and creative expression in public spaces encourages more diverse and equitable participation for audiences and artists.

The rich cultural diversity of NSW brings an exciting energy into our public spaces, making them places of cultural interaction and exchange. Programming and events such as concerts, festivals, storytelling, and ceremonies can reflect local histories, cultures and traditions. They can foster social inclusion and intercultural dialogue among diverse communities.



*Manning Regional Art Gallery, Taree.
Courtesy of MidCoast Council*

Public spaces such as libraries, parks, laneways and plazas can provide flexible and informal space that supports ephemeral, temporary and permanent creative works to be more visible, valued, distinctive and accessible. The spaces around and in between public facilities such as libraries, museums, galleries and community centres are especially well-placed locations for planning creative and cultural projects and activities. Place-based approaches that involve local artists and creative organisations can build on the unique identity of a local area and community to activate public spaces.



Local character and identity

Public space reflects who we are and our diverse stories and histories.

Public space contains layers of built and natural heritage that cut across time and provide communities with a specific sense of character, place and identity. This heritage can be tangible or intangible, embedded in built form and landscapes or living in stories, memories and oral histories.

Country is the foundation of a place's identity. Public space should acknowledge and reflect Aboriginal languages, place names, and histories. It should provide space for Aboriginal cultures to be practised and shared, as this helps people feel more connected to Country and place. Public spaces such as parks, libraries, community centres, plazas, and sports grounds have aesthetic, historic, scientific, social or spiritual value that enriches our lives and make us feel deeply connected to our community and our landscape.

The character and quality of heritage in public spaces should be carefully managed and maintained, to promote local identity and to pass it on to the future generations. New public spaces should be sympathetic to the history and heritage

of the site and to the communities who live and have lived there, especially in urban renewal and brownfield developments. Adaptive re-use of heritage buildings such as town halls, fire stations and hospitals can provide new and exciting public spaces and uses that build on the history and connection that communities have to these places.

Supporting local artists and creatives to work collaboratively with communities can deliver public art and creative placemaking programs that respond to place and celebrate local stories, cultures and histories.

Communities are the best experts for recognising and valuing the local character and identity of a place and should be engaged early in the process of planning, designing and activating public space. Engaging communities meaningfully and effectively will ensure that diverse voices, cultures and histories can be reflected in the character of public space and everyone feels a more powerful sense of pride and belonging.

*Line of Lode Miners Memorial, Broken Hill
Courtesy of Destination NSW*





Green and resilient

Public space connects us to nature, enhances biodiversity and builds climate resilience into communities.



Great River Walk, Penrith. Courtesy of Destination NSW

Public space supports the natural flows and cycles of the environment, by connecting ecological systems and networks of green space, waterways, bushland, riparian landscapes and wildlife corridors. Wildlife relies on public space for food and refuge, and their use and needs should be considered and protected. Native trees and vegetation should be prioritised in public space as these provide animals with their natural habitats, and are more suited to Australian climate and soil conditions.

By respecting, valuing and being guided by Aboriginal knowledge and land management practices in how we care for public space, we can help to support the health and wellbeing of Country. The planning, design, management and activation of public space can also support them to be sites for education about caring for Country's health and wellbeing and their role in supporting biodiversity and broader ecosystems.

Public space should be integrated with green infrastructure to ensure that urban and regional communities have equitable access to the social, environmental and economic benefits of quality green space. Green infrastructure is the network of green spaces, natural systems and semi-natural systems that supports sustainable communities.

It includes waterways, bushland, tree canopy and green ground cover, parks, and green open spaces that are strategically planned, designed and managed to support a good quality of life in the urban environment.

Public space that has quality green infrastructure, including tree canopy cover, can increase the long-term removal and storage of carbon, provide relief from urban heat and heatwaves, improve air and water quality, increase natural shade and the walkability of neighbourhoods, reduce noise pollution and the likelihood of flooding and sewage overflow.

Through careful planning and design, public spaces can build climate resilience into urban and regional communities. This includes using sustainable materials and integrating green walls and roofs into the built environment, providing green fire breaks between natural and built environments and flood mitigation zones in flood-prone areas. Planning and designing adaptable community facilities that are capable of changing use as refuge spaces and distribution points will ensure critical social infrastructure is available in the time of crisis and disaster.

Healthy and active



Public space allows everyone to participate in activities that strengthen our health and wellbeing.

Public space plays a crucial role in building sustainable and healthy communities by supporting social interaction and connection and providing play and active recreation opportunities, green and natural environments, access to local healthy foods and safe routes to walk and cycle.

Public space that is well-designed, connected and inclusive can support everyone to build walking, exercise and physical activity into our everyday lives, helping prevent chronic disease such as cancer, heart disease, diabetes and depression. Increased availability and equitable distribution of accessible public open space can improve the opportunities for active and passive recreation, such as walking, running, cycling, team sports, picnicking and playing.

By providing access to cool, green spaces and connecting people to natural landscapes, such as nature trails, river and coastal walks and bushland, public space powerfully improves our mental health, reducing depression, anxiety and stress and improving memory and concentration. It should encourage and support social interaction and connection, which is important to our social wellbeing, and can help to reduce social isolation and loneliness. People should have access to a mix and balance of comfortable, tranquil spaces with places to sit and relax as well as space for higher-intensity activities such as sport and recreation, prioritising appropriate uses for different spaces.

Public space that is safe, well connected and high-quality encourages a culture of walking and cycling. Wider contiguous footpaths, tree canopy and shaded corridors, barriers between traffic and people, well-designed lighting, frequent crossings and lower traffic speeds

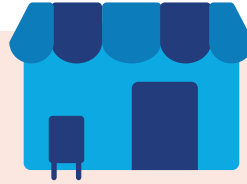
can all contribute to increased walkability. Using a movement and place lens to plan, design and manage streets can help to ensure these dual functions are supported. Street environments should be considered as places to attract people to visit and stay, not just as places to move through. They should contribute to the network of public space within a location, where people can live healthy, productive lives, meet each other, interact, and go about their daily activities.

The quality of public space is crucial in shaping the physical, cognitive and social development of children. Their needs, as well as that of their families, should always be considered. Supporting inclusion in the processes that shape public space will facilitate a broad range of healthy activities and behaviours and enable more people to have equitable access to the health benefits they provide.



*Sydney Olympic Park.
Courtesy of Sydney Olympic Park
Authority/Fiora Sacco*

Local business and economies



Public space supports a dynamic economic life and vibrant urban and town centres.

The public space network supports lively high streets, outdoor dining and cafés, and popular tourist destinations, as well as providing low-barrier commercial opportunities, such as markets, food vans and live performance.

The way that we value buildings and places is strongly linked to people's experience of these places and whether it includes spaces that meet their needs. Locations with high-quality, well-designed and well-managed public places attract residents, customers, employees and services, which in turn attracts business and investment. To deliver a high-quality experience, public space should have a strong vision and layers of activities to attract different groups of people and helps them form a connection to place.

Privately-owned spaces and commercial activity can complement and activate public space, but this should not compromise their primary function of delivering public benefit. Active facades, building edges and podiums can create economic activity and vitality that draws people into an area, while public space attracts diverse groups of people and connects them to retail and business. Town centres and retail precincts that are supported with quality public spaces where people can sit, rest and connect with each other are more likely to thrive.

Using streets as public spaces can create more vibrant and dynamic retail and hospitality precincts and attract higher foot traffic. Activating streets and laneways with creative



Blak Markets, La Perouse. Courtesy of Destination NSW

placemaking and programming can breathe life and energy into public space that turns neighbourhoods into destinations, spurs innovation and improves land and property value.

Activating public spaces such as parks, plazas, libraries, museums and community centres in a safe and welcoming way after dark is critical for a more diverse and vibrant night-time economy. Understanding the rhythm and patterns of how public space is used at different times of the day can inform a strategic and place-based approach to programming and activation that supports the local economy at all hours.



Safe and secure

Everyone feels safe to access and use public space at all times of the day.

Perceptions of personal safety influence how public spaces are accessed and used. Public space feels safer when it is well-used and inclusive, and people can see and interact with others. It should encourage a diverse mix of intergenerational and intercultural users, and recognise children as active users of the space. It should be activated with a mix of uses at all times of the day and people-oriented lighting at night, especially along pedestrian and cycle routes.

Incorporating crime-prevention strategies such as the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design principles when planning and designing public space can reduce crime and anti-social behaviours, making places and spaces feel safer, which in turn can enhance the physical, mental and social wellbeing of community members. It's important, however, that strategies and approaches to designing and managing safe public spaces don't strip them of their

distinctiveness and public amenity, or cause marginalised groups to be excluded.

Risk assessments and safety audits are valuable tools for understanding if there are safety issues in a public space and what measures could be put in place to address these. Consulting diverse groups of people, including women and vulnerable or marginalised groups, is important to understand their experience of accessing and using public space and their perception of its safety.

Feeling culturally, physically and spiritually safe when accessing public spaces is especially important for Aboriginal peoples and communities. Involving Aboriginal communities, at all stages of public spaces development and its continuing management, is key to creating and maintaining culturally safe places.

*Inner West Fest - Baludarri.
Courtesy of Inner West Council/Daniel Kukec*





Designed for place

Public space is flexible and responds to its environment to meet the needs of its community.



*Leagues Club Park, Gosford.
Courtesy of Hunter & Central Coast Development Corporation*

The way that public space is designed can directly or indirectly affect the way that it is used, and who uses it. Public space should provide open space and facilities that are multi-purpose, connected and flexible enough to support a broad range of uses, activities and experiences throughout the day and night. It should respond to its environment and the diversity of its users, incorporating universal design principles so that everyone can enjoy it, regardless of age, ability and mobility.

Public space that is co-located with other uses, such as education, health, cultural facilities and other public spaces, can help create a sense of place and community. For example, co-locating libraries within community centres or open space near schools can diversify the use of these spaces and provide more equitable access. Planning for place across the whole lifecycle of a project, from concept, to design, delivery and implementation will lead to more successful public spaces.

Every public space is unique and has its own specific context, community and environment. It should be fit-for-purpose, designed with an understanding of how it will be used and who will use it. It should be capable of adapting to

changing uses and demands. It should encourage formal and informal interaction and provide people with different levels of engagement so that they don't have to interact with the space in the same way. It should have complementary uses whenever possible and be well-connected to surrounding areas and other public space to provide a richer experience for its users.

The connectivity of public space to the ground floor of buildings and the way they work together to support each other is important. Planning, designing and activating ground planes that support surrounding streets, laneways and open spaces encourages vibrant public life and provides a continuous network of pathways and experiences that makes it easier and safer for people to move around.

Aboriginal Knowledge Holders, organisations and communities should be engaged at an early stage of the design process for public space, to ensure that knowledge about Country is considered. This could include identifying stories or narratives connected to a place that can inform its design, or to understand if there are key movement paths or Songlines that can direct how people move in and through the public space.



Well-managed

Well-managed and maintained public space functions better and invites people to use and care for it.

All public spaces require some form of management so that they can continue to fulfil their various roles and provide a safe and welcoming environment. There are often multiple and diverse stakeholders whose involvement, activities and relationships can affect the quality of a public space and who have their own concerns and needs for how the space should be maintained. Public space management and governance agreements, strategies and frameworks that define roles and responsibilities, support collaboration and consider sustainable funding models can deliver better place quality outcomes.

Public space should be managed in a way that encourages and is considerate of users. Rules governing public space should only restrict activities and behaviours that are unsafe and shouldn't target user groups who have historically been excluded from public space, including young people, Aboriginal peoples and people experiencing homelessness.

Public spaces should be designed with consideration of their financial sustainability, and how long-term operating and maintenance costs can be minimised. Smart infrastructure, systems and technology can also improve the ways that public space is monitored and managed. Cleaning, maintenance and repairs of public space and its amenities should be carried out in line with their levels of use to maintain a welcoming environment.

Aboriginal people are experts in land management practices that ensure the health and wellbeing of Country. Valuing and respecting Aboriginal cultural knowledge and working with Aboriginal peoples should be a priority in managing public space. This will also ensure that culturally significant places are respected and protected, and there is access for cultural practice.

Flexible community-led design, inclusive processes and capacity-building can also

foster more efficient and dynamic models of stewardship to emerge. When power and responsibility for managing public space is shared with the community, people feel more invested and are more willing to maintain, program, beautify, and advocate for those spaces. Volunteer groups such as scouts and girl guides, local schools, sports and surf lifesaving clubs, bush care groups or citizen science networks can provide valuable community partnerships for managing public space.

*Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney's Aboriginal Education & Engagement Manager Renee Cawthorne
Courtesy of Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust*





dpie.nsw.gov.au

7.4 Boundary Encroachment – 62-64 Court Street, West Wyalong



Our Leadership - A well run Council acting as the voice of the community

DP10.2 Councillors are encouraged to take ownership and a strong leadership role

Author: Manager Development and Regulatory Services

Introduction

Council has received correspondence in relation to a boundary encroachment between Lot 469 DP 753135 (62 Court Street) and Lot 468 DP 753135 (64 Court Street) which was discovered when a Registered Surveyor was setting out Lot 468 for a new dwelling. Lot 468 was previously owned by Council and was sold to the current owner in July 2021. The land was originally surveyed in 1907 and it is not uncommon for boundary encroachments to be discovered as a result of more advanced survey data and equipment.

As shown in the attached plan, the existing cottage located on Lot 469 is encroaching into the existing drainage easement located on Lot 468. Further to this the drainage easement does not align with the existing concrete drain. The cottage encroaches by 0.27 metres with the gutter overhanging a further 0.15 metres.

The matter can be resolved by a boundary realignment to that of the existing fence and the creation of a new easement over the existing drain. This will involve the extinguishment of existing easement and the creation of the new easement.

It is considered appropriate for Council to waive the Subdivision Certificate fee, and cover all costs associated with the release of the current easement and the creation of the new easement, and contribute 50 per cent of survey fees and Land Registry Services (LRS) lodgement fees

Financial Implications

The following estimated values are indicative of the costs to resolve the matter:

• Survey fees (50% contribution)	\$1600.00
• Drafting of section 88b instrument to release existing easement and create new easement (100% contribution).	\$350.00
• LRS Lodgement fee (50% contribution)	\$450.00
• LRS Electronic Lodgement of documents (50% contribution)	\$250.00
• Waiving of Subdivision Certificate fee	\$150.00
Total costs to Council	\$2800 ex GST

Summary

The land subject to the encroachment (Lot 468) was previously owned by Council and sold to the current owner in 2021. Council was not aware of the encroachment at the time of sale, however, in order to resolve this matter it is considered that it would be appropriate to cover the associated costs.

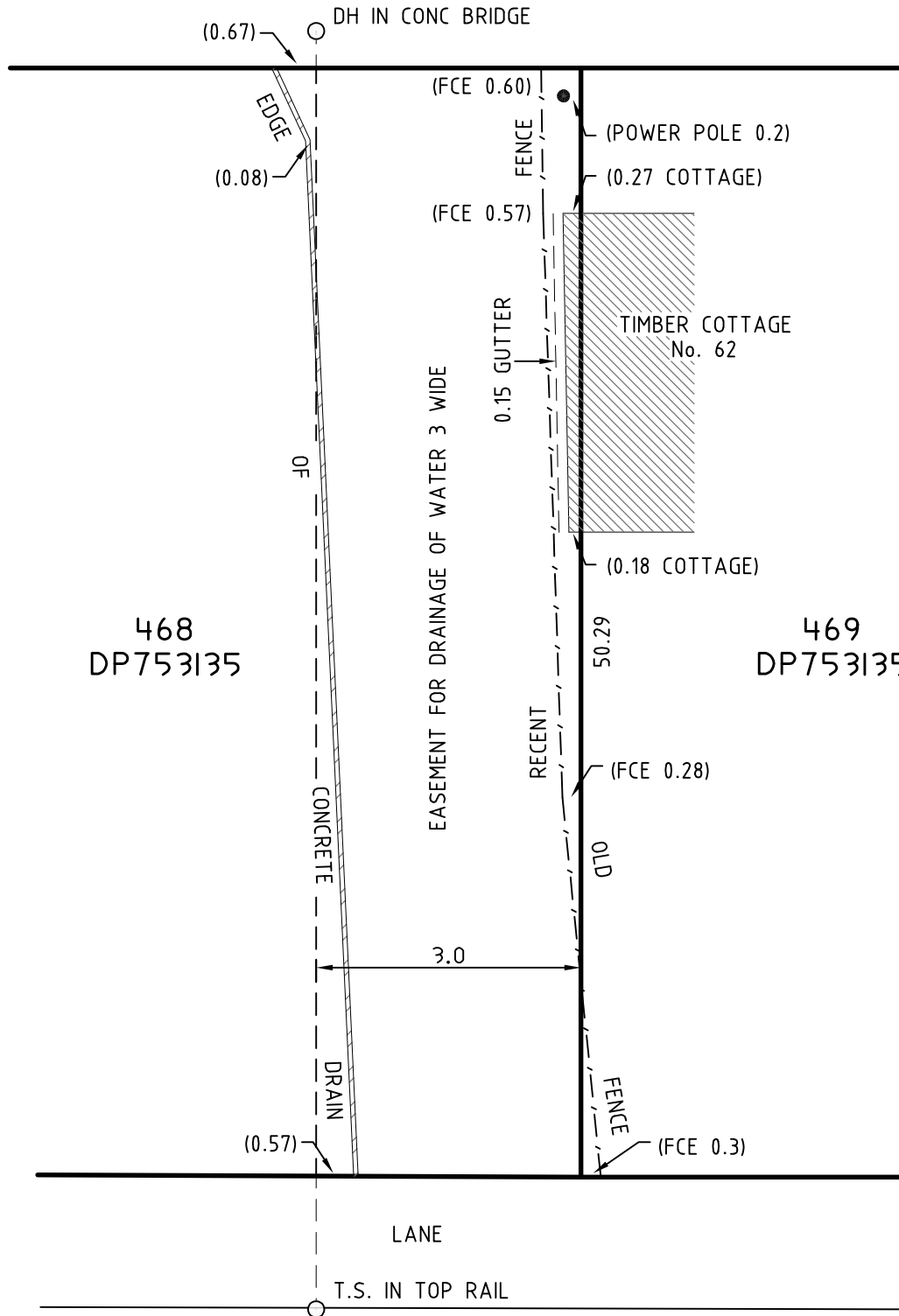
Recommendation:**That Council contribute:-**

- **50 per cent of the costs associated with survey fees and LRS lodgement fees,**
 - **100 per cent of the costs associated with creating a new drainage easement, and,**
 - **waive the subdivision certificate application fee**
- for the boundary adjustment between 62 Court and 64 Court Street, West Wyalong.**



COURT

STREET



THE FOLLOWING NOTES FORM AN INTEGRAL PART OF THIS PLAN.

1. COPYRIGHT OF THE INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS RESERVED BY THE AUTHOR AND IS NOT TO BE USED WITHOUT THE EXPRESS PERMISSION OF THE AUTHOR.
2. DO NOT SCALE.

KARL LUPIS
 REGISTERED SURVEYOR
 7 JUNCTION STREET, FORBES.
 P.O. BOX 258, FORBES 2871
 PHONE: (02) 6852 2480

SKETCH OF IMPROVEMENTS ALONG
BOUNDARY OF LOTS 1468 & 467 DP753135
COURT STREET, WEST WYALONG
 CLIENT: ASSOCIATED CIVIL & MECHANICAL
 ENTERPRISES PTY LTD

SCALE 1:300V 1:100H	DATE 3/08/2022	REF. 22/133
COUNTY: GIPPS	DATUM: NA	
PARISH: WYALONG	AZIMUTH: MM	
L.G.A: BLAND	FILE: BLAND8FBK: 76/6	

Section 2 – Corporate & Community Services

7.5 Finance and Investment Report for July 2022



Our Leadership - A well run Council acting as the voice of the community

DP10.4 Ensure the long term financial sustainability of Council through effective and prudent financial management.

Author Manager Customer & Financial Services

Introduction

The Finance and Investment Report is provided to Council for information and prepared in accordance with the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021.

Financial Implications

STATEMENT OF BANK BALANCES, RATES COLLECTIONS AND INVESTMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 2022.

BANK BALANCES AS AT 31st JULY 2022

ACCOUNT	BALANCE
General Fund	\$1,560,547.96
Business Card	\$30,000.00
	\$1,590,547.96
<i>Invested Funds</i>	
Fixed Deposits	\$61,700,000.00
Deposits at Call	\$2,255,719.94
	\$63,955,719.94
Net Balance	\$65,546,267.90
Percentage of Invested Funds to Net Balance	97.57%

STATEMENT OF BANK BALANCES AS AT 31.07.2022

SUBMITTED TO THE ORDINARY MEETING AUGUST 16, 2022

BALANCE as at 01.07.22 **\$1,708,856.85**

Add Receipts

Receipts Over \$150,000

08/07/22 AMP Investment Redemption	1,000,000.00
27/07/22 2020/23 Safer Roads Program	267,329.77
27/07/22 ATO GST Receivable June 2022	228,955.00

<u>Receipts under \$150,000</u>	926,008.54
<i>Total Receipts for July 2022</i>	\$2,422,293.31

Less Payments

Payments over \$150,000

07/07/22 Statewide Mutual Liability Insurance	-603,101.83
15/07/22 Downer Edi Services Pty Ltd	-185,242.75
28/07/22 Western Kerbing & Civil Pty Ltd	-188,428.24

<u>Payments under \$150,000</u>	-593,829.38
---------------------------------	-------------

Aged Care	\$ 3,536.81
Bank Fees	\$ 1,568.57
Cemeteries	\$ 5,399.14
Children's Services	\$ 20,523.58
Community	\$ 16,947.80
Construction	\$ 311,185.51
Corporate	\$ 409,728.50
Development Services	\$ 2,792.48
Direct Debits	\$ 1,631.66
Employee	\$ 605,534.98
Governance	\$ 24,700.12
Insurance	\$ 609,738.13
Library	\$ 3,909.75
Maintenance	\$ 100,578.62
Plant/Fuel	\$ 146,725.57
Roads	\$ 245,005.19
Utilities	\$ 30,376.36
VIC	\$ 10,366.14
Waste	\$ 7,758.29
Weeds	\$ 12,595.00

<i>Total Payments for July 2022</i>	- \$2,570,602.20
-------------------------------------	-------------------------

CASH BALANCE **\$1,560,547.96**

Limit of Overdraft Arranged with Bank	\$ 350,000.00
---------------------------------------	---------------

ACCOUNTS SUMMARY AND CERTIFICATION

The following is a summary of accounts paid for the period 01 July 2022 to 31 July 2022.

I CERTIFY,

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

Payment Type	Voucher No's	Total
Cheques	026197-026227	\$54,135.69
Auto-pay	Creditors E028834 – E29109	\$1,955,974.40
Auto-pay	Payroll 03/07/22 – 24/07/22	\$557,291.88
Bank Charges & Commissions	July 2022	\$1,568.57
Direct Debits	Repayments & Vehicle Lease	1,631.66
		\$2,570,602.20

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 preceding monthly period.

.....
Manager Customer and Financial Services

Responsible Accounting Officer

CERTIFICATE OF GENERAL MANAGER

This accounts summary, a copy of which was submitted to each member of Council on the 16th August 2022, 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 **\$2,570,602.20** was submitted to the Ordinary Meeting on the 16th August 2022 and that the amounts are presented to Council for confirmation of payment.

.....
Chairman of Ordinary Meeting

INVESTMENTS

The following table gives details of Council's Funds invested at 31st July 2022. 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 (\$s)	TERM	YIELD	DATE DUE
14-September-2021	Bank of QLD (Term Deposit)	1,000,000.00	367 days	0.38%	16-September-2022
21-September-2021	NAB (Term Deposit)	1,000,000.00	365 days	0.35%	21-September-2022
16-February-2022	NAB (Term Deposit)	1,000,000.00	364 days	0.85%	15-February-2023
01-October-2021	NAB (Term Deposit)	1,500,000.00	734 days	0.60%	05-October-2023
08-September-2021	Bendigo Bank (Term Deposit)	400,000.00	365 days	0.35%	08-September-2022
08-September-2021	Bendigo Bank (Term Deposit)	400,000.00	365 days	0.35%	08-September-2022
08-September-2021	Bendigo Bank (Term Deposit)	400,000.00	365 days	0.35%	08-September-2022
20-January-2022	AMP (Term Deposit)	1,000,000.00	729 days	1.35%	19-January-2024
16-August-2021	Bank of QLD	1,000,000.00	365 days	0.40%	16-August-2022
11-May-2022	AMP (Term Deposit)	2,000,000.00	365 days	3.00%	11-May-2023
29-September-2021	ME Bank (Term Deposit)	2,000,000.00	365 days	0.40%	29-September-2022
05-October-2022	NAB (Term Deposit)	2,000,000.00	365 days	0.35%	05-October-2022
28-April-2022	AMP (Term Deposit)	2,500,000.00	278 days	2.25%	31-January-2023
14-December-2021	Bank of QLD	2,000,000.00	730 days	1.10%	14-December-2023
30-November-2020	MyState Bank (Term Deposit)	2,000,000.00	365 days	0.50%	30-November-2023
23-February-2021	AMP (Term Deposit)	2,500,000.00	548 days	1.35%	23-August-2023
22-October-2021	MyState Bank (Term Deposit)	2,000,000.00	733 days	0.80%	25-October-2023
28-May-2020	Bank of QLD	2,000,000.00	1097 days	1.35%	30-May-2023
28-May-2020	Bank of QLD	2,000,000.00	1460 days	1.50%	27-May-2024
6-August-2020	Bank of QLD	2,000,000.00	1093 days	1.05%	4-August-2023
30-September-2020	Northern Territory Treasury	2,000,000.00	1902 days	1.20%	15-December-2025
07-October-2021	MyState Bank (Term Deposit)	2,000,000.00	371 days	0.45%	13-October-2022
30-October-2020	Northern Territory Treasury	1,000,000.00	1141 days	0.80%	15-December-2023
25-January-2022	Macquarie Bank	1,000,000.00	365 days	0.65%	25-January-2023
10-March-2022	Macquarie Bank	2,000,000.00	335 days	0.90%	08-February-2023
03-March-2022	ME Bank (Term Deposit)	1,000,000.00	370 days	0.85%	08-March-2023
11-May-2021	MyState Bank	1,000,000.00	730 days	0.55%	11-May-2023
24-June-2021	Defence Bank	2,000,000.00	728 days	0.58%	22-June-2023
17-September-2021	Judo Bank	2,000,000.00	727 days	0.95%	14-September-2023
30-September-2021	AMP (Term Deposit)	1,000,000.00	406 days	0.80%	10-November-2022
19-October-2021	Judo Bank	2,000,000.00	365 days	0.90%	19-October-2022
30-November-2021	Auswide Bank	2,000,000.00	365 days	0.78%	30-November-2022
30-November-2021	Commonwealth Bank	2,000,000.00	372 days	0.55%	7-December-2022
7-December-2021	Auswide Bank	2,000,000.00	366 days	0.73%	8-December-2022
28-February-2022	Macquarie Bank	2,000,000.00	365 days	0.95%	28-February-2023
01-March-2022	Defence Bank	1,000,000.00	365 days	0.92%	1-March-2023
04-May-2022	MyState Bank	2,000,000.00	350 days	2.90%	19-April-2023
10-May-2022	MyState Bank	1,000,000.00	92 days	1.40%	10-August-2022

17-May-2022	Australian Unity	2,000,000.00	184 days	2.20%	17-November-2022
	ANZ Deposit at Call	50,954.57	Cash at Call		
	CBA Deposit at Call	2,204,765.37	Cash at Call		
	TOTAL:	\$63,955,719.94			

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.

GENERAL MANAGER

RATES REPORT

Below is a summary of outstanding rates

Total rates income levied (2022/23)	\$ 11,027,658.39
Rates received as at 31/7/2022	\$ 540,287.59
% of rates received to date	4.90%

The total rates income includes rates in arrears and accumulated interest.

Summary

The information provided within this Finance and Investment Report has been prepared in accordance with the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 as well as Council's financial management policies and procedures. Further, the financial position of Council is satisfactory and the external investments are held in accordance with section 625 of the Local Government act 1993.

Recommendation:

1. That Council receive and note the information contained within the Finance and Investment Report for the month of July 2022
2. That Council confirms the payment of accounts, for the period 01 July to 31 July 2022, summarised in the accounts summary totalling \$2,570,602.20

7.6 Progress Report on the Combined Delivery Program (2017-2022) and Operational Plan (2021-2022)



Our Leadership - A well run Council acting as the voice of the community

Strategy 10.3 Ensure the General Manager takes a high level role in implementing the Community Strategic Plan and other Council documents

Author: Director Corporate and Community Services

Introduction

The attached report is the second progress report for implementation of the Combined Delivery Program and Operational Plan 2017-2022 (**Attachment 1**).

It covers the period commencing 1 January 2022 and ending 30 June 2022.

The Integrated Planning and Reporting framework for NSW Local Government was implemented at Bland Shire Council from 1 July 2012. In accordance with the framework this Council reviewed and adopted the Community Strategic Plan and Supporting documents in June 2017. This report provides information on programs identified as part of that process.

Financial Implications

Any financial implications for Council have been identified and addressed through Council's Quarterly Budget Review processes throughout the 2021/2022 financial year.

Summary

The Delivery Program details the strategies and actions across the operational areas of council that will be undertaken to achieve the community objectives as stated in the Community Strategic Plan. 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 on a six monthly basis.

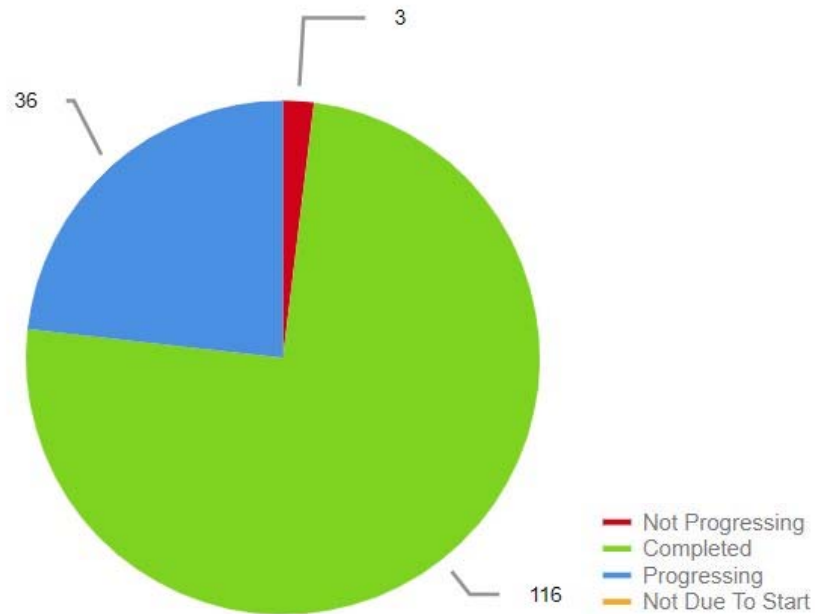
The attached Progress Report on the Combined Delivery Program and Operational Plan details the 155 actions, projects, improvements and initiatives that have been undertaken for the six-month period ending 30 June 2022. Of these, 116 actions (75%) have been completed (compared with 16 during the six-months to December), 36 (compared with 126) are progressing, and 3 (compared with 2) are not progressing. The 11 items not due to start have either commenced or been completed. The three actions which have not progressed are:

- Facilitate a Bland Flavour Festival.
- Promote and implement the Heritage Advisory Program.
- Review Heritage items currently listed in the Bland Local Environmental Plan and to investigate the inclusion of new heritage items.

The reasons these actions have not been progressed are due the impact of Covid on community events and the need for a new heritage advisor to be appointed (respectively).

Council's actions as detailed in the four year Delivery Program and one year Operational Plan continue to be monitored on a quarterly basis by Council's senior management.

The graph following is an indication of overall performance against the 2021/22 Operational Plan actions as at 30 June 2022.



Recommendation:

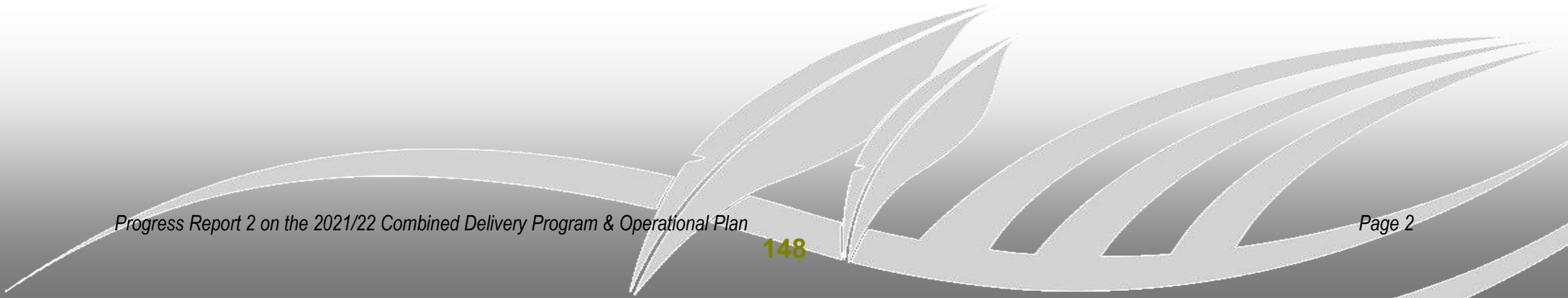
THAT Council receive and note the report and updates on the progress of the Combined Delivery Program and Operational Plan for the period 1 January 2022 to 30 June 2022.



Progress Report 2 2021/22 Combined Delivery Program & Operational Plan

1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022





Reporting Our Progress

Performance Measures

The Community Strategic Plan is presented within four themes Our People, Our Places, Our Leadership and Our Prosperity. Each of these themes has a number of Delivery Targets and Operational Actions including performance measures to be achieved. Each of the performance measures feed into a series of key performance indicators.

The progress towards the key performance indicators will be reported to the community in line with the election cycle and the End of Term Report.

Monitoring and Reporting

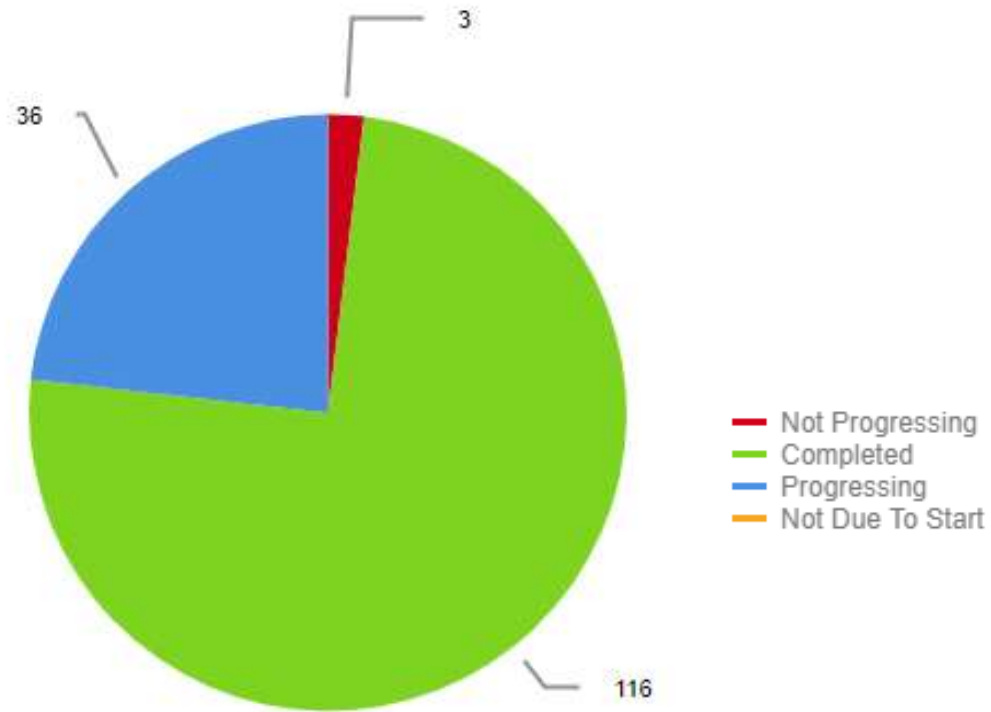
It is important to track and report on our progress in delivering our Community Strategic Plan over the ten year period. Council will report to the community at regular intervals on what is being achieved and the progress towards the performance measures.

All reports will be made available to the community at Council meetings and on Council's website. Council's management team will internally monitor on a quarterly basis the output and actions as detailed in the four year Delivery Program and one year Operational Plan. The outcomes will be formally reported to Council, the Community and staff on at least, a six monthly basis. Due to the postponement of the Local Government Elections, Bland Shire Council's Delivery Program was extended to become a five-year Program.

Whilst some performance measures can be clearly quantified, it does not necessarily mean the community is aware of, fully appreciates, or is fully satisfied with, the extent of progress made. Therefore, there are also qualitative measures included that represent community response.

A Community satisfaction survey will be undertaken every four years to gauge whether the community is satisfied with progress and where priorities could or should be assigned to particular areas into the future. This survey was undertaken in October-November 2020.

Progress Snapshot





Our People

A Strong, healthy, connected and inclusive community

Our Objectives

1. Ensure health and support services address the needs of the community
2. Partner with organisations to strengthen community health and safety
3. Nurture a strong sense of community and enrich the cultural life of the residents
4. Ensure services are accessible for all residents

1.

Ensure health and support services address the needs of the community

Strategy 1.1

Maintain active communication with health and allied health providers

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
1.1.1 Q1	Maintain active relationships and communication with health services, relevant allied health providers and medical practices within the Shire.	Director Corporate and Community Services	Progressing	Council continues to liaise with MLHD on a range of matters – specifically in relation to access services. Current Covid-19 matters are being dealt with and communicated through the General Manager.
Q2			Progressing	Ongoing Covid-19 matters continue to be dealt with and communicated through the General Manager. Council continues to liaise with Murrumbidgee Local Health District and Murrumbidgee Primary Health Network to advocate for the provision of and access to services within the Bland Shire Community.
Q3			Progressing	Council continues to liaise with Murrumbidgee Local Health District and Murrumbidgee Primary Health Network to advocate for the provision of and access to services within the Bland Shire Community.
Q4			Progressing	Meeting with senior Murrumbidgee Local Health District staff in June discussed a range of matters impacting health services. Three graduate registered nurses had been appointed to West Wyalong Hospital – two to be in situ by the end of the financial year with the third arriving in August. Scholarships are available for Aboriginal people or school-based trainees to work within the enrolled nurse field. Incentives are being offered to recruit staff with progressive payments to be made. Refurbishment of nurse quarters in Old Hospital Road were flagged from a \$15M funding allocation to MLHD with the potential of leasing property from future development sites a possibility.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
1.1.2 Q1	Partner with local health services to implement workshops and provide resources to the community.	Community Development Officer	Progressing	A multitude of resources and messaging has been provided to the community through Council communication channels in regards to the Covid-19 pandemic. Health messaging regarding Covid-19 safety protocols and vaccinations have been frequently communicated.
Q2			Progressing	A multitude of resources and messaging has been provided to the community through Council's communication channels in regard to the Covid-19 pandemic. Health messaging regarding Covid safety protocols and vaccinations has been frequently communicated. Council has further supported local doctors and the local hospital in getting specific information and messages out to the community as required.
Q3			Progressing	Council supported the Royal Far West Health Kids Bus Stop visit which allowed 55 local preschool aged children to be screened over three and a half days in the areas of speech/language, oral health, food and nutrition, and fine and gross motor development. Overall, there were 206 assessments conducted. 40 of the children required one or more referrals (73%). The main areas of referral (in order of numbers) were occupational therapy, speech, audiometry, dental and early intervention.
Q4			Completed	Council has provided the Resourceful Adolescents Program facilitator training to eight (8) local teachers from both West Wyalong High School and Ungarie Central School. This training will allow teachers to facilitate the program at both schools to assist in building resilience and problem solving skills in local youth.

Strategy 1.2

Provide services to the frail, aged, disabled and their carers

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
1.2.1 Q1	Review existing services to ensure service model is in line with government requirements.	Community Care Coordinator	Progressing	This will continue to be an ongoing process, with more formal procedures and plans to follow in the coming months. Significant progress has been made on policy and required client documentation.
Q2			Progressing	This will continue to be an ongoing process, with more formal procedures and plans to follow in the coming months. Significant progress has been made on policy and required client documentation.
Q3			No update received	
Q4			Progressing	A number of policies and procedures have been presented to the Senior Management Team for approval and endorsement as a means of continuing to meet compliance requirements. This quarter the following have been reviewed and adopted: Commonwealth Home Support Programme Client Contribution Policy Advocacy Support Policy Privacy and Confidentiality Policy
1.2.2 Q1	Develop and implement programs to ensure need is being met.	Community Care Coordinator	Progressing	Covid-19 has had a significant impact on services over the last 18 months. Groups (Bland Blokes, Wednesday Activity Day and Thursday Gentle Exercises) have commenced again in September 2021. It is planned to add Tech Talk back into the rotation to occur each week commencing toward the end of October 2021. In home services continue, with referrals steady, additionally talks have taken place at various community groups in order to ensure the ageing community know what support services are available to them. Currently we are actively supporting 108 clients in the shire, in the July-September quarter we provided 962 direct service hours.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q2			Progressing	<p>Covid-19 continues to have a significant impact on services with all groups restarting (Bland Blokes, Wednesday Activity Day and Thursday Gentle Exercises) in September 2021 then being placed on hold in January 2022 due to local cases and transmission.</p> <p>In home services continue, with referrals steady.</p> <p>Extension Agreements are being drafted to send to providers in the next couple of months to secure 2022-2023 funding. BCCS has requested for reallocation of funds between its funded activities to better reflect local needs.</p> <p>Currently we are actively supporting 121 clients in the shire and from July to December we provided 1774.5 direct service hours.</p>
Q3			No update received	
Q4			Progressing	<p>Group attendance has been impacted week to week due to Covid, colds and flu. All groups have capacity for new referrals and will continue to do so even if flexibility provisions are ceased. Wednesday Activity Day remains a favourite for those that enjoy a day out socialising, playing games, doing puzzles, bingo and having a laugh. A 'home cooked' lunch is provided along with morning tea and afternoon tea.</p> <p>The Bland Blokes are always keen to see new members join them on Tuesday mornings for a cuppa and a yarn.</p> <p>Our Thursday Exercise Group has a good number of attendees and is currently looking at adding a second session on a Tuesday once we reach a minimum number of attendees.</p>
1.2.3 Q1	Network with service providers to strengthen relationships within community.	Community Care Coordinator	Progressing	<p>Covid-19 has impacted our ability to network – it is planned this will recommence initially through the Interagency meetings hosted by Council.</p> <p>Networking at two (2) Community Groups has occurred with new referrals as a result.</p>

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q2			Progressing	Liaison with other agencies and My Aged Care has increased in recent months through general daily networking, resulting in client referrals for services. Additionally interagency meetings have recommenced allowing further networking.
Q3			No update received	
Q4			Progressing	Attendance at Bland Shire Council interagency meetings continues as well as the sharing of information via established networks. Promotion of Services offered by Community Care to commence in the new financial year to inform the broader community of availability of services.
1.2.4 Q1	Provide services to towns and villages in the Shire.	Community Care Coordinator	Progressing	<p>Services are being provided in most towns and villages throughout the shire, with any new referrals being accepted and implemented.</p> <p>Currently:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Barmedman had four (4) active clients (another going through intake) - Girral has one (1) active client - Tallimba has one (1) active client - Ungarie has nine (9) active clients - Weethalle has one (1) active client (another going through intake) - West Wyalong (including surrounding properties) has 65 active clients - Wyalong has eight (8) active clients. <p>Referrals will continue to be sought and accepted as the funding activity workplan allows.</p>

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q2			Progressing	<p>Services are being provided in most towns and villages throughout the shire, with any new referrals being accepted and implemented.</p> <p>Currently:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Barmedman has 5 active clients - Girral has 1 active client - Tallimba has 1 active client - Ungarie has 9 active clients - Weethalle has 2 active clients (another going through intake) - West Wyalong (including surrounding properties) has 86 active clients - Wyalong has 12 active clients - Yalgogrin has 1 active client. <p>Referrals will continue to be sought and accepted as the funding activity workplan allows.</p>
Q3			No update received	
Q4			Progressing	<p>Services are being provided in most towns and villages throughout the shire, with any new referrals being accepted and implemented.</p> <p>Currently:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Barmedman has 6 active clients - Girral has 1 active client - Tallimba has 1 active client - Ungarie has 7 active clients - Weethalle has 3 active clients (another going through intake) - West Wyalong (including surrounding properties) has 85 active clients - Wyalong has 15 active clients - Yalgogrin has 1 active client. <p>Referrals will continue to be sought and accepted as the funding activity workplan allows.</p>
1.2.5 Q1	Undertake a service survey for Aged Care Services.	Community Care Coordinator	Progressing	A client survey has been drafted and is ready to be sent – responses will be collated and provided in the next quarters' report.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q2			Progressing	Client surveys have been delayed due to ongoing staff movement – awaiting the allocation of a Team Leader to manage client survey distribution and collation of results.
Q3			No update received	
Q4			Progressing	Due to staffing resource issues, the service survey for Aged Care clients was not completed this (2021/2022) financial year.
1.2.6 Q1	Expand services available at Community Care facility through increased building tenancies.	Community Care Coordinator	Progressing	Building tenancies include: four (4) regular tenants - one (1) fulltime tenancy, three (3) others on daily arrangements – one of those is to become fulltime in the next month. Building updates/improvements have made a more usable and inviting space to allow us to market the building.
Q2			Progressing	The Community Care Centre is at capacity with five (4) tenants – two (2) full time but on a time limited arrangement.
Q3			No update received	
Q4			Progressing	Tenancies within the Community Care facility have been maintained during Q4. At the end of the financial year there were 5 tenants – 2 full time and another full time but on a time limited arrangement.

2.

Partner with organisations to strengthen community health and safety

Strategy 2.1

Develop and support community partnerships to increase a sense of safety and wellbeing within the community

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
2.1.1 Q1	Provide education programs on road safety, in line with RMS funding.	Road Safety Officer	Progressing	First phase of Speeding on Local Roads project completed. Drink Drive – Plan B – win a Swag Campaign in the organisational phase. Four Shires Facebook pages continually updated with road safety information.
Q2			Progressing	Drink Driving Initiative: Plan B – Win A Swag campaign is on track and commenced 1 December 2021 all venues confirmed and all resources organised. Fatigue campaign: Free Cuppa For the Driver is progressing, venues confirmed.
Q3			Completed	Speeding on Local Roads project completed. Drink Driving – Plan B – Win A Swag Campaign completed. Fatigue project delayed until April, Free Cuppa for the Driver project progressing. 65+ projects completed. HLDSBSD project completed.
Q4			Completed	All projects completed.
2.1.2 Q1	Remove offensive graffiti from Council infrastructure as soon as practical dependent on location and degree of offensiveness and report to Police.	Coordinator - Urban	Progressing	Any offensive graffiti identified through routine inspections or reported by the public has been addressed and removed accordingly. Several problems have occurred during school holidays at Barnado Park.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q2			Progressing	Any offensive graffiti identified through routine inspections has been addressed and removed accordingly. The skate park has been one area of concern over school holidays.
Q3			Progressing	Any offensive graffiti identified through routine inspections or reported by the public has been addressed and removed accordingly. Barnado park has the highest amount compared to other areas.
Q4			Completed	Any offensive graffiti identified through routine inspections or reported by the public has been addressed and removed accordingly. Barnado park has the highest amount compared to other areas.
2.1.3 Q1	Engage with community members to volunteer within Bland Shire by providing opportunity, safety training and governance support.	Director Corporate and Community Services	Not Due To Start	Training for volunteers expected to be scheduled in early 2022 to coincide with induction processes for new Councillors.
Q2			Not Due To Start	A review of Council's Section 355 committees to be undertaken with newly elected Council prior to training volunteers.
Q3			Not Due To Start	Review of Section 355 Committee to be undertaken with Councillors during Quarter 4 (April-June) period.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q4			Progressing	<p>Work with the Section 355 Committees for Bland Shire continues. An information session for committees was held on 25 May and facilitated by Council's Regional Risk Manager for Statewide Mutual, who is himself a member of a Section 355 committee in his home town. He provided valuable information to Bland Shire's 355 committee executives in relation to managing risk and governance matters. The session was attended by representatives from six of the eight S355 committees.</p> <p>At it's meeting in June, Council considered a report on the operations of one S355 Committee and made the decision to disband the committee and assist it to establish as an incorporated organisation. The Barmedman Community Centre Committee had responsibility for a building which was constructed with community funds on land which was not owned by Council. As such it did not meet the parameters of being a S355 committee.</p>
2.1.4 Q1	Support and promote young driver educational programs.	Community Development Officer	Progressing	NRMA Safer Driving lessons held on 8,9 and 10 July 2021 with 12 young people participating in the program.
Q2			Progressing	NRMA Driving lessons scheduled for Thursday 20 and Friday 21 January 2022.
Q3			Progressing	NRMS Driving lessons held on 20 th and 21 st of January 2022. Safer Driving program or lessons will be held again in July 2022.
Q4			Completed	NRMA Driving Lessons held in July 2021, January 2022 and April 2022.
2.1.5 Q1	Inspect all high and medium risk food premises.	Manager Development & Regulatory Services	Progressing	Six (6) food premises inspections were undertaken during the reporting period.
Q2			Progressing	Two (2) food premises were inspected during the reporting period.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q3			Progressing	Eighteen (18) food premises inspections were undertaken during the reporting period.
Q4			Completed	Thirty-four (34) food premises were inspected during the reporting period.
2.1.6 Q1	Inspect all Skin Penetration Premises and Mortuaries	Manager Development & Regulatory Services	Not Due To Start	No inspections were undertaken during the reporting period due to Covid restrictions.
Q2			Not Due To Start	Inspections are due to recommence since easing of Covid restrictions.
Q3			Progressing	Inspection program to be completed by end of June 2022.
Q4			Completed	Council's inspection program was postponed as NSW Health have advised they will assist in undertaking inspections later in 2022.
2.1.7 Q1	Implement Council's on site waste management systems inspection program.	Manager Development & Regulatory Services	Progressing	One (1) onsite waste water management system has been undertaken during the reporting period.
Q2			Progressing	Four (4) onsite water waste management systems were undertaken during the reporting period.
Q3			Progressing	One (1) onsite waste water management system inspections was undertaken during the reporting period.
Q4			Completed	Four (4) onsite waste water management systems were undertaken during the reporting period.
2.1.8 Q1	Promote the continued use of online training program for Food Safety.	Manager Development & Regulatory Services	Progressing	There were 48 users of the online food safety training program.
Q2			Progressing	There were 241 users of the online food safety training program during the reporting period.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q3			Progressing	There were 608 users of the online food safety training program during the reporting period.
Q4			Progressing	There were 733 users of the online food safety training program during the reporting period.
2.1.9 Q1	Promote Mental Health month.	Community Development Officer	Progressing	Plans are in place to host a community movie night to celebrate Mental Health Month in October, in accordance with NSW health orders. Council will also share information regarding to Mental Health Month across social media platforms.
Q2			Completed	A Mental Health Month video clip was developed featuring local High School students and the Mayor and General Manager to encourage our community to speak out when they need support and to support each other in tough times. The video was shared on Council's social media platforms.
Q3			Completed	Action completed, no further action required.
Q4			Completed	This action was completed in October 2021.
2.1.10 Q1	Implement and monitor Council's swimming pool inspection program policy.	Manager Development & Regulatory Services	Progressing	Fourteen inspections undertaken during the reporting period.
Q2			Progressing	Three (3) inspections were undertaken during the reporting period.
Q3			Progressing	One (1) inspection was undertaken during the reporting period.
Q4			Completed	There were no swimming pool inspections undertaken during the reporting period.

3.

Nurture a strong sense of community and enrich the cultural life of the residents

Strategy 3.1

Develop and support a strong sense of community, providing advice and support to community groups

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
3.1.1 Q1	Actively work for the community to identify additional funding to achieve community goals by promoting and assisting with external grant applications.	Community Relations Officer	Progressing	Various community groups assisted with grant applications under the Stronger Country Communities Fund and Cowal Partnering Program. Announcements were due in September 2021 but delayed until Q2.
Q2			Progressing	Successful community projects announced in December 2021. Council also assisted community groups including the West Wyalong S&C Club, Weethalle Country Club, West Wyalong Bowling Club, Wyalong Public School P&C, West Wyalong public School and Waratah Village Association with successful external grant applications.
Q3			Progressing	Continuing to work closely with the community groups to identify and source funding opportunities for potential projects.
Q4			Completed	Council continued to actively promote grant opportunities to the community and assist local groups with the application and administration of grants programs.
3.1.2 Q1	Recognise and celebrate volunteers for National Volunteer Week.	Community Development Officer	Not Due To Start	National Volunteer Week celebrations are due to be held in May 2022.
Q2			Not Due To Start	National Volunteer Week celebrations are due to be held in May 2022.
Q3			Not Due To Start	Plans in place to celebrate National Volunteer Week in May 2022.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q4			Completed	Hugely successful volunteer week initiative held on Wednesday 25 May at the Tivoli Theatre with a screening of 'The Duke'. Around 35 people attended the event with great feedback.
3.1.3 Q1	Administer Council's Strengthening Communities Grant programs.	Community Relations Officer	Progressing	Grants awarded to Horse, Sports and Rodeo and Camp draft Committee. Both events delayed due to Covid-19.
Q2			Progressing	Grants awarded to Tivoli Theatre and Waratah Village Association.
Q3			Progressing	Grant awarded to Weethalle Country Music Muster.
Q4			Completed	Strengthening Communities grants provided for the West Wyalong Hors Sports and Rodeo Association and Bellarwi CWA.
3.1.4 Q1	Facilitate and support groups that build skills and social inclusion including workshops/presentations.	Community Development Officer	Progressing	The promotion of a number of online presentations and webinars has occurred throughout Councils communication channels during the recent lock down period. Council is hosting an online trivia event on 29 September in order to promote and encourage social inclusion in the absence of face to face initiatives taking place.
Q2			Progressing	Council hosted an online trivia event on 29 September in order to promote and encourage social inclusion in the absence of face to face initiatives taking place. Council has assisted in the online promotion of a number of Business West Wyalong initiatives, the West Wyalong Show Society Markets, Lake Cowal Bird and Binos and the Lions Club Variety Concert.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q3			Progressing	Council has provided ongoing assistance and support to Business West Wyalong to bring the West Wyalong Choc Fest to the community. Council has been working with Business West Wyalong to bring the event to life and has also sourced the grant funding to make the event possible. Assistance has also been provided to other groups who have required support with identifying potential grant opportunities.
Q4			Completed	Council has continued to support numerous groups across the shire, including the West Wyalong Community Church and the Tallimba Recreation Group with the submission of grants, whilst also providing a number of programs to local teaching staff and students to assist in resilience building and problem solving.
3.1.5 Q1	Identify external grant funding to implement Tourism and Business programs and projects.	Tourism & Administration Officer	Progressing	Received funding for developing a new Art Trail booklet and adding new signage. To be completed by December 2021. Completed the Yindymarra Outdoor Cultural Display and opening from funding received for this project.
Q2			Progressing	Completed the Art Trail booklet with funding received. Application for funding of Small Business Month is in progress.
Q3			Completed	Funding from Small Business Month unsuccessful. No further funding available.
Q4			Completed	Completed funding applications for this financial year. No further funding required until 2022/2023.
3.1.6 Q1	Report on progress of Bland Shire Council's externally funded programs and projects	General Manager	Progressing	Council has developed a 'grants register' which records all current grants, a description of the project and compliance with milestones set by the grant authority. This register is presented to Council on a monthly basis.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q2			Progressing	The monthly grants register will continue to be presented to council to ensure that councillors are kept up to date with the progress of Council's externally funded programs and projects.
Q3			Progressing	Council is presented with a monthly report on the progress of all of the externally funded projects.
Q4			Completed	Council is presented with a monthly report on the progress of all the externally funded projects.

Strategy 3.2

Provide cultural activities and community programs that foster social development and community wellbeing

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
3.2.1 Q1	Continue membership and participation with Eastern Riverina Arts Inc.	Community Development Officer	Progressing	Membership with Eastern Riverina Arts in continuing.
Q2			Completed	Membership with Eastern Riverina Arts maintained and strong relationship with ERA staff ongoing.
Q3			Completed	Action completed no further comment required.
Q4			Completed	Membership with Eastern Riverina Arts maintained and strong relationship with ERA staff ongoing.
3.2.2 Q1	Facilitate visiting artist/exhibition/performance	Community Development Officer	Progressing	Recent discussions held with 'Music in the Regions' around the possibility of hosting touring classical music performances within the shire. There investigations and discussions are ongoing.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q2			Progressing	Facilitating travelling shows and exhibitions has not been possible due to Covid-19 restrictions. Plans in place to host and support such activities following the full easing of restrictions in December 2021.
Q3			Progressing	Investigations into hosting a touring performance or exhibition are continuing.
Q4			Progressing	Unfortunately, as a result of the recent Covid-19 situation, it has been challenging to lock in a travelling performance. Council has been in discussions with a number of providers, however no touring performance has been held to date.
3.2.3	Facilitate a Bland Flavour Festival.	Community Relations Officer	Not Due To Start	Unable to proceed in Q1 to dated due to Covid-19 restrictions.
Q1				
Q2			Progressing	Working group established to meet in January 2022.
Q3			Not Progressing	Decision made in consultation with Councillors, General Manager and community representatives not to proceed with the Flavour Festival.
Q4			Not Progressing	As per Q3, decision has been made in consultation with Councillors, GM and community representatives not to proceed with the Flavour Festival.

Strategy 3.3

Support and strengthen our indigenous culture and history

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
3.3.1 Q1	Contribute to the positive working relationship with the Local Aboriginal Lands Council.	General Manager	Progressing	Council has partnered with the WWLALC to develop a display of indigenous artefacts in the West Wyalong Wetlands and the General Manager continues to liaise with the Executive Officer of the WWLALC on a range of local issues.
Q2			Progressing	The General Manager continues to liaise with the WWLALC on a range of issues the most recent being the status of lot 1327 Neeld Street and the impending purchase of the site by BSC from the WWLALC.
Q3			Progressing	There has been no formal contact with the WWLALC during this quarter.
Q4			Completed	Council continues to work closely with the Local Aboriginal Land Council on matters of mutual benefit. The past 12 months has resulted in a number of matters being discussed and resolved between BSC and the WWLALC ensuring an ongoing professional relationship between both organisations.
3.3.2 Q1	Fly the Aboriginal Flag at Council's Administration Building.	Community Relations Officer	Progressing	Flag flown every day with the exception of extreme weather.
Q2			Progressing	As above.
Q3			Progressing	Flag continues to fly at Council offices every day.
Q4			Completed	Ongoing - flag continues to fly at council offices every day with the exception of extreme weather.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
3.3.3 Q1	A formal acknowledgement of Traditional owners is made at Council events.	Community Relations Officer	Progressing	A formal statement has been developed to deliver at Council events.
Q2			Progressing	No formal events held during this period.
Q3			Progressing	Formal acknowledgement of country provided at Australia Day Awards function.
Q4			Completed	Acknowledgement made at 'Sorry Day' Ceremony and other formal Council events.

Strategy 3.4

Foster a community learning culture optimising our physical and virtual spaces

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
3.4.1 Q1	Continue to promote the library as a community hub being utilised by all community members.	Library Services Coordinator	Progressing	Baby Bounce and Storytime were suspended in July due to the difficulties associated with running these programs under Covid-19 restrictions. All adult programs continued. However, the announcement of a state wide lockdown in August, the library closed its doors to the public, cancelled or postponed upcoming events and suspended all services and programs until further notice. The library implemented the following services – Book Drop to Your Door (delivery service) and Arts and Crafts to your Door (craft kits for children to do at home). Book Week – one of the library's most anticipated events – was again cancelled due to Covid-19. The library created a Book Week BINGO Challenge, which was circulated throughout the Bland Shire, with only 10 children returning their sheets. The monthly face to face LEGO Legends was held via Zoom with 12 participants.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q2			Progressing	Baby Bounce and Storytime resumed (October). Library continued to coordinate the following groups - Knit and Knatter (fortnightly), Pals of the Pen (fortnightly), Day Book Club (monthly), Lego Legends (online with a face-to-face session held monthly), Tech Savvy Seniors (weekly). EOI for Chess Club (targeting all ages) and a GOLD Club (targeting seniors). Monthly prize draws held for pre-school and school children. Managing Change in Challenging Times webinar held to highlight Mental Health Week (October). Summer Reading Club 40-Day Challenge launched (November). Various Bland Preschool visits 10x DIY Christmas craft kits for children taken for a small fee. Three free after school Christmas craft sessions held (December). Total of 45 programs held this quarter with a total of 444 people (adults and children) attending programs for children. 144 adults attended programs for adults. Book deposit stations maintained at Barmedman and Weethalle. Home deliveries (fortnightly).
Q3			Progressing	The library provides the following programs: Storytime (weekly), Tech Savvy Seniors (weekly), Home Library Service (fortnightly), Baby Bounce (fortnightly), Knit and Knatter (fortnightly), Pals of the Pen (fortnightly), Day Book Club (monthly), Lego Legends (online with a face-to-face session held monthly). GOLD Club for seniors inaugural meeting held February. Monthly prize draw for before school age children and school age children held. Summer Reading Club presentation held in February. Library Lovers Day celebrated February 14 with all new members receiving a free coffee / milkshake & cake gift card. Annual Author Visit held 21 - 25 March. Oliver Phommavanh visited all nine schools across the Bland Shire and spoke to some 600 students and teaching staff. A return of school classes to the library with the Year 1 / 2 students from West Wyalong Public School visiting in March. Changeover of books at Barmedman and Weethalle deposit stations.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q4			Completed	Fortnightly Home Library Service continues. Regular programs include Day Book Club (monthly), Tech Savvy Seniors (weekly), Knit and Knatter (fortnightly), Gold Club for Seniors (fortnightly), Lego Club (online with a face-to-face session once a month), Storytime (weekly), Baby Bounce (fortnightly) and Pals of the Pen (fortnightly). Bland Preschool visited with six groups in April / June while Little Wattle Day Care visited with three groups in May / June - the library provided a storytime session for each group. Biggest Morning Tea held to raise funds for NSW Cancer Council (May). Hosted an exhibition and meeting of the Bellarwi CWA Branch, celebrating 100 years (May). National Simultaneous Storytime (May). Special Children's Road Safety Storytime (May). State Library of NSW touring exhibition (June). Various school visits. Book launch event held (June). 71 program sessions held this quarter. 763 people attended children's programs. 192 people attended adult programs.
3.4.2 Q1	Foster lifelong learning through the provision of community programs.	Library Services Coordinator	Progressing	Despite Covid -19 restrictions and a state wide lockdown in August/September, compelling the library to close its doors to the public, non-library members were encouraged to register online via RRL's website and utilise its member services. Automatic renewals were enabled and members already banned given access to eResources. While RRL reported a significant increase in members accessing eBooks, eAudio and eMagazines, under the current system RRL could not provide a breakdown of usage per branch library.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q2			Progressing	A review of individual memberships is currently being undertaken by library staff to ensure future statistics eg. breakdown of member type is accurate due to inconsistencies on the LMS database (possibly due to incorrect data input). Membership at the end of November 2021 was 1506 (1169 adults including 8 reciprocal members and 12 home library clients, 320 junior, 2 deposit stations, 5 institutions, 9 class cards ie. school groups, 1 book club). This figure equates to approximately 25 percent of the Bland LGA population being active members of the library - a significant decline from 32 per cent in 2018-19, due in part to re-registration and a clean-up of the LMS database ie. removal of non-active members, the declining LGA population especially in outlying villages and the ongoing effects of Covid.
Q3			Progressing	47 new members registered this quarter - 36 adults and 11 juniors. It should be noted that an adult is defined as a person 18 years and above. A junior is defined as a person under the age of 18 years. Active membership remains consistent at 1538 (number slightly up on last quarter). This number consists of 1117 regular adult members and 352 regular junior members while the remainder is made up of various other categories. Good membership numbers in comparison to other RRL branch libraries with a similar or slightly higher LGA population eg. Temora's current membership is 1389, Junee 1563.
Q4			Completed	Due to a new library management system being installed in June 2022 and ongoing installation / training issues, the library is unable to provide new member data for June and current active member numbers. However, 28 new members (25 adults and 3 junior) registered in April / May.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
3.4.3 Q1	Ensure library content and services are available to the community in various platforms as per Riverina Regional Library service agreement	Library Services Coordinator	Progressing	The allocation of funds by RRL, for individual branch library collections, is based on a per capita basis. While Bland Shire Library's 2021-22 allocation of funds remains consistent with the past two financial years, there was no additional funding contributed by Bland Shire Council in 2021-22 due to the difficulties associated with administering the additional funds. This has led to a reduction in funds across all collection categories. For example, in 2020-21 \$9,500 was allocated to Adult Fiction. In 2021-22 the allocated amount has been reduced to \$5000 in order to supplement other collections such as large print, which is more expensive to purchase. Despite the library being closed to the public for most of August and September due to a state wide Covid-19 lockdown, the library continued to receive new books from Peter Pal (Library Suppliers) in a weekly delivery. RRL's internal delivery service was suspended during this period.
Q2			Progressing	Library continues to receive a weekly delivery of new books from supplier Peter Pal (as arranged by RRL). Library continues to receive a weekly internal delivery from RRL - this delivery includes new material eg. books purchased from sundries, reserved items ie. books from other branch libraries, Book Club kits, storytime kits, DIY kits, promotional material, etc. RRL continues to maintain and provide free access to a large consortium of online resources for members. Links to RRL's online resources are constantly updated on the Bland Shire Library website.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q3			Progressing	Library continues to receive a weekly delivery of new books from Peter Pal (outsourced by RRL) and a weekly internal delivery from RRL that includes reserved items, various kits, promotional material, etc. RRL continues to maintain and provide free access to a large consortium of online resources for members. Links to RRL's online resources are constantly updated on the Bland Shire Library website. Items available by category remain consistent with previous quarter excluding DVDs and audio compact discs, which have been significantly reduced as part of the library's collection management. The library currently holds 14,510 items. Adult fiction makes up approximately 25 per cent of the total collection. 37.76 per cent of the collection has been purchased in the past 0 - 5 years. 546 customer services requests. 220 information requests. 290 computer usage. 72 IT assists. 47 requests for wi-fi. 63 StorytimePOD usage. 353 Visitor Information requests handled by library staff.
Q4			Completed	Library continues to receive a weekly delivery of new books from Peter Pal (outsourced by RRL) and a weekly internal delivery from RRL that includes new acquisitions, reserved items, various kits, promotional material, etc. RRL continues to maintain and provide free access to a large consortium of online resources for members. Links to RRL's online resources constantly updated on the Bland Shire Library website. Items available by category remain consistent with previous quarter excluding biographies, junior fiction and picture books, which have been significantly reduced as part of the library's collection management program. New library management system (SPYDUS) installed by RRL. 632 customer service requests. 238 information requests. 502 computer usage. 81 IT assists. 93 requests for wi-fi. 476 visitor information requests handled by library staff. Due to staff's inability to capture accurate usage of the library's digital Storytime equipment, no stats have been provided.

4.

Ensure services are accessible for all residents

Strategy 4.1

Facilitate Council events to build social capital and a sense of belonging within the community

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
4.1.1 Q1	Coordinate annual Australia Day Celebrations and Awards.	Community Relations Officer	Progressing	Preparations commenced for Australia Day 2022. Report to October Council meeting.
Q2			Progressing	Plans in place for Australia Day celebrations in January 2022.
Q3			Completed	Successful awards and celebrations held with positive community feedback.
Q4			Completed	Completed – no further comment required.
4.1.2 Q1	Coordinate Youth Week Activities.	Community Development Officer	Not Due To Start	Youth Week activities will take place in April 2022.
Q2			Not Due To Start	Youth Week activities will be coordinated and held during Youth Week in April 2022.
Q3			Progressing	As part of Youth Week 2022 Council is hosting a three day Pop Up Arcade at the West Wyalong Stadium, a youth trip to Wagga for paintball and a movies till midnight event at the West Wyalong Cinema. All activities will be free and heavily subsidised to ensure they are accessible for everyone.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q4			Completed	To celebrate Youth Week 2022, Council hosted a 3 day Pop Up Arcade at the West Wyalong Stadium, a youth trip to Wagga for paintball and movies till midnight event at the West Wyalong Cinema. All activities were booked out, with over 250 participants attending, making this Councils most successful youth program to date.
4.1.3 Q1	Conduct library school holiday activities.	Library Services Coordinator	Progressing	A July school holiday program was conducted. Activities included Coil Clay Pots (with Marina Uys), Guitar Lessons (conducted by Tegan Sheedy, Riverina Music Therapy), Science Extravaganza, Pulled String Art, LEGO Minute-to-win-it and Drawbots (supplied by RRL). Despite numbers limited per session due to Covid-19 restrictions, a total of 70 children participated in the program. A September school holiday program was conducted. The program consisted of take-home craft kits - Decorative Bird House & Feeder kit, Science VR pack, Mug Decorating kit and Bath Bomb pack (supplied by RRL). Library staff conducted a virtual scavenger hunt and online bingo activity via zoom. Two face-to-face Cupcake Decorating sessions (conducted by Dagmar McIntyre) and a face-to-face Mosaic session were held in the library. Numbers were capped due to Covid-19 restrictions. 80 take home craft kits were taken. 10 children attended the online activities. 39 children attended the face-to-face activities.
Q2			Progressing	The library's annual Summer Reading Club program was launched in November. The program which officially runs from December 1 - January 31 aims to encourage children and young people to read over the long summer break with incentives provided to help them reach their goal. The annual Summer Reading Club program incorporates a variety of fun activities held throughout December and the January school holiday, which will be reported on next quarter.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q3			Progressing	A variety of activities had been planned for the January school holidays. Unfortunately, Minute-To-Win-It (comprising easy fun challenges and games) was cancelled due to increasing covid numbers in the Bland Shire (a decision made in the absence of the Library Services Coordinator who was on leave at the time). A Shadow Puppetry Workshop coordinated by Riverina Regional Library was also cancelled due to the presenter being a close contact of covid. Despite the cancellations, Bland Shire Library still held a Virtual Games Show via zoom and provided macramé keyring kits for children to take home with a tutorial held via zoom. Summer Reading Club participants had a Bingo Challenge sheet comprising 25 mini challenges to complete during the school holidays. 33 children completed the Bingo Challenge in January. 16 children participated in the library's other school holiday activities.
Q4			Complete	A school holiday program was held in April. The program consisted of cake decorating with Dagmar McIntyre (2 sessions), beading / jewellery making, CD wind spinners, and virtual reality gaming (VR equipment supplied by Riverina Regional Library). 90 children and 17 parents participated in the program (note: children aged 5 - 7 years are required to be accompanied by an adult).
4.1.4 Q1	Conduct school holiday activities.	Community Development Officer	Progressing	NRMA Safer Driving Program and lesson held in July with 12 people participating. Plans were in place to offer additional activities however, Covid-19 restrictions inhibited Councils capacity to offer additional activities.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q2			Progressing	A competition was held for young people who were encouraged to develop a story or collection of items that outline what a year in the life of a teenager has been like in 2021, with item/s to be included in the time capsule. Due to Covid-19 restrictions making face to face initiatives difficult, Council staff partnered with the West Wyalong High School and Ungarie Central School to provide free lunches to students on the last day of term 3.
Q3			Progressing	Bland Shire will host the West Wyalong Choc Fest on Friday 8 April in the Main Street. Council is also offering a heavily subsidised trip to Wagga for young people to play paintball, a pop up arcade at the West Wyalong Stadium and a Movies till Midnight event at the Tivoli Theatre during the Easter holidays.
Q4			Completed	Council conducted a Movies till Midnight event, a youth excursion to Wagga for Paintball and a 3 day Pop Up Arcade for youth during the April school holidays. All activities were extremely well attended, with Council having the strongest youth attendance ever in the April holidays.
4.1.5 Q1	Conduct Vacation Care program.	Children's Services Coordinator	Progressing	Vacation Care program operated from Children Services Unit.
Q2			Progressing	Vacation Care to be cancelled in January 2022 to construct playground renovations and to ensure the safety of Children.
Q3			Progressing	January 2022 Vacation Care was not carried out due to playground renovations and upgrades. A program for the April school holidays is currently underway. Bookings opened mid March 2022.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q4			Complete	Vacation Care sessions have now been completed for the 21/22 year. 22/23 is due to commence in July 2022.
4.1.6 Q1	Facilitate Bland Shire Interagency meetings.	Community Development Officer	Progressing	The most recent Bland Shire Interagency Meeting was postponed as a result of Covid-19 restrictions. Plans are in place to host a meeting following the easing of restrictions.
Q2			Progressing	Interagency meeting held on Tuesday 7 December 2021.
Q3			Progressing	Bland Shire Interagency Meeting held on Tuesday 7 December with 11 service providers attending. Bland Shire Interagency meeting held on February 22 with 17 service providers attending.
Q4			Completed	Bland Shire Interagency meeting held on Tuesday 7 June with 22 service providers attending.
4.1.7 Q1	Coordinate Citizenship Ceremonies within Bland Shire	Executive Assistant	Progressing	Conferees awaiting ceremony identified, arrangements to be made following easing of Covid-19 restrictions and in consideration of Australia Day 2022 event.
Q2			Progressing	Ceremony held on November 3 for twelve conferees with countries of origin including the Philippines, South Africa, India and Sri Lanka. There is one conferee scheduled for an Australia Day 2022 citizenship ceremony.
Q3			Progressing	Ceremony held January 2022 for 1 conferee with British origin.
Q4			Completed	Ceremony held in June 2022 for 2 conferees.

Strategy 4.2

Provide quality, accredited and affordable Education and care services within Bland Shire and surrounds (Bland Preschool, Family Day Care, Mobile Resource Unit Vacation Care and Toy Library services)

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
4.2.1 Q1	Undertake a service survey for Bland Shire Council Children's Services.	Children's Services Coordinator	Not Progressing	Due to Covid-19 we have withheld the survey until 2022.
Q2			Not Due To Start	Survey to commence in 2022.
Q3			Not Due To Start	Will discuss in next Service Leader meeting points to include in Survey. Hopefully submit survey out to families in April 2022.
Q4			Progressing	Delayed due to staff shortages and illness. Will endeavour to have the survey out to families in June 2022
4.2.2 Q1	Implement and update annual Self Assessment Tools - All Children's Services areas.	Children's Services Coordinator	Progressing	Working through MRU Self assessment tool now as Assessment and Rating is due prior to June 2022.
Q2			Progressing	MRU Service Leader and CSU Coordinator are working through Self Assessment Tool. Aim to complete in January 2022.
Q3			Progressing	MRU Service Leader and Coordinator still working through this. Delayed due to staff shortages not allowing the opportunity to work on this. Aim to commence the transition of Preschool QIP and Self Assessment very soon.
Q4			Progressing	MRU self assessment now completed and ongoing as it is a working document. Discussion underway about the best person to maintain the working document. Preschool will commence transfer from QIP to SAT going forward.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
4.2.3 Q1	Review and update all service policy and procedures as required - All Children's Services areas.	Children's Services Coordinator	Progressing	Approval of nine (9) policies for CSU. Sent out for feedback with zero responses. Uploaded to Magiq. Transport policy to be submitted in October.
Q2			Progressing	Approval of Safe Sleep and Transport policy uploaded to Magiq.
Q3			Progressing	Approval of CSU Code of Conduct, Complaints and Supervision policies. Uploaded into Magiq. Submitted a further nine procedures for approval, currently updating a further five policies.
Q4			Progressing	Policies are up to date and any requiring review are acknowledged.
4.2.4 Q1	Undertake toy library stock take.	Children's Services Coordinator	Not Due To Start	Annual stock take scheduled for January 2022.
Q2			Not Due To Start	Scheduled to be conducted and completed in January 2022.
Q3			Completed	ITAV completed the stock take of Toy Library over the January school holidays.
Q4			Completed	Completed
4.2.5 Q1	Provide access to Toy Library resources to residents via Mobile Resource Unity Playgroups, Family Day Care and ITAV Sessions.	Children's Services Coordinator	Progressing	Toy library has been well utilised with Covid-19. Though access is stricter we have reached families through social networking.
Q2			Progressing	Access is not through CSO. Families are welcomed to borrow and follow the hygiene rules when returning toys.
Q3			Progressing	Toy Library services are still on offer through CSU building and via ITAV program. Playgroups are due to commence and hope to generate more interest in this. More discussions to be had with staff.
Q4			Progressing	Continue to offer this service

Strategy 4.3

Actively engage with the community and promote open communication

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
4.3.1 Q1	In liaison with relevant staff, establish, maintain and regularly update relevant online presence by ensuring that Council's website is engaging, up to date and rich in easily accessible content.	Community Relations Officer	Progressing	24,333 page views in Q1. Pages updated regularly in liaison with relevant staff.
Q2			Progressing	A number of sections/service information updated.
Q3			Progressing	Website updated regularly, 25434 page views in Q3.
Q4			Completed	Updates added to library section. Relevant policies updated as appropriate, job opportunities, road closure and service information added and updated as required.
4.3.2 Q1	Coordinate Council notices page in the West Wyalong Advocate.	Community Relations Officer	Progressing	Notices published each week containing a cross section of information from Council departments and services.
Q2			Progressing	Ongoing.
Q3			Progressing	Notices published every Friday.
Q4			Completed	Ongoing. Published each week containing a cross section of information from Council departments and services.
4.3.3 Q1	Produce media releases to inform the community about Council updates, programs, events and initiatives.	Community Relations Officer	Progressing	Media releases issued in relation to The Gratitude Project and project winners and the Reawakening Place Names Project.
Q2			Progressing	Media release issued in regards to election information, Australia Day nominations and the Disaster Dashboard.
Q3			Progressing	Media releases issued regarding Australia Day, Choc Fest and Community Strategic Plan.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q4			Completed	Various media releases issued about Council initiatives programs and key community information.

Strategy 4.4

Actively engage with youth to build social capital and a sense of belonging

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
4.4.1 Q1	Partner with youth and youth service providers (including schools) to deliver programs/initiatives that improve wellbeing and build the capacity of local youth.	Community Development Officer	Progressing	<p>School barbeque held at West Wyalong High School on Wednesday September 15.</p> <p>Pizza lunch supplied by Council for West Wyalong High School year 12 students on Thursday 16 September.</p> <p>Hot Dog lunch supplied by Council for all students at Ungarie Central School on Friday 17 September.</p> <p>Council will create and deliver care packages to all 31 students in year 12 at Ungarie and West Wyalong High School in response to the challenges they have faced as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.</p>
Q2			Progressing	<p>Council created a number of 'care packages' for all HSC students at West Wyalong High School and Ungarie Central School. The packages contained vouchers for local hospitality outlets, locally hand made cookies, sweet treats and crazy socks and offered a huge morale boost for young people heading into their HSC.</p> <p>Council Community Services staff have continued to foster and strengthen relationships with the West Wyalong High School in regard to the youth space proposal.</p>

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q3			Progressing	<p>Council has continued to work with local schools with ongoing communication happening with the West Wyalong High School regarding youth activities and the establishment of a youth space. Council was able to work directly with young people to determine what Youth Week activities young people would like to have available, with Council able to provide these activities as a direct response to youth lead ideas.</p> <p>A visit by the Batyr Foundation was scheduled to occur at the High School on 15 March, in addition to a council lead barbeque on Friday 18th March, however, both activities had to be postponed due to the prevalence of Covid-19 within the school community.</p>
Q4			Completed	Council assisted Wyalong Public School in the delivery of their student wellbeing initiative and deliver RAP Program facilitator training to teachers from Ungarie Central School and West Wyalong High School.
4.4.2	Attend regional youth focused meetings.	Community Development Officer	Progressing	Plans in place to attend the next REROC youth meeting which will be held on Wednesday 20 October.
Q1				
Q2			Progressing	REROC Youth Meeting attended on 20 December 2021.
Q3			Progressing	REROC Youth Meeting scheduled for 9 February was cancelled by REROC.
Q4			Completed	April meeting was not attended due to a clash with a youth excursion in Wagga on 11 April 2022. The next youth meeting will be attended as required.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
4.4.3 Q1	Engage young people through a youth group to jointly identify areas of need/improvement and the most effective methods for engaging with youth in the community.	Community Development Officer	Progressing	Young people at the West Wyalong High School have formed a youth group to liaise with Council on the potential development of a youth space and to provide ideas around youth focused grant opportunities. Young people have been meeting with Council via zoom during the current restrictions.
Q2			Progressing	Young people at the West Wyalong High School have formed a youth group to liaise with Council on the potential development of a youth space and to provide ideas around youth focused grant opportunities. Young people have been meeting with Council via zoom during the current restrictions. Young people attended the October Council meeting in support of a youth space proposal, with a number of young people speaking in support of the project. The relationship between Council Community Services Staff and local youth has been greatly strengthened by this initiative.
Q3			Progressing	Council continues to engage with young people at West Wyalong High School in the planning and development of youth related activities and initiatives and to assist with the establishment of the West Wyalong Youth Space
Q4			Completed	Council continues to engage with young people at West Wyalong High School in the planning and development of youth related activities and initiatives and to assist with the establishment of the West Wyalong youth Space. A group of 25 young people attended Council to view the proposed youth space and discuss plans for the fit out of the space.



Our Places

Maintain & improve the Shire's assets & infrastructure

Our Objectives

5. Work in partnership with key stakeholders to provide equitable access to Council's road infrastructure, services and facilities
6. Manage waste and recycling to improve the utilisation of existing resources, including exploring new technologies
7. Manage water and sewerage resources
8. Ensure that public places and facilities are well maintained and easily accessible
9. Develop, implement and monitor appropriate programs, plans and budgets for effective and efficient management of Council's assets and infrastructure

5.

Work in partnership with key stakeholders to provide equitable access to Council’s road infrastructure, services & facilities

Strategy 5.1

Facilitate the delivery of accessible services and infrastructure

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
5.1.1 Q1	Update and promote Access Mobility Map.	Community Development Officer	Not Due To Start	Mobility Access Map update due to be completed later in 2021.
Q2			Progressing	Mobility Access Map is yet to be updated. This will happen in early 2022.
Q3			Progressing	Mobility Access Map is yet to be updated.
Q4			Progressing	Mobility Access Map is due to be updated within the next month.
5.1.2 Q1	Monitor and review the Disability Inclusion Action Plan.	Community Development Officer	Progressing	The Bland Shire DIAP was reviewed in August 2021 with 90% of scheduled actions completed. Ongoing monitoring and review of the document and specified actions will continue as required.
Q2			Completed	The Bland Shire DIAP was reviewed in August 2021 with 90% of scheduled actions completed. Ongoing monitoring and review of the document and specified actions will continue as required.
Q3			Completed	The Bland Shire DIAP was reviewed in August 2021 with 90% of scheduled actions completed.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q4			Completed	Councils Community Development Officer is currently in the process of reviewing the DIAP, with plans to have the revised document ready for publication within the next month.
5.1.3 Q1	Provide and promote the Access Incentive Scheme for improved access across the Shire.	Community Development Officer	Progressing	Councils Access Incentive Scheme will be promoted later in the year through print and social media. Discussions are underway with a local business and community group regarding potential grant projects.
Q2			Completed	Access Initiative Scheme promoted and exhausted for 2021 with Panache Lifestyle and Living and the Waratah Retirement Village Association each being recipients of a \$4000 grant.
Q3			Completed	Action complete, no further comment required.
Q4			Completed	This action was completed in Q2.

Strategy 5.2

Work with the heavy transport industry and road related organisations to cooperatively improve access to road infrastructure

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
5.2.1 Q1	Process heavy vehicle road usage applications.	Assets & Engineering Services Projects Officer	Completed	As at the end of the first quarter there were 81 heavy vehicle applications processed. Of these, 68 were granted with 13 rejected.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q2			Progressing	In the quarter ending 31 December 2021 Council received 101 applications for heavy vehicle access from NHVR (National Heavy Vehicle Regulator) for access onto our local road network. Of these, 85 applications were granted and 16 were rejected. The reason for rejection was due to the substantial configuration and weight of the proposed vehicles on certain roads that were considered structurally unsound to support the application.
Q3			Progressing	In the quarter ending 31 March 2022 there were 116 applications received for OSOM and heavy vehicle access on Council's local road network. Of these, 15 applications were refused due to the sheer size and mass of the proposed vehicle and the risk impact on the integrity of the road structure.
Q4			Complete	In the quarter ending 30 June 2022 there were 80 applications received for either OSOM or heavy vehicle access on Council's local road network. Of these, 4 applications were refused access due to the size and mass of the vehicle and the risk impact on the integrity of the road structure.
5.2.2 Q1	Maintain involvement with networks which impact road infrastructure and services within Bland Shire	General Manager	Progressing	The General Manager has had discussions with Telstra regarding improvements to mobile black spots, discussions with Goldenfields Water on Water Security Project for West Wyalong and negotiations with Evolution Mining on a VPA which includes an increased financial contribution to maintenance of Council's road network.
Q2			Progressing	The General Manager has recently liaised with Telstra and NBN regarding mobile black spots and has also liaised with Transport NSW regarding works on the Newell Highway within the Bland Shire.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q3			Progressing	There is ongoing communication with Telstra concerning a number of mobile blackspots within the Shire. There has also been communication with Transport NSW concerning the reclassification of the Mid-Western Highway through West Wyalong to a local road with the Heavy Vehicle Route being reclassified to Highway status.
Q4			Completed	Council continues to be an active member of the Newell Highway task Force and has regular contact with Transport NSW. Both of these organisations are networks that have an impact on the Shire's road network.

6.

Manage waste and recycling to improve the utilisation of existing resources, including exploring new technologies

Strategy 6.1

Consult with the community and relevant stakeholders regarding waste management options throughout the Shire

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
6.1.1 Q1	Investigate, review and monitor viable recycling options in liaison with recycle organisations and other appropriate organisations	Director Technical Services	Progressing	Having some difficulty with the REROC recycling contract and pick ups. Re-looking at tyre recycling.
Q2			Progressing	Still working with REROC and contractors. Reviewing how to recycle solar waste from the new solar farms.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q3			Progressing	Investigating plastic bailers so plastic wrap can be bundled and re-used rather than going to landfill.
Q4			Completed	Still in negotiation with REROC. Good works achieved at the landfills this year both by Council and in liaison with REROC.

Strategy 6.2

Reduce reliance on landfill by increasing resource recovery, waste minimisation and community education

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
6.2.1 Q1	Ensure waste management operations are in line with the implementation of Council's waste strategy.	Director Technical Services	Progressing	All actions performed are currently in line with strategy. Still having difficulty with getting the community interested in looking after some of the village landfills.
Q2			Progressing	Still working with communities in the villages.
Q3			Progressing	Slightly more waste came in this quarter than was estimated.
Q4			Completed	All required actions completed during the year.
6.2.2 Q1	Works in partnership with neighboring Councils and REROC to implement waste programs.	Foreman - Facilities	Progressing	Attended all REROC waste meetings (zoom) for the quarter. Participated in RFQ for waste metal and battery recycling program. Discussed DrumMuster program with Junee Shire and waste issues with Lachlan Shire.
Q2			Progressing	Attendance at REROC meetings (3) and held discussions with member councils on recycling options. Have spoken with Junee Shire regarding pallet recycling options.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q3			Progressing	Attended all REROC meetings via zoom for the quarter. Initial waste from solar farm construction discussed and pathways proposed.
Q4			Completed	Attendance at REROC meetings (3) and held discussions with member councils on more recycling options. Have attended a REROC strategy meeting regarding the focus areas for waste and recycling as a region.
6.2.3 Q1	Work in partnership with community relations to increase awareness of recycling options offered.	Foreman - Facilities	Progressing	Discussed with Community Relations for promotion of small recycling station information. Discussed and promoted issues regarding access to landfills under NSW health restrictions and guidance from OLG.
Q2			Progressing	Discussions with Community Relations with regard to bin collection services. Community Relations has updated the website to reflect this.
Q3			Progressing	Worked with community relations to identify issues and educate residents of recycling options through social media platforms.
Q4			Completed	Worked with community relations to identify issues and educate residents of recycling options through social media platforms. Continual information being updated on bin collection services. Community Relations has updated the website to reflect this.
6.2.4 Q1	Provide waste collection and management services to the community.	Foreman - Facilities	Progressing	Kerbside Garbage collection undertaken every week for quarter one. Self haul services at landfills has been reduced due to NSW health restrictions for Covid-19.
Q2			Progressing	Kerbside collection progressing weekly. Recycling of tyres, mattresses and CRC available to households by self haul.
Q3			Progressing	Kerbside Garbage Collection undertaken weekly for the quarter. Self haul waste services at the landfill has increased and operating normal.
Q4			Completed	Kerbside Garbage Collection undertaken weekly for the quarter. Self haul waste services at the landfill has increased and operating as normal.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
6.2.5 Q1	Monitor littering and illegal dumping.	Manager Development & Regulatory Services	Progressing	One report of illegal dumping was reported. Rubbish was removed.
Q2			Progressing	No reports of illegal dumping were reported to Council during the reporting period.
Q3			Progressing	No incidents of illegal dumping were reported to Council during the reporting period.
Q4			Completed	No incidents of illegal dumping were reported to Council during the reporting period.

7.

Manage water and sewerage resources

Strategy 7.1

Ensure adequate water storage and management for future use within Council's community facilities

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
7.1.1 Q1	Maximise water storage within budgetary constraints.	Director Technical Services	Completed	There was no monies allocated in the 2021-2022 budget for water storage. This is compared with three constructed in the 2022-2023 budget.
Q2			Completed	As before.
Q3			Completed	Completed.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q4			Completed	Completed.

Strategy 7.2

Effectively manage and maintain existing stormwater and sewerage infrastructure

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
7.2.1 Q1	Undertake Sewerage System Inspections.	Junior Engineer	Progressing	A total of 400 meters of assets have been inspected in the three (3) months.
Q2			Progressing	Required inspections completed.
Q3			Progressing	Six inspections done this quarter with nil breaches.
Q4			Completed	All required inspections completed.

8.

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

Strategy 8.1

Ensure users of Council's facilities comply with agreements

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
8.1.1 Q1	Liaise with User Groups regarding Memorandum of Understandings if required.	Director Technical Services	Progressing	Liaising with the Perseverance group regarding the Ron Crowe upgrade. Liaising with netball group regarding the netball upgrade. Similar to previous years.
Q2			Progressing	Still liaising with netball group regarding re-asphalting the court and upgrade. Also liaising with cricket regarding the new nets. Still a bit of work left at Ron Crowe.
Q3			Progressing	Due to weather and available budget it has been hard to keep the maintenance up in this quarter to the communities satisfaction.
Q4			Completed	Liaising with netball group continues. All other liaisons have been completed.

Strategy 8.2

In collaboration with users provide facilities that are accessible to acceptable standards

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
8.2.1 Q1	Undertake work health and safety audits including external sites and facilities.	Contracts, Compliance & WHS Officer	Progressing	An audit of all council work sites is conducted on an annual basis.
Q2			Progressing	Site Audits have been completed for 2021 with recommendations sent through records to relevant managers and directors.
Q3			Progressing	When annual site audits are completed recommendations are sent to the relevant managers and directors. Inspections of outdoor plant and caravans have commenced for 2022.
Q4			Completed	Ongoing – Inspections of outdoor plan and caravans has commenced for 2022. When annual site audits are completed recommendations are sent to the relevant Managers and Directors for action.
8.2.2 Q1	Implement signs as remote supervision.	Assets Coordinator	Progressing	Completion of site inspections for remote supervision sign design. Sign installation to be completed by early 2022.
Q2			Progressing	Remote supervision signs ordered for Cooinda Park, Grellman Park and Apex Park. Installation of signage to be completed early 2022.
Q3			Progressing	Sign replacement ongoing, remoter supervision signs installed on the two bridges located within Cooinda Park.
Q4			Progressing	Remote supervision signage installed at West Wyalong, Barmedman landfill sites.

Strategy 8.3

Collaborate with transport providers to facilitate access within the shire and regional centres

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
8.3.1 Q1	Lobby Government to improve transport options.	General Manager	Progressing	Council maintains active participation in the Newell Highway Task Force that is charged with improving the Newell Highway Transport Route. Council is also involved in lobbying for improvements to the West Wyalong to Condobolin Road to cater for increased heavy vehicle movements along this freight corridor.
Q2			Progressing	Bland Shire Council is currently participating in the NSW Government's transfer of local and regional roads back to the responsibility of the State Government. This process could take up to 2 years. Council has identified a number of roads that should revert to State Government responsibility.
Q3			Progressing	Council has made a submission to the NSW Taskforce on the Reclassification of Regional Roads, specifically the West Wyalong to Condobolin Road to be reclassified to a State Road. The outcome should be known later this year.
Q4			Completed	Council will continue to lobby both State and Federal Government Agencies to gain funding to improve the Shire's road network. With current good working relationships with our local State and Federal Members Council is confident of successful outcomes.

Strategy 8.4

Use planning and heritage policies and controls to protect and improve the unique built environment

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
8.4.1 Q1	Review Heritage items currently listed in the Bland Local Environmental Plan and to investigate the inclusion of new heritage items.	Manager Development & Regulatory Services	Not Due To Start	Review will continue once the heritage advisor program restarts.
Q2			Not Due To Start	Delayed until appointment of new heritage advisor.
Q3			Not Due To Start	Review will continue once the heritage advisor program starts.
Q4			Not Progressing	Review will recommence once the heritage advisor program restarts.
8.4.2 Q1	Promote and implement the Heritage Advisory Program.	Manager Development & Regulatory Services	Not Progressing	The heritage advisory services was put on hold during the reporting period due to Covid-19 restrictions.
Q2			Not Progressing	New heritage advisor yet to be appointed.
Q3			Not Progressing	New heritage advisor yet to be appointed.
Q4			Not Progressing	New Heritage advisor yet to be appointed.

9.

Develop, implement and monitor appropriate programs, plans and budgets for the effective and efficient management of Council’s assets and infrastructure

Strategy 9.1

Responsibly manage asset renewal and maintenance for current and future generations

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
9.1.1	Monitor and implement the Annual Capital Works Program.	Director Technical Services	Progressing	Progressing satisfactorily based on expenditure. Some works nearing completion.
Q1				
Q2			Progressing	Some works completed and others progressing satisfactorily.
Q3			Progressing	Gathering information for the re-write of the Waste Management Plan.
Q4			Completed	Progressed well this quarter, all programs controlled satisfactorily.
9.1.2	Review and implement Roads to Recovery Program.	Director Technical Services	Progressing	Maintenance for the quarter completed.
Q1				
Q2			Progressing	All maintenance completed as programmed.
Q3			Progressing	Working on Assetic Proscriptor
Q4			Completed	All works complete.
9.1.3	Review Technical Services Policies and Strategies eg Asset Manage Plans, plans of management for Crown Land etc.	Director Technical Services	Progressing	Currently Town and Village Management Plan being assessed by Manex. Crown Land Management Plans on-going with outside consultant.
Q1				
Q2			Progressing	Crown Land management plan ongoing with consultant.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q3			Progressing	Working on Asset values
Q4			Completed	Draft Town and Village Services Management Plan being finalised. Crown Land Management Plans on-going with outside consultant.
9.1.4 Q1	Review and implement the annual and long term plant and equipment replacement program.	Workshop & Plant Coordinator	Progressing	Tender process is completed for purchase of new Road patching unit. Finalising specifications for two wide area lawn mowers, to go out to tender. All this years cars have now been ordered by expecting a fair delay before delivery. Beginning review of 10 year Plant Replacement Program, leading into producing next year's fleet capital and operational budget.
Q2			Progressing	All items listed for Capital purchase have been ordered and awaiting delivery. 10 year plant replacement program has been updated.
Q3			Progressing	Plant Capital purchase all complete. Waiting on arrival of two mowers and one jetpatcher.
Q4			Completed	The Plant Replacement Program is complete although still waiting on delivery of couple of items.

Strategy 9.2

To manage and enhance the pool facilities within the Shire

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
9.2.1 Q1	Undertake maintenance and repairs to pool facilities within approved budget in consultation with Contractor and in accordance with the contract.	Coordinator - Urban	Progressing	Maintenance and repairs to the pool facilities at West Wyalong and Ungarie have been undertake with consultation involving the pool manager and carried out with consideration of budget.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q2			Progressing	Maintenance and repairs to the pool facilities at West Wyalong and Ungarie have been undertaken with consultation involving the pool manager and carried out with consideration of budget.
Q3			Progressing	Maintenance and repairs to the pool facilities at West Wyalong and Ungarie have been undertaken with consultation involving the pool manager and carried out with consideration of budget.
Q4			Completed	Maintenance and repairs to the pool facilities at West Wyalong and Ungarie have been undertaken with consultation involving the pool manager and carried out with consideration of budget.

Strategy 9.3

Maintain street trees

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
9.3.1 Q1	Manage street tree planting in accordance with Preferred Street Tree Species List and within approved budget.	Coordinator - Urban	Progressing	16+ trees planted in various locations around the shire and all suitable and proven to grow in this area and within selected locations.
Q2			Progressing	Eight (8) new planting over the warmer months in various locations around the town of Wyalong and West Wyalong.
Q3			Progressing	Only a few tree plantings have taken place over the quarter more will be planted in the cooler months.
Q4			Completed	Only a few tree planting have taken place over the past quarter more will be planted in the cooler months

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
9.3.2 Q1	Proactively monitor street trees and action requests to maintain and/or remove trees within the approved budget.	Coordinator - Urban	Progressing	Street trees are monitored but unfortunately maintenance is behind due to staffing shortages at the current time and increased work loads. Trees removed due to root damage to surrounding infrastructure, damaged dying or diseased, pest infection.
Q2			Progressing	Street trees are monitored and maintenance is slowly progressing as time becomes available. The main works has been done on intersections trees removed due to rood damage to surrounding infrastructure, damaged dying or diseased, pest infection.
Q3			Progressing	Street trees are monitored and maintenance is slowly progressing as time becomes available. The main works has been done on intersection trees removed due to root damage to surrounding infrastructure, damaged, dying, diseased and pest infestation.
Q4			Completed	Street trees are monitored and maintenance is slowly progressing as time becomes available the main works has been done on intersections trees removed due to root damage to surrounding infrastructure, damaged dying, diseased and pest infestation.

Strategy 9.4

Maintain parks, ovals and recreational facilities to approved standards

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
9.4.1 Q1	Inspect parks, ovals and recreational facilities.	Coordinator - Urban	Progressing	Routine inspections undertaken on all Parks, Ovals and Recreational facilities to ensure approved standards are met. Routine maintenance completed regularly within approved budgetary requirements.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q2			Progressing	Routine inspections undertaken on all Parks, Ovals and Recreational facilities to ensure approved standards are met. Routine maintenance completed regularly within approved budgetary requirements. All staffing shortages need to be taken into consideration.
Q3			Progressing	Routine inspections undertaken on all Parks, Ovals and Recreational facilities to ensure approved standards are met. Routine maintenance completed regularly within approved budgetary requirements. Also staffing shortages need to be taken into consideration.
Q4			Completed	Routine inspections undertaken on all Parks, Ovals and Recreational facilities to ensure approved standards are met. Routine maintenance completed regularly within approved budgetary requirements. also staffing shortages need to be taken into consideration.
9.4.2 Q1	Conduct playground inspections for all playgrounds within the Shire.	Coordinator - Urban	Progressing	All monthly playground inspections completed throughout the Shire. Maintenance inspections took place and all scheduled maintenance completed along with any required repairs to ensure safety.
Q2			Progressing	All monthly playground inspections completed and maintenance, repairs carried out.
Q3			Progressing	All monthly playground inspections completed throughout the Shire. Maintenance inspections took place with all scheduled maintenance completed along with any required repairs to ensure safety.
Q4			Completed	All monthly playground inspections completed throughout the Shire. Maintenance inspections took place with all scheduled maintenance completed along with any required repairs to ensure safety.
9.4.3 Q1	Coordinate seasonal and on/off use of sporting fields.	Coordinator - Urban	Progressing	Due to Covid-19 restrictions, sporting facilities usage was limited.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q2			Progressing	All sporting grounds returning to normal usage with some restrictions still in effect.
Q3			Progressing	All sporting grounds returning to normal usage of ovals and sporting fields.
Q4			Completed	<p>STADIUM MARCH TO JUNE Basketball training sessions – 98 Junior Basketball – 12 Indoor Tennis – 17 Various Sporting Events (Schools etc) - 5</p> <p>MCALISTER OVAL Netball State Titles Training – 34 Netball Competition – 17 AFL/Netball Training – 42 Over 35's Cricket – 3 Junior Cricket – McAlister Oval and Ron Crowe Pitch – 2 Senior Cricket – McAlister Oval and Ron Crowe Pitch – 3 AFL/Netball/Auskick Games – 5 Various Sporting Events (Schools etc) - 8</p> <p>RON CROWE PRECINCT Senior Rugby League Training – 21 Junior Rugby League Training – 34 Touch Football – 4 Senior Rugby League Games – 4 Various Sporting Events (Schools etc) – 3 Junior Rugby Union Training – 14 Junior Rugby Union Games - 2</p>
9.4.4 Q1	Carry out maintenance in Wyalong Cemetery.	Coordinator - Urban	Progressing	All requests completed including weed spraying, graves, water drainage and damage. All completed within council budget.
Q2			Progressing	All requests completed including weed spraying, watering, graves dug and checked, water drainage and damage. All completed within Council budget.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q3			Progressing	All requests completed including weed spraying, graves, water drainage and damage. All completed within council budget.
Q4			Completed	All requests completed including fitting of plaques, head stones, weed spraying, watering, graves dug and checked, water drainage and damage. All completed within council budget.
9.4.5 Q1	Inspect and maintain village cemeteries regularly.	Coordinator - Urban	Progressing	Village cemeteries have the same considerations given to works and maintenance as the Wyalong Cemetery.
Q2			Progressing	Village cemeteries have the same considerations given to works and maintenance as the Wyalong Cemetery.
Q3			Progressing	Village cemeteries have the same considerations given to works and maintenance as the Wyalong cemetery. Visually inspected by staff and mowed cleaned and trimmed as required.
Q4			Completed	Village cemeteries have the same considerations given to works and maintenance as the Wyalong cemetery visually inspected by staff and mowed cleaned and trimmed as required.

Strategy 9.5

Identify and plan for new infrastructure

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
9.5.1 Q1	Engage the community to plan and develop future infrastructure and service needs	General Manager	Progressing	Unfortunately, the current Covid-19 restrictions has prevented any direct community meetings. It is anticipated that the new Council will set dates for the usual community forums at their first full meeting in February 2022.
Q2			Progressing	Unfortunately, the current Covid-19 restrictions has prevented any direct community meetings. It is anticipated that the new Council will set dates for the usual community forums at their first full meeting in February 2022.
Q3			Progressing	Community Forums were held in Naradhan and Weethalle on 24 February 2022 with further forms to be determined at a later stage.
Q4			Progressing	It is anticipated that following commencement of the new General Manager, Council will identify future community forum dates prior to 31 December 2022. The conduct of community forums provides both members of the public and the councillors and senior staff with the opportunity to discuss both immediate and future needs of the community.
9.5.2 Q1	Allocate funds to undertake investigation, designs, business plans and obtain costings for proposed projects.	General Manager	Completed	Funds have been allocated on an annual basis to ensure expedient preparation of business plans, costings and preliminary designs for possible major projects.
Q2			Completed	Funds have been allocated on an annual basis to ensure expedient preparation of business plans, costings and preliminary designs for possible major projects.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q3			Completed	Funds have been allocated on an annual basis to ensure expedient preparation of business plans, costings and preliminary designs for possible major projects.
Q4			Completed	Funds have been allocated on an annual basis to ensure expedient preparation of business plans, costings and preliminary designs for possible major projects.



Our Leadership

A well run Council acting as the voice of the community

Our Objectives

10. Provide quality leadership, governance and management to develop strong community partnerships
11. Provide opportunities for all stakeholders to contribute to Council's decision making
12. Lead the community
13. Develop and maintain a framework of plans and policies that ensures open and transparent Council information

10

To provide quality leadership, governance and management to develop strong community partnerships

Strategy 10.1

Ensure Councillors are provided with appropriate support and resources to carry out their civic duty

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
10.1.1 Q1	Provide Councillors with professional development opportunities.	Director Corporate and Community Services	Not Due To Start	While current Councillors have been provided with information relating to Professional Development and learning opportunities, due to Covid-19 restrictions and election timing there has been no progress on this matter during Q1.
Q2			Not Due To Start	Program of professional development opportunities to be developed in Quarter 3 of the financial year following finalisation of Council election results.
Q3			Not Due To Start	Program of professional development opportunities to commence in Quarter 4 of the financial year following finalization of Council induction program.
Q4			Progressing	Councillors have been provided with a list of learning options to identify those areas where they believe further exposure would be beneficial. Plans are in hand to provide planning and financial sessions on site for Bland Shire Councillors. This will likely be held in the first half of 2022/2023.
10.1.2 Q1	Prepare for the Mayoral and Deputy Mayoral elections in September bi-annually.	General Manager	Progressing	There was no requirement for a Mayoral or Deputy Mayoral election in this calendar year. There will however, be an election for these positions in January 2022 following the local government elections on 4 December 2021.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q2			Progressing	The general Manager is preparing for the election of Mayor and Deputy Mayor at the first Council meeting of 2022 which is scheduled for Tuesday 11 January.
Q3			Progressing	The next Mayoral Election will be held in September 2023.
Q4			Completed	There was no requirement for a Mayoral or Deputy Mayoral election in this calendar year. The next requirement for the election of a Mayor and Deputy Mayor will be in September 2023.
10.1.3 Q1	Provide Councillors with information and resources to facilitate their roles as elected representatives.	Director Corporate and Community Services.	Not Due To Start	Decision yet to be taken on provision of devices to Councillors. Delay due to postponement of LG elections until December 2021.
Q2			Not Due To Start	Devices for Councillors ordered and ready for implementation following the confirmation of election results. Information sessions scheduled for early 2022.
Q3			Progressing	Councillors provided with devices, training support and resources. Formal Induction Program on target for completion in April 2022.
Q4			Completed	Ongoing guidance and support with IT provided as required. Formal induction program completed.

Strategy 10.2

Ensure Councillors take ownership and a strong leadership role

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
10.2.1	Prepare the Annual Report.	Executive Assistant	Progressing	Draft plan and appendices being finalised for presentation to Manex in October and adoption by Council in October/November.
Q1				
Q2			Completed	Report tabled at November 2021 Council meeting and publicly released following the Local Government election.
Q3			Completed	Completed in Q2 NFAR.
Q4			Completed	NFAR completed in Q2.
10.2.2	Present the End of Term Report to last Formal meeting of Bland Shire Council	Executive Assistant	Completed	Report completed and tabled at the August Council meeting. Will be included and released to the community together with the Annual Report in November/December 2021.
Q1				
Q2			Completed	Included and released with the Annual Report in December 2021.
Q3			Completed	Completed in Q2 NFAR.
Q4			Completed	NFAR completed in Q2.

Strategy 10.3

Ensure the General Manager takes on a high-level role in implementing the Community Strategic Plan and other Council documents

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
10.3.1 Q1	Develop timelines and action plan for the review of the Community Strategic Plan and associated documents.	Director Corporate and Community Services	Progressing	General Manager, Senior Staff and relevant managers and officer have been involved in discussions relating to the Integrated Planning and Reporting process. Timeline of tasks has been developed and will be reviewed in line with the recently released new IP&R Guidelines from the Office of Local Government.
Q2			Progressing	Review of Community Strategic Plan is underway with draft to be presented to the new Council in February 2022.
Q3			Progressing	DRAFT Your Vision, Our Future Community Strategic Plan 2017-2027 on exhibition for commentary and feed back up until 15 April 2022.
Q4			Completed	Revised and reworked Your Vision, Our Future Community Strategic Plan 2017-2027 was formally adopted by Council in May. The document maintained the themes of the original plan and was used as the basis of developing the Delivery Program and Operational Plans.
10.3.2 Q1	Report to the community and Council on Integrated Planning and Reporting Progress.	Director Corporate and Community Services	Progressing	Timeline of tasks has been developed and will be reviewed in line with the recently released new IP&R Guidelines from the Office of Local Government. Next report to the Community is scheduled to be via the Annual Report.
Q2			Progressing	The six monthly update on the 2021/2022 Operational Plan is due to be presented to the February meeting of Bland Shire Council.
Q3			Progressing	The six monthly update on the 2021/2022 Operational Plan is due to be presented to the August meeting of Bland Shire Council.
Q4			Progressing	Updates on actions within the 2021/2022 Operational Plan are being compiled for presentation to Council at its August meeting.

Strategy 10.4

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

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
10.4.1 Q1	Complete budget review statements for analysis by Directors within two weeks of end of quarter.	Manager Customer & Financial Services	Progressing	The first quarter review figures have been sent to responsible staff and the review is on track to be reported at the November Council meeting.
Q2			Progressing	The second quarter budget review will be sent to responsible staff next week. The budget review is on track to be reported at the February Council meeting.
Q3			Progressing	The Third quarter budget review is being prepared and sent to all responsible staff for their input and will be tabled at the May Council meeting.
Q4			Completed	The final quarterly budget review was presented to Council at the May meeting. All area's looked to be reasonably on target.
10.4.2 Q1	Ensure effective debt recovery is in place.	Manager Customer & Financial Services	Completed	Early intervention debt recovery has seen Council's outstanding debt amount reduce. The draft financial statements show that Council is well below the industry benchmark.
Q2			Progressing	Council continues to monitor our debt recovery process with the aim to remain below the industry benchmark.
Q3			Progressing	Council is continually monitoring our debt recovery process and listening to our ratepayers feedback. We have recently amended our first rates reminder letters on the basis of that feedback and are continuing with our successful early intervention approach.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q4			Completed	Council continues to work with ratepayers on reducing any overdue debts and assisting with regular payments for ongoing debts. This communication process is working well with the percentage of rates collected as at 30 June 2022 being 96.23%.
10.4.3 Q1	Complete financial statements and lodge in accordance with statutory requirements.	Manager Customer & Financial Services	Progressing	Council's annual financial statement audit is in the final stages of completion, with the audited statements due to be lodged with the OLG by the due date of 31 October 2021.
Q2			Completed	2020/21 Financial Statements were audited and lodged with the OLG by the due date of 31 October 2021. The audited statements were presented to the November 2021 Council meeting with Crowe Partner, Brad Bohun in attendance via zoom. Preparation for the 2021/22 statements has commenced.
Q3			Progressing	Council is preparing for the interim audit which will be onsite in June. Financial Statement preparations underway and reconciliations and internal system audits completed monthly.
Q4			Progressing	Costings to the 2021/22 financial year will close 14/07/2022, so financial statement preparation can commence. Asset revaluations for Council's building assets has been completed and asset capitalisation is in progress.
10.4.4 Q1	Manage investments in accordance with investment strategies and policies.	Manager Customer & Financial Services	Completed	Council have increased the amount of funds invested, however return on investment is not as good due to the decline in interest rates. Council's invested funds put Council in a strong financial position for the future.
Q2			Progressing	Council provide monthly investment reports in the Council Business Paper and remain in a sound financial position.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q3			Progressing	Predictions are that interest rates are on the rise, which will see and improvement on Council's return on investments. Council's investments are reported monthly in the Council Business Paper and we remain in a stable financial position.
Q4			Completed	Monthly investment reports are provided to Council in each business paper. Interest rates are beginning to rise which will soon improve Council's return on earnings percentages. At the end of the June quarter, Council's investment portfolio is excess of \$64million.
10.4.5 Q1	Review the long term financial plan aiming for financial sustainability to ensure fitness for the future.	Manager Customer & Financial Services	Progressing	Financial sustainability is always a priority at Bland Shire Council, and the September budget review will give insight to how Council is progressing for this financial year.
Q2			Progressing	Work has commenced on the long term financial plan. Data is being configured for the new Council to consider during the budget workshops.
Q3			Progressing	The draft budget is currently out for public exhibition. The long term financial plan is being drafted and will be included in the Operational Plan.
Q4			Completed	The long-term financial plan was adopted by Council at the June Council meeting. Council is looking to be in a stable financial position. Council is reliant upon grants and contributions and should work on increasing own source revenue for future sustainability.
10.4.6 Q1	Ensure timely and accurate processing of payments.	Manager Customer & Financial Services	Completed	Covid-19 implications has seen the amount of accounts paid reduce, however these numbers are slowly increasing. Payments are made weekly upon receipt and authorisation of invoice.
Q2			Progressing	Payment levels have returned and staff continue to make payment runs weekly.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q3			Progressing	Payments continue to be made weekly despite additional measures in place in an effort to reduce Council's exposure to cyber fraud.
Q4			Completed	Accounts payable by Council are being processed weekly. All audit requirements are being adhered to, with the purchaser and an authoriser signing each invoice. It is intended that EFTSURE (an additional step which will help reduce the possibility of fraud) will be activated by September 2022.
10.4.7 Q1	Conduct budget briefing sessions for Councillors.	Director Corporate and Community Services	Not Due To Start	Budget Session to be held in March 2022.
Q2			Not Due To Start	No action to date – Budget Information Session scheduled for March 2022.
Q3			Progressing	Budget workshop undertaken with Councillors in early March with draft budget presented to the 22 March Ordinary Meeting for endorsement ahead of advertising for community feedback and comment.
Q4			Progressing	Budget briefing session held in March. Budget approved by Council at the June 28 Council meeting and adopted.
10.4.8 Q1	Review outstanding rates and conduct sale for unpaid rates accordingly.	Director Corporate and Community Services	Progressing	Council undertakes a rolling review of its outstanding rates which is reported to the Council at its monthly meetings as part of the Finance Report. As at the end of Q1, 38.90% (or \$4,211,392) of Councils \$10,826,198 rates levied have been collected.
Q2				

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q3			Progressing	<p>Council undertakes an ongoing rolling review of outstanding rates which is reported to the Council at its monthly meetings as part of the Finance Report. As at the end of Q3, ##.##% (or \$#####) of Council's \$10,826,198 rates levied have been collected. This compares with the Q2 figures which were 58.49% (or \$6,363,017.18) of Council's \$10,826,198 rates levied and Q1 figures which were 38.90% (or \$4,211,392) of Council's \$10,826,198 rates levied.</p> <p>The review of outstanding rates continues to be managed through the engagement of a third party collector who adopts an early intervention approach</p>
Q4			Progressing	<p>Council considered a report at its May 2022 meeting in relation to 18 properties for unpaid rates in accordance with Section 713 of the Local Government Act. The properties will be auctioned in September.</p>

Strategy 10.5

Ensure Council's workforce is provided with appropriate equipment and resources to meet the needs of Council and the community

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
10.5.1 Q1	Maintain and renew network infrastructure hardware and software to ensure effective delivery of services.	Director Corporate and Community Services	Progressing	<p>Ongoing service assistance provided by a Third Party IT provider. Internal audit undertaken on IT Health with report due to be presented to November Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee. Support has also been received in relation to specific business software programs with updates with notifications from Cyber NSW forwarded to IT provider for review and action as required.</p>

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q2			Progressing	<p>Support continues to be received in relation to specific business software programs with updates with notifications from Cyber NSW forwarded to IT provider for review and action as required. Following an audit of Council's IT processes recommendations were presented to the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee in November. ARIC was advised of the following actions being undertaken by Council:</p> <p>Annual recovery testing has been scheduled and regular communication of Cyber NSW bulletins and alerts between Council and its IP provider have been implemented to address emerging concerns. Staff have undertaken training and awareness on Cyber Security risks. Additional mechanisms are currently in the early stages of implementation including two-factor authentication for all Bland Shire Council system users and improving email security for elected representatives.</p>
Q3			Progressing	Update of telephones for Children's Services Unit has commenced. Transition to third party provider for internet access to improve speeds to support increased bandwidth.
Q4			Progressing	Support continues to be received in relation to specific business software programs with updates with notifications from Cyber NSW forwarded to IT provider for review and action as required. Ongoing service assistance provided by a Third Party IT provider.
10.5.2 Q1	Ensure progressive upgrade of computers, phones and other IT equipment.	Director Corporate and Community Services	Progressing	Ongoing monitoring of IT requirements with requests addressed as they arise. Current shortage of equipment due to global supply has impacted delivery times which presents an ongoing issue. However, this matter is outside the control of Council.
Q2			Progressing	Council is currently undertaking a review of computer equipment which was not included in the 2020 device upgrade with a view to providing replacement devices to those staff who require them. This equipment will be leased.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q3			Progressing	Ongoing monitoring of IT requirements with requests addressed as they arise.
Q4			Progressing	There has been an increase in activity within the information and technology space with Council continuing to ensure staff have appropriate equipment and programs to complete their tasks. An investigation into phone accounts identified a number of redundant connections and numbers which have been disconnected. There has also been a transfer to a new internet connection to increase connectivity within Council's administration building. Councillors have also transitioned to electronic platforms for meeting agendas.

Strategy 10.6

Regular consultation with key industry, business and stakeholders

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
10.6.1 Q1	Open communication established between Council and key local industry and employers.	General Manager	Progressing	The General Manager is in constant contact with local employers and industry representatives regarding a range of topics and issues affecting local business expansion, government programs and funding opportunities that would enhance the local economy.
Q2			Progressing	The General Manager, as a result of being responsible for economic development, is in constant touch with local businesses to ensure an ongoing professional relationship with Council.
Q3			Progressing	There has been no formal communication with key local industry and employers during this quarter.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q4			Completed	The General Manager is in constant contact with local employers and industry representatives regarding a range of topics and issues affecting local business expansion, government programs and funding opportunities that would enhance the local economy.



Provide opportunities for all stakeholders to contribute to Council's decision making

Strategy 11.1

Encourage village residents to participate in community forums

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
11.1.1 Q1	Seek community input into each forum agenda and report back to the community on forum outcomes.	Assets & Engineering Services Projects Officer	Progressing	There have been no community forums scheduled by Council up to the end of this quarter.
Q2			Progressing	There were no community forums scheduled by Council up to the end of the second quarter (31 December 2021). The newly elected Council will make a decision to schedule forums in early 2022.
Q3			Progressing	Community forums were held in Naradhan and Weethalle on Thursday 24 February 2022. There were twelve residents in attendance at Naradhan and thirteen in Weethalle. Both communities provided agendas for discussion at the forums. There was also a forum held in the Bland RFS shed on Thursday 3 March 2022 for residents in the Quandialla district. There were two residents in attendance but no agenda items provided to Council.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q4			Completed	There were no community forums scheduled for the shire villages for the period 1 April 2022 to 30 June 2022.
11.1.2 Q1	Organise community forums in villages within the Shire, as requires.	Assets & Engineering Services Projects Officer	Progressing	There have been no community forums scheduled by Council up to the end of this quarter.
Q2			Progressing	There were no community forums scheduled by Council up to the end of the second quarter (31 December 2021). The newly elected Council will make a decision to schedule forums in early 2022.
Q3			Progressing	Community Forums, as scheduled by Council resolution, were advertised and held in the villages of Naradhan, Weethalle and Bland district.
Q4			Complete	There were no community forums scheduled by Council for the last quarter (April to June 2022).
11.1.3 Q1	Provide avenues for the community to be engaged in Council activities and give feedback, eg. Community Forums, pre-meeting Public Forums etc.	General Manager	Progressing	The Public Forums prior to Council meetings have been reintroduced following a relaxing of the Covid-19 restrictions, however, direct face to face community forums will not proceed until sometime in 2022.
Q2			Progressing	The revised Community Engagement Strategy is currently on public exhibition and will be presented to the first council meeting in 2022. It is also expected that the newly elected council will determine the dates for the community forums throughout 2022.
Q3			Progressing	The Public Forum prior to Council meetings has been reintroduced and there has been two (2) community forums held in this quarter at Naradhan and Weethalle.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q4			Completed	The Public Forum prior to Council Meetings has been reintroduced and there has been two (2) community forums held in this quarter at Naradhan and Weethalle. The next community forums will be determined following the commencement of the new General Manager.

Strategy 11.2

Provide innovative and accessible communication strategies to Shire residents to encourage active participation in Council's future.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
11.2.1 Q1	Monitor and update Council's official social media accounts (Facebook, Instagram, Youtube) and electronic communication.	Community Relations Officer	Progressing	Audience and engagement levels continue to grow.
Q2			Progressing	Social media growth continues with increased engagement and reach.
Q3			Progressing	Facebook and Instagram pages "Bland Shire Council: continue to be monitored daily with multiple posts each week. Page reach 337,900 for March 2022.
Q4			Completed	Bland Shire Council's official Facebook and Instagram accounts have a growing reach and impact.
11.2.2 Q1	Monitor Council social media accounts and advise on adherence to Council's Social Media policy and procedures	Community Relations Officer	Progressing	Exported data from BSC official Facebook page is attached. Identified breaches of social media policy reported to the General Manager.
Q2			Progressing	Ongoing.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q3			Progressing	Official "Bland Shire Council" accounts on Facebook and Instagram administered in accordance with social media policy and procedures.
Q4			Completed	Official accounts where CRO and/or CDO are listed as a moderator are maintained in accordance with Council's Social Media Policy and procedures.

Strategy 11.3

Ensure all Council communication branded signs and banners are provided to funding recipients

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
11.3.1 Q1	Provide Council branded signs and/or banners to funding recipients.	Community Relations Officer	Progressing	No events held during Q1 due to Covid-19.
Q2			Progressing	As required.
Q3			Progressing	Branded signs provided at Health Kids Bus Stop, Western League Basketball, West Wyalong Triathlon and West Wyalong Rodeo.
Q4			Completed	Ongoing. Signage and collateral provided where appropriate.
11.3.2 Q1	Display Council logo in all advertising and promotion of Council events/programs/workshops.	Community Relations Officer	Progressing	Council logo published with approval in Council notices. Council commissioned online forms and projects including The Gratitude Project. Logo used on new signage for the Reawakening Placenames project at Wyalong, Tallimba, Booberoi Hills and Ungarie.
Q2			Progressing	Ongoing.
Q3			Progressing	Logo displayed in all official promotions and advertising.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q4			Completed	Logo used in accordance with Corporate Style Guide in all official Council publications issued through CRO.



Lead the community

Strategy 12.1

Review Council's customer service charter and monitor Council services to ensure they are provided in a professional, timely and friendly manner and are responsive to community needs

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
12.1.1 Q1	Review and monitor frontline customer service practices and performance.	Manager Customer & Financial Services	Progressing	Customer service practices have seen several changes put in place due to Covid-19 restrictions. Council's customer service staff have been integral in providing support to the community during these challenging times, and have been flexible and adaptable with the ever changing situation.
Q2			Progressing	Frontline customer service practices continue to be monitored and fine tuned. Council staff try to adapt themselves to the changing needs of our ratepayers.
Q3			Progressing	Council staff continue to review our customer service practices and welcome feedback from our customers.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q4			Progressing	Customer Service staff take pride in their friendly, efficient manner and willingly receive feedback on any areas requiring review. This quarter has been challenging with staff shortages, however with assistance from other areas, Customer Service remained a priority.
12.1.2 Q1	Provide information and services and monitor complaints in regards to companion animals and responsible pet ownership.	Manager Development & Regulatory Services	Progressing	No complaints in relation to the companion animals were received during the reporting period.
Q2			Progressing	One (1) complaint was received in relation to barking dogs during the reporting period.
Q3			Progressing	One (1) complaint in relation to barking dogs was received during the reporting period.
Q4			Completed	Council's Ranger has investigated barking dog complaints in Barmedman and Weethalle during the reporting period. Council continues to provide responsible pet ownership information on Council's website and social media.
12.1.3 Q1	Monitor and report on response times to major customer requests.	Manager Customer & Financial Services	Progressing	Council have been making internal changes to the way customer requests are handled in an effort to increase the communication between Council and their valued customers. These processes will see customers be more frequently updated with the progress of their request.
Q2			Progressing	Council continue to review procedures and processes to ensure a high level of Customer Service is being adhered to.
Q3			Progressing	Council's front counter staff continue to provide efficient customer service bay adhering to our Customer Service Charter.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q4			Progressing	Customer Service have been assisting other departments with their customer requests, this is currently being reviewed with changes anticipated soon.

Strategy 12.2

Provide sustainable, productive, highly skilled and committed workforce which supports current and future service delivery needs

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
12.2.1 Q1	Assist in the management of workforce relations and provision of timely advice on workplace relations matters.	Human Resources Coordinator	Progressing	Regular advice is provided on management of workforce relations.
Q2			Progressing	Regular advice is provided.
Q3			Progressing	Regular advice is provided
Q4			Completed	This is ongoing
12.2.2 Q1	Review and monitor the implementation of the Workforce Assessment Plan.	Human Resources Coordinator	Progressing	Workforce plan has been reviewed. Alternative training methods are being sources. The impact of Covid-19 restrictions are being investigated and plans are in place.
Q2			Progressing	Implementation of GO1 assisted in meeting training needs.
Q3			Progressing	Vacancies are being filled. Training has resumed.
Q4			Completed	Implemented

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
12.2.3 Q1	Maintain register of delegations and issue authorities to relevant employees.	Executive Assistant	Progressing	Delegations update completed in August 2021, system notification provided to employees. Training and instruction for staff to be progressed through the coming months.
Q2			Progressing	Registered updated and maintained with relevant staff notified as required.
Q3			Progressing	Delegations legislation update received for uploading into system. Staff notified and system instruction provided as required.
Q4			Completed	Legislation updates monitored and system updated as required. Staff instruction provided as required.
12.2.4 Q1	Develop, implement and monitor Learning and Development Plan.	Human Resources Coordinator	Progressing	Learning and Development plan created and need to be put forward to the Consultative Committee.
Q2			Progressing	New Learning Management System (GO1) introduced to assist in achieving learning goals.
Q3			Progressing	In progress of developing training plan. Await outstanding Performance and Development Reviews.
Q4			Completed	Training arranged.
12.2.5 Q1	Maintain and promote the Employee Assistance Program (EAP).	Human Resources Coordinator	Progressing	EAP is promoted by sharing information in Thursday Thoughts, notice boards, on-boarding and Human Resources. Quarterly reports from Converge indicate that employees make use of the service.
Q2			Progressing	EAP is promoted by sharing wellbeing information in Thursday Thoughts.
Q3			Progressing	Regular wellness ideas in Thursday Thoughts.
Q4			Completed	Monthly

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
12.2.6 Q1	Promote and encourage professional development to all staff.	Human Resources Coordinator	Progressing	Professional development opportunities are communicated to staff. Educational assistance is available to all staff.
Q2			Progressing	Staff can enrol in professional development when it is convenient for them through the new LMS-GO1.
Q3			Progressing	Professional development training opportunities communicated to staff.
Q4			Completed	On-going
12.2.7 Q1	Identify and organise training needs and mandatory training to ensure staff are highly skilled.	Human Resources Coordinator	Progressing	Training needs are identified in the annual Performance and Development review, competency assessments and supervisor recommendations. Training is organised according to these processes. HR arranges mandatory training and ensure staff are reminded of mandatory training.
Q2			Progressing	Training needs identified and staff enrolled in training.
Q3			Progressing	Mandatory training identified and completed.
Q4			Completed	Training needs have been identified.
12.2.8 Q1	Maintain and promote the staff service and achievement awards program.	Executive Assistant	Progressing	On target with monthly advise provided to supervisors and presentations made to relevant employees at monthly staff meetings.
Q2			Progressing	Monthly reports provided and presentations made at staff meetings as required.
Q3			Progressing	On target with monthly notices and presentations made.
Q4			Completed	Monthly reports provided and presentations made at staff meetings as required.

Strategy 12.3

Develop, implement and monitor HR programs to solidify Council's reputation as an employer of choice

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
12.3.1 Q1	Support the implementation and monitoring of the EEO Management Plan.	Human Resources Coordinator	Progressing	EEO Management Plan was revised during the EEO Committee meetings. The committee assists in the implementation of the plan.
Q2			Progressing	The EEO Management Plan will be revised during the next meeting to reflect the issues identified in the survey.
Q3			Progressing	EEO Management Plan to be updated during meeting 8 March.
Q4			Complete	EEO Management Plan being revised.
12.3.2 Q1	Implement workforce programs ensuring Council remains an employer of choice.	Human Resources Coordinator	Progressing	A monthly report is compiled and communicated to the General Manager.
Q2			Progressing	Monthly report compiled and sent to the General Manager.
Q3			Progressing	Reports submitted
Q4			Completed	Processes implemented
12.3.3 Q1	Implement and monitor the effectiveness of LGNSW Capability Framework in the Performance and Development Review process.	Human Resources Coordinator	Completed	The LGNSW Capability Framework is implemented in the Annual Performance and Development Reviews.
Q2			Completed	
Q3			Completed	Completed
Q4			Completed	Completed
12.3.4 Q1	Conduct Employee Engagement & EEO Survey.	Human Resources Coordinator	Completed	The survey has been distributed, completed and the results will be communicated to Manex, EEO Committee and Staff.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q2			Completed	
Q3			Completed	Completed
Q4			Completed	Survey conducted.

Strategy 12.4

Review and implement Council policies and comply with WH&S and Risk Management requirements

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
12.4.1 Q1	Ensure WHS Committee meet in accordance with approved schedule.	Contracts, Compliance & WHS Officer	Progressing	The August WHS Committee was not held due to Covid-19 lockdown. The meeting will be held 30 September 2021.
Q2			Progressing	Final meeting for 2021 held on November 25 th .
Q3			Progressing	WHS Committee Meetings are held on a quarterly basis. The last meeting was held on February 17 th .
Q4			Completed	WHS Committee Meetings are held on a quarterly basis. The last meeting was held on May 19 th .
12.4.2 Q1	Review and update Council's Insurance Policies	Risk & Insurance Officer	Completed	2021-2022 Insurance has been completed. Steve Childe, Account Manager – NSW JLT Public Sector / JLT Risk Solutions Pty Ltd will visit Council to update on changes from previous year.
Q2			Completed	Insurance on track RAMS no longer required. CIP workbooks now required, has been updated.
Q3			Progressing	2022 insurances and progress reports to be completed.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q4			Progressing	Awaiting renewal updates all works completed for insurer as requested.
12.4.3 Q1	Establish and monitor Council's Risk Register.	Risk & Insurance Officer	Progressing	Risk registers have been embraced by risk owners and have been checked and updated on a regular basis. Pulse reminders are sent to all risk owners reminding them to check and provide comments on progress.
Q2			Progressing	Risk register on track risk owners making regular updates.
Q3			Progressing	Will continue to work with risk owners and will have a face to face visit this quarter to update.
Q4			Progressing	Face to face meetings planned for this month progressing well.
12.4.4 Q1	Maintain the Contractor Database eg. Insurances, inductions, registrations	Contracts, Compliance & WHS Officer	Progressing	The management of the Contractor Database is ongoing and updated as required.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q2			Progressing	<p>EOI have been called for all contractors including existing contractors must reapply and update , applications close on 31 Jan 2022.</p> <p>Compliant Contractor - To be a compliant contractor the following requirements must be met, all documents must be provided and must remain current -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Certificate of Business Registration; b. Current Public Liability Insurance (min \$20,000,000) c. Current Professional Indemnity Insurance (if applicable); d. Current Workers Compensation Insurance / Personal Injury Insurance (if self-employed with no additional employees); e. Govt Licence or Permits where required (e.g. White cards, licences, electrical work, plumbing work, etc.); f. WHS Management Plan (or an outline of safe work practices and WHS Policies and Procedures relevant to the work to be performed); and g. Warranty terms and conditions h. Other documents as requested i. All workers must have completed the BSC WHS Induction j. Follow BSC PPE requirements k. COVID Safety Plan
Q3		Risk & Insurance Officer	Progressing	Ongoing. Needs regular checks to ensure compliance. Explore options of revising process.
Q4			Progressing	Progressing well.

13

Develop and maintain a framework of plans and policies that ensures open and transparent Council information

Strategy 13.1

Promote and advocate improved management of, and access to, information across Council

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
13.1.1 Q1	Ensure information required under the GIPA legislation is displayed appropriately on Council's website.	Director Corporate and Community Services	Completed	A revised Access to Information policy was endorsed in July 2021 and adopted by Council at its September Ordinary Meeting. This policy and associated documentation as well as improved provision of information was updated on Council's website and includes statutory information under the GIPA legislation. Council has received no formal requests for information during Q1 and three informal requests.
Q2			Completed	Following an internal audit on Government Information (Public Access) Act compliance in June 2021, Council addressed and updated information contained on its website in accordance with the recommendations made. Council has received no formal requests for information during Q2.
Q3			Completed	No further comment as action has been completed. Incoming requests for information processed within statutory timeframes.
Q4			Completed	No further comment as action has been completed. Incoming requests for information processed within statutory timeframes.

Strategy 13.2

Develop, implement and promote best practice governance policies and procedures

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
13.2.1 Q1	Progress the establishment of and Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee and function within the organisation as per the legislation.	Director Corporate and Community Services	Progressing	There has been one internal audit undertaken during Q1 being the Information Technology health check. Final report to be presented to the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee in November.
Q2			Progressing	<p>Due to the December Local Government election, there were no internal audits schedule for Q2. Report and recommendations from the Information Technology health check were presented to the November Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee. The following are the two areas noted:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Segregation of duties with manual journal adjustments 2. Business continuity and disaster recovery <p>Remedial action has commenced to address each area of concern including a review of the manual journal process and the development of a Draft IT strategy to complement Council's overall Business Continuity Plan.</p>
Q3			Progressing	Due to the December Local Government election, there were no internal audits scheduled for Q3. The Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee met during the first week of March and received updates on recommendations from previous Internal Audits as well as Council's Risk Management Report, CIP Self Assessment and the External Audit planning meeting, which was held in February.
Q4			Progressing	Audit of Bland Shire Council's Developer Contributions undertaken during Q4. Final report to be presented to July Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
13.2.2 Q1	Review Council's policies and procedures.	Director Corporate and Community Services	Progressing	During Q1 the following policies were adopted by Council: Enterprise Risk management Framework - Risk Management Policy - Privacy Management Plan - Information Guide - Access to Information Policy - Internal Reporting Policy - Volunteer Policy - Records Management Policy.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q2			Progressing	<p>The review of Council's policies is ongoing. During the six-month period from July to December, the following policies were reviewed and adopted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to Information • Privacy Management Plan • Internal Reporting • Information Guide • Records Management • Volunteer Policy • Complaints Handling • Confidentiality Policy • Community Engagement Strategy • Social media policy • Debt recovery and financial hardship <p>The following policies from Bland Shire's Children's Services Unit were also reviewed and adopted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborative Partnerships with Families • Educational Program and Practice • Transition to Kindergarten • Dental Health • Storage of Dangerous Chemicals, Substances and Equipment • Bathing and Showering • Environmental Sustainability • Role of Educator's families and Other Household Members • Emergency and Alternate Care • Transport Policy • Safe Sleep Policy • Code of Conduct • Supervision Policy • Complaints Policy

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q3			Progressing	<p>During Q3 the following policies were adopted by Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Debt Recovery and Financial Hardship Policy Community Engagement Strategy Social Media Policy Cyber Policy CSU Code of Conduct CSU Complaints Management CSU Supervision <p>The following Children's Services Procedures were also adopted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incident, Injury, Illness & Trauma Administration of First Aid Medication Administration Dealing with Infectious Diseases Medical Conditions

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q4			Progressing	<p>During Q4 the following policies were adopted or endorsed: Code of Meeting Practice Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities to Councillors Social Media Policy Confidentiality Policy & Agreement Building Over Sewers Policy Enforcement Policy Refund of Application Fees Policy</p> <p>The following Childrens Services Unit Policies: Child Protection Arrival and Departure of Children Emergency Evacuation and Lockdown Health and Safety - Sun Protection Medical Administration Policy Incident, Injury, Trauma & Illness Policy Dealing with Infectious Diseases Policy Administration of First Aid Policy Medical Conditions Policy</p> <p>The following Community Care Policies: Commonwealth Home Support Programme Client Contribution Advocacy Support Privacy and Confidentiality</p>



Our Prosperity

Growing our population and jobs

Our Objectives

14. Visitors and tourists are welcomed
15. Promote the Shire as a place to do business
16. Work with our communities and businesses to use our resources in a sustainable way for the future of the Bland Shire

Strategy 14.1

Work with the tourism industry to identify and develop products and services that appeal to visitors of the Shire

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
14.1.1 Q1	Maintain relationships with tourism and community groups to progress tourism initiatives within the Bland Shire.	Tourism & Administration Officer	Completed	Work with Destination Riverina Murray on tourism initiatives.
Q2			Completed	Continuously meet with The Riverina to promote our Shire's tourism initiative. Meet with business West Wyalong and the Local Aboriginal Land Council discussing possible tourism initiatives. Promoted the Bland Shire Art Trail with Travel Oz on Channel 7Two. Included locals and groups to present and were interviewed by Travel Oz.
Q3			Completed	Continuously meet with The Riverina to promote our Shire's tourism initiative. Meet with groups in West Wyalong to discuss possible tourism initiatives.
Q4			Completed	Continuously meet with The Riverina to promote our Shire's tourism initiative. Meet with Business West Wyalong and the Local Aboriginal Land Council discussing possible tourism initiatives. New The Riverina map now available at all Riverina visitor centres.
14.1.2 Q1	Maintain an active participation and representation in relevant regional tourism meetings and events.	Tourism & Administration Officer	Progressing	Attended bi-monthly The Riverina regional meetings.
Q2			Progressing	Attended bi-monthly The Riverina regional meetings.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q3			Progressing	Attending by-monthly The Riverina regional meetings.
Q4			Completed	Regional meetings are ongoing and all meetings were attended for 2022. Tasks from meetings were finalised including a new The Riverina map.
14.1.3 Q1	Promote Bland Shire using online and print mediums.	Tourism & Administration Officer	Progressing	Due to Covid-19 restrictions and not encouraging tourism to Bland Shire, the Bland Bulletin were not distributed to the accommodation providers during this quarter. No events took place. Promoted tourism experiences through The Riverina as a plan now visit later initiatives for when tourists can travel again.
Q2			Progressing	Bland Bulletin were distributed from December after Covid-19 restrictions lifted. Promoted tourism experiences through The Riverina, Visit West Wyalong Facebook page and at neighbouring Visitor Centres.
Q3			Progressing	Bland Bulletin was distributed for January to March. Promoted tourism experiences through The Riverina, Visit West Wyalong Facebook and neighboring Visitor Centre's. New Bland Shire Art and Sculpture trail booklet available in Visitor Centre.
Q4			Completed	Promoted tourism experiences through The Riverina Facebook, Visit West Wyalong Facebook and at neighboring Visitor Centers. Bland Bulletin March and April were distributed to all accommodations.
14.1.4 Q1	Monitor, update and apply tourism signage as requested by tourism attractions and tourism businesses.	Tourism & Administration Officer	Progressing	Installed new signage at Coinda Reserve at the Eucalyptus and Mining Bucket display. Installation of Re-Awakening signage received from NSW Local Land Services.
Q2			Completed	Application made to the Road Reserve Manager to install Re-Awakening signs at Wyalong, Ungarie and Tallimba. Approved and signs installed.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q3			Progressing	Installed Re-Awakening signs at Wyalong, Ungarie and Tallimba. Booberoi Hills sign still to be installed.
Q4			Completed	No signage requests received from tourism attractions and tourism businesses.
14.1.5 Q1	Work with neighbouring Shires to promote tourism experiences and Tourism Art Trail.	Tourism & Administration Officer	Progressing	This is an ongoing process. Working with neighbouring Shires on the Art Trail to encourage tourism to travel The Riverina region.
Q2			Progressing	This is an ongoing process. Working with neighbouring Shires on the Art trail to encourage tourism to travel The Riverina region.
Q3			Progressing	This is an ongoing process. Working with neighboring Shires on the Art trail to encourage tourism to travel The Riverina Region.
Q4			Completed	Negotiations started with Carathool Shire and Condobolin to create a art trail through the 3 shires to drive tourism from Sydney, Canberra and Melbourn to The Riverina and to our shires through the art trail.
14.1.6 Q1	Provide and maintain a quality Visitors Information Centre which engages and supports tourism in the Bland Shire.	Tourism & Administration Officer	Progressing	This is an ongoing process. Brochures are continually updated. Information available of any events. And the tourism screen are continuously updated with fresh images and events within the Visitors Centre.
Q2			Progressing	This is an ongoing process. Brochures are continually updated. Information in Visitor Centre available for any events happening during this quarter. The tourism screens are continuously updated with fresh images and events within the Visitors Centre.
Q3			Progressing	This is an ongoing process. Brochures are continually updated. Information in Visitor Centre is available of any events happening during this quarter. And the tourism screen are continuously updated with fresh images and events within the Visitors Centre. New souvenirs added to Visitor Centre.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q4			Completed	Brochures are continually updated. Information of any events happening during this quarter were displayed and promoted in the Visitor Centre. New souvenirs added to Visitor Centre. Visitor Information staff also will be making enquiries regarding accommodation availability on request of visitor due to lack of accommodation in the Bland Shire.

Strategy 14.2

Attract a diverse range of Visitors to the Shire

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
14.2.1 Q1	Seek major and minor event opportunities for the Bland Shire to potential Visitors to the region.	Tourism & Administration Officer	Not Progressing	Due to Covid-19 restrictions no events took place and tourism was not encouraged at this time.
Q2			Progressing	Due to Covid-19 restrictions no events took place and tourism was not encouraged up until the end of November. Small events are starting back up, Business West Wyalong Christmas shopping and Weethalle Christmas Markets. Events are supported by Councils Tourism Officer.
Q3			Progressing	No event opportunities identified by Visitor Centre staff. Smaller events organised through groups and supported by Visitor Centre.
Q4			Progressing	No event opportunities identified by Visitor Centre staff. Smaller events organised through groups and supported by Visitor Centre staff through phone calls, printed material and advertising.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
14.2.2 Q1	Investigate technology to improve the visitor experience within Bland Shire.	Tourism & Administration Officer	Progressing	Investigated and planned for augmented reality experiences. But due to Visitor Information Centre space retractions this is on hold. Increased the izi app – Bland Shire Art Trail and History Walk information.
Q2			Progressing	Signed another three year contract with Tourism Touchscreen. Updated information on the Tourism Touchscreen including offering of advertisement for local businesses and schools. 23 businesses opted to advertise on the app.
Q3			Progressing	No new technology added for this round.
Q4			Completed	Task for this period has been completed. Augmented reality experience to be implemented in next 6 months. Bland Shire Art Trail and history walk has been updated. New booklet for Art Trail available at visitor centre.

Strategy 15.1

Encourage and actively seek out businesses and industry to relocate within the Shire

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
15.1.1 Q1	Support business and/or industry operators to establish within Bland Shire through programs such as the Business Development Assistance Fund.	General Manager	Progressing	The General Manager provides assistance and support to new and expanding businesses within the Shire and all completed Business Support Applications are formally presented to Council for consideration.
Q2			Progressing	The General Manager regularly approaches new businesses to ensure that they are aware of the level of support from Council and provides assistance with the preparation of the Business Assistance applications.
Q3			Progressing	A further two (2) successful Business Assistance applications were processed by Council during this quarter.
Q4			Completed	The General Manager's 'open door' policy has allowed for many prospective business and industry operators to seek first hand information on how Bland Shire Council can assist with the establishment of new and expanding businesses.

Strategy 15.2

Continue ongoing engagement and communication with the Shire's existing industry and business including support for diversification and alternate industry or business

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
15.2.1 Q1	Work cooperatively with the local business groups to promote programs, initiatives, services and products wherever possible and to support requests to assist business activities with long-term benefits for the Bland Shire.	General Manager	Progressing	The General Manager provides assistance and support to new and expanding businesses within the Shire and all completed Business Support Applications are formally presented to Council for consideration.
Q2			Progressing	The General Manager is currently negotiating with a business consultant to provide a focus group forum in early 2022 with the objective of encouraging an increase in membership of Business West Wyalong. The General Manager also continues to support local businesses with any council related matters.
Q3			Progressing	The General Manager provides assistance and support to new and expanding businesses within the Shire and all completed Business Support applications are formally presented to Council for consideration.
Q4			Completed	The General Manager provides assistance and support to new and expanding businesses within the Shire and all completed Business Support Applications are formally presented to Council for consideration.

Strategy 15.3

Lobby for and work with industry, government and education providers to ensure Bland Shire residents and businesses have access to competitive telecommunication services.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
15.3.1 Q1	Monitor grant opportunities for communications infrastructure to address shire blackspots.	Director Corporate and Community Services	Progressing	Ongoing monitoring of grant opportunities through Grant Connect. To date, no specific funding available other than the Mobile Blackspot program.
Q2			Progressing	Federal grant notifications received regularly through subscription with GrantConnect. Assistance has been provided to Telstra for a funding application to improve communications services within the region under the Regional Connectivity Program – Round 2 – Newell Hwy – Mirrool.
Q3			Progressing	Federal grant notifications received regularly through subscription with GrantConnect. Awaiting outcome of assistance provided to Telstra for a funding application to improve communications services within the region under the Regional Connectivity Program – Round 2 – Newell Hwy – Mirrool.
Q4			Progressing	Ongoing monitoring of grant opportunities through Grant Connect. To date, no specific funding available other than the Mobile Blackspot program.
15.3.2 Q1	Advocate for improved telecommunications access in regional areas of Bland Shire.	Director Corporate and Community Services	Progressing	Submission made to Regional Telecommunications Independent Review Committee highlighting lack of access to suitable network, number of identified blackspots within Bland Shire local government area and impending phase out of 3G network, which is still relied upon in many remote regions of the shire. Proposed solution to connectivity issues including pursuit of service sharing arrangements with network providers and implementation of fibre to the curb for new development areas.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q2			Progressing	Council collaboration with Telstra's Regional Australia Team providing letters of support for its Regional Connectivity Program (Round 2) to deploy 4GX and NB-IoT mobile network coverage on the Newell Hwy, Mirrool NSW.
Q3			Progressing	Awaiting outcome of Telstra's Regional Australia Team providing letters of support for its Regional Connectivity Program (Round 2) to deploy 4GX and NB-IoT mobile network coverage on the Newell Hwy, Mirrool NSW. Ongoing identification and notification of Mobile blackspots to support future funding applications.
Q4			Progressing	No specific activity this month. Notification received of unsuccessful Regional Connectivity Program (Round 2) application for Mirrool area.
15.3.3 Q1	Investigate suitable locations for improved telecommunications access.	Director Technical Services	Progressing	Blackspots put together for REROC who are liaising with the Federal Government.
Q2			Progressing	No further advise from REROC.
Q3			Progressing	Discussions with Telstra.
Q4			Completed	Liaison with REROC continuing.

Work with our communities and businesses to use our resources in a sustainable way for the future of the Bland Shire

Strategy 16.1

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 industry growth.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
16.1.1 Q1	Update Development Control Plan to include flood planning development controls for Ungarie.	Manager Development & Regulatory Services	Not Due To Start	NSW Planning is due to release standard template for DCPs. A review of current DCP controls have commenced.
Q2			Not Due To Start	NSW Planning is due to release standard template for DCPs. A review of current DCP controls is ongoing.
Q3			Not Due To Start	NSW Planning is due to release standard template for DCPs. A review of current DCP controls have commenced. Waiting for response from NSW Planning.
Q4			Completed	NSW Planning is due to release standard template for DCPs. A review of the current DCP controls have commenced. Waiting for response from NSW Planning.
16.1.2 Q1	Review Local Environmental Plan.	Manager Development & Regulatory Services	Progressing	Housing strategy is nearing completion.
Q2			Progressing	Housing strategy due to be completed during next quarter.
Q3			Progressing	Housing strategy is nearing completion by consultants.
Q4			Completed	The Housing Strategy is currently on exhibition.

Strategy 16.2

Through partnerships with stakeholders foster our education, learning and training industry and increase employment opportunities within the Shire

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
16.2.1 Q1	Maintain Council's traineeship and apprenticeship program.	Human Resources Coordinator	Progressing	Council has employed four (4) new trainees and recruited two (2) cadets. Two Early Childhood teachers completed their work experience at Council.
Q2			Progressing	Council employed one (1) trainee for the Sewerage Treatment Works.
Q3			Progressing	Trainee – Civil Construction recruited.
Q4			Completed	Program is still ongoing.
16.2.2 Q1	Foster partnerships with education sector.	Human Resources Coordinator	Progressing	Regular contact with WWHS, TAFE and Ungarie High School.
Q2			Progressing	Regular contact with WWHS, TAFE and Ungarie High School.
Q3			Progressing	Regular contact with education institutions made contact with Wollongong University for Engineering work experience students and CSU for Early Childhood teacher work experience students.
Q4			Completed	This is ongoing.
16.2.3 Q1	Identify education needs for local businesses and work with training providers to deliver appropriate training.	General Manager	Progressing	Council staff have been working closely with Business West Wyalong to identify suitable training for business operators and all information that is disseminated through Small Business NSW is relayed to Business West Wyalong for distribution amongst its members.
Q2			Progressing	The General manager has been in negotiations with an external provider to undertake a series of focus groups with the objective of increasing membership of BWW. These focus groups will be conducted in late January 2022.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q3			Progressing	The General Manager, with the support of the Tourism and Administration Officer, continues to provide the local business network with information on training initiatives as well as funding opportunities through the NSW Government.
Q4			Completed	<p>Council, through its staff, continues to identify arrange of training opportunities for our local businesses which in turn provides for upskilling for existing employee and therefore improvements to business performance.</p> <p>Council continues its good working relationship with Business West Wyalong and will continue to promote education and training opportunities for all local businesses with the objective of increasing employment opportunities within the Shire.</p>
16.2.4 Q1	Liaise with retail and industry to assist in creating employment opportunities.	General Manager	Progressing	The General Manager has been liaising with a number of local businesses who are considering expansion and has been providing those businesses with relevant information on government programs and subsidies.
Q2			Progressing	The General Manager is continuing to liaise with West Wyalong Machinery and Mid West Fabrication on the expansion of both businesses.
Q3			Progressing	There has been no formal communication or meetings with local retail and industry operators during this quarter.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q4			Completed	<p>Council, through its staff, continues to identify arrange of training opportunities for our local businesses which in turn provides for upskilling for existing employee and therefore improvements to business performance.</p> <p>Council continues its good working relationship with Business West Wyalong and will continue to promote education and training opportunities for all local businesses with the objective of increasing employment opportunities within the Shire.</p>

Strategy 16.3

Promote agricultural practices which are leading edge and efficient.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
16.3.1 Q1	Provide a workshop/program targeting the agricultural industry.	Foreman - Environmental Services	Progressing	Update of Council website – Biosecurity Act and Riverina Regional Strategic Management Plan
Q2			Progressing	Bland Shire Local Weeds Plan developed and placed on Council website.
Q3			Progressing	Website information updated regularly illegal clearing, burning and dumping. Sale of worm farms and compost bins.
Q4			Completed	No further actions this quarter.
16.3.2 Q1	Provide a workshop/program targeting energy efficiency.	Foreman - Environmental Services	Not Progressing	Covid-19 restrictions have impacted on commencement.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Q2			Not Progressing	Covid-19 restrictions impacting on community events.
Q3			Not Progressing	Covid-19 status impacting on community events.
Q4			Progressing	A program is being researched for the up-coming quarter.
16.3.3 Q1	Educate the community on benefits of protecting our environment.	Foreman - Environmental Services	Progressing	Update of Council website in Environment section regarding changes to weeds legislation – Biosecurity Act and associated terminology. Addition to site of the Riverina Regional Strategic Management Plan.
Q2			Progressing	Bland Shire Local Weeds Management Plan developed and placed on Council website.
Q3			Progressing	Further educational information developed and placed on Council website – including explanation of the Biosecurity Act 2015, Riverina Strategic Weed Management Plan and Illegal clearing, burning and dumping.
Q4			Completed	Enrolled Bland Shire in the Bioblitz project and Inaturalist program, the events to be held this coming spring 2022. This program will involve our local community actively logging native flora and fauna recordings, which in turn will be placed on a world-wide data base. This research will help identify declines or increases in recorded species and assist with allocating resources to address associated concerns.

Strategy 16.4

Liaise with utility providers to ensure a quality sustainable service to the community.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
16.4.1 Q1	Maintain active representation and involvement with the regional organisations impacting Bland Shire Council	General Manager	Progressing	The General Manager is currently a member of the RIVJO Governance Working Party as well as a member of the REROC Executive. In this first quarter the General Manager has attended eight (8) meetings with these organisations. In addition, the General Manager has participated in Zoom meetings with RDA Riverina (1) and Central West RDA (1). There are a number of projects arising from these organisations that have had a direct benefit to the Bland Shire: Southern Lights/Housing Strategy/Retail Energy Procurement/Capacity Building Projects.
Q2			Progressing	Council remains a member of REROC and RivJO and the General Manager is an active member of the REROC Executive as well as the RivJO Governance Working Party.
Q3			Progressing	The General Manager and Mayor continue to attend and participate in regional meetings with organisations such as REROC and RIVJO.
Q4			Completed	The General Manager continues to represent Council on REROC and RIVJO and also has regular contact with Riverina Development Association and the Riverina Murray Destination NSW.

Strategy 16.5

The availability of commercial and industrial land, coupled with our geographic location, be maximised and marketed to boost economic growth.

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
16.5.1 Q1	Identify and act on avenues for improving and promoting the Shire's (commercial) industrial land.	General Manager	Progressing	The General Manager has been in negotiations with at least four (4) prospective purchasers of land within the new Business Park. The fact that Council has reduced the purchase price has now made setting up business within this complex much more affordable.
Q2			Progressing	The General Manager has been liaising with the Director of Technical Services on the preparation of a draft subdivision based on the interest currently being shown by at least eight (8) prospective purchasers. When this step has been completed security deposits will be sought and liaison with the various utility providers will continue.
Q3			Progressing	Council's Director of Technical Services has assumed responsibility for this project and he is in constant communication with Miller & James Real Estate in respect to the negotiations for the sale of lots within the new Business Park. The DTS is also preparing the subdivision plan and the identification of what services will be required.
Q4			Completed	The subdivision plan for the new business park has been finalised with all but one parcel of land now identified for purchase. This will mean sufficient income to allow the servicing of the individual blocks and will allow the new owners to commence the process of establishing their new businesses.



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Combined Delivery Program & Operational Plan 2021/22 Progress Report 2



7.7 Endorsement of Draft BSC Information Guide



Our Leadership - A well run Council acting as the voice of the community

DP 13.2 Develop, implement and promote best practice governance policies and procedures

Author: Governance and IP&R Officer

Introduction

The purpose of this report is to submit the Draft Information Guide (attachment) for review and endorsement by Bland Shire Council.

Financial Implications

Nil.

Summary

As part of the ongoing review and updating of Bland Shire Council's policy documentation, the Draft Information Guide has been revised.

The Information Guide is a statutory requirement as part of the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 and is to be reviewed and updated on an annual basis. Council's current Information Guide expires in September 2022.

Recommendation:

THAT:

- 1. Council endorses the Draft Information Guide and places on public exhibition for a period of 28 days from Friday 19 August 2022 for community comment.**
- 2. The Draft Information Guide be forwarded to the Information and Privacy Commissioner for comment.**
- 3. Should there be comment from the community or the Information and Privacy Commissioner on the Draft Information Guide, a further report be prepared and presented to Council.**
- 4. Should there be no comment from the community or the Information and Privacy Commissioner within the 42 day commentary period, Council formally adopt the Draft Information Guide.**

Bland Shire Council Information Guide



AUTHORISATION

POLICY TYPE: <i>(Council or Operational)</i>	Council
POLICY LOCATION: <i>(eg. Corporate, Engineering, etc.)</i>	Governance and Risk
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER: <i>(by position title)</i>	Director Corporate and Community Services
AUTHORISED BY: <i>(GM or Director Title)</i>	Manex
DATE ADOPTED:	
ADOPTED BY: <i>(Manex or Council)</i>	Council
MINUTE NO: <i>(If required)</i>	
REVIEW DUE DATE: <i>(Four years unless statutorily required sooner)</i>	June 2023
REVISION NUMBER:	3

DOCUMENT HISTORY

VERSION NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENTS <i>Include names of former policies that this policy will replace if applicable</i>	AMENDED BY <i>(Where required)</i>
3	July 2022	Reviewed, no updates required	Governance & IP&R Officer
2	June 2021	Reformat and updated information	Governance & IP&R Officer
1	August 2020	Updated information	Director Corporate & Community Services

REVIEW OF THIS POLICY

This Policy will be reviewed within 12 months from the date of adoption or as required in the event of legislative changes. The Policy may also be changed as a result of other amendment that are to the advantage that Council and in the spirit of this Policy. Any amendment to the Policy must be by way of a Council Resolution or the approval of the General Manager.

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PREFACE

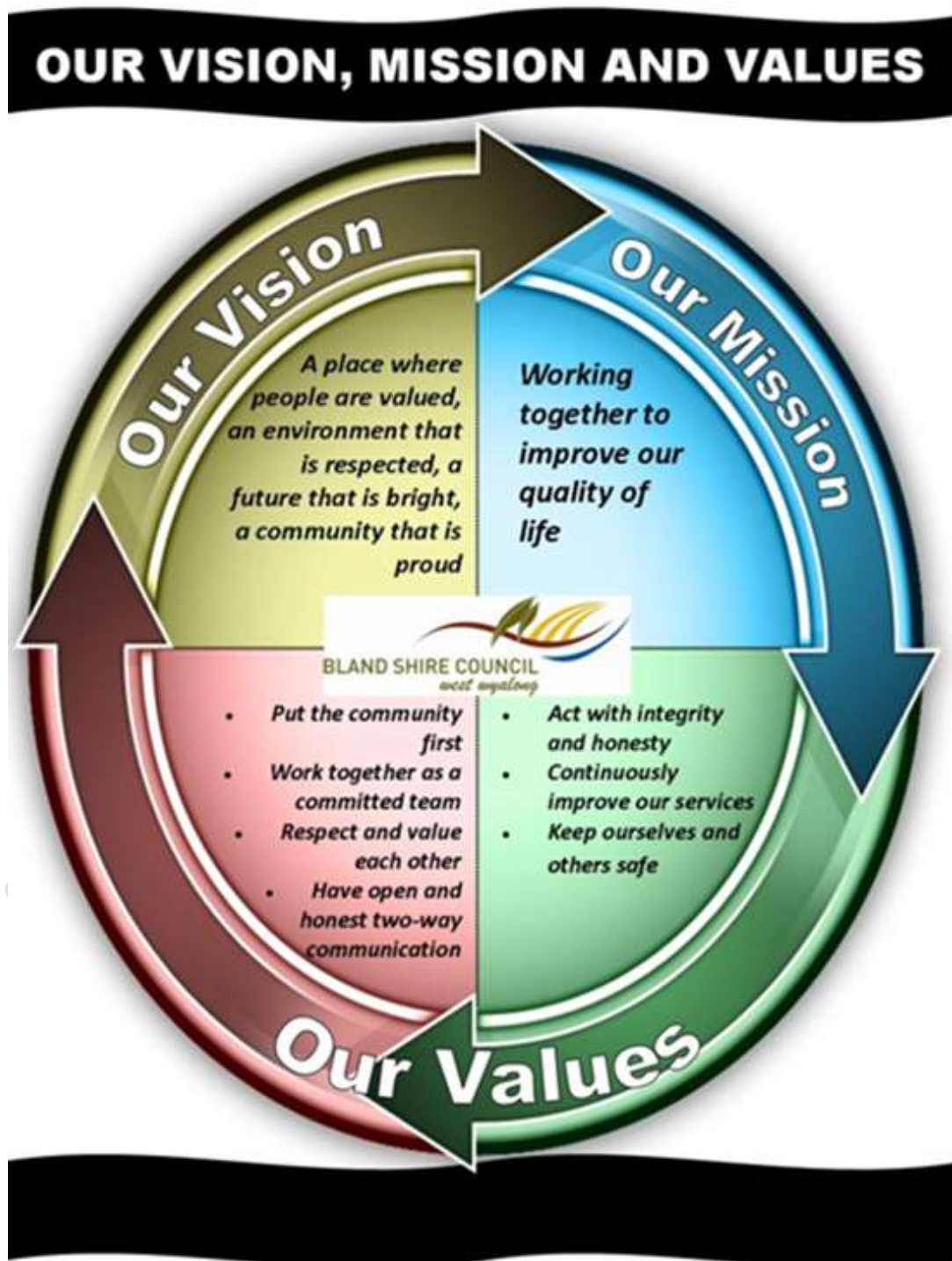
This Information Guide has been produced by Bland Shire Council in accordance with Section 20 of the Government Information (Public Access) Act and is reviewed on an annual basis.

The purpose of the Information Guide is to provide members of the community, Council staff and the public with information concerning:

- The structure and functions of Bland Shire Council;
- The way in which the functions of Bland Shire Council affect members of the public;
- The avenues available to the public to participate in policy development and the exercise of Bland Shire Council's functions; and
- The type of information available for Bland Shire Council and how this information is made available.

The Information Guide is available on Council's website: www.blandshire.nsw.gov.au

COUNCIL'S VISION, MISSION AND VALUES



STRUCTURE AND FUNCTIONS OF COUNCIL

Bland History

The Shire of Bland was first declared in 1906. A “temporary” council was incorporated on 16 June 1906 and operated for a period of six months. The first election of the Council took place in December 1906 when Councillors G. Punton, D. Byrne, P. Kearins, J.N. Crowley, L.J. McNamara and James Howard were elected. Council remained in this state until September 1935 when a Provisional council was formed beginning the process of the amalgamation with the Municipality of Wyalong.

The Shire of Bland and Wyalong Municipality were formally amalgamated on 7 December 1937 and the present day Bland Shire Council was created.

Bland Today

The Local Government Area of Bland is located on the northern fringes of the Riverina in New South Wales. Bland Shire Council was constituted as a shire in 1906 with the region having first been established as a gold mining settlement in 1895.

The Shire’s major centre of West Wyalong is located on the junction of the Newell and Mid-Western Highways and within a 160 kilometre radius of Wagga Wagga, Griffith, Forbes, Parkes and Cowra and within 300 kilometres of Canberra – providing an authentic rural lifestyle with the conveniences of the city well within reach.

Communities located within the Shire of Bland include Barmedman, Kikoira, Mirrool, Naradhan, Tallimba, Ungarie, Weethalle, Wyalong and Yalgogrin.

The Shire of Bland offers outstanding Council owned parks and gardens, sporting and community facilities, terrific schools, key medical and business facilities and boasts a fierce and unique community spirit.

The community is proud of its facilities and services with both Council and the community believing the Shire’s greatest asset is its people.

The Bland region has a rich history and a vibrant future. Today the Shire is a blossoming rural economy built around sheep, cattle, wheat and other crop varieties while in more recent times the Shire has also experienced significant developments away from agriculture. Evolution Mining operates a gold mine at Lake Cowal while Pace Farms has the biggest egg producing facility in the southern hemisphere.

Basis of Constitution

Bland Shire Council is constituted under the Local Government Act 1993.

Organisational Structure and Resources

Bland Shire Council is composed of nine councillors elected proportionally to represent the whole Local Government Area.

The role of the Councillors, as members of the body corporate, is:

- To direct and control the affairs of the council in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 and other applicable legislation;
- To participate in the optimum allocation of the Council's resources for the benefit of the area;
- To play a key role in the creation and review of the council's policies, objectives and criteria relating to the exercise of the Council's regulatory functions;
- To review the performance of the Council and its delivery of services, management plans and revenue policies of the Council.

The role of a Councillor is, as an elected person, is:

- To be an active and contributing member of the governing body of Council;
- To make considered and well informed decisions as a member of the governing body;
- To participate in the development of the Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) Framework;
- To represent the collective interest of residents, ratepayers and the local community;
- To facilitate communication between the local community and the governing body;
- To uphold and represent accurately the policies and decisions of the governing body;
- To make all reasonable efforts to acquire and maintain the skills necessary to perform the role of a Councillor.

The Mayor is elected from within the group of elected Councillors and serves for a period of two years.

The Mayor presides at meetings of Council, carries out the civic and ceremonial functions of the office, exercises in cases of necessity, the decision making functions of the body politic, between its meetings and performs any other functions that the Council determines.

The Principal Officer of the Council is the General Manager. The General Manager is responsible for the efficient operation of the Council's organisation and for ensuring the implementation of Council decisions. The General Manager is also responsible for the day to day management of the Council, the exercise of any functions delegated by the Council, the appointment, direction and where necessary, the dismissal of staff, as well as the implementation of Council's Equal Employment Opportunity Management Plan.

To assist the General Manager in the exercise of these functions, there are two (2) directors overseeing the following functional areas – Corporate and Community Services and Technical Services.

OUR ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

Bland Shire Council consists of two (2) Directorates and the Office of the General Manger.



FUNCTIONS OF BLAND SHIRE COUNCIL

Under the Local Government Act 1993, Council's functions can be grouped into the following categories:

Service Functions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provisions of community health, recreation, education and information services • Environmental protection • Waste removal and disposal • Land and property, industry and tourism development and assistance • Civil infrastructure planning • Civil infrastructure maintenance and construction
Regulatory Functions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building and development approval and control • Building Certificates • Development of Codes and Policies • Leases and licences of public reserves • Land Management
Ancillary Functions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resumption of land • Powers of entry and inspection • Power to sell and for overdue rates • Power to order the demolition of unsafe or unapproved structures
Revenue Functions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Levying of rates • Levying of fees and charges • Authority to borrow funds • Authority to make investments • Authority to grant subsidies
Administrative Functions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment of staff • Management Plans • Financial Reporting • Annual Reports • Codes of Conduct and Practice • Policy preparation
Enforcement Functions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proceedings for breaches of the Act • Prosecution of offences • Recovery of rates and Charges

As well as the Local Government Act, Council has powers under a number of other Acts in accordance with appropriate delegated authority, for example:

- Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979
- Protection of the Environment Operation Act 1997
- Roads Act 1993
- Companion Animals Act 1993
- Swimming Pools Act 1993

IMPACT OF COUNCIL FUNCTIONS ON THE PUBLIC

As a service organisation, the majority of the activities of the Bland Shire Council have an impact on the public. The following is an outline of how the broad functions of Council affect the public.

Service functions affect the public as council provides services and facilities to the public. These include provision of human services such as library services, halls and community centres, recreation facilities, infrastructure and the removal of garbage.

Regulatory functions place restrictions on developments and buildings to ensure that they meet certain requirements affecting the amenity of the community and not endanger the lives and safety of any person. Members of the public must be aware of, and comply with, such regulations.

Ancillary functions affect only some members of the public. These functions include, for example, the resumption of land or the power for Council to enter onto a person's land. In these circumstances, only the owner of the property would be affected.

Revenue functions affect the public directly in that revenue from rates and other charges paid by the public is used to fund services and facilities provided to the community.

Administrative functions do not necessarily affect the public directly but have an indirect impact on the community through the efficiency and effectiveness of the service provided.

Enforcement functions only affect those members of the public who are in breach of certain legislation. This includes matters such as the non payment of rates and charges, unregistered dogs and parking offences.

Community planning and development functions affect areas such as cultural development, social planning and community profile and involves:

- Advocating and planning for the needs of our community. This includes initiating partnerships, participating on regional, State or Commonwealth working parties, and preparation and implementation of the Community Action Plan.
- Providing support to community and sporting organisations through provision of grants, training and information.
- Facilitating opportunities for people to participate in the life of the community through the conduct of a range of community events such as Local Government Week, Education Week, Youth Week, Children's Week, etc, as well as promoting events of others.

Purpose

This Information Guide has been developed to provide information to all involved with Bland Shire Council as to what information is held by the organisation and the way in which this information can be accessed, where appropriate.

Scope

This Information Guide applies to all Bland Shire Council staff, organisations and community members who wish to access information held by Bland Shire Council.

Outcomes

The objectives of Council's Information Guide are:

- To show what Council does
- How Council does it
- They type of information it holds and generates through the exercise of its function, with a particular focus on how those functions affect members of the public.

The Guide aims to make it easier for people to identify and locate information held by Council and know whether the information can be obtained on the website, upon request or under a formal access application.

Roles and Responsibilities

Principle Officer – General Manager

The General Manager has been appointed the Principal Officer. Amongst other duties the Principal Officer may deal with requests from the public concerning the Council's affairs and has the responsibility of assisting people to gain access to public documents and information of the Council.

Right to Information Officer – Director Corporate and Community Services

The Director Corporate and Community Services has been appointed as the Right to Information Officer. The Right to Information Officer is responsible for determining applications for access to information or for the amendment of records. If you have any difficulty in obtaining access to Council information, you may wish to refer your enquiry to the Principal Officer. If you would like to amend a document of Council which you feel is incorrect it is necessary for you to make a written application to the Principal Officer in the first instance.

Definitions

Representation/Representative – More commonly known as Councillors. These are the people who are elected by the community to act and make decisions on its behalf.

Information – Information relates to data, specifics, details, images, film, correspondence and files held by Bland Shire Council which can be obtained through the making of Access Applications.

Mandatory Disclosure – The provision of information by Council to the Community which is included in the GIPA Act and Regulations.

Proactive Release – Information which Council makes publicly available.

Public Interest Considerations – An assessment process which measures the right of the community to have information against the requirements to maintain confidentiality.

Access Application – This is the process of applying for the release of information to an individual or organisation.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Bland Shire Council supports the principles of open government and encourages community involvement in policy development and general activities of Council.

There are two broad ways in which the public may participate in the policy development and, indeed, the general activities of the Council. These are through representation and personal participation.

Representation

Local Government in Australia is based on the principle of representative democracy. This means that the people elect representatives to their local Council to make decisions on their behalf. In New South Wales, local government elections are held every four years. The next elections are to be held in September 2021.

At each election, voters elect nine councillors for the following term. Due to postponement of the scheduled 2020 Local Government elections, that term will be for three years until September 2024. All residents of the area who are on the electoral roll are eligible to vote. Property owners who live outside the area and rate paying lessees can also vote, but must register their intention to vote on the non-residential roll. Voting is compulsory.

Making representation to Councillors

Residents are able to raise issues with, and make representations to, the elected Councillors. The Councillors, if they agree with the issue or representation, may pursue the matter on the resident's behalf thus allowing members of the public to influence the development of policy.

The contact details of the current elected members can be found at www.blandshire.nsw.gov.au

Personal Participation

Ratepayers, residents and business are encouraged to have a say in what Council does. Community participation in Council is a major focus of the Local Government Act 1993. The Act encourages councils to be open and accountable to the community. This is achieved by people having appropriate access to information, voting in polls and referendums, making submissions to Council and by Council meetings being open to the public.

Council's website, www.blandshire.nsw.gov.au is regularly updated with notifications and information on Council's activities, meeting agendas and business papers. The website also publishes notices and exhibitions, tenders, news items, events and many Council documents and reports. The website is reviewed and updated on a regular basis to ensure information is accurate and timely.

Council also provides information on Council activities, decisions and programs in the local newspaper.

Council Meetings

Members of the public are able to attend Council meetings (usually the third Tuesday of each month from 6.30 pm) held in the Council Chambers, 6 Shire Street, West Wyalong NSW 2671.

The Council meeting provides an opportunity for people to speak publicly on any item on Council's Business Paper agenda. Anyone wishing to address Council is requested to register by contacting Council on 02 6972 2266.

Audio recordings of Council meetings are accessible on Council's website.

Council Committees

There are also avenues for members of the public to personally participate in the policy development and the functions of the Council. Council has several committees which include members of the public.

Section 355 Committees

Under the Local Government Act 1993 (the Act) 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.

The appointment of Section 355 Committees is entirely at the discretion of the Council. The Committees are appointed and reappointed in accordance with the provisions of Section 355 and Section 377 of the Act.

The Section 355 committee will be responsible for activities as determined when the committee is established. This responsibility will be conveyed to the committee within its Terms of Reference.

Bland Shire Council Section 355 Committees:

- Barmedman Community Centre
- Barmedman Tidy Towns
- Mirrool Silo Kick Challenge Committee
- Ungarie advancement Group
- Ungarie Retirement Village Association
- Ungarie Showground, Racecourse and Recreation Reserve Committee
- Weethalle Recreation Ground Committee
- Wyalong School of Arts and Hall Committee.

Community Reference Group

The Community Reference Group was established in 2017 to seek direct input from the community into the decision making process.

The reference group replaces the former Advisory Committees and covers a wide range of topics across all areas of Council from heritage to culture and tourism.

The reference group meets bi-monthly in an informal forum type format, which is open to all interested members of the Community. Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of every second month at the Bland Shire Council Chambers commencing at 6.30 pm.

The forums are chaired by Bland Shire Mayor and agenda items generated from members of the public, Councillors and Council staff.

Any recommendations arising from the forums will be submitted to Council for formal consideration. Members of the community are invited to submit agenda items to Council via email to council@blandshire.nsw.gov.au or in writing to The General Manager, PO Box 21, West Wyalong NSW 2671.

The agenda will be published in the West Wyalong Advocate on the Friday before each meeting and on Council's website at www.blandshire.nsw.gov.au

Public Submissions

All significant plans, strategies and policies of Bland Shire Council are placed on exhibition in draft form so that interested members of the public may view them and make comments should they wish to do so. Exhibition documents are available at Council's customer service counter and Council's website. Submissions should be addressed to:

The General Manager
Bland Shire Council
PO Box 21
WEST WYALONG NSW 2671
Email: council@blandshire.nsw.gov.au

ACCESS TO GOVERNMENT INFORMATION

Bland Shire Council is committed to the principle of open and transparent government. To facilitate public access to Council information, Council has adopted an Access to Information Policy. The objective of this policy is to describe Council's principles regarding public access to information and to facilitate the processing of requests for such access under the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009* (GIPA).

Under the provisions of the GIPA Act there is a right of access to certain information held by Council, unless there is an overriding public interest against its disclosure.

Bland Shire Council holds information in respect of a wide range of functions undertaken by it and information which is pertinent to different issues in relation to the Bland Shire Council Local Government Area.

Some of the information is available for inspection as a requirement of the GIPA Act, some information is available for purchase as outlined in Council's adopted Revenue Policy.

There are four main ways in which Council will provide access to information:

- Mandatory Proactive Release
- Authorised Proactive Release
- Informal Release
- Formal Access Application.

Any formal applications under the GIPA Act will be processed in accordance with the Act's requirements and a determination made to release the information or refuse access on the basis of the relevant considerations under that Act.

Council will assess requests for access to information having regard to:

- Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009
- Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998
- Health Records and Information Privacy Act 2002
- State Records Act 1998
- Local Government Act 1993
- Environmental Planning and Assessment (EPA) Act 1979
- Companion Animals Act 1998
- Any other relevant legislation and guidelines as applicable.

Mandatory Proactive Release – Open Access Information

Under Section 6 of the GIPA Act, Council must make its 'open access information' publicly available unless there is an overriding public interest against disclosure of the information or should it require a substantial diversion of agency resources. Open access information is required to be published on Council's website unless to do so would impose an unreasonable additional cost on Council (in these instance, Council's website explains where that information can be obtained – generally by contacting Council or by contacting Council's Public Officer as stated).

The following documents are defined as "Open Access Information" under Section 18 of the GIPA Act and will be released without the need for a Formal Access Application under this Act:

- Council's Information Guide which contains information about Council's structure and functions, and lists the type of information that is publicly available;

- Council's policy documents;
- A disclosure log of formal access applications which includes release of information that Council believes may be of interest to other members of the public;
- A register of contracts worth more than \$150,000.00 which Council has with private sector bodies;
- A record of open access information that Council has not made publicly available on the basis that there is an overriding public interest against disclosure;
- Other such information that may be prescribed by the GIPA Regulation as open access information.

Schedule 1 of the GIPA Act also stipulates that the following additional documents are to be provided as open access information by Council:

Information about Council

- Council's adopted Code of Conduct
- Code of Meeting Practice
- Annual Report
- Annual Financial Report
- Auditor's Report
- Management Plan
- EEO Management Plan
- Community Strategic Plan
- Delivery Program and Operational Plan
- Payment of Expenses and the Provision of Facilities to Councillors' Policy
- Annual reports of bodies exercising functions delegated by Council
- Any codes referred to in the Local Government Act 1993
- Returns of the interests of Councillors, Designated Persons and Delegates
- Agendas and Business Papers for Council and Committee Meetings
- Minutes of Council and Committee Meetings
- Departmental Representative Reports presented at a meeting of Council
- Council's Land Register
- Register of Investments
- Register of Delegations
- Register of Graffiti removal works
- Register of current Declarations of Disclosures of Political Donations
- Register of Voting on Planning Matters.

Plans and Policies

- Local policies adopted by Council concerning approvals and orders
- Plans of Management for Community Land
- Environmental Planning Instruments, Development Control Plans.

Information about Development Applications

Development applications and any associated documents received in relation to a proposed development:

- Home Warranty Insurance documents
- Construction Certificates
- Occupation Certificates
- Structural Certification documents
- Town Planner reports
- Submissions received on Development Applications

- Heritage Consultant reports
- Land Contamination Consultation reports
- Tree Inspections Consultant reports
- Acoustic Consultant reports
- Records of decisions on Development Applications including decisions on appeals
- Records describing general nature of documents that Council decides to exclude from public view including internal specification and configurations, and commercially sensitive information.

Approvals, Orders and Other Documents

- Applications for approvals under Part 1 Chapter 7 of the Local Government Act 1993
- Applications for approvals under any other Act and any associated documents received
- Records of approvals granted or refused, any variation from Council Policies with reasons for the variation, and decision made on appeals concerning approvals.
- Orders given under Part 2 Chapter 7 of the Local Government Act 1993 and any reasons given under section 136 of the Local Government Act 1993
- Records of Building Certificates under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979
- Compulsory Acquisition Notices
- Leases and Licenses for use of Public Land classified as Community Land.
- Performance and improvement orders issued to Council under Part 6 Chapter 13 of the Local Government Act 1993.

Authorised Proactive Release

In addition to open access information, Council will make as much other information as possible publicly available, unless there is an overriding public interest against disclosure.

Such information may include information frequently requested or information of public interest that has been released as a result of other requests.

Informal Release

Access to information which is not available as Mandatory Release or Authorised Proactive Release information may be provided through Informal Release. Council will endeavour to release information in response to such a request, subject to any reasonable conditions as Council deems fit to impose. Such requests for information will be met within Council's resourcing timeframes.

As per proactive release methods, Council is authorised to release information unless there is a public interest against disclosure. To enable the release of as much information as possible, Council is also authorised to redact content from a copy of information to be released, if the inclusion of the redacted information would otherwise result in an overriding public interest against disclosure.

Formal Access Application

Prior to lodging a formal access application, a person seeking information from Council should check if the information being sought is already available on Council's website or could easily be made available through an informal request application.

If Information:

- Is not available via Proactive or Informal Release; or

- Involves a large volume of information, requires extensive research and accordingly will involve an unreasonable amount of time and resources to produce; or
- Contains personal or confidential information about a third party which may require consultation; or
- Is of a sensitive nature that requires careful weighing of the consideration in favour of and against disclosure; then

Council will require a formal access application to be submitted. To make a formal request for access to information an “Access Application” form should be completed (available on Council’s website or by request at Council’s Administration Building). An application fee is payable in accordance with Council’s adopted Revenue Policy.

Interaction with Copyright Legislation

Copyright issues may arise when requests are made for copies of documents held by Council.

The Commonwealth Copyright Act 1968 takes precedence over State legislation. Therefore the right to copy documents under the GIPA Act does not override the Copyright Act. Nothing in the GIPA Act or Regulations permits Council to make government information available in any way that would constitute an infringement of copyright.

Access to copyrighted documents will be granted by way of inspection only, unless the copyright owner’s written consent is provided. Where authority is unable to be obtained or the copyright owner is not able to be contacted, copies of copyright material will not be provided.

Copyright material includes, but not limited to, plans/drawings, consultant reports and survey reports.

Interaction with Privacy Legislation

Access to certain information may be limited in accordance with the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 (PPIP Act) and the Health Records and Information Privacy Act 2002 (HRIP Act). The PPIP act and the HRIP Act provide for protection of personal and health information and for the protection of the privacy of individuals generally.

In accordance with the PPIP Act and the HRIP Act, Council has adopted a Privacy Management Plan (available on Council’s website) which outlines Council’s practice for dealing with privacy and personal information in accordance with Information Protection Principles contained within the HRIP Act.

Public Interest Test

Under the GIPA Act, when deciding whether or not to release information, government agencies must consider whether there is an overriding public interest against releasing the information.

Referred to as the “public interest test”, this requires government agencies to consider balancing factors for and against disclosure of each piece of government information. The balancing must be undertaken within the context of the GIPA Act.

In deciding what information to release, Council will apply the public interest test, which will involve:

- Identification of the relevant public interest considerations for disclosure;
- Identification of any relevant public interests against disclosure.

The GIPA Act (section 14) provides an exhaustive list of public interest considerations against disclosure. These are the only considerations against disclosure that decision makers can consider in applying the public interest test:

- Responsible and effective government
- Law enforcement and security
- Individual rights, judicial processes and natural justice
- Business interests of agencies and other persons
- Environment, culture, economy and general matters
- Secrecy provisions specifically provided in legislation
- Exempt documents under interstate Freedom of Information legislation.

Fees and Charges

Access to Information Request

There is no application fee for a request for access to information however Council can charge a fee for copying as per Council's adopted Revenue Policy.

Formal Access Application

A \$30.00 application fee is payable in accordance with Council's adopted Revenue Policy, which includes the first hour of processing time. The application is invalid until the fee is paid.

Processing Charges

Council can impose a charge for processing an application.

The processing charge is \$30.00 calculated at an hourly rate in accordance with Council's adopted Revenue Policy. However, the application fee paid with formal applications counts towards these charges.

Under certain circumstances an applicant may be entitled to a 50% reduction in the processing charge (not the application fee).

A 50% reduction in the processing charge imposed will apply if Council is satisfied that the applicant is suffering financial hardship or is satisfied that the information applied for is of special benefit to the public generally.

If an Access Application is made for personal information about the applicant (the applicant being an individual), the fee for the first 20 hours of processing time will be waived.

Information made available on Council's website is available for viewing free of charge at Council's administration office. If hard copies are required, a copying charge will be levied in accordance with Council's adopted Revenue Policy.

ACCESS AND AMENDMENT TO COUNCIL DOCUMENTS

Council has a vast range of documents that can be accessed in varying ways. Most documents, as far as practicable, will be accessible by members of the public during office hours 8.30 am to 5.00 pm, Monday to Friday.

Council information can be accessed by:

- Searching Council's website, www.blandshire.nsw.gov.au to see if the information is already available (in accordance with the GIPA Act certain information must be published on Council's website, free of charge, this is referred to as 'mandatory disclosure').
- Contact Council either in person or by telephoning 02 6972 2266 and ask for the information. Council will decide whether the information requested:
 - Is open access information that is readily available. If it is, you will be told where and how to get the information.
 - Should be made available as part of a 'proactive release' of information.
 - Can be disclosed to you through 'information release' for example, where no third party personal information is involved, or
 - Requires a 'formal access application'.

The right to information reforms means that formal applications for access to information should be a last resort.

Persons who wish to seek an amendment to the Council's records concerning their personal affairs, should contact Council on 02 6972 2266.

If you experience difficulty in obtaining documents or information you should contact Council's Right to Information Officer or the Public Officer.

Enquiries should be addressed as follows:

General Manager
Bland Shire Council
6 Shire Street
PO Box 21
WEST WYALONG NSW 2671
Phone: 02 6972 2266
Email: council@blandshire.nsw.gov.au

Rights of Review

There are rights to review a decision made by the Public Officer. A full list of reviewable decisions is set out in Section 80 of the GIPA Act.

Internal Review

If an access application has been refused, there is a general right to seek an internal review of the decision. An internal review must be applied for within 20 working days of the original decision and is subject to a fee. Internal review involves a senior person in the agency reviewing the decision to reject the access to information application.

Role of the Information Commissioner

The Information Commissioner can review a decision to refuse access to information if requested by the applicant, notwithstanding any internal review being undertaken. However,

for other persons seeking review, an internal review must first be undertaken. The Information Commissioner also deals with complaints under the GIPA Act.

Office of the Information Commissioner

The Office of the Information Commissioner has been established to oversee the GIPA Act and sits within the Information and Privacy Commission for New South Wales.

If you require any other advice or assistance about access to information you may contact the Information Commissioner by:

Telephone: 1800 472 679 (free call) Monday to Friday, 9.00 am to 5.00 pm (excluding public holidays)

Fax: 02 6446 9518

Email: ipcinfo@ipc.nsw.gov.au

Mail: GPO Box 7011, Sydney NSW 2001

or visit in person at Level 15, McKell Building, 2-24 Rawson Place, Haymarket NSW 2000.

External Review (Administrative Decisions Tribunal)

Applicants also have formal avenues via the New South Wales Civil and Administrative Tribunal (NCAT) to review the decision of refuse access. This application must be made within eight weeks of the original decision or four weeks after a review undertaken by the Information Commissioner.

Should you wish to pursue this avenue of review, please contact NCAT on 1300 006 228 Monday to Friday, 9.00 am to 4.30 pm (excluding public holidays).

LEGISLATION

The Information Guide is a mandatory document prescribed in the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (GIPA).

7.8 Endorsement of Draft Legislative Compliance and Draft Housing Policies



Our Leadership - A well run Council acting as the voice of the community

DP 13.2 Develop, implement and promote best practice governance policies and procedures

Author: Governance and IP&R Officer

Introduction

The purpose of this report is to submit the Draft Legislative Compliance and Draft Housing Policies (attached) for review and endorsement by Bland Shire Council.

Financial Implications

Nil.

Summary

As part of the ongoing review and updating of Bland Shire Council's policy documentation, the Draft Legislative Compliance and Draft Housing Policies have been assessed.

The Draft Legislative Compliance Policy is to outline Bland Shire Council's commitment to a culture of compliance and provide a framework for good public administration. Council has an obligation to ensure that all legislative requirements and obligations are met and this policy is a key element in its overall legislative compliance framework for monitoring compliance and identifying action required for corrective measures.

The Draft Housing Policy is to provide a framework for the decision making process relating to the purchase or building of accommodation for professions within the Bland Shire that are deemed critical to the Bland Shire Council or the community as a whole.

Recommendation:

THAT:

- 1. Council endorses the Draft Legislative Compliance and Draft Housing Policies and places on public exhibition for a period of 28 days from Friday 19 August 2022 for community comment.**
- 2. Should there be comment from the community on the Draft Legislative Compliance and Draft Housing Policies, a further report be prepared and presented to Council.**
- 4. Should there be no comment from the community within the 42 day commentary period, Council formally adopt the Draft Legislative Compliance and Draft Housing Policies.**

POLICY STATEMENT

LEGISLATIVE COMPLIANCE

AUTHORISATION

POLICY TYPE: <i>(Council or Operational)</i>	Council
POLICY LOCATION: <i>(eg. Corporate, Engineering, etc.)</i>	Governance and Risk
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER: <i>(by position title)</i>	Director Corporate and Community Services
AUTHORISED BY: <i>(GM or Director Title)</i>	General Manager
DATE ADOPTED:	
ADOPTED BY: <i>(Manex or Council)</i>	Council
MINUTE NO: <i>(If required)</i>	
REVIEW DUE DATE: <i>(Four years unless statutorily required sooner)</i>	February 2026
REVISION NUMBER:	2

DOCUMENT HISTORY

VERSION NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENTS <i>Include names of former policies that this policy will replace if applicable</i>	AMENDED BY <i>(Where required)</i>
1	December 2019		

REVIEW OF THIS POLICY

This Policy will be reviewed within four (4) years from the date of adoption or as required in the event of legislative changes. The Policy may also be changed as a result of other amendment that are to the advantage that Council and in the spirit of this Policy. Any amendment to the Policy must be by way of a Council Resolution for all policies categorised as “Council” policies or the approval of the General Manager for all policies categorised as “Operational” policies.

1. Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to outline Bland Shire Council's commitment to a culture of compliance and provide a framework for good public administration. Council has an obligation to ensure that all legislative requirements and obligations are met and this policy is a key element in its overall legislative compliance framework for monitoring compliance and identifying action required for corrective measures.

Council maintains a high standard of diligence in all areas of public accountability, through its policies, in meeting its legal obligation, in the maintenance of compliance management system and in the promotion of a compliance culture.

In particular, Council recognises its obligations to its stakeholders, its staff and the wider community to provide an environment that is safe, a culture that promotes equity and an administration that adopts high standards of probity and accountability in all its operations.

The Policy and its principles set out in this policy aim to:

- a. Prevent and where necessary, identify and respond to breaches of laws, regulations, codes or organisational standards occurring in the organisation;
- b. Promote a culture of compliance within the organisation; and
- c. Assist the Council in achieving high standards of governance.

2. Scope:

Council shall have appropriate processes and structures to ensure that legislative requirements are achievable and are integrated into the everyday running of Council.

The processes and structures will aim to:

- a. Develop and maintain a system for identifying the legislation that applies to Council's activities.
- b. Assign responsibilities for ensuring that legislation and regulatory obligations are fully implemented in Council.
- c. Provide training for relevant staff, Councillors, volunteers and other relevant people in the legislative requirements that affect them.
- d. Provide people with the resources to identify and remain up-to-date with new legislation.
- e. Conduct of audits to ensure there is compliance.
- f. Establish a mechanism for reporting non-compliance.
- g. Review accidents, incidents and other situations where they may have been noncompliance.
- h. Review audit reports, incident reports, complaints and other information to assess how the system of compliance can be improved.

3. Outcomes:

Council has adopted the following principles based on the in *AS/ISO 19600:2015 – Compliance management systems – Guidelines*:

- a. Council is committed to achieving compliance in all areas of its operations.
- b. Council will maintain a Legislative Compliance Policy that sets out its commitment to compliance with applicable laws, regulations, codes and Council standards.
- c. Council will provide sufficient resources to ensure that its Compliance Program can be implemented, maintained and improved.
- d. Council will ensure that all managers, supervisors and staff generally understand, promote and be responsible for compliance with relevant laws, regulations, codes and Council standards that apply to activities within their day-to-day responsibilities.
- e. Council will use its established risk management practices to accurately identify, rate and treat compliance risks.
- f. Council will ensure that compliance requirements are integrated into day-to-day operating procedures as appropriate.

- g. Council will maintain an effective complaints management system, including the coverage of compliance failures.
- h. Council will maintain a Compliance Register in association with its Risk Register.
- i. Council will investigate, rectify and report all compliance failures.
- j. Council will allocate appropriate responsibility for managing compliance at various levels.
- k. Council will provide appropriate practical education and training of staff in order for them to meet their compliance obligations.
- l. Council will actively promote the importance of compliance to staff, contractors and other relevant third parties.
- m. Council will monitor its Legislative Compliance Program through a three year Audit Plan, and
- n. Council will review its Legislative Compliance Program annually to ensure its effectiveness.

4. Roles and Responsibilities:

Councillors and Committee Members

Councillors and Committee members have a responsibility to be aware of and abide by legislation applicable to their role.

Senior Management (General Manager and Directors)

Senior management should ensure that directions relating to compliance are clear and unambiguous and that legal requirements which apply to each activity for which they are responsible are identified. Senior management should have systems in place to ensure that all staff are given the opportunity to be kept fully informed, briefed and/or trained about key legal requirements relative to their work within the financial capacity to do so.

Employees

Employees have a duty to seek information on legislative requirements applicable to their area of work and to comply with the legislation.

Employees shall report through their supervisors to senior management any areas of noncompliance that they become aware of.

5. Definitions:

To encourage the consistent understanding and use of terminology Council has adopted the definitions contained in *AS/ISO 19600:2015 – Compliance management systems – Guidelines*. The main definitions contained in the standard are reproduced in the table below:

Requirement	Need or expectation that is stated, generally implied or obligatory.
Compliance requirement	Requirement that an organisation has to comply with.
Compliance commitment	Requirement that an organisation chooses to comply with.
Compliance obligation	Requirements that an organisation mandatorily has to comply with as well as those that an organisation voluntarily chooses to comply with.
Compliance	Meeting all organisation’s compliance obligations.
Compliance culture	Values, ethics, and beliefs that exist throughout an organisation and interact with the organisation’s structure and control systems to produce behavioural norms that are conducive to compliance outcomes.

6. Legislation and Supporting Documents:

- Local Government Act 1993
- Local Government (General) Regulations 2005
- Good Conduct and Administrative Practice – Guidelines for State and Local Government (NSW Ombudsman published May 2006)
- Governance Health Check – Self audit guide to good governance in Local Government (Local Government Managers Australia (LGMA) and Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) published 2004)
- AS/ISO 19600:2015 – Compliance management systems – Guidelines

7. Relationship to Community Strategic Plan:

This Policy supports Council's Delivery Program Strategy 13.2 Develop, implement and promote best practice governance policies and procedures.

8. Attachments:

NIL

DRAFT

POLICY STATEMENT

HOUSING POLICY

AUTHORISATION

POLICY TYPE: <i>(Council or Operational)</i>	Council
POLICY LOCATION: <i>(eg. Corporate, Engineering, etc.)</i>	Finance
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER: <i>(by position title)</i>	Director Corporate and Community Services
AUTHORISED BY: <i>(GM or Director Title)</i>	General Mager
DATE ADOPTED:	
ADOPTED BY: <i>(Manex or Council)</i>	Council
MINUTE NO: <i>(If required)</i>	
REVIEW DUE DATE: <i>(Four years unless statutorily required sooner)</i>	July 2026
REVISION NUMBER:	1

DOCUMENT HISTORY

VERSION NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENTS <i>Include names of former policies that this policy will replace if applicable</i>	AMENDED BY <i>(Where required)</i>
0	19.02.2019	Original Document	

REVIEW OF THIS POLICY

This Policy will be reviewed within four (4) years from the date of adoption or as required in the event of legislative changes. The Policy may also be changed as a result of other amendment that are to the advantage that Council and in the spirit of this Policy. Any amendment to the Policy must be by way of a Council Resolution or the approval of the General Manager.

1. Purpose:

The objective of this policy is to provide a framework for the decision making process relating to the purchase or building of accommodation for professions within the Bland Shire that are deemed critical to the Bland Shire Council or the community as a whole.

2. Scope:

Access to quality housing in rural locations where local availability is scarce and rental costs high, housing is an important means of achieving Council's and community goals. Therefore, Council may from time to time purchase or build to attract and maintain committed professional staff (in professions where there is a shortage) in order to deliver its outcomes and meet the needs of the community.

3. Outcomes:

Housing shall be based on the following principles:

- Housing is purchased or built by determined needs within Council and the community
- Support the attraction and retention of professional staff with the required skills and qualifications as necessitated by service delivery and organisational and/or community needs
- That prior to purchasing or entering into an agreement to build a house(s), the financial implications that Council's current financial status will be taken into consideration
- A business case be prepared for each purchase to identify Council's liabilities and return on investment
- The housing assets will be operated on a financially viable basis and attain a level of self-sufficiency
- Ensure planning for the provision of housing in the Bland Shire where there is recognised shortfall of private rental accommodation
- All housing allocations are approved by the General Manager.

Housing Rent

All housing rentals are determined purely based on the market value.

Housing Bonds

All housing arrangements will be secured with a bond that will be deposited with NSW Fair Trading.

Rental Agreements

Council may engage a local real estate agent to manage the rental property on Council's behalf.

4. Roles and Responsibilities:

The General Manager is responsible for all housing allocations and approval.

5. Definitions:

NIL

6. Legislation and Supporting Documents:

NSW Residential Tenancies Act (2010) or superseding acts or regulations
NSW Residential Tenancies Regulations (2010) or superseding acts and regulations
NSW Department of Fair Trading

7. Relationship to Community Strategic Plan:

This Policy supports Council's Delivery Program Strategy 12.3 Develop, implement and monitor HR programs to solidify Council's reputation as an employer of choice.

8. Attachments:
NIL

DRAFT

7.9 Endorsement of Motions for LGNSW Conference



Our Leadership - A well run Council acting as the voice of the community

Strategy 13.2 Develop, implement and promote best practice governance policies and procedures

Author: Director Corporate and Community Services

Introduction

Bland Shire will propose six matters at the upcoming Local Government NSW Conference and the purpose of this report is for Council to discuss and resolve the wording of the motions which it intends to submit.

Financial Implications

Nil.

Summary

The LGNSW Conference is scheduled to be held from Sunday 23 October to Tuesday 25 October 2022 in the Hunter Valley. Member Councils are able to submit motions for consideration at the annual conference providing they meet certain criteria which stipulates the following:

That motions:

1. are consistent with the objects of LGNSW (see Rule 4 of the Association's [rules](#)),
2. relate to or concern local government as a sector in NSW and/or across Australia,
3. seek to establish or change policy positions of LGNSW and/or improve governance of the Association (noting that the LGNSW Board is responsible for decisions around resourcing any campaigns or operational activities, and any necessary resource allocations will be subject to the LGNSW budgetary process),
4. have a lawful purpose (a motion does not have a lawful purpose if its implementation would require or encourage non-compliance with prevailing laws),
5. are clearly worded and unambiguous in nature, and
6. do not express preference for one or several members over one or several other members.

The deadline for the submission of motions to this year's conference is midnight on Monday, 25 September 2022.

Bland Shire Council will propose matters in relation to Rural Fire Service, Administration of Federal Assistance Grants, Funding for Libraries, Distribution of Natural Disaster Relief Funds, Public Hospital and Health services and Road Funding.

Motions for consideration at the LGNSW Annual Conference are required to meet a number of criteria before they can be included for consideration as well as include the provision of evidence to support the motion. A review of previous Conference motions and the resultant action from those which received support shows that of the matters Bland Shire wishes to raise have been debated previously. However, the matters remain and issue of concern to this Council.

In keeping with the requirement that wording of new motions debated at the Conference reflects recent developments and does not duplicate existing positions, the following Draft motions are presented for Council to consider. Information which will be provided to support the proposed motions is also presented for Councillors to review and amend as they see fit **(Attachment One)**.

Recommendation:

THAT Council submits the following Notices of Motions for consideration at the LGNSW Conference scheduled for 23 to 25 October 2022:

RURAL FIRE SERVICE

That Local Government NSW:

1 - Seeks a commitment from all political parties contesting the March 2023 NSW elections to amend the *Rural Fire Services Act 1997* to remove Section 119's reference to vesting RFS equipment with councils to remove the conflict of "control", specifically in accordance with the definition in Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) Statement of Accounting Concepts 4: Definition and Recognition of the Elements of Financial Statements.

2 – Write to the NSW Treasurer and Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience requesting:

a) Urgent attention be given to this matter in light of the pending qualified audits of more than half of the state's Local Government organisations due to a conflict in accounting positions.

b) Immediate action to ensure the NSW Rural Fire Service is an entity under the same requirements and regulations as other emergency service organisations such as the State Emergency Service.

ROAD FUNDING

That Member Councils of Local Government NSW:

1 - Support the recommendations of the 2022 NSW Local Roads Congress, specifically the sustainable funding model to include the adoption of a long term allocation-based process to ensure stability in Local Government supply chains and resourcing.

2 - Request LGNSW further lobbies State and Federal Governments to:

a) Seek agreement that roads funding grants not be specifically tied to new infrastructure projects; and

b) Allow Councils to determine the areas of greatest need in accordance with adopted Operational Plans.

ADMINISTRATION OF FEDERAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS

That Local Government NSW continues to lobby the NSW and Federal Governments to modify the administration of infrastructure grants in favour of direct grants to councils using a similar formula to the Federal Government Assistance Grants (FAGs).

FUNDING FOR LIBRARIES

That Local Government NSW seeks a commitment from all political parties contesting the March 2023 NSW elections to the continuation and improvement of funding to public libraries to deliver a sustainable funding model for the future for these valuable community resources.

DISTRIBUTION OF NATURAL DISASTER RELIEF FUNDS

That Local Government NSW makes representations to the NSW and Federal Treasurers:

1 – To have funding for future natural disasters administered by Local Councils to ensure positive outcomes for the whole community and not specific interest organisations.

2 - To support the provision of post-disaster resources to improve community social and economic resilience to future events.

PUBLIC HOSPITAL AND HEALTH SERVICES

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to:

1 - Seek a more equitable distribution of health infrastructure and operational funding to support and improve health services in regional and remote NSW.

2 – Work with educational institutions to remove barriers for practitioners to establish services within regional and remote NSW to meet the current and ongoing needs of the community.

Attachment One

**Bland Shire Council
Motions to the 2022 Annual Conference of Local Government NSW**



Proposed Motion	Years similar motions have been debated	Justification
<p>Rural Fire Service That Local Government NSW: 1 - Seeks a commitment from all political parties contesting the March 2023 NSW elections to amend the <i>Rural Fire Services Act 1997</i> to remove Section 119's reference to vesting RFS equipment with councils to remove the conflict of "control", specifically in accordance with the definition of an asset in Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) Statement of Accounting Concepts 4: Definition and Recognition of the Elements of Financial Statements. 2 – Write to the Treasurer and Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience requesting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Urgent attention be given to this matter in light of the pending qualified audits of more than half of the state's Local Government organisations due to a conflict in accounting positions. b) Immediate action to ensure the NSW Rural Fire Service is an entity under the same requirements and regulations as other emergency service organisations such as the State Emergency Service. 	<p>2020, 2021</p>	<p>Sixty-eight Councils across NSW have been informed that the NSW Audit Office will continue to adhere to its stance that Councils have ultimate control of RFS assets. In a circular received in July 2022 indicating there might be further implications from a qualified audit opinion including breaches of loan covenants (TCorp related), repaying of grant funding amounts and, in some instances, impact the contracts of General Managers. The inclusion of the vesting term in the Rural Fire Services Act 1997 is the pivotal point in the Audit Office position. An amendment to the Legislation is required to remove the conflict between the Audit Office view and the Australian Accounting Standards Board Statement of Accounting Concepts 4: Definition and Recognition of the Elements of Financial Statements, which Local Councils are obliged to adhere to when preparing financial statements.</p>
<p>Road Funding That Member Councils of Local Government NSW:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1- Support the recommendations of the 2022 NSW Local Roads Congress, specifically the sustainable funding model to include the adoption of a long term allocation-based process to ensure stability in Local Government supply chains and resourcing. 2- Request LGNSW further lobbies State and Federal Governments to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Seek agreement that roads funding grants not be specifically tied to new infrastructure projects; and b) Allow Councils to determine the areas of greatest need in accordance with adopted Operational Plans. 	<p>2018, 2019, 2020</p>	<p>While significant funds continue to be allocated through a range of grant programs (eg.Fixing Country Roads, Roads to Recovery, Local Roads and Community Infrastructure), there are often limitations as to how those funds can be expended. The 2022 NSW Local Roads Congress prepared a joint communique which recognised the critical role Councils play as a provider of local and regional transport infrastructure in partnership with State and Federal Governments and called on these tiers of government to address a number of matters, including more sustainable investment into local roads. Removing the requirement for grant funds to be utilised specifically for new infrastructure will better allow Councils the opportunity to address local needs to ensure infrastructure is improved and maintained in accordance with identified local priorities. Local Councils in NSW manage 90 per cent (164,000km) of the state's local and regional road network</p>

Proposed Motion	Years similar motions have been debated	Justification
<p>Administration of Federal Assistance Grants That Local Government NSW continues to lobby the NSW and Federal Governments to modify the administration of infrastructure grants in favour of direct grants to councils using a similar formula to the Federal Government Assistance Grants (FAGs).</p>	2018, 2019, 2020	Reviews of the NSW financial assistance grants distribution model have been undertaken in previous years with no recommendations forthcoming for amendments to the process. Recommendations regarding the grants are the responsibility of the Commission and are made in accordance with the National Principles set out in the Financial Assistance Grants Act 1995 (Cth). For any changes to occur to the method of distribution model, ongoing advocacy on behalf of the sector is critical at both a State and Federal level.
<p>Funding for Libraries That Local Government NSW seeks a commitment from all political parties contesting the March 2023 NSW elections to the continuation and improvement of funding to public libraries to deliver a sustainable funding model for the future for these valuable community resources.</p>	2017, 2018	<p>In the lead up to the last NSW election, Local Government areas across the state undertook a substantial lobbying campaign to improve the funding outcomes for libraries within their communities. This resulted in a commitment by major political parties to support a funding increase, a commitment which was met by the then Berejiklian Government. However, the costs of providing library services continue to increase despite libraries having limited means to increase their own revenue streams.</p> <p>Local government organisations in New South Wales operate 450 council-run libraries, attracting more than 34.8 million visits. A commitment to improve the funding for local libraries followed by budget allocations to meet such commitments is needed to maintain these vital community assets.</p>
<p>Distribution of Natural Disaster Relief Funds That Local Government NSW makes representations to the NSW and Federal Treasurers: 1 – To have funding for future natural disasters administered by Local Councils to ensure positive outcomes for the whole community and not specific interest organisations. 2 - To support the provision of post-disaster resources to improve community social and economic resilience to future events.</p>	2018, 2019, 2020, 2021	The distribution of relief funds following times of disaster can, at times, be ad hoc and inconsistent. By making Councils responsible for the administration of Natural Disaster Relief Funds, there will be an increased level of probity and accountability in the work undertaken to assist communities in recovering from such situations.

<p>Public Hospital and Health services That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to:</p> <p>1 - Seek a more equitable distribution of health infrastructure and operational funding to support current health services in regional and remote NSW. 2 – Work with educational institutions to remove barriers for practitioners to establish services within regional and remote NSW to meet the current and ongoing needs of the community.</p>	<p>2018, 2019, 2020</p>	<p>The health system relies on strong partnerships with patients, carers, staff and the broader community to achieve positive health outcomes. Local health districts in rural and regional areas work with the Australian Government’s primary health care networks to support workforce recruitment and retention to their communities. This support is only possible with sufficient commitment at a State level that infrastructure and operational funding will continue to meet the needs identified within communities.</p>
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7.10 Minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee held 28 July 2022



Our Leadership - A well run Council acting as the voice of the community

Strategy 13.2 Develop, implement and promote best practice governance policies and procedures

Author: Director, Corporate and Community Services

Introduction

Bland Shire Council's Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) meeting on 28 July, 2022 included a discussion of a circular received from Council's Auditors (**Attachment One**). This document reiterates the NSW Audit Office opinion that Rural Fire Service (RFS) assets are controlled for accounting purposes by Council – a position which is contrary to Council's adopted in October 2021 (**Attachment Two**).

Elsewhere in this agenda, Councillors will consider this matter further. However, this report seeks Council's formal adoption of a recommendation from its ARIC in relation to the audit of Council's Financial Statements for the 2021/2022 period. The Minutes from the meeting are included with this report (**Attachment Three**).

Conclusion

The subject of recording rural firefighting equipment has been an ongoing concern for Councils across NSW for more than 10 years. In 2012 the then Local Government Shires Association prepared a Discussion Paper entitled Review of Local Government Engagement with the NSW Rural Fire Service which identified the conflict with the Local Government Accounting Code.

The situation was further exacerbated when the NSW Audit Office took on the responsibility of auditing all Councils in NSW from 2016. Prior to this, the Audit Office had been auditing the State accounts including RFS and the Government position was that because it had vested the RFS assets to Local Government it didn't control them in an accounting term so didn't record the assets in financial statements. The Auditor-General made the determination that Council's must control the assets as it is the Government's position that it does not. It is this position which is now the subject of a sector-wide campaign on the matter.

Financial Implications

At this stage, the financial implications for Council are difficult to quantify. Information provided by the RFS to Council indicates that assets of the service located within the Bland local government area, both vehicles and buildings, are valued at more \$18,171,656. However, a desktop assessment undertaken of certain building projects identified potential discrepancies which Council has not yet been able to accurately determine. Based on the information provided in the Auditor's circular, the assessment of whether these assets are material will be based on Council's expenses and not on the value of Council's property, plant and equipment. This has the potential to impact Council's financial position significantly should it be forced to include the RFS "Red Fleet" assets in its Financial Statements. An estimate of that impact is understood to be in the vicinity of \$8million asset value and approximately \$500,000 in depreciation expenses for vehicles.

Recommendation:

- 1. That the minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held on 28 July 2022, be received and noted.**
- 2. That Council accept a Qualified Audit in relation to RFS Assets.**



NSW Local Government – Emerging Sector Issues – July 2022

1. Recognition of RFS Assets

There has been no change in the position that Councils have ultimate control of RFS assets (whether exercised or not). Therefore, NSWAO are expecting to see red fleet assets assessed via quantification for recording in this year's financial statements. There are three landing points:

1. Recognition of RFS assets – guidance below.
2. Review of the RFS asset listing but no recognition in Council financial statements– if material, this will result in a qualified audit opinion (i.e. except for RFS assets...). Our materiality thresholds are very low as they calculated based on expenses (say 2%), not on IPP&E, so our expectation is that they will be material.
3. Do nothing – this will result in a qualified audit opinion (due to limitation of scope).

There might be further implications from a qualified audit opinion, such as a breach of loan covenants (TCorp related), repayment of grant funding amounts and may impact on the General Manager contract KPIs, in some instances.

If Council's refuse to sign their financial statements, then NSWAO cannot issue an audit opinion. Also, a further item to note is that Councils cannot have contradictory information in their financial statements e.g. a disclosure sentence within a note saying that Council doesn't control assets, but they have been recognised anyway. This is inconsistent and will also likely result in a qualified audit opinion.

Asset listing

There are various pathways to establishing a listing of red fleet including that Councils can reach out to their local RFS coordinator to get an asset listing. This can be used as a starting point to validate the assets. The listings have a 2 July 2021 date, so they need an update for 2022 equipment. As indicated in the NSWAO 2021 report, its our understanding that the OLG also has a listing of red fleet assets.

Stocktake

Council need to do a stocktake to verify (existence) the assets (or attend a stocktake that RFS are performing). Where RFS are preventing Councils from access to sheds / equipment to do a stocktake, Councils can go back and reference the wording in the applicable service agreements as we understand there are provisions that allow Councils access to inspect assets.

Valuation

As the red fleet have been determined as specialised assets, current replacement cost (CRC) (i.e. fair value) and historic purchase cost are both acceptable valuation methodologies. The data might not exist for historic purchase cost as there isn't enough detail in the allocation letters to line it up with the asset listing. Therefore, its likely Councils will revert to CRC. Red fleet assets (mostly fire trucks) will have a lot of potential reference points for fair value (i.e. other councils, online sales etc), so we should see similar values being applied across the sector.

Initial recognition

Our expectation is that, if material, the initial recognition would be via a prior period error through equity. Assets should be recognised as a separate asset class (specialised plant & equipment). There will be 12 months of depreciation recognised through the Income Statement for the year ended 30 June 2022.

Ongoing recognition

Any new assets in this or subsequent years are to be recognised through income.

2. Indexation of IPP&E

Each year, Council is required to assess the fair value of assets that weren't revalued in the current year. As part of this consideration, Council needs to consider movements in unit rates (e.g. movements in construction price indices).

As these indices have been relatively static/ low for a number of years, it's previously been accepted that this assessment that is fairly simplistic. However, given we are seeing significant increases in indices for the year ended 30 June 2022, we require a more comprehensive assessment that what is disclosed as fair value actually has connection back to fair value for this financial year.

The assessment needs to consider relevant indices (ABS, Rawlinson's, Valuer General, NSW Reference Rates, internal rates, desktop review update from valuer previously used etc.) for each asset class, and the cumulative effect since the last valuation. Where management don't agree that the movement in indices provides a fair representation of the movement in fair value, this will need to be discussed and rebutted in the fair value assessment memo.

If the indices are determined as reasonable, the movement can be assessed against materiality. As mentioned above, our materiality thresholds are very low and therefore **we are expecting to see a number of indexation adjustments journaled to the general ledger this year.**



Bland Shire Council

Statement – Accounting treatment of Rural Fire

Service assets

The Council has made the decision not to bring to account the NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) assets nominally vested in the Council under s119 of the *Rural Fires Act* 1997.

This accounting treatment of RFS assets is **explicitly permitted** by the NSW Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting issued by the Office of Local Government.

Councils have the option to continue to recognise or not to recognise Rural Fire Services assets in their accounts until such time as the control issue is agreed upon with the Rural Fire Service.

In making this decision, the Council has considered the definition of an asset in Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) *Statement of Accounting Concepts 4: Definition and Recognition of the Elements of Financial Statements* – in particular the definition of control.

24 *The second essential characteristic of an asset is control, which relates to the capacity of the entity to benefit from the asset in the pursuit of its objectives and to deny or regulate the access of others to that benefit. **The entity controlling an asset is the one that can, depending on the nature of the asset, exchange it, use it to provide goods or services, exact a price for others' use of it, use it to settle liabilities, hold it, or perhaps distribute it to owners.***

37 *Control over future economic benefits has been identified as an essential asset characteristic. While the ability of an entity to exercise control will often stem from the existence of legally enforceable rights, the absence of legal ownership does not preclude the existence of control. For example, an entity may protect the future economic benefits embodied in a formula or an invention not by obtaining a patent but by maintaining secrecy. **Similarly, the presence of legal rights does not guarantee control.** For example, goods may be sold subject to reservation of title, whereby a stipulation is placed in a sale of goods agreement to the effect that ownership of the goods does not pass to the buyer until the time of payment. The substance of these arrangements is that the buyer effectively has control over the future economic benefits embodied in the delivered goods unless there is an incapacity to pay. The seller, while possessing legal title and therefore the right to resume possession in the event of the*

buyer's default, does not control the future economic benefits embodied in the goods. Another example is where a government entity, such as a government department, does not have legal ownership of the buildings in which it operates, such ownership vesting in another government entity, but controls the future economic benefits embodied in the buildings because of the terms of a particular government policy, ministerial directive or administrative arrangement

Section 119 of the Rural Fires Act nominally vests the assets with the Council. In reality, the (compulsory) Service Level Agreement with the RFS leaves the Council with no control over the purchase, disposal, operation, maintenance, distribution or condition of RFS equipment.

Note s119 of the *Rural Fires Act* also requires the RFS to seek concurrence of the Council if any of the equipment vested in it is to be used outside the Council area. This concurrence is now not sought or given from this Council by the RFS – nor has it been reasonably expected. The assets are under the control of the RFS.

Further, the Council does not have sufficient information to hand to allow it to reliably measure the RFS assets nominally vested in the Council. Without knowledge of the quantity, nature and condition of the asset it is impossible to reliably measure the asset

In the preparation of these statements, Council was unable to obtain any information from the RFS regarding their asset list.

Finally, the Council does not believe the value of the RFS assets nominally vested in the Council, or the depreciation charged on those assets, would be material given the Council's overall asset base.



Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday 28 July 2022
Commencing at 2:16PM

1. WELCOME

The meeting was opened by Elizabeth Smith.

2. ATTENDANCE

2.1 Present

Elizabeth Smith (Temora Shire Council)
Ray Smith PSM (Bland Shire Council)
Clr Tony Lord (Bland Shire Council)
Alison Balind (Bland Shire Council)
Brad Bohun (Crowe Horwarth) – attended via zoom
Carissa Burge (Bland Shire Council) – Minutes

2.2 Apologies

Gary Lavelle (Temora Shire Council), David Wardell (Bland Shire Council), Leesa Bryant (Bland Shire Council)

RESOLVED on the motion of Clr Tony Lord and seconded Elizabeth Smith that the apologies be noted and accepted.

CARRIED

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RECOMMENDATION:

RESOLVED on the motion of Clr Tony Lord seconded Elizabeth Smith that the minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held 3 March 2022 be endorsed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

CARRIED

4. INTERNAL AUDIT COMPLETED REPORTS

A discussion was held in relation to the recommendations contained within the report. Bland Shire Council's Manager Development and Regulatory Services advised that the report had been reviewed and was in agreement with all the recommendations made. An update on recommendations will be provided at the next meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

RESOLVED on the motion of Clr Tony Lord seconded Elizabeth Smith that the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee note for information contained within the Internal Audit Completed Report: Contribution Levy Review at Bland Shire Council.

CARRIED

5. INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS UPDATE

RECOMMENDATION:

RESOLVED on the motion of Clr Tony Lord seconded Elizabeth Smith that the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee note the progress against the previous Internal Audit report recommendations.

CARRIED

6. INTERIM AUDIT MANAGEMENT LETTER

A discussion was held regarding the Interim Audit Management Letter not being received. Council has been advised that no Management Letter will be provided as there are no new points identified or raised, which is a pleasing result for Bland Shire Council.

RECOMMENDATION:

PROPOSED that the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee notes for information the Interim Audit Management Letter.

AMENDMENT that the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee notes no Interim Audit Management Letter will be received as there were no new points made.

RESOLVED on the motion of Clr Tony Lord seconded Elizabeth Smith that the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee notes no Interim Management Letter will be received as there were no new points made.

CARRIED

**7. COUNCIL CIRUCLAR 22-21 UPDATE ON MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS FOR
AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEES**

RECOMMENDATION:

RESOLVED on the motion of Clr Tony Lord seconded Elizabeth Smith that the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee notes for information Council Circular 22-21 Update on Membership requirements for Audit, Risk and Improvement Committees.

CARRIED

8. BLAND SHIRE COUNCIL LANDFILL INSPECTION UPDATE

RECOMMENDATION:

RESOLVED on the motion of Clr Lord seconded Elizabeth Smith that the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee notes for information the Bland Shire Council Landfill Inspection update.

CARRIED

9. BLAND SHIRE COUNCIL ENVIRONMENTAL RISK ASSESSMENT REPORT

RECOMMENDATION:

RESOLVED on the motion of Clr Tony Lord seconded Elizabeth Smith that the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee notes for information the Bland Shire Council Environmental Risk Assessment Report.

CARRIED

10. RFS UPDATE

RECOMMENDATION:

RESOLVED on the motion of Clr Tony Lord seconded Elizabeth Smith that the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee notes for information the verbal update on RFS Assets provided.

CARRIED

Further discussion was held in relation to RFS Assets, and the following proposal was made:

RECOMMENDATION:

RESOLVED on the motion of Elizabeth Smith seconded Cllr Tony Lord that the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee resolve to accept a Qualified Audit in relation to RFS Assets.

CARRIED

11. GENERAL BUSINESS

NIL

12. MEETING DATES

The date of the next Bland Shire Council Audit Risk and Improvement Committee Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 1 November 2022.

13. CLOSE OF MEETING

Being no further business the meeting was closed at 2.51pm.

Section 3 – Reports for Information

Recommendation:

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

- **7.11 - Economic Development & Tourism Report –August 2022**
- **7.12 - Community Services Report**
- **7.13 - Bland Shire Library Monthly Update**
- **7.14 - Children Services July Update**
- **7.15 - Bland Community Care Services Update**
- **7.16 - Bland Shire Museum Advisor Report – July 2022**
- **7.17 - Technical Services Report**
- **7.18 - Development Services Activity Report - July 2022**

7.11 Economic Development & Tourism Report –August 2022



Our Prosperity - Growing our population and jobs

DP14.2 Attract a diverse range of Visitors to the Shire
 DP15.2 Continue ongoing engagement and communication with the Shire's existing industry and business including support for diversification and alternate industry or business
 DP15.3 Lobby for and work with industry, government and education providers to ensure Bland Shire residents and businesses have access to competitive telecommunication services
 DP16.2 through partnerships with stakeholders foster our education, learning and training industry and increase employment opportunities within the Shire

Author: General Manager and Tourism & Administration Officer

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Bland Shire Council Why Leave Town Statistics- July 2022



Residential Development

There is currently a developer looking at a range of options for future residential development in both Wyalong and West Wyalong with the view of addressing the housing shortage. However, the biggest challenge is the lack of residential zoned land that is available for development or where the property owners are in a position to develop. No doubt this will be the subject of further discussion at the upcoming Housing Strategy Workshop.

Bland Shire Housing Strategy

The closing date for the receipt of submissions on the Strategy is Friday 12 August and all submissions will be considered at the upcoming Housing Strategy Workshop.

Regional Economic Development Strategy - Review

A report is now awaited from the NSW Government on the future of the REDS and when received will be presented to a future council workshop for further consideration.

New Business Park

The subdivision of the Central Road site is in its early stages of preparation and staff have commenced the preliminary work in regard to the preparation of a Development Application and the need to develop appropriate design work for services such as water, sewer, gas and power.

I also refer to the confidential report to the August Council meeting regarding a proposal for the purchase of the remaining available land within the business park.

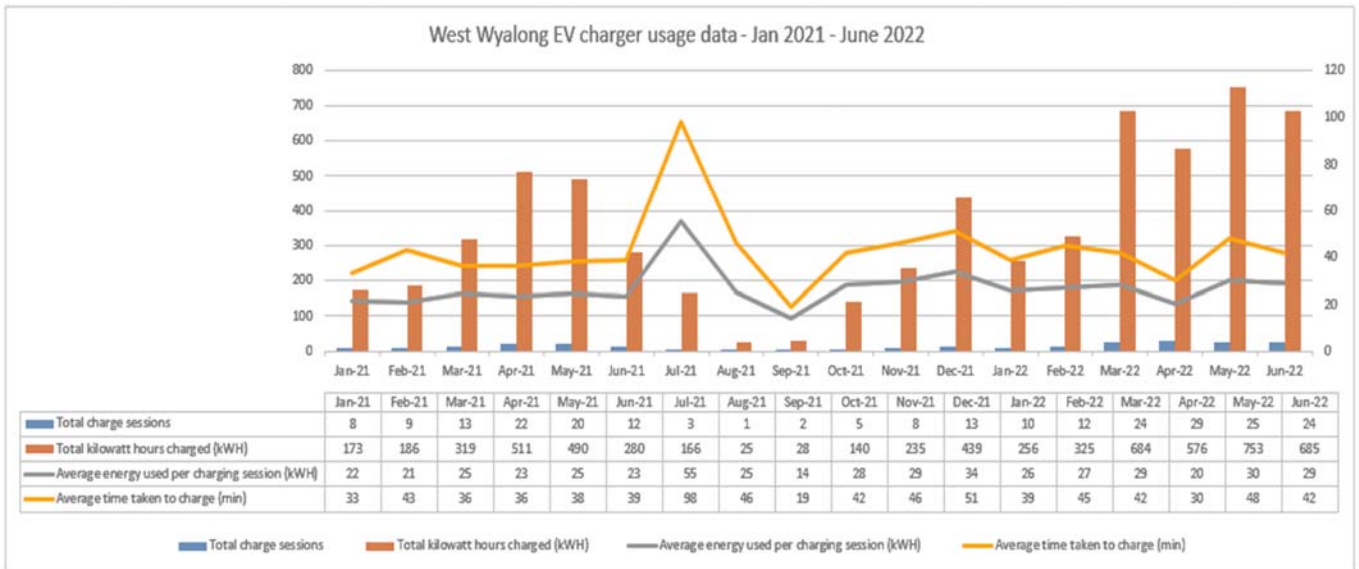
TOURISM

West Wyalong EV charger usage data January 21 to Dec 21

West Wyalong	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21
Total charge sessions	8	9	13	22	20	12	3	1	2	5	8	13
Total kilowatt hours charged (kWH)	173	186	319	511	490	280	166	25	28	140	235	439
Average energy used per charging session (kWH)	22	21	25	23	25	23	55	25	14	28	29	34
Average time taken to charge (min)	33	43	36	36	38	39	98	46	19	42	46	51

West Wyalong EV charger usage data January 22 to Jun 22

West Wyalong	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22
Total charge sessions	10	12	24	29	25	24
Total kilowatt hours charged (kWH)	256	325	684	576	753	685
Average energy used per charging session (kWH)	26	27	29	20	30	29
Average time taken to charge (min)	39	45	42	30	48	42



Tourism staff have been very busy creating flyers in support of upcoming events.

We recently added two new A1 poster holders to advertise events in the Visitor Centre



THE 84TH ANNUAL

Weethalle Show

SUNDAY 21ST AUGUST 2022
AT THE WEETHALLE SHOWGROUND

OPENING OUR SHOW
The Byrnes Sisters

GATE ENTRY
ADULT: \$12 | SCHOOL CHILDREN U/18YRS: \$6 | PENSIONERS: \$6

WHAT TO EXPECT
TRACTION PULL BAR | HORSE SHOWING | CAR SHOW AND SHINE | LUNCHEON PAVILION
MOTORBIKE CHALLENGE | LEGO COMPETITION | HORSE EVENTS | LIVESTOCK JUDGING
PUSHBIKE RACES | PAVILION DISPLAYS | PUMPKIN ZOOPT-COMPT | SHOWBAGS | RAFFLES
LIVE PERFORMANCE FROM BYRNES SISTERS | MISS COPPY | WHITEMOON CARD READINGS
DOG JUMPING | STALLS | BIG BIG TRUCK COMPETITION | SHOW RIDES | SHEARING DISPLAYS
FOOD VANS | UTE COMPETITION | BEAU OF THE SHOW | SIDE SHOWS, AND MUCH MORE!

West Wyalong Show

Show

Wednesday 7th September

WILL SANCHEX—BREAK DANCER SHOWBAGS * RIDES * FOOD STALLS

OLD KENTUCKY ANIMAL NURSERY DOG SHOW REPTILE AWARENESS DISPLAY

DINKUM DINOSAURS SCOOT THE STUNT JUGGLER CATTLE COMPETITION

POULTRY COMPETITION SHEEP COMPETITION EQUESTRIAN COMPETITION

BARMINGO COLOURING COMPETITION

AND SO MUCH MORE

92nd Annual

UNGARIE SHOW

Saturday 10th September 2022

Mullets, Beards & Moustaches
Young Woman
Children's Amusements
Gymkhana
Market Stalls
Trade Displays
Lolly Drop
Pavilion
Trick Horse Riders
Tractor Pull
Quick Shear
Prime Lambs
Fireworks
And so much more!

In conjunction with 150 years of Ungarie Celebrations
#ungariew2022

150 Year Celebration UNGARIE

9-11 September

COME AND CELEBRATE
150 years of settlement

<p>Friday 9th September</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome and launch of <i>A Book of Memories</i> Screening of <i>Memories</i> movie at Ungarie West Memorial Hall 	<p>Saturday 10th September</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Museum, Dugout and School Open WJ Park Music, Bing Walden Park Market 1st Agr Walk Tour Devonshire Tea at CWK Rooms Blue Cap re-enactment in Wallingough Street Ungarie Show 	<p>Sunday 11th September</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ungarie Bowling Club Breakfast <i>Memories</i> movie screening at Memorial Hall Museum, Dugout, School open Ungarie Bowling Club - Chalkin Fun bowling
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WELCOME TO **MIRROOL**
POPULATION 11111 TWENTY FIVE
HOME OF THE **SILO KICK**

30th Anniversary

Saturday 8th October at Mirrool Silo
11am kickoff!

Are YOU up for the Challenge?
Will YOUR name be added to the list?

1993 Billy Brannigan	1999 Rob Harper	2005 Rob Harper	2011 Adam Frey	2018 Craig
1994 Silo	2000 Bruce Dutton	2007 Bud Fairman	2014 Adam Frey	2020 Craig
1996 Rob Harper	2001 Paul Hall	2008 Silo	2015 Michael Hutchings	2022 Tim
1998 Tim Hargreaves	2002 Rob Harper	2009 Rob Harper	2016 Billy Colwell	
1999 Silo	2003 Rob Harper	2010 Mitch Hubbard	2017 Jack Harper	
1997 Rob Harper	2004 Silo	2011 Silo	2018 Rob Harper	
1998 Donald Chapman	2005 Rob Harper	2012 Silo	2019 Jack Harper	

More than \$5000 in prizes
\$3000 to overall winner of the silo kick

Silo Kick	Indis Events	Major Auction
BBO & Bar	Netball Comp	Tug-O-War
Ladies Kick	Market Stalls	Ladies Gumboot Toss

Mirrool Creek Cup Calcutta Horse Race
Silent Auction-AFL Memorabilia

7.12 Community Services Report



Our People - A Strong, healthy, connected and inclusive community

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

Author: Community Relations Officer and Community Development Officer

Melbourne Cup Marquee Event

Bland Shire Council has teamed up with Evolution Cowal to deliver a series of events as part of the 2022 Melbourne Cup Tour. The Cup will be in the Bland Shire on Wednesday 21 September with the celebrations kicking off at the Tivoli theatre at 11am. Can Assist will be providing a barbeque, with the community encouraged to come along and get up close and personal for a photo opportunity with the Cup. Following this, a free screening of the movie 'Ride Like a Girl' will feature on the big screen at the Tivoli.

The Melbourne Cup Marquee event will be held on Wednesday evening from 6pm – 10pm in a marquee set up along Grenfell Street adjacent to the White Tank Hotel. The gala event will feature race day entertainment, food and beverages supplied by the White Tank Hotel, special photo opportunities and community fundraising initiatives. All Councillors and partners will be invited to attend the event with a number of tickets available to the community.

Mock Council Meetings

Councils Community Services staff held mock Council meetings with students from St Mary's War Memorial and Wyalong Public School on Wednesday 3 and Friday 5 August. Stage 3 students from each of the schools attended the Council Chambers to enjoy an educational and interactive session in which they were able to participate in a mock Council Meeting and gain a better understanding of the processes of local government and how decisions are made at Council.



Creative Writing Workshop

Councils Community Services Staff will be working with the West Wyalong High School in the delivery of a creative writing workshop for female students in years 9 and 10 on Monday 22 August. Ex West Wyalong High School student, Abra Pressler – Who is now a published author – will lead the workshop, which will also include some self-esteem and empowerment activities during the day with the girls, followed by lunch provided by council.

Hearts of Gold Festival

Following on from ideas presented to the May Community Reference group Meeting, Community Services staff have held meetings with community members who put forward ideas for a weekend long festival to be held in West Wyalong. A working group consisting of community members, council staff and Evolution Cowal representatives has been formed, with Evolution also coming on board as a major sponsor.

Community services staff are working with the group to put together a series of exciting initiatives and events over the course of the festival weekend expected to be held in early 2023.

7.13 Bland Shire Library Monthly Update



Our People - A Strong, healthy, connected and inclusive community

DP3.4 Foster a community learning culture optimising our physical and virtual spaces

Author: Library Services Coordinator

Story-time

Story-time, an early literacy program designed for children aged 2 – 5 years, resumed on Thursday 21 July with attendance numbers overwhelming. Since resuming, fifty-plus parents and children have been attending the hour-long program each week, which incorporates storytelling, singing, music and dance, games and craft.

On another high note – the West Wyalong High School's student volunteer program has resumed. A rotation of students has been attending Bland Shire Library each Thursday morning to assist library staff with Story-time. The student's assistance has been invaluable in light of high attendance rates.



Library Celebrates Library and Information Week

There was plenty to celebrate at Bland Shire Library during Library and Information Week (25 – 31 July). 20 new members were recorded with each new registered member receiving a free coffee or milkshake and cake voucher from What's Cooking. A lolly guessing competition for children proved popular. The library received 47 entries in its colouring competition with books and milkshake vouchers given as prizes. The library gave away a \$50 Why Leave Town gift card in a social media promotion. A busy week of programs for the library as well with home deliveries, GOLD Club for seniors 65+, Tech Savvy Seniors, Knit and Knatter, a visit from the Bland Preschool, staff morning tea, Kids Scavenger Hunt, Story-time, Baby Bounce and Kids Monthly Prize Draw.



GOLD Club – Change of Day and Time

July saw the library's GOLD Club for seniors 65+ move from a Wednesday morning to a Monday afternoon – still fortnightly. The change of day will allow those participants with the opportunity to also attend Community Care's Wednesday morning activities. The change of day and time has had no impact on the program, which continues to attract a regular group, currently all women, with the majority aged in their nineties.



Baby Bounce

Baby Bounce, an early literacy program designed for babies 0 – 2 years, resumed on Friday 29 July with a good roll up of parents – both mums and dads – and grandparents, with lots of new faces attending. The 20-minute program introduces young children to reading and literacy through songs and rhymes, books and interactive play.



School Visits

- Bland Shire Library hosted a visit from the students and staff at Barmedman Public School on Wednesday 3 August. A small but delightful group of children. The older students participated in a fun scavenger hunt while the younger children enjoyed a book reading and felt board story. The children were then given free time to explore the library prior to lunch.
- Little Wattle Preschool and Day Care Centre has booked a number of visits to the library in August and September. The dates are Tuesday 9 August, Friday 19 August, Wednesday 14 September and Monday 19 September.
- The Bland Preschool has also booked a number of visits to the library in August and September. The dates are Friday 2 September, Friday 16 September, Tuesday 20 September and Wednesday 21 September.

Author Visits

- Sami Bayly is a natural history illustrator who loves all things weird and wonderful. She finds the beauty and importance of all animals regardless of their appearance, and loves to share her appreciation with others. Bland Shire Library is very pleased to be hosting a visit by Sami on Tuesday 16 August, who will conduct three one-hour workshops in the Council Chambers. Due to time constraints (and a school district athletics carnival happening the same day), sessions will be attended by selected students from various schools including 30 art students (Year 8 – 11) from West Wyalong High School.

- Bland Shire Library is currently seeking an author illustrator for a five-day residency in 2023. The library's annual author visit is a highly anticipated event on the calendar of local schools within the Bland Shire.
- The Bellarwi CWA Branch has approached Bland Shire Library to host a talk by Sophie Hansen - Australian Rural Woman of the Year, blogger, podcaster, writer, editor and cookbook author. A proposed date in September to be confirm.

Book Week 20 – 26 August

This Book Week, the library will be a buzz with school students visiting the library to participate in a range of activities including the infamous Amazing Race. However, due to both the library and schools' hectic schedules, this year's Book Week activities will be spread- across two weeks. The theme this year is 'Dreaming with Eyes Open', which speaks to children's sense of curiosity and imagination. Bland Shire Library will be focusing on indigenous culture and a sense of belonging.

Prior to Covid-19, some 500 students would visit the library during Book Week to participate in a variety of activities. However, in the wake of ongoing covid restrictions in 2020 and a statewide lockdown in 2021, Book Week has been cancelled the past two years. Despite this, Bland Shire Library took a positive approach and engaged students in a Book Week Bingo Challenge, which proved moderately successful.

School Holiday Program

The library has already started planning its September / October school holiday program, which will include LEGO on Wednesday 28 September, 10.30am and Seashell Collage on Thursday 29 September, 10.30am. Dagmar McIntyre will conduct a number of biscuit decorating sessions, featuring a Halloween theme, in the second week of the school holidays (date / times to be confirm).

Pals of the Pen

A small but enthusiastic group of aspiring writers. The group meets every second Friday from 10.30am in the library. Bland Shire Library continues to support the group – founded in 2012 – despite a decline in members. However, it is pleasing to note that four of its long-serving members have had their work published in recent times.



Tech Savvy Seniors

Tech Savvy Seniors continues to attract good numbers. The program, held every Tuesday between 10am and 12 pm (excluding school holidays), is an open forum for seniors with basic technology enquiries. Enquiries can be as simple as changing numbers to letters on a smartphone, to more hands-on enquiries such as connecting hearing aids to a person's phone.

Get Online Week 17 – 23 October is an annual campaign inspiring people to improve their digital skills. Bland Shire Library will apply for a grant to hold an event during Get Online Week.

Meetings

- Librarians, South West Zone, Zoom Meeting – Early September. Date to be confirm.
- NSWPLA, South West Zone, Zoom Meeting – Wednesday 21 September 2022, 10am – 12pm.

7.14 Children Services July Update



Our People - A Strong, healthy, connected and inclusive community

DP4.2 Provide quality, accredited and affordable Education and Care Services within Bland Shire and surrounds (Bland Preschool, Family Day Care, Mobile Resource Unit, Vacation Care and Toy Library services)

Author: Children Services Coordinator

Staff Recruitment –

With the ongoing Early Childhood staffing crisis it was decided to advertise casual positions to ensure educator coverage and child ratios during winter months, due to illness and various leave arrangements. A total of two applicants were received and interviews held.

Reference checks are currently underway.

A Certificate III Trainee position is currently being advertised with applications closing in August.

Staff Training –

Sharon Glasgow, Carlie Iverach, Kate Spackman, Tracey DeMamiel and Julie Oberg met for a Service Leader meeting discussing various programs, funding applications and setting agenda items for staff meetings.

CSU Staff Development Day was held on Thursday 14th July. Attending staff participated in sessions with Sally from HR and completed the required EEO, Culture, Code of Conduct and Alcohol and Drugs training. As part of this day, a staff meeting was held allowing the opportunity to discuss upcoming events (Father's Day, end of year concert and incursions) and provide feedback about our upcoming community survey.

Jenny Nicholson and Kristy Hall participated in CPR training at TAFE as per service requirements.

Sharon Glasgow (Coordinator) participated in the Aspiring Leader conference in Wagga Wagga for two days. Sessions were well informed and provided motivational ideas and strategies. Next session is scheduled via teams in August.

Grant Application/Spending –

Bland Preschool and Bland Shire Mobile Resource Unit were successful in the Community Grant application. Each service receiving \$10,000 to support remote, low socio economic and Aboriginal/Torres Strait Island families (ATSI). To date CSU has purchased various ATSI resources, engaged a local Indigenous artist to create a "Welcome to Country" piece to be displayed at Bland Preschool and finalising Occupational Therapist and Speech Pathologist support visits for families. CSU is very excited to offer these services to families.

Other News –

Bland Shire Children Services advertised and promoted their services through the "Education Week" edition of the West Wyalong Advocate (released Friday 26th July). A special mention was made to our valuable trainees, their commitment and their special achievements.

Educators' hard work, commitment, passion and resilience was acknowledged on International Chocolate Day. The past two years have proven to be an unsteady time in the Early Childhood sector, and this small gesture was to say "thanks to a wonderful team who continue to show up and provide a high quality service to the community".



It Takes a Village (ITAV)

ITAV received valuable feedback from the previous Parenting Program speaker, Esther Petrie (Occupational Therapist). *“I am so pleased that it was useful. I’ve said it before, I’ll say it again, we are SO LUCKY to have such a brilliant preschool in our town that is so motivated and puts on events like this for families”*. It was wonderful to have our services, resources and hard work acknowledged by this professional service.

During the school holiday break the ITAV session leader and educator were busy inputting data into the DEX system to meet the end of financial year funding requirements and programming for the term ahead.

A quote was sourced to relocate the Toy Library service to the CSU foyer office in the hopes to create more interest and foot traffic. As part of the Toy Library promotion we are currently working with Tivoli theatre to advertise the Toy Library service to the community through the theatre advertisements. More to come.

ITAV playgroup visited Tallimba with bubble and fish painting on the program. Unfortunately, due to zero attendance the Weethalle playgroup session was cancelled.

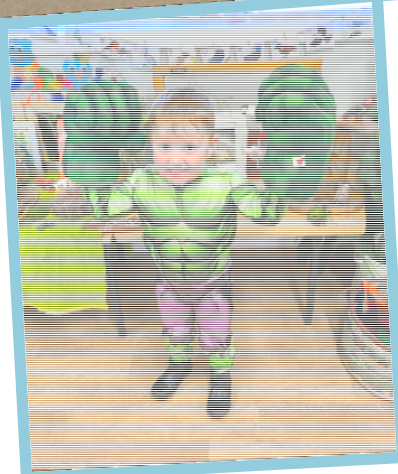
ITAV continued to provide families with parent packs and were created around individual family requests and interests.



Mobile Resource Unit

Ungarie Mobile Preschool and Friday Junior Preschool

Preschool children returned from a two week break bright eyed and ready to tackle another busy, fun filled term. During week 2 children were invited to dress up as “Super Heroes” to raise funds for Bear Cottage. Everyone looked amazing and a total of \$288.70 was raised in support of such a wonderful organisation.



MRU Enrolments

- Ungarie Preschool - Wednesday: 13 children
- Ungarie Preschool - Thursday: 7 children
- Bland Junior Preschool - Friday: 40 Children

Playgroup

Educators welcomed back families to playgroup at West Wyalong after the holiday break. We had a record of almost 40 children attend the session, and new enrolments joining weekly.

Children painted, created and role-played in play areas inside the classroom.

Sadly, due to low or zero attendance at our village sessions it was decided to cancel these for the remainder of 2022.

Vacation Care

The program for the July school holidays was made available to families via social media, CSU Facebook page and the local school newsletters. School children had the opportunity to engage in two excursions per week.

Week 1- Lake Cowal Conservation Centre and June Chocolate Factory

Week 2 – Splatter Gallery and Tivoli Movie Theatre

The other days were held at CSU with lots of fun and exciting themes such as science, gymnastics and cooking.



Bland Preschool

Staff Training:

An ESDM training session was provided to Ashleigh Dore, Tara Whiteman and Kyre Barwick (Additional needs educators) Wednesday 27th July. What is ESDM? The Early Start Denver Model (ESDM) is a behavioural therapy for children with autism between the ages of 12-48 months. It is based on the methods of applied behaviour analysis (ABA). Parents and therapists use play to build positive and fun relationships. As Bland Preschool has multiple children enrolled with an autism diagnosis it is important that these families are well supported by our preschool.

Smooth Move to Kindergarten Community Event: Bland Preschool in collaboration with Little Wattle Long Day Care provided the community with another successful 'Smooth Move to Kindergarten' parent session. Our annual event consisted of guest speakers from local primary schools and early childhood centres providing valuable information regarding school readiness. Parents with children aged 3-5 years were encouraged to attend, especially those with children attending formal school in 2023. This year's special guest speaker was Roseanne Bisetto, Senior Early Childhood Co-ordinator / NDIS Early childhood program, representing 'Intereach'. Evolution Mining provided light refreshments.

Parent Committee: Our fabulous parent committee were lucky enough to be the successful recipients of the Evolution Mining Cowal partnering program Grant for \$15,000. This money has provided our Preschool with an upgraded boat and cubby house for our outdoor environments as well new scooters and balance bikes.

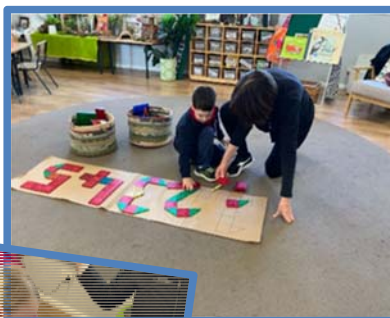


Excursions & Incursions:

Bear cottage Superhero Week was celebrated during week 2, Money raised was donated to Bear Cottage allowing them to continue to provide respite and end of life care for their beautiful children in need.



Pre-kindergarten students have attended their term 3 school readiness sessions at our local primary schools. This term saw our Monday Tuesday class attend West Wyalong Public School and our Wednesday / Thursday classes attend Wyalong Public school.



Preschool Enrolments:

- Monday/ Tuesday Bilby: 25 children
- Wednesday/ Thursday Bilby: 20 children
- Wednesday/ Thursday Gecko: 20 children

Bland / Temora Family Day Care

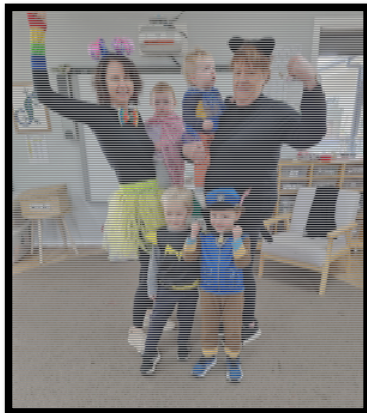
During monitoring visits, the Support Officer observed many different interactions between Educators and the children in their education and care environments. These photos demonstrate how a fun game of catch the beanbag followed by balancing the beanbag on their head can support the children's development of their gross motor skills, hand-eye coordination and balance. The smiles on the children's faces showed how much fun they had.



At another Educator's service, the children chose a spontaneous board game of matching the head to the backend of an animal. This provided a wonderful learning opportunity that the Educator quickly responded to.



Playgroup returned after the school holidays and while our numbers were down due to illness, we enjoyed a fun morning dressing-up as Super Hero's to help raise money for Bear Cottage.



7.15 Bland Community Care Services Update



Our People - A Strong, healthy, connected and inclusive community

DP1- Ensure health and support services address the needs of the community

Author: Community Care Coordinator

General Update:

Direct service provision remains steady, with multiple new referrals a week continuing. Intake has been placed on hold at this time while the Coordinator works through the back log of new referrals.

Confirmation has been received regarding the new Support at Home Program – this is confirmed to be delayed with an anticipated start of July 2024. CHSP services will continue as usual until such time that transition to the new program is required.

Our Centre currently has offices available for lease, an advertisement will be made by the interim Coordinator in coming weeks to advertise the space.



Group Update:

Group attendance has been on the increase with a few new attendees going through the intake process. Referrals will continue to be sought and accepted for all groups.



Recent themes for activity days have included recognition of NAIDOC week and Christmas in July.

Both the vacant Support Assistant role and the maternity relief contract for the Coordinator have been filled. Both commenced in recent weeks.



7.16 Bland Shire Museum Advisor Report – July 2022



Our People - A Strong, healthy, connected and inclusive community

DP3.4 Foster a community learning culture optimising our physical and virtual spaces

Author: Museum Advisor

Weethalle Museum Monday 4 July

The team at Weethalle are waiting for the delivery of their new showcase. It will hopefully be there in the next two weeks.

Now that farm work is quieter, they are hoping to organise a working bee to do some building and cleaning work done.

The list includes

- Cleaning out the gutters of the building
- Washing the walls in the back room
- Removing the security mesh from inside the windows and attach to the exterior of the building
- Wash windows and hang new blinds (already purchased)
- Repairing back steps (timber already purchased)

Priorities for the next 6 months are

- completion of the above tasks
- Continue systematically cleaning the museum, room by room
- Identify objects for deaccessioning
- Apply for grants for storage boxes and shelves.

The Weethalle Whistle Stop is applying for a grant to complete building works that need to be professionally done

- The ceiling repairs
- Guttering repairs
- Building a wall and new doorway for the creation of a storage room
- Replacement of back door.

Michelle and Vicki are steadily achieving goals at the museum and are to be commended.

Met with Alison Balind at Bland Shire Council at 2.30 to discuss current issues at the various museums. We also talked about available grants.

Wyalong Museum Tuesday 5 July

The team at Wyalong Museum are continuing to update and improve displays. Noelene continues to work on new textile displays that feature stories about prominent locals.

When I visited on Tuesday, the team were setting up a new display focusing on souvenir crockery from the collection. As part of the display Diane was able to enlarge early images of West Wyalong to add to the showcase. They add another dimension and improve the aesthetic.

The Wyalong Museum has several projects to complete, including the installation of the windmill that used to stand outside Sharman House. This has been ongoing for a while.

Another project is the provision of a covered area between the courthouse and the Machinery Display. The next move will be completing a brief and getting quotes.

Ungarie Museum Tuesday 10 May -

It was a not over long meeting at Ungarie as work was in full swing on the cleaning and painting of the Hall. Consequently the space was very cold with nowhere to sit.

It was great to see the timber panelling painted and the lights installed.

With the walls done, we talked about new ways of displaying the collection using the available shelving. The old shelving will need painting, and some adjusting but will help break up the space to make themed areas.

Next month we will meet in West Wyalong Library (9 August) to work on new interpretation panels. Don has already been working on the stories of local businesses and collating images.



Images of works at Ungarie Museum. Centre image from *Ungarie's 150 Celebrations* Facebook page.

Next visit will be **8 & 9 August 2022**

7.17 Technical Services Report



Our Places - Maintain & improve the Shire's assets & infrastructure

DP9.1 Responsibly manage asset renewal and maintenance for current and future generations
DP9.4 Maintain parks, ovals and recreational facilities to approved standards

1. Council Road Crew Locations Week Commencing 11.7.2022

- Graders
 - Bartels/Alleena
 - Lake Cowal
 - Monia Gap Lane
 - McIntoshs Lane
 - Longergans Lane
- Gravel Carting
 - Deans Pit
- Maintenance Crews (Bobcat/Backhoe)
 - Shire Roads

2. Council Road Crew Locations Week Commencing 18.7.2022

- Graders
 - Wargin Road
 - McIntoshs Lane
 - Sprys Lane
 - Lake Cowal Road
 - Monia Gap Road
- Gravel Carting
 - Templetons Pit
- Maintenance Crews (Bobcat/Backhoe)
 - Shire Roads

3. Council Road Crew Locations Week Commencing 25.7.2022

- Graders
 - Wargin Road
 - Cattles Lane
 - Sprys Lane
 - Youngareen Road
 - Bogan Gap Road
- Gravel Carting
 - Templetons Pit
- Maintenance Crews (Bobcat/Backhoe)
 - Shire Roads

4. May/June/July 2022 - Biosecurity Weeds/Environmental

- New Biosecurity Weeds Officer employed by Council
- Inspections – 1 private property inspection, Vehicle Inspections for Solar Company, T S R Quandialla area
- High Risk Pathway Inspection – Mid Western Highway, 57Nth, 231, Goldfields Way, Quandialla Road, MR368, MR371, Mary Gilmore Way, Newell Highway.
- Council Land Inspections - Sale yards, Wet Lands, all landfills and Treatment Works
- Town Mowing – West Wyalong.
- Shoulder Mowing – Clear Ridge Road, Alleena Road, Mary Gilmore Way.
- Council Spraying – West Wyalong Cemetery, Sale Yards, Weethalle Landfill, Ungarie Landfill, Ungarie Treatment Works, Ungarie show ground, Tallimba Landfill, Naradhan Landfill, West Wyalong Lanes and drains, Ungarie lanes and drains, Barmedman lanes and drains and Treatment Works and Landfill.
- Tree Suckers – Kolkilbertoo Road, Wombyne Road, Gunn Road, Aria Park Road, Naradhan Road, Dundas Road, Crown Camp Road, Williams Crossing Road, MR368, Buralyang Road, Paynes Lane.
- The following Biosecurity weeds and other controls were undertaken:-
 - African Boxthorn – Ungarie Landfill, Crown Camp Road, Old Condobolin Road, Wilga Plains Road, Lake Cowal Road.
 - Sticky Leaf Nightshade – Kolkilbertoo Road.
 - Wild Radish – Gunn Road, South Yalgogrin Road, Danihers Lane, Lucus Lane, Sprys Lane, Purshouses Lane, Jillet Lane, Sandy Creek Road, Timothys Lane, Fiegerts Lane, MR57 North, MR231, Buralyang Road.
 - Galvinised Burr – Ungarie Landfill, Crown Camp Road, Wilga Plains Road, Lake Cowal Road, O'Roukes Lane, MR368, MR371.
 - St Johns Wort – Ungarie Landfill, MR368.
 - Coolatai – Pfeiffers Lane, Tallimba Silos, Newell Highway, Mid Western Highway, MR57 North, Newell North, Newell South.
 - Parthenium (Red Zone) – Quandialla Road.
 - Cactus Spraying - (Tiger Pear, Prickly Pear, Rope Cactus, Pencil Cactus) West Wyalong, Ungarie Road, Rose Lane, Racecourse Road, Barmedman Rail corridor, Ungarie Landfill, Crown Camp Road, Old Condobolin Road, Wilga Plains Road, MR57 North, Barmedman Landfill, MR231, Tallimba town, Bygoo Road, Gunn Road, Bellarwi Road, Green corridor West Wyalong, Cooina Park, Dalgleishes Lane.
 - Silver Leaf Nightshade – Brennans Tank Road, MR368.
 - Mother of Millions – Airport Road, Old Hospital Road.
 - Wild Tobacco – Leslies Lane, Mildil Road.
 - Mexican poppy – Tallimba Silos.

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 checked
- Weed spraying carried out
- Ungarie main st watering system checked

6. Park maintenance

- McCann park, Barnado park and small parks and areas mown, trimmed and maintained
- Council chambers lawns and gardens maintained
- Maintenance to Herridge park, Cooina park, Wyalong court house
- Lawn and monument cemetery maintenance works carried out
- Public amenities cleaned and maintained
- Playground inspections completed and repairs carried out
- Graves back filled at cemetery and tanks pumped out
- All parks and airport sprayed for weeds
- Park toilets cleaned and repaired after vandalism

7. Ovals maintenance

- Maintenance to sporting ovals and surrounds
- Irrigation checks carried out on all ovals and surrounds
- Broad leaf weeds sprayed at all sports grounds
- Line marking on ovals for sporting groups and village small schools athletics carnivals

8. Town maintenance

- Star lane cleaned and tidied
- Town areas mown and trimmed
- Town trees trimmed and watered as needed
- Main street gardens weeded and watered
- Small pot holes repaired in roads cold mix and jet patcher
- Clean out and spraying of town drains
- Aerodrome slashing inspections and maintenance work carried out, trees lopped from runway clearance
- Back filled low areas on nature strips
- Pre-school maintenance carried out
- Spraying aerodrome and town drains/nature strips
- vandalism repairs and removal

7.18 Development Services Activity Report - July 2022



Our Leadership - A well run Council acting as the voice of the community

DP10.2 Ensure Councillors take ownership and a strong leadership role

Author: Manager Development & Regulatory Services

PLANNING AND BUILDING ACTIVITIES UPDATE

The following DA applications were approved during July 2022:

Application No	Description	Location	Consent Authority	Approval Date
CDC2022/0007	Inground swimming pool	6 Main Street, West Wyalong	Staff	5/7/2022
DA2022/0066	Removal of trees from Road Reserve	Lake Cargelligo Road, Ungarie	Staff	7/7/2022
DA2022/0091	Demolition of an existing shed and construction of a new storage shed	12 Wootten Street, West Wyalong	Staff	15/7/2022
DA2022/0094	Single storey residential dwelling with mezzanine and detached garage	63 Quandong Lane, West Wyalong	Staff	21/7/2022
DA2022/0095	Installation of a temporary self banded diesel tank to an existing liquid fuel depot	10 Calleen Street, West Wyalong	Staff	27/7/2022
DA2022/0096	Storage shed with amenities	21 England Street, West Wyalong	Staff	21/7/2022
DA2022/0097	Demolition of an existing shed and construction of a new storage shed	56 Queen Street, Barmedman	Staff	25/7/2022
DA2022/0099	Removal of one (1) tree	44 Park Street, West Wyalong	Staff	7/7/2022

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTIVITIES UPDATE

Food Premises

Council staff undertook one (1) food premises inspection during July 2022.

REGULATORY ACTIVITIES UPDATE

Dog Attacks

There were no dog attacks reported during July 2022.

Companion Animal Seizure and Impound Activities July 2022

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

Impounding Activities:	Dogs	Cats
Animals in pound at start of month	4	4
Incoming Animals		
Transferred from Seizure Activities	0	0
Dumped at Pound	2	1
Surrendered	9	1
Total Animals in Pound	15	6

Outgoing Animals		
Released to Owner	3	1
Euthanased	0	0
Rehoused	7	1
Sold	1	0
Died at Pound	0	0
Stolen	0	0
Escaped	0	0
Total Animals Leaving Pound	11	2
Animals in Pound at end of Month	4	4