

BOURKE SHIRE COUNCIL



2012/2013 ANNUAL REPORT



OUR GUIDING OPERATING PRINCIPLE (Our Motto)

“Building a strong united community,
proud of our past and committed
to our future”

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MAYOR'S MESSAGE

It is again with great pleasure that I present the Annual Report for Bourke Shire Council for the 2012-2013 year. The report provides an insight into the achievements of Bourke Shire Council throughout the year and outlines these achievements according to our community strategic plan and vision for the community.

The year has been one of change for Bourke Shire Council with the retirement of our General Manager, Geoff Wise and the welcoming of Ross Earl to the position. Throughout the year several of our longest serving staff also retired from their positions and I wish them well with their retirements and new roles.

Bourke Shire Council also underwent a Promoting Better Practice Review and it is a credit to all staff and Councillors that there were no significant adverse comments and many of the recommendations of the review team were implemented immediately.

The Independent Local Government Review Panel continued to meet with Councillors and Staff and formal responses were provided to the Panel in regards to the various review papers. The Local Government Review may mean change for Bourke Shire Council and we await the Government's response and determination of which recommendations will be implemented. Councillors have lobbied to ensure that Bourke Shire Council remains a Local Government entity in its own right and is strongly opposed to the formation of a large 'Western Region Authority', perhaps governed from Broken Hill.

I have continued to represent the Bourke community in relation to the many issues that we face in Western New South Wales. Both our State and Federal local members continue to actively represent us and assist in issues such as seeking improvement to local roads, improvements to social and economic well being, in the area of water reform and reinstatement of air services.

In part of the review of the Bourke Shire Community Strategic Plan, Councillors and staff visited all the other towns and villages within the Shire to provide the opportunity for input from the residents of those areas.

Thank you to all staff of Bourke Shire Council for the work you have undertaken throughout the year.

I extend my sincere thanks to the Deputy Mayor, Cr Barry Hollman and fellow Councillors who give up a considerable amount of time in maintaining the governance of Council and working for the betterment of the Bourke Shire area.

Andrew Lewis
MAYOR, BOURKE SHIRE COUNCIL

GENERAL MANAGER'S FOREWORD

The 2012-2013 financial year has been a positive one for Bourke Shire Council and the community with the Council delivering on many of its goals outlined in its Operational and Delivery Plans.

Council is involved in a diverse range of activities throughout the Shire with the responsibilities and duties spread across its Roads, Town Services, Water & Wastewater, Environmental Services, Tourism and Economic Development Departments.

Highlights throughout the year have included:

- Renewal of the Louth Toilets (in conjunction with the Louth Progress Association) - \$87,000.00
- Reseal Louth Airstrip \$66,000.00
- Warraweena Street Well \$552,000
- Reseal Regional Roads \$429,000
- Renewal Deadmans Creek Bridge \$600,000
- Construction of new cell at Waste Depot \$129,000
- Purchase new Garbage Truck \$319,000
- Purchase Frontend Loader \$219,000
- Beemery Bridge Construction and Opening
- Rehabilitation of Mitchell Highway North \$780,000
- Widening of Kamillaroi Highway \$600,000
- Upgrade of Willera Crossing \$70,000
- Digitization of the Western Herald – Grant \$27,000
- Town Street Reseals - \$220,000

Council has continued to work on its financial sustainability and it is pleasing that several key indicators that highlight the financial performance of the organisation have improved as has our ability to fund our long-term commitments. The Promoting Better Practice Review was positive in its comments regarding how Bourke Shire Council was operating and offered a number of recommendations for improvements which have all been accepted and many already implemented.

I thank all of the Managers and staff across the organisation for the work that they are undertaking and the progress made in achieving our Delivery and Operational Plans. I would also like to thank the Councillors for their direction and guidance in setting the goals, vision and policies of Bourke Shire Council and their commitment to the future of the community.

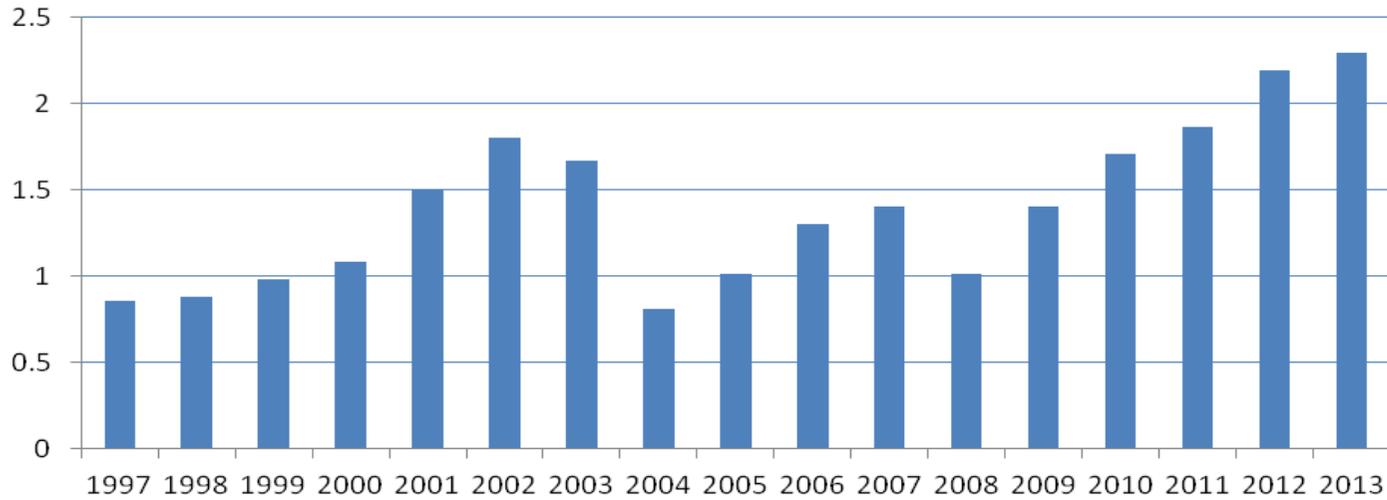
Thank you to all Councillors, Staff and community members for making Annette and I feel welcome in Bourke and I look forward to the upcoming year and the opportunity to further deliver on the organisational and community goals.

The years ahead will not be without challenges but with a positive and “can do” attitude across all sections of the community we will achieve these goals.

Ross Earl
General Manager

FINANCIAL INDICATOR TRENDS OVER 15 YEAR PERIOD

UNRESTRICTED CURRENT RATIO



The Unrestricted Current Ratio is a financial indicator specific to local government and represents Council's ability to meet its debts and obligations as they fall due. The ratio assesses the adequacy of working capital and its ability to satisfy obligations in the short term for the unrestricted activities.

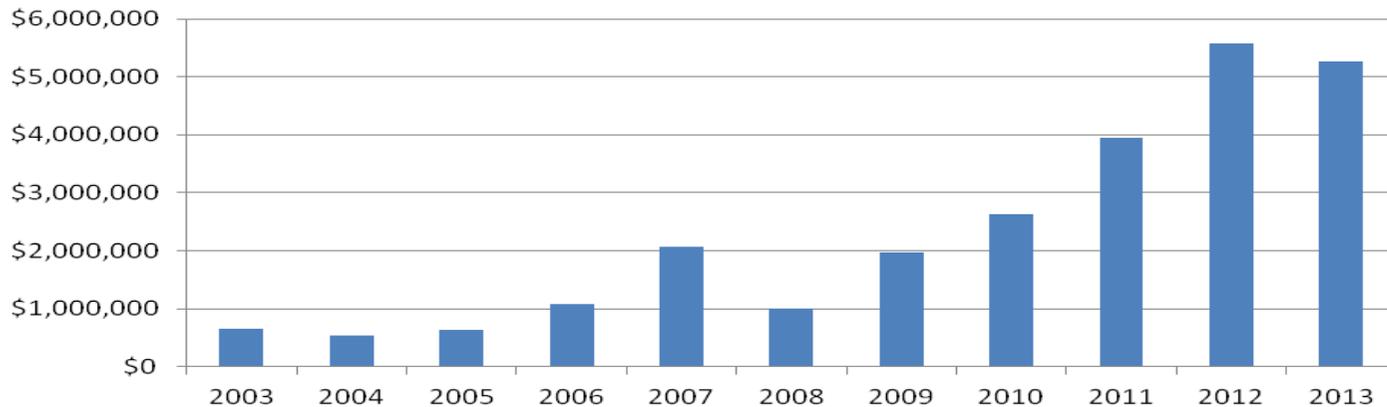
Acceptable Measures:

- Less than 1:1 = RED
- Between 1:1 & 2:1 = AMBER
- Between 2:1 & 10:1 = GREEN
- Greater than 10:1 = RED

Two year forward target for Bourke Shire Council:

- Over 2:1 **RED** Remedial action required
- AMBER** Must monitor trend closely
- GREEN** Acceptable

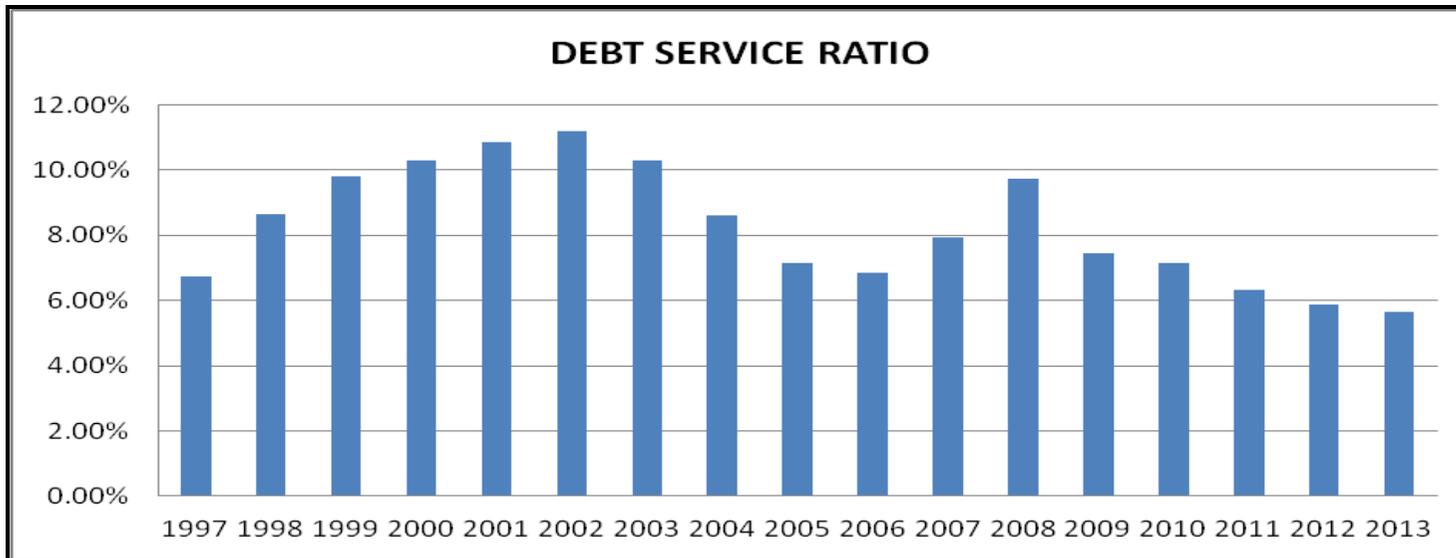
Available Working Capital - (Working funds)



The Available Working Capital – (Working Funds) is a more meaningful financial indicator specific to Local Government.

Net Current Assets are adjusted by eliminating both external and internal reserves held for future purposes.

Two year forward target for Bourke Shire Council:
Greater than \$4,500,000

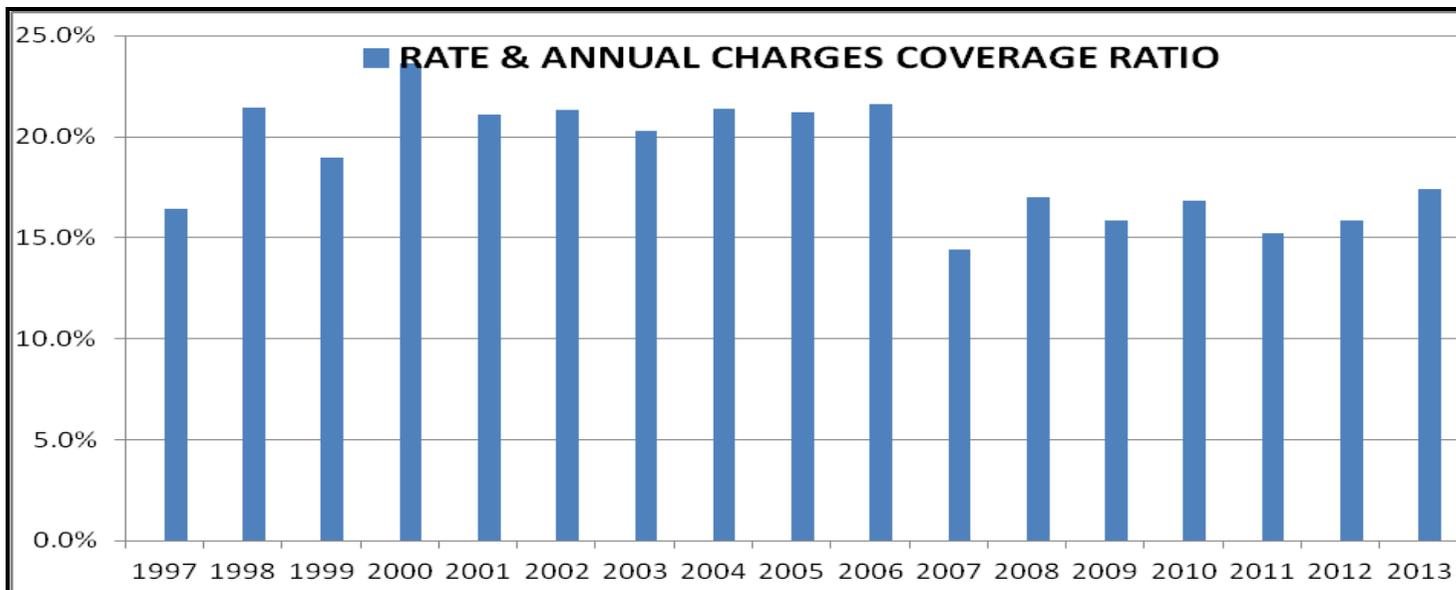


The Debt Service Ratio assesses the impact of loan principal & interest repayments on the discretionary revenue of Council.

Acceptable measures:
 Less than 10% = Green
 Between 10% & 15% = Amber
 Greater than 15% = Red

Two year forward target for Bourke Shire Council: Less than 5.5%

RED Remedial action required
AMBER Must monitor trend closely
GREEN Acceptable

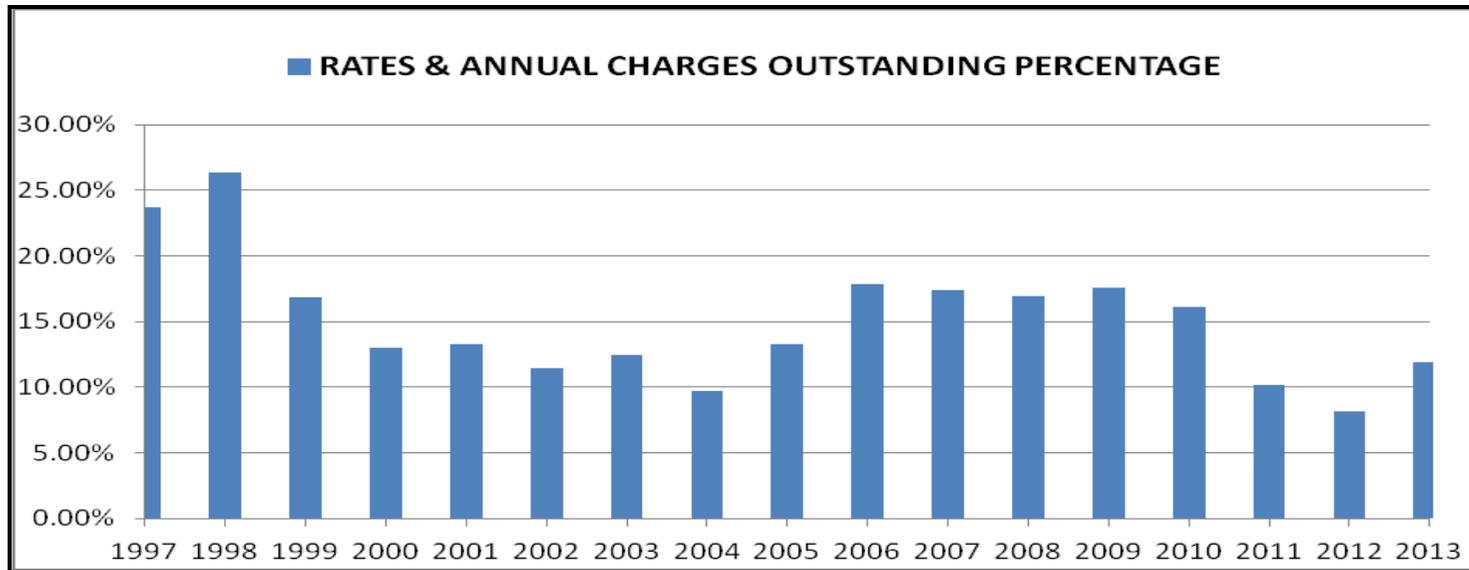


The Rates & Annual Charges Outstanding Percentage assesses the impact of uncollected rates and annual charges on Council's liquidity and the adequacy of recovery efforts.

Acceptable measures:
 Less than 6% = Green
 Between 6% & 9% = Amber
 Greater than 9% = Red

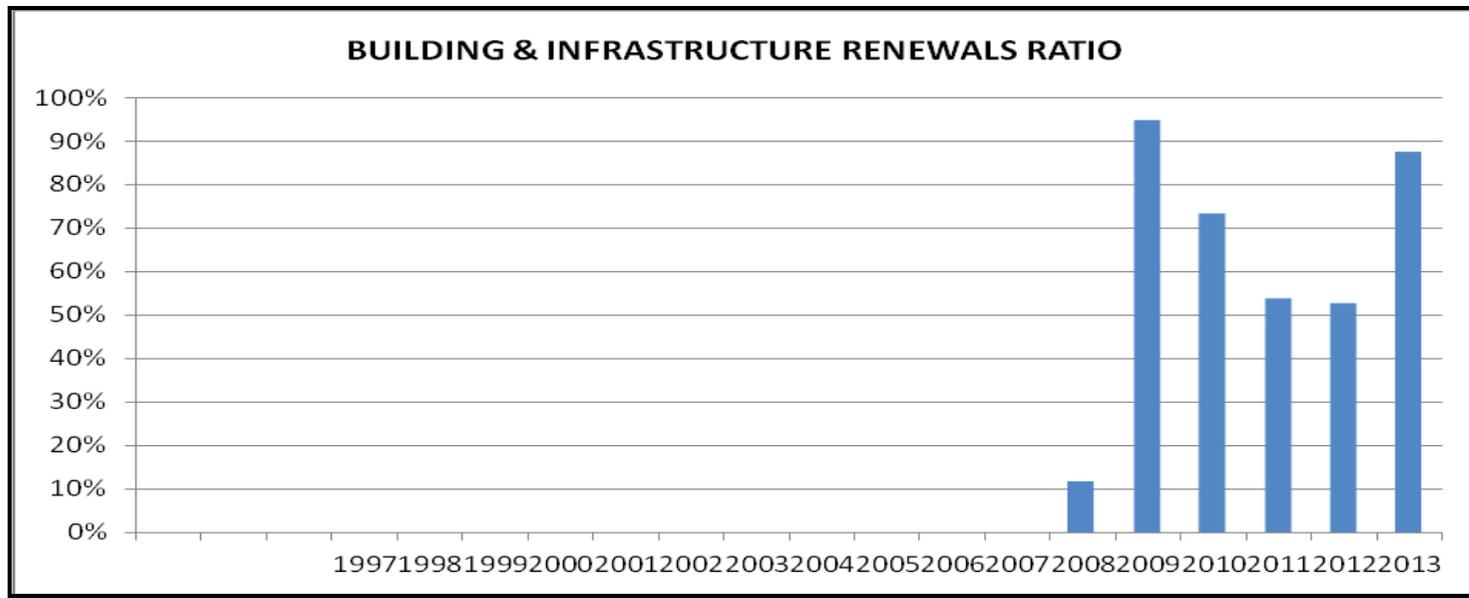
Two year forward target for Bourke Shire Council: Less than 9%

RED Remedial action required
AMBER Must monitor trend closely
GREEN Acceptable



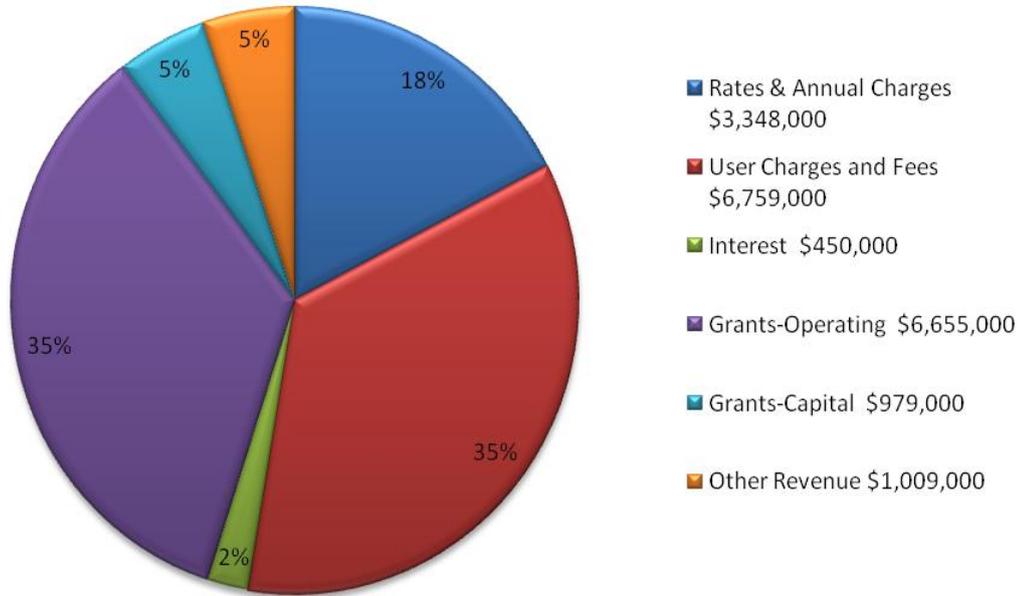
Rates & Annual Charges Outstanding Ratio: The purpose of the Rates & Annual Charges Outstanding Ratio is to assess the impact of uncollected rates and annual charges on Council's liquidity and the adequacy of recovery efforts.

Two year forward target for Bourke Shire Council: Less than 9%

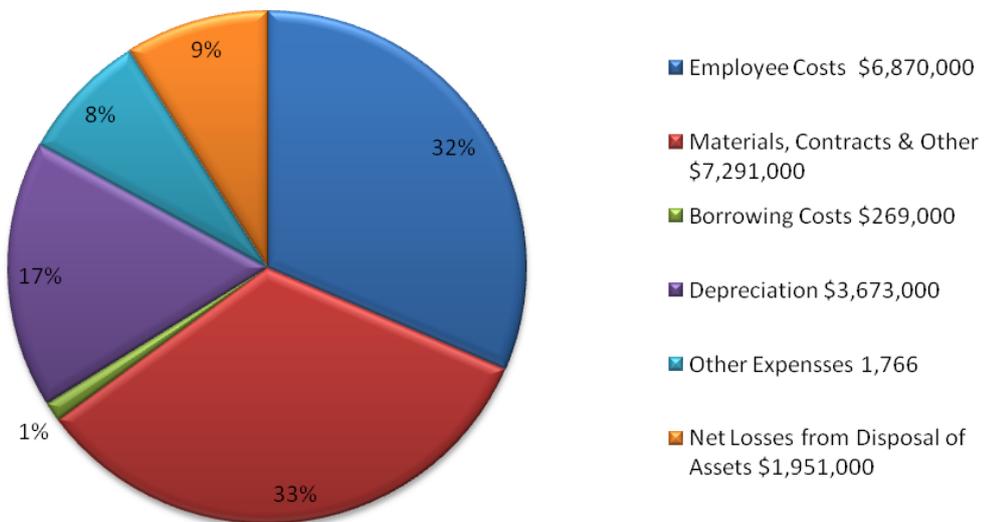


Building & Infrastructure Renewals Ratio: The purpose of the Building & Infrastructure Renewals Ratio is to assess the rate at which these assets are being renewed relative to the rate at which they are depreciating.

2012-13 REVENUE
from CONTINUING OPERATIONS
Total Revenue -\$19,200,000



2012-13 EXPENSES
from CONTINUING OPERATIONS
Total Expenses \$21,820,000



**BOURKE SHIRE COUNCIL'S STRATEGIC DIRECTION FOR THE NEXT
DECADE (2011 - 2021)**

**OUR GUIDING OPERATING PRINCIPLE
(Our Motto)**

Building a strong united community, proud of our past and committed to our future

**WHAT WE WANT OUR FUTURE COMMUNITY TO BE
(Our Vision)**

Bourke Shire will continue to grow as an iconic, outback, regional community and destination, which is united and productive, thriving on practical access to all modern services

**OUR PRIMARY PURPOSE AND FOCUS
(Our Mission)**

To provide leadership and initiative in maintaining and improving services and opportunities that meet the needs of the communities in the Shire, through proactive Councillor representation, responsible asset management and efficient, effective service delivery by staff.

BOURKE SHIRE COUNCIL'S STRATEGIC DIRECTION FOR THE NEXT DECADE (2011 – 2021)

OUR STRATEGIC AREAS OF FOCUS

Growing Prosperity

- Improving the economic prospects for people who live in the region
- Promoting Bourke as a regional service centre
- Developing industry and business
- Promoting population growth

Enhancing Community Wellbeing

- Taking leadership with our community and governments, to improve social issues in the region
- Encouraging and supporting initiatives with local indigenous communities, particularly through the Community Working Parties
- Promoting participation and coordination between the community and Council
- Encouraging and supporting community initiatives to enhance community benefits

Living in the Environment

- Managing the natural and built environment responsibly
- Securing a sustainable water supply for all users
- Considering future generations in all our decision making

Delivering Better Services

- Providing infrastructure to support community needs
- Effectively managing Council's assets
- Planning for future service needs of our communities
- Pursuing continuous improvement in the business of Council

Promoting Leadership

- Advocating the iconic regional benefits of Bourke Shire areas, its people and resources
- Providing strategic leadership for the community
- Being recognised as an employer of choice

OUR PLATFORM FROM WHICH WE OPERATE (Our Strategic Pillars)

Community:	primary stakeholders and service recipients
Councillors:	provide governance, representation and leadership
Staff:	manage assets; deliver services to the community and to Councillors.
Assets:	roads; water and sewerage; plant, equipment and machinery; community facilities and service buildings; staff and finances
Legislation:	meet all legislative requirements

STATEMENT OF VALUES

Everyone who deals with Council or works in Council has the right to expect that Councillors and Council staff will make decisions based on consistent and high ethical standards in line with the principles of Council's Code of Conduct:-

- Openness
- Honesty
- Respect
- Accountability
- Objectivity
- Leadership
- Selflessness
- Integrity

To realise our Strategic Directions for the next 10 years, all Councillors, staff and agents of Council will act in a manner which:-

- Provides sound civic leadership to the communities in Bourke Shire
- Continually strives for improvement in every aspect of Council's activities
- Focuses on our customers
- Protects and enhances the environment for future generations
- Recognises initiative
- Is fair, equitable and does not discriminate.

BOURKE SHIRE COUNCIL STATISTICAL INFORMATION

Population:	2868 (September 2011)	
Area:	43,116 sq km	
Address:	PO Box 21 / 29 Mitchell Street Bourke NSW 2840	
Phone:	02 68308000	
Fax:	02 68723030	
Email:	bourkeshire@bourke.nsw.gov.au	
Web:	www.bourke.nsw.gov.au	
Employees:	86	
Salaries & Wages:	\$4,878,000	
Income:	\$19M	
Rate Income:	\$3.3M	
Rate in Dollar	Town	2.65 cents per dollar
	Village	5.60 cents per dollar
	Rural	.75 cents per dollar
Total Operating Expenditure	\$22M	
Land Valuation:	\$119,813,595	
Rates Assessments:	1,735	

COUNCILLORS

Councillors

Since the September 2012 Council elections, Council has comprised of:-

- Cr Andrew Lewis (Mayor)
- Cr Barry Hollman (Deputy Mayor)
- Cr Cecil Dorrington
- Cr Jack Bennett
- Cr Lachlan Ford
- Cr Robert Stutsel
- Cr Sally Davis
- Cr Sarah Brown
- Cr Stuart Johnston
- Cr Victor Bartley

Function of Councillors

Collectively, Councillors exercise the following functions:-

- To develop and monitor the implementation of strategic plans and budgets
- To determine and monitor the application of policies, plans and programs
- The efficient and effective provision of services and facilities
- The efficient and effective management of assets
- To facilitate and encourage the planning and development of the Shire in the best interests of the communities
- To appoint and monitor the performance of the General Manager
- To determine and review Council's resource allocation and expenditure activities
- To monitor the manner in which services are provided by Council.

Public Forum

Members of the public can make representation to Council at the Public Forum which is held at 10.00am at each Ordinary Meeting of Council. Anyone wishing to take the opportunity is asked to contact Council's Executive Assistant on 68308000 and advise of their intention, giving as much notice as possible to Council. Ordinary Meetings of Council are normally held on the 4th Monday of the month. Any changes to this schedule are advertised in the Western Herald and broadcast on Radio Station 2WEB will be advertised on Council's website.

Committees

Council has a variety of Committees as follows:

- Corporate Planning
- Roads and Plant Committee
- Town and Villages Committee
- Tourism and Economic Development Committee
- Traffic Committee

A list of members on each committee is available from Council's Office if required.

COUNCIL STAFFING STRUCTURE

GENERAL MANAGER ROSS EARL	MANAGEMENT TEAM	
	MANAGER OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES Dwayne Willoughby	
	Environmental Support Officer	Senior Weeds Officer
	Admin Officer Trainee (PT) (Vacant)	Waste Depot Operator
	Environmental Operators x 2	Animal Control Operator
	Environmental & Development Officer	Cemetery Operator
	Ranger (Vacant)	
	MANAGER OF ROADS Mark Gordon	
	Engineering Support Officer	Maintenance Relief Operators x 3
	Roads Maintenance x 8	Transport Services x 5
	Bitumen Maintenance x 3	Roads Assistant
	Workshop x 4 Apprentice x 1	Roads Inspector (RTA SIMC)
	Works Supervisor	Depot/Store/Fleet Coordinator
	MANAGER OF WORKS Peter Brown	
	Town Services x 7	Building Maintenance X 2 Apprentice Building Maintenance X 1
	Services Technical Officer x 1	Parks & Gardens x 4
	Water & Wastewater Services x 7	
	MANAGER OF TOURISM & DEVELOPMENT Phil Johnston	
	Coordinator Back O' Bourke Exhibition Centre	
	Captain x 1	Administration Assistant x 1
	Deckhand x 1 Deckhand Casual x 5	Retail Assistant (vacant)
	General Hand x 1	
	VIC Guides Casual x 5	Volunteers
	MANAGER OF CORPORATE SERVICES Leonie Brown	
	Senior Finance Officer	Executive Assistant
	Human Resource Officer/Payroll	IT/GIS Officer x 1 (vacant) IT Trainee x 1
	Rates & Water Billing Officer	Records Coordinator/Customer Service Officer x 1
	Finance Officer /Creditors/Payroll	Customer Service Officer
	R&MS Officer	Admin/Finance Trainee x 1 (Vacant)
	Community & Governance Officer	Library Manager x 1
	WHS/Risk Inspection Officer	Library Assistants x 2 (PPT)
	Cleaner	

STATUTORY INFORMATION

Audited Financial Reports LGA s428 (2)(a)

Bourke Shire Council has maintained its financial position for the 2012/2013 financial year. Council sought an extension to lodge the Financial Statements from the Division of Local Government, the extension was approved. The extension was requested due to an extensive review of Council's assets. The statements now reflect more accurate information in relation to assets and depreciation.

Spencer Steer Chartered Accountants audit Councils Financial records. A full copy of the Financial Statements are included as an appendix to this report or are available for viewing from Council's Office, Library or on the Webpage www.bourke.nsw.gov.au

Performance against Plan LGA s428 (2)(b)

Refer to "Principal Activity Section" within this Annual Report.

Condition of Public Works

LGA s428 (2)(d)

The Audited Financial Reports (Special Schedule No7, Condition of Public Works), contains the relevant information and is included as an appendix to this report.

Legal Proceedings

LGA s428 (2)(e) REG cl 217(1)(a3)

Rates and Charges

Council retains a debt recovery service to assist in the recovery of outstanding rates and charges. All charges incurred in using the service are recovered as a charge against the ratepayers.

Legal proceedings incurred by Council during this reporting period.

Legal Costs:

Organisation	Status cl 217(1)(a3)	Amount cl 217(1)(a3)
Marsdens Law Group (Rateability of Land)	Ongoing	\$4,764.09
Donovan Oats Hanaford (Renewal Library Lease)	Completed	\$1,123.10
Booth Brown Samuels and Olney (Property sales)	Completed	\$2,525.60
Local Government and Shire Association (Legal Assistance Mid Western Regional Council)	Completed	\$1,884.51
Total	Total	\$10,297.30

Councillor Expenses and Provision of Facilities

LGA s428 (2)(f) & REG 217 (1)(1a)

Councils Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities to Mayors and Councillors Policy allows for the payment of expenses incurred by, and the provision of facilities to the Councillors in relation to their roles as elected persons and members of the governing body of the Council. The policy is included as an appendix to this document.

Councillors Expenditure

Sec 428 2 (f), cl 217 (1)(a1)

Council expended \$102,189.84 on Mayoral fees and Councillor Fees during 2012/13

The distribution was as follows:

Mayoral Fees	\$22,309.92
Councillors Fees	\$79,879.92

Total amounts of money expended during the year on the provision of facilities for use by Councillors and the payment of Councillor's expenses was \$19,767.77 The breakup of this expenditure is as follows:

Provision of dedicated office equipment to Councillors - cl217(1)(a1)(i)	\$134.97
Telephone calls made by Councillors - cl217(1)(a1)(ii)	Nil
Attendance of Councillors at Conferences and seminars - cl217(1)(a1)(iii)	\$19,632.80
Training of Councillors and provision of skills development - cl217(1)(a1)(iv)	Nil
Interstate visits by Councillors, including transport, accommodation and other out of pocket expenses - cl217(1)(a1)(v)	Nil
Overseas visits by Councillors, including transport, accommodation and other out of pocket expenses - cl217(1)(a1)(vi)	Nil
Expenses of any spouse, partner or other person who accompanied a Councillor - cl217(1)(a1)(vii)	Nil
Expenses involved in the provision of care for a child or an immediate family member of a Councillor - cl217(1)(a1)(viii)	Nil

Overseas Visits

REG cl 217 (1)(a)

Councillors and staff were not involved in overseas travel on behalf of Council in 2012/13

Senior Staff

LGA s428 (2)(g), Sec 332 REG cl 217 (1)(c)

The General Manager is the only designated Senior Staff member as prescribed by Section 332 of the Act as at 30th June 2013. Council also has a flat structure that includes five (5) Management Staff. The term 'Management' is used within Council and by the Councillors to describe the Management Executive, including the General Manager.

Senior Staff Remuneration

REG cl 217 (1)(b)

During 2012/13 the total remuneration package of the General Manager was \$175,680.14. This figure includes salary paid, fringe benefit tax expenses, private use of a Council motor vehicle, employer's superannuation contribution and housing.

Contracts Awarded

REG cl 217 (2) (a)

The following contracts/tenders for \$150,000.00 or more were awarded during the year:

Name of Contractor cl 217(1)(a2)	Nature of Good or Services Provided cl 217(1)(a2)	Total amount payable under the contract cl 217(1)(a2)
Fulton Hogan Industries	Road Works	\$1,634,341.87
A Ryan	Road Works	\$385,886.25
Caltex	Fuel Purchase	\$781,495.03
B Bowden Transport	Road Works	\$171,990.50
Gilgandra Shire Council	Road Works	\$856,372.21
NAK Graders	Road Works	\$203,251.25
Karl McDonald Excavations	Road Works	\$328,506.25
Dubbo City Toyota	Motor Vehicle Purchase	\$179,294.78
Donnelly Mining and Civil	Contract Works Engineering	\$161,833.90
Boral Resources	Aggregate	\$294,698.01
McDonald Johnston	Plant purchase	\$359,569.27
Crossroad Tyres	Tyre Purchases	\$186,106.32
BHC Plumbing Contractors	Pumping Contract	\$176,506.80
Murray Constructions	Bridge Building	\$503,080.00
Country Powerlines	Installation of Powerlines	\$154,259.60
Jeff Page Earthmoving	Gravel Crushing	\$237,000.00
Downer Infrastructure	Emulsion	\$201,366.88
Westrac Equipment	Plant purchase and parts	\$413,482.43

Section 67 Work on Private Land LGA s67(3) cl 217(1)(a4)

No resolutions under section 67 concerning work carried out on private land were made and no works of this nature were carried out during 2012/13.

Contributions and Donations (S.356) REG 217 cl(1)(a5)

The total amount contributed or otherwise granted by Council under Section 356 of the Local Government Act, 1993 was \$48,145.87

Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Programs cl 217 (1)(a9)

LGA s428 (2)(n)

Council has a comprehensive EEO Management Plan, with some of the objectives from the plan are noted below:-

- To ensure that management and all employees understand EEO and Anti-Discrimination principles and their responsibilities in relation to them, and the EEO and Anti-Discrimination Management Plan, and its implementation

- To ensure the active participation of all employees and relevant unions in decision making about the EEO and Anti-Discrimination Management Plan and its implementation
- To review recruitment policies and practices to ensure they conform with EEO and Anti-Discrimination principles and to demonstrate fair practice. It will also provide opportunity for increased representation of EEO and Anti-Discrimination target groups in the various areas of Council employment
- To ensure that the Selection Committee members have sufficient skills and are fully aware of, and implement the principles of EEO and Anti-Discrimination
- To ensure that the various Council workplaces and facilities are accessible to people with physical disabilities
- To give the opportunity for people with a physical disability to gain a place in Council's workforce
- To ensure that appointment, promotion and transfer policies and practices conform with EEO and Anti-Discrimination principles and to demonstrate fair practice
- To increase the representation of women and other minority groups, in which they are currently under represented in Council
- To implement and maintain an accessible and effective grievance procedure

External Bodies Exercising Council Functions cl 217(1)(a6)

No external bodies exercised functions delegated by Council during this period.

Companies in Which Council has an Interest cl 217 (1)(a7)

Council did not hold a controlling interest in any company during this financial reporting period.

Partnership, Cooperatives and Joint Ventures cl 217 (1)(a8)

Partnerships, Cooperatives and Joint Ventures have included the following:-

- Australian Airports Association
- Barwon Darling Rural Fire Service (Brewarrina and Bourke Shires)
- Barwon Darling Water
- Inland Tourism Organisation
- Kamilaroi Highway Committee
- Lower Macquarie Water Utilities Alliance
- Murray Darling Association
- Orana Regional Organisation of Councils (OROC)
- Outback Arts
- Regional Development Australia – Orana Region
- Shires Association of NSW (Local Government NSW)
- Western Division Councils of NSW

Rates & Charges Written Off LGA s428 (a) and REG cl(132) the following amounts of Rates & Charges were written off during the period

Pensioner Concessions	\$	Written Off \$
General Rate - Pensioner	29,869.73	
Water – Pensioner	10,873.65	
Sewer - Pensioner	9,211.14	
Sub Total Gross Pensioner Concessions	49,954.52	
State Subsidy Refund to Council	27,474.99	
Net Loss to Council for Pensioner Rebate Concessions		22,479.53

General Rates & Charges		5,253.97
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Total Rates & Charges Write Off		27,733.50
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It should be noted that Council received a subsidy payment from the Division of Local Government for 55% of the pensioner write offs for the year. In 2012/13 the subsidy amounted to \$27,494.99.

Stormwater Management

LGA 428 (2) and REG cl 217(1)(e)

- Maintained Stormwater Infrastructure
- Major repairs to flood damaged river outlet
- Effective Kerb and Gutter replacement

Council has previously undertaken loan funded works in relation to the improvement to stormwater infrastructure and part of the stormwater revenue is applied to loan repayments.

Council was successful in its application under the Local Infrastructure Renewal Scheme (LIRS) and will have access to subsidised interest payments on loans to be raised and the funds utilised to undertake further stormwater remediation works.

Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009

Council received one request in 2012/13.

STATISTICAL INFORMATION ABOUT ACCESS APPLICATIONS (SCHEDULE 2)

	Access granted in full	Access granted in part	Access refused in full	Information not held	Information already available	Refuse to deal with application	Refuse to confirm/deny whether information is held	Application withdrawn
Media	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Members of Parliament	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Private Sector business	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Not for profit organisations or community groups	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Members of the public (application by legal representative)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Members of the public (other)	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

*More than one decision can be made in respect of a particular access application. If so, a recording must be made in relation to each such decision. This also applies to Table B.

	Access granted in full	Access granted in part	Access refused in full	Information not held	Information already available	Refuse to deal with application	Refuse to confirm/deny whether information is held	Application withdrawn
Personal Information applications*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Access applications (other than personal information applications)	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Access applications that are partly personal information applications and partly others	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

*A personal information application is an access application for personal information (as defined in clause 4 of Schedule to the Act) about the applicant (the applicant being an individual).

Table C: Invalid applications	
Reason for Invalidity	No of applications
Application does not comply with formal requirements (section 41 of the Act)	0
Application is for excluded information of the agency (section 43 of the Act)	0
Application contravenes restraint order (section 110 of the Act)	0
Total number of invalid applications received	0
Invalid applications that subsequently became valid applications	0

Table D: Conclusive presumption of overriding public interest against disclosure: matters listed in Schedule 1 to Act	
	Number of times consideration used*
Overriding secrecy laws	0
Cabinet Information	0
Executive Council Information	0
Contempt	0
Legal professional privilege	0
Excluded information	0
Documents affecting law enforcement and public safety	0
Transport safety	0
Adoption	0
Care and protection of children	0
Ministerial code of conduct	0
Aboriginal and environmental heritage	0

*More than one public interest consideration may apply in relation to a particular access application and, if so, each such consideration is to be recorded (but only once per application). This also applies in relation to Table E.

Table E: Other public interest considerations against disclosure: matters listed in table to Section 14 of Act	
	Number of occasions when application not successful
Responsible and effective government	0
Law enforcement and security	0
Individual rights, judicial processes and natural justice	0
Business interest of agencies and other persons	0
Environment, culture, economy and general matters	0
Secrecy provisions	0
Exempt documents under interstate Freedom of Information	0

Table F: Timeliness	
	Number of applications
Decided within the statutory timeframe (20 days plus any extensions)	0
Decided after 35 days (by agreement with application)	1
Not decided within time (deemed refusal)	0
Total	1

Table G: Number of applications reviewed under Part 5 of the Act (by type of review and outcome)			
	Decision Varied	Decision upheld	Total
Internal review	0	0	0
Review by Information Commissioner*	0	0	0
Internal review following recommendation under section 93 of Act	0	0	0
Review by ADT	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0

*The Information Commissioner does not have the authority to vary decisions, but can make recommendations to the original decision-maker. The data in this case indicates that a recommendation to vary or uphold the original decision has been made by the Information Commissioner.

Table H: Applications for review under part 5 of the Act (by type of applicant)	
	Number of applications for review
Applications by access applicants	0
Applications by persons to whom information the subject of access application relates (see section 54 of the Act)	0

Privacy & Personal Information Protection Act 1998

No reviews were conducted by, or on behalf of Council under Part 5 of the PPIP Act 1998.

ICAC Statistics

Council had no formal request from ICAC, in the reporting year.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

OVERVIEW

Performance in Terms of Principal Activities

LGA s428 (2)(b)

In accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993, reports have been submitted to Council on a quarterly basis as to the extent to which the performance targets set by the 2012/2013 Operational Plan have been achieved during the year.

Governance

To ensure the sound management of Council and the promotion of a favourable image of Council and its staff

Strategies

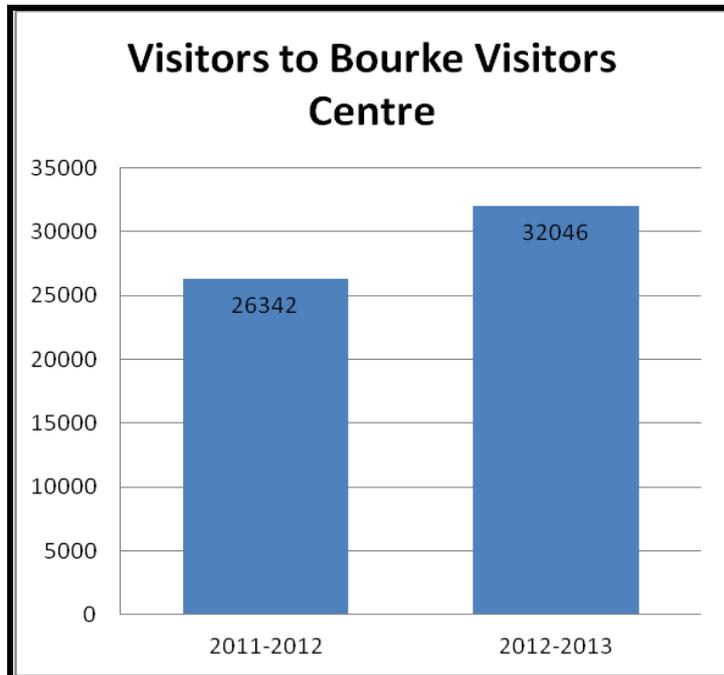
- Ensure Council's organisational structure is effective
- Ensure policies are relevant and meet objectives
- Ensure the objectives and targets identified in the Management Plan are met
- Establish Bourke Shire Council's Strategic Directions for the next decade
- Establish a Community Integrated Planning & Reporting Strategic planning process

Progress

- Policies are being methodically reviewed, amended or developed as identified
- Management Plan reviewed quarterly
- Strategic Directions document reviewed, endorsed and publicised

TOURISM & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Visitation to the Tourist Centre has continued to rise over this financial year with the Exhibition Centre now consolidated as the Bourke Visitor Information Centre. The growth in visitor numbers is also reflected in increased spending throughout the town with many local businesses now reliant on the market over the winter months. The growth over the two financial years is shown below.



In 2012-2013 we also welcomed a new element to the Bourke Visitor experience with Luke Thomas's Outback Show beginning in 2013. The Outback Show gives visitors a real demonstration of what working with stock was like in times past and the public have enjoyed seeing the bullocks, horses, dogs and camels in Luke's show.

The Outback Show also highlighted the importance of packaging for our visitor experience and that will be further enhanced in the years to come.



The PV Jandra was again popular with Visitors with over 7,000 enjoying the cruise throughout the financial year. The Jandra was dry docked for inspection early in 2013 and successfully passed its inspection before resuming cruising in April.

Month	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
January	Not Cruising				
February	Not Cruising	25	Not Cruising	Not Cruising	Not Cruising
March	Not Cruising	213	Not Cruising	Not Cruising	Not Cruising
April	Not Cruising	Not Cruising	1008	519	442
May	Not Cruising	1325	932	1035	894
June	949	1459	1241	1003	984
July	1532	1578	1386	1238	1300
August	1174	1165	1186	640	1194
September	1212	1429	1411	1459	
October	788	188	1085	760	
November	233	Not Cruising	Not Cruising	423	
December	42	Not Cruising	Not Cruising	180	
Total	5930	7382	8249	7257	



The Exhibition Centre has also enjoyed a good year and remains the hub for the visitor experience in Bourke. Throughout the year new displays were installed in buildings 2 and 3 and new landscaping was added to the Café walk. The gardens of the Exhibition Centre continue to get excellent comments and is one element of the experience that will continue to improve.



The formation of a new Business Group in 2013 has been an excellent move for the future economic development of the area. This Group has not met over the past 5 years or so and are now working on projects such as main street beautification and targeted promotions and the increased network will lead to economic improvements.

In agriculture the irrigation industry continued to be strong with excellent river flows and good production reported. A dry first half of 2013 does indicate some hard times ahead again for the grazing industry and we hope that the dry spell does break.

Rebuilding of Government owned housing has meant a busy time for local tradesman along with construction of the new Women's refuge in town and the starting of work on the new satellite transmission station out at the new industrial area on Peter Bryant Way.

Overall a very positive year in both the tourism and development sector.

CORPORATE SERVICES SECTION

ADMINISTRATION

To provide effective administration support services to the Council, Mayor, General Manager and Departments and to fulfil Council's broad range of services and activities.

Australia Day Celebrations

Australia Day was held on 26th January 2013 at the Wal Mitchell Wharf Precinct, with Mary-Ruth Mendel representing as the Australia Day Ambassador. A breakfast was held in conjunction with the Rotary Club and the recipients of the 2013 Australia Day Awards were as follows:-

- Young Sportsperson of the Year – James Gaffney
- Community Service Through Employment – Michael Keenan
- Young Citizen of the Year – Alyssa Parnaby
- Citizen of the Year – The Late Wayne O'Mally



Seniors Week

Seniors Week celebrations were held from Sunday, 17th March – Sunday, 24th March 2013 and what a week it was with so many activities planned and was enjoyed immensely by the seniors of our community, they are looking forward to next year's activities. The weeks activities included BBQ Luncheons, live music by Mark Gordon at Kidmans Camp, morning tea at Bourke Public School with a singing performance by the School Choir, trivia day at Bourke High School Multi Purpose Centre with morning tea provided by the Bourke Garden Club and Bourke High School hospitality class, Day-care activities, live music and lunch at the Bowling Club. Over 140 seniors attended the week from Bourke and surrounding areas.



ANZAC Day/Remembrance Day

Council takes part every year in the ANZAC Day March and Remembrance Day at Bourke by placing a wreath at the Cenotaph in memory of the fallen.



Bourke Public Library

Circulation Statistics

Audio Visual	2527
Adult Fiction	3879
Non-Fiction	1642
Junior Fiction	2947
Magazines	763
Interlibrary Loans	40
Total Issues	11798

Other Statistical Information:

New Members	162
Internet/Word Processing	1591
Wireless Tickets	64

2012 Circulations Figures

Audio Visual	3577
Adult Fiction	4853
Non-Fiction	1824
Junior Fiction	2901
Magazines	764
Interlibrary Loans	45
Total Issues	13964

2012 Other Statistical Information:

New Members	152
Internet/Word Processing	1630
Wireless Tickets	N/A

Highlights for the Year

Building

The library was closed for a week during August for painting. We were able to carry out a big cleanup of the library prior to the painting.

The library received a grant from the State Library under the "Revitalising Libraries" program. Part of this funding was used for shelving and furnishings to reorganise some areas of the library. The junior non-fiction section has now been moved into the junior section of the library, near the junior fiction. It had previously been with the adult non-fiction. This move has resulted in a significant increase in usage of this collection.

Children's Services

Our children's services have again been a great success this year, with new staff member Emma doing a fantastic job with the storytime and craft activities.

During July, the children's area was decorated for the Olympic Games, and children enjoyed a range of craft activities including making Australia magnets and medals. The library was

particularly busy during the school holidays, with many children coming in to read, colour in, play with the toys and games and use the internet.

Children's Book Week was celebrated during August. The library ran a number of competitions and had a good response. Prizes were awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place-getters in 2 age groups. Craft and storytime was themed around Book Week, with the theme "Champions Read". We had 8 children attend, and some fantastic masks and Viking shields were made. Our Book Week Children's Party was held in September. Prizes for the Book Week competitions were given out, and there was a treasure hunt, with all kids receiving a party bag. We had 15 children attending, with 6 dressed up in costume. The best-dressed boy and girl both won a prize, and all children dressed up received a book. The event was a great success.

Child Care and Family Day Care visited the library this month for our first Baby Rhyme Time session. We had 18 babies and toddlers attending, singing action songs and playing musical instruments. This was a very successful program, and will be a regular session in future.

We had a number of school visits throughout the year, including St Ignatius and Enngonia schools.

We had 19 children sign up for the Summer Reading Club, which was run-over the School Holiday period beginning end of December 2012 through to February 2013. Craft and Story time in January focused on the theme of Fairy Tales, in line with the theme of the Summer Reading Club. We had 9 children attending, which was a great turnout.

Programs and Services

In August, Centacare's, Young Carer's groups attended the library and participated in a treasure hunt, learning about different areas of the library. The children also had a craft session where they made masks. There were 16 children in the group.

December 2012 saw the launch of our eBooks. Customers registering during the week of the launch went into the draw for an eBook Reader, kindly donated by Helen Keane of the Bourke Post Office. Congratulations to Pat Mann in being the winner.

In December, the library installed wireless internet access through, NSW.net, a program of the State Library of NSW.

In June, we had a display for Drug Action Week, including a trivia quiz with the prize of a USB stick.

Grants

In June we launched the digitisation of the Western Herald on Trove. Many of the papers have already been uploaded, with some gaps to be filled in as more master microfilms are obtained from a different source. The launch was very well attended, with around 40 people filling the library. Jonathan Roe spoke on behalf of the Western Herald, and the papers were then officially launched by Vera Gray, representing the Carmichael family. The papers have been proving extremely popular with the community, and we have had much positive feedback.

ROADS SECTION OF ENGINEERING

Regional Road Block Grant

Budget: \$2,212,437.75

Sealed Road – 109.59 km **Unsealed Road** – 461.02 km

Roads under Regional Road Block grant: MR 68 Sth Bourke – Tilpa, MR 407 Louth – Cobar, MR 405 Bourke – Wanaaring & MR 404 Bourke – Hungerford.

Expenditure - General Maintenance on these roads: (\$861,434.72) this includes grading, clearing of table drains, grid maintenance, signage, bitumen patching, reformation, clearing mitre drains.

Expenditure - Reseals: (\$428,541.94)

As part of Council's ten year plan for reseals we sealed 11 km on MR 405 and added 1.5km on MR 404 to the new Coonbilly Bridge Approaches.

Expenditure - Bridge & Major Culvert Maintenance: (\$103,608.23)

No major repairs on bridges or culverts, with only minor repairs and inspections completed.

Deadmans Creek Bridge Construction (MR 68Sth Bourke - Wilcannia)

Expenditure: (\$600,000)

This program was completed in September 2013 with the bridge construction completed by Murray Constructions of Deniliquin. Funding was provided under the Regional Road Repair program \$300,000.00 and Council's contribution of \$144,000 from the supplementary component and \$156,000.00 from the Roads Component of the Regional Road Block Grant.





Construction of Deadmans Creek Bridge



Deadmans Creek Bridge Completed

Storm Damage Regional Roads

Council received funding to complete storm damage repairs on its Regional Roads as a result of the February 2012 events, \$62,437.75 not spent in 2011/12 was carried over into the 2012/2013 financial year.

Rural Local Roads

Budget: \$848,037.00

Sealed: 11.29 km

Listed Roads: 48

Unsealed: 1,834.96

Expenditure: \$848,037.00

These figures provide for routine maintenance for, grading, signs, gravel resheeting, reseals and patching, grid and culvert repairs etc.

Storm Damage Local Roads

Council received a further \$275,571.67 as result of the February 2012 storm event. This was carried over into the 2012/2013 financial year.

Roads to Recovery

Budget: \$845,889.40

Expenditure: \$537,410.49

RLR 44 Janina Culvert

Expenditure: \$24,817.88

Installation of new six cell culverts.



Janina Culvert

RLR 10 Toorale Road

Expenditure: \$52,397.37

Formation grade from Louth to the Wanaaring Road.

RLR 45 Tarcoon Road

Expenditure: \$50,131.17

Full formation grade completed and resheeting of all causeways and floodways.

RLR 10 Tallyawalka over Tara Crossing Bridge

Expenditure: \$20,978.16

Installation of new approaching guard rail completed.

RLR 26 Mascot Road

Expenditure: \$37,696.46

Full formation grade completed.

RLR 23 Willara Road

Expenditure: \$55,439.75

Reconstruction of both Cuttaburra floodways completed.

Becker St Louth

Expenditure: \$18,027.43

Reformation and gravel resheeting of road completed.

Hughes Street Louth

Expenditure: \$16,522.27

Reformation and gravel resheeting of road completed.

Patrick Street Louth

Expenditure: \$8,833.66

Reformation and gravel resheeting of road completed.

MR 404 The Dowling Track

Expenditure: \$11,117.80

Construction of a new concrete floodway in progress. This project will be completed in the 2013/2014 financial year.

RLR 49 West Culgoa Road

Expenditure: \$11,981.84

Approach rail installed to the approaches of Whiskey Creek Bridge.

RLR 29 Emaroo Road

Expenditure: \$20,974.41

Full formation grade in progress due to be completed in the 2013/2014 financial year.

Town Streets Reseals & Stabilisation

Expenditure: \$133,488.56

Reseals were completed in Morven Street, Oxley Street, Adelaide Street, Mitchell Street,

Hope Street Lime Stabilisation

Expenditure: \$49,985.56

Lime Stabilisation and Primer Seal was completed in Hope Street.

High Street Bourke

Expenditure: \$36,727.00

Sealing of High Street completed.

State Roads

Sealed Road: 357 km

Unsealed: Nil

RMCC Routine Budget: \$595,000.00

Expenditure: \$622,717.44

Routine activities carried out were pot hole patching, edge patching, sign & guide post maintenance, correct surface shape, shoulder grading, rest areas and rubbish removal, ground vegetation control, repair wearing surface, grid repairs and restoration of stock pile sites.

The over expenditure was paid by RMS under the RMCC contract.

RMCC Works Orders

Funding Received: Approximately \$4,760,689.59



Bogan Bridge Approaches SH 29 Kamilaroi Highway

Council received approximately \$4,760,689.59 in works orders for the financial year including accruals for works completed during the months of July and August.

Major works included 23.190 km of resealing, 4.945 km of shoulder widening on Kamilaroi Highway, 3.581km of rehabilitation and widening at Enngonia on the Mitchell Highway, heavy patching, completion of the Bogan River Bridge approaches on the Kamilaroi Highway.



Bogan Bridge Opening 20th December 2012



Enngonia Rehabilitation and Widening

Plant M&R

Budget: \$1,650,000.00

Expenditure: \$1,926,627.80

Council experienced many major breakdowns this financial year which contributed towards the over expenditure and the Plant Replacement Programme has been amended to replace some of the items involved.

Small Plant Replacement Maintenance & Repair

Budget: \$35,000

Expenditure: \$36,389.17

Light Plant Replacement 2012/2013

Budget: \$160,000.00

Expenditure: \$185,194.00

Heavy Plant Replacement 2012/2013

Budget: \$590,000.00

Expenditure: \$564,776.00

Garbage Truck	\$266,316.00
Isuzu 4x4 Crew Cab Truck	\$52,849.00
Cat 950 Loader	\$199,173.00
Toro Zero Turn Mower	\$24,047.00
Mahindra Tractor Slasher	\$22,391.300
Total	\$564,776.00



New Cat Loader



New Garbage Compactor Truck



New Isuzu 4x4 Crew Truck



New Toro Mower

WATER AND WASTEWATER SECTION OF ENGINEERING

To provide a cost effective Water and Wastewater Service that meets customer service standards and complies with Health and Environmental Regulations

Strategy

- Continue membership of the Lower Macquarie Water Utilities Association
- Drought proof Bourke and North Bourke town water supplies by:-
 1. the installation of pipeline, from new bore site situated 13kms from North Bourke on the Fords Bridge Road. (Walkden's Bore). Six kilometres of pipe has been installed, a further \$2,450,000 is needed to complete the project, Federal funding has been applied for to treat bore water and deliver to the potable supply at all times to keep the bore active.
 2. Raise Bourke Weir one (1) meter.
 3. Build a second weir above the current Bourke weir to help in the regulation of the existing weir pool.
- Meet Australian Drinking Water Guidelines (ADWG) standards where possible and practical
- Meet best practice guidelines set out by NSW Office of Water
- Explore cost saving measures to reduce Council expenditure
- Reduce water demand with implementation of water wise education activities
- Upgrade Councils ageing Water and Sewerage Infrastructure
- Secure village water supplies and increase storage capacity



Drought –Bourke Weir - 5140ML- 42km Long when full

Progress -100% Government funding of \$550,000 was approved for the bore drilling and ancillary works

- Artesian bore has been drilled
- 6kms of Pipeline has been installed form the Walkden's Bore end with design for remainder also completed
- Continue to investigate cost effective methods to meet EPA licence standards
- Maintain a sewerage manhole lid replacement program
- Continue to replace all troublesome sewerage boundary traps

- Comply with key customer service performance requirements
- Renewal of Warraweena pumping station complete



Bourke Weir

- Best practice is implemented and the following are nearing completion:-
 - IWCM (Integrated Water Cycle Management)
 - DMP (Demand Management Plan)
 - SBP (Strategic Business Plans)
 - DMP (Drought Management Plan)
 - DWQMP (Drinking Water Quality Management Plan)
 - LTWP (Liquid Trade Waste Policy) - partially completed
- Bourke Shire Council has participated in the Save Water Program and are constantly updated with save water ideas and techniques
- Bourke Shire Council also are part of the Water Wise Programs with opportunities for funding and water saving initiatives
- A structural investigation and scope of works program is currently being completed on how to best repair or replace Council's main sewerage pumping station (Mertin Street)

Asset Improvement/ Replacement

- Warraweena Street well refurbishment has been completed
- Raw water supply valve system being upgraded to monitor output
- New Magflow installed at Becker street pumping station
- New headwork's have been installed at the North Bourke raw water pumping station

TOWN SERVICES SECTION OF ENGINEERING

Town Streets and Footpaths

- Resealing of various Town Streets under the R2R (Roads to Recovery) Program completed
- Programmed and routine repairs and maintenance on streets, footpaths and lanes completed
- Traffic facility improvement completed at Intersection of Mitchell and Tarcoon Streets
- Installation of back lane gates in line with adopted plan
- School signage replacement through Town
- Installation of vandal resistant bins in Oxley Street
- Tree Replacement Plan introduced

Parks, Gardens and Sporting Grounds

- Programmed and routine repairs and maintenance completed



Council Buildings and Structures

- Repair work at swimming pool kiosk
- Programmed and routine repairs and maintenance completed to Council properties

Airport

- Programmed and routine repairs and maintenance on Bourke Airport
- Audit of Bourke Airport carried out by CASA with an favourable report
- Additional Airport Reporting Officers (ARO's) trained and existing ARO's attended refresher course
- Executed Emergency Management Plan with aircraft incident in conjunction with SES
- Grinding off ridges in runway as suggested by Airport Inspector
- Ongoing lobbying for the reintroduction of a passenger service for Bourke



Village Amenities

- Programmed and routine repairs and maintenance completed
- Tractor provided for each village for mowing and maintenance

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORT FOR 2012/13 ANNUAL REPORT

STATUTORY INFORMATION

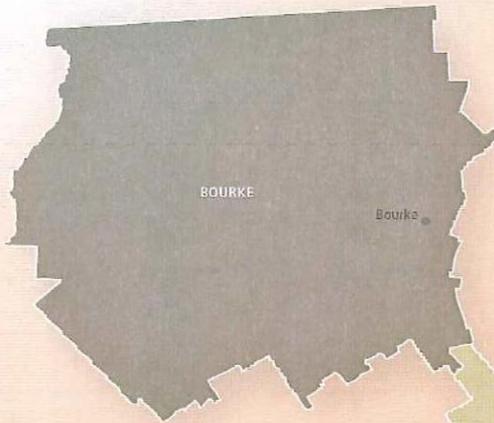
STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT REPORT S 428A(1)

With Changes to the reporting requirements under the Act, Bourke Shire Council participated in producing a regional snapshot report of the State of the Environment in a joint venture coordinated by the Central Catchment Management Authority. This report covered the local government areas of Bourke, Coonamble, Gilgandra, Warren, Narromine, Mid-Western, Dubbo, Lachlan, Warrumbungle, Blayney, Oberon, Cabonne, Bathurst, Wellington, Weddin and Orange. A copy of this report can be obtained by contacting Council's Office on 02 68308000, or from Council's website, www.bourke.nsw.gov.au.

Council participated in the joint report in the hope that a collaborative approach to what are mostly region wide issues might assist in making the reports a more useful tool in assisting Council to measure and act against the community impacts on the environment.



State of the Environment Snapshot 2012-13



A State of the Environment (SoE) Report is an important management tool which aims to provide the community and Local Council with information on the condition of the environment in the local area to assist in decision-making.

Since 2007, the Councils of the Greater Central West Region of NSW (see map) have joined to produce Regional SoE Reports as part of Council reporting requirements.

Recent changes to NSW legislation, mean that Councils are no longer required to produce SoE Reports each year, but only once every four years, in the year of the Council election (which will next be 2016). However, the participating Councils have decided to continue reporting on an annual basis so that they can provide a detailed Regional SoE report in 2016 that covers trends in the intervening years.

This is a brief snapshot of the Bourke Local Government Area in 2012-13 across a range of environmental indicators as shown in the tables below. The tables provide an understanding of recent trends by comparing this year's data with an average of previous years. The Council snapshot report should be read in conjunction with the 2012-13 Regional SoE snapshot report.

2012-13 Highlights

- ⬆ The average total waste generated per person has increased over the past four years.
- ⬆ The number of declared noxious weeds has risen in comparison with the previous three years.
- ⬇ The annual consumption of town water has decreased.
- ⬆ The number of actions to protect heritage items has increased in comparison with previous years.
- ⬆ The amount of garden organics collected has significantly increased.

Land

Issue	Indicator	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	Trend
Contamination	Contaminated land sites - Contaminated Land Register	0	0	0	0	↔
	Contaminated land sites - potentially contaminated sites	2	2	2	2	↔
	Contaminated sites rehabilitated	2	0	1	0	⬇
Land use planning and management	Number of development consents and building approvals	42	41	26	32	⬇
	Landuse conflict complaints	0	2	2	1	⬆
Minerals & Petroleum	Number of mining and exploration titles		66		36	⬆
	Area covered by mining and exploration titles (ha)		1,000,000		320,000	⬆

- ⬆ improvement
- ↔ no or little change
- ⬇ worsening trend

Note - the trend is based on comparing the average of the previous years of reporting with 2012-13

Biodiversity

Issue	Indicator	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	Trend
Habitat Loss	Area protected in Wildlife Refuges (ha)	0	142K	142K	100K	↓
	Area protected in conservation reserves & under voluntary conservation agreements (ha)	19	19	19	19	→
	Habitat areas revegetated (ha)	2	0	0	0	↓
	Roadside vegetation management plan	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	↑
Threatened Species	Fish restocking activities: native species	0	0	0	100	↑
Noxious weeds and feral animals	Fish restocking activities: non-native species	0	0	0	0	→
	Number of declared noxious weeds	86	84	89	89	↓
	Invasive species (listed noxious or WONS) under active management	5	5	5	10	↑

Water and Waterways

Issue	Indicator	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	Trend
Riparian	Riparian vegetation recovery actions	0	0	0	0	→
	Riparian vegetation recovery area (ha)	0	0	0	0	→
Industrial/ Agricultural Pollution	Load Based Licencing Volume (kg)	2,580	812	738	800	↑
	Exceedances of license discharge consent recorded	0	0	0	0	→
	Erosion & Sediment Control complaints received by Council	2	1	0	1	→
Stormwater Pollution	Number of gross pollutant traps installed	6	6	6	6	→
	Total catchment area of GPTs (ha)	88	88	88	88	→
	Water pollution complaints		0	0	0	→
Water extraction	Number of irrigation licences from surface water sources	182	184	279	153	↓
	Volume of surface water permissible for extraction under licences (GL)	10	11	15	87	↓
	Number of bore licences from groundwater resources	1,275	860	1,634	694	↑
	Volume of groundwater permissible for extraction under licences (GL)	0.6	2	6	4	↓
Council water consumption	Area of irrigated Council managed parks, sportsgrounds, public open space (ha)	160	160	160	160	→
	Water used by council for irrigation (including treated and untreated) (ML)	10	14	0	0	↑
Town water consumption	Annual metered supply (ML)	146	617	398	1,258	↓
	Annual consumption (Total from WTP) (ML)		3,366	2,200	1,966	↓
	Household mains potable water usage (kL/household)	201.0	474.9	354.3	358.5	↓
	Average level of water restrictions implemented	3.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	↑
Town Water Quality	Number of instances drinking water guidelines not met	17	19	4	5	↑
	Number of drinking water complaints	3	1	4	3	→

Towards Sustainability

Issue	Indicator	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	Trend
Waste Generation	Total waste entombed at primary landfill (t)	3,137	2,909	3,785	3,868	↑
	Total waste entombed at other landfills (exc recyclables) (t)	500	597	685	725	↑
	Average total waste generated per person (t)	0.73	1.14	1.45	1.52	↑
	Average cost of waste service per residential household	\$221	\$227	\$235	\$227	→
	Emissions from landfill (kt CO2e-)			2	2	→
Reduce	Garden organics collected (diverted from landfill) (t)		1,100	1,300	1,786	↓
	E-Waste collected (diverted from landfill)		0.5	3	4	↓
Recycle	Amount of material recycled (t)	300	138	138	140	↓
	Quantity of material recycled per person (kg)	98	45	45	46	↓
Littering and illegal dumping	Number of illegal waste disposal complaints to Council	25	23	34	41	↓
Engineering, Infrastructure and Civil Works	New road construction (km)	5	5	0	0	↓
	Road upgrades (km)	66	67	50	33	↓
Risk Management	Hazard reduction burns	2	20	5	15	↓
Climate Change Mitigation	Office paper used by Council (A4 reams)	500	600	404	362	↓
Council Greenhouse Gas Emissions	Total fuel consumption (kl)	227	522	588	472	↓
Community Greenhouse Gas Emissions	Small scale renewable energy uptake (kw installed) (kw)		0	0	0	→

People and Communities

Issue	Indicator	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	Trend
Active community involvement	Environmental volunteers working on public open space (hrs)		104	60	80	→
Indigenous Heritage	Extent of liaison with Indigenous communities (self-assessed from 0 = none to 3 = High)	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	→
	Development approvals on listed Indigenous sites	0	0	0	0	→
Non-Indigenous Heritage	NSW Heritage Items	6	6	6	6	→
	Locally listed heritage items		34	34	34	→
	Actions to protect non-Indigenous heritage (including management plans)	1	0	1	2	↓
	Heritage buildings on statutory heritage lists demolished/ degraded in past year	1	2	0	0	↓
	Heritage buildings on statutory heritage lists renovated/ improved in past year	1	3	2	1	↓

CASE STUDY: Biological control used for cactus (Bourke LGA)

Rope Pear (*Cylindropuntia imbricate*) is a very thorny cactus which can cause injury to humans and to animals. Segments are mainly spread by floodwaters, and in some cases by being rolled along bare ground by strong winds. A native of Mexico and the United States, Rope Pear has been widely distributed in New South Wales as a garden plant.

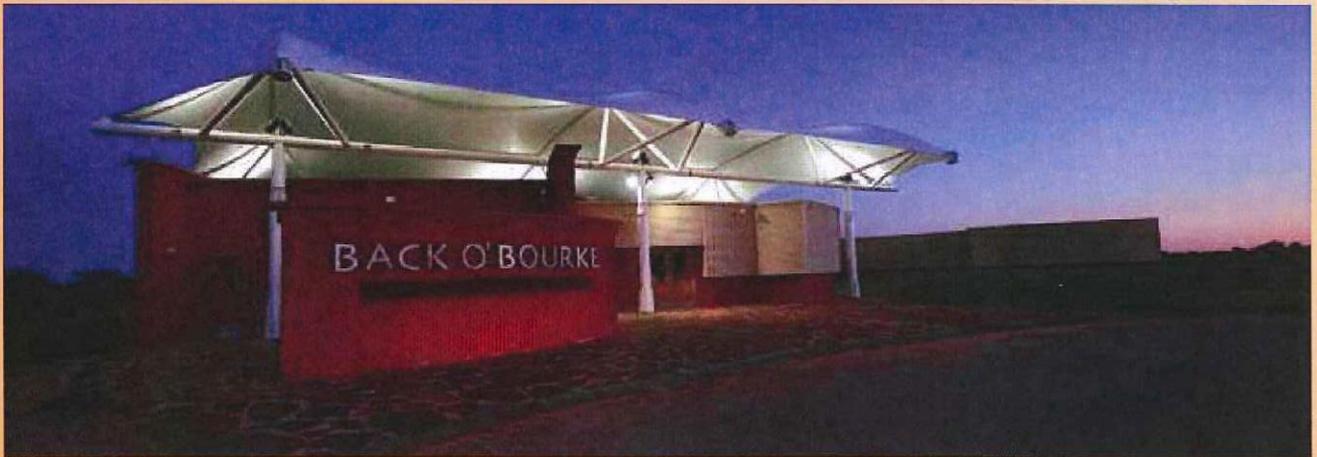
In January 2009, an infestation of Rope Pear was discovered on a property on the outskirts of Louth. Chemical treatment of rope pear is effective, because the plants are relatively easy to find. Biological control is another practical and cost-effective means of control, especially in the warmer and drier areas of western New South Wales.

The Louth infestation was located on the banks of a gully that flowed downhill towards Louth, which posed a major problem for chemical treatment as it is a waterway. Therefore, herbicides that were registered for this species were not allowed to be applied.

Bourke Shire Council's Senior Weeds Officer, Don Mackenzie sourced a Cochineal moth strain that was suited for Rope Pear to use as a biological control option. Neighboring Council, Cobar Shire, had harvested the Cochineal from an infestation in the south of their Shire. This Cochineal was introduced to the infestation on 21 January 2009.

Although it took far longer than using herbicides, the biological control has in 2013 eradicated the Louth infestation.

Remains of Rope Pear infestation at Louth
(Don Mackenzie)



Bourke Shire Council
Council Office
29 Mitchell St
Bourke NSW 2840

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ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING & ASSESSMENT ACT 1979 (s93G.5)

A new Local Environmental Plan was gazetted for Bourke Shire Council in January 2013. Council complied with both plans being the Bourke Local Environmental Plan 1998 and the Bourke Local Environmental Plan 2012 in the reporting period. Development is assessed in accordance with the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act.

draft



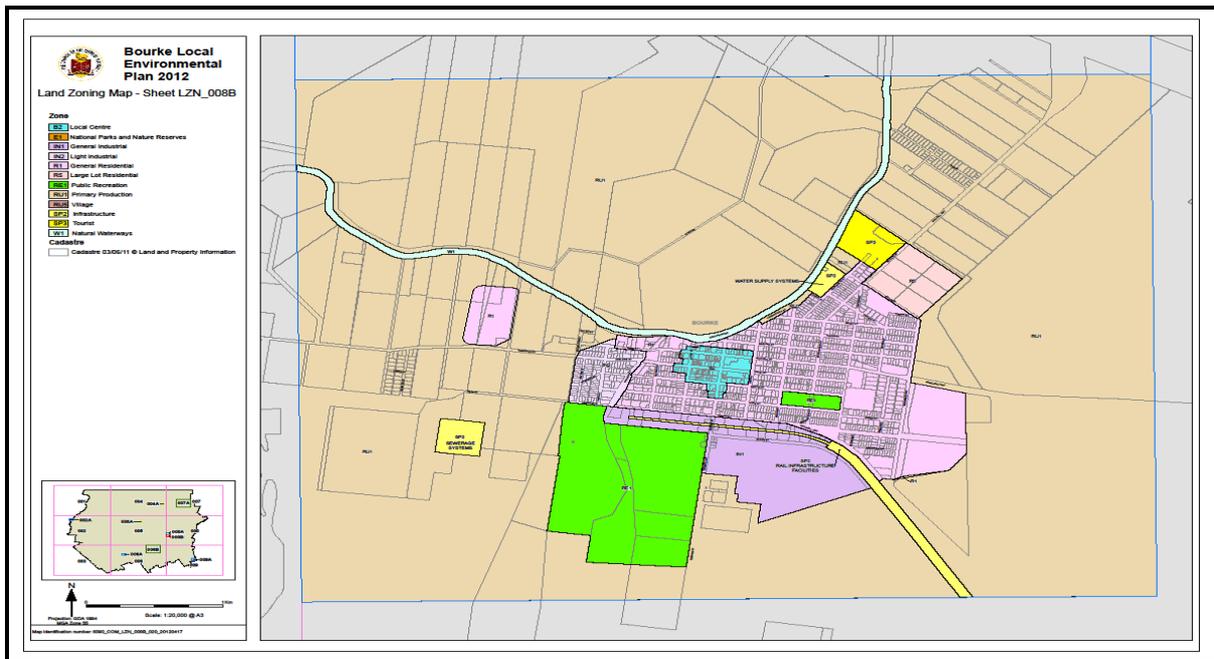
Bourke Local Environmental Plan 2012

under the

Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

I, the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure, pursuant to section 33A of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, adopt the mandatory provisions of the *Standard Instrument (Local Environmental Plans) Order 2006* and prescribe matters required or permitted by that Order so as to make a local environmental plan as follows.

Minister for Planning and Infrastructure



LEP Zoning Map

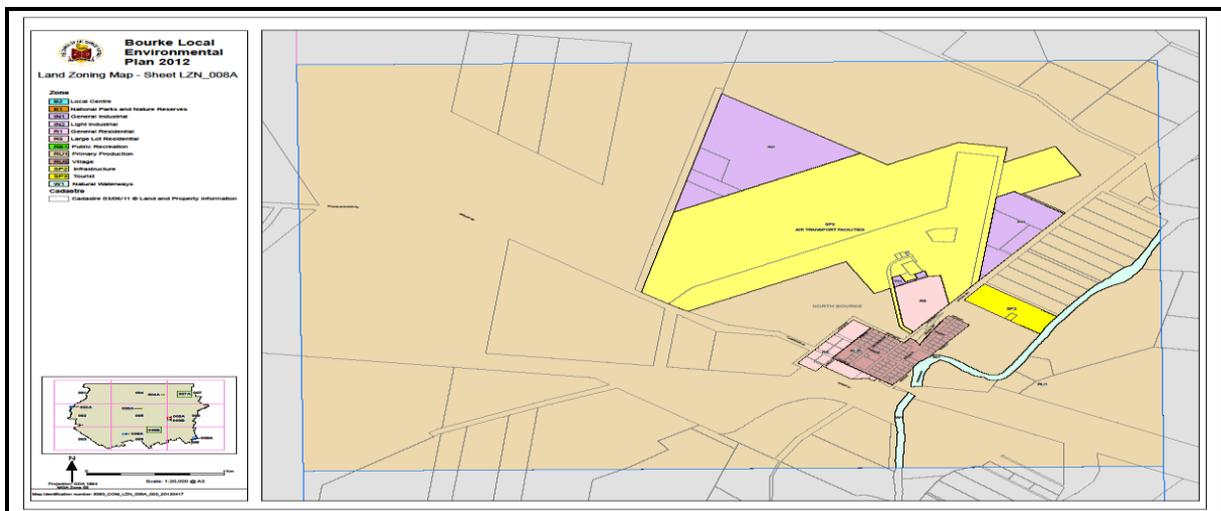
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

LAND USE PLANNING AND REGULATION

Council continued to adhere to its principal land use planning and regulation instruments in the reporting year, the Bourke Local Environmental Plan 1998 and the Bourke Local Environmental Plan 2012.

Development applications approved for 2012/13 totalled 21 with Complying Developments applications approved for 2012/13 being 9. The total value of projects amounted to \$17,212,534.00

Council worked with consultants and the Department of Planning for the new LEP to be completed by the end of 2012. In January 2013 the New Bourke Local Environmental Plan 2012 was gazetted.



LEP Zoning Map

HERITAGE CONSERVATION

Council continued its commitment to providing Heritage Services in the reporting period, by funding the employment of Gary Stanley as Council's Heritage Advisor, to continue work in Heritage Services. The Heritage Advisory Service, along with Council's annual \$15,000 Local Heritage Fund, is funded jointly by the NSW Heritage Office and Council. Council staff are working with the Heritage Advisor on the development of a Heritage Development Control Plan. This plan will outline the context for the proper assessment of heritage related development for all relevant stakeholders.



Mosque at the cemetery recently repaired after storm damage



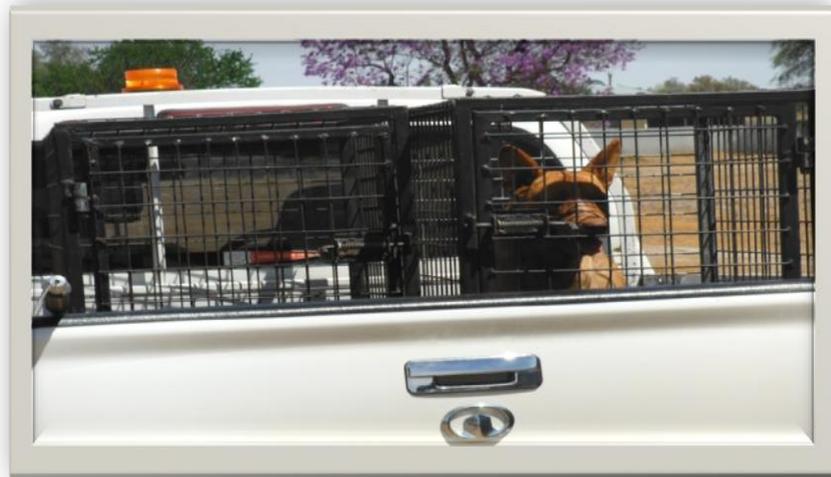
Shearing Shed

RANGER SERVICES

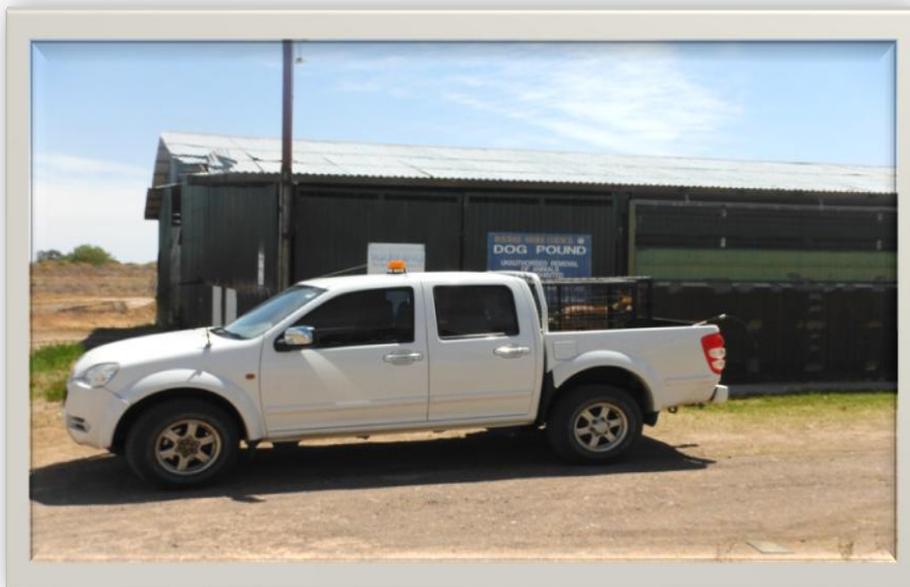
Animal control continued to be the main focus in the provision of ranger services for the year.

Year	Animals Impounded
2010/11	76
2011/12	86
2012/13	77

The numbers show that the amount of animals impounded is down from 2011/12. A stronger focus has also been placed on greater liaison and more positive relationships with the community, particularly in relation to assisting in capturing stray animals, surrendering of unwanted pups and educating the broader community on responsible pet ownership.



Ranger Services with an impounded animal



Ranger Services vehicle at the Bourke Pound

WASTE MANAGEMENT

Council continued its Waste Management (collection and disposal) operations for the period. The operation continues to be structured on a cost recovery basis, as provided for under the reasonable waste charges of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

Significant achievements for the 2012/13 year were the construction of a new cell at the Bourke Waste Depot, the grinding of green waste to provide garden mulch to the community at no cost, participation in E-Waste collection and increased education through the local schools.

The new cell being cell number 3 was constructed at the Bourke site in accordance with the Environmental Impact Statement. Cell 3 will be the same size and volume as Cell 2. Based on the observations from Cells 1 and 2, it is possible to assume that Cell 3 may achieve a similar increase in operational lifespan from a projected two (2) years as indicated in the EIS to up to five (5) years through sound management practices, including the separation of recyclable materials from the waste stream and sustained compaction.

Village Waste Facilities were kept to a good standard, new signage was erected and a clean ups of cells took place, including removal of scrap metal from the cells.

The 'Recovery Shop' operated at the Bourke Waste Depot has gained significant community acceptance and appreciation and importantly diverts waste from landfill to encourage reuse. Goods are selected and diverted by staff and re-sold through the shop at very reasonable prices.

Council continue to separate scrap metal from the waste stream and sells the metal for recycling as part of the Netwaste contract through Sims Metal collections. During the reporting period a total of 165 tonnes of steel had been collected. Council also continued to promote its Village Scrap Metal program, where village residents are being encouraged to separate steel from their general waste. Council will then collect the steel and recycle, with any money then donated back to the village for community projects.

Council once again was a participant in the Netwaste group which is focused on collaborative approaches to waste and resource management, Council benefits significantly from being a part of the Netwaste group and were proactive in participating in the development of Netwaste Strategic Waste Plan from 2012 through to 2015.

Bourke Shire Council hosted the annual Waste to Art Exhibition, the 2013 Regional Exhibition represented eight (8) years of Waste to Art within the NetWaste region, which extends from the Blue Mountains to Broken Hill and represents 28 regional Councils and makes up two thirds of the State. This art program was introduced as a way to raise awareness about the amount of waste that we all throw away every year and to challenge attitudes, to the value of the 22 million tonnes of non- recyclable waste that ends up in landfills. This community art project encourages artists from across the spectrum (school-aged to professional) to showcase works made from reused and recycled waste materials. Each year NetWaste tries to involve local community in supporting the all-important waste message that underlies the Waste to Art project and this year is no exception. NetWaste and the Office of Environment and Heritage formed a partnership this year in support of the Regional Exhibition.

Together they funded a community project called the Western Region Twin Sculptures Project. In celebration of 150 years of the townships of Brewarrina and Bourke, the sculptures are dedicated to the Aboriginal people from these areas.



Cell 3 Construction near completion stage



The Bourke Waste Depot Recovery shop once again had a busy year, selling discarded recyclable items



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH – Administration, Inspection, Control

Routine water sampling continued throughout the year, for sampling and testing to ensure Council's potable water supply meets the NSW Health and *Australian Water Quality Guidelines*. Samples were collected weekly and sent to the Division of Analytical Laboratories (DAL) in Sydney for micro-biological analysis. Chemical samples were collected every 6 months and Fluoride Sampling were taken monthly to be analysed by DAL. Non compliant samples were acted upon. Routine water sampling of the untreated non-potable village water supplies, as recommended by NSW Health was undertaken and analysed by DAL. Village residents are reminded that it is a non potable supply and should not be used for human consumption.

Council also assisted the Department of Water and Energy in collecting raw river samples and sending to Hunter Laboratories for analysis, and for the monitoring and control of Blue Green Algae under the *River Watch* scheme.

Council continues to apply it's On Site Sewerage Management Policy, with all new applications for on site sewerage management systems requiring applications, assessment and approval under relevant guidelines and legislation. Council has a register of systems, and will shortly commence routine inspections of existing systems, as outlined in the policy on a risk priority basis.



Councils NO Smoking signs at the Bourke Swimming Pool and Playground

CEMETERIES ADMINISTRATION AND MAINTENANCE

Grave location queries are now mapped, and as a result the many of the visitors that pass through Bourke, wishing to visit relatives or friends graves, receive a colour map of the area, with the grave clearly marked.

The aerial photography has also greatly assisted in planning for future rows and the overall long term planning of the cemetery. Maintenance of the cemetery was undertaken to keep the area in a clean and tidy state, new gravel roads and water system were constructed as part of the management plan of the cemetery. A beautification program has been developed and started with the planting of new native trees and the spraying of weeds and burrs ongoing. New gardens beds have been installed at the entrance to the cemetery to enhance the visual appearance of the cemetery. New signage to assist visitors to the cemetery has been erected to help with the location of the different portions of the cemetery.

In consultation with Council Heritage Advisor a Plan of Management is being prepared for the ongoing maintenance and interpretation of the old cemetery.



Grave Shoring is now in use for all internments



Graves in the Old Section of the historic Bourke Cemetery

NOXIOUS WEEDS MANAGEMENT

Council continued its progress in ensuring it meets its responsibilities in noxious weeds management. Existing Weeds Management Plans were reviewed and adopted at a regional level. Regular inspections were conducted of Council owned/controlled property to ensure the obligations under Noxious Weeds Act are met. Regular property inspections were also undertaken to provide advice to land owners with respect to noxious weeds control.



Cylindropuntia Kleiniae outbreak which is being controlled using cochineal infestation

COUNCIL'S WAR MEMORIAL SWIMMING POOL COMPLEX

The pool continues to present a financial challenge to Council, given its aging infrastructure, however, it is nevertheless one of the most important and most frequented facilities in the town, and Council is committed to its future.

Water quality remains high at the pool, with no complaints in this area. Regular daily and hourly testing and analysis is undertaken on site, and samples are also sent to an independent laboratory to confirm the onsite data.



Pool Area and Shade Structures

FOOD PREMISES

Bourke Shire Council is an active member of the North West Region Food group who meet regularly with the NSW Food Authority to discuss issues concerning food premises. Being part of the group enables Council staff to keep abreast with new legislation and procedures and provides a Council staff with a good network of colleagues with whom food related issues can be discussed.

Bourke Shire Council is a Category B Enforcement Agency in food safety. All required food premises were inspected in Bourke with 28 inspections being undertaken with only one (1) re-inspection required, overall the standard of food premises in the Bourke Shire Council was generally good. The NSW Food Authority standard assessment inspection report books were used, which provides a consistent approach throughout. These assessments are signed off by the proprietor and a copy provided to them at the end of the inspection, the details of which are discussed on site negating the need for additional letters to be sent out.



Food Shop Inspections

CROWN AND PUBLIC LAND

Council continues with the challenge relating to administration and management of the many parcels of Crown Land within the shire. It strives to ensure all Crown and Public Land under Council's control is managed in accordance with the Crown Lands Act and the Local Government Act 1993. A register of all land is maintained to assist with planning for future requirements.

A Draft Management Plan for the Fishing Reserve, a river front reserve just downstream of the Bourke Weir has been developed. Meetings and consultation have occurred and will be ongoing until the finalisation of the draft plan. It is considered a step in the right direction in the management of such Reserves. It is hoped that this plan can then be used as a template to assist in the preparation of plans for other reserves within the shire.



Bourke Weir