



I hereby give notice that an Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on:

**Date:** Monday, 28 March 2022  
**Time:** 9.15am  
**Location:** Bourke Shire Council  
29 Mitchell Street Bourke NSW

# **BUSINESS PAPER**

**Ordinary Council Meeting**

**28 March 2022**

**Mark Riley**  
**General Manager**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Representative</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
<b>9.00am</b>	Community Open Forum for members of the public to address Council		



# DECLARATION OF INTEREST FORM COUNCIL OFFICIAL

FOR USE AT COUNCIL AND COUNCIL MEETINGS

<b>NAME OF COUNCIL OFFICIAL DECLARING INTEREST:</b>
<b>ACTION PROPOSED:</b>
<p><b>Tick one box only:</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> In my opinion, <b>my interest is pecuniary</b>, and I am therefore required to take the action specified in Part 4 of Council’s Code of Conduct.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> In my opinion, <b>my interest is non-pecuniary but significant</b>. I am unable to remove the source of conflict. I am therefore required to treat the interest as if it were pecuniary and take the action specified in clause 5.10 of Council’s Code of Conduct.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> In my opinion, <b>my interest is non-pecuniary and less than significant</b>. I therefore make this declaration as I am required to do pursuant to clause 5.11 of Council’s Code of Conduct. However, I intend to continue to be involved with the matter.</p>
<b>COUNCIL OFFICIAL</b>
<p>I, _____ (name of COUNCIL OFFICIAL ) disclose the above interest and acknowledge that I will take appropriate action as I have indicated above.</p> <p>Signed: _____ Date: _____</p>
<b>GENERAL MANAGER – required for all declarations:</b>
<p>I have noted the above declaration and I note your opinion and/or the action you have proposed.</p> <p>Signed: _____ Date: _____</p>
<b>DEFINE YOUR INTEREST:</b>
<p>Is your interest:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Pecuniary (see dealing with pecuniary interests)?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Non pecuniary (see dealing with non-pecuniary interests)</p>
<b>MATTER IN WHICH YOU HAVE AN INTEREST:</b> (Please provide full details, including item number on Council agenda)
<b>NAME OF THE INTEREST:</b>
<p>Be specific and include information such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The names of any person or organisation with which you have a relationship;</li> <li>- The nature of your relationship with the person or organisation;</li> <li>- The reason(s) why you consider the situation may (or may be perceived to) give rise to a conflict between your personal interests and your public duty as a COUNCIL OFFICIAL .</li> </ul>

<p><b>MANAGING LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS:</b></p> <p>Clause 5.11 of Council’s Code of Conduct provides that if you determine that a non-pecuniary conflict of interest is less than significant and does not require further action, you must provide an explanation of why you consider that conflict does not require further action in the circumstances.</p>
<p><b>IS YOUR NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT?</b></p> <p>If you are of the view that your non-pecuniary interest is less than significant, please provide your explanation directly below (only complete if you are claiming that your non-pecuniary interest is less than significant).</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
<p><b>DEFINITIONS:</b></p> <p>A <b>PECUNIARY INTEREST</b> is an interest that a designated person has in a matter because of a reasonable likelihood or expectation of appreciable financial gain or loss to the person (see Part 4 of Council’s Code of Conduct).</p> <p>A <b>NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST</b> is a private or personal interest that does not amount to pecuniary interest as defined by Part 5 of Council’s Code of Conduct.</p>
<p><b>MANAGING PECUNIARY INTERESTS:</b></p> <p>Part 4.10 of Council’s Code of Conduct requires designated persons to declare in writing to the General Manager the nature of a pecuniary interest the person has in any Council matters, as soon as practicable after becoming aware of the interest.</p>
<p><b>MANAGING SIGNIFICANT NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS:</b></p> <p>Clause 5.10 of Council’s Code of Conduct provides that you must manage a significant non-pecuniary interest by not participating in consideration of, or decision making in relation to, the matter in which you have the significant non-pecuniary conflict of interest and the matter being allocated to another person for consideration or determination, or if the significant non-pecuniary conflict of interest arises in relation to a matter under consideration at a council or committee meeting, by managing the conflict of interest as if you had a pecuniary interest in the matter by complying with clauses 4.28 and 4.29 of the Code.</p>
<p><b>MANAGING NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS:</b></p> <p>Clause 5.8 of Council’s Code of Conduct states that how you manage a non-pecuniary interest will depend on whether or not it is significant. Clause 5.9 of Council’s Code of Conduct states that, as a general rule, a non-pecuniary conflict of interests will be significant where a matter does not raise a pecuniary interest but involves:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) a relationship between a council official and another person who is affected by a decision or a matter under consideration that is particularly close, such as a current or former spouse or de facto partner, a relative for the purposes of clause 4.4 of the Code or another person from the council official’s extended family that the council official has a close personal relationship with, or another person living in the same household;</li> <li>b) other relationships with persons who are affected by a decision or a matter under consideration that are particularly close, such as friendships and business relationships. Closeness is defined by the nature of the friendship or business relationship, the frequency of contact and the duration of the friendship or relationship;</li> <li>c) an affiliation between the council official and an organisation (such as a sporting body, club, religious, cultural or charitable organisation, corporation or association) that is affected by a decision or a matter under consideration that is particularly strong. The strength of a council official’s affiliation with an organisation is to be determined by the extent to which they actively participate in the management, administration or other activities of the organisation;</li> <li>d) membership, as the council’s representative, of the board or management committee of an organisation that is affected by a decision or a matter under consideration, in circumstances where the interests of the council and the organisation are potentially in conflict in relation to the particular matter;</li> <li>e) a financial interest (other than an interest of a type referred to in clause 4.6 of the Code) that is not a pecuniary interest for the purposes of clause 4.1 of the Code;</li> <li>f) the conferral or loss of a personal benefit other than one conferred or lost as a member of the community or a broader class of people affected by a decision.</li> </ul>



**Statement of ethical obligations**

In accordance with Councils adopted Code of Meeting Practice (Clause 3.23), Councillors are reminded of their Oath or Affirmation of Office made under section 233A of the Local Government Act and their obligations under the Council's Code of Conduct to disclose and appropriately manage conflicts of interest.



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- 1 OPENING PRAYER**
- 2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**
- 3 REMEMBRANCE**
- 4 APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE**
- 5 ATTENDANCE BY AUDIO VISUAL LINK BY COUNCILLORS**
- 6 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

**7 MAYORAL MINUTE****7.1 MAYORAL MINUTE - MAYORAL ACTIVITIES**

**File Number:** M2.1  
**Author:** Barry Hollman, Mayor  
**Authoriser:** Mark Riley, General Manager  
**Attachments:** Nil

The Activities of the Mayor from 18 February 2022 to 15 March 2022 are as follows:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Location</b>
22 February	Meeting with Ochre Health	Chambers
23 February	Meeting with Assistant Commissioner Brett Greentree	Conference Room
25 February	FNWJO Meeting	Chambers
27 February – 2 March	Attended LGNSW Special Conference with Manager Corporate Services	Sydney
15 March	Water Matters meeting with Graham Attenborough - Chief Operating Office Water and Jason Gordon - DPIE	Conference Room

**Recommendation**

**That the information in the Mayoral Minute as presented to Council on Monday, 28 March 2022 be noted.**

**8 STARRING OF ITEMS**

**9 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Ordinary Council Meeting - 25 February 2022



# **MINUTES**

**Ordinary Council Meeting**

**25 February 2022**



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	Nil	
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	Nil	
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	Nil	
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**MINUTES OF SHIRE OF BOURKE  
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT THE BOURKE SHIRE COUNCIL, 29 MITCHELL STREET BOURKE NSW  
ON FRIDAY, 25 FEBRUARY 2022 AT 9.15AM**

**PRESENT:** Cr Barry Hollman (Mayor), Cr Victor Bartley, Cr Sarah Barton, Cr Lachlan Ford (Deputy Mayor), Cr Cec Dorrington, Cr Sam Rice, Cr Grace Ridge, Cr Nathan Ryan, Cr Robert Stutsel.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mark Riley (General Manager), Leonie Brown (Manager of Corporate Services), Peter Brown (Manager Works), Melanie Milgate (Economic Development Manager).

**1 OPENING PRAYER**

The Mayor opened the meeting with a prayer

**2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

The Mayor then provided an Acknowledgment of Country

**3 REMEMBRANCE**

Council stood in silence in the memory of the following recently deceased:

Annette Jean (Sue) Lovett	Grace Wilson	Peter Simmonds
Iris MacCaskell, nee Fraser	Percy Hobson	William (Ben) Kendall
Christine Chambers, nee Holmes	Gwenda Howchin	Reginal Wood

**4 APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

**Resolution 2022/1**

**Moved: Cr Lachlan Ford**

**Seconded: Cr Sarah Barton**

**That the apology received from Councillor Sally Davis be accepted and leave of absence granted.**

**Carried**

## 5 ATTENDANCE BY AUDIO VISUAL LINK BY COUNCILLORS

A Written request was noted as having been received from Cr Robert Stutsel requesting that he attend today's Council meeting be via audio-visual link due to him being in Dubbo for "carer" reasons.

### **Resolution 2022/2**

**Moved: Cr Victor Bartley**

**Seconded: Cr Lachlan Ford**

**That Cr Robert Stutsel be permitted to attend the meeting via audio-visual link due to his inability to attend in person.**

**Carried**

## 6 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Cr Sarah Barton declared a pecuniary interest in Item 22.1 of the Agenda – North Bourke Stormwater Drainage. The reason for such interest is that Councillor Bartons husband has a business relationship with the owner of the land detailed within the report. In making her declaration Councillor Barton advised that she would leave the Chamber and be out of sight during Council's consideration of the matter

Cr Grace Ridge declared a pecuniary interest in Item 22.1 of the Agenda – North Bourke Stormwater Drainage. The reason for such interest is that Councillor Ridge and her family have a business relationship with the owner of the land detailed within the report. In making her declaration Councillor Ridge advised that she would leave the Chamber and be out of sight during Council's consideration of the matter

Cr Nathan Ryan declared a pecuniary interest in Item 22.1 of the Agenda – North Bourke Stormwater Drainage. The reason for such interest is that Councillor Ryan has a business relationship with the owner of the land detailed within the report. In making his declaration Councillor Ryan advised that he would leave the Chamber and be out of sight during Council's consideration of the matter

**7 MAYORAL MINUTE**

**7.1 MAYORAL MINUTE - MAYORAL ACTIVITIES**

**File Number: M2.1**

The Council had before it the report of the Mayor regarding the Mayoral Minute - Mayoral Activities.

**Resolution 2022/3**  
**Moved: Cr Barry Hollman**  
**That the information in the Mayoral Minute as presented to Council on Friday, 25 February 2022 be noted.**  
**Carried**

**8 STARRING OF ITEMS**

Council’s Code of Meeting Practice provides that Council may at any time, resolve to adopt multiple items of business on the agenda by way of a single resolution.

In this regard the council had before it a list of reports, unstarred, with such items proposed to be adopted by Council in a single resolution. The following additional report was identified by Council to be starred for individual consideration.

<b>Item No</b>	<b>Name of Report</b>	<b>Officer</b>
14.1	Employment Zone Reform	Manager Environmental Services

**Resolution 2022/4**  
**Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington**  
**Seconded: Cr Sam Rice**  
**That the recommendations as detailed in the un-starred items as contained in the agenda for the Ordinary Meeting of Council, held on Friday, 25 February 2022 be adopted save and except for Item No 14.1 of the Agenda, with such item to be considered seperately.**  
**Carried**

**9 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**Resolution 2022/5**

**Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington**

**Seconded: Cr Sarah Barton**

**That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 20 December 2021 taken as read, confirmed as correct minutes and signed by the Mayor and the General Manger.**

**Carried**

**10 NOTICES OF MOTION**

**10.1 NOTICE OF MOTION - VILLAGE TOURS**

**File Number: C8.1, C11.1,P4.1**

The Council had before it the report of the Councillor regarding the Notice of Motion - Village Tours.

**Resolution 2022/6**

**Moved: Cr Victor Bartley**

**Seconded: Cr Robert Stutsel**

**That, as in past years, all councillors be invited to attend any future Council Village Tours and community meetings.**

**Carried**

**11 RESCISSION MOTIONS**

Nil

**12 BUSINESS ARISING**

**12.1 CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**File Number: C12.6**

The Council had before it the report of the General Manager regarding the Calendar of Events.

**Resolution 2022/7**

**Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington**

**Seconded: Cr Sam Rice**

**That the information in the Calendar of Events Report as presented to Council on Friday, 25 February 2022 be noted.**

**Carried**

## **12.2 INFORMATION TO COUNCILLORS**

**File Number: C12.1**

The Council had before it the report of the General Manager regarding the Information to Councillors.

### **Resolution 2022/8**

**Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington**

**Seconded: Cr Sam Rice**

**That the contents of the Information to Councillors Report as presented to Council on Friday, 25 February 2022 be noted.**

**Carried**

## **12.3 \*\*\* BUSINESS ARISING**

**File Number: C12.1**

The Council had before it the report of the General Manager regarding the Business Arising.

### **Resolution 2022/9**

**Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington**

**Seconded: Cr Lachlan Ford**

**That the information in the Business Arising Report as presented to Council on Friday, 25 February 2022 be noted.**

**Carried**

13.1 \*\*\* REQUEST FOR TREE REMOVAL

**File Number: T6.2**

The Council had before it the report of the Manager Works regarding the Request for Tree Removal.

**Resolution 2022/10**

**Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington**

**Seconded: Cr Victor Bartley**

- 1. That the Preliminary Tree Assessment Reports as prepared by Savco Vegetation Services be noted.**
- 2. That prior to the removal of any of the identified trees, a notice of intention to remove the trees be placed in the local media with advice provided to adjacent landowners providing them with an opportunity to comment on the proposed removal with a copy of the advertisement being provided to the Councillors.**
- 3. That should there be objections to the various proposals, a further report be provided to Council in respect of such tree(s), prior to the removal of the subject tree(s).**
- 4. That should there be no comment of objection, Council proceed to :**
  - a) Remove the Queensland fig tree at 5 Denman St, Bourke as per the recommendation of Savco Vegetation Services.**
  - b) Remove the gum tree at 32 Green St, Bourke to mitigate all risks, and achieve a potentially better outcome, as per the Option B recommendation of Savco Vegetation Services.**
  - c) Remove the gum tree at 19 Mitchell St, Bourke to mitigate all risks and achieve a potentially better outcome, as per the Option B recommendation of Savco Vegetation Services.**
- 5. That the General Manager be requested to take the necessary action in respect of progressing these tree removal requests.**

**Carried**



**14 ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

**14.1 EMPLOYMENT ZONE REFORM**

**File Number: T5.1**

The Council had before it the report of the Manager Environmental Services regarding the Employment Zone Reform.

**Resolution 2022/11**

**Moved: Cr Robert Stutsel**

**Seconded: Cr Victor Bartley**

- 1. That the information in this report regarding the Employment Zone Reform as presented to Council on Friday, 25 February 2022 be noted.**
- 2. That the proposal to permit business premises, with consent, in the R1 General Residential Zone of the Bourke Local Environmental Plan be endorsed for the purposes of preparing a Planning Proposal for further consideration by Council in due course.**

**Carried**

**15 GENERAL MANAGER**

**15.1 \*\*\* PAYMENT OF EXPENSES AND PROVISION OF FACILITIES POLICY**

**File Number: C11.1**

The Council had before it the report of the General Manager regarding the Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities Policy.

**Resolution 2022/12**

**Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington**

**Seconded: Cr Sam Rice**

- 1. That the draft policy "Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities for the Mayor and Councillors" as attached herewith be placed on Public Exhibition for a period of twenty-eight (28) days inviting the public to make submissions.**
- 2. That a further report be presented to Council following the submission period.**

**Carried**

**15.2 \*\*\* CODE OF MEETING PRACTICE**

**File Number: C11.1, C12.1**

The Council had before it the report of the General Manager regarding the Code of Meeting Practice.

**Resolution 2022/13**

**Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington**

**Seconded: Cr Sam Rice**

- 1. That the draft Code of Meeting Practice as appended to this report be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days with the public notice for such exhibition also specifying a period of not less than 42 days after the date on which the draft code is placed on public exhibition during which submissions may be made to the council.**
- 2. That a further report be presented to Council following the submission period.**

**Carried**

**15.3 \*\*\* DELEGATIONS OF AUTHORITY TO THE GENERAL MANAGER**

**File Number: A3.8**

The Council had before it the report of the General Manager regarding the Delegations of Authority to the General Manager.

**Resolution 2022/14**

**Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington**

**Seconded: Cr Sam Rice**

**That Council endorse and adopt the Delegations of Authority to the General Manager identified as document version 9, as attached herewith.**

**Carried**

**15.4 \*\*\* CODE OF CONDUCT**

**File Number: C11.1, C12.1**

The Council had before it the report of the General Manager regarding the Code of Conduct.

**Resolution 2022/15**

**Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington**

**Seconded: Cr Sam Rice**

- 1. That pending any prescribed amendments, Council adopt the “Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW” dated 2020 as its adopted code for the term of the Council ending 14 September 2024.**
- 2. That pending any prescribed amendments, Council adopt the “Procedures for the Administration of the Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils in NSW” dated 2020 as its adopted procedures code for the term of the Council ending 14 September 2024.**

**Carried**

**15.5 \*\*\* RESTORATION - NORTH BOURKE BRIDGE**

**File Number: B6.1**

The Council had before it the report of the General Manager regarding the Restoration - North Bourke Bridge.

**Resolution 2022/16**

**Moved: Cr Lachlan Ford**

**Seconded: Cr Victor Bartley**

- 1. That in the event of Councils application for funding under the Tourism Activation Fund being unsuccessful, Council allocate funding of \$200,000 from the North Bourke Bridge Internally Restricted Asset to undertake a documentation process in respect of the restoration of the North Bourke Bridge generally as follows:
  - investigation and documentation of existing conditions at the bridge;
  - preliminary design of restoration options;
  - document the approved restoration option;
  - prepare design and construct tender.**
- 2. That the General Manager be requested to take the necessary action to engage a Structural Engineer to undertake the documentation preparation process in respect of the restoration of the North Bourke Bridge.**

**Carried**

**16 CORPORATE SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

**16.1 \*\*\* BANK RECONCILIATION & STATEMENT OF BANK BALANCES**

**File Number: F1.1**

The Council had before it the report of the Manager of Corporate Services regarding the Bank Reconciliation & Statement of Bank Balances.

**Resolution 2022/17**

**Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington**

**Seconded: Cr Sam Rice**

**That the Certificate of Reconciliation of the Cash Book for all funds of the Council and the Statement of Bank Balances as at 31 December 2021 be noted.**

**Carried**

**16.2 \*\*\* INVESTMENT REPORT AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021**

**File Number: F1.1**

The Council had before it the report of the Manager of Corporate Services regarding the Investment Report as at 31 December 2021.

**Resolution 2022/18**

**Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington**

**Seconded: Cr Sam Rice**

- 1. That the report regarding Council's Investment Portfolio 31 December 2021 be received and noted.**
- 2. That the Certificate of the Responsible Accounting Officer be noted, and the report adopted**

**Carried**

**16.3 \*\*\* BANK RECONCILIATION & STATEMENT OF BANK BALANCES**

**File Number: F1.1**

The Council had before it the report of the Manager of Corporate Services regarding the Bank Reconciliation & Statement of Bank Balances.

**Resolution 2022/19**

**Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington**

**Seconded: Cr Sam Rice**

**That the Certificate of Reconciliation of the Cash Book for all funds of the Council and the Statement of Bank Balances as at 31 January 2022 be noted.**

**Carried**

**16.4 \*\*\* INVESTMENT REPORT AS AT 31 JANUARY 2021**

**File Number: F1.1**

The Council had before it the report of the Manager of Corporate Services regarding the Investment Report as at 31 January 2021.

**Resolution 2022/20**

**Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington**

**Seconded: Cr Sam Rice**

- 1. That the report regarding Council's Investment Portfolio 31 January 2022 be received and noted.**
- 2. That the Certificate of the Responsible Accounting Officer be noted, and the report adopted**

**Carried**

**16.5 \*\*\* RATES WRITE-OFF - ASSESSMENT NO. 00787-00000000-000**

**File Number: R2.5**

The Council had before it the report of the Revenue Officer regarding the Rates write-off - Assessment No. 00787-00000000-000.

**Resolution 2022/21**

**Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington**

**Seconded: Cr Sam Rice**

**That Council write-off Rates and Charges to the value of \$988.00 for assessment 00787-00000000-000 located at 9 Oxley Street, Bourke.**

**Carried**

**16.6 \*\*\* 2022/2023 - OPERATIONAL PLAN PREPARATION**

**File Number: P4.1**

The Council had before it the report of the Manager of Corporate Services regarding the 2022/2023 - Operational Plan Preparation.

**Resolution 2022/22**

**Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington**

**Seconded: Cr Sam Rice**

- 1. That the 2022/2023 Operational Plan be prepared utilising the 2.1% General Rate increase as determined by IPART for Bourke Shire Council**
- 2. That any Councillors wishing to have an item included in the 2022/2023 Draft Operational Plan for consideration, notify the Manager of Corporate Services by 7 March 2022**
- 3. That the proposed timetable for the preparation and adoption of Council's 2022/2023 Operational Plan be adopted.**

**Carried**

**16.7 \*\*\* BUDGET REVIEW TO 31 DECEMBER 2021**

**File Number: F1.6**

The Council had before it the report of the Manager of Corporate Services regarding the Budget Review to 31 December 2021.

**Resolution 2022/23**

**Moved: Cr Sam Rice**

**Seconded: Cr Victor Bartley**

- 1. That the document entitled "Quarterly Budget Review Statement – December 2021" be received and noted.**
- 2. That the variations of income and expenditure as identified in the "Quarterly Budget Review Statement – December 2021" be adopted.**

**Carried**

## **16.8 DELIVERY PLAN - HALF YEARLY REVIEW 2021/2022**

**File Number: P4.1**

The Council had before it the report of the Manager of Corporate Services regarding the Delivery Plan - Half Yearly Review 2021/2022.

**Resolution 2022/24**

**Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington**

**Seconded: Cr Sam Rice**

**That Council note the half yearly Delivery Report as presented to the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Friday, 25 February 2022.**

**Carried**

## **16.9 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION MEETINGS IN RELATION TO THE COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN - TIMETABLES AND FORMAT**

**File Number: P4.4**

The Council had before it the report of the Manager of Corporate Services regarding the Community Consultation Meetings in relation to the Community Strategic Plan - Timetables and Format.

**Resolution 2022/25**

**Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington**

**Seconded: Cr Sam Rice**

- 1. That the report of the Manager Corporate Services be noted.**
- 2. That it be noted that it is the intention in 2023 to revert to Councillors and Staff undertaking Community Meetings in February.**

**Carried**

## **17 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

Nil

## **18 DELEGATES AND COUNCILLORS REPORTS**

Nil

## **19 POLICIES**

Nil



**20 PRÉCIS OF CORRESPONDENCE**

Nil

**21 ACTIVITY REPORTS**

**21.1 ENGINEERING SERVICES ROAD WORKS & WORKSHOP - WORKS COMPLETED**

**File Number: E7.1**

The Council had before it the report of the Manager Special Projects regarding the Engineering Services Road Works & Workshop - Works Completed.

**Resolution 2022/26**

**Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington**

**Seconded: Cr Sam Rice**

**That Council note the information in the Engineering Services Department Road Works and Workshop Activity Reports as presented to Council on Friday, 25 February 2022.**

**Carried**

**21.2 PARKS & GARDENS / TOWN SERVICES / WATER & WASTEWATER ENGINEERING SERVICES ACTIVITY REPORT**

**File Number: E7.1**

The Council had before it the report of the Manager Works regarding the Parks & Gardens / Town Services / Water & Wastewater Engineering Services Activity Report.

**Resolution 2022/27**

**Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington**

**Seconded: Cr Sam Rice**

**That the information in the Parks and Gardens, Town Services and Water and Wastewater Activity Report as presented to Council on Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> February 2022 be received and noted**

**.Carried**

### **21.3 ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT - ACTIVITY REPORT**

**File Number: D3.1-A11.1-A8.1-S10.4**

The Council had before it the report of the Manager Environmental Services regarding the Environmental Services Department - Activity Report.

#### **Resolution 2022/28**

**Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington**

**Seconded: Cr Sam Rice**

That the information in the Environmental Services Activity Report as presented to Council on Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> February 2022 be received and noted.

**Carried**

### **21.4 GENERAL MANAGER'S ACTIVITY REPORT**

**File Number: G2.1**

The Council had before it the report of the General Manager regarding the General Manager's Activity Report.

#### **Resolution 2022/29**

**Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington**

**Seconded: Cr Sam Rice**

That the information in the General Manager's Activity Report as presented to Council on Friday, 25 February 2022 be noted.

**Carried**

### **21.5 LIBRARY MANAGER'S ACTIVITY REPORT FOR DECEMBER**

**File Number: L4.1**

The Council had before it the report of the Library Manager regarding the Library Manager's Activity Report for December.

#### **Resolution 2022/30**

**Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington**

**Seconded: Cr Sam Rice**

That the information in the Library Manager's Report for December 2021 as presented to Council on Friday, 25 February 2022 be noted.

**Carried**

## **21.6 LIBRARY MANAGER'S ACTIVITY REPORT FOR JANUARY**

**File Number: L4.1**

The Council had before it the report of the Library Manager regarding the Library Manager's Activity Report for January.

**Resolution 2022/31**

**Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington**

**Seconded: Cr Sam Rice**

**That the information in the Library Manager's Report for January 2022 as presented to Council on Friday, 25 February 2022 be noted.**

**Carried**

## **21.7 TOURISM & EVENTS MANAGER'S ACTIVITY REPORT**

**File Number: T4.1**

The Council had before it the report of the Manager Tourism & Events regarding the Tourism & Events Manager's Activity Report.

**Resolution 2022/32**

**Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington**

**Seconded: Cr Sam Rice**

**That the information in the Tourism and Events Manager's Activity Report for December 2021 and January 2022 as presented to Council on Friday, 25 January 2022 be noted.**

**Carried**

## 22 CLOSED SESSION

At this juncture, the Council gave consideration to moving into Closed Session of Council.

### **Resolution 2022/33**

**Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington**

**Seconded: Cr Sam Rice**

**That Council considers the confidential report(s) listed below in a meeting closed to the public in accordance with Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993:**

#### **22.1 \*\*\* North Bourke Stormwater Drainage**

**This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - (g) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with advice concerning litigation, or advice as comprises a discussion of this matter, that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege.**

#### **22.2 \*\*\* Outstanding Rates and Charges**

**This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - (b) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with discussion in relation to the personal hardship of a resident or ratepayer.**

#### **22.3 \*\*\* Write-off outstanding Debtor accounts**

**This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - (a) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors).**

**Carried**

Council proceeded into closed session with the livestreaming of the meeting being paused at 10.29am.

At this juncture, Cr Barton, Cr Ridge and Cr Ryan left the meeting during consideration of the following matter, the time being 10.29am.

**22.1 \*\*\* NORTH BOURKE STORMWATER DRAINAGE**

**File Number: D6.1, D6.2, V1.6**

The Council had before it the report of the General Manager regarding the North Bourke Stormwater Drainage.

**Resolution 2022/34**

**Moved: Cr Lachlan Ford**

**Seconded: Cr Victor Bartley**

- 1. That it be noted that a workshop of Councillors was held on 9 February 2022 to discuss the North Bourke Stormwater Drainage matter.**
- 2. That it be further noted that Council has sought additional engineering advice for a report to Council at its March 2022 meeting.**
- 3. That the documents and considerations remain confidential to the Council.**

**Carried**

At this juncture, Cr Barton Cr Ridge and Cr Ryan returned to the meeting, the time being 10:36 am.

**22.2 \*\*\* OUTSTANDING RATES AND CHARGES**

**File Number: P2.5-R2.15-R2.22-P9.3**

The Council had before it the report of the Manager of Corporate Services regarding the Outstanding Rates and Charges.

**Resolution 2022/35**

**Moved: Cr Victor Bartley**

**Seconded: Cr Grace Ridge**

**That Council notes the report on Outstanding Rates and Charges and Water Billing owed to Council as at 31 December 2021.**

**Carried**

**22.3 \*\*\* WRITE-OFF OUTSTANDING DEBTOR ACCOUNTS**

**File Number: D1.1**

The Council had before it the report of the Manager of Corporate Services regarding the Write-off outstanding Debtor accounts.

**Resolution 2022/36**

**Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington**

**Seconded: Cr Sarah Barton**

**That a write-off of \$1,650.00 for the Australian Tax College outstanding debt is approved as the debt is not recoverable**

**Carried**

**Resolution 2022/37**

**Moved: Cr Cec Dorrington**

**Seconded: Cr Sam Rice**

**That Council moves out of Closed Council into Open Council.**

**Carried**

Open council resumed at 10.42am.

**RESOLUTIONS FROM CLOSED SESSION OF COUNCIL**

At the request of the Mayor, the General Manager read to the meeting the Councils resolutions as determined in the Closed Session of Council.

**The Meeting closed at 10.45am.**

**The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 28 March 2022.**

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**CHAIRPERSON**

**10 NOTICES OF MOTION**

Nil

**11 RESCISSION MOTIONS**

Nil

**12 BUSINESS ARISING**

**12.1 \*\*\* BUSINESS ARISING**

**File Number:** C12.1  
**Author:** Mark Riley, General Manager  
**Authoriser:** Mark Riley, General Manager  
**Attachments:** Nil

**Background**

Business outstanding from previous meetings.

**Current Situation**

**KEY:** Action Still Pending  Action in Progress  Action  Complete

GM GENERAL MANAGER	MW MANAGER WORKS
MCS MANAGER CORPORATE SERVICES	MRS MANAGER ROAD SERVICES
MES MANAGER ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	EDM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

362/2018	BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION ACT 2016 - UPDATE
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	DWAYNE WILLOUGHBY - MANAGER ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
FILE NUMBER	E6.1-E6.4-L8.1

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
1. That Council undertake a review of the potential impact on the sale of land held for industrial development including obtaining specialist advice as appropriate. 2. That on finalisation of that review a further report be brought back to Council	Continue to lobby Government – matter evolving.

427/2018	PROPOSED CHANGE OF MANAGEMENT OF THE PCYC
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	MARK RILEY - GENERAL MANAGER
FILE NO	L1.17-Y1.7-LD-L11.14.3

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
That the General Manager prepare a detailed report in relation to the matter, including the seeking of legal advice if necessary	1. In progress. 2. Teleconference held 20/08/2020. 3. Correspondence sent to PCYC 25/8/20 and followed up for response 20/10/20 & 16/11/2020. 4. Matter further discussed with Crown Lands staff on 09/03/2021 for their contact with PCYC. 5. Further discussions held in July 2021 with Crown Lands in regards to their



	<p>contact with PCYC with correspondence sent to PCYC as a follow up to discussions.</p> <p>6. PCYC have advised that as a result of internal management changes they wish to defer discussions on land management till mid-2022.</p>
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156/2019	CONFIDENTIAL – CONSTRUCTION OF SEWERAGE TREATMENT PLANT FACILITIES
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	LEONIE BROWN - MANAGER OF CORPORATE SERVICES PETER BROWN - MANAGER OF WORKS
FILE NO	S3.2.3
<b>DECISION</b>	<b>ACTION TAKEN</b>
That Council continue with its representations to obtain funding for the additional costs anticipated to be incurred in the construction of the new Additional Sewage Treatment Facilities in Bourke	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ongoing.</li> <li>2. Water use study near completion. Will then make application for additional funding.</li> </ol>

274/2019	DROUGHT – WATER UPDATE
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	LEONIE BROWN - MANAGER OF CORPORATE SERVICES
FILE NO	W2.2.9 – W2.2.9.1
<b>DECISION</b>	<b>ACTION TAKEN</b>
That the General Manager write to the State Government seeking their urgent consideration of the construction of a regulator or additional weir including a fish ladder upstream of Bourke at a location identified as BU8	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Letter sent &amp; meeting held.</li> <li>2. State Government commits to preparation of Western Weirs Strategy.</li> <li>3. Teleconference involving staff and Councillors held with State Water on 22/9/2020 re Strategy.</li> <li>4. Meeting held with DPIE representatives on 10/11/2020 &amp; 11/11/2020.</li> <li>5. Further briefings on Strategy held 10/02/2021 and 24/05/2021.</li> <li>6. Discussions held by GM with Jim Betts in July 2021 Secretary, DPIE, in regards to the Weir Strategy Project and its prolonged timeframes.</li> <li>7. NSW Govt. in Oct 2021 announced the Better Baaka Program which includes Weir renewals on the Darling and specifically upgrading of the Bourke Weir. Meeting with DPIE to be held in Bourke on 23 November 2021.</li> <li>8. Meeting held DPIE 23/11/2021 with Jim Bently and his team via Video</li> </ol>

	<p>conference in regards to Better Baaka Better Bidgee project.</p> <p>9. Meeting held in December 2021 with Andrew Lavelle regarding the Weir upgrade at Bourke and connectivity strategy.</p> <p>10. Contact made with Minister Pavey’s Office re concerns regarding potential removal of downstream weirs.</p> <p>11. GM and MCS met with DPIE officers undertaking Western Regional Water Strategy consultation in Bourke on 8 March 2022 raising concern at the potential loss of downstream weirs.</p> <p>12. Contact made in March 2022 with Andrew Lavelle of DPIE re weir progress. Advised that Western Weirs project is progressing following completion of Strategic Business Case. Advised that he will be seeking to have further conversations re weirs downstream.</p> <p>13. Meeting held with Graham Attenborough and Jason Gordon of DPIE on 15 March 2022 re all things water including weir.</p>
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2020/111	DUAL NAMING OF THE DARLING RIVER – DARLING RIVER BAAKA
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	LEONIE BROWN – MANAGER OF CORPORATE SERVICES
FILE NO	R6.5

DECISION	ACTION TAKEN
That Council seek further clarification from the GNB on which section of the Darling River will be dual named Baaka and will the name be Darling Baaka River / Baaka Darling River or Darling River Baaka.	Ongoing. Geographical Names Board GNB contacted. Investigations are continuing by GNB. GNB advised in July 2021 that it would be undertaking consultation in August 2021 in regards to dual name proposal. GNB subsequently advised in August that due to COVID the consultations will now be undertaken in 2022.

2020/236	14.2 BOURKE AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	MARK RILEY - GENERAL MANAGER
FILE NO	A6.1
<b>DECISION</b>	
1. That Council seek quotations for the preparation of a Master Plan at the Bourke Airport to determine the availability of land for the proposed development and future developments.	<b>ACTION TAKEN</b> Brief prepared, quotations to be invited.

2020/325 & 326	REVIEW OF CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAM 2019/2020 AND REALLOCATION OF FUNDS – ITEM 15.5 - MOUNT OXLEY
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	MARK RILEY – GENERAL MANAGER
FILE NO	R2.5
<b>DECISION</b>	
1. That Council note the report on the responsibility and current condition of the access road to the summit of Mount Oxley. 2. That Council note the status of telecommunication infrastructure located atop Mount Oxley. 3. That following a Title Search discussions be held with the owners of the land and the various owners of the telecommunications infrastructure atop Mount Oxley with a view to sourcing funding for at least the \$80,000 in maintenance work and potentially a further \$110,000 for the guard rail installation, for a further report to Council including consideration to any contribution by Council. 4. That Council investigate its potential liability as a result of the public use of the access road to the top of Mount Oxley and a report be submitted back to Council.	<b>ACTION TAKEN</b> Extensive title searches have been completed.  Liability issues being pursued by Booth Brown Legal for further report.  Meeting held with Mr & Mrs Stalley on 10 December 2020.  Risk review undertaken by Councils insurers on 16/03/21. Awaiting advice to allow instructions to be issued by Booth Brown Legal to prepare licence documentation.  Discussions held with NSW Telco Authority re potential for funding to assist with road upgrade. Costs advised. No funding available.

2019/439 & 2021/33	NORTH BOURKE BRIDGE REHABILITATION CONCEPT PLAN
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	MARK GORDON – MANAGER ROAD SERVICES
FILE NO	B6.1
<b>DECISION</b>	
Council continue to apply for funding to undertake the project  Council commit additional funds of \$269,922 from Councils Infrastructure Reserve Fund to ensure a total co-contribution from Council of \$969,922 (25%) to the Building Better Regions Fund Round 5, for North Bourke Bridge Renewal, if a funding application is successful.	<b>ACTION TAKEN</b> 1. Ongoing. 2. Letter received from Minister Toole 11/11/2020 advising upcoming funding opportunities for bridge. 3. Funds as resolved reserved in Councils accounts. 4. Application under Building Better Regions

	<p>Fund lodged 11/02/2021. Application unsuccessful.</p> <p>5. Strategy prepared for investigation, assessment and restoration of bridge for input into Tourism Grant Application.</p> <p>6. Application lodged in August 2021. No response to date.</p> <p>7. Representations made to Member for Barwon, Roy Butler MP regarding funding for Bridge.</p> <p>8. Further application under Building Better Regions Fund lodged February 2022.</p> <p>9. Council resolved 25 February 2022 to allocate funding of \$200,000 to engage a structural engineer to prepare documentation to allow Council to invite tenders for restoration of the bridge.</p>
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2021/302	WESTERN GOLF CHALLENGE
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	MEL MILGATE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MANAGER
FILE NO	D5.1, S4.1 and S5.1

<b>DECISION</b>	
<p>That Council accede to the request from Gary Begg – Regional Manager Golf NSW requesting financial support in the amount of \$2,000 to assist with the grant application for the proposed Western Golf Challenge 2022.</p>	<p>EDM spoken with Gary Begg to confirm support.</p> <p>Western Golf Challenge Grant Application to be completed start of 2022.</p> <p>Letter of support from Bourke Shire Council drafted and pending advice from Mr Begg of other towns support as to the challenge proceeding before sending.</p>

2021/355	ROAD CLASSIFICATION REVIEW
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	ALEX SAJU, MANAGER ROADS
FILE NO	R7.1, R7.4.3

<b>DECISION</b>	
<p>1. That Council provide a submission to the Independent Panel on Road Classification Review and Regional Road Transfer proposing that ownership of the Bourke – Milparinka Rd (Wanaaring Rd) be transferred to the NSW Government, as a minimum.</p> <p>2. That the transfer of any Regional Roads to Government</p>	<p>Submission to Review Panel prepared and submitted.</p>

<p>in the Bourke Shire being on the basis of Council entering into a contract with Government which would see Council continuing to undertake both improvement works and the necessary programmed and emergency maintenance works on the transferred roadway(s).</p> <p>3. That Council also provide a submission to the Independent Panel on Road Classification Review and Regional Road Transfer proposing the reclassification from local road to regional road status of the following roads:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RLR 5 – Caronga Peak to Wilga Downs (23km / no bridge);</li> <li>• RLR50 - Moleyarra Road – Wanaaring to Hungerford (86.82km / no bridge);</li> <li>• RLR44 – Janina Road – Louth to Wanaaring (85.7km / no bridge);</li> <li>• RLR49 – West Culgoa Road – Bourke to Weilmoringle (82.82km / single lane bridge).</li> </ul>	
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2021/368	INTEGRATED WATER CYCLE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	PETER BROWN, MANAGER WORKS
FILE NO	W2.3

**DECISION**

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That Council accept funding in the amount of \$357,857 (Ex GST) under the Local Water Utility Infrastructure Programs Funding Scheme for town and village water supplies.</li> <li>2. That Council accept the offer from Public Works Advisory for the preparation of a new Integrated Water Cycle Management Strategy for the Bourke township and Villages at a cost of \$477,143 (Ex GST).</li> <li>3. That funding of \$119,286 (Ex GST) be sourced from Councils Water Fund Restricted Asset as Councils 25% contribution to the project.</li> <li>4. That any necessary documents be executed under the Common Seal of Council.</li> <li>5. That the documents and considerations remain confidential to the Council.</li> </ol>	<p>Funding Deed executed by Council.</p>
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2021/369	NORTH BOURKE STORMWATER DRAINAGE
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RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	MARK RILEY, GENERAL MANAGER	
FILE NO	D6.1, D6.2, V1.6	
<b>DECISION</b>		
That a workshop of Councillors, relevant staff, and Councils engineering and legal advisors be held on a date to be determined in February 2022, prior to Councils formal consideration of the North Bourke drainage issue.	Workshop of Councillors and staff held 9 February 2022.	Further report to be submitted to February 2022 Meeting.  Further engineering advice to be sought for a further report to be submitted to March 2022 meeting.

2021/370	MAYORAL MINUTE – GENERAL MANAGER RECRUITMENT	
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	MARK RILEY, GENERAL MANAGER	
FILE NO	S6.24	
<b>DECISION</b>		
1. That the recruitment process as identified herewith be endorsed.	1. Recruitment documentation including Position Description, Selection Criteria and Advertisement reviewed and approved by Selection Committee members	
2. That the selection committee for the recruitment of the General Manager comprise the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and two (2) other Councillors.	2. Advertising of the position commenced on 4 February 2022. Applications close on 28 February 2022.	
3. That Council proceed to determine the two (2) councillors on the selection committee.	3. Selection Committee met on 7 March 2022. Role readvertised closing 4 April 2022.	
4. That it be noted that final interviews will involve full Council at an Extraordinary meeting.		
5. That the timetable for the recruitment of General manager as identified herewith, be endorsed.		
6. That in progressing this recruitment process, the Mayor be authorised to attend to any necessary matters..		

2022/6	NOTICE OF MOTION - VILLAGE TOURS
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	MARK RILEY, GENERAL MANAGER
FILE NO	C8.1, C11.1, P4.1
<b>DECISION</b>	
All councillors be invited to attend any future Council Village Tours and community meetings.	

2022/10	REQUEST FOR TREE REMOVAL
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	PETER BROWN, MANAGER WORKS
FILE NO	T6.2
<b>DECISION</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the Preliminary Tree Assessment Reports as prepared by Savco Vegetation Services be noted.</li> <li>2. That prior to the removal of any of the identified trees, a notice of intention to remove the trees be placed in the local media with advice provided to adjacent landowners providing them with an opportunity to comment on the proposed removal with a copy of the advertisement being provided to the Councillors.</li> <li>3. That should there be objections to the various proposals, a further report be provided to Council in respect of such tree(s), prior to the removal of the subject tree(s).</li> <li>4. That should there be no comment of objection, Council proceed to :             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Remove the Queensland fig tree at 5 Denman St, Bourke as per the recommendation of Savco Vegetation Services.</li> <li>b) Remove the gum tree at 32 Green St, Bourke to mitigate all risks, and achieve a potentially better outcome, as per the Option B recommendation of Savco Vegetation Services.</li> <li>c) Remove the gum tree at 19 Mitchell St, Bourke to mitigate all risks and achieve a potentially better outcome, as per the Option B recommendation of Savco Vegetation Services.</li> </ol> </li> <li>5. That the General Manager be requested to take the necessary action in respect of progressing these tree removal requests</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Proposed tree removal advertised in Western Herald.</li> <li>2. Advice provided to adjacent landowners.</li> <li>3. Copy of advertisement provided to Councillors.</li> <li>4. Further report to be presented to Council in April 2022.</li> </ol>

2022/11	EMPLOYMENT ZONE REFORM
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	DWAYNE WILLOUGHBY, MANAGER ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
FILE NO	T5.1
<b>DECISION</b>	
That the proposal to permit business premises, with consent, in the R1 General Residential Zone of the Bourke Local Environmental Plan be endorsed for the purposes of preparing a Planning Proposal for further consideration by Council in due course.	Matter proceeding.

2022/12	PAYMENT OF EXPENSES AND PROVISION OF FACILITIES
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	MARK RILEY, GENERAL MANAGER
FILE NO	C11.1
<b>DECISION</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the draft policy "Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities for the Mayor and Councillors" as attached herewith be placed on Public Exhibition for a period of twenty-eight (28) days inviting the public to make submissions.</li> <li>2. That a further report be presented to Council following the submission period.</li> </ol>	Draft Policy advertised in Western Herald edition of 10 March. Report to be submitted to April 2022 Council meeting.

2022/13	CODE OF MEETING PRACTICE
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	MARK RILEY, GENERAL MANAGER
FILE NO	C11.1, C12.1
<b>DECISION</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the draft Code of Meeting Practice as appended to this report be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days with the public notice for such exhibition also specifying a period of not less than 42 days after the date on which the draft code is placed on public exhibition during which submissions may be made to the council.</li> <li>2. That a further report be presented to Council following the submission period.</li> </ol>	Draft Policy advertised in Western Herald edition of 10 March. Report to be submitted to April 2022 Council meeting.



2022/34	NORTH BOURKE STORMWATER DRAINAGE	
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	MARK RILEY, GENERAL MANAGER	
FILE NO	D6.1, D6.2, V1.6	
<b>DECISION</b>		
1. That it be further noted that Council has sought additional engineering advice for a report to Council at its March 2022 meeting.	Further report to be submitted.	

<b>Recommendation</b> That the information in the Business Arising Report as presented to Council on Friday, 28 March 2022 be noted.		
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**12.2 CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**File Number:** C12.6  
**Author:** Mark Riley, General Manager  
**Authoriser:** Mark Riley, General Manager  
**Attachments:** Nil

**Background**

Information is sent out monthly to advise when Council Meetings, meetings which Councillors are Delegates to and other meetings of which Council is a member of, or representatives of Council, are to be held.

**Current Situation**

Month	Date	Time	Meeting / Event	Location
<b>2022</b>				
March	28	9.15am	Council Meeting	Council Chamber
April	26 *	9.15am	Council Meeting	Council Chamber
May	23	9.15am	Council Meeting	Council Chamber
June	27	9.15am	Council Meeting	Council Chamber
July	25	9.15am	Council Meeting	Council Chamber
August	22	9.15am	Council Meeting	Council Chamber
September	26	9.15am	Council Meeting	Council Chamber
October	24	9.15am	Council Meeting	Council Chamber
November	28	9.15am	Council Meeting	Council Chamber
December	19	9.15am	Council Meeting	Council Chamber
<b>2023</b>				
February	27	9.15am	Council Meeting	Council Chamber
March	27	9.15am	Council Meeting	Council Chamber
April	24	9.15am	Council Meeting	Council Chamber
May	22	9.15am	Council Meeting	Council Chamber
June	26	9.15am	Council Meeting	Council Chamber
July	24	9.15am	Council Meeting	Council Chamber
August	28	9.15am	Council Meeting	Council Chamber
September	25	9.15am	Council Meeting	Council Chamber

\* Please note that this meeting is scheduled for the Tuesday, and not the Monday.

**Recommendation**

**That the information in the Calendar of Events Report as presented to Council on Monday, 28 March 2022 be noted.**

**12.3 INFORMATION TO COUNCILLORS**

**File Number:** C12.1  
**Author:** Mark Riley, General Manager  
**Authoriser:** Mark Riley, General Manager  
**Attachments:** Nil

**Background**

Each month a list of correspondence is sent out in the Business Paper to Councillors to ensure that they have not missed any information since the last Business Paper was produced.

**Current Situation**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Information Sent</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Email</b>
18/02/2022	Welcome to Bourke Invitation	Bourke Shire Council	✓
21/02/2022	Inside Local Government Newsletter – 18 February 2022	Inside Local Government	✓
21/02/2022	Upcoming Courses for Councillors	LG NSW	✓
23/02/2022	GMs Column	Mark Riley	✓
23/02/2022	Council -e news	Council Magazine	✓
23/02/2022	Inside Local Government Newsletter – 22 February 2022	Inside Local Government	✓
28/02/2022	ALGA Pre-Federal Election Briefing with Shadow Minister for Local Government the Hon Jason Clare MP	Australian Local Government Association	✓
28/02/2022	Inside Local Government Newsletter	Inside Local Government	✓
28/02/2022	The Weekly Newsletter, 24 February 2022	LG NSW	✓
28/02/2022	Inside Local Government Newsletter – 24 February 2022	Inside Local Government	✓
28/02/2022	Inside Local Government Newsletter – 25 February 2022	Inside Local Government	✓
28/02/2022	Inside Local Government Newsletter - 28 February 2022	Inside Local Government	✓
28/02/2022	Coulton's Catch Up - Monday 28 February	Mark Coulton MP	✓
03/03/2022	Council-e news	Council Magazine	✓
03/03/2022	Inside Local Government Newsletter – 1 March 2022	Inside Local Government	✓
03/03/2022	Government News	Government News	✓
03/03/2022	Inside Local Government Newsletter – 2 March 2022	Inside Local Government	✓
03/03/2022	Flood Update for Councils	OLG	✓
03/03/2022	Media Release - NSW Farmers welcomes disaster declarations	NSW Farmers	✓
03/03/2022	Inside Local Government Newsletter – 3 March 2022	Inside Local Government	✓
04/03/2022	Government News	Government News	✓

04/03/2022	Inside Local Government Newsletter – 4 March 2022	Inside Local Government	✓
04/03/2022	The Weekly Newsletter, 4 March 2022	LGNSW	✓
07/03/2022	Coulton's Catch Up - Monday 7 March	Mark Coulton MP	✓
07/03/2022	Inside Local Government Newsletter – 7 March 2022	Inside Local Government	✓
07/03/2022	Weekly Roundup	LGIU Australia	✓
08/03/2022	Council Circular 22-02 New guidelines covering section 358 applications and Public Private Partnerships (PPP)	OLG	
09/03/2022	Trivia Night this Wednesday 9 March - get yourself a team and come along to support Tour de OROC and Bourke Rotary Club	Bourke Rotary	✓
09/03/2022	Council-e news	Council Magazine	✓
09/03/2022	News in the Barwon Electorate	Roy Butler Member for Barwon	✓
09/03/2022	Inside Local Government Newsletter 8 March 2022	Inside Local Government	✓
09/03/2022	Inside Local Government Newsletter 9 March 2022	Inside Local Government	✓
14/03/2022	Government News	Government News	✓
14/03/2022	Flood recovery and support stakeholder communication toolkit	NSW Government	✓
14/03/2022	Invitation: Empowering Your Business this Thursday 17th March - 6pm	Melanie Milgate	✓
14/03/2022	The Weekly Newsletter, 14 March 2022	LG NSW	✓
15/03/2022	Government News	Government News	✓
15/03/2022	Media Release	NSW Farmers	✓
15/03/2022	Inside Local Government Newsletter 15 March 2022	Inside Local Government	✓
15/03/2022	Council e-news	Council Magazine	✓
15/03/2022	Government News	Government News	✓
15/03/2022	Council Circular 22-04 Payment of councillor superannuation	NSW OLG	✓
15/03/2022	Inside Local Government Newsletter 14 March 2022	Inside Local Government	✓
16/03/2022	GMs Column	GM	✓
18/03/2022	Inside Local Government Newsletter 16 March 2022		✓
18/03/2022	Weekly Newsletter	Regional Development Australia Orana NSW	✓
18/03/2022	Inside Local Government Newsletter 17 March 2022	Inside Local Government	✓
18/03/2022	Media Release	NSW Farmers	✓
18/03/2022	Inside Local Government Newsletter 18 March 2022	Inside Local Government	✓

**Recommendation**

**That the contents of the Information to Councillors Report as presented to Council on Monday, 28 March 2022 be noted.**

**13      ENGINEERING SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

Nil

**14 ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT****14.1 ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING & ASSESSMENT (STATEMENT OF EXPECTATION) ORDER 2021**

**File Number:** T5.1  
**Author:** Dwayne Willoughby, Manager Environmental Services  
**Authoriser:** Mark Riley, General Manager  
**Attachments:** 1. Environmental Planning & Assessment (Statement of Expectations) Order 2021  

**Background**

In November 2021, the then Minister for Planning and Public Spaces and Minister for Transport and Roads, the Hon. Rob Stokes, made the Environmental Planning and Assessment (Statement of Expectation) Order 2021.

The Order sets out clear expectations as to what constitutes an efficient and effective planning system and one that business and the community can have confidence in. It sets benchmarks for council performance in the areas of development assessment, planning proposals and strategic planning.

A copy of this Order and correspondence from the Office of the Secretary for Planning, Industry & Environment is attached.

**Recommendation**

**That the report of the Manager Environmental Services regarding Environmental Planning and assessment (Statement of Expectation) Order 2021 be noted.**



Planning,  
Industry &  
Environment

Office of the Secretary

15 December 2021

Dear General Manager

I am writing to advise you that the Hon. Rob Stokes, Minister for Planning and Public Spaces and Minister for Transport and Roads has recently made the Environmental Planning and Assessment (Statement of Expectations) Order 2021.

The Order sets out clear expectations as to what constitutes an efficient and effective planning system and one that business and the community can have confidence in. It sets benchmarks for council performance in the areas of development assessment, planning proposals and strategic planning. A copy of this Order is attached.

You will also be aware that the Government has placed similar performance expectations on the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (the Department) and other agencies with approval roles in the planning system. There are also new requirements on industry to improve the timeliness and quality of development applications. More information about these performance expectations and recent planning system reforms is available at [www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Policy-and-Legislation/Planning-reforms/Planning-Reform-Action-Plan](http://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/Policy-and-Legislation/Planning-reforms/Planning-Reform-Action-Plan).

During the last two years, councils and government agencies have been working hard to ensure we have an efficient and effective planning system that is able to support the state in its economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. It is the planning system that has allowed businesses to adapt and thrive, that has given people the confidence to invest in New South Wales and that has supported jobs across the economy.

I wish to acknowledge how hard councils have worked during the pandemic to ensure timely decision-making and in supporting the significant amount of planning reform that has occurred. New South Wales now has a planning system that is managed digitally through ePlanning, which makes consent authorities and Government agencies more accountable for their performance. We also have a planning system that is increasingly strategically led and where the community can have confidence in the planning decisions that are being made.

As you are aware, slow decision-making, whether by Government agencies or a council, is the enemy of public confidence in the planning system and leads to bad economic, social and environmental outcomes. The work that we have all done over the last two years has put the planning system in good stead and has allowed for new performance indicators to be set. The performance indicators outlined in the Minister's Order should not be seen as aspirational but as achievable and critical to the effective functioning of the planning system.



The Minister has decided to outline his clear expectations for the planning system in the attached Order so that incoming councillors are aware of the importance of an efficient and effective planning system in supporting a strong economy and delivering better places. It is also important to note that for the first time incoming councillors will be provided an induction on the planning and their role in ensuring the planning system as efficiently as possible. Accordingly, I would encourage you to table this letter and Order at your first available council meeting.

I look forward to continuing to work productively with you in meeting these performance indicators. As always, the Department is here to assist you if you feel you have any issues in meeting any of these expectations. As always, feel free to reach out to the Planning Delivery Unit or the Department's regional planning teams if your council needs further support or guidance. By continuing to work together, I am sure we will be able to build a stronger, more resilient economy and a planning system that meets the expectations of business and the community.

Yours sincerely

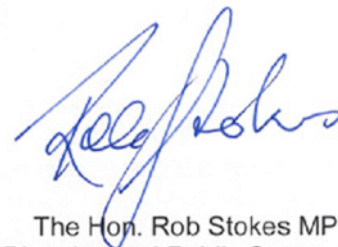


Kiersten Fishburn  
**Secretary**

*Encl. Environmental Planning and Assessment (Statement of Expectations) Order 2021*

## Environmental Planning and Assessment (Statement of Expectations) Order 2021

I, Rob Stokes, the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, make this Order under section 9.6(9) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.



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

Dated: 26<sup>th</sup> November, 2021.

### Explanatory note

The object of this Order is to set expectation for councils in relation to their performance of a range of planning and development functions under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*. If a council is found not to be meeting these expectations, the Minister can take these matters into consideration as part of determining if it is appropriate to appoint a planning administrator or regional panel to exercise a council's functions. It is made under section 9.6(9) of the Act.

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Environmental Planning and Assessment (Statement of Expectations) Order 2021

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## **Contents**

### **Part 1 Preliminary**

- 1 Name of Order
- 2 Commencement
- 3 Definitions

### **Part 2 Planning and development matters**

- 4 Heads of consideration
- 5 Minister's expectations

## Environmental Planning and Assessment (Statement of Expectations) Order 2021

under the

Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

### Part 1 Preliminary

#### 1 Name of Order

This Order is the *Environmental Planning and Assessment (Statement of Expectations) Order 2021*.

#### 2 Commencement

This Order commences on the day it is published on the NSW Planning Portal.

#### 3 Definitions

(1) In this Order—

**the Act** means the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*

**Department** means the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment.

**Gateway determination** means a determination made by the Minister (or delegate) under section 3.34 of the Act.

**LEP** means a local environmental plan.

**LSPS** means a local strategic planning statement.

**Minister** means the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces.

**Minister's expectations** means the expectations of the Minister in relation to the performance of a council in dealing with planning and development matters, as set out in clause 5 of this Order.

**Note.** The Act and the *Interpretation Act 1987* contain definitions and other provisions that affect the interpretation and application of this Order.

(2) Words used in this Order have the same meaning as words used in the Act.

(3) Notes included in this Order do not form part of this Order.

**Part 2 Planning and development matters****4 Heads of consideration**

The heads of consideration to be taken into consideration in exercising the power under s.9.6(1)(b) of the Act are:

- (a) Whether or not the Council has failed to meet the Minister's expectations in relation to council performance.
- (b) The frequency and degree to which the council has performed, or failed to perform, in accordance with the Minister's expectations.
- (c) The range and type of planning and development matters in respect of which the council has performed, or failed to perform, in accordance with the Minister's expectations.
- (d) Whether or not an appointment under s.9.6(1)(b) should be made in relation to one or more of a particular class of planning and development matter, or all planning and development matters dealt with by the council.
- (e) The effect of any caretaker period preventing a council's performance in dealing with the planning and development matters (or any particular class of such matters) as set out in clause 5.
- (f) The public interest.

**5 Minister's Expectations****(1) Development assessment**

A council should:

- (a) prepare assessment reports for a regionally significant development application and refer it to the relevant Regional Panel as soon as practical and no longer than 250 days from lodgement.
- (b) determine a development application for which it is the consent authority as soon as practical and no longer than 180 days from lodgement.
- (c) report a development application for which its functions as a consent authority are exercisable by the local planning panel to the panel for determination within 4 weeks of a request from the panel chair.

**(2) Planning proposals**

A council should:

- (a) Make a decision as to whether to support or not a proponent led planning proposal (rezoning) as soon as practical and no longer than 90 days, or
- (b) submit a proponent led planning proposal for a Gateway determination as soon as practical and no longer than 90 days after having indicated its support for the planning proposal,
- (c) publicly exhibit a planning proposal or hold a public hearing in line with the conditions of a Gateway determination,



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Environmental Planning and Assessment (Statement of Expectations) Order 2021

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- (d) consider or respond to public submissions on a draft LEP in accordance with their community participation plan,
  - (e) make a LEP, which has been delegated to the Council, in the timeframes specified in a Gateway determination.
- (3) **Strategic planning obligations**  
A council should :
- (a) prepare a LSPS for its local government area that meets the requirements for these statements under the Act,
  - (b) undertake the required review of its LSPS,
  - (c) give effect to a regional and/or district strategic plan applying to the LGA, including carry out a review of the LEP under section 3.8(3) of the Act,
  - (d) give effect to an adopted local planning strategy (such as a Local Housing Strategy), and any approval requirements issued by the Department,
  - (e) consider State Environmental Planning Policies or other strategies and policies of the Government, the Minister or the Department concerning planning and development matters.

**14.2 STANDARD INSTRUMENT AGRITOURISM NOMINATION**

<b>File Number:</b>	<b>T5.1</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Carolyn Crain, Coordinator Development &amp; Regulatory Services</b>
<b>Authoriser:</b>	<b>Dwayne Willoughby, Manager Environmental Services</b>
<b>Attachments:</b>	<b>1. Agritourism Information Sheet</b> <a href="#">↓</a> 
	<b>2. Standard Instrument LEP Amendment (Agritourism) Order 2021</b> <a href="#">↓</a> 

**Background**

The NSW Government is committed to supporting regional NSW recover from the impacts of natural disasters and Covid-19.

The department is proposing changes to make it easier for farmers to use their land in new and innovative ways to complement their existing businesses. This includes tourism activities such as farm experiences, cellar doors and farm stay accommodation.

The changes will provide farmers with additional income sources to allow them to be more resilient. They will enable them to better recover from natural disasters and the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and provide opportunities for sustainable tourism outlined in regional plans.

The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) has prepared a draft of the *Standard Instrument (Local Environmental Plans) Amendment (Agritourism) Order 2021 (LEP Order)*. This is the first step to rolling out the proposals outlined in the [agritourism and small-scale agriculture explanation of intended effect](#) (EIE) that was exhibited for public comment in March-April 2021. The LEP Order is intended to be made in early 2022.

The changes to the planning system in the LEP Order include introducing new land use terms into the *Standard Instrument – Principal Local Environmental Plan* (SI LEP) for ‘agritourism’, ‘farm gate premises’ and ‘farm experience premises’ and changes to the definition of ‘farm stay accommodation’.

**Current Situation**

Councils are invited to nominate and adopt the optional clauses and identify zones for permit the new land uses in their LEPs. Council nominations will be included in a state environmental planning policy that will amend relevant LEPs without the need for individual planning proposals. This process will cut red tape and save councils time in making amendments to their local plans.

The zone identified by Council staff that best suits these new land uses is the RU1 Primary Production zone. Council staff also recommend limiting the gross floor area of buildings used to accommodate guests and farm gate premises buildings to a maximum of six (6) buildings with an area of up to 100m<sup>2</sup> each to limit pressure on existing infrastructure e.g roads, onsite wastewater and sewerage systems.

Please see attached draft order and an information sheet for information.

**Financial Implications**

Nil

**Recommendation**

- 1. That Council endorse the Standard Instrument LEP Agritourism nomination form and submit its final response by 31 March 2022.**
- 2. That in completing the nomination form, Council submit that the number of buildings used to accommodate guests and farm gate premises buildings be to a maximum of six (6) buildings with an area of up to 100m<sup>2</sup> each.**



# Standard Instrument LEP Agritourism Amendment Order



Information sheet

December 2021

## Standard Instrument LEP Agritourism Amendment Order

Following the exhibition of the [explanation of intended effect \(EIE\)](#) in March-April 2021, the [draft Standard Instrument \(Local Environmental Plans\) Amendment \(Agritourism\) Order 2021 \(LEP Order\)](#) has been prepared which will amend the Standard Instrument LEP.

This is the first stage of rolling out the proposals in the EIE.

A summary of the submissions made to the EIE can be found in the [Submission and Survey Analysis Report](#).

### What are the proposed changes?

Proposed changes in the LEP Order include

- new land use terms for 'agritourism', 'farm gate premises'<sup>1</sup> and 'farm experience premises'<sup>2</sup>
- changes to the definition of 'farm stay accommodation'
- optional clauses to be inserted into the Standard Instrument LEP for 'farm stay accommodation' and 'farm gate premises'
- transferring 'cellar door premises' to become a subset of 'farm gate premises'.

### What are the benefits of the changes?

The changes will provide farmers with additional income sources to allow them to be more resilient. They will enable them to better recover from natural disasters and the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and provide opportunities for sustainable tourism outlined in regional plans.

### What do the changes mean for councils?

Councils can now nominate to adopt the optional clauses and/or specify the land use zones to permit the new land uses in their LEPs and provide justification for their nominations.

Councils need to submit:

- preliminary responses to the [Standard Instrument LEP Agritourism nomination form](#) by **Friday 25 February 2022**. These responses will inform the drafting of amendments.
- final responses to the Standard Instrument LEP Agritourism Nomination and council minutes or a letter by **Thursday 31 March 2022**.

### What happens next?

The department proposes to make the LEP Order in early 2022.

A state environmental planning policy to amend relevant LEPs without the need for a planning proposal is proposed to be made in mid-2022.

### Agritourism permissibility

The LEP Order includes new agritourism land uses, as shown in Figure 1.

<sup>1</sup> Farm gate premises were previously identified as 'farm gate activities' in the EIE.

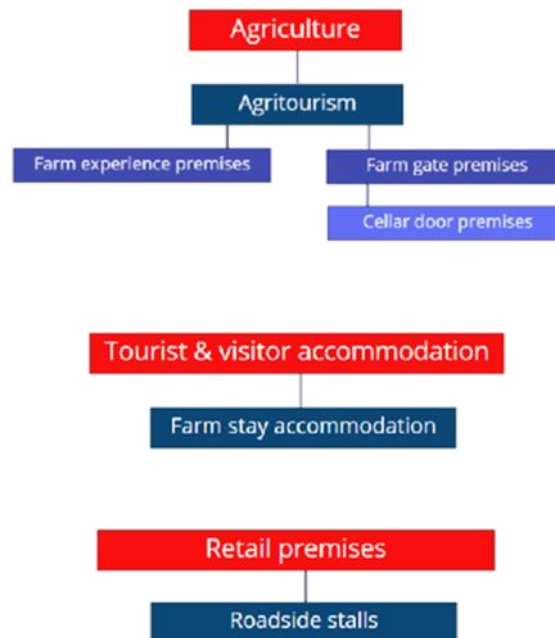
<sup>2</sup> Farm experience premises were previously identified as 'farm events' in the EIE

# Standard Instrument LEP Agritourism Amendment Order



Information sheet

Figure 1: Hierarchy of land uses



## Agritourism land use, farm gate premises and farm experience premises

Agritourism, and the subsets of this use, farm gate premises and farm experience premises will sit under the parent term of 'agriculture' and will be permissible in land use zones where agriculture is permissible.

They will not be automatically permissible where other subsets of agriculture, such as extensive agriculture or intensive plant agriculture, are permissible.

Councils wishing to allow agritourism, farm gate premises or farm experience premises in other zones can nominate these zones through the Standard Instrument LEP Agritourism Nomination.

## Farm stay accommodation and roadside stalls

Farm stay accommodation and roadside stalls will remain under their existing parent terms and continue to be permitted where tourist and visitor accommodation and retail premises, respectively, are permitted, or where the use is specified as permissible in a land use zone under the relevant LEP.

## Cellar door premises

Cellar door premises will continue to be permitted in land use zones in which they are currently permissible and will also be permitted where agriculture, agritourism or farm gate premises are permitted under the relevant LEP.

# Standard Instrument LEP Agritourism Amendment Order



## Information sheet

Councils that wish to expand these land uses into other zones can nominate the relevant zones through the Standard Instrument LEP Agritourism Nomination.

### Agritourism definitions

The table below details changes to the definitions of farm stay accommodation, farm experience premises and farm gate premises made in response to submissions received during exhibition of the EIE.

**Table 1. Changes to definitions**

Land use	Definition changes	Reason
Farm stay accommodation	Now includes moveable dwellings as defined in the SI LEP to facilitate small-scale camping on farms	<p>A response to council requests to clarify the type of camping allowed under the revised farm stay accommodation definition</p> <p>A section 68 approval under the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> will be required to install a moveable dwelling on a farm unless the council's local approvals policy allows the activity without approval.</p>
Farm experience premises	<p>Farm events has been amended to farm experience premises</p> <p>Farm experience premises now include farm field days</p>	<p>The amendment to the term recognises guests will visit a farm to take part in tourist and recreational activities and to experience the features of the farm and farm life.</p> <p>Including farm field days is a response to submissions requesting specific activities be included in the definition.</p> <p>The department proposes to prepare model DCP clauses to assist councils where further parameters for farm experience premises are required.</p>
Farm gate premises	<p>Roadside stalls will remain as a form of retail premises and will not become a form of farm gate premises</p> <p>Clarifies that animal processing is not permitted as part of farm gate premises</p>	<p>This will ensure roadside stalls remain permissible in zones other than rural zones.</p> <p>Exempt development provisions are being prepared for roadside stalls in rural zones having regard to submissions received during the exhibition of the EIE.</p> <p>Animal processing has not been included as a form of agritourism as it has potentially significant impacts and less potential to generate tourism. The processing of other agricultural produce can be undertaken under the definition.</p>

# Standard Instrument LEP Agritourism Amendment Order



Information sheet

## Principal use of the land

Submissions received during the exhibition of the EIE requested the department clarify the meaning of land principally used as primary production for commercial purposes. The LEP Order will amend the existing definition of farm stay accommodation and include in the new definitions for farm gate premises and farm experience premises a requirement that these uses must be undertaken on land that is a primary production business as defined under the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 (Cth)*, or which is rated 'farmland' by the council under the *Local Government Act 1993*. This approach will give applicants two options to show their development will be on land used for commercial farming and not a hobby or recreational farm.<sup>3</sup>

For farm experience premises and farm gate premises, the relevant use must also be ancillary to the farm. Ancillary uses are explained in [Planning Circular How to characterise development](#).

## Optional clauses

The optional clauses recognise the importance of local controls and have been prepared to allow councils to apply numerical standards that best fit their local strategic plans. Heads of consideration have also been included in each clause to require both applicants and council officers to address the impacts of the development. Please note that under [LEP Practice Note PN 11-001 Preparing LEPs using the Standard Instrument: standard clauses](#), councils cannot add local clauses that can be addressed using the optional clauses.

The development standards in the optional clauses that have been amended in response to submissions to the EIE are detailed in the table below.

**Table 2 Changes to development standards**

Type of development	Standard in EIE	Amended standard	Reason
Farm stay accommodation building – maximum guests	3 times the number of bedrooms in clause 5.4(5) or another number nominated by council	3 times the number of bedrooms in clause 5.4(5) or 20 guests	This will provide a maximum cap on guests to ensure that farm stays are small scale. Councils can reduce the number of guests for a development through a condition of development consent.
Farm stay accommodation building – maximum gross floor area (GFA) for a building	75sqm or a number that council specifies (that is not more than 75sqm)	A number the council nominates which is greater than 60sqm	This will provide flexibility for councils to nominate an area that reflects their strategic planning. Councils can reduce the GFA for a development through a condition of development consent.

<sup>3</sup> See [Taxation Ruling TR 97/11](#) Income tax: am I carrying on a business of primary production? and [section 515](#) of the *Local Government Act 1993*.



# Standard Instrument LEP Agritourism Amendment Order



## Information sheet

Type of development	Standard in EIE	Amended standard	Reason
			Changes are proposed to the Codes SEPP to allow buildings for farm stay accommodation up to 60sqm as complying development.
Farm stay accommodation – GFA exclusion for dwellings	As above	The maximum GFA will not apply to a change of use of an existing dwelling.	This will allow a dwelling house which is larger than 60sqm to be converted into farm stay accommodation without the need for substantial work to limit its size.
Farm stay accommodation - maximum number of days for guests in a moveable dwelling	14 days	The maximum number of consecutive days guests can stay in moveable dwellings will be included in model conditions of consent.	The department will prepare model conditions of consent for farm stay accommodation, farm experience premises and farm gate premises that councils can choose to adopt. This will complement model conditions of consent currently being prepared for other types of development.
Farm stay accommodation - dwelling entitlement	Modify clause 2.6 to prevent the creation of a dwelling entitlement in relation to farm stay accommodation	Farm stay accommodation will be required to be on: (i) the same lot as an existing lawful dwelling house, or (ii) on a lot for which a minimum size is shown for a dwelling house on the council's Lot Size Map and the size of which is not less than the minimum size shown.	This clause is intended to prevent the fragmentation of agricultural land.
Farm gate premises – maximum gross floor area	200sqm or the number council specifies in its LEP	A number council nominates which is no greater than 200sqm	Caps have been placed on the maximum floor area and number of guests for farm gate premises to ensure they remain small scale.

# Standard Instrument LEP Agritourism Amendment Order



## Information sheet

Type of development	Standard in EIE	Amended standard	Reason
Farm gate premises - maximum number of guests	50 guests or the number council specifies in its LEP	A number council nominates which is no greater than 50 guests	Caps have been placed on the maximum floor area and number of guests for farm gate premises to ensure they remain small scale.

## Poultry and pig farm setbacks

The amendment proposed in the EIE regarding setback requirements for poultry and pig farms has been included in the LEP Order.

The Order will amend clause 5.18 of the SI LEP to increase the setback requirements for poultry and pig farms permitted without consent, as proposed, to mitigate biosecurity risks.

However, most of the submissions received were not in favour of increasing the current limit of poultry farms permitted without consent to 10,000 birds. The submissions raised concerns about amenity and environmental impacts.

In response to these submissions, the department has proposed to not increase the development consent threshold for poultry farms from 1,000 to 10,000 birds.

## More information

For more information on the changes you can:

- visit the [department's website](#)
- visit the [NSW planning portal](#).
- email the project team at [agritourism@dpie.nsw.gov.au](mailto:agritourism@dpie.nsw.gov.au).

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draft

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New South Wales

## **Standard Instrument (Local Environmental Plans) Amendment (Agritourism) Order 2021**

under the

Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

The following local environmental plan is made by the local plan-making authority under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

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DRAFT

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Standard Instrument (Local Environmental Plans) Amendment (Agritourism) Order 2021 [NSW]

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**Standard Instrument (Local Environmental Plans) Amendment (Agritourism) Order 2021**

under the

Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

**1 Name of Plan**

This Plan is *Standard Instrument (Local Environmental Plans) Amendment (Agritourism) Order 2021*.

**2 Commencement**

This Plan commences on the day on which it is published on the NSW legislation website.

**3 Amendment of Standard Instrument (Local Environmental Plans) Order 2006**

**Land Use Table**

Insert in appropriate order in Direction 5—

- Agritourism;
- Farm experience premises;
- Farm gate premises;



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 draft
 

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Standard Instrument (Local Environmental Plans) Amendment (Agritourism) Order 2021 [NSW]  
 Schedule 1 Amendment of Standard Instrument prescribed by Standard Instrument (Local Environmental Plans) Order 2006

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### Schedule 1 Amendment of Standard Instrument prescribed by Standard Instrument (Local Environmental Plans) Order 2006

**[1] Clause 5.4 Controls relating to miscellaneous permissible uses [compulsory]**

Omit “not less than 8” from clause 5.4(8). Insert instead “not less than 9”.

**[2] Clause 5.18 Intensive livestock agriculture [compulsory if intensive livestock agriculture permitted with consent]**

Omit clause 5.18(4)(b)(v). Insert instead—

- (v) for a poultry farm used for breeding poultry—within 5,000 metres of another poultry farm, or
- (vi) for a poultry farm not used for breeding poultry—
  - (A) within 5,000 metres of a poultry farm used for breeding poultry, or
  - (B) within 1,000 metres of a poultry farm not used for breeding poultry, or
- (vii) for a pig farm—within 3,000 metres of another pig farm.

**[3] Clauses 5.23 and 5.24**

Insert after clause 5.22—

**5.23 Farm stay accommodation [optional]**

- (1) The objectives of this clause are—
  - (a) to diversify the uses of agricultural land without adversely impacting the principal use of the land for a primary production business, and
  - (b) to balance the impact of tourism and related commercial uses with the use of land for primary production, the environment, scenic values, infrastructure and adjoining land uses.
  - (c) [set out other objectives of the clause]
- (2) Development consent must not be granted to development for the purposes of farm stay accommodation on a landholding unless the consent authority is satisfied that—
  - (a) the maximum number of guests accommodated in bedrooms at any 1 time will not be more than the greater of—
    - (i) 3 times the number of bedrooms permitted under clause 5.4(5), or
    - (ii) 20 guests, and
  - (b) the gross floor area of a building used to accommodate guests will not be more than [insert number no less than 60] square metres, and
  - (c) the maximum number of guests accommodated in moveable dwellings on the landholding will not be more than [insert number no more than 20] at any 1 time, and
  - (d) the maximum number of moveable dwellings used for the accommodation of guests will not be more than [insert number no more than 6], and
  - (e) all buildings or moveable dwellings used to accommodate guests will be—
    - (i) on the same lot as an existing lawful dwelling house, or

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draft

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Standard Instrument (Local Environmental Plans) Amendment (Agritourism) Order 2021 [NSW]  
 Schedule 1 Amendment of Standard Instrument prescribed by Standard Instrument (Local Environmental Plans) Order 2006

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- (ii) on a lot—
  - (A) for which a minimum size is shown for a dwelling house on the Lot Size Map, and
  - (B) the size of which is not less than the minimum size shown.
- (3) Subclause (2)(b) does not apply if the development is the change of use of an existing dwelling to farm stay accommodation.
- (4) Development consent must not be granted to development for the purposes of farm stay accommodation on land unless the consent authority has considered—
  - (a) whether the development will result in noise or pollution that will have significant adverse impact on the following on or near the land—
    - (i) residential accommodation,
    - (ii) primary production operations,
    - (iii) other land uses, and
  - (b) whether the development will have significant adverse impact on the following on or near the land—
    - (i) the visual amenity, heritage or scenic values,
    - (ii) native or significant flora or fauna,
    - (iii) water quality,
    - (iv) traffic,
    - (v) the safety of persons, and
  - (c) whether the development is on bush fire prone land or flood prone land, and
  - (d) the suitability of the land for the proposed development, and
  - (e) the compatibility of the development with nearby land uses.

**5.24 Farm gate premises [optional]**

- (1) The objectives of this clause are—
  - (a) to allow for small scale tourism and related commercial uses on land used for primary production without adversely impacting the principal use of the land for primary production, and
  - (b) to balance the impact of tourism and related commercial uses with the use of land for primary production, the environment, scenic values, infrastructure and adjoining land uses.
  - (c) *[set out other objectives of the clause]*
- (2) Development consent must not be granted to development for the purposes of farm gate premises on a landholding unless the consent authority is satisfied that—
  - (a) the gross floor area of a building used for farm gate premises will not be more than *[insert number no more than 200]* square metres, and
  - (b) the maximum number of persons that will be permitted on the landholding at any 1 time for the purposes of the farm gate premises will not be more *[insert number not more than 50]* persons.
- (3) Development consent must not be granted to development for the purposes of farm gate premises on land unless the consent authority has considered—
  - (a) whether the development will result in noise or pollution that will have significant adverse impact on the following on or near the land—

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Standard Instrument (Local Environmental Plans) Amendment (Agritourism) Order 2021 [NSW]  
 Schedule 1 Amendment of Standard Instrument prescribed by Standard Instrument (Local Environmental Plans) Order 2006

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- (i) residential accommodation,
- (ii) primary production operations,
- (iii) other land uses, and
- (b) whether the development will have significant adverse impact on the following on or near the land—
  - (i) the visual amenity, heritage or scenic values,
  - (ii) native or significant flora or fauna,
  - (iii) water quality,
  - (iv) traffic,
  - (v) the safety of persons, and
- (c) whether the development is on bush fire prone land or flood prone land, and
- (d) the suitability of the land for the proposed development, and
- (e) the compatibility of the development with nearby land uses.

**[4] Dictionary**

Insert after the definition of *agriculture*, paragraph (d)—

- (e) agritourism.

**[5] Dictionary**

Omit the definition of *farm stay accommodation*.

Insert in alphabetical order—

*agritourism* means the following—

- (a) farm gate premises,
- (b) farm experience premises.

**Note**—Agritourism is a type of *agriculture*—see the definition of the term in this Dictionary.

*farm stay accommodation* means a building or place—

- (a) on a farm—
  - (i) that is a primary production business, or
  - (ii) on land categorised as farmland under the *Local Government Act 1995*, section 515, and
- (b) used to provide temporary accommodation to paying guests of the farm including in buildings or moveable dwellings.

**Note**—Farm stay accommodation is a type of *tourist and visitor accommodation*—see the definition of the term in this Dictionary.

*farm experience premises* means a building or place—

- (a) on a farm that is—
  - (i) a primary production business, or
  - (ii) on land categorised as farmland under the *Local Government Act 1995*, section 515, and
- (b) that is ancillary to the farm, and
- (c) that is used to provide visitors to the farm with small scale and low impact tourist or recreational services on a commercial basis including the following—
  - (i) horse riding,

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Standard Instrument (Local Environmental Plans) Amendment (Agritourism) Order 2021 [NSW]  
 Schedule 1 Amendment of Standard Instrument prescribed by Standard Instrument (Local Environmental Plans) Order 2006

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- (ii) farm tours,
- (iii) functions or conferences,
- (iv) farm field days.

**Note**— Farm experience premises is a type of *agritourism*—see the definition of the term in this Dictionary.

**farm gate premises**—

- (a) means a building or place—
  - (i) on a farm that is—
    - (A) a primary production business, or
    - (B) on land categorised as farmland under the *Local Government Act 1995*, section 515, and
  - (ii) that is ancillary to the farm, and
  - (iii) that is used to provide visitors to the farm with agricultural products predominantly from the farm or other farms in the region or with services or activities related to the products, including the following—
    - (A) processing, packaging and sale of the products, but not the processing of animals,
    - (B) a restaurant or cafe,
    - (C) a facility for holding tastings or workshops, or providing information or education, related to the products, and
- (b) includes cellar door premises.

**Note**— Farm gate premises is a type of *agritourism*—see the definition of the term in this Dictionary.

**landholding** means 1 or more lots of land that—

- (a) are constituted or worked as a single property, and
- (b) are contiguous or are separated only by a road or watercourse.

**primary production business** has the same meaning as in the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997* of the Commonwealth and includes a business that—

- (a) was a primary production business, and
- (b) has temporarily ceased to be a primary production business because of a natural disaster, including a drought, flood or bush fire.

**[6] Dictionary, definition of “cellar door premises”**

Omit “*retail premises*” from the note. Insert instead “*farm gate premises*”.

**[7] Dictionary, definition of “restaurant or cafe”**

Insert “, but does not include a restaurant or cafe that is included as part of artisan food and drink industry or farm gate premises” after “provided”.

**[8] Dictionary, definition of “retail premises”**

Insert “farm gate premises,” before highway service centres”.

**[9] Dictionary, definition of “retail premises”**

Omit paragraph (b).

**14.3 REMOVAL OF TREES FROM MEMORAL OLYMPIC SWIMMING POOL COMPLEX**

**File Number:** S10.2  
**Author:** Dwayne Willoughby, Manager Environmental Services  
**Authoriser:** Mark Riley, General Manager  
**Attachments:** Nil

**Background**

Council staff have identified two (2) trees that are located within the Bourke Memorial Olympic Swimming Pool Complex that are causing problems at the facility and will cause future problems for the proposed new learn to swim pool.

These trees are a type of Gum tree and are not considered street trees as they are not planted within the road reserve and are therefore outside the definition of a street tree in Council's Street Tree Policy.

**Current Situation**

With the proposed current upgrades to the little pool and the installation of the shade over the car park and the new BBQ area, it has become evident that these trees are causing ongoing problems with the pool surrounds, new infrastructure, and filtration system. This is evident with the splash park filtration system becoming clogged on numerous occasions during the season due to material from these trees falling onto the surface of the splash park.

The tree situated towards the front entrance and next to the new BBQ area is causing continual problems with nuts, branches and leaves dropping on top of the carpark shade and parking area and also the BBQ structure guttering becoming frequently clogged.

The tree situated near the little pool has also been causing continual issues with the loss of limbs, leaves and bark causing problems with the filtration of both the 50m pool and the Splashpark. This tree is also situated in the path of the proposed filtration and discharge lines for the new learn to swim pool. The architect and pool design engineer, have raised concerns regarding the trees location and future problems that could develop if the tree is left as is with root invasion. He advised that diverting around the root system might not be achievable, and if it was, would add considerable costs onto the project.

It also should be noted that the shaded areas around the pools have increased significantly with installation of manmade structures within the last 12 months.

Discussions between the Manager of Planning, Regulatory & Environmental Services and the Pool Contractor revealed that the areas under these trees are hardly used by families to sit under as families were more inclined to now utilise the shade under the manmade structures to be closer to the pools. The Pool Contractor also raised issues with both the safety of these trees with the dropping of branches more evident with their ageing and with the cleanliness of the concourse area, with the new pool not having a fence around it he has noticed that there are continual problems with leaves on the concourse area and in the pool itself.

### **Financial Implications**

Removal and replacement of trees will be within current budget allocations.

### **Recommendation**

- 1. That Council proceed to remove the two (2) Gum trees from within the Bourke Memorial Swimming Pool Complex, to allow for development and upgrade works of the learn to swim pool, noting that such trees are outside the definition of a street tree as per Council's Street Tree policy.**
- 2. That Council staff replace the (2) Gum trees with suitable trees at other strategic locations within the pool complex.**

**15 GENERAL MANAGER****15.1 \*\*\* PERCY HOBSON**

**File Number:** P1.15, R1.1  
**Author:** Mark Riley, General Manager  
**Authoriser:** Mark Riley, General Manager  
**Attachments:** Nil

**Background**

As Councillors would be aware, Commonwealth Gold Medallist and former Bourke resident, Mr Percy Hobson passed away on 4 January 2022. Mr Hobson has been honoured by the Bourke community with the naming of the Percy Hobson Park and more recently with the painting of a mural of him high jumping, on the water tower adjacent to the Percy Hobson Park.

**Current Situation**

On 4 March 2022, an obituary written by Mrs Helen Coolican appeared in the Sydney Morning Herald. It is considered appropriate that such obituary be brought to the attention of Councillors and the community in further recognition of the contribution of Mr Hobson to Bourke.

**PERCY HOBSON 1942–2022**

*“A brass band and hundreds of people singing For He’s a Jolly Good Fellow met Percy Hobson at Bourke railway station, with a banner stretched along the platform reading “Congratulations Percy!”, on his return home after breaking a state record held for almost three decades.*

*It was a year before Perth hosted the Commonwealth Games of 1962, and Percy would go on to win the gold medal for high jump with a leap of six feet, 11 inches (211 centimetres). Aged just 20, the Ngemba man was the first Aboriginal athlete to win a Commonwealth Games gold medal, as well as the first to do so in an international arena.*

*Born in 1942 to Fanny Williams and Percy Hobson, he was one of 10 children. His mother was the daughter of Sergeant Frank Williams, an Aboriginal tracker for NSW police, and his father’s family were early settlers in the district.*

*Percy was 13 when the Olympic Games were held in Melbourne and was immediately “mad for sport”. Two new teachers at Bourke Intermediate High School trained a team for track and field, and Percy’s capacity for spring, to run fast and elevate himself made him a winner in long, triple and high jump.*

*Percy seized the chance to connect with a real coach when Doug McBain commented on his spring and performance at a representative carnival the next year. Tiny compared to teammates, and knowing high jumpers need to be tall, Percy told McBain, “Dad’s six foot six and Mum’s just under six feet’ – which stretched the truth by a foot. Percy later said Doug knew he was fibbing .*

*The 59 letters Doug wrote are a generous record of coaching by correspondence that nurtured Percy’s thirst for knowledge.*

*His first high jump stands had bamboo crossbars from his grandmother’s garden that broke too easily. The solution was an unbreakable curtain rod that came down on his foot and broke some bones. “Pay attention to mistakes and don’t repeat them,” became his slogan.*

*An amateur athlete, Percy always had a job and trained after work. Equipment was handmade and improvised in the bush way. When Percy began to win state competitions, his cousin Frankie Bye extended the set of stands he'd made in a local metallurgy workshop to seven feet six inches (228 centimetres). Aiming for decathlon, they made a hammerthrow with melted lead sinkers, a mackerel tin and chain. Percy threw discus and javelin in the backyard until it spiked a hole in the household water tank and his mother said "No more!"*

*To change from western roll and jump a world-class height, Percy followed Doug's written instructions and taught himself the straddle technique in the backyard. Lacking landing gear for the sideways fall, he piled mounds of dirt. Injuries were a training hazard.*

*In his mid-teens Percy joined the Wellington club 420 kilometres away, then Dubbo, and finally Eastern Suburbs, taking the train to competitions and sitting up for the 1600 kilometre return journey.*

*Melbourne University coach Franz Stampfl said "Percy Hobson is too short", and Doug continued to ask if he'd grown.*

*Percy's first straddle jump in competition was six feet four inches (193 centimetres) just after his 17th birthday, an improvement of six inches. Doug suggested Percy focus on high jump. This was his personal best until he broke the 28 year record with six feet eight inches (203 centimetres), and the town celebrated his return with a brass band.*

*Workmates chipped in, discount air travel was organised and his employer, Tancred's Meatworks, gave time off. The Western Herald published a competitive fundraising table every week and updates outlined Percy's challenge: Fortnightly travel to Sydney and Melbourne, stiff competition with elite high jumpers he had to beat to become state representative. Finally, he had to make the top three in national rankings.*

*Interest in Percy's prospects grew. An ABC camera team spent a week filming in Bourke at the same time as some members of the games training squad had a trip to Jakarta for a friendly track and field meet. Percy told Kris Flanders of NITV's Living Black he was "the only Australian titleholder not included". His shock and hurt were palpable when a friend and teammate said: "It's because you're Aboriginal." He would love to have gone, he later said, even if just for the uniform.*

*In 40 degree heat, without any shade, over three hours, 11 competitors completed 117 jumps on day two of the 1962 British Empire and Commonwealth Games – otherwise known as the Oven Games. In front of 50,000 people at Perry Lakes Stadium, third place getter Anton Norris from Barbados was eliminated at six feet eight inches. Charles "Chilla" Porter completed a further nine of his 20 jumps to win silver.*

*With seven jumps, Percy cleared six feet 11 inches to win, then made three attempts to be the first Australian to jump seven feet (213 centimetres). Dehydrated and sapped of adrenaline, he twice ran under the bar. His trailing leg touched the bar in his final leap.*

*Percy's win was wildly celebrated in Bourke. When asked in Perth how locals would celebrate, Percy said he'd had the brass band, he didn't think they could do much more. But they did.*

*Simultaneously, there was a spontaneous concert in Main Street and the family home was crowded with well-wishers. Next, a welcome home at the airport, a victory procession, a park named in his honour and a feature in the visitors' centre. More recently, a mural immortalising his winning leap was painted on the water tower overlooking Percy Hobson Park on the Mitchell Highway at the entrance to Bourke.*

*Percy made his home in Melbourne. At his funeral his family celebrated a loving and supportive father and an active participant in many sports as coach or parent mentor, with a vast knowledge of sports statistics.*



*His gold medal was brought from the Museum of Canberra for his funeral and displayed with his Australian blazer and tracksuit, alongside the casket covered in the Aboriginal flag , under a wreath of native flowers .*

*Percy Hobson is survived by Wesley, Douglas, Frances and Keith, six grandchildren, a great granddaughter, sisters Heather, Freda, Sue, Margaret and Jean, family in Bourke and across the eastern states.”*

It is advised that Cr Victor Bartley, attended Mr Hobsons funeral, at his own expense, and delivered a condolence letter from Council to the Family.

In regard to the Percy Hobson Mural located at the southern entry to Bourke, it is advised that the installation of kerbing and guttering adjacent to the park is expected to be installed prior to Easter 2022

### **Financial Implications**

Nil

### **Recommendation**

That the information in the report of the General Manager be noted.

**15.2 DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND OTHER MATTERS RETURNS**

**File Number:** C11.7, S2.29  
**Author:** Mark Riley, General Manager  
**Authoriser:** Mark Riley, General Manager  
**Attachments:** Nil

**Background**

Clause 4.21 of Councils Code of Conduct provides, in respect of disclosure of interests in written returns, as follows:

*A councillor or designated person must make and lodge with the general manager a return in the form set out in schedule 2 to this code, disclosing the councillor's or designated person's interests as specified in schedule 1 to this code within 3 months after:*

*(a) becoming a councillor or designated person, and*

*(b) 30 June of each year, and*

*(c) the councillor or designated person becoming aware of an interest they are required to disclose under schedule 1 that has not been previously disclosed in a return lodged under paragraph (a) or (b).*

Clause 4.25 of the Code provides that, *returns that are required to be lodged with the general manager under clause 4.21(a) and (b) must be tabled at the first meeting of the council after the last day the return is required to be lodged.*

**Current Situation**

Given that Bourke Shire Councils elections were uncontested, Councillors were elected effective 4 December 2021. Having regard to Clauses 4.21 and 4.25 of Councils Code of Conduct, Councillors were required to disclose their interests in written returns by 4 March 2022 with such returns to be tabled at the first meeting after the 4 March 2022 timeline. Accordingly, the returns are tabled at the March 2022 Council meeting, noting that all Councillors have completed their written interest returns.

It is further advised that in accordance with Clause 4.27 of the Code, Council must make all returns of interests publicly available in accordance with the requirements of the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009, the Government Information (Public Access) Regulation 2009 and any guidelines issued by the NSW Information Commissioner. This is in respect of returns provided by Councillors and designated persons, being the General Manager and the Managers who report to the General Manager.

The Information Commissioner has issued Information Access Guideline 1 in relation to the publication of information contained in returns of interests. Guideline 1 states that councillors' and designated persons' returns of interests must be made publicly available free of charge on councils' websites, unless there is an overriding public interest against disclosure of the

information contained in them or to do so would impose unreasonable additional costs on the council.

It is open to councils to redact information from returns of interests (eg a person's signature and residential address) when publishing returns on their websites where there is an overriding public interest against the disclosure that information. Such action will be taken in respect of the various Bourke Council related returns prior to publishing on Council's website.

**Financial Implications**

There are no Financial Implications arising from this report.

**Recommendation**

That the tabling of the Disclosure of Interest Returns, as detailed in the report of the General Manager, be noted and that it be further noted that in accordance with the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 the returns will be made publicly available on Councils website.

**16 CORPORATE SERVICES DEPARTMENT****16.1 \*\*\* BANK RECONCILIATION & STATEMENT OF BANK BALANCES**

**File Number:** F1.1  
**Author:** Leonie Brown, Manager of Corporate Services  
**Authoriser:** Mark Riley, General Manager  
**Attachments:** Nil

**Bank Reconciliation for the period ending 28 February 2022**

Balances as per Bank Statement	\$965,196.56
Plus: Deposit not shown	\$9,012.86
Less: Unpresented Cheques	\$2,500.65
<b>Balance as per Cash Book</b>	<b>\$971,708.77</b>

**Reconciled Ledger Accounts as at 28 February 2022**

Fund or Account	Current Balance	Overdraft Statutory Limit
General	\$19,626,620.67	\$200,000.00
Water	\$2,743,799.62	
Sewer	\$2,818,078.97	
Trust	\$113,741.30	
	<b>\$25,302,240.56</b>	

**Investments as at 28 February 2022**

National Australia Bank	\$1,084,474.56	0.35%	367 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$456,379.79	0.07%	360 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$3,025,633.12	0.35%	365 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$1,102,965.00	0.35%	365 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$806,188.21	0.28%	210 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$2,010,054.80	0.46%	182 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$2,008,219.18	0.36%	365 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$1,158,167.48	0.55%	365 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$676,193.12	0.33%	330 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$3,106,731.89	0.04%	365 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$3,065,270.42	0.07%	360 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$704,706.26	0.04%	360 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$1,725,827.62	0.32%	300 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$1,502,071.24	0.52%	181 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$1,897,649.10	Flex		
<b>Total Investments</b>	<b>\$24,330,531.79</b>			

**In accordance with Clause 212 of the Local Government Act (General) Regulation 2005 it is certified that the above investments have been made under Sec 625 of the Local Government Act and Council's Investment Policy.**

**Reconciliation at 28 February 2022**

Balance as per cash book	\$971,708.77
Investments	\$24,330,531.79
<b>Total, equalling Reconciled Ledger</b>	<b>\$25,302,240.56</b>

**Statement of Bank Balances as at 28 February 2022**

	Balance	Transaction	Balance
	31 January 2022		28 February 2022
General Fund	\$20,885,895.41	-\$1,259,274.74	\$19,626,620.67
Water Fund	\$2,817,082.23	-\$73,282.61	\$2,743,799.62
Sewer Fund	\$2,784,250.43	\$33,828.54	\$2,818,078.97
Trust Fund	\$108,064.30	\$5,677.00	\$113,741.30
Investments	-\$25,330,247.71	\$999,715.92	-\$24,330,531.79
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$1,265,044.66</b>	<b>-\$293,335.89</b>	<b>\$971,708.77</b>

**Balance of all Funds as at 28 February, 2022**

<b>Balance as at 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2022</b>	<b>\$1,265,044.66</b>
<b>Add Receipts for</b>	
(a) Rates	\$543,133.97
(b) Other Cash	\$1,521,383.23
<b>Deduct payments for</b>	
(a) Payments	\$3,357,569.05
(b) New Investment	-\$999,715.96
<b>Balance as at 28 February, 2022</b>	<b>\$971,708.77</b>

**Recommendation**

**That the Certificate of Reconciliation of the Cash Book for all funds of the Council and the Statement of Bank Balances as at 28 February 2022 be noted.**

**16.2 \*\*\* INVESTMENT REPORT AS AT 28 FEBRUARY 2021**

**File Number:** F1.1  
**Author:** Leonie Brown, Manager of Corporate Services  
**Authoriser:** Mark Riley, General Manager  
**Attachments:** Nil

**Background**

The investment report is submitted monthly to Council.

**Issues**

- Investments are in accordance with Division of Local Government Guidelines and Council's Investment Policy
- Statutory obligations are being met
- Councillors roles as resource allocators and policy directors are satisfied

**Assessment****Legal Implications Including Directives and Guidelines**

Local Government Act 1993

Local Government (General) Regulation 2005

The management, of Council's investments is delegated by the General Manager to the Manager Corporate Services.

**Financial Implications/Consideration**

The 2021/22 Budget estimated the total investment revenue as \$290,000 which represents an estimated return of .25%. This revenue was split proportionally across General, Water and Sewer Funds and changes on a monthly basis in accordance with cash flow requirements.

The market value of Council's investments held as at 28 February 2022 is \$24,330,351.79

Investment income earned as at 28 February 2022 is \$90,662.25

**Policy Provisions – Council Policy and Procedure**

Policy 1.8.10(v5) – Investment Policy adopted 23 July 2020.

Ministerial Investment Order – 12 January 2011

**Strategic Implications – Implications for Long Term Plans/Targets**

Funds are invested in accordance with identified cash flow requirements.

**Investment Portfolio****Investments as at 28 February 2022**

National Australia Bank	\$1,084,474.56	0.35%	367 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$456,379.79	0.07%	360 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$3,025,633.12	0.35%	365 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$1,102,965.00	0.35%	365 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$806,188.21	0.28%	210 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$2,010,054.80	0.46%	182 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$2,008,219.18	0.36%	365 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$1,158,167.48	0.55%	365 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$676,193.12	0.33%	330 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$3,106,731.89	0.04%	365 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$3,065,270.42	0.07%	360 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$704,706.26	0.04%	360 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$1,725,827.62	0.32%	300 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$1,502,071.24	0.52%	181 Days	A1+
National Australia Bank	\$1,897,649.10	Flex		
<b>Total Investments</b>	<b>\$24,330,531.79</b>			

**Term Deposits****Discussions/Comments**

The Investment portfolio decreased by \$999,711.91 during the period.

The investment portfolio is invested in term deposits with the National Australia Bank. The investment portfolio is regularly reviewed in order to maximise investment performance and minimise risk.

The Government Guarantee on Investments up to \$1 million dollars has now expired and the new cap of \$250,000 has replaced the scheme.


**Certification – Responsible Accounting Officer**

I hereby certify that the investments listed in the attached report have been made in accordance with Section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993, clause 212 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 and Council's Investment Policy.

**Recommendation**

- 1. That the report regarding Council's Investment Portfolio 28 February 2022 be received and noted.**
- 2. That the Certificate of the Responsible Accounting Officer be noted, and the report adopted**

**16.3 \*\*\* NSW OLG - COUNCILLOR SUPERANNUATION PAPER**

**File Number:** C11.2  
**Author:** Leonie Brown, Manager Corporate Services  
**Authoriser:** Mark Riley, General Manager  
**Attachments:** 1. NSW OLG - Councillors Superannuation Paper 27 April 2020 [↓](#) 

**Background**

The purpose of this report is for Council to determine whether to make superannuation contribution payments for Councillors from 1 July 2022.

At the Ordinary meeting of Council held on 27 April 2020, Council received a report regarding the payment of superannuation payments for Councillors. The report included details of the discussion paper that cited the following reasons why Mayors and Councillors should receive superannuation payments in addition to their fees:-

- ☐ It will ensure that Mayors and Councillors are adequately remunerated for the performance of their duties.
- ☐ It will address a historic anomaly that has seen Mayors and Councillors denied the benefit of superannuation guarantee payments enjoyed by the broader workforce.
- ☐ It is hoped it will encourage more women to stand as candidates for elections to Councils.

Council was advised at the time that the cost of paying the superannuation guarantee for Mayors and Councillors would be met by each Council out of its own existing budget. A copy of this report is attached.

At the time Council resolved the following:

**Resolution 2020/140**

**Moved:** Cr Ian Cole

**Seconded:** Cr Robert Stutsel

- 1. That Council preferred option for superannuation as outlined in the discussion paper is to maintain the status quo as detailed in option One (1) .**
- 2. That Council informs the local community about the Councillor Superannuation Discussion Paper through its normal media outlets and encourage members of the community to make submissions to the OLG in this regard.**

Details of Option 1 are below

Option 1	Maintaining the status quo	Under this option, Councils will continue not to be obliged to make superannuation guarantee payments on behalf of mayor and Councillors. Mayors and Councillors who wish to make concessional contributions to their superannuation funds can continue to enter into an arrangement with the Council under which they agree to forego part of their fee in exchange for the Council making contributions
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		to a complying superannuation fund on their behalf on a pre-tax basis
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**Current Situation**

Following an amendment to the Local Government Act 1993 (the Act) last year, Councils may make payments as a contribution to the superannuation account nominated by their Councillors, starting from the financial year commencing on 1 July 2022

The making of superannuation contribution payments for Councillors is optional and is at each councils discretion.

At the Ordinary meeting of Council held in May 2021 Council resolved to adopt the following Mayor and Councillor fees for 2021/2022 financial year

	Councillor Fee	Mayor Fee	Total Fee
Councillors	\$12,400		\$12,400
Mayor	\$12,400	\$27,060	\$39,460

The NSW Government has provided the following information relevant to Councillor Superannuation:

- To exercise the option of making superannuation contribution payments for their Councillors, Councils must first resolve at an open meeting to make superannuation contribution payments for the Councillors.
- Where a council resolves to make superannuation contribution payments for its councillors, the amount of the payment is to be the amount the council would have been required to contribute under the Commonwealth Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act 1992 as superannuation if the Councillors were employees of the Council.
- As of 1 July 2022, the superannuation guarantee rate will be 10.5%. The rate will increase by half a percent each year until 1 July 2025 when it reaches 12%.
- The superannuation contribution payment is to be paid at the same intervals as the annual fee is paid to Councillors.
- To receive a superannuation contribution payment, each councillor must first nominate a superannuation account for the payment before the end of the month to which the payment relates. The superannuation account nominated by Councillors must be an account for superannuation or retirement benefits from a scheme or fund to which the Commonwealth Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act applies.
- Councils must not make a superannuation contribution payment for a Councillor if the Councillor fails to nominate an eligible superannuation account for the payment before the end of the month to which the payment relates.
- Individual Councillors may opt out of receiving superannuation contribution payments or opt to receive reduced payments. Councillors must do so in writing.
- Councils must not make superannuation contribution payments for Councillors during any period in which they are suspended from their civic office or their right to be paid any fee or other remuneration, or expense, is suspended under the Act.
- Councillors are also not entitled to receive a superannuation contribution payment during any period in which they are not entitled to receive their fee under section 254A of the Act because they are absent.

Should Council be of the view to make superannuation contribution payments to Councillors an appropriate motion would be as follows;

1. That effective 1 July 2022, Council proceed to make superannuation contribution payments for Councillors.
2. That such superannuation contribution payments be the amount that Council would be requested to contribute under the Commonwealth Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act 1992 as superannuation if the Councillors were employees of the Council.
3. That it be noted that as of 1 July 2022, the superannuation guarantee rate will be 10.5% and then increasing by half a percent each year until 1 July 2025 when it reaches 12%.
4. That the obligations of Councillors and Council in respect of payments as provided in the March 2022 report of the Manager Corporate Services be noted.
5. That Councils 2022/2023 Operational Plan be prepared on the basis of superannuation contribution payments being made to Councillors

### **Financial Implications**

Currently the superannuation guarantee is set at 10% of the salary/wage amount. It will increase to 10.5% in 2022/2023. Based on the current adopted Councillor fees, introducing a superannuation payment to Councillors, would equate to an additional expenditure of \$15,861.30 being incurred by Council for the 2022/2023 financial year subject to any increases in fees during that financial year. It is also noted that superannuation guarantee is scheduled to rise incrementally from 10% to 12% of the salary/wage by July 2025.

No funds have been allocated in Councils forward budgets for this expenditure.

### **Recommendation**

**That Council proceed to determine whether to make superannuation contributions payments for Councillors from 1 July 2022.**

**14.3 \*\*\* NSW OLG - COUNCILLOR SUPERANNUATION PAPER**

**File Number:** C11.2  
**Author:** Leonie Brown, Manager Corporate Services  
**Authoriser:** Ross Earl, General Manager  
**Attachments:** Nil

**Background**

The purpose of this report is to bring to Council's attention the Councillor Superannuation Discussion Paper that has been circulated by the NSW Office of Local Government (OLG). Councils have been encouraged to provide a response and incorporate any feedback from the community. The OLG has issued a discussion paper to seek the views of Councils and their communities on whether Councillors should receive superannuation payments.

Under the *Commonwealth Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act 1993*, Councils across Australia are not required to make superannuation contributions in relation to the fees they pay to Mayors and Councillors. The reason for this situation is because Mayors and Councillors are elected to a civic office in a Council and are not deemed to be employees of the Council.

The discussion paper has been released in response to concerns that the ineligibility of Councillors to receive superannuation payments is inequitable and is a deterrent to more women and younger people making themselves available for election to local Councils.

**Current Situation**

The discussion paper cites the following reasons why mayor and Councillors should receive superannuation payments in addition to their fees:-

- It will ensure that mayors and Councillors are adequately remunerated for the performance of their duties.
- It will address a historic anomaly that has seen mayors and Councillors denied the benefit of superannuation guarantee payments enjoyed by the broader workforce
- It is hoped it will encourage more women to stand as candidates for elections to Councils.

Council should note that the cost of paying the superannuation guarantee for mayors and Councillors will need to be met by each Council out of its own existing budget. In Bourke Shire Council case, based on its current adopted Councillor and mayoral fees, it would equate to \$14,072 per annum.

The total estimated annual cost of paying the 9.5% superannuation guarantee for mayors and Councillors for the Local Government sector as a whole is approximately \$3 million.

The discussion paper proposes four (4) options for Councils consideration:

Option 1	Maintaining the status quo	Under this option, Councils will continue not to be obliged to make superannuation guarantee payments on behalf of mayor and Councillors. Mayors and Councillors who wish to make concessional contributions to their superannuation funds can continue to enter into an arrangement with the Council under which they agree to forego part of their fee in exchange for the Council making contributions to a complying superannuation fund on their behalf on a pre-tax basis
Option 2	Amending the NSW <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> to require Councils to pay a portion of the mayor's and Councillor's fees equivalent to the superannuation guarantee amount into a complying superannuation fund nominated by the mayor and Councillors.	Under this option, the Act would be amended to require Councils to pay a proportion of the mayor's and Councillors' fees equivalent to the superannuation guarantee amount into a complying superannuation fund nominated by the mayor and Councillors.
Option 3	Amending the NSW <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> to require Councils to pay an amount equivalent to the superannuation guarantee into a complying superannuation fund nominated by the mayor and Councillors in addition to the payment of the mayor and Councillors' fees	Under this option, all Councils will be required to pay an amount equivalent to the superannuation guarantee contribution payable with respect to the mayor and Councillors' fees, into a complying superannuation fund nominated by the mayor and Councillors. The payment would be made in addition to the payment of the mayor and Councillors' fees. A supporting amendment would be required to exempt the additional payment from section 242A of the Act
Option 4	Amend the NSW <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> to give Councils the option to pay an amount equivalent to the superannuation guarantee into a complying superannuation fund nominated by the mayor and Councillors in addition to the mayor and Councillors' fees.	This option is based on the Queensland model. Under this option, the payment of an additional superannuation contribution in addition to the mayor and Councillors' fees would be optional for Councils. Councils would also have the option to make a superannuation contribution on behalf of the mayor and Councillors as a portion of the mayor or Councillors' fees. As with option 3, a supporting amendment would be required to exempt the additional payment from section 242A of the Act

For governance to remain transparent and open, Council is encouraged to inform the local community about the discussion paper and encourage members of the community to make submissions.

Submissions on the discussion paper can be made up until the close of business on Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> May 2020.



**Financial Implications**

Currently the superannuation guarantee is set at 9.5% of the salary/wage amount. Based on the current adopted Councillor fees, introducing a superannuation payment to Councillors, would equate to an additional expenditure of \$14,072 being incurred by Council for the 2019/2020 financial year. It is also noted that superannuation guarantee is scheduled to rise incrementally from 9.5% to 12% of the salary/wage by July 2025.

**Recommendation**

- 1. That Council evaluates the information contained within the Councillor Superannuation Discussion Paper distributed by the NSW Office of Local Government (OLG), and provides the General Manager with its preferred option as outlined in the discussion paper to be included with a submission to the OLG.**
- 2. That Council informs the local community about the Councillor Superannuation Discussion Paper through its normal media outlets and encourage members of the community to make submissions to the OLG in this regard.**

**16.4 \*\*\* DRAFT COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN**

**File Number:** P4.1  
**Author:** Leonie Brown, Manager of Corporate Services  
**Authoriser:** Mark Riley, General Manager  
**Attachments:** 1. Draft Community Strategic Plan 2022-2032  

**Background**

The draft Community Strategic Plan is now provided to Councillors for review along with a recommendation to place the Draft document of public Exhibition for a period of 28 days.

The Integrated Planning and Reporting framework allows councils to build plans of appropriate size, scale and content for their communities. As each community in NSW is different, each council's Community Strategic Plan will be different. The most important thing is that the Community Strategic Plan, and the implementation structures that support it, are fit for purpose and appropriate to their communities.

The role of the Office of Local Government (OLG) in the planning process is to build the framework, provide guidance and assistance to councils in implementing it, and check that it is working. Each council's role is to use the planning process creatively, for the benefit of their community.

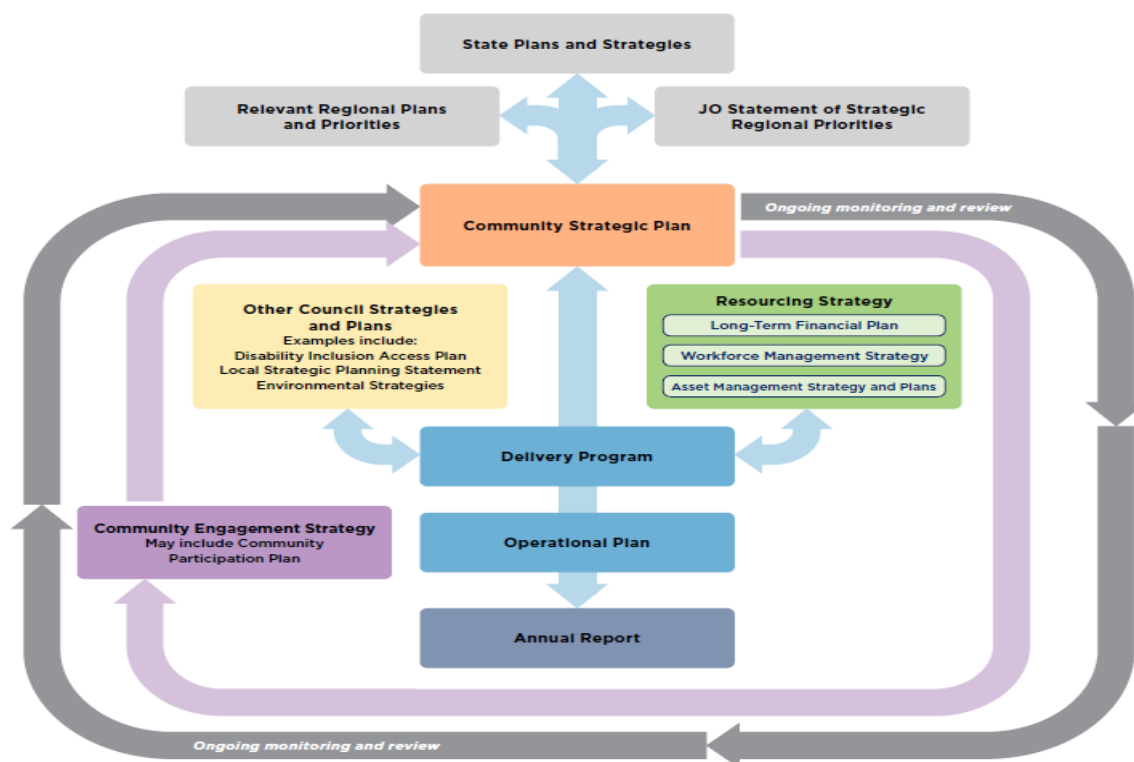
Apart from providing a clear picture for the future, the planning process can also help councils to better connect with their communities to gain a more detailed understanding of their area and its regional context.

**Current Situation**

The existing Community Strategic Plan was approved in 2017 and was written for the ten year period to 2027. The Community Strategic Plan is aligned with the NSW local government election cycle and with the new council there is a statutory requirement to engage with the community as part of the Integrated Planning and Reporting process.

The Community Strategic Plan has now been updated for the ten year period from 2022 to 2032. The Plan is one of the key documents undertaken as part of the Integrated Planning and Reporting process. Other key documents such as the Long Term Financial Plan, Asset Management Plan and Delivery Plan will be presented to Council over the coming two months.

The Community Strategic Plan sits within the Integrated Planning process as outlined in the diagram shown.



Extensive consultation was undertaken with Village committees, local residents, staff, business houses, sporting groups and other interested participants in developing this plan.

The review undertaken in 2022 has found that the five (5) key areas identified for action are as they were identified in the previous plan.

The key areas are:

1. Environmental Sustainability
2. Vibrant and liveable community
3. Economic Prosperity
4. Governance and organisational performance
5. Our infrastructure

The draft plan is provided to Councillors for further consideration.

**Financial Implications**

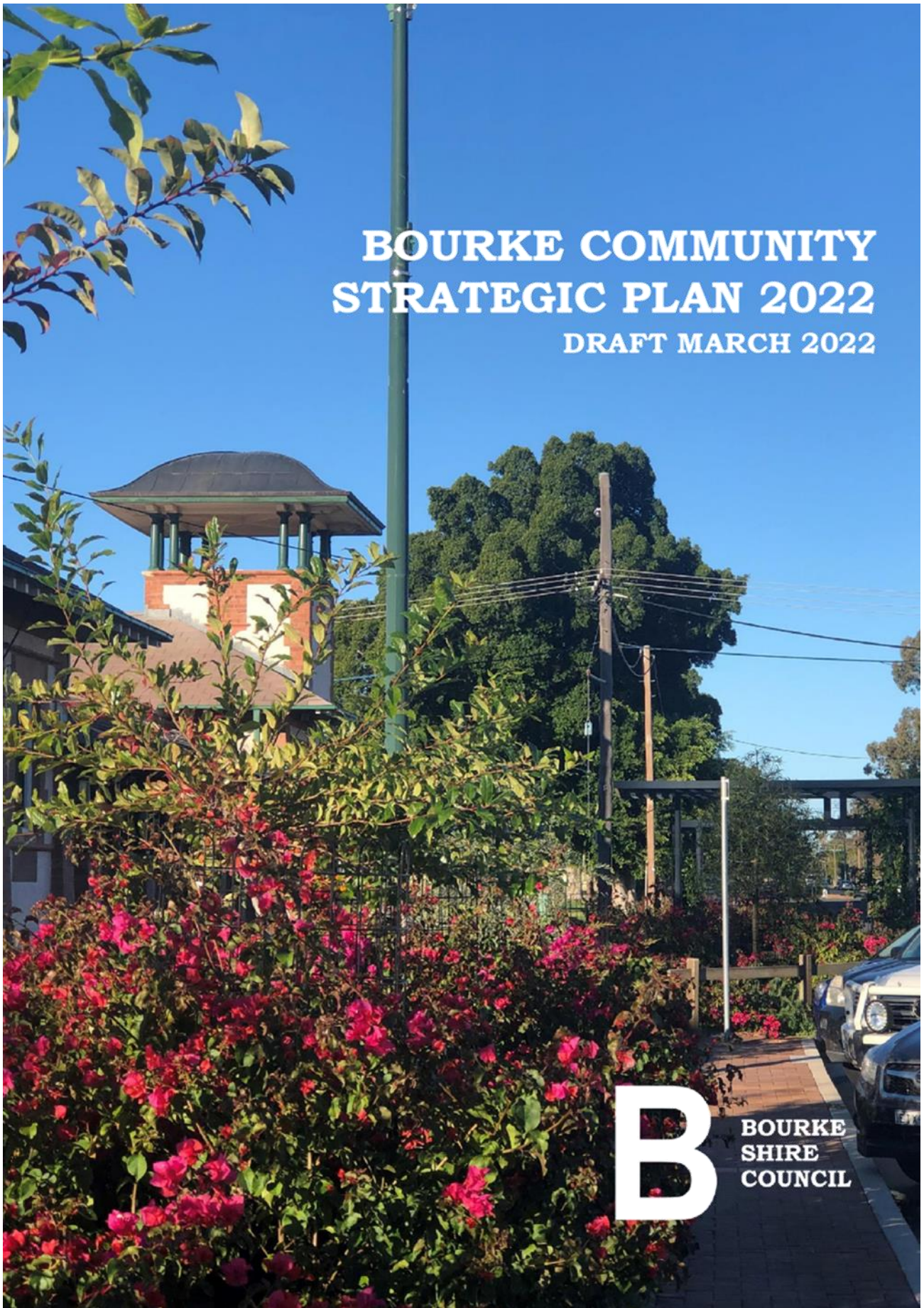
The review of the Community Strategic Plan has largely been undertaken by Council staff and within existing budgets.

The Community Strategic Plan is one of the key documents that assists to develop the four year Delivery Program and yearly operational plans.

**Recommendation**

1. That the draft Community Strategic Plan as attached herewith be placed on public exhibition for a period of twenty-eight (28) days inviting the public to make submissions
2. That a further report be presented to Council following the submission period.









## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

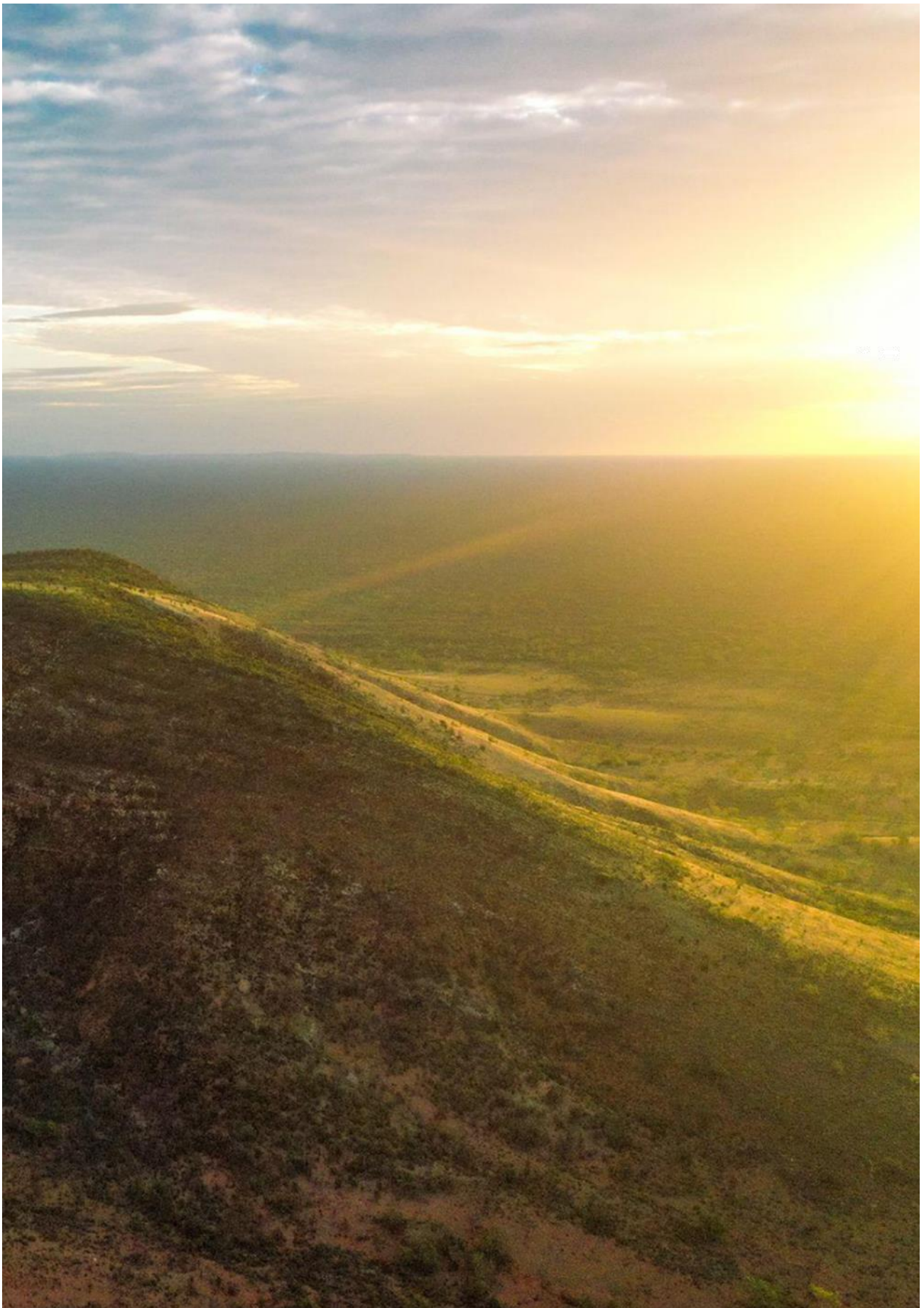
In the spirit of reconciliation, Bourke Shire Council acknowledges the traditional custodians of Bourke and country throughout Australia and their connections to land, sea and community.

We pay our respect to our Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.

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## MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

I am pleased to bring to you our Community Strategic Plan review 2022. The Strategic Plan is one of our obligations under the State Government's Integrated Planning and Reporting legislation.

The previous plan, which was approved in 2017, led us to prioritising infrastructure, operational budgets and issues for which the community wanted strong local leadership to advocate for on their behalf. While much of the past five years has included times of harsh drought and the COVID19 pandemic, we have still managed to achieve many of the goals of the previous plan.

This new plan continues on with much of the work started under the previous plan and again provides Council with a strategic document to help plan our communities future and guide us into future budgets and funding opportunities.

Thank you to all community members for your input into this plan and for attending the various Village meetings and private consultations. I also thank the various State Government departments for their input and their ongoing interest in the Western Region of NSW.

Bourke Shire Council has again improved its economic sustainability over the past five years and through the actions contained in this Strategic Plan as well as the Delivery and Operational plan will continue to deliver improvements to the Community.

Cr Barry Hollman

Mayor





## **INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING**

The Integrated Planning and Reporting framework allows councils to build plans of appropriate size, scale and content for their communities. As each community in NSW is different, each council's Community Strategic Plan will be different. The most important thing is that the Community Strategic Plan, and the implementation structures that support it, are fit for purpose and appropriate to their communities.

The role of the Office of Local Government (OLG) in the planning process is to build the framework, provide guidance and assistance to councils in implementing it, and check that it is working. Each council's role is to use the planning process creatively, for the benefit of their community.

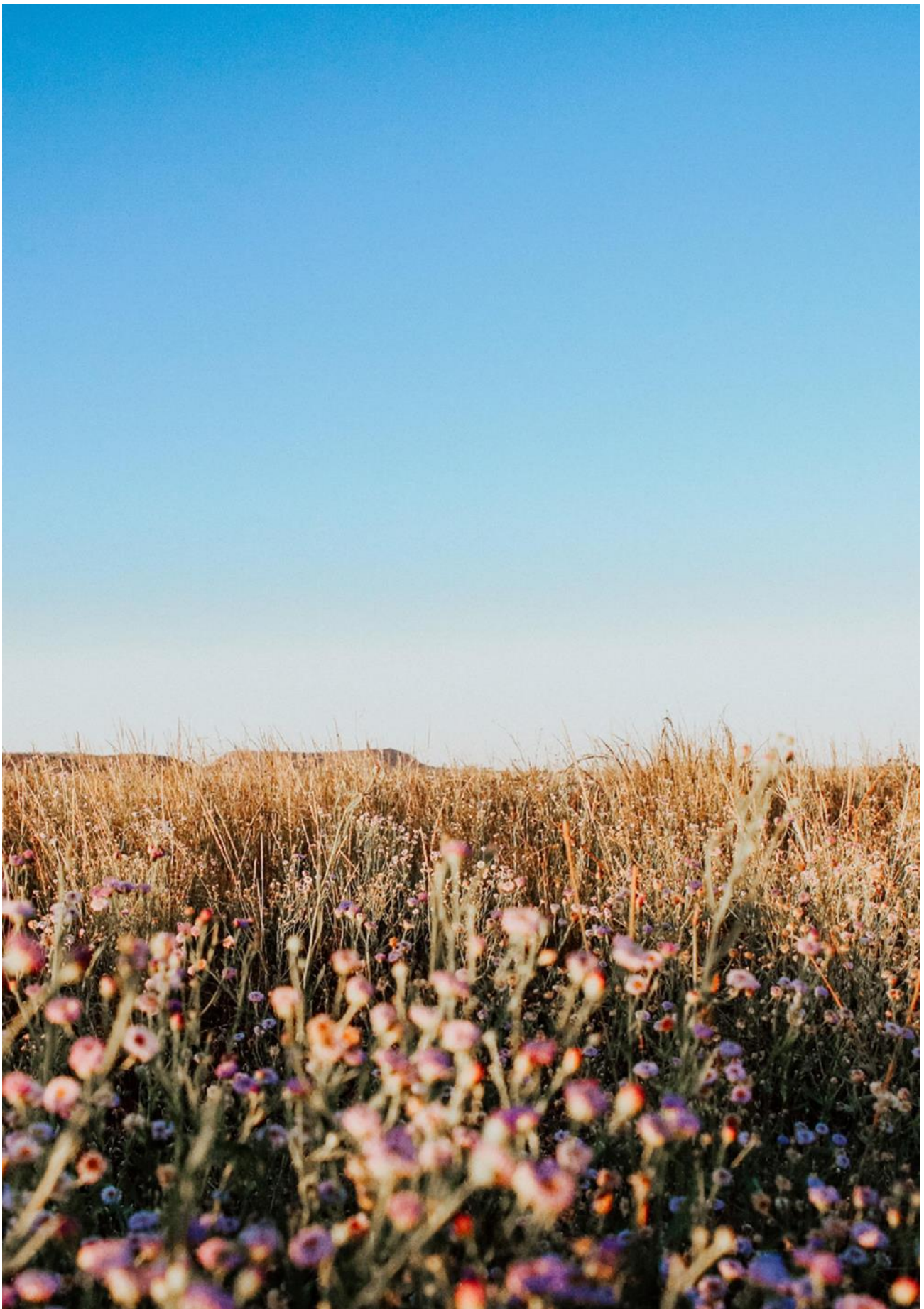
Apart from providing a clear picture for the future, the planning process can also help councils to better connect with their communities to gain a more detailed understanding of their area and its regional context. The process can also provide opportunities for councils to streamline their operations.

## **KEY ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

The success of the planning process relies on the commitment of the Mayor and the General Manager as well as all councillors. Without strong support and commitment, the council will find it difficult to develop and implement a meaningful plan.

The Mayor, as spokesperson for the council, is the public face of the planning process. The mayor is responsible for explaining the purpose of the Community Strategic Plan to the community and encouraging public support for the planning process. The ability of the mayor and the councillors to capture a vision for the community's future and inspire others to participate in that future, will be fundamental to the success of the project. It is important that all councillors support this aim and are fully committed to the value of the project.





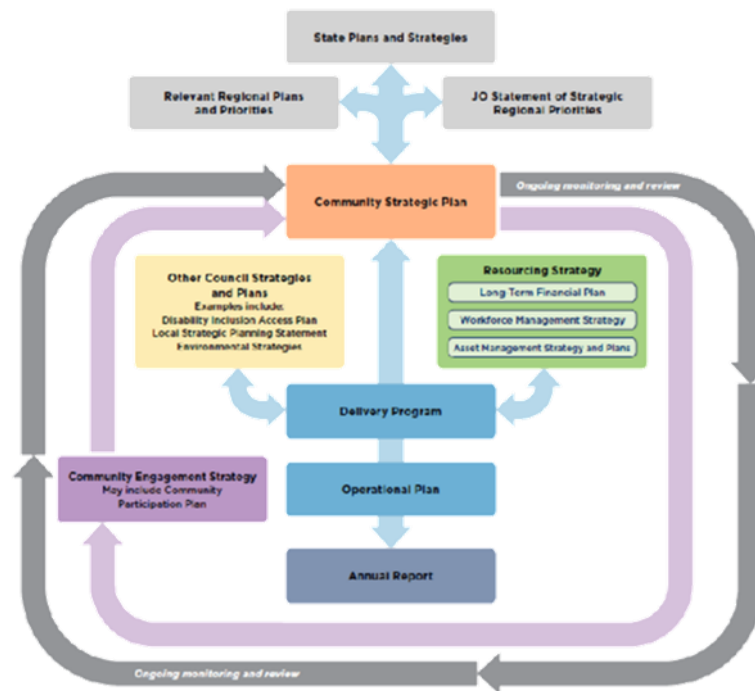


# INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING

The Integrated Planning and Reporting process establishes a set of plans to outline the long terms vision for the future of our community. This plan is developed in conjunction with the Community and the many different stakeholders who are part of the community.

## Plans Include

- The Community Strategic Plan- covers the next 10 years and identifies our key objectives and strategies. This plan operates from 2022 to 2032.
- Our four (4) year Delivery Program- establishes rolling strategies which outlines how the Council will deliver the outcomes proposed in the Community Strategic Plan.
- Annual Operational Plan - outlines Bourke Shire Council's budget for the year ahead.



This diagram shows the relationship between the Community Strategic Plan and the other planning documents that result from the plan. The Community Strategic Plan is informed by State, Regional and Federal plans while the resource strategy includes documents such as the long term financial plan, asset management plan and workforce plan. The disability inclusion action plan sits alongside these documents to inform Council of improved disability inclusion.

## LINKING COMMUNITY OUTCOMES TO ACTION

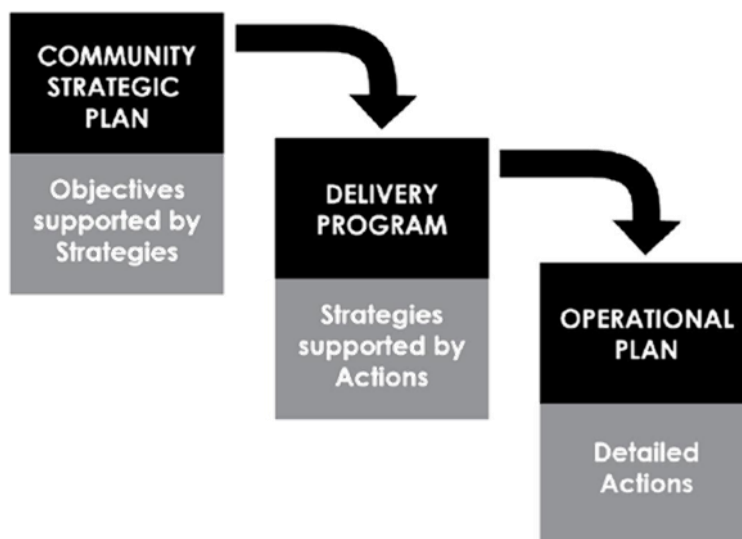
The Community Strategic Plan embodies the long-term vision for the community developed by the community. The review undertaken in 2022 has found that the five (5) key areas identified for action are as they were identified in the previous plan.

The key areas are:

1. Environmental Sustainability
2. Vibrant and liveable community
3. Economic Prosperity
4. Governance and organisational performance
5. Our infrastructure

The four key areas focus on the quadruple bottom line of:

- Environment
- Social
- Governance
- Economics



## YOUR COUNCIL

The Bourke Shire Council works with local residents, visitors and business owners to provide a stable and sustainable lifestyle for the community. The Council is concerned with all aspects of community need and is often an advocate for the community in regards to issues that it does not directly control.

### Council elected representatives

Mayor: Cr Barry Hollman

Deputy Mayor: Cr Lachlan Ford

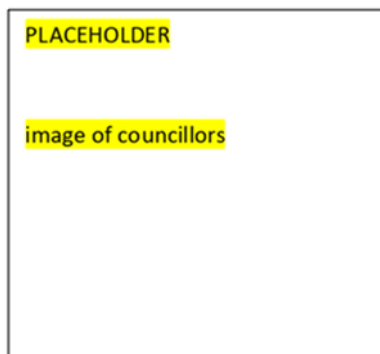
Councillors: Cr Sally Davis, Cr Sam Rice, Cr Cec Dorrington, Cr Robert Stutsel, Cr Sarah Barton, Cr Victor Bartley, Cr Nathan Ryan, Cr Grace Ridge.

### Term of Office

Council members are generally elected for a term of four years. The next election will be held in September 2024. Note that this Council term has been shortened due to the delay in holding the 2020 local government elections.

### Council Meetings

Council meetings are generally held on the fourth Monday of each month, commencing at 9.15am. The Council's Code of Meeting Practice deals with all matters associated with Council's meeting procedure.



# **BOURKE SHIRE COUNCIL**

## **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.

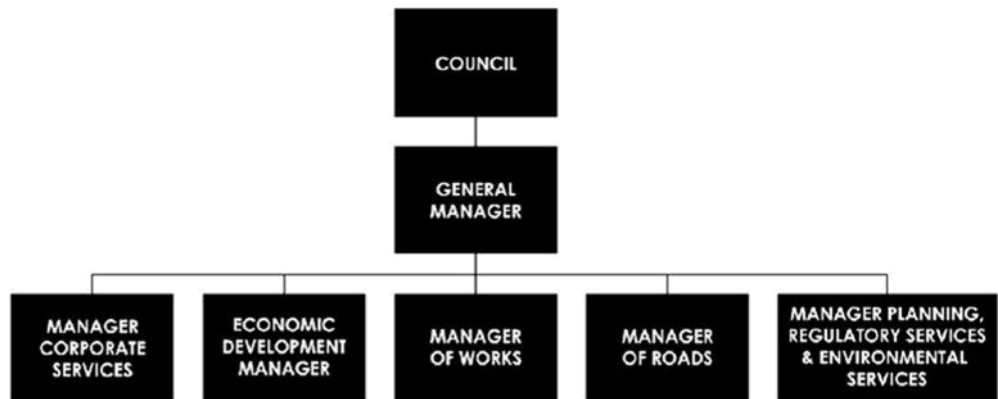
## **Our guiding operating principle**

**(Our Motto)**

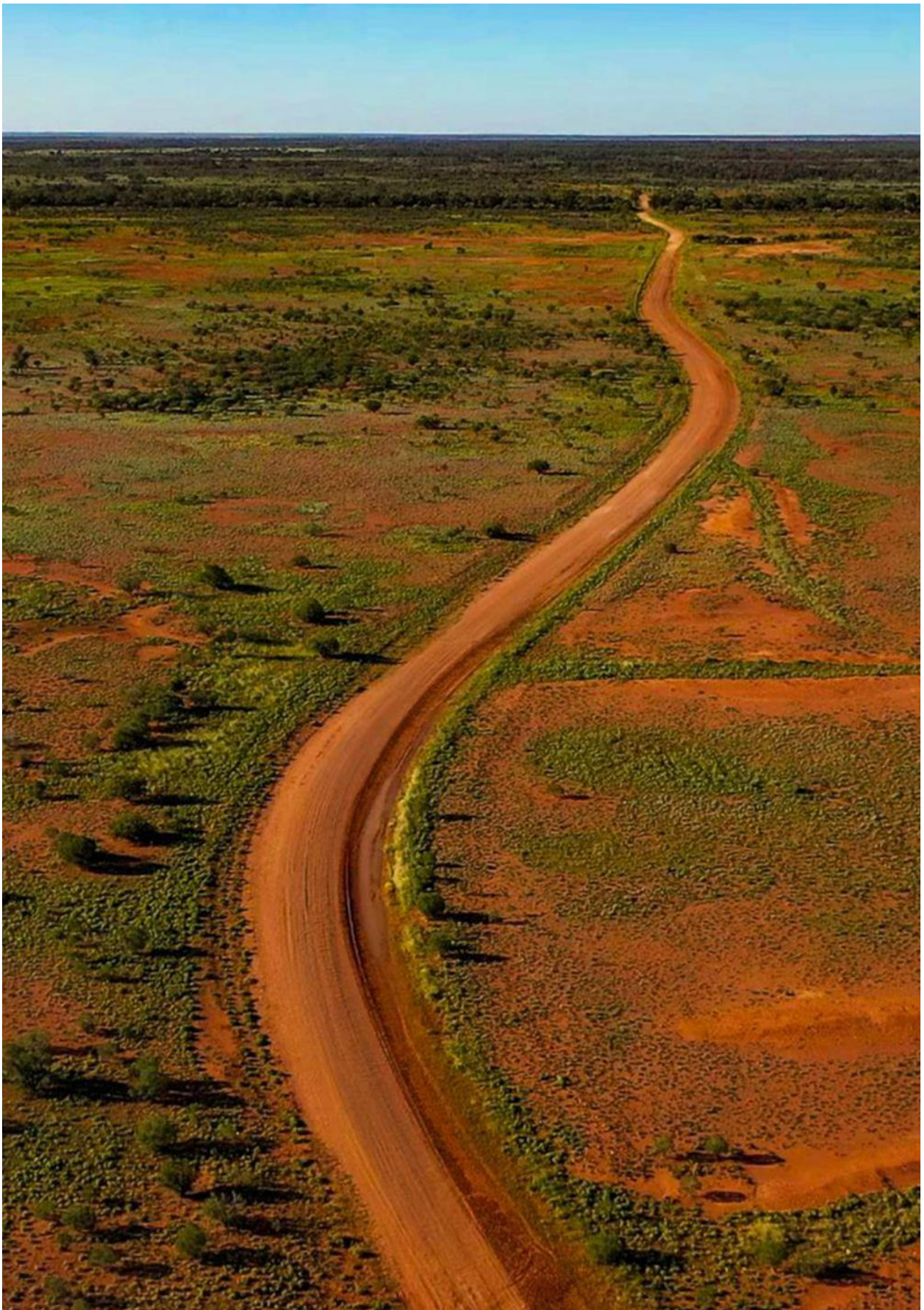
Building a strong united community, proud of our past and committed to our future



# ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE









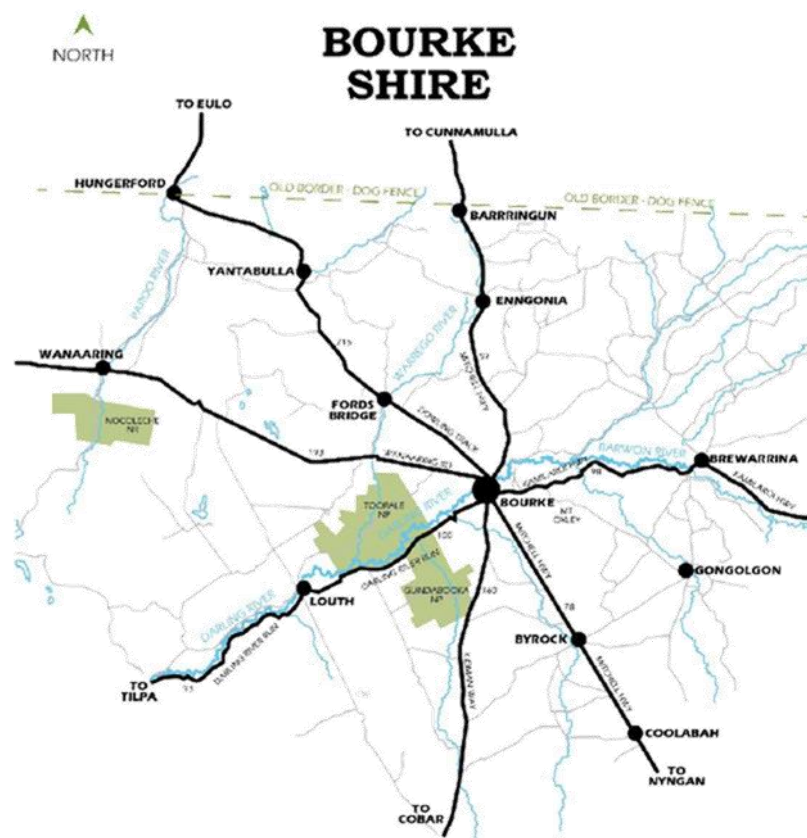
# OVERVIEW

## Regional Overview

Bourke Shire is located in North Western NSW and covers an area of 43,116 square kilometres. The town of Bourke is located on the banks of the Darling River and is the intersection of three significant cross country transport routes - the Kidman Way, Mitchell Highway and Kamilaroi Highway. The shire is considered a gateway into south west Queensland and the far west of New South Wales and is home to many small villages including; Barrington, Byrock, Enngonia, Fords Bridge, Wanaaring and Louth.

Historically, the town was a vital link for agriculture in the west and larger cities to the east. Traditionally a wool growing area, Bourke was once the biggest wool railhead in the world. The Shire's main agricultural products now include cotton, cattle production, wild goat, wool and sheep meat. Employment in both the Government and Non Government sector also continues to be strong now employing more people than the Agricultural sector.

Tourism continues to grow as an industry due to the area's natural beauty, historical connections and the presence of seasonal travellers.



Bourke, and the surrounding area is rich in Indigenous cultural history. Traditionally country of the Ngemba/ Ngemba people, Bourke is now home to around 24 different recognised Indigenous language groups. Many of Bourke's Indigenous peoples are Wangkumara people from the Tibooburra region, but also include those from the Murawarri, Barkindji/ Gurnu and Yandruwandha Nations to name a few.

Bourke Shire Council provides leadership in maintaining and improving services and opportunities that meet the needs of the local community.

The Shire is within an area known as the Orana region (Orana meaning 'welcome' in Wiradjuri), which stretches across the Central West and Western Region of New South Wales (NSW). The Orana region is the largest and most diverse region in the State and covers a quarter of NSW.

Bourke Shire Council along with Cobar and Walgett Councils, is a member of a group of Council's forming the Far North West Joint Organisation of Council's. This has been an important alliance in seeking out improvements for the Bourke Shire communities over the past 5 years.





## OVERVIEW

	Period	Value
<b>Demographic</b>		
Estimated resident population	2020	2625
Projected population	2041	2850
Median person income (weekly)	2016	\$800-\$999
Median Household income (weekly)	2016	\$1750-\$1999 \$2000-\$2499 (NSW)
<b>Employment</b>		
Number of people who work in the region	2020	1036
Largest employing industry	2020	Public Administration and Safety
Average unemployment rate	September 2020 September 2021	3% 10%
<b>Economic Output</b>		
Gross Regional Product	2020	\$164.3 M
Output	2020	\$287 M
Value Added	2020	\$155 M
<b>Housing</b>		
Building approvals (value)	2020-21	\$2.5M
Median weekly rent (3 bedroom)	2022	\$300
Median sales price (3 bedroom)	2022	\$145,000
<b>Business Activity</b>		
Count of businesses	2017	414
Industry with largest number of businesses	2020	Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing
<b>Tourism</b>		
Economic contribution of tourism	2020	\$13M
Proportion of local jobs attributable to tourism	2020	6.6%

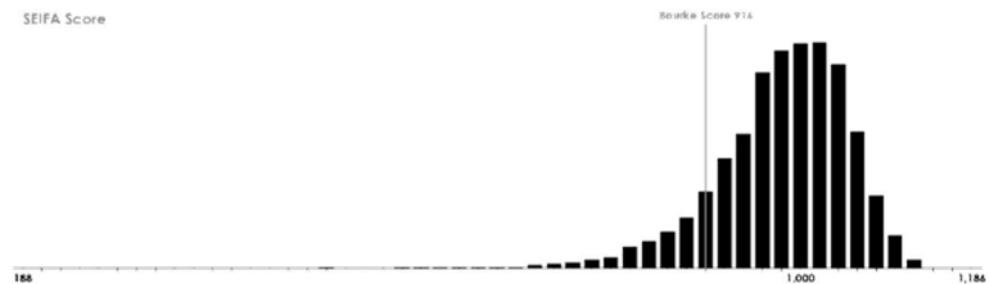


## SOCIO ECONOMIC INDEXES FOR AREAS (SEIFA)

SEIFA is a measure that have been created from Census information. For each index, every geographic area in Australia is given a SEIFA number which shows how relatively 'disadvantaged' that area is compared with other areas in Australia.

The SEIFA score for Bourke in 2016 was 916.

Across Australia's local government areas SEIFA scores range from 188 (most disadvantaged) to 1186 (least disadvantaged).



Bourke:

- Ranks 88 out of 544 local government areas with SEIFA scores in Australia,
- There are 456 local government areas which are less disadvantaged, and
- There are 87 local government areas that are more disadvantaged.

The Bourke Shire is relatively disadvantaged when comparing other local government areas. Its remoteness, lower economic opportunity, increased health issues and overall lower standard of living contribute to this indicator.



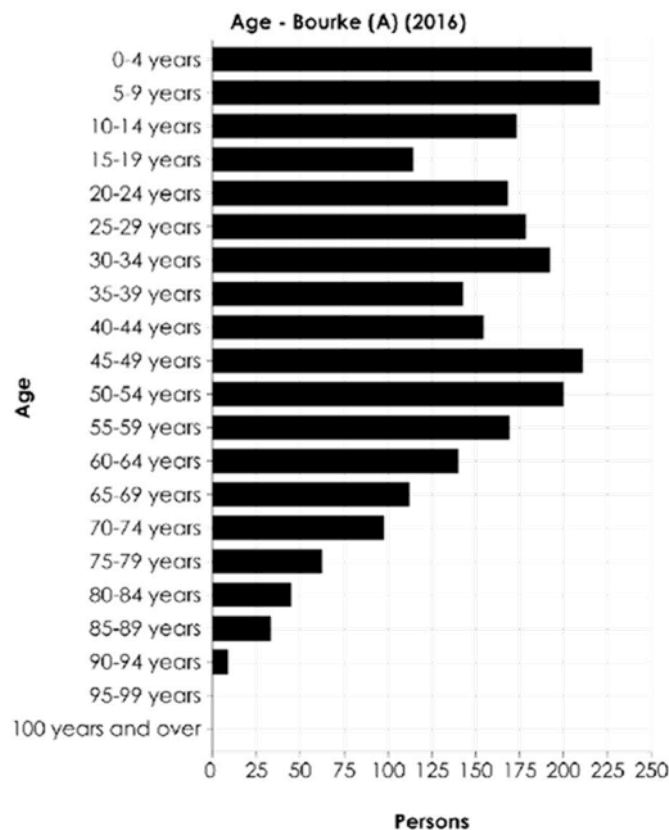
## POPULATION

The estimated resident population of Bourke, as at 30 June, 2020 is 2,625 people. Between 2005 and 2020 Bourke's (estimated resident) population has contracted by around 700 persons, equivalent to an average annual rate of contraction of 1.5% (or -1.5%), compared to the New South Wales average annual compound rate of growth of 1.3%.

Bourke is home to slightly more females than males, with the females representing 51%. This is the same as the breakdown for New South Wales (i.e. 51% females and 49% males).

## POPULATION BY AGE

The median age in Bourke is 35 years, slightly younger than the median age for New South Wales (38). Persons aged 0-4 years account for 9.3% of the population in Bourke, slightly higher than the rate for New South Wales (6.3%). Generally those within the 15-64 year age group are considered of working age. In Bourke 63.3% of the population is considered to be of working age, slightly below the rate for New South Wales (66.5%). Note that this data has not been updated as yet from the last census and so should be seen as indicative.



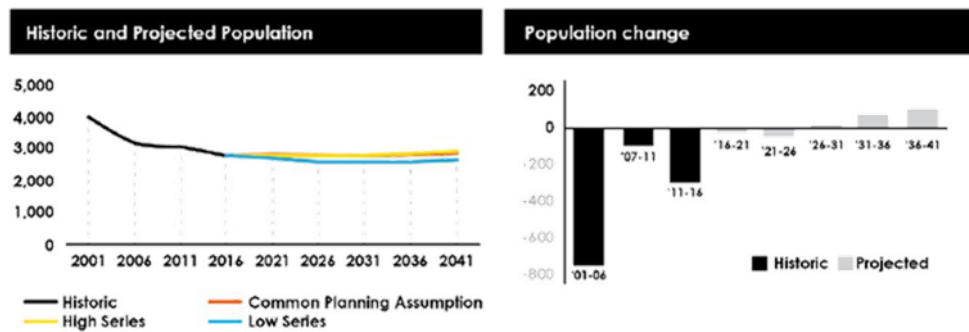
## INDIGENOUS POPULATION

Bourke's Indigenous population is well represented with a nearly a third (30%) of its residents identifying as Indigenous, significantly above the state average of 3%. Half (or 50.2%) of those residents identifying as Indigenous are aged 24 years or younger. Note that due to timing of the 2021 census this data has not been updated since 2016 and should be seen as indicative.

## PROJECTED POPULATION

New South Wales and Local Government Area population projections were released in 2019 by the NSW Government.

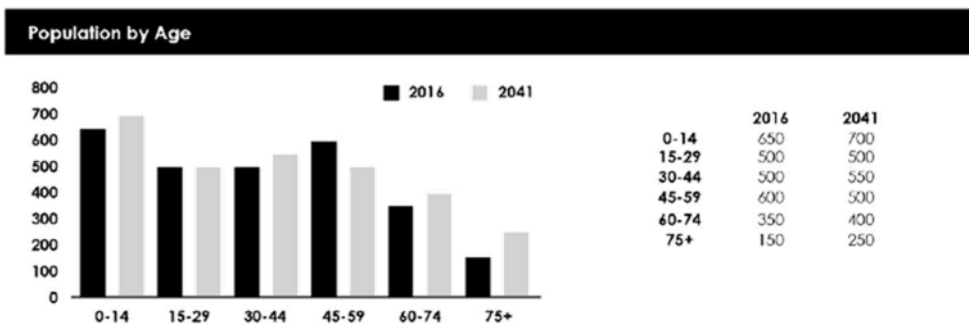
The population of Bourke is projected to remain fairly stable out to 2041. The population of the Bourke Shire is expected to grow slightly to 2850. (2,625 at present). This represents an increase in population of 225 people on today's numbers.

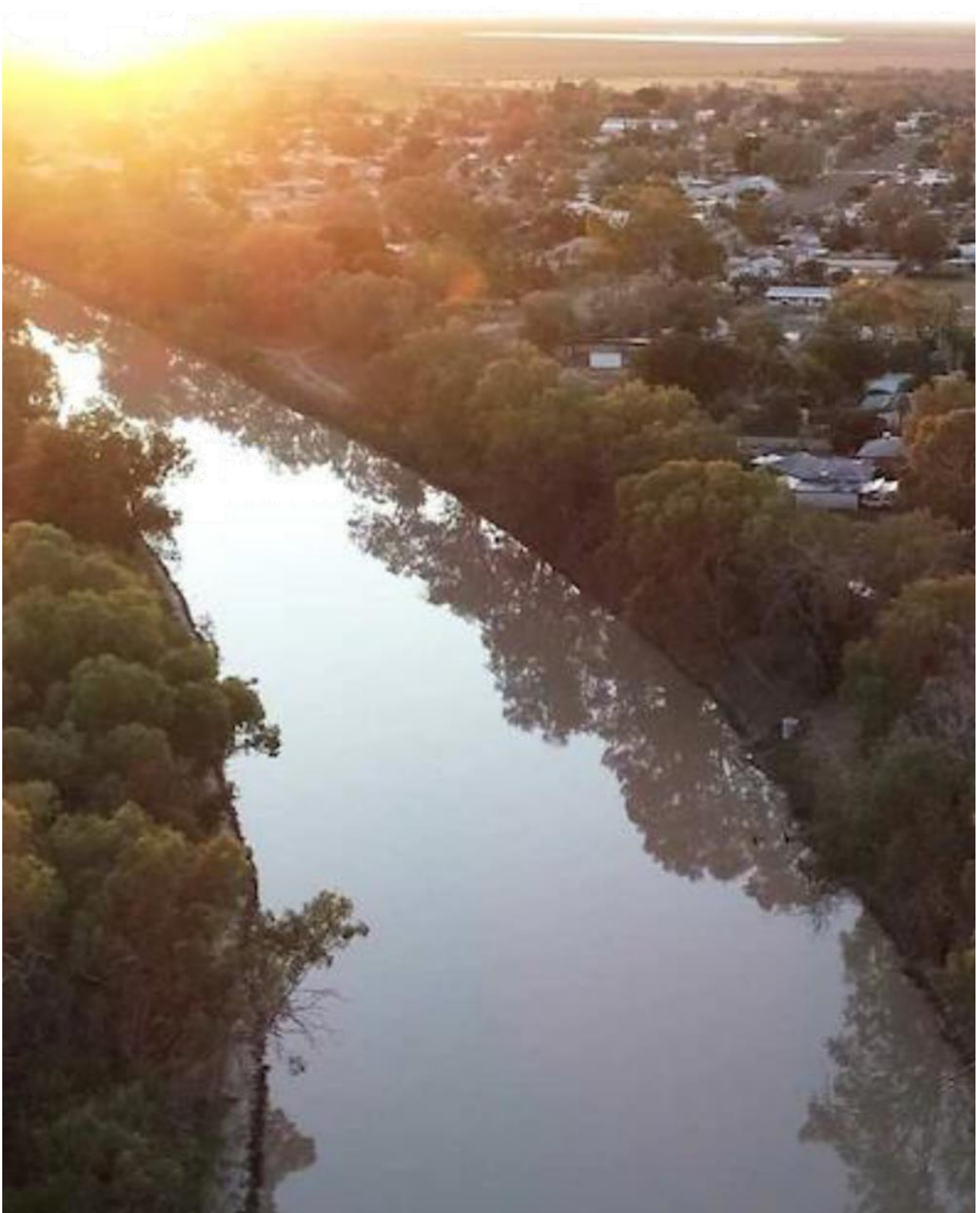


It should be noted that the Community continues to undertake positive initiatives to grow the community evidence by redevelopment in the agricultural sector, continued improvement to the tourism sector, improvements to the towns amenity and the development of the new Abattoir.

It is expected that 50 additional households will be required in this time.

The population aged over 60 is expected to grow significantly up until 2041.

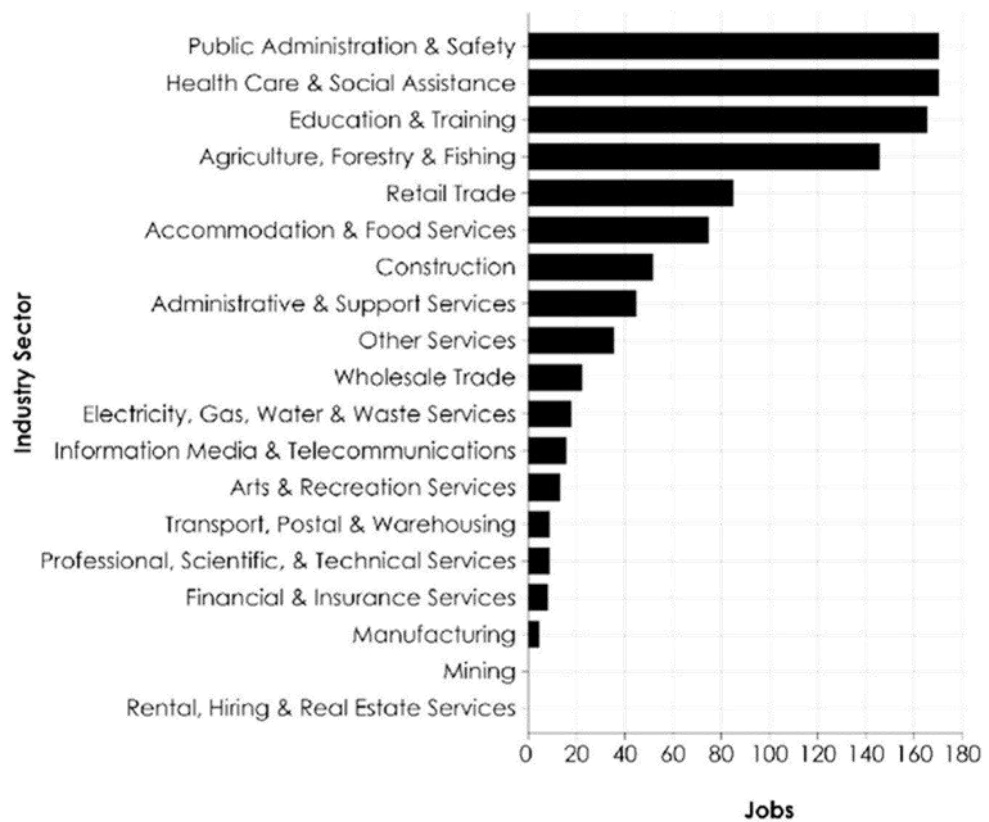




## JOBS AND EMPLOYMENT

Employment by industry describes the industry in which employed people aged 15 years and over are employed. This can be analysed for the resident population, or for people working in the region. The resident workforce data captures the industry sector in which they are employed, regardless of where they are geographically employed. For people working in the region, this data provides insights as to which industry sectors are driving the region from an employment perspective – regardless of where people reside. This information can be used to determine what industry sectors are driving a particular region or precinct. The workforce by industry is shown below for 2020.

**Workforce Breakdown - Work in Bourke (A) (2020 Release 2)**









## KEY INDUSTRY SECTORS

The industry sectors which are the key drivers of the Bourke (A) Region's economy in terms of regional exports, employment, value-added and local expenditure on goods and services (backward linkages) are detailed below. Of most importance to the overall economy is the Agricultural sector, public administration and safety and education and training. This highlights the importance of these three sectors in the future growth of the Bourke Shire area. Of further importance is the tourism industry as a whole. While it is not defined as a sector, it is of importance to the retail trade, accommodation, transport, education and training and Arts sectors.

Industry Sectors	Backward Linkages	Exports	Employment	Value-Added	Total
Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing	✓	✓	✓	✓	4
Mining					0
Manufacturing					0
Electricity, Gas, Water & Waste Services	✓	✓			2
Construction	✓				1
Wholesale Trade					0
Retail Trade			✓		1
Accommodation & Food Services		✓			1
Transport, Postal & Warehousing	✓				1
Information Media & Telecommunications					0
Financial & Insurance Services					0
Rental, Hiring & Real Estate Services				✓	1
Professional, Scientific & Technical Services					0
Administrative & Support Services					0
Public Administration & Safety		✓	✓	✓	3
Education & Training		✓	✓	✓	3
Health Care & Social Assistance			✓	✓	2
Arts & Recreation Services	✓				1
Other Services					0

The industry sectors above which correspond to a ✓ in the table above are amongst the top 5 (of 19 sectors) contributors to economic activity in the Bourke (A) Region in relation to backward linkages, exports, employment, and value-added.

**Value-Added**- represents the marginal economic value that is added by each industry sector in a defined region. Value-Added is calculated by subtracting local expenditure and expenditure on regional imports from the output generated by an industry sector. Value-Added by industry sector is the major element in the calculation of Gross Regional Product.

**Employment**- the key social outcome of economy development; employment data represents the number of people employed by businesses / organisations in each of the industry sectors in the Bourke (A) Region.

**Regional Exports**- represents the value of goods and services exported outside of the Bourke (A) Region that have been generated by local businesses / organisations. Another way of defining exports is as an inflow of money into the region, i.e. Motels have an inflow of money from people who live outside the region's boundaries thus they are earning export equivalent dollars.

**Backward Linkages**- details the industry sectors which spend the most on locally sourced intermediate goods and services per dollar of output. These industry sectors may not necessarily make the largest contributions to the Region's economy at present however due to well developed local supply chains these sectors have a significant capacity to deliver broad based economic benefits for the region.



## CLOSING THE GAP

The former NSW Premier signed the new National Agreement on closing the gap in July 2020, alongside the Coalition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peak Organisations and the Australian Local Government Association. The Bourke Shire Community Strategic Plan acknowledges the importance of the priority areas of reform in Closing the Gap and the importance of its partnerships with local Aboriginal Community organisations led by the Maranguka Community Hub, Bourke Tribal Council and the Bourke Aboriginal Corporation Health Service (BACHS).

The five priority reforms are:

1. Formal partnerships and shared decision making
2. Building the community controlled sector
3. Transforming government organisations
4. Shared access to data and information as a regional level
5. Employment, business growth and prosperity.

Further to this it is also important to acknowledge the work of Aboriginal Affairs NSW and the OCHRE plan which aims to support strong Aboriginal communities in which Aboriginal people actively influence and participate fully in social, economic and cultural life. The aims are in keeping with the closing the gap principals and include:

- Teach more Aboriginal languages and culture to build peoples identity
- Support more Aboriginal students to stay at school
- Support more Aboriginal young people to get fulfilling and sustainable jobs
- Grow local Aboriginal leaders' and communities' capacity to drive their own solutions
- Focus on creating opportunities for economic empowerment
- Make both government and communities more accountable for the money they spend.



Through its Memorandum of Understanding, Bourke Shire will continue to work with the Maranguka Community Hub to empower the community to greater self responsibility in coordinating services and caring for its own. Maranguka seeks to work closely together to ensure all people have the best outcomes and opportunities.





## HOW WE DEVELOPED THE PLAN

### Community Engagement Strategy

Community engagement is at the heart of local government. It helps communities to be active participants in shaping their own future and play a part in any change. Council's have a role in providing opportunities for community members to be involved in the strategic planning process. The Bourke Shire Community Engagement Strategy outlines how Council engages with the community and how the community participates in the development of the 2022 update of the Community Strategic Plan and the Integrated Planning and Reporting framework.

During January 2022, successful formal engagement sessions were held with representatives from the communities of Bourke, Enngonia, Fords Bridge, Byrock, Louth and Wanaaring. Sessions were also held with locally based sporting groups and schools. The information garnered has been invaluable and has allowed the development of the community strategic plan for the future.

Community engagement can be seen as part of a continuum which includes:

- Information giving (communication)
- Information seeking (data collection/scoping)
- Information sharing
- Participatory decision making
- Responding to community initiated issues
- Continuous research into communication methods

Bourke Shire Council will adhere to the following principles in its engagement of the Bourke Community

- Clarity of Purpose
- Commitment
- Communication
- Evidence
- Flexibility & Responsiveness
- Timeliness
- Inclusive
- Collaboration
- Continuous Learning
- Ethics

### **Social Justice Principles**

The Community Strategic Plan has been developed utilising Social Justice principles.

The NSW Government's social justice strategy is based on the following interrelated principles:

Equity – there should be fairness in decision making, and prioritising and allocation of resources, particularly for those in need. Everyone should have a fair opportunity to participate in the future of the community. The planning process should take particular care to involve and protect the interests of people in vulnerable circumstances

Access – all people should have fair access to services, resources and opportunities to improve their quality of life

Participation – everyone should have the maximum opportunity to genuinely participate in decisions which affect their lives

Rights – equal rights should be established and promoted, with opportunities provided for people from diverse linguistic, cultural and religious backgrounds to participate in community life.

### **How will community engagement activities be managed?**

Each community engagement activity will be the responsibility of the Bourke Shire Council Manager/s appointed as project officer/s.

When planning community engagement, Managers need to ensure that resources (staff and finance) for engagement activities across Council are effectively allocated and managed. Where possible, engagement activities will be combined with other activities that target similar community groups.

Every effort will be made to attract and reach a cross section of the community by using a wide range of communication methods. Specific target community groups will be invited to participate as identified in the project.

### **Participants' cultural, and special needs will be accommodated where appropriate**

Community groups who are sometimes hard to reach ie: children, young people, people with disabilities, women, and people from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander backgrounds will be involved.

## ENGAGEMENT WITH NSW STATE AGENCIES

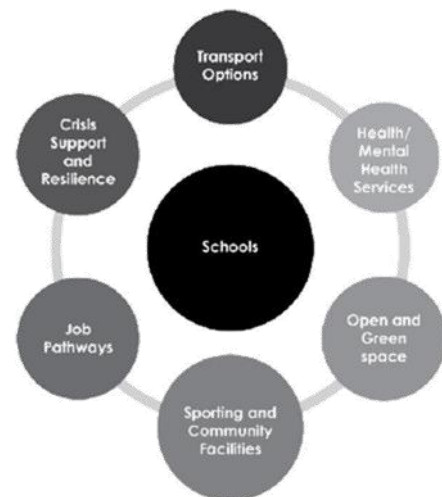
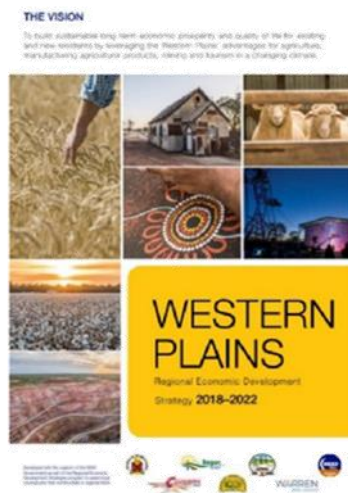
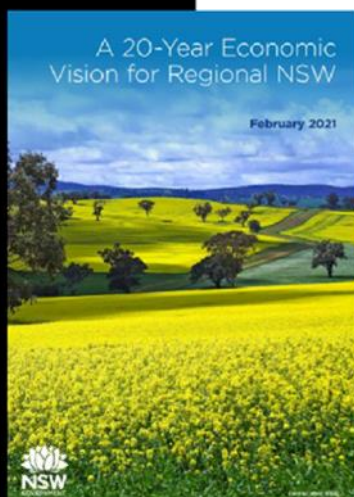
In February 2021 a workshop was held with a number of State agencies in conjunction with other Council's in Western NSW.

Presentations were made by 13 Government agencies and Departments and for the Bourke region, these included:

Department of Communities and Justice	Transport for NSW
Department of Education	Ministry for Health
Department of Enterprise, Investment and Trade- Office of Sport	Department of Regional NSW
Department of Premier and Cabinet	Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Department of Education	

Of particular importance due to our demographic will be:

- The information provided by the Ministry for Health and the issues of Aboriginal Health which is an important driver of the Strategic Plan and the importance of recreation, community connection, health, education and policing.
- The Department of Education is also important to the future of Bourke with education being at the heart of the community.
- The Department of Regional NSW has led the way recently with a number of Economic Development programs that the Bourke and district community has taken advantage of. These are outlined in important strategic documents such as A 20 year Economic Vision for Regional NSW and the Western Plains Regional Economic Development Strategy.



## COMMUNITY AND KEY STAKEHOLDER FEEDBACK

As a result of Councils engagement with its communities a summary of the priority findings are shown below.

### **Key environmental issues**

Water security and water wastage  
Drought  
Celebrating and acknowledging Aboriginal Culture  
Ensuring use of renewable energy  
Enable recreation within the environment  
Suitable Local Environmental Plan

### **Key Village issues**

Ensure road access  
Emergency services access  
Ensure available land in Villages  
Ensure improved Village amenity  
Ensure improved communications including phone and internet services  
Ensure village facilities are maintained  
Continue to communicate with Village committees  
Enable tourism opportunities across all Villages  
Ensure improved water supply, continued availability and filtration  
Ensure filling of Government staff positions within Villages

### **Key governance issues**

Ensuring sustainable, well financed Council  
Ensuring skilled workforce  
Ensure good communication and accessible to community  
Continue to liaise with community in positive way  
Improved support for Villages with ageing populations

### **Key economic issues**

Ensure opportunities for business development are pursued  
Ensure opportunities for youth  
Maximise recreation opportunities  
Improve and grow tourism sector  
Improve and grow local events

### **Key infrastructure issues**

Ensure road access to Council area  
Ensure water supply  
Ensure existing areas of parks and playgrounds are maintained to a suitable level of service  
Improve sewerage and stormwater  
Improve town roads and kerb and gutter

### **Key issues for all levels of Government**

Ensure strong NGO sector where decisions can be made locally  
Improve air access  
Improve telecommunications  
Ensure strong health, policing and education sectors  
Ensure workforce in maintained





# COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

## Guiding Principles

In developing its Community Strategic Plan the following high level principles to provide general guidance and direction in the establishment and prioritisation of community outcomes has been adopted. These principles assist to ensure that Council takes a sufficiently long term view when making decisions taking into account the quadruple bottom line.

## Sustainability Principles

Provide a unique plan for the residents and businesses of the Bourke Shire Council area.

Achieve long term population and business sustainability.

Recognise the importance and value of our indigenous cultures.

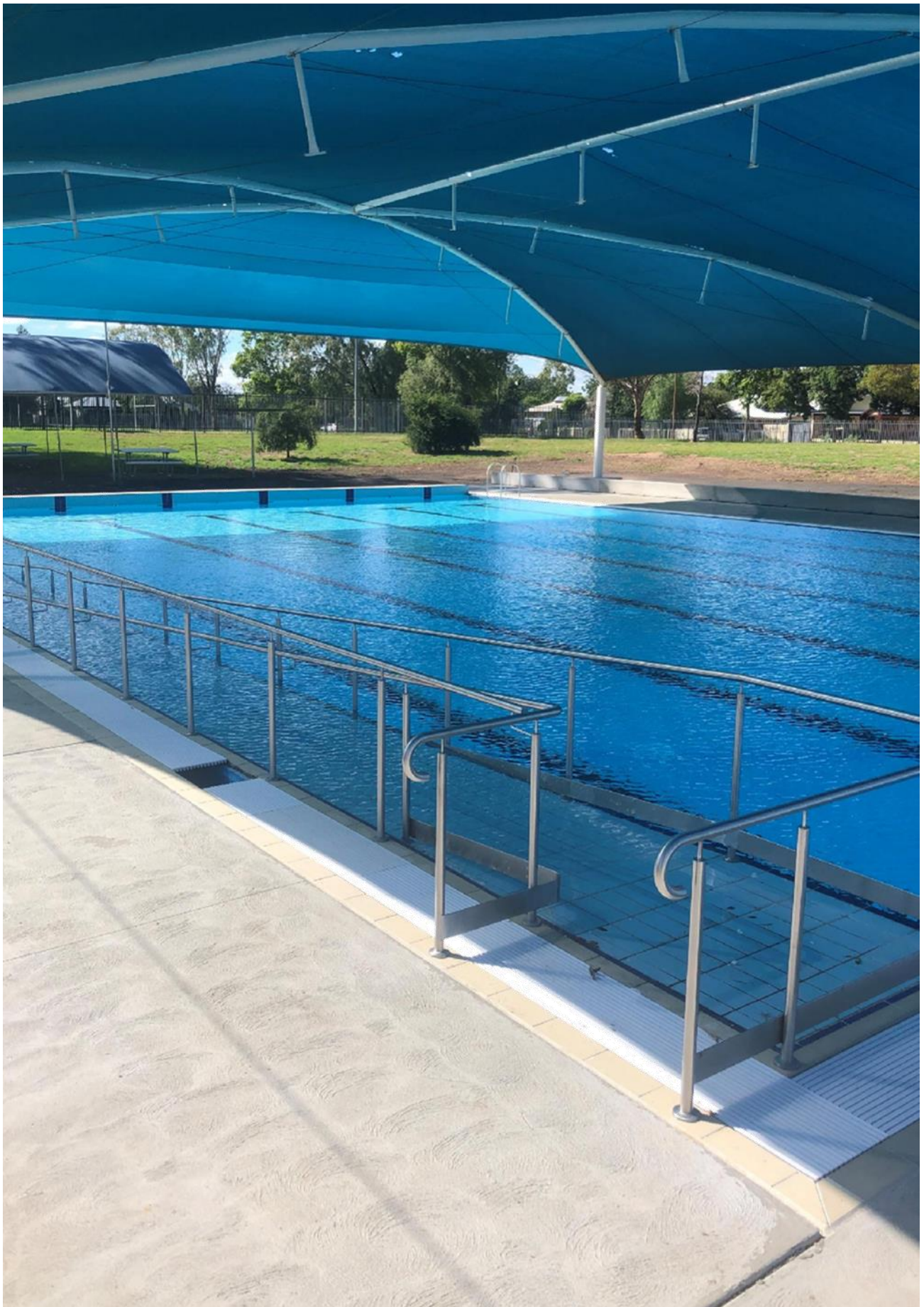
Foster community engagement.

Build on the distinctive character of the Bourke Shire including its people, place, cultures, diversity, history and natural environment.

Ensure excellent, best practice governance.









# COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES

## 1.0 Environmental Sustainability

Our environmental strategies aim to protect our natural environment and built assets for future generations.

Significant environmental challenges include:

- Issues in regards to an overall declining population
- Ensuring long term water security for the residents of Bourke and its Villages

### 1.1 Managing the built environment sustainably

- Reduce the amount of waste to landfill
- Increase the level of recycling within the Shire
- Seek to conserve water where possible and effective
- Ensure a relevant and up to date Local Environmental Plan (LEP)
- Maintain an active heritage advisory service
- Encourage clean up of spare blocks

### 1.2 Securing sustainable water and wastewater for all

- Ensuring upgraded water and wastewater infrastructure
- Ensuring the water supply at Bourke through measures such as increasing the weir height
- Ensuring all villages have adequate access to non potable water

### 1.3 Ensuring our heritage and culture are respected

- Protect local heritage items including significant architecture, indigenous heritage
- Ensuring active local land care groups
- Manage Council trusts and reserves to a high standard
- Ensure maintenance of cemeteries



#### OUR PARTNERS

- Village committees
- Environmental Protection Authority
- Office of Local Government
- Public Works
- Community Working Party
- Maranguka
- Netwaste
- All Non Government Organisations
- Department of Sport and Recreation
- RDA Orana
- Far North West Joint Organisation of Councils
- Neighbouring Councils
- Heritage NSW
- NSW Department of Planning and Environment
- Water NSW
- Local Land Services

# COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES

## 2.0 Liveable and vibrant community

Implementing medium to long term strategies to ensure our community has a sustainable population while maintaining our community values. Ensure that we maintain minimum service levels and that everybody is made welcome in our community.

### Significant community challenges and issues include:

- Our population has declined making it difficult to staff existing businesses and provide opportunities to grow other businesses.
- Ensuring levels of service remain in a declining population.
- Ensuring that over time a working population is maintained.
- Looking after our population as they age.

### 2.1 Our community values its safe, healthy lifestyle and is caring toward each other

- Increase our local population
- Maintain a viable health system
- Improve access to dental services
- Respect and make welcome our senior citizens
- Ensure high level of youth services, amenities and activities
- Encourage youth leadership
- Improve disability access
- Work collaboratively to improve law and order

### 2.2 Enjoy a vibrant Bourke and Village community

- Grow and invest in our future leaders
- Foster a community that respects the diversity of our population and is supportive of cultural differences, ages and abilities of community members.
- Encourage sport and recreation activities
- Improve telecommunications services
- Develop and enhance the arts
- Develop cultural partnerships
- Maintain our parks and ovals to a high standard
- Ensure a high standard of education
- Ensure adequate Ranger services
- Develop improved youth activities and facilities
- Ensure a strong early childhood sector
- Minimise the amount of graffiti
- Ensure adequate levels of public and community transport
- Improve lighting throughout township

#### OUR PARTNERS

- Village committees
- Transport for NSW
- Bourke Police
- Community Working Party
- Maranguka
- Schools
- Police Citizens Youth Club
- Juvenile Justice
- All Non Government Organisations
- Department of Sport and Recreation
- RDA Orana
- Department of Education
- Attorney General's Department
- Town event committees
- Sporting Clubs

# COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES

## 3.0 Economic prosperity

The economic viability of businesses and residents within the Shire area is vital to ensuring the long term sustainability of our community. The decline in population means turnover in local businesses has declined with many businesses seeking out other opportunities.

The last five years has been a difficult time for residents of the Shire with drought and the COVID 19 Pandemic limiting opportunities for our community and also reducing the number of visitors to the region.

There are new business opportunities emerging with the sale and future reopening of the Bourke abattoir, Improved season for agriculture and increased tourist visitation following the Pandemic.

### 3.1 Our community welcomes new residents and businesses

- Promote Bourke as a regional service centre
- Developing industry and business
- Seek industry development opportunities
- Promote population growth
- Promote and develop business opportunities
- Work closely with emerging large development opportunities
- Ensure new residents have information about the town, region and opportunities
- Ensure land availability across Bourke and its Villages
- Ensure NBN availability and maximise mobile phone coverage
- Ensure active community precincts

### 3.2 Our community values in history and heritage and seeks to develop the tourism industry

- Seek opportunities to grow our tourism industry
- Include the Villages in tourism initiatives
- Seek to grow all areas of our local tourism market
- Seek opportunities to develop cultural tourism experiences
- Improve signage
- Improve access to the North Bourke Bridge
- Encourage community events and Festivals

#### OUR PARTNERS

Village committees  
 Bourke Police  
 Community Working Party  
 Maranguka  
 Schools  
 Police Citizens Youth Club  
 All Non Government Organisations  
 Far North West Joint Organisation of Councils  
 RDA Orana  
 Department of Education  
 Attorney General's Department  
 Rotary







# COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES

## 4.0 Governance and Organisational performance

Long term strategies are needed to ensure effective leadership of the Shire community including its residents, businesses, statutory authorities and other stakeholders.

### Significant challenges and issues include:

- Ensuring our young people are encouraged
- Overcoming social and economic disadvantage
- Overcoming disadvantage as a result of isolation and distance
- Maintaining the financial position of Council with smaller local populations and increasing Government needs
- Ensuring a skilled workforce

### 4.1 Advocating the benefits of living and working in the Bourke Shire Council area

- Promoting participation and coordination between the community and Council
- Provide strategic leadership to the community
- Provide for suitable land to be available
- Proactively improve amenity within Bourke and the Villages

### 4.2 Seeking continuous improvement in the business of Council

- Seek continuous improvement with communication with residents such as through social media, web sites, newspaper and radio.
- Ensure Council activity is promoted
- Participate in interagency forums and opportunities
- Seek to improve Shire offices in the medium term
- Maintain library services
- Ensure excellent customer service
- Maintain working relationships with senior politicians and local members
- Ensure Council meets legislative governance standards
- Maintain suitable Council owned housing

#### OUR PARTNERS

- Village committees
- Transport for NSW
- Bourke Police
- Community Working Party
- Maranguka
- Schools
- Police Citizens Youth Club
- Juvenile Justice
- All Non Government Organisations
- Department of Sport and Recreation
- RDA Orana
- Department of Education
- Attorney General's Department
- Town event committees
- Sporting Clubs

# COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES

## 5.0 Infrastructure

Ensuring that the level of local infrastructure satisfies the needs of the community and into the future.

Significant challenges and issues include:

- Ensuring levels of depreciation are sustainable
- Ensuring that facilities are able to be shared across the community
- Ensure excellent levels of service
- Ensuring adequate village amenities

### 5.1 Ensuring adequate transport linkages

Maintain and seek to improve the road network in a sustainable way while recognising the restrictions to funding

Maintain heavy vehicle replacement strategy

Maintain the Bourke airport to a high standard

Maintain Village runways where appropriate

Investigate the potential for a heavy vehicle bypass of Bourke

### 5.2 Managing the needs of the Villages

Ensure good communication with Village committees

Ensure services to the Villages are maintained

Ensure Village priorities are well understood

### 5.3 Ensuring adequate levels of community amenities

Ensure village water supplies are adequate

Ensure Community halls and other Village infrastructure is maintained to a suitable standard

Further develop Davidson Oval precinct plan

Enhance walking track along the town levee

Ensure levee banks maintained to high standard

Ensure adequate levels of aged care facilities

#### OUR PARTNERS

- Village committees
- Transport for NSW
- Bourke Police
- Community Working Party
- Maranguka
- All Non Government Organisations
- Department of Sport and Recreation
- RDA Orana
- Town event committees
- Sporting Clubs

## MEASURING OUR PERFORMANCE

The performance of Council in achieving the aims and outcomes contained in the Community Strategic Plan will be annually via Council's annual report and quarterly performance reports.

## OUR TARGETS

### 1.0 Sustaining the environmental qualities of the Shire

Increase in recycling

Increased use of alternative energy

Ensure sustainable water supply for the Shire communities

### 2.0 Liveable and Vibrant Community

An increased level of community participation

An increase in the number of events

A reduction in all levels of crime

### 3.0 Economic prosperity

Increase in business numbers

Increase in employment opportunities

Increase in visitor numbers

Growth in existing businesses

Displaying leadership and innovation in dealing with change

### 4.0 Governance and Organisational performance

Satisfaction with Council's overall performance including customer service

Improved Local Government benchmarking levels

Council's statutory obligations met

### 5.0 Infrastructure

Provide for the whole of life costs of infrastructure

Ensure levels of renewal are adequate





**Online:**

[www.bourke.nsw.gov.au](http://www.bourke.nsw.gov.au)

**In person:**

Bourke Shire Council Chambers  
29 Mitchell St, Bourke NSW 2840  
Business Hours, Monday – Friday

**Telephone:**

02 6830 8000

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[bourkeshire@bourke.nsw.gov.au](mailto:bourkeshire@bourke.nsw.gov.au)

**In writing:**

Bourke Shire Council  
PO Box 21, Bourke NSW 2840



**17 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

Nil

**18 DELEGATES AND COUNCILLORS REPORTS**

Nil

**19 POLICIES**

Nil

**20 PRÉCIS OF CORRESPONDENCE****20.1 \*\*\* REQUEST FOR SUPPORT - BUSH BURSARY/COUNTRY WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION (NSW) SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM - RURAL DOCTORS NETWORK (RDN)**

**File Number:** D5.2  
**Author:** Mark Riley, General Manager  
**Authoriser:** Mark Riley, General Manager  
**Attachments:** Nil

**Background**

Council has received an application from the Rural Doctors Network (RDN) requesting financial assistance in the amount of \$3,000 excluding GST.

**Current Situation**

The purpose of the Bush Bursary Program is to offer medical students with a demonstrated interest in rural health, the opportunity to experience lifestyle and medical practise in a rural NSW community.

The \$3,000 in scholarship funds donated by the Council goes directly to two (2) selected student. The scholarship is to be used to support their medical studies but also for any expenses during the placement (such as accommodation and travel).

**Financial Implications**

The cost to Council would be \$3,000 with the RDN advising that there is “no guarantee that the program will directly benefit the community of Bourke, however will allow a student to experience a rural lifestyle practice”.

**Recommendation**

**That Council accede to the request from the Rural Doctors Network requesting financial support in the amount of \$3,000 to assist the Bush Bursary Scheme.**

## 21 ACTIVITY REPORTS

**21.1 ENGINEERING SERVICES ROAD WORKS & WORKSHOP - WORKS COMPLETED**

**File Number:** E7.1  
**Author:** Alex Saju, Manager Roads  
**Authoriser:** Mark Riley, General Manager  
**Attachments:** Nil

### Background

The following information outlines works completed from 15 February to 16 March 2022 inclusive.

Road Works - Phillip Cross – Roads Supervisor	
1. NORTH SECTOR – Denis Tiffen, Team Leader	
Location	Work Carried Out
State Highway 29 East	Shoulder widening commenced
RLR 30 Eureka Plains	Maintenance / rain grade commenced
RLR 23 Willara	Maintenance / flood damage grade completed
RLR 49 West Culgoa	Maintenance / flood damage grade commenced
RLR 3 Twin Rivers	Maintenance grade completed
RLR 50 Mooleyarah	Maintenance / rain damage commenced
RLR 2 Wilganea	Maintenance grade completed
RLR 45 Tarcoon	Maintenance / rain damage grade completed
RLR 28 Janbeth	Maintenance / rain damage grade completed
2. SOUTH SECTOR - John Reed, Team Leader	
Location	Work Carried Out
State Highway 7 South	Shoulder widening commenced section 4
State Highway 7 South	Gravel carting completed section 3
State Highway 29 East	Heavy Patching / flood damage commenced
RLR 15 Lakemere	Maintenance / rain damage grade completed
RLR 13 Landsdown	Maintenance / rain damage grade completed
RLR 10 West Louth to Tilpa	Maintenance / flood damage grade commenced
MR 68 South	Maintenance / flood damage grade commenced
3. TRANSPORT SECTOR - Simon Wielinga, Team Leader	
State Highway 29 East	Shoulder widening commenced
4. BITUMEN SECTOR – Phillip Harvey, Team Leader	
Bourke Township	Patching undertaken / heavy patching
Regional Roads	Patching undertaken / flood damage
State Highways	Patching undertaken
5. HIGHWAY SLASHING-Denis Tiffen, Team Leader	
Location	Work Carried Out
State Highway 7 North	Slashing completed
State Highway 29 East	Slashing completed



<b>WORKSHOP – Colin Kiley, Team Leader, Tradesman Plant Mechanic</b>			
<b>Plant no</b>	<b>Rego</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Work Carried Out</b>
40	CP40FZ	Isuzu NHNQR	Service carried out, repair rear tail light
44	YII29T	Mazda BT 50	Replace mudflaps
50	CL16AC	Kenworth	Remove and replace brake booster and adjust brakes, remove back wheel, hub, drum and brakes, replace wheel speed sensor and reassemble and adjust, diagnose engine codes and repair steering wheel adjustment
62		2010 Delta	Repair back wheel bearings, replace hub and bearings, remove and replace blade, clean and check over
64		2011 Gason	Remove and replace RH gear box, remove and replace LH gear and blades
68	X50802	2011 Moore	Remove springs, weld and repair spring hangers, weld packing in place and refit springs
69	X50803	2011 Moore	Repair crack and reinforce frame
76	P95814	2004 Moore Roadtrain Tipper	Repair trap tensioner
77	AY40UT	2008 Case	Service carried out, electrical problem, found faulty alternator, replace alternator and repair wiring
92	NX29QQ	2014 Western Star	Remove and replace LH rear exhaust pipe, LH rear brake booster and repair front LH blinker and air hose
96	WHG116	Hydrant Buggy	Repair shoot on super spreader
107	73635C	2009 Kubota	Remove and replace deck up and down, cable replace belt pulleys and blade on deck
108	63723D	Toro	Remove and replace wheels on deck
111	TB60BR	Dolly	Replace damaged bolts in back light bar
120	YJ028Y	2020 Mazda BT 50	Service carried out
123	DB78LA	2021 Mitsubishi Pajero	Service carried out, fit phone and aerial kit
125	YJ028X	2020 Mazda BT 50	Service carried out
132	CP22CH	John Deere Grader	Service carried out, remove and replace slide shift bushes, adjust circle shims and cylinder ball joints
134	94196D	2019 John Deere 770 Grader	Service carried out
139	BR53WH	Caterpillar 950H Grader	Service carried out, remove and replace hood motor, diagnose air conditioner problem, found faulty blower motor, removed air conditioning system, replaced fan and reassemble, repair hand rail
141	XN84BW	John Deere Grader	Service carried out
146	TC61FS	2022 Ford Ranger	Service carried out
147	XO86CI	2020 Hino-500 Series	Service carried out, mount new retractable trap and repair tail gate

150	BV55RE	2013 Caterpillar 12M Grader	Remove interior and seat, clean air conditioner out, reassemble, repair wiring and clear codes
162	CZ00HU	2020 Ford Ranger	Service carried out, repair dog box, replace seal around window
172	CL38AZ	Isuzu 1500 FXY	Diagnose air conditioning problem, found blocked evaporator and faulty fan motor, remove and replace
181	CV24HL	Mitsubishi Triton	Service carried out, rotate tyres
188	09245E	John Deere 670 Grader	Service carried out, replace hydraulic hose and fittings
190	CY21LY	2020 Mazda BT 50	Service carried out, upgrade suspension due to weight of toolboxes
218	BR67WH	2012 Hino	Service carried out, replace bulbs and repair head lights
238	TB84BR	2016 Moore Tri Axle Tanker	Repair cracks in front frame
244	19334E	Toro	Diagnose problem with mower not cutting, found faulty clutch, remove damage parts and reassembled, replace deck wheels and blades
257	XO89ED	2021 Hino	Diagnose air conditioning problem and repairs on condenser
265	XN36KU	Isuzu NQR 450	Remove and replace switch and wire fuel pump
370		Wing Slasher	Carry out induction for operators
415	P95829	SECA Sewer Machine	Repair hose on SECA
424	25413C	1997 Toyota Forklift	Assess damage to fork
460	DB98LA	2021 Mitsubishi Pajero	Service carried out, fit phone and aerial kit
505	XN17HG	Kenworth Prime mover	Diagnose air conditioning problem, found faulty wiring, repair wiring
506	XN65HG	Kenworth Prime mover	Service carried out, weld cracks in back of light bar to reinforce, replace light and repair wiring, repair air leak and replace air valve, found play in turn table, remove turn table, replace jaw kit reassemble and adjust to spec, diagnose problem with clutch, found clutch and clutch brake needs adjusting, adjustment made, replace tail light assembly
522	YN05BI	Moore's Dolly	Repair air leak and replace hoses and clamp
		Small Plant	Repair and service mowers, whipper snippers
		Welding	Redesigned and manufactured water pipe for filling water tankers Repair signs for main street
<b>Staff Training</b>		Nil	

**Recommendation**  
**That Council note the information in the Engineering Services Department Road Works and Workshop Activity Reports as presented to Council on Monday, 28 March 2022.**

<b>21.2 PARKS &amp; GARDENS / TOWN SERVICES / WATER &amp; WASTEWATER ENGINEERING SERVICES ACTIVITY REPORT</b>
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**File Number:** E7.1  
**Author:** Peter Brown, Manager Works  
**Authoriser:** Mark Riley, General Manager  
**Attachments:** Nil

**Background**

The following information outlines works completed for the period of 16 February 2022 to 16 March 2022 inclusive.

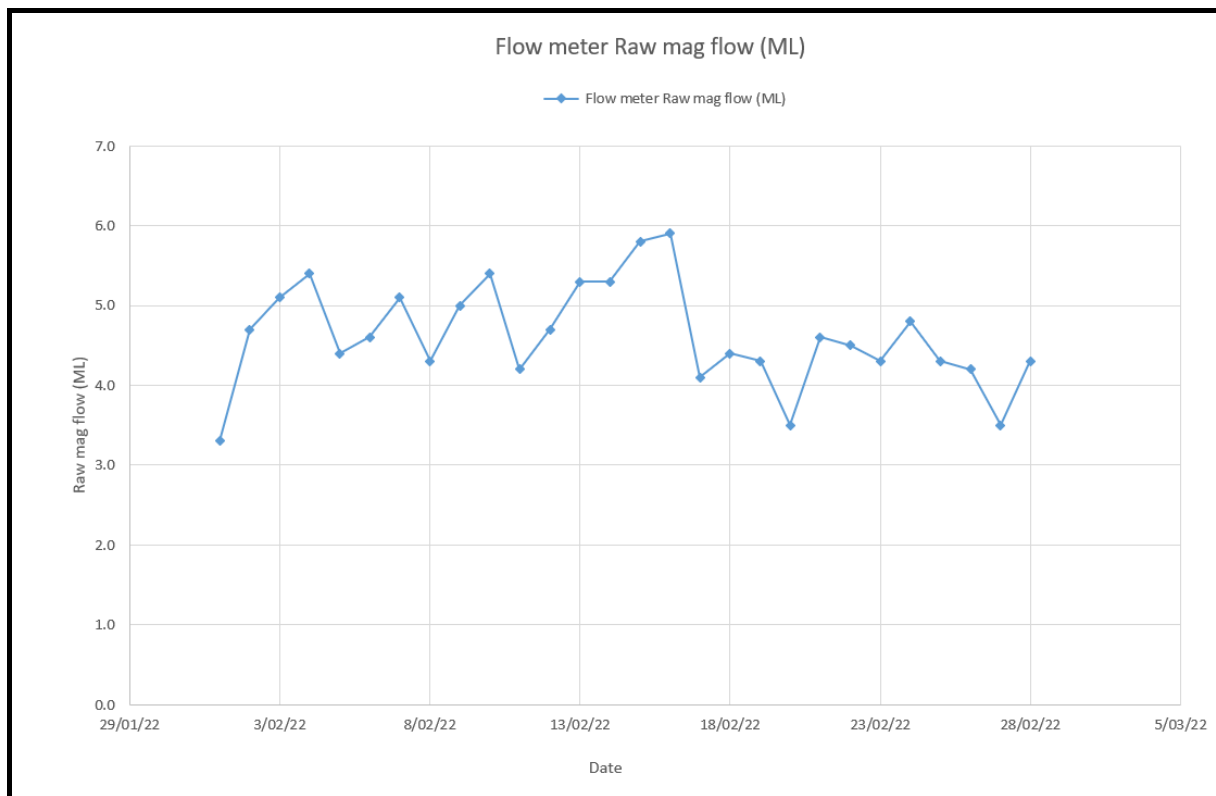
**Current Situation**

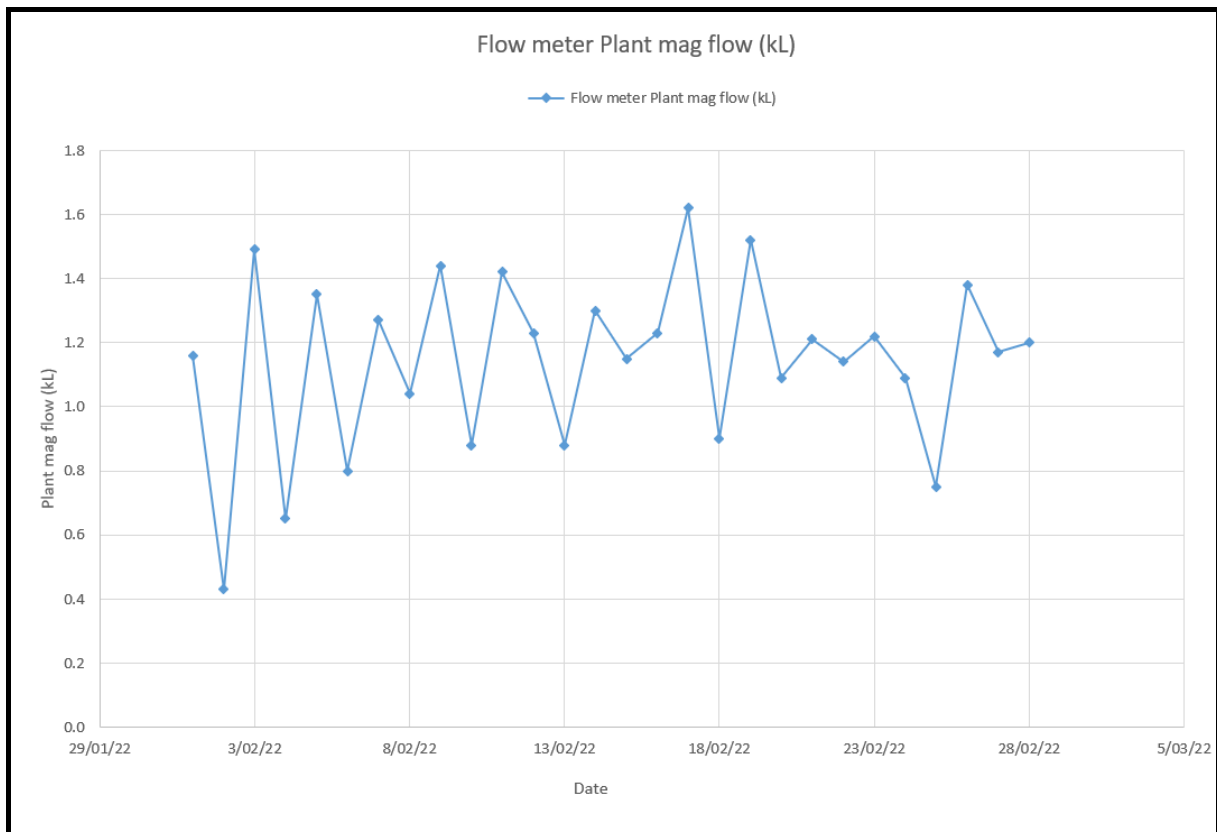
<b>PARKS &amp; GARDENS – Terry Rankmore, Team Leader</b>	
<b>Location</b>	<b>Work Carried Out</b>
<b>General</b>	All parks & sporting grounds gardens, regular mowing & maintenance carried out. Sporting grounds facilities cleaned & maintained. Public toilets cleaned & maintained. Clean facilities. General graffiti removal carried out on Council facilities.
<b>Small Plant</b>	Maintenance & service carried out on all ground plant.
<b>Works Requests</b>	Actioned & ongoing.
<b>1 Tudor St</b>	General maintenance carried out.
<b>Wharf</b>	General maintenance carried out.
<b>Council Office</b>	General maintenance carried out.
<b>Renshaw Complex</b>	Grounds, facilities cleaned & maintained.
<b>Coolican Oval</b>	General maintenance carried out.
<b>Davidson Oval</b>	General maintenance carried out. Prepare grounds for Junior and Senior Cricket semi-finals. Prepare grounds for twenty/20 cricket competition. Prepare grounds for league tag.
<b>Central Park</b>	Skate Park - regular mowing & maintenance carried out, graffiti removal.
<b>Villages</b>	Mow grounds, facilities cleaned & maintained.
<b>Airport</b>	Mowed airstrip.
<b>Darling Park</b>	General maintenance carried out.
<b>Staff Training</b>	Nil

<b>TOWN SERVICES– Troy Hayman, Team Leader</b>	
<b>Location</b>	<b>Work Carried Out</b>
<b>Work Requests</b>	Actioned & ongoing
	Weekly sand footpaths
	Weekly Town mowing
	Relieving Staff in garbage truck
	Daily-Main Street Program
	Daily airport Inspections
	Airport Slashing
	Town Slashing
	Town Poisoning
	Monthly airport inspections Louth & Wanaaring
<b>Cemetery</b>	Prepared graves:- Replaced headstone 15/2/2022, Graves 22/2/2022
<b>Rest Areas</b>	Weekly rubbish removal & cleaning along road side and pressure clean 65km Cobar road new toilets
	Monthly service and roadside rubbish removal
	Fix sign 20km rest area Sydney Road
	Mow rest areas
<b>Staff Training</b>	Nil
<b>Works Request</b>	Sand wharf toilet block, fill hole in gutters edge
	Soil delivered for new garden beds in Sturt Street
	Deliver crusher dust to corner of Mitchell and Sturt Streets
	Deliver sand to Exhibition Centre and collect branches
	Pick up tree branches from JB Renshaw Complex
	Pick up trees from Waters Park
	Remove fallen branches from Jandra site North Bourke
	Pick up trees from Railway Park
	Remove tree from Golf Club
	Make new lane way gate for behind River Gum Lodge
	45 degree angle parking back in Sturt Street
	Deliver crusher dust to JB Renshaw Complex, new shelter
	Change flags over in main street for Easter weekend
	Put tables back out at Jandra site North Bourke
	Mow Exhibition Centre
	Erect bus sign in front of Bourke Bowling Club
	Crane for plumbers sewer well
	Deliver crusher dust to Mitchell Street for footpath
	Paint disable sign on road at Bourke Public School
	Unblock drain from rain
	Fix Enngonia airstrip signs
	Mow parks at Enngonia
	Change wind sock at Bourke Airport
	Deliver dirt to racetrack for races
	Remove rubbish from Mitchell Street blocks for new footpath works to begin
	Deliver gravel to 2WEB station Brewarrina Road
	Pick up frame for Central Park bus shelter
	Patch holes in laneway of Birrang

<b>1 Water &amp; Wastewater – Shane Hopley, Team Leader</b>	
<b>2 Water Supply Planned Maintenance</b>	
3 1 Richard Street	4 Sewer Choke
5 160 Anson Street	6 Sewer Choke
7 62 Mitchell Street	8 Sewer Choke
9 2 Becker Street	10 Sewer Choke
11 38 Wortumertie Street	12 Sewer Choke
13 18 Mertin Street	14 Sewer Choke
15 32 Adelaide Street	16 Repair leaking 20mm water service
17 61 Anson Street	18 Repair leaking 20mm water service
19 24 Adelaide Street	20 Repair leaking 20mm water service
21 11 Oxley Street	22 Repair leaking 20mm water service
23 150 Anson Street	24 Repair leaking 20mm water service
25 2 Culgoa Street	26 Repair leaking 20mm water service
27 6 Wortumertie Street	28 Low raw water pressure, blow out and clear
29 125 Anson Street	30 Low raw water pressure, blow out and clear
31 84 Darling Street	32 Low raw water pressure, blow out and clear
33 76 Tudor Street	34 Dug leaking 20mm filtered water service
35 73 Mertin Street	36 Repair leaking 20mm filtered service
37 4 Warraweena Street	38 Repair leaking 25mm raw water service
39 16 Darling Street	40 Dug 100mm raw water main and repaired 25mm service
41 6 Richard Street	42 Dug 100mm raw water main and repaired 25mm service
43 61 Anson Street	44 Dug 100mm raw water main and repaired 25mm service
45 34 Hope Street	46 Dug 100mm raw water main and repaired main
47 Pool	48 Dug 100mm raw water main and repaired main
49 Richard Street	50 Dug 100mm raw water main and repaired main
51 Macquarie Street, North Bourke	52 Dug 100mm raw water main and repaired main
53 44 Hope Street	54 Dug 100mm raw water main and repaired main
55 27 Anson Street	56 Dug 100mm raw water main and repaired main
57 Bourke High School	58 Dug 150mm filtered water main and repaired main 59 Dug filtered main, water required to be turned off
60 9 Oxley Street	61 Dug 150mm filtered water main and repaired main
62 6 Glen Street	63 Dug 150mm filtered water main and repaired main
64 5 Short Street	65 Dug 150 filtered water main and repaired main
66 Water Treatment Plant	67 Dug 200mm filtered water main and repaired main
68 104 Hope Street	69 Dug sewer main, repaired 300mm pipe 70 Pump out sewer 71 Set up bypass, sewer pump station
72 42 Tudor Street	73 Dug sewer, replaced main and cleared choke
74 Davidson Oval	75 Replaced motor on sprinkler system
76 56 Short Street	77 Repair raw service
78 2 Short Street	79 Repair filtered service
80 89-91 Oxley Street	81 Look at leak “internal”
82 Medical Centre	83 Install new 50mm service sprinkler system

	84	Install new sprinkler system
85 Peter Bryant Way	86	Flow test raw water hydrant
87 JB Renshaw Complex	88	Repair sprinklers
	89	Install storm water, sewer and water to new bar area
90 Bourke Court House	91	Flow test hydrant
92	93	Meet bore powerline designer at bore
94	95	Check bore pumps
96	97	Clean up jobs around town
98 Water Treatment Plant	99	Integration of RO plant/bores
	100	Dug out drain raw pump shed
	101	Mow and spray weeds
102 Water	103	Monitoring water sampling/testing and maintenance
104 Sewer	105	Monthly sewer samples
	106	Retic water samples
107 Alice Edwards Village	108	Routine maintenance & monitoring as per ACP Management Plan
109 Clara Hart Village	110	Routine maintenance & monitoring as per ACP Management Plan
111 Training	112	Nil





Month	Raw water ML	Filter magflow pump 2 ML	Raw Water North Bourke KL	Filter Water North Bourke KL
January 2021	134	43	31,255	2,013
February 2021	94	39	30,110	2,145
March 2021	96	38	29,332	2,130
April 2021	99	36	11,607	1,717
May 2021	102	38	12,676	1,808
June 2021	74	34	8,484	1,735
July 2021	75	33	9,856	1,788
August 2021	98	27	16,310	1,542
September 2021	107	29	19,235	1,325
October 2021	122	30	20,314	1,255
November 2021	81	31	16,326	1,356
December 2021	108	36	20,589	1,234
January 2022	113	34	25,364	1,463
February 2022	129	31	29,523	1,958



Process	Parameter	Minimum	Average	Maximum	Lower critical lim	Upper critical lim	No. of samples
River level	River level (425003 )	4.47	5.59	9.36	3.9		28
Raw Water	pH	7.20	7.34	7.55			28
Raw Water	turbidity	148.00	381.11	544.00			28
Filtered water	pH	7.00	7.20	7.40	6.5	8.7	28
Clarifier	Turbidity	0.44	1.41	2.12	0.0	4.0	28
Tower	Free Cl2	1.58	2.29	3.60	0.2	5.0	28
	Turbidity	0.12	0.18	0.30	0.0	1.2	28
Bourke High School	Free chlorine	1.00	1.40	2.10	0.2	4.0	3
Bourke High School	pH	7.10	7.20	7.30	6.5	8.5	3
Bourke High School	Turbidity	0.15	0.18	0.20	0.0	0.5	3
WTP	Free chlorine	2.30	2.30	2.30	0.2	4.0	1
WTP	pH	7.30	7.30	7.30	6.5	8.5	1
WTP	Turbidity	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.0	0.5	1
Bourke Primary School	Free chlorine	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.2	4.0	1
Bourke Primary School	pH	7.40	7.40	7.40	6.5	8.5	1
Bourke Primary School	Turbidity	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.0	0.5	1
Meadows Rd	Free chlorine	1.30	1.30	1.30	0.2	4.0	1
Meadows Rd	pH	7.30	7.30	7.30	6.5	8.5	1
Meadows Rd	Turbidity	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.0	0.5	1
Mitchell St	Free chlorine	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.2	4.0	1
Mitchell St	pH	8.10	8.10	8.10	6.5	8.5	1
Mitchell St	Turbidity	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.0	0.5	1
Alice Edwards Villa	Free chlorine	7.30	7.30	7.30	0.2	4.0	1
Alice Edwards Villa	pH	0.20	0.20	0.20	6.5	8.5	1
Alice Edwards Villa	Turbidity	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.0	0.5	1
Kidman Camp	Free chlorine	0.90	0.90	0.90	0.2	4.0	1
Kidman Camp	pH	7.40	7.40	7.40	6.5	8.5	1
Kidman Camp	Turbidity	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.0	0.5	1

**Treatment Plant EPA Licence Compliance**

Record of Effluent Analysis

Pollutant	Unit Of Measure	Licence 100 Percentile Concentration Limit	Nov 2021 TEST	Dec 2021 TEST	Jan 2022 Test	Feb 2022 TEST	Mar 2022 TEST
Oil & Grease	mg/L	10	<2	<2	n/a	n/a	
pH		6.5-8.5	9.15	9.16	n/a	n/a	
Nitrogen (total)	mg/L	15	6.6	8.9	n/a	n/a	
Phosphorus (total)	mg/L	10	2.76	2.96	n/a	n/a	
Total suspended solids	mg/L	20	70	95	n/a	n/a	
Biochemical oxygen demand	mg/L	15	19	32	n/a	n/a	

Council notes the provisions of clause L2.5 (a) and (b) of its licence conditions of a chlorophyll exemption due algal growth, which also exempts the above exceedances.

- Rainfall in Bourke for February 2022 was 10.6 mm
- Hottest day for February 2022 was 34.3 degrees
- Coldest day for February 2022 was 20.4 degrees

**Recommendation**

**That Council note the information in the Parks & Gardens, Town Services and Water and Waste Water Engineering Services Department Activity Reports as presented to Council on Monday, 28 March 2022.**

**21.3 ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT - ACTIVITY REPORT**

**File Number:** D3.1-A11.1-A8.1-S10.1  
**Author:** Dwayne Willoughby, Manager Environmental Services  
**Authoriser:** Mark Riley, General Manager  
**Attachments:** Nil

**Current Situation**

Development Approvals			
Delegated Authority or Council	Consent Type & Consent No.	Subject Land	Nature of Development
Nil			

Total value of Approved works for February 2022	= 0
No. of Development Application Approvals for February 2022	= 0
No. of Complying Development Application Approvals for February 2022	= 0

Building Services Report	
Location	Work Carried Out
Work Requests	Actioned and ongoing
Risk Assessments	Completed with every job
Training	Nil
Contractors	Maintenance works completed as required Upgrade works completed as per Operational Plan
Buildings	Maintenance works completed as required
Airport	Maintenance works completed as required

Animal Control		
Bourke Shire Council Holding Facility	Dogs	Cats
Animals in Pound beginning of Month	3	0
Seized	6	0
Surrendered	1	11
Handed in by members of the public	0	0
Seized by Police	1	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>
Euthanised	0	3
Returned to Owner	0	0
Released from Pound	2	0
Re-housed	6	0
Died in Pound	0	0
Escaped from Pound	0	0

Animals Remaining at End of Month	5	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>
Stock Rested in Stock Yards	48	

- Attended complaints in regards to dogs causing trouble to the general public
- Ongoing patrols of the township enforcing the Companion Animal Act
- Water sampling for the township, villages and Darling river
- Patrols of Councils Reserves

Swimming Pool Attendance for February 2022	
Adults	494
Children (2+)	965
Children (<2)	206
School Groups/Other	428
<b>Total for Month</b>	<b>2093</b>

**Recommendation**

That the information in the Environmental Services Activity Report as presented to Council on Monday, 28<sup>th</sup> March 2022 be received and noted.

**21.4 GENERAL MANAGER'S ACTIVITY REPORT**

**File Number:** G2.1  
**Author:** Mark Riley, General Manager  
**Authoriser:** Mark Riley, General Manager  
**Attachments:** Nil

**24 February 2022****Renshaw Showground**

The Bourke Skyline, looking towards the Renshaw Showground precinct, is looking rather different now that a new building has risen above the ground. Through funding under the NSW Governments Showground Stimulus Program, a substantial new shade shed and facility area has been constructed. The area covered by this new building is rather impressive, measuring 36 metres in length and being 20 metres wide, it certainly towers over the footprint of the former facilities that were demolished to make way for the construction. When completed the new facility will include a bar area, food canteens, seating areas and will provide users of the Renshaw facility a significant amount of space to mingle and network under cover. With staff and contractors working hard to ensure the facility and surrounds are in tip top condition for the Easter Picnic Races, I am confident that race goers will be suitably impressed at the new facility.

**Remote Roads Upgrade Pilot Program**

I wrote in my Column of 3 February 2022 regarding Wanaaring Rd and that at this point, there remains just 36.33km of road left to be sealed at an approximate cost of \$13.6m. With this project in mind, discussions have recently taken place with Council's liaison officer at TfNSW regarding the guidelines for the Australian Governments Remote Roads Upgrade Pilot Program and specifically, whether projects submitted for funding can include the sealing of roads. This \$150m Program, as announced by Deputy Prime Minister, the Hon Barnaby Joyce, "would offer councils between 80% and 100% of funding to upgrade unsealed roads and improve safety with works including resurfacing, removing dangerous corners and managing vegetation."

From reading the various media releases on the grant, the impression was that the program wasn't about the sealing of roads. However, the TfNSW Liaison Officer advised that from her reading of the guidelines, and discussions with relevant departmental officers, the guidelines don't specifically exclude road sealing projects. Accordingly, Council will now be submitting an application under this program for funding to complete the Wanaaring Road upgrade. Time will ultimately tell in respect of our success or not.

**Small Business Support Program**

Small businesses in Bourke that experienced a downturn over summer are encouraged to apply for a NSW Government support payment of up to \$5,000 per week through Service NSW. The program provides targeted support to businesses with an annual turnover of between \$75,000 and \$50 million that experienced a decline in turnover of at least 40 per cent in January 2022 and the start of February 2022.

The payment for employing businesses will cover up to 20 per cent of weekly payroll, up to a maximum of \$5,000 per week. Eligible non-employing businesses, such as sole traders, will receive

\$500 per week with funds able to be utilised to cover business expenses such as wages, rent, loss of perishable goods, professional services and other costs. Further information is available from the Service NSW website: [www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/2022-small-business-support-program](http://www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/2022-small-business-support-program)

### **Stories of Adversity**

Two stories of adversity bought home to me the reality of life this week. The first was an event that

occurred eighty years ago last week when a group of 22 nurses who had survived the sinking of the SS Vyner Brooke, a British Royal Navy armed trading ship which was escaping the fall of Singapore, were machine gunned by Japanese troops after being ordered by them to wade into the ocean at a place called Banka Island, east of Sumatra. Of the 65 Australian nurses who initially embarked upon the SS Vyner Brooke, 12 were killed during the air attack or drowned following the sinking, 21 were murdered on Radji Beach, and 32 became prisoners of war, 8 of whom subsequently died before the end of the war.

One of the nurses attacked on the beach, a Vivian Bullwinkel, was only wounded, but she played dead and survived the massacre. She hid from the Japanese, tending to other wounded people on the island, before later surrendering and spending over three years in a Japanese prison camp. Her story reminds us of what we owe to nurses, for their sacrifices, selflessness and resilience in tough times. To honour those nurses who died on Banka Island 21 scholarships have been set up in the names of those brave nurses.

The other story relates to a 25 year old woman who lost both her legs in a road accident in Victoria recently in her role as a truck driver in the traditional male dominated livestock transport industry. The truck she was driving rolled and it took emergency services 11 hours to get to her following the collision and in attending to her, had to amputate one of her legs at the accident scene. Since the accident, her other leg has been amputated and she is also suffering from a spinal cord infection. Such a situation would test anyone's resilience and it is pleasing to hear that her local community is rallying around her.

### **New Street Sweeper**

Council has recently taken delivery of a new street sweeper to replace its ageing sweeper that has successfully served the community for some years. The new sweeper is a Dual Control Scarab Mistral Sweeper and Unit which sits atop a Hino FE 1426 truck chassis.

The Scarab Mistral sweeper component of the vehicle gains its suction via a Cummins B3 turbo-charged diesel auxiliary engine. Operators have found that the Cummins engine is quieter than conventional engines as it runs at a lower RPM and is therefore also more fuel efficient. That's good news for the community. The Hino FE 1426 cab chassis has a GVM of 14 tonne and is powered by a 6.4 litre Hino diesel engine with an output of 191 kW (256hp) and 794 Nm of torque at 1500 RPM.

One of the more interesting features of the new streetsweeper is its ability for the operator to spray weeds along the sweeping route. In this regard the intention is for the sweeper to spray along gutters and medians to alleviate unsightly weed growth in the town.

### **Mark Gordon**

Long serving employee, Mark Gordon, commences extended long service leave tomorrow before officially retiring after a stellar career at Bourke Shire over a period of 34 years. A wealth of knowledge on all things roads and other matters in the Bourke Shire, Mark will be very much missed at Council.

Mark commenced his employment with Council back in 1988 as a casual labourer collecting and emptying sanitary pans. He continued as a casual working with the bitumen and bridge crews and then with town services until his permanent appointment as a plant operator in April 1989. Shortly after, Mark went back to the bridge crew, this time as a truck driver, learning many skills such as culvert installation, building, repairing and demolishing bridges, plant operation and concreting. Mark subsequently progressed to the position of Relief Plant Operator and worked with road crews on the sealing of the Kidman Way and the Kamilaroi Highway and was appointed foreman and worked on the construction of the new wharf and the first main street upgrade in 1995.

Mark undertook studies from 1995 to 1997 which saw him achieve an Advanced Works Superintendent Certificate. Mark happily acknowledges that undertaking these studies were one of the best things he had ever done to progress his career in Local Government. Following this achievement, Mark was appointed Works Supervisor. He held that position for 10 years until approached in 2007 to undertake a six month trial as the Manager of Roads. As they say, the rest is history

I have only worked with Mark for a relatively short period. During that time, his knowledge and experience have been very much to the forefront. Mark successfully planned and led his crews in the reconstruction and sealing of the Bourke to Wanaaring Road and he is understandably proud of the work by his crews and the improvements that this road has brought to the local community. Mark and his wife Sandra are well known in the Bourke community and have relocated to Mittagong. On behalf of Council, I certainly wish Mark and Sandra all the very best for the next phase of their lives and specifically publicly thank Mark for his significant contribution to Bourke Shire.

**Quote: "It's a beautiful day at one of Sydney's most beautiful beaches, but there's a real dark pall hanging over our community today."** Maroubra MP, Michael Daley reflecting on last week's fatal shark attack by what is believed to be a Great White at Little Bay Beach, the first such attack at a Sydney beach in 59 years.

### 3 March 2022

#### Social Issues

It was a busy period in Bourke last week with much activity in the social issues space as numerous parties came together to look for solutions to address the recent unfortunate spate of anti-social behaviour in Bourke. Discussions were convened by the NSW Police Force Youth Command involving the Western Region Police Commander, Assistant Police Commissioner, Brett Greentree and his officers; NSW Youth Commander, Assistant Police Commissioner, Gavin Wood and his officers, representatives from the Bourke Tribal Council, Maranguka Community Hub, Government and Non-Government Agencies, the CEO of the NSW PCYC, Dominic Teakle and the Mayor, Leonie Brown and myself from Council, all met on Wednesday to discuss the current issues in Bourke and ways to improve service delivery to address these issues. Various actions are to be implemented but I consider that the big outcome from the day was that Police taking responsibility to ensure, that into the future, the Government Departments are held accountable for undertaking their



respective roles. In any structure there has to be a boss, and like so many other situations, it is necessary for the Police to take that role. They do it well and whilst there is a body of work to be undertaken to re-engineer some of the processes as to how Agencies deal with certain issues in Bourke, I am confident that good steps have been taken.

Following Councils Ordinary Monthly Meeting last Friday, Councillors took the opportunity to meet with Acting Commander, Inspector Trent Swinton; Officer in Charge, Bourke Police, Inspector Peter Walton and Regional Director - Central West and Orana – Department of Regional NSW, Gerry Collins, to hear from all parties their positions in respect of the state of social issues in Bourke. Good discussions ensued and Councillors were most appreciative of the updates from the three (3) guests.

### **Electric Vehicle Charging Station**

There have been many stories in the mainstream media in recent times regarding the emerging availability of electric vehicles (EV) in the marketplace. In 2015 during my term as General Manager at Dubbo Council, the Mayor at the time, Matthew Dickerson was to the forefront of the EV field when he took delivery of, on behalf of Council, the first all-electric Mayoral vehicle anywhere in Australia. At the time the standard joke from his fellow Councillors was, “Gee you’re going to need a long extension cord!” I am happy to also admit my scepticism as to the product. I subsequently drove a few of the electric Mayoral vehicles and then travelled in Matthews personal car, a Tesla, and on all occasions I was suitably impressed. The torque in the electric vehicles is quite amazing.

I am pleased to say that Bourke is also getting in on the EV evolution. For some time, the Riverside Motel has had a charging capability for Tesla Vehicles and since early 2020, Council has engaged with the NRMA to establish an Electric Vehicle (EV) fast charging station in Bourke. The good news is that the build of the Bourke NRMA EV fast charging station will commence in early March. The Station will be built in Mitchell Street outside of the Wal Mitchell Wharf Precinct and will comprise of two parking bays and electric fast chargers which will be accessible to the public 24 hours a day, 365 days per year. The roll out of the charging stations is a partnership between the NRMA and the NSW government to deliver greener and cleaner travel and also allow EV drivers to confidently tour the entirety of NSW knowing they will have a charging station near them. This is an exciting opportunity for Bourke and owners of electric vehicles knowing that additional charging stations are being built in remote locations, as previously there was often an inability to conveniently charge vehicles in these locations. With the recent significant price increase of fuel, we may see a lot more electric vehicles on the road!

### **Far West Active Fest**

From 4.00pm – 6.00pm on 22 March 2022, Davidson Oval in Bourke will be a hive of activity as the 2022 Far West Active Fest, a festival of “fun, fitness and laughter”, comes to Bourke. This free event seeks to deliver fun activities, sports gear and mental health programs through a whole of community wellbeing event. Professional athletes will be on site with all kids who attend the event receiving free training gear and also having the chance to win even more sporting apparel on the day. There is a colour run, footy clinics, league tag and other sports activities available. “Come on down”, as they say, and get involved. Mental health workshops will be conducted on the day for adults and children, through the Black Dog Institute. A free sausage sizzle BBQ is also available for all participants at the Active Fest.

This is the second year that the NSW Office of Sport has delivered this event in a number of rural and remote locations across the Far West of NSW, including Bourke. I thank the NSW Government

through its Office of Sport for their initiative along with the other supporters on the day: Creative Community Concepts, Kit Bag for Kids and MALO Republic, Far West Academy of Sport, Mission Australia, National and NSW Rugby Leagues, BlackDog Institute and 1800Respect.

### **Small Business Month**

March is Small Business Month and this year arrangements have been made for former Bourke local, Lionel O'Mally, Financial Planner from Purpose Planning and Wealth Advice, to empower our small business owners and operators. Two information sessions have been arranged at the Back o' Bourke Exhibition Conference Centre on Thursday, 17 March 2022. The afternoon starts at 4pm with a Wealth Information Session. This first session is not only for business operators but for residents who are interested in making better financial decisions for themselves and their family. Lionel will cover important topics including superannuation, basic investment, debt management, budgeting even retirement planning.

For the second session -Empowering Your Business - an invitation is extended to all business operators to provide information to help the Bourke business community make better financial decisions within their businesses. Lionel will be joined by Accountant, Vince Clemente from FMC Chartered Accountants and Business Advisors. They are both keen to bring a fresh approach to financial planning and running a successful business. A couple of young fellows who are happy to explain some of the tips and tricks for business. RSVP for catering for session 2 would be welcomed to Councils Economic Development Manager, Mel Milgate by phoning Council on 6830 8000 or by email: [m.milgate@bourke.nsw.gov.au](mailto:m.milgate@bourke.nsw.gov.au)

### **COVID Vouchers**

The NSW Government continues its efforts to stimulate the post-Covid economy with a range of measures, including a \$250 travel card for seniors living in remote, regional or rural areas. ([www.service.nsw.gov.au/regionalseniorstravel](http://www.service.nsw.gov.au/regionalseniorstravel)). There are also more Discover NSW vouchers for families who did it tough during the lockdowns last year, having to home school children and having their outings limited. ( [www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/apply-dine-discover-nsw-vouchers](http://www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/apply-dine-discover-nsw-vouchers)). The measures will go some small way toward pumping more dollars out to regional areas, with more tourist traffic giving a boost to the local businesses that also suffered during the pandemic. Also, with a new year of local sporting competition starting, parents are encouraged to make use of the Active Kids program, which provides two \$100 vouchers to put toward sports and recreation costs ( [www.service.nsw.gov.au/campaign/active-kids](http://www.service.nsw.gov.au/campaign/active-kids)).

### **Road Works**

In recent months the reconstruction and sealing of various roads in the Bourke Shire have been completed. Parkdale Road, Weir Road, Polygonum Swamp Road and River Road, which are all relatively close to town, have all been sealed. River Road has been damaged by the flood waters of recent times with a major wash away the result. The necessary approvals are currently being sought with repair works to be undertaken as part of the Bourke Shire having been declared a Natural Disaster area. The sealing of the Coronga Peak Rd, west of Byrock has also been completed. In addition to the sealing of these roads, the construction of concrete bridges on MR 68 South (Bourke-Louth) at Jandra Creek No2 and Compadore Creek have been completed. All of these projects have essentially been funded through grant funding through NSW State Government programs.

Council also works with Transport for NSW in maintaining the State Highways. This work is done under what is referred to as the Road Maintenance Council Contract (RMCC). Under this Contract, Council is currently undertaking shoulder widening works some 38 km south of Bourke on the Mitchell Highway. Council still awaits a decision on funding in respect of further works on the Bourke – Wanaaring Road.

Regular maintenance works are currently being undertaken on Lower Lila Road, Mooleyarrah Road, Bundy Road, Wilganea Road and Lakemere Road.

**Quote: “The heaviest rainfall on Saturday morning (26 February 2022) was on Bribie Island and in the Moreton Bay region, but Mount Glorious, near Brisbane, recorded 618mm in 24 hours.”** A Bureau of Meteorology spokesperson regarding the rain cell in south east Queensland last week. That’s some rainfall.

## 10 March 2022

### North Bourke Bridge

Council at its February meeting allocated \$200,000 to undertake a structural assessment, develop a preferred restoration option, prepare a cost estimate and prepare a restoration specification with a view to achieving grant funding to restore the historic, and magnificent, North Bourke Bridge. A high strategic priority of the Bourke Community Strategic Plan, the restoration of the Bridge has been the subject of discussions with various politicians and the submission of funding applications, to no avail.

The expenditure of these funds will provide Council, and ultimately the community, with a level of certainty in pursuing both the funding and the completion of the project. It would be great to think that in years to come, visitors to Bourke, including myself, will travel to North Bourke to witness a fully restored bridge, including an operable centre section.

### Minister for Western NSW

Minister for Western NSW, the Hon Dugald Saunders, flew into Bourke last Thursday morning, on the regular Dubbo to Bourke air service, to attend the Police Aboriginal Consultative Committee Meeting, meet with staff at the Bourke Multi-Purpose Service, meet with Bourke Police and finished up with a meeting with Mayor Barry, Leonie Brown, Melanie Milgate and myself, at the Back O Bourke Exhibition Centre. All this before getting back on the regular Thursday flight to Dubbo departing, at 3.10pm.

It was good to be able to talk with the Minister regarding the social and health issues which are currently impacting Bourke in a variety of ways. The Minister had heard of and was well across the break and enters in town and various other juvenile crime matters and the numerous actions being taken to hopefully address such issues. In addition, he was aware of an incident a couple of weeks ago, which saw the vehicle of a resident of Bourke being side swiped by a vehicle travelling in the opposite direction on the Mitchell Highway near Byrock. The vehicle that was in the wrong failed to stop. Luckily the occupants of the vehicle that was hit, which included a baby, were uninjured. What the Minister wasn’t aware of was an incident last week which saw a young fellow leaving his car overnight at the front of licensed premises in town only to come back to the car the next morning to find various windows smashed. Residents have heard these stories before and potentially move on with their day-to-day activities. The unfortunate issue though is that these issues affect every resident in town because the victim of these crimes were medical people, who understandably, shaken by the events, have decided to leave Bourke. Every resident in the Shire is

now a victim of someone's poor decisions in perpetrating these crimes, as the departure of these people makes the delivery of services to the community an even more difficult proposition. Whilst the Minister was confident replacement medical staff would be sourced, one really has to wonder where it all ends.

### **Stay NSW Program**

The NSW Government has announced the roll-out of a \$50 accommodation voucher available to residents as part of its \$250m Stay NSW Program, (<https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/stay-nsw>), effective from last week. The purpose of the vouchers is to encourage NSW residents to get out and about NSW and stay at accommodation as they travel. The vouchers can be used at a participating country hotel, a family-run caravan park or a hotel in the Sydney CBD. People can pool their \$50 Stay NSW Vouchers with relatives or friends, with no redemption limit being applicable. There are more than 1,200 Stay NSW businesses already registered across the State with the vouchers being valid for use until 9 October 2022. Participating businesses will be able to redeem vouchers seven days a week, including public holidays. Customers will be able to search for places to stay on the easy-to-use business finder.

### **Cricket Sadness**

Last Saturday was an almost surreal day having woken up to the news that Shane Warne had passed away at the relatively young age of 52. The "Wisden Cricketers Almanack" which dates back to 1884, and also known as the Cricketers Bible, conducted a poll back in 2000 to determine the five cricketers of the century. Shane Warne was ultimately one of the five with the stage having been set when he bowled "the ball of the century" at Old Trafford in England, back in 1993, to dismiss Mike Gatting. We've all seen that ball replayed in recent days, but I will quote Wisden's description of the delivery. "It began its flight innocently so as to lull Mike Gatting, drifted to leg, pitched in the batsman's blind spot, then rounded on him fiercely and bent back off stump." Nice! Then there was Shane Warnes hat trick, with the third wicket falling after an absolute pearler of a catch in close by David Boon, and his 700<sup>th</sup> wicket when he ran and ran in delight. Ultimately he captured 708 test wickets at an average of 25.41 runs when he called it quits at the end of the 2006/2007 Ashes Series. He made some interesting points in commentary but never backed away regardless. Death is inevitable for all of us, but 52 is too soon. I certainly feel for his children, family and his close friends.

### **Western Cancer Centre Dubbo**

The Deputy Prime Minister, the Hon Barnaby Joyce, in the company of Member for Parkes, The Hon Mark Coulton and Member for Dubbo and Minister for Western NSW, the Hon Dugald Saunders, officially opened the much-anticipated Western Cancer Centre at Dubbo last weekend. Mark Coulton, Dugald Saunders and his predecessor Troy Grant, medical people, including Dr Joe Canalese, and a raft of other people, have worked long and hard to achieve this facility and they should be very proud to have achieved their combined vision. Constructed by NSW Health Infrastructure, the new centre located on the Dubbo Hospital campus will deliver life-saving cancer treatment and diagnostic services to residents of Dubbo and the regional and remote areas of western NSW, including Bourke. The new cancer centre will significantly expand chemotherapy services and provide access to radiation therapy and PET CT services in Dubbo for the first time. \$35 million has been invested by the NSW and Australian governments to develop the Centre. In delivering the purpose built two-storey cancer centre alongside the new main hospital building at Dubbo, the project includes the provision of 16 chemotherapy spaces/a bunker for radiation

treatment/ a PET CT scanner for cancer diagnostics/ a wellness space to provide support and well-being services to patients and families and a patient car park.

My wish would be that no one gets cancer, however that unfortunately is not reality. This centre will provide patients from Bourke with improved access to life-saving cancer diagnostic and treatment services in Dubbo alleviating the need to travel to Orange, Canberra or Sydney for treatment. Earlier this year I had to get a PET CT scan undertaken. So, it was off to Sydney for me. I have to have another one later this year and that will be at the Dubbo Centre. So much more convenient.

With more services in Dubbo, more people from Bourke will travel to Dubbo and unless they have close friends and relatives in town, they will have to source accommodation. Recently, Mayor Barry completed a letter fully supporting a funding application being submitted by Macquarie Homestay at Dubbo for the construction of 26 purpose-built oncology accommodation units, to add to the existing 17 units at the Homestay Facility. Oncologist's have predicted that 294 patients external to Dubbo will receive treatment on an annual basis and in doing so will need to source accommodation for the duration of their four (4) week treatment regime. This suggests that patients will utilise 1,176 weeks of accommodation per annum. Oncology treatment alone will result in 22.6 rooms at the Homestay facility being fully occupied across 52 weeks of the year. With increased accommodation demands on the Homestay, there is a real risk of patients limiting their treatment options if appropriate and affordable accommodation options are not available. This has been the unfortunate case in the past where there have been examples of Bourke residents not having undertaken treatment because they simply could not afford accommodation

**Quote. "I was in disbelief and shock when I first heard the news of his death. Now, the overriding emotion is of great sadness. It will really hit home next summer when the cricket is on and there's no Warnie. There will never be another one like him. He is irreplaceable."** Former Australian Cricket Captain- Mark Taylor

## 17 March 2022

### Flooding Tragedy

As the clean-up from the devastating flooding of recent times continues, south-east Queensland, northeast NSW and Western Sydney again faced severe rainfall and thunderstorm warnings last week with concerns that the rainfall may lead to more flash flooding. At one point on Monday 7 March, there were 10 active flood warnings and a severe thunderstorm warning in place in Queensland, with heavy rainfall and winds a possibility for Ipswich, Logan and other areas in the south-east. In NSW several warnings had been issued for severe weather, including the South Coast, Illawarra, parts of the Tablelands and parts of the Sydney metropolitan region. The Hawkesbury-Nepean River ultimately surpassed the major flood levels reached in early March 2021. Lismore, on the NSW North Coast, is still lacking in basic services, such as power supply and a sewerage treatment plant that is expected to take four (4) months to repair and make operational. The La Nina weather pattern, which as I understood was weakening back in December, has certainly flexed its muscle in recent weeks with unprecedented rainfall in many localities.

Mayor Barry has written to his fellow Mayors at Ballina and Lismore, on behalf of the Bourke Community, to extend best wishes and thoughts at these most trying of times. The loss of life, the emotion in the voices of the flood victims and the pictures of the destruction of property have

been very harrowing. If there is to be a bright spot in all this it is the way the various communities have come together to assist one another and of course, the story of the Fijian Abattoir Workers who came out as a group and rescued numerous elderly people from a rapidly inundating aged care facility in Lismore.

Locally it is expected that the Darling River will receive another flow in weeks to come with a low to moderate river height expected. A friend of mine told me last year that we were in for a very wet summer with flooding expected. She was very right!

### **Tour de Roc**

The Toyota Tour de OROC Cycle Classic was an initiative of then Dubbo City Council Mayor, Mathew Dickinson, back in 2013 to raise funds for Macquarie Home Stay. After being postponed last year due to COVID, the 2022 version of the event will run from 21-26 March 2022 and see 25 dedicated riders and their support crew travel over 1,100km around the region in support of Macquarie Home Stay. The event, now organised by South Dubbo Rotary, will see the riders arrive in Bourke late afternoon on Wednesday 23 March 2022 with Council and Bourke Rotary Club organising a barbecue dinner for the riders at the Bourke Bowling Club, followed by a charity auction to be held after the Bowling Club's badge draw. Come along and get bidding. There could be a bargain or two! Interestingly the support crew for the event includes Ashley Weilinga and Paul Loxley, both who have strong ties to Bourke.

I wrote last week of the opening of the Western Cancer Centre in Dubbo and the importance that Macquarie Home Stay will play for Bourke residents who require accommodation in Dubbo as they receive treatment at the Centre. After many years of community fundraising, and I should say that Mathews initiative with the Tour was essentially the first major amount of funds provided towards the Project, the first stage of Macquarie Home Stay was opened on 29 January 2019. More funds are now needed to develop further stages of the facility. Macquarie Home Stay services people throughout the entire Orana Region with the Home Stay being a crucial facility to give patients and their loved ones a home away from home during their stay. The facility provides affordable accommodation for people in the region in a range of circumstances.

### **Aboriginal Language Program**

The Aboriginal Languages Trust is calling for applications for the refreshed and simplified Grants Program to support projects that reawaken, grow, nurture, promote and raise awareness of Aboriginal languages in communities across NSW. The Aboriginal Languages Revival Program provides one-off funding to Aboriginal Community organisations and groups to support them to commence or build on smaller scale Language revival projects. The program aims to promote and raise awareness of Aboriginal Languages in communities across NSW, consistent with the objectives of the *Aboriginal Languages Act 2021 (NSW)*.

The Aboriginal Languages Trust has allocated \$650,000 for the Aboriginal Languages Revival Program in 2022. The program has been redesigned in response to feedback which cited that the previous program was too complex. As part of the new process the Trust has given applicants the option to answer some questions using audio or video recordings in a bid to create a more flexible application process for Community. Applicants can apply for grants from \$1,000 up to \$15,000 with this being an open and competitive grants program. Applications are now open and close at 5pm, on Friday 1 April 2022. Application forms can be completed online at

<https://alt.smartygrants.com.au/> Successful recipients will need to deliver their projects between 1 July 2022 and 1 June 2023.

### **NSW WILD DOG FENCE EXTENSION PROJECT**

The economic impact of wild dogs is estimated to exceed \$100 million every year across Australia, with around \$22 million of this attributed to NSW. The proposed extension of the existing 583 km NSW Border Wild Dog Fence by around 750 km will be a game-changer for livestock producers and community members in Western NSW, offering employment and procurement opportunities for local businesses. Prior to construction commencing, the project is undergoing an extensive assessment, approvals and community consultation process, providing relevant experts and local landholders and stakeholders an opportunity to have input into the project.

Preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Project is currently underway and will address biodiversity, construction methodology, soil and sediment, Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal heritage, flora and fauna and sustainability issues. To input into the document, community consultation for the project is being held next week, 21-25 March, at locations along the NSW and South Australian border. The community sessions, covering all aspects of the project, have been organised for landholders, community members, fencing and employment contractors, environmentalists, as well as targeted sessions for the Aboriginal community. The targeted sessions for the Aboriginal community will focus on the assessments for cultural heritage and biodiversity, as well as employment opportunities, while each session will include a presentation on the project. The project team have advised that they are keen to see a broad range of feedback, ideas, suggestions and concerns raised during the sessions. Such feedback will be considered and help inform the project's Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Once the EIS is drafted, it will be lodged with the NSW Department of Planning and Environment, where it will be put on public exhibition for further feedback. Full details on the Wild Dog Fence Project and this latest round of consultation can be obtained from <https://www.ils.nsw.gov.au> and search the news section.

### **Bourke PCYC**

Since taking on the role of Manager at the Bourke PCYC towards the end of last year, George Dickson has been very busy successfully resetting the Club such that it is a major component in the overall mix of activities for youth in Bourke. I received an email from George during the week advising that PCYC's across the State are seeing an urgent and growing need to develop mental resilience skills amongst our youth.

To this end, the PCYC have developed a new preventative program called GRIT, which aims to build mental resilience by combining physical well-being and nutrition with emotional and social intelligence skills. George is very keen to get the GRIT Program to the Bourke Club. To assist, the PCYC is conducting a Star Jump Challenge during Youth Week from 3-10 April 2022. You can get involved and donate to this cause in hope of bringing the GRIT program to the Bourke Club. The following link will allow you donate: [www.pycstarjumpchallenge.org.au/fundraisers/PCYCBourkeTeamCaptain](http://www.pycstarjumpchallenge.org.au/fundraisers/PCYCBourkeTeamCaptain)

### **PV Jandra**

Monday saw the Paddle Vessel (PV) Jandra commence operations on the Darling River for the 2022 tourist season in Bourke. It has been a rather quiet time for the Jandra during the last two (2) years due to COVID and it is pleasing to see, of late, an increased number of caravaners both passing through and stopping at Bourke for a period of time to experience Bourke and surrounds.



As a community we should be thankful for the vision shown by those who both initiated and subsequently delivered the Jandra and the Back O' Bourke Exhibition Centre to enhance the tourist experience here in Bourke. They are excellent products and I look forward to seeing figures that reflect ever increasing tourism numbers attending Bourke in coming months.

**Quote: "Anyone who's been watching the numbers over the past few days would have seen an apparent rise in (COVID) cases. That is concerning for us."** NSW Health Minister, Brad Hazzard on preliminary modelling that show cases COVID could double in the next four to six weeks, as the new Omicron version becomes dominant.

## 24 March 2022

### Easter Festival

Preparations for the 2022 Bourke Easter Festival are well underway with television advertising, promoting the Festival to a very wide audience, now airing on television. I thought last year's festival was a fantastic event and I am confident that this years will be of a similar quality, if not better!

Colour Run, Park Run, Tours on the Jandra, markets, street parade, wool bale rolling, rugby, the giant easter egg hunt, along with many other mainstay activities, are all back for another year. There are three activities that I wish to highlight in respect of this year's Easter Festival. On Easter Friday afternoon from 4pm, the Sulli-Vans will be performing in the gardens at the Back O Bourke Exhibition Centre. Apparently Kevin Sullivan and his family previously appeared on the Voice Television Show, however I caught them performing in Bourke last year and I thought they were excellent. Kevin Sullivan was a forensic police crime scene investigator before he, his wife and three young children moved into the family caravan in 2020 to commence a tour of Australia. They started in Queensland and they have taken their music to communities and towns across the country. They've been touring, QLD, NSW, SA, Victoria, NT & WA playing over 110 LIVE shows, across the country. They have performed at the Cairns Casino, Roadhouses, Caravan Parks, House Concerts, at venues all the way from Cape York to El Questro Station in the Kimberly's and at iconic Festivals such as 'The Man From Snowy River Festival' in Corryong Victoria, the Camooweal Drivers Camp Festival, the Nambung Country Music Muster where they received a standing ovation and shortly, the Bourke Easter Festival. The Sulli-Vans were to have performed during the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary for the Tamworth Country Music Festival in January 2022, however the Festival was cancelled due to COVID. Kevin and family will be ably supported by Kaitlyn Thomas throughout the evening.

On Easter Saturday, the traditional Bourke Easter Street Parade will be held. This year the Parade will be led by the NSW Police Marching Band. The attendance of the band in Bourke is a significant coup for the community with the band generally spending Easter at the Sydney Royal Easter Show. Comprising some 30 band members, I very much look forward to the sounds of the band resonating through Bourke that Saturday. The final event I highlight is the Back O' Bourke Picnic Race Club meeting. As I write this column, various local trades people are working hard to finalise the fit out of the new pavilion at the Renshaw Showground that will provide a large undercover area with enhanced food and beverage amenities for race goers and other users of the Renshaw. I am confident that those in attendance will be suitably impressed.

All in all, a fantastic weekend is available to the community and I congratulate and thank the various people who assist in delivering the many activities that make up the Bourke Easter Festival.

### **Tour de OROC**

Yesterday afternoon, the 25 riders and support crew who are participating in the 2022 Tour de OROC cycling event raising funds for the Macquarie Home Stay in Dubbo, were welcomed to Bourke. Last evening, Council and Bourke Rotary Club organised a barbecue dinner for the riders at the Bourke Bowling Club and this was followed by a charity auction. In assisting in the garnering of auction items, I was reminded how generous people are in assisting with a worthy cause. Locally, Roz Milgate, Andrew Hull, Kath Sneddon, Sam Rice, Morrall's Bakery, Bourke Betta Electrical, Bourke Newsagency, Bourke's Butchery, Bourke Home Hardware, Peter and Eva-Lena Crothers, Bourke Furniture One and Central West Golf Centre in Dubbo were all to the fore in donating auction items.

With NRL games coming to the Central West in coming times, contact was made with Bathurst and Dubbo Councils who generously donated Grandstand Tickets to the Panthers v Knights and Rabbitohs v Raiders games respectively. Contact was also made with the Taronga Western Plains Zoo in Dubbo seeking some entry tickets. The Zoo came back and not only provided entry passes but they also provided an overnight stay at the Savannah Cabins at the Dubbo Zoo for 2 adults and 2 children. A quick phone call to the office of the Minister for Western NSW, Dugald Saunders, who has been to the fore in securing NRL games for the regions, and a signed South Sydney Jersey was made available for the auction. A call was also made to the President of the Macquarie Club in Dubbo, Chris Condon, who is a known St George Dragons tragic and strong supporter of the club. Through Chris, and Ben Thompson, the Commercial Business Manager at the Dragons, we were able to also auction a signed and framed St George jersey along with home game tickets with entry to the Captain's Lounge for the day. As I said earlier, people are most generous for a worthy cause and it was so pleasing to see the assistance provided by so many in providing auction items.

### **Jandra**

The PV Jandra recommenced operations for the 2022 Tourism Season on Monday this week. For Tuesday mornings cruise, we had good numbers booked but come the time of departure we had six (6) no shows. They turned up just as the Jandra went around the bend in the river as it headed north. They had literally missed the boat. Keen to experience a cruise on the famous Darling River before their departure after lunch and before the next scheduled cruise mid-afternoon, staff advised that they could always hire the boat for a private cruise. Much to the surprise and delight of the staff member that's exactly what our customers did.....they hired the Jandra for their own private cruise. Good job. Don't forget, the Jandra operates scheduled one (1) hour cruises at 9.00am and 2.30pm daily from Monday through to Saturday (inclusive) and then a two (2) hour cruise on Sundays at 2.00pm. Bookings can be made at the Back O' Bourke Exhibition Centre.

### **Anzac Day**

Whilst still a month away, I was happy to receive correspondence this week from the NSW Minister for Veterans, the Hon. David Elliott MP advising that under the current health advice and public health order of 10 March 2022, "it is permissible to organise an outdoor Dawn Service, commemoration, or March with no limits on attendance numbers. There is no requirement for QR code check in." This is fantastic news and augers well for members of the Bourke community to come together and attend the traditional Dawn Service or March on Anzac Day this year.

**COVID**

With the awful floods of recent times, which have left close to 5,000 homes across south-east Queensland, northern NSW and Sydney uninhabitable, the media focus on COVID cases has relaxed somewhat. Rest assured, the virus is still out there with NSW Health reporting circa 15-20,000 cases a day and numerous fatalities each day. Here in Bourke, up until last week, there had been 254 positive COVID cases in the community since Christmas 2021. That's an average of some 21 cases per week for the 12-week period since Christmas. In NSW 94.5% of the population aged over 16 years are doubled dosed. Interestingly, 57.6% of the same population have received their 3<sup>rd</sup> or booster dose.

For those in the Bourke community who have yet to have their COVID booster shot, I encourage you to get in contact with Ochre Health or the Aboriginal Medical Service in Bourke to make an appointment for their COVID booster shot. It won't be long and people will be soon arranging their annual flu shot.

**Building Supply Shortages**

I have heard that a major building company in Dubbo has a two (2) year waiting list for the construction of houses. This week I read that dongas and relocatable homes are also in short supply thanks to a shortage of building materials and labour. Farm Online reported that the waiting period on new transportable homes is now out to 18 months and prices of second-hand dongas have tripled. The Ukrainian war will impact the amount of softwood imported to Australia from Russia, noting that Australia's softwood production has been severely impacted by last year's bush fires and now the floods. Roof trusses and wall frames are reportedly taking longer than 3-4 months to supply. The limited supply has seen prices escalate. Structural steel is up nearly 40% with the price of pine having apparently doubled in 12 months.

**Quote: "It is expected that the cost of the recent catastrophic flooding to be up to three times more expensive than the damage bill following the Black Summer bushfires." NSW Treasurer Matt Kean.**

**Recommendation**

**That the information in the General Manager's Activity Report as presented to Council on Monday, 28 March 2022 be noted.**

**21.5 LIBRARY MANAGER'S ACTIVITY REPORT FOR FEBRUARY**

**File Number:** L4.1  
**Author:** Jodi Hatch, Library Manager  
**Authoriser:** Melanie Milgate, Economic Development Manager  
**Attachments:** Nil

**Current Situation**

The following items for the February 2021 - February 2022 period are presented for your information:

Item	February 2021	February 2022
Loans	523	473
New Members	11	16

Other statistical information:

	February 2021		February 2022
Internet/Word Processing	65	Internet/Word Processing	21
Wireless Tickets	6	Wireless Tickets	4
Number of Visitors	237	Number of Visitors	231
Scans	14	Scans	18
Information Requests	57	Information Requests	53
Technical Assistance	46	Technical Assistance/Printing	44
Faxes	0	Faxes/Laminating	4

- Winners for the Summer Reading Club were announced this month, with prizes of audiobooks generously donated by Bolinda Audio. This year the challenge was also open to adults, and we were happy to have 3 adults register. We are working on having another adult reading challenge available in the coming weeks.



**Recommendation**

**That the information in the Library Manager's Report for February 2022 as presented to Council on Monday, 28 March 2022 be noted.**

**21.6 TOURISM & EVENTS MANAGER'S ACTIVITY REPORT**

**File Number:** T4.1  
**Author:** Fran Carter, Manager Tourism & Events  
**Authoriser:** Melanie Milgate, Economic Development Manager  
**Attachments:** Nil

**Background**

The Bourke Shire Councils Tourism and Events Manager’s activity report provides Council with an updated status report for February 2022, relating to its tourism teams activities through visual data including graphs and statistic to allow for the measurement of the team’s progress and performance.

**Current Situation**

**Back O’ Bourke Information and Exhibition Centre**

Visitor numbers for February 2022 were 725.

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Jan	448	560	325	326	302	348	386	782	1109	816	603
Feb	157	397	271	373	391	220	282	1043	386	630	725
Mar	570	1500	1051	1342	1612	1245	1274	1021	412	1389	
April	2144	3103	3146	3849	3118	3114	4024	3166	0	2387	
May	2891	3758	3988	4602	4073	3983	4770	3693	0	2564	
June	3216	4492	4275	5437	5199	4754	5634	4490	993	2366	
July	4643	5173	6241	6002	5941	5982	7614	6834	2570	1068	
Aug	4162	4410	4793	5078	4951	5051	5548	4052	1898	255	
Sept	5074	4275	4764	4489	4532	4246	4676	3601	3325	0	
Oct	3067	2383	2486	2370	2475	2463	3574	2222	5246	409	
Nov	930	789	671	610	1031	876	1014	1220	1989	866	
Dec	347	207	242	272	281	255	630	860	1194	897	
<b>Total</b>	<b>27649</b>	<b>31044</b>	<b>32253</b>	<b>34750</b>	<b>33906</b>	<b>32537</b>	<b>39454</b>	<b>32984</b>	<b>19122</b>	<b>13647</b>	

**Back O Bourke Information & Exhibition Centre, Ben Nott –Team Leader Tourism Operations**

**February 2022**

- Visitor numbers for February were 725.
- BOBEC only open Monday to Friday during February with no weekends.
- Turnover in February was down 18% on last month (up 103% same period last year).
- Visitor numbers are slightly up on January for February.
- Email enquiries for February were down 12% on January.
- Incoming calls for February were up 35% on January.
- Paddleboat Jandra had no trips during February due to flooding.
- Exhibition Centre tickets sold in February were up 11% on January.

- Mt Oxley tickets sold were up 100% on last month
- Café turnover is up 9%

Staff at the Back O' Bourke Centre have had a most productive month "behind the scenes" for February.

The staff have been preparing the Jandra Paddleboat to be back up and running for the new season which will commence in March. This has involved organising the mains power back to the boat, fridges back on board as well as tables, chairs and merchandise.

The water treatment team have also helped by servicing pumps to get the fire system on the Jandra back up and running. The gardens at the Jandra carpark have had all dead trees removed along with spraying of round-up in the garden beds and around other established trees, poles, and the carpark edges. The two tables and chairs have been placed back in place at the site after the recent flood.

The Crossey Engine is ready to reassemble, and the contractor will commence work in March, so we anticipate it will be running for Easter. The contractor has been unwell and unfortunately it has delayed progress.

The Back O' Bourke Information Centre gardens team have been busy top dressing lawns and low spots around the site, also mixing lawn seed into the top dressing, spraying broadleaf weeds out of the lawn areas, also spraying roundup around gardens, tree circles, roads, paths and building edges.

The team are mulching new areas around the existing trees and gardens areas. The new irrigation system has been working well. It has helped the team keep the lawns and gardens in great condition, to the point that the team are having to mow more regularly than usual as the grass is spreading quickly.

The Function Centre lawn has been a centre of attention. The area has had all the burrs sprayed out as well as top dressing to fill in any low spots or holes. This has provided us with another great space for events and/or functions to add to the Centre. Positive feedback has been received around the look and condition of the BOBEC lawns and gardens. We have had a few minor issues including a broken water filter, leaking pipes, broken sink, and pressure pump issues that the Water Treatment team- lead by Shayne, have been a great help resolving these water and other issues. We are also working with contractors to add some bollards to define our lawn areas from the carparks.

The team are looking into a tree planting program so we can continue to improve the centre surrounds. Thanks to the Boat Captain who has helped during the last few months while the boat has been out of action.

The Information Centre /Café has been extremely busy over the month of February. The team continually work together on successfully operating the centre with minimal staff. This involves consistently following up brochures from local business, conducting surveys of visitors, ordering



merchandise, tickets ordered and ready for the season, general upkeep of cleaning three buildings daily.

The team have worked on “Welcome to Bourke” to get it ready for the event which is in early March and are also starting to assist with the Easter Festival and its promotion. This involves printing programs and individual event posters and then driving around town delivering them to as many locations as possible. The staff are sourcing Easter Eggs, so we are ready for the big Egg Hunt at Easter. We also have staff working on the Bourke brochure and the new website. We also maintaining 15 brochure stands around town, these are checked every few weeks and are topped up as needed.

The Café is continuing to grow and being supported by the local community. The team do weekly specials which have been again well supported. The team have completed a great job in the Café providing nice food in timely fashion and great service. We have also been without a projector in our new theatre for around 3 months, this was fixed under warranty and reinstalled in late February, and we are now back using the theatre.

**EVENTS:**

**Easter Festival- 15th, 16th, 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> April**

In less than a month the Back O’ Bourke Easter Festival will kick-off what is planning to be a fun weekend of Easter activities. February update sees the;



**Colour Run-** begins the weekend’s activities on Good Friday at 10am from the Wharf precinct. St Ignatius School are working with Council in organising the event with registrations available from the Laura Gillard Design or at sign up days on Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> April.

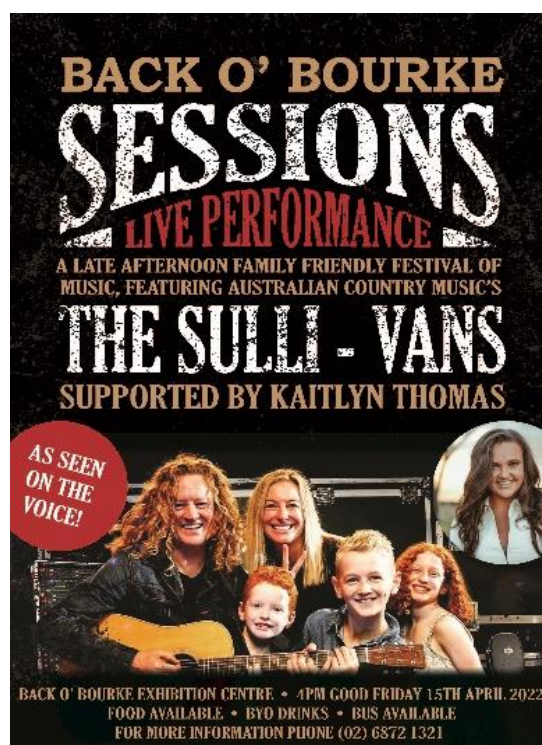
Also, on Friday from 4pm, **Back O’ Bourke Sessions** will be held at the Back O’ Bourke Exhibition Centre in the Café gardens. Live performances featuring Kevin Sullivan – “The Sulli- Vans” as seen on The Voice earlier this year and supporting act by Kaitlyn Thomas. The Back O’ Bourke Cafe will be operating. Bus routes are in the planning with pick up and drop off attendees.

Easter Saturday commences with the **Street Parade** down the main street from 9.30am. This year’s parade along with vintage cars and fine historic machinery will feature the famous 30-piece NSW Police Band all the way from Sydney. The parade will then move into Oxley Street to participate in the Back O’ Bourke Markets and Wool bale rolling for viewing to the public.

The **Back O’ Bourke Markets** will commence from 8am with a variety of stalls. Similar to the Christmas markets we anticipate these to be very popular again with a lot of enquiries taken at the Exhibition Centre for an application form.

**Rugby** will kick off with the juniors from 1.30pm and the Bourke Rams vs Bourke Barbarians at Davidson

Oval from 3pm, always a popular event to the program.



On Easter Sunday the popular **Giant Easter Egg Hunt** will be held at the Back O’ Bourke Exhibition Centre gardens again commencing from 8am. Following on from the success over the past four years, this year eggs and prizes have increased to \$5000 that will be available for a nominal fee of \$5 per child. We anticipate numbers to double this year as enquiries for registering children are beginning to occur. All children will need to be accompanied by an adult.

The feature event of the weekend is the **Back O’ Bourke Races** on Easter Sunday and will kick off from 12pm, always a

popular event amongst the community and a major drawcard in attracting visitors to the region.


Easter Monday although no major events are being held still has a long list of attractions and activities to do.

Over the weekend the **Jandra Paddleboat** is scheduled to operate Good Friday, Easter Saturday, Easter Sunday, and Easter Monday. Paul Roe will also be aboard to commentate on the history of the boat on Friday and Saturday

Paul Roe will also be providing his **Cemetery Tours**.



Operating over the weekend from 9am, these tours are a very personal experience that details the lives of some of the characters buried in the Bourke cemetery. Paul will also be conducting tours through the **Back O' Bourke Exhibition Centre** 3pm daily Friday, Saturday and Sunday.



**BOURKE SHIRE COUNCIL**

We are hosting our 13th Annual

# Welcome to Bourke Evening



**Back O' Bourke Exhibition Centre**

7pm  
Tuesday 8th of March 2022

You are invited to join us  
welcoming new residents to our community  
and introduce them to your organisation.

For catering purposes please RSVP - 3rd March 2022  
Email: [info@backobourke.com.au](mailto:info@backobourke.com.au) Ph: 02 6872 1321

Please bring along any fliers,  
information, registration  
forms etc. to hand out during  
the evening.

## Welcome to Bourke

The Welcome to Bourke social event was held on the 8<sup>th</sup> March at the Back O' Bourke Exhibition Centre for all new residents to the shire, along with representation from a wide range of community groups.

Over 70 people were in attendance with 24 new residents to Bourke. It provided those who were new to the area with the opportunity to meet members of the community. All new residents were provided with a complimentary gift bag of local goods and information.

### Recommendation

That the information in the Tourism and Events Manager's Activity Report for December 2021 and January 2022 as presented to Council on Friday, 25 January 2022 be noted.

## 22 CLOSED SESSION

### **Recommendation**

That Council considers the confidential report(s) listed below in a meeting closed to the public in accordance with Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993:

#### **22.1 Contract Management of the Bourke War Memorial Olympic Swimming Pool**

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - (c) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

#### **22.2 \*\*\* North Bourke Stormwater Drainage**

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - (g) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with advice concerning litigation, or advice as comprises a discussion of this matter, that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege.





