



City of
Wagga Wagga

CITY OF WAGGA WAGGA ANNUAL REPORT 2015-16



STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT TO ABORIGINAL AUSTRALIANS

The City of Wagga Wagga acknowledges and respects that Aboriginal people were the first people of this land and the Wiradjuri people were the first regional custodians of the Wagga Wagga Local Government Area. This recognition includes acceptance of the rights and responsibilities of Aboriginal people to participate in decision making.

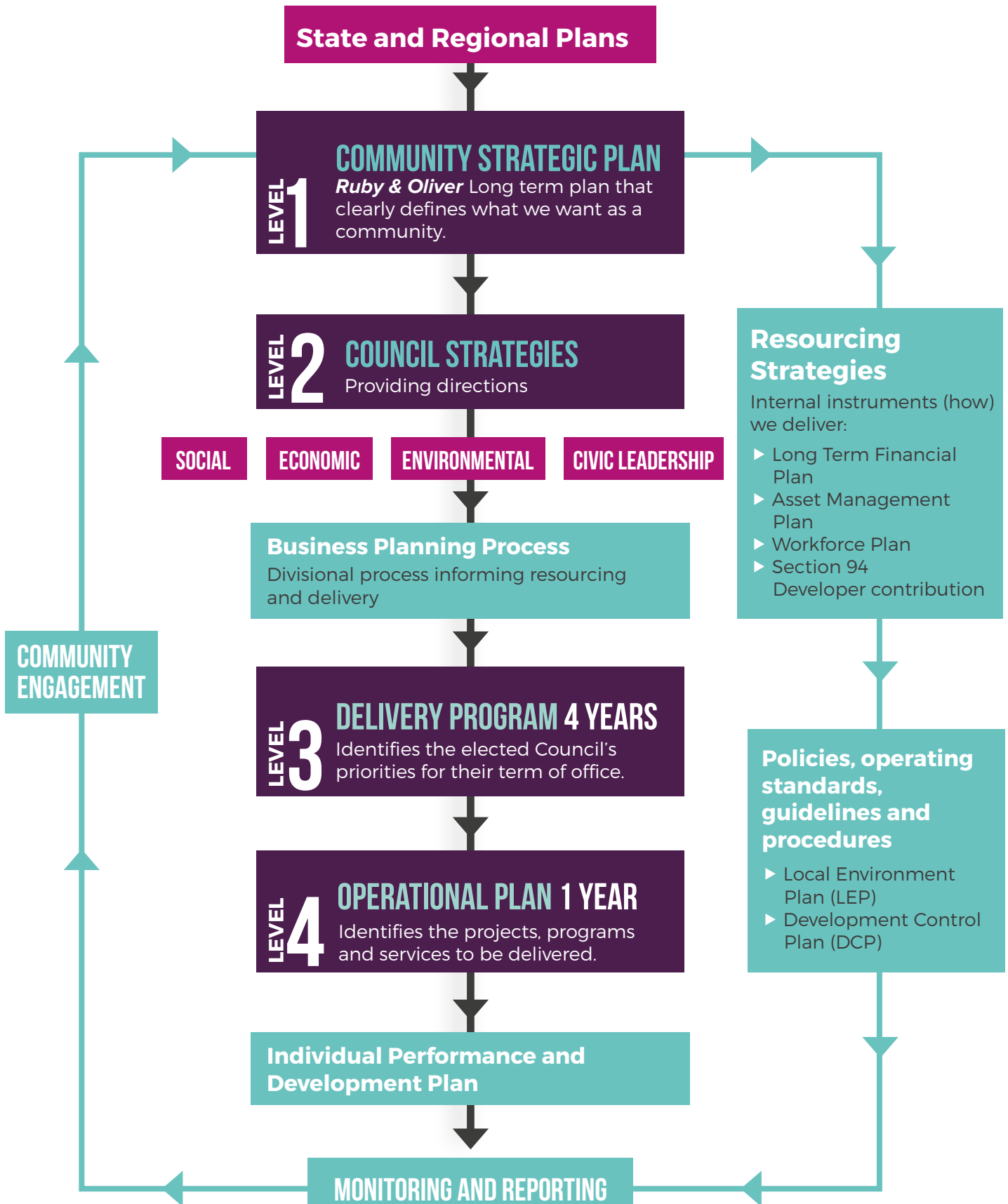
Council acknowledges the shared responsibility of all Australians to respect and encourage the development of an awareness and appreciation of each other's origin. In so doing, Council recognises and respects the heritage, culture, sacred sites and special places of Aboriginal people.

Council is committed to developing programs to improve the wellbeing of all City of Wagga Wagga residents as well as facilitating reconciliation between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people.

Council recognises that social justice and reconciliation are fundamental to achieving positive changes. Council will continue to actively encourage Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people to work together for a just, harmonious and progressive society.

Council recognises that the richness of Aboriginal cultures and values in promoting social diversity within the community.

Sustainable Future Framework



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VISION AND VALUES

CITY OF WAGGA WAGGA MISSION

Contribute to a vibrant growing community by providing excellence in leadership, and delivery of 'best value' infrastructure and services, supporting quality living in an improving sustainable environment.

CITY OF WAGGA WAGGA VISION

'To be acclaimed by our community for our passion, professionalism and performance.'

CORPORATE VALUES

Trust, respect, innovation and teamwork.



Values

Part of everything we do

TRUST | RESPECT | INNOVATION | TEAMWORK

WELCOME FROM THE MAYOR + GENERAL MANAGER

Welcome to the City of Wagga Wagga's 2015/16 Annual Report and thank you for taking the time to read it.

This document outlines Council's performance against the 2015/16 Combined Delivery Program and Operational Plan so the community can see what has been achieved in the 2015/16 financial year.

The year's Annual Report is divided into five sections:

- Section 1: Introduction
- Section 2: Performance
- Section 3: Governance and Statutory Requirements
- Section 4: State of the Environment
- Section 5: Finance Summary

All projects and services delivered by the City of Wagga Wagga take into consideration the type of city in which you want to live, work and play. Council has worked hard to achieve progressive and well-balanced outcomes for the community, while having high regard for the social, environmental and economic impacts of our decisions.

We have achieved many things during the 2015/16, including:

- ▶ Launch of Charlie, Council's education and engagement truck
- ▶ 10,000 people attended Fusion15 Multicultural Street Festival
- ▶ Continuous improvement of the Glenfield Road Animal Shelter
- ▶ Five major sporting events, including AFL and Super Rugby pre-season matches, giving the local economy a \$9.5M boost
- ▶ State and Federal Government funding announcements for the levee upgrade, taxiway upgrade at the airport, Bomen Enabling Roads project, Eunony Bridge upgrade, food organics collection and the Equex multi-purpose stadium
- ▶ Works began on the \$700,000 facelift for Apex Park at Lake Albert
- ▶ Opening of the Marrambidya Wetland

- ▶ \$150,000 skate park opened in Tolland
- ▶ Launch of the City of Wagga Wagga Facebook Page
- ▶ Major road works including Plumpton Road, Red Hill Road roundabouts, Tarcutta Street and Fiztharding Street
- ▶ Ongoing implementation of the Fit for the Future reforms

The 2015/16 financial year also saw Council and staff recognised for a number of awards:

- ▶ The Civic Theatre's community production of Legally Blonde received seven nominations and one win at the Canberra Area Theatre (CAT) Awards
- ▶ *Council News* was recognised with the Reporting to Your Community Award at the RH Dougherty Awards
- ▶ Council's Environmental Health Coordinator Sharomi Dayanand was named 2015 Champion at the biennial Food Surveillance Champion Awards
- ▶ Aboriginal Youth and Community Development Officer Ashleigh Pengelly and Art Gallery Assistant James Farley were both recognised at the NSW & ACT Young Achiever Awards

Another success of 2015/16 is the increasing engagement of people in Council projects – around 4500 households took part in the Tipping Point survey on waste management; nearly 3000 responses have been collected for the next Community Strategic Plan; and hundreds of stakeholders have taken part in discussions about the future of transport in the city.

Councillors and staff encourage the entire community to continue to become involved in the City of Wagga Wagga's decision-making processes to ensure we continue to progress and grow.

Thank you to Councillors and staff for their leadership, hard work and service during 2015/16 and to you the community for your support.

MAYOR OF THE CITY OF WAGGA WAGGA
Councillor Greg Conkey OAM

GENERAL MANAGER
Alan Eldridge



OUR COMMUNITY

Wagga Wagga is a vibrant city nestled in the heart of the Riverina on the banks of the Murrumbidgee River. The largest city in inland New South Wales, Wagga Wagga encompasses a total land area of 4,886 square kilometres and is perfectly situated about 450 kilometres south-west of Sydney and 460 kilometres north-east of Melbourne, making it highly accessible.

Wagga Wagga offers a unique quality of life that is unparalleled in its natural beauty, housing affordability, diverse employment opportunities and a wide offering of community infrastructure, services and lifestyle activities. With a population of approximately 62,799 residents, Wagga Wagga is a thriving and cosmopolitan city that supports a highly diverse and dynamic economy. Without the reliance on a single sector, the city can maintain growth and prosperity. Wagga Wagga has a total labour force of more than 35,000 people, with an unemployment rate of 4.29% in June 2015, well under the State and National averages.

Most of Wagga Wagga's population live within the urban and suburban areas of the city; but

many residents also enjoy the village lifestyle of Collingullie, Currawarna, Galore, Humula, Ladysmith, Mangoplah, Oura, Tarcutta and Uranquinty.

Wagga Wagga offers a feast of cultural surprises with art galleries, an arts community, museums, and both music and theatre performances. Over 400 events are held in the city each year. Our streets blend heritage buildings, public artworks, sculptures and gardens, providing a perfect environment for people to explore our vast range of shops, award winning restaurants and country pubs.

Wagga Wagga is a city of tourism and enjoys over a million visitors annually who come to explore everything we have to offer. Wagga Wagga boasts an active community with sport and recreation being a central part of the lifestyle. Whether its water sports at Lake Albert, walking and biking through our natural areas like the riverside, or enjoying more formal sporting opportunities the high quality facilities across the city cater for it all.

The temperate climate, warm community and wealth of character make Wagga Wagga an ideal destination for residents and visitors all year round.

COUNCILLORS

The Council is an elected body of 11 members, who are elected for a four-year term to carry out duties under the provisions of the Local Government Act and Regulations.

In September each year a Mayor and Deputy Mayor are elected by the members of the Council. The Mayor, as well as being chairman of meetings, represents Council when it is not in session. Simply stated, Council is the decision and policy making body while Council staff are the means by which these decisions and policies are carried into effect.



COUNCILLOR YVONNE BRAID

Councillor Braid was first elected to Council in 2008.

Councillor Braid was elected Deputy Mayor in March 2012.



COUNCILLOR JULIAN MCLAREN

Councillor Julian McLaren was first elected to Council in 2012.



COUNCILLOR ALAN BROWN

Councillor Alan Brown was first elected to Council in 2008.

Councillor Brown was elected Deputy Mayor in 2010.



COUNCILLOR ANDREW NEGLINE

Councillor Andrew Negline was first elected to Council in September 2012.

Councillor Negline was elected Deputy Mayor in 2012 and 2013.



COUNCILLOR GREG CONKEY OAM

Councillor Greg Conkey was first elected to Council in 2012.



COUNCILLOR KERRY PASCOE

Councillor Kerry Pascoe was first elected to Council in 2004 and has served continually since that date.

Councillor Pascoe was elected Mayor in 2004 -2009 and 2011.



COUNCILLOR PAUL FUNNELL

Councillor Paul Funnell was first elected to Council in 2012.



COUNCILLOR KEVIN POYNTER

Councillor Kevin Poynter was first elected to Council in 2012.



COUNCILLOR GARRY HISCOCK

Councillor Garry Hiscock was first elected to Council in 2008.



COUNCILLOR DALLAS TOUT (DEPUTY MAYOR)

Councillor Dallas Tout was first elected to Council in 2012.



COUNCILLOR ROD KENDALL (MAYOR)

Councillor Rod Kendall was first elected to Council in 2004 and has served continually since that date.

Councillor Kendall was elected Mayor in 2012, 2013, 2014 & 2015.

**Please note a Councillor Election was held on 10 September 2016. New Councillor appointments were effective from 16 September 2016.*

COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATION

1 JULY 2015 TO 30 JUNE 2016

Councillor Braid

11/12 Ordinary Council Meeting
1/1 Extraordinary Council Meeting
10/10 Supplementary Council Meeting
11/11 Policy and Strategy Committee Meeting
8/8 Neighbourhood Meeting
24/26 Workshops

Councillor Brown

10/12 Ordinary Council Meeting
1/1 Extraordinary Council Meeting
8/10 Supplementary Council Meeting
9/11 Policy and Strategy Committee Meeting
5/8 Neighbourhood Meeting
19/26 Workshops

Councillor Conkey

12/12 Ordinary Council Meeting
1/1 Extraordinary Council Meeting
9/10 Supplementary Council Meeting
10/11 Policy and Strategy Committee Meeting
4/8 Neighbourhood Meeting
19/26 Workshops

Councillor Funnell

12/12 Ordinary Council Meeting
1/1 Extraordinary Council Meeting
8/10 Supplementary Council Meeting
8/11 Policy and Strategy Committee Meeting
1/8 Neighbourhood Meeting
9/26 Workshops

Councillor Hiscock

11/12 Ordinary Council Meeting
1/1 Extraordinary Council Meeting
10/10 Supplementary Council Meeting
11/11 Policy and Strategy Committee Meeting
4/8 Neighbourhood Meeting
26/26 Workshops

Councillor Kendall

12/12 Ordinary Council Meeting
1/1 Extraordinary Council Meeting
10/10 Supplementary Council Meeting
11/11 Policy and Strategy Committee Meeting
3/8 Neighbourhood Meeting
25/26 Workshops

Councillor McLaren

9/12 Ordinary Council Meeting
1/1 Extraordinary Council Meeting
7/10 Supplementary Council Meeting
9/11 Policy and Strategy Committee Meeting
0/8 Neighbourhood Meeting
11/26 Workshops

Councillor Negline

6/12 Ordinary Council Meeting
0/1 Extraordinary Council Meeting
2/10 Supplementary Council Meeting
0/11 Policy and Strategy Committee Meeting
0/8 Neighbourhood Meeting
6/26 Workshops

Councillor Pascoe

12/12 Ordinary Council Meeting
1/1 Extraordinary Council Meeting
10/10 Supplementary Council Meeting
11/11 Policy and Strategy Committee Meeting
6/8 Neighbourhood Meeting
24/26 Workshops

Councillor Poynter

12/12 Ordinary Council Meeting
1/1 Extraordinary Council Meeting
10/10 Supplementary Council Meeting
11/11 Policy and Strategy Committee Meeting
0/8 Neighbourhood Meeting
24/26 Workshops

Councillor Tout

11/12 Ordinary Council Meeting
1/1 Extraordinary Council Meeting
9/10 Supplementary Council Meeting
10/11 Policy and Strategy Committee Meeting
5/8 Neighbourhood Meeting
25/26 Workshops

MAYORAL & COUNCILLOR EXPENSES 2015/2016

Councillor allowance	\$200,627
Mayoral fees.....	\$40,090
Councillor telephone costs and fax	\$2,653
Councillor conferences.....	\$26,077
Councillor IT costs.....	\$8,869
Councillor travelling costs	\$16,108
Councillor travelling costs, interstate.....	\$2,092
Overseas visits – Mayor expenses	\$0
TOTAL	\$296,516

COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

Council has an adopted one Standing Committee model that consists of the Policy and Strategy Committee, of which all our Councillors are members. The Policy and Strategy Committee meets two weeks prior to the ordinary Council meeting. This model allows for a more efficient decision-making process and provides enhanced community participation and representation to the elected body.

As part of the adoption of the committee structure, Council also adopted to hold a Supplementary Council meeting on an as needs basis to allow the consideration of time critical matters. This meeting is held two weeks prior to the ordinary Council meeting following the Policy and Strategy Committee Meeting.

Council also has a number of user group committees comprising stakeholders, Councillors and staff from the respective facilities/precincts. These groups include:

- ▶ Local Emergency Management Committee
- ▶ Floodplain Risk Management Committee
- ▶ Major Projects Working Party
- ▶ Museum of the Riverina Community Committee
- ▶ Planning Advisory Committee

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

- ▶ Audit and Risk Committee – Councillors D Tout, J McLaren, Y Braid (Alternate) and K Pascoe (Alternate)
- ▶ General Manager's Performance Review Committee – Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors Y Braid, G Conkey OAM, P Funnell, G Hiscock and A Negline
- ▶ Honours Committee – Mayor and Councillors
- ▶ Floodplain Risk Management Advisory Committee – Councillors G Conkey OAM and K Poynter

WORKING PARTY/GROUPS/PANELS

- ▶ Major Projects Working Party – All Councillors
- ▶ Annual Grants Panel – Councillors D Tout, P Funnell, G Hiscock (Alternate) and Y Braid (Alternate)

AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE

The Audit and Risk Committee is an advisory committee of Council. Its role is to act as a key mechanism in providing independent assurance and assistance to Council on risk management, internal control, governance and external accountability responsibilities. The Audit and Risk Committee consists of five members, three of which are external and independent of Council - the remaining two being Councillors. This Committee is governed by a Charter adopted by it and Council.

OTHER REPRESENTATION

Councillors are also represented on a number of external organisations and committees including:

- ▶ Riverina Water County Council – Councillors G Hiscock, R Kendall, P Funnell, K Poynter and Y Braid
- ▶ Bushfire Management Committee – Councillor P Funnell
- ▶ The Southern Joint Regional Planning Panel – Councillors D Tout, K Pascoe, and P Funnell (Alternate)
- ▶ Eastern Riverina Noxious Weeds – Councillor A Negline
- ▶ Local Traffic Committee – Councillor G Hiscock
- ▶ Murray Darling Association Committee – Councillor G Conkey OAM
- ▶ Public Libraries NSW (Country) Committee – Councillors Y Braid and D Tout
- ▶ Riverina Regional Libraries – Councillors Y Braid, D Tout, K Poynter and R Kendall, General Manager and Councillor G Hiscock (Alternate)
- ▶ NSW Public Libraries Association – Councillor Y Braid
- ▶ Riverina Conservatorium – Councillors G Conkey and Y Braid (Alternate)
- ▶ Rural Fire Service Zone Agreement Management Committee – Councillor P Funnell
- ▶ Australian Road Transport and Heritage Centre Committee – Councillors A Brown and P Funnell (Alternate)
- ▶ Public Art Advisory Panel – Councillor K Poynter
- ▶ Wagga Tidy Town Sustainable Community Committee – Mayor
- ▶ Australia Day Committee – Councillor Y Braid
- ▶ Liquor Accord – Mayor
- ▶ Country Mayor's Association – Mayor and General Manager
- ▶ Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils – Mayor and General Manager
- ▶ NSW Inland Forum – Mayor and General Manager
- ▶ Riverina Regional Cities – Mayor and General Manager
- ▶ WWCC/Crown Lands working Party – Mayor and General Manager
- ▶ Sister City Support Committee – Mayor, Councillors K Poynter and Y Braid
- ▶ Regional Capitals Australia – Mayor and General Manager
- ▶ Australian Rural Road Group – General Manager

In addition, the Mayor and General Manager are, by constitution or resolution, also members of the following:

- ▶ G Division of the Shires Association
- ▶ Country Mayors' Association
- ▶ Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils
- ▶ NSW Inland Forum
- ▶ Riverina Regional Cities

OUR ORGANISATION

GENERAL MANAGER

- ▶ Internal Audit
- ▶ Executive Support
- ▶ Mayoral Support

CORPORATE SERVICES

- ▶ Financial Management
- ▶ Asset Management
- ▶ Councillor Support
- ▶ Governance
- ▶ Insurance
- ▶ Integrated Planning and Reporting
- ▶ Media and Communications
- ▶ Risk Management
- ▶ Human Resources
- ▶ Learning and Development
- ▶ Work Health and Safety
- ▶ Access to Information
- ▶ Corporate Applications/Information Management
- ▶ Customer Service
- ▶ Records Management
- ▶ Information and Technology Services

COMMERCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- ▶ Bomen Business Park Development
- ▶ Economic Development
- ▶ Evocities Development
- ▶ Events
- ▶ Livestock Marketing Centre
- ▶ Building Maintenance
- ▶ Property Management
- ▶ Riverina Intermodal Freight and Logistics Hub
- ▶ Riverside Master Plan
- ▶ Tourism
- ▶ Wagga Wagga Regional Airport
- ▶ Visitor Information Centre

▶ ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

- ▶ Cemeteries and Crematorium
- ▶ Playgrounds and Parks
- ▶ Community and Cultural Development
- ▶ Wagga Wagga Regional Family Day Care
- ▶ Museum of the Riverina

- ▶ Public Art
- ▶ Social Planning
- ▶ Wagga Wagga Art Gallery
- ▶ Wagga Wagga City Library
- ▶ Civic Theatre
- ▶ Riverina Regional Library Service
- ▶ Environmental Sustainability and Education
- ▶ Health Inspections
- ▶ Public Health Programs
- ▶ Natural Environment Protection
- ▶ Noxious Weed Control Program
- ▶ Oasis Regional Aquatic Centre
- ▶ Sporting and Recreation facilities

INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

- ▶ Bridges
- ▶ Bus Shelters
- ▶ Car Parks
- ▶ Cycle ways
- ▶ Emergency Services
- ▶ Footpaths
- ▶ Kerb and Gutter
- ▶ Levee and Flood Protection
- ▶ Roads
- ▶ Street Lighting
- ▶ Stormwater and Sewer services
- ▶ Waste Management
- ▶ Fleet Management
- ▶ Procurement Services

PLANNING AND REGULATORY SERVICES

- ▶ Building Inspections
- ▶ Development Assessment
- ▶ Subdivision Management
- ▶ Plumbing and Drainage
- ▶ Companion Animal and Livestock Management
- ▶ Regulatory Services
- ▶ Developer Contributions
- ▶ Spatial Planning
- ▶ Strategic Town Planning

*Please note a new Organisational Structure was endorsed at the Council Meeting held on 25 July 2016 with the new structure taking effect from 3 October 2016.

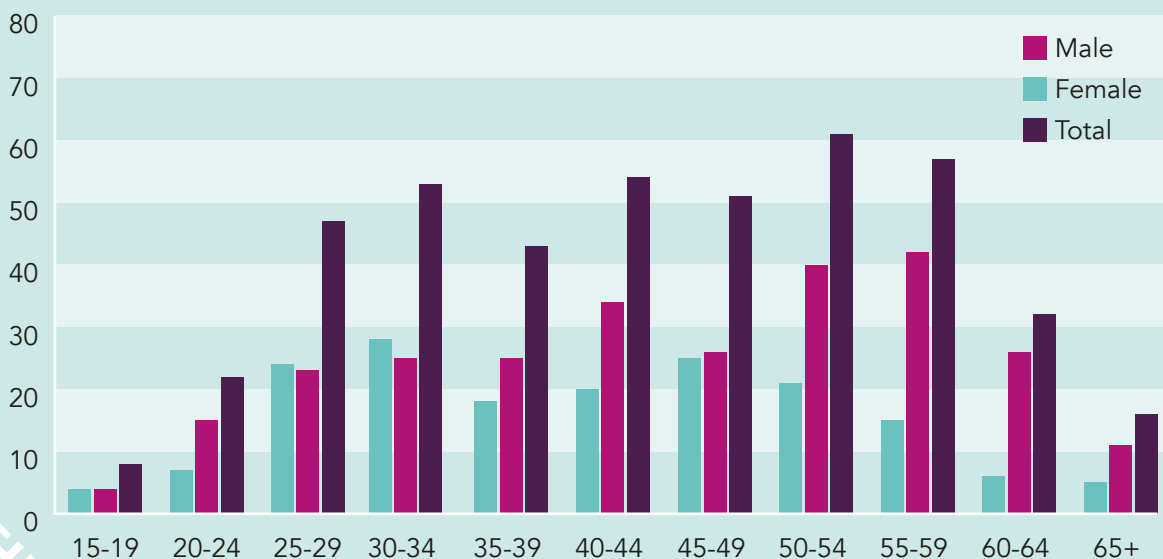
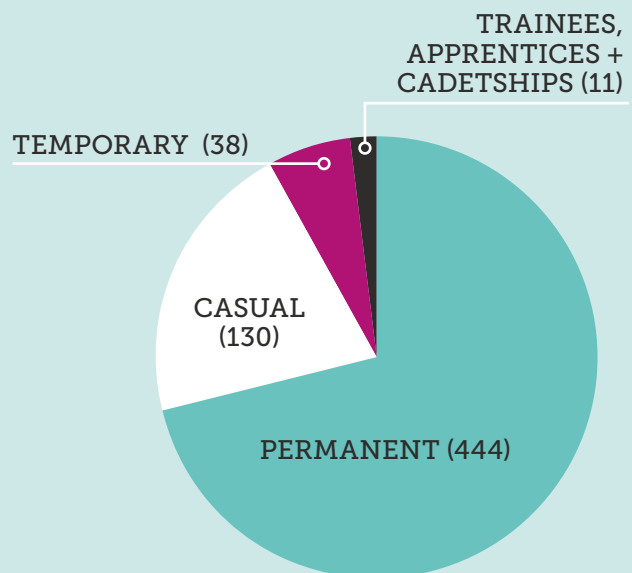
WORKFORCE PLANNING

A SUSTAINABLE WORKFORCE

Council continues to build a workforce culture that encourages continued learning. We want our staff to have knowledge and skills appropriate for the future.

Our focus in 2015/16 was on:

- ▶ Promoting future workforce development with options such as traineeships, apprenticeships, cadetships & scholarships.
- ▶ Provide policies, programs and initiatives that support employee work life balance.
- ▶ Develop and implement initiatives to support/promote workforce diversity.



EXECUTIVE TEAM REMUNERATION

The total remuneration packages comprised of salary superannuation and motor vehicle entitlements are reported below.

General Manager
\$516,019

Directors (Combined Total)
\$1,183,110

The above figures include payments made to all staff that held senior positions during the 2015/16 financial year.

WORKPLACE DIVERSITY

Council's Workplace Diversity Strategy is our formal commitment to a workplace culture that promotes diversity and inclusiveness, builds respect and recognises the true potential of all our employees. Our approach is linked to our vision, our values and the principles of equal employment opportunity (EEO).

The Workplace Diversity Strategy is focused on three key areas;

- ▶ Improve our ability to attract, recruit and retain people of diverse backgrounds.
- ▶ Strengthen an inclusive and respectful work environment and culture.
- ▶ Ensure equal access to information and opportunities for all employees.

Some of the key programs that we delivered this year included;

- ▶ Expanded our recruitment and advertising strategies to include a statement outlining Council's commitment to EEO to attract a broader pool of applicants from diverse backgrounds
- ▶ Training, induction and promotion of our Employee Support Officers. Employee Support Officers posters were distributed across Council work sites.

LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

As part of Council's Workforce Planning to develop a workplace learning culture, we offer a number of programs to look at developing existing staff as well as opening up

opportunities to bring apprentices and trainees into to our organisation.

In 2015/16, Council offered a range of professional development opportunities designed to enhance the capability of staff.

All employees can access performance and professional development opportunities throughout various phases of their career.

In addition, staff can engage in a variety of targeted programs that build leadership, management and technical capability, while also ensuring we are up to date on our legislative knowledge.

PROVIDE ACCESS TO A MORE FLEXIBLE LEARNING SOLUTION (E-LEARNING)

Council's e-learning training modules focus on specific topics, policies, processes and procedures. E-learning is a flexible, cost-effective approach to training. All new staff, contractors and volunteers are required to be inducted into council's Work Health and Safety System.

Some of the other key e-learning programs that were delivered include:

- ▶ Social media in the workplace
- ▶ Preventing and responding to workplace bullying
- ▶ Fatigue management.
- ▶ Governance and risk

CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT E-RECRUITMENT

The implementation of E-recruitment over the past 12 months has had a positive and significant impact on the recruitment process. The system has improved communication

between Council and end-users with automated email correspondence being sent to acknowledge the receipt of applications, reminding applicants of closing dates of advertised positions and providing automated alerts to candidates regarding advertised position. Recruitment has become more efficient with the introduction of paperless shortlisting, and a decrease in the turn-around time for large scale recruitment processes.

SAFE, HEALTHY AND PRODUCTIVE WORKFORCE

Council strives for zero harm and a culture of health and safety.

Council's Safety Management System covers nine key elements as shown below.

This year's focus for Work Health and Safety (WHS) has been:

- ▶ Identifying workplace safety risks, controlling the risks, and monitoring and reviewing risk controls. Building a register of those risks and developing Safe Work Method Statements and standard operating procedures
- ▶ Council's Safety Management System was audited against the requirements of AS/NZS4801:2001 by an external agency early in 2015. An action plan was developed to implement the recommendations from the audit. Further progress on the action plan has taken place during this past year
- ▶ Updating WHS procedures to ensure Council is compliant with current WHS legislation
- ▶ Continued application of the key performance indicators in relation to WHS for all workers
- ▶ Annual Health & Safety Representative (HSR) briefing to Senior Management involving:





safety management system at council

Strive for zero harm and a culture of health and safety

leadership

vision
policy
system
expectations
kpis
leading safety initiatives
developing capability

consultation

health and safety reps
safety meetings
safety initiatives
communication plan
stakeholder consultation

risk management

projects
programs
registers
emergency preparedness
and response

training & development

whs training plan
e-learning
safety briefings

injury & management & return to work

return to work
suitable duties
injury management

health & wellbeing

review initiatives
develop a 4 year health and wellbeing strategy
health monitoring
employee assistance program

facilities management

facility resources
facility programs
support mechanisms

recording & reporting

recording
documentation and data control
information management systems

monitoring, review & continuous improvement

audits
workplace inspections
incident investigation
trends and research
documentation control and review
look, listen, do it better teams

- ▶ WHS issues identified and;
- ▶ WHS Highlights and achievements

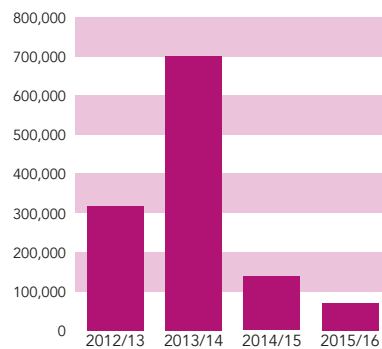
Council continued to further enhance WHS roles and responsibilities to senior management, workers, contractors and volunteers through consultation and communication, with training focusing on key areas including:

- ▶ Updating managers and supervisors with key WHS knowledge and skills including Council's WHS responsibilities for contractors and volunteers
- ▶ Continuing to provide risk management training across the organisation
- ▶ Increased uptake of contractors and volunteers participating and completing Council's Online WHS Induction
- ▶ Identifying and responding to personal safety at work issues with specific programs; and
- ▶ Emergency evacuation and armed hold up prevention training
- ▶ Summer safety, first aid, sharps handling, outdoor site safety, and manual handling training
- ▶ Increasing awareness for supervisors and staff through mental health programs.
- ▶ Annual refresher training for workers.

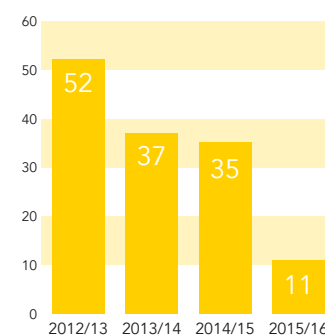
WORKERS COMPENSATION

The method for calculation of the workers compensation premium changed significantly in 2015/16 with discounts applied upfront rather than refunds at the end of the financial year.

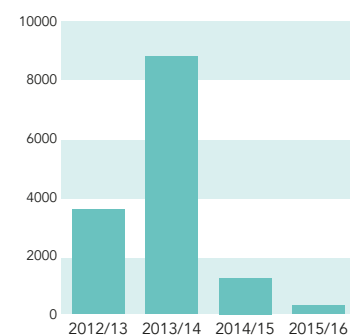
NET INCURRED



NUMBER OF CLAIMS



HOURS LOST



GOOD GOVERNANCE

Good governance is critical to ensuring that the governance of an organisation has a legal and ethical basis, where decisions are made in the best interests of stakeholders. Council's governance framework ensures that the structures, activities and operations of Council are conducted in accordance with the principles of legal compliance, probity, transparency and accountability. Council has an extensive Governance and Risk Management Model, which includes:

- ▶ Good Governance Framework
- ▶ Risk Management Framework and Risk Management Plan
- ▶ Fraud and Corruption Prevention Framework and Action Plan
- ▶ Complaints Management Framework and procedures
- ▶ Legislative Compliance Register
- ▶ More than 80 corporate policies
- ▶ Committee structure
- ▶ Extensive monitor and review processes
- ▶ Performance Reporting
- ▶ External Reporting
- ▶ Annual Action Plans

COUNCIL POLICIES

Policies are resolutions of Council to guide the management of an issue. Many Council Policies are enforceable as law under the Local Government Act or other legislation. Others simply state the overarching intent of Council on an issue they constitute a direction to the General Manager.

Council policies were adopted by resolution of Council on 26 August 2013, and at subsequent Council meetings.

Council's policies can be viewed on Council's website or by attending the Customer Service counter, at the Civic Centre.

DOCUMENTS EXHIBITED AS ADOPTED BY COUNCIL

- ▶ POL 047 Road and Suburb Naming Policy
- ▶ POL 033 Noxious Weed Policy
- ▶ POL 079 Risk Management Policy
- ▶ POL 086 Petitions Management Policy
- ▶ POL 087 Attracting New Major Events Sponsorship Policy
- ▶ POL 092 Event Support Policy
- ▶ POL 061 Hiring a Council Community Centre or Hall Policy
- ▶ POL 013 Return on Investment Council Business Policy

- ▶ POL 003 Works in Kind Agreement Policy
- ▶ POL 010 Loans to Third Parties Policy
- ▶ POL 025 Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities to Councillors Policy
- ▶ POL 029 Asbestos Policy
- ▶ Smoke-Free Trial Wagga Wagga CBD
- ▶ Long Term Financial Plan 2015/2025
- ▶ Combined Delivery Program and Operational Plan 2015/2016
- ▶ Long Term Financial Plan 2016/2017
- ▶ Combined Delivery Program and Operational Plan 2016/2026
- ▶ Revenue and Pricing Policy 2016/2017
- ▶ Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2015
- ▶ Playground Strategy
- ▶ Proposed New Airport Fee for Aircraft Undertaking Aerial Agricultural Work
- ▶ Wagga Wagga Local Environmental Plan 2010 Amendment Proposal 2015/1
- ▶ Wagga Wagga Local Environmental Plan 2010 (rezone and amend the Height and Floor Space Ratio for 9-17 Sturt Street)
- ▶ Wagga Wagga Development Control Plan 2010 (9-17 Sturt Street)
- ▶ Wagga Wagga Development Control Plan 2010 (Staunton Oval)

RISK MANAGEMENT

The City of Wagga Wagga understands that large, unmitigated risks can adversely impact stakeholders and its ability to achieve strategic, operational, financial and regulatory objectives.

While Council recognises that risk is inherent in all its activities, it is the management of risk that is an integral part of good management practice. Council's Risk Management Framework outlines how we design, implement, monitor, review and continually improve risk management throughout the organisation. The framework includes:

- ▶ Risk Management Policy including Council's Risk Appetite
- ▶ Risk Management Plan and Register
- ▶ Business Continuity Plan
- ▶ Disaster Recovery Plans / Critical Business Function Sub-plans
- ▶ Appropriate insurance cover

GIPA - ACCESS TO INFORMATION INFORMATION ACT 2009

The Government Information (Public Access) Act (GIPA Act) 2009 aims to maintain and advance a system of responsible and representative democratic government that is open, accountable, fair and effective. The main objective of the GIPA Act is to make available government information to the public by:

- ▶ Authorising and encouraging the proactive public release of government information by agencies
- ▶ Giving members of the public an enforceable right to access government information
- ▶ Restricting access to government information only when there is an overriding public interest against disclosure.

Council, as a local authority, is subject to the GIPA Act and accordingly acknowledges the right of the public to obtain information about Council's structure, plans and policies; information about development applications; and any other information as prescribed by the GIPA Act and any accompanying regulations and guidelines. During the 2015/16 financial year Council received and assessed eight formal applications and received in excess of 1534 informal applications for information under the GIPA Act.

These applications are in addition to the information that is readily accessible by the community on Council's website. As part of its legislative requirements Council has an Agency Information Guide published on its website at www.wagga.nsw.gov.au which provides guidance on the types of information held by Council as well as outlining the different ways members of the public may access it.

Under section 125 of the GIPA Act, Council is required to prepare an annual report meeting certain statutory obligations. This report is prepared and provided to the Office of the Information Commissioner and the Minister for Local Government in October each year.

VOLUNTARY PLANNING AGREEMENTS

Council did not enter into any new Voluntary Planning Agreements (VPA) during the 2015/16 financial year. A list of the existing Voluntary Planning Agreements can be found below with additional information available in Council's Voluntary Planning Agreement Register on online at Council's website.

- ▶ Voluntary Planning Agreement - Lot 254 DP 757249, Lot 11 DP 1046799, Lot 29 DP 1127234 and Lot 440 DP 1123443.
- ▶ Voluntary Planning Agreement - Lloyd Release Area - Lot 2 DP1116883, Lot 3 DP1116883, Lot 3 DP1020507
- ▶ Voluntary Planning Agreement - Lot 1 DP 726729, Lot 328 DP 823293 and Lots 11 & 12 DP 20812, known as 231 Gurwood Street, Wagga Wagga
- ▶ Voluntary Planning Agreement - Lot 1 DP 578010 and Lot 2 DP 525919

COUNCIL CONTRACTS GREATER THAN \$150,000

The Procurement section is responsible for Council's fleet management, purchasing and contracts functions. In the 2015/16 financial year, Council's procurement services processed tenders worth approximately \$3.9M and significant quotations totalling about \$650,000 in 43 transactions. Council awards contracts in accordance with NSW Local Government Tendering Guidelines. During 2015-16 Council awarded the following contracts over \$150,000.

CONTRACT NUMBER	SUCCESSFUL TENDERER	CONTRACT NAME	AMOUNT PAYABLE
2015/023	Sloan Built Trailers	Supply of truck trailers	\$205,690
2015/528	Worley Parsons Services	Design sewer pump station	\$326,266
2015/024	*Riverina Group Training	Manage Trainees & Apprentices	\$300,000
2016/015	Keough's Plant Hire	Rehabilitation of sewer mains	\$1,000,140
2016/002	*Riverina Traffic Services	Traffic control	\$500,000
2016/005	Musco Lighting Australia	Lighting Jubilee Park	\$210,000
2016/510	WMA Water	Floodplain Study	\$150,998
2016/008	Parsons Brinkerhoff	Project Management RIFL Roads	\$982,032
2016/006	Southland Trust	Refurbish office space RRL	\$276,790

NOTE: Contracts marked with * indicate a "Rates Schedule Contract" and amounts payable may vary.

LEGAL COSTS SUMMARY

COST OF LEGAL PROCEEDINGS 2015/16

Amounts incurred by Council in relation to legal proceedings. Detailed below is the one (1) litigation matter identified as either ongoing or now finalised during 2015/2016:

MATTER: Wagga Wagga City Council ats Harpley & others subdivision of land at Cartwrights Hill (Ref:WAG14012 Lindsay Taylor Lawyers)

COSTS INCURRED: \$52,967

CURRENT STATUS: Finalised

SUMMARY: Judgement handed down on 28 October 2015. Appeal dismissed.

LEGAL COST SUMMARY INFORMATION 2015/2016

PURPOSE/DIRECTORATE	COST
Capitalised Projects	\$168,131.12
Planning and Development	\$75,272.95
Debt Recovery (recoverable)	\$122,501.08
Other	\$429,737.46
TOTAL	\$795,642.61

CONTRIBUTIONS GRANTS AND DONATIONS

Council's Annual Grants Program for 2015/16 consisted of six grant categories. Community Health and Wellbeing, Connected Rural and Urban Communities, Arts and Culture, Local Heritage, Events, and Sustainable Environments. The annual program offers the opportunity for individuals, community groups and organisations to apply for funding for a range of programs and activities across the Local Government Area. The total amount of funding available this year was \$175,800. This funding round experienced a high volume of interest from the community with applications increasing by 52% on the previous year.

This increase was attributed to a successful communications and advertising campaign through a range of mediums including *Council News*, public notices on airport and customer service plasma screens, poster and flyer distribution, and via the use of Council's social media and electronic communications. Community engagement also included the delivery of two well-attended Annual Grants workshops held on 21 April 2015. At these workshops community members were provided with an overview of the program and were given the opportunity to speak to individual category grants officers to discuss the details of their projects and grant application requirements.

Applications were assessed by grant specific panels comprising of a Councillor, Council staff and an independent external representative. 69% of applications



received were partially or fully funded. A presentation evening was held on 20 August 2015 at the Civic Theatre, where successful applicants received a certificate from the Mayor and were able to connect with other successful applicants.

A listing of the 2015/16 successful grant recipients/ program details, are outlined in the following tables.

COMMUNITY HEALTH AND WELLBEING

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

ORGANISATION NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	FUNDING APPROVED
Wagga Wagga Combined Hockey Association	Installation of safety nets at the car park end of both synthetic fields	\$3,750
Wagga Rugby League	Retaining Wall around new Transformer	\$6,000
Kyeamba Kennel & Training Club	Off-leash Area Water Supply	\$960
Mangoplah Cookadina United Eastlakes Football & Netball Club Inc	Clubhouse Upgrade	\$6,000
Quinty Mens Shed Inc.	Water and sewer connection to the Quinty Mens Shed	\$6,000
Collingullie Glenfield Park Junior Football and Netball Club	Lighting for new netball facility at Glenfield Oval	\$7,290
TOTAL		\$30,000

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS

ORGANISATION NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	FUNDING APPROVED
Regional Oxygen Bank inc.	Paediatric Portable Oxygen Machine	\$3,333
United Protestants Association	Community Connectedness Bus for Elderly	\$3,000
Culture Club	Multicultural Harmony Sports Days	\$1,710
Country Hope	Rashies For Camp	\$1,765
Wagga Wagga Croquet Club	Croquet for All	\$1,618
CanTeen ACT and Southern NSW Division	CanTeen Awareness & Education Project in Wagga Wagga Schools	\$1,138
Wagga and Riverina Occasional Orienteers (WaggaRoos)	Purchase of Equipment to Improve Result Management at Orienteering Events	\$1,010
Wagga Women's Health Centre - Health Promotion	Move it for Your Mind	\$2,570
Liberty From Violence	Serenity Garden	\$3,000
Wagga Wagga Domestic Violence Liaison Committee	DVLC Website	\$3,000
Wagga Autism Support Group Incorporated	Sensory Santa Photo Shoot	\$3,000
Luke Olsen	Wagga Wagga Multicultural Cricket Program	\$1,856
"Grandparents Doing It Tough" (GDIT) Support Group - Centacare SW NSW	"Grandparents Doing It Tough" Support Group Community Resource Booklet for New Grandparents Raising Grandchildren	\$3,000
TOTAL		\$30,000



City of Wagga Wagga Annual Grants Program Presentation 2015
David Bordos
Aikido Wagga
Community Health and Wellbeing Projects

 
ANNUAL GRANTS PROGRAM
2015 - 2016

Aikido Wagga

Wagga Wagga City Council congratulates your organisation on your successful grant application and the Council's great wishes for a successful completion of the project as well as our appreciation for your service to the community.


Mayor G. D. D. D.
10 August 2015

CONNECTED RURAL AND URBAN COMMUNITIES

NEIGHBOURHOOD AND RURAL VILLAGE

ORGANISATION NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	FUNDING APPROVED
North Wagga Rainbow Playgroup	North Wagga Playgroup - Rain, Hail or Shine project	\$2,866
Ladysmith P and C Association	Ladysmith P and C Duathlon 2016	\$2,662
Ashmont Preschool Inc.	Ngumba-dal (Unity)	\$3,000
Humula Branch CWA	Humula Progress Association establishment	\$1,700
Humula Public School	Humula Community Newsletter	\$1,375
1st Wagga Wagga Scout Group	New Air Conditioning	\$3,000
Tarcutta Progress Association	Tarcutta Community Newsletter	\$3,000
TOTAL		\$17,603

RURAL HALLS

ORGANISATION NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	FUNDING APPROVED
Mangain Community Centre Volunteers	Stage 1 Refurbishment of Toilet Block	\$6,910
Ganmain Gun Club	Maintenance to club house	\$2,650
TOTAL		\$9,560

ARTS AND CULTURE

ORGANISATION NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	FUNDING APPROVED
Culture Club	Cultural Delight and Flight	\$2,460
Riverina Concert Band	The Riverina Concert Band Professional Development and Performance Workshop	\$2,000
Sam Bowker	Textile Exhibition and Seminar - "Have Poets Left a Patch to Sew?"	\$3,800
Caroline Candusso	Author/illustrator Talks - Picture Book Making	\$1,400
Wagga and District Highland Pipe Band	Equipment purchases to maintain the standard of the Pipe Band. Culturally accurate.	\$1,200
The Cad Factory	RE//CREATING	\$4,000
Eliza Shephard	The Extended Flute Workshop	\$1,840
U3A Wagga Wagga Inc	Equipment need to deliver outcomes.	\$1,239
The Leisure Company	Art For One Art For All	\$2,000
Luke Vineburg	Family Daycare Botanic Gardens	\$2,900
Burmese Kachin Community of Wagga Wagga	Retaining and Preserving our Heritage	\$1,000
SCA Bordescros	Towards a more period campsite	\$1,161
TOTAL		\$25,000

EVENTS

ORGANISATION NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	FUNDING APPROVED
Riverina Truck Show and Kids Convoy	Riverina Truck Show and Kids Convoy	\$1,000
Bale Out Ball Inc	Farm Draft 2016	\$2,000
The Forrest Centre	Forrest Centre Hospice	\$1,000
Riverina Group CWA of NSW	CWA of NSW Riverina Group 90th Conference	\$1,000
Borambola Wines	Cork & Fork Fest	\$1,000
King Events	Speaker Spotlight Sessions	\$1,000
Riverina All Schools MTB Challenge Organising committee	Riverina All Schools MTB Challenge	\$2,950
Wagga Wagga Folk Society Inc.	The 47th Uranquinty Folk Festival Youth Concert	\$500
Wagga Wagga Athletics & Little Athletics	Hosting 2017 Region 4 Little Athletics Championships Carnival	\$3,000
Wagga City Rugby Male Choir Inc.	Combined Choirs Concert	\$1,000
Rural Appreciation Weekend	Rural Appreciation Weekend (RAW) 2016	\$3,000
Wagga Wagga Fencing Club	Riverina Fencing Championships	\$550
Australian International Animation Festival (AIAF)	Australian International Animation Festival (AIAF)	\$1,500
Wagga International Jazz Day	Jazz Day	\$500
TOTAL		\$20,000

LOCAL HERITAGE

ORGANISATION NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	FUNDING APPROVED
Anthony McLeod	9 Roma Street Wagga Wagga	\$2,765
Rachel Byrnes	Remove Paint From Front Brickwork	\$1,249
Travis Keith	Repainting 129 Best Street heritage façade	\$1,900
Wagga Physiotherapy and Sports Injury Centre	Wagga Physio Reinstatement of Original Heritage Period Colour Scheme in Conservation Area	\$1,760
Penny Evans and Matthew Evans	Exterior Painting	\$2,500
Anglican Parish of Wagga Wagga	Restoration of WWI Honour/memorial Board	\$3,000
Narelle Oehm	Restoration 12 Freer Street	\$1,961
Downside Recreation Reserve & Public Hall Trust	Send it Down Huey	\$1,485
TOTAL		\$16,620

SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENTS

ORGANISATION NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	FUNDING APPROVED
South Wagga Public School	South Wagga PS Garden	\$880
Christopher Orchard	Biodiversity Mapping Willans Hill for Community Engagement	\$2,471
Kapooka Early Childhood Centre Inc	Kapooka Happy Hens	\$1,263
Murrumbidgee Landcare Inc	Community Outdoor Cinema and BBQ Nights	\$2,386
TOTAL		\$7,000

OTHER DONATIONS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE - SECTION 356

BENEFICIARY	GRANT CATEGORY	AMOUNT
Mission Australia	Fees and charges waiver	\$518
Regional Heritage Transport Association	Fees and charges waiver	\$616
Artist in Residence	Neighbourhood/Rural Village program	\$1,080
Ashmont Public School	Fees and charges waiver	\$650
Collingullie Hall Committee	Fees and charges waiver	\$562
Country Hope	Fees and charges waiver	\$285
Eisteddfod	Annual Sponsorship	\$2,727
Forrest Centre Hospice Fund Raising Committee	Fees and charges waiver	\$400
Friends of Botanic Gardens Council	Fees and charges waiver	\$515
Griffith Suicide Prevention Group	Fees and charges waiver	\$140
Historical Society	Fees and charges waiver	\$452
Kurrajong Waratah	Fees and charges waiver	\$2,355
Ladysmith Memorial Hall	Fees and charges waiver	\$669
Late Tom O'Farrell Memorial	Fees and charges waiver	\$132
Leaps & Bound Program	Neighbourhood/Rural Village program	\$1,440
North Wagga Hall Committee	Fees and charges waiver	\$562
Wagga Wagga Regional Family Day Care	Neighbourhood/Rural Village program	\$17,930
Riverina Concert Band	Fees and charges waiver	\$228
Riverina Conservatorium Of Music	Fees and charges waiver	\$5,136
Riverina Conservatorium of Music	Annual Sponsorship	\$8,909
Rotary Club of Wagga Wagga	Fees and charges waiver	\$225
School of Arts	Annual Sponsorship	\$2,500
Show Society Wagga	Fees and charges waiver	\$9,285
South Wagga Rotary	Fees and charges waiver	\$2,000
Uranquinty Mens Shed	Fees and charges waiver	\$6,274
Wagga Chamber of Commerce	Annual Sponsorship	\$7,500
Wagga Down Syndrome Group	Fees and charges waiver	\$76
Wagga Hospital Auxilliary	Fees and charges waiver	\$60
Wagga Legacy	Fees and charges waiver	\$2,500
Wagga Wagga Rescue Squad	Fees and charges waiver	\$100
Wagga Women's Bowling Club	Fees and charges waiver	\$2,825
Walk4 William	Fees and charges waiver	\$76
TOTAL		\$78,727

MAYORAL DONATIONS

BENEFICIARY	AMOUNT
HMAS Wagga Association	\$100
TOTAL	\$100



**COMPANION
ANIMAL
MANAGEMENT**

COMPANION ANIMAL MANAGEMENT

Council's Animal Management Rangers contributed to the control and management of companion animals over the 2015/16 financial year.

The team's focus included:

- ▶ Operation of the Glenfield Road Animal Shelter
- ▶ Rehoming abandoned animals
- ▶ Microchipping and lifetime registration
- ▶ Roaming and straying dogs
- ▶ Animal noise complaints
- ▶ Nuisance dogs
- ▶ Reducing incidents of dog attacks
- ▶ Trapping feral cats
- ▶ Community education and awareness of responsible pet ownership

Council employs Animal Management Rangers to handle these services and maintain the recently upgraded Glenfield Road Animal Shelter. The animal shelter is open to the public Monday to Saturday from 1pm to 4.15pm. This facility reunites lost dogs with their owners, microchips and registers companion animals, and provides advice and information about companion animal management.

Animal management rangers also provide a 24/7 on-call service to respond to incidents of dog attacks. This service is provided to improve public safety and reduce the incidence of accidents and injury to the public and animals. The rehoming of impounded or surrendered animals is a priority for Council. The rate of rehoming is high thanks to the continued hard work of staff liaising with animal rescue and welfare groups as well as supporting these initiatives:

- ▶ Advertising the cost advantages of adopting an animal from the Glenfield Road Animal Shelter
- ▶ Promotion of animals to be rehomed through 'Pet of the Week' in *Council News*
- ▶ Animals displayed on Council's website
- ▶ Re-homing from various rescue Organisations
- ▶ Providing rescue organisations with reduced costs for services



Dr Jacob Michelsen undertook an independent review of the animal shelter.

PROMOTE AND ASSIST IN THE DE-SEXING OF COMPANION ANIMALS

Council's animal shelter policy is to de-sex all companion animals re-homed from the Glenfield Road Animal Shelter. This reduces unwanted litters and supports the current low rate of animal euthanasia. Animal Shelter staff actively encourage the community to have their cats and dogs de-sexed through brochures, media promotion and advice from staff.

IMPOUNDED ANIMALS

An annual report detailed the number of animals arriving at the Glenfield Road Animal Shelter and the way they were released. It was sent to the Division of Local Government on 13 September 2016. It showed an increase in the number of animals entering the shelter. Detailed financial information for funds spent on companion animals is attached at the end of this section.

LODGEMENT OF DOG ATTACK REPORTS

It is mandatory for all dog attack data to be lodged with the Office of Local Government (OLG) in accordance with the Companion Animals Act. This legislation requires a dog attack incident to be reported to the OLG within 72 hours of the incident. Eighty incidents of dog attack were reported during the period. Of these, 75 involved attacks on animals and 15 on humans. Council has declared 11 dogs dangerous and two dogs as menacing over the course of the 2015/16 financial year.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Council appreciates the important role companion animals play in our community and the need to minimise any potential negative impacts on the local environment, non-pet owners and the wider community of Wagga Wagga.

Our objectives include:

- ▶ Encourage and promote responsible pet ownership through community education
- ▶ Identify and accommodate the needs of companion animals and their owners
- ▶ Reduce adverse impacts of companion animals on local residents and the environment
- ▶ Reduce the numbers of unwanted and abandoned companion animals.

Community education initiatives during the 2015/16 financial year included:

- ▶ Faeces reduction campaign,
- ▶ 'Pet of the Week' in *Council News*
- ▶ Distribution of companion animal information brochures
- ▶ Companion animal information on Council's website
- ▶ Media releases including newspaper articles and television interviews
- ▶ Proactive patrols of complaint areas
- ▶ Active participation in "Welcome to Wagga" initiatives
- ▶ Little Big Day Out



Ranger Keli Stephens with 'Chrissie', a wolfhound dumped at the shelter with her nine pups.

CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

This year Council engaged Dr Jacob Michelsen to undertake an external review of the Glenfield Road Animal Shelter to assess both the physical infrastructure at the facility as well as its management, policies and procedures. The review confirmed the shelter was compliant with current legislation, notwithstanding this Council is committed to being a best practice facility in line with the reviews recommendations. Council has commenced implementing the key recommendations of the review which included:

- ▶ Appointment of an Animal Welfare Supervisor
- ▶ The allocation of \$71,000 for further improvements to the facility
- ▶ Review and development of procedures in line with best practice animal management.

If you would like further information in relation to this review, the report was released on Friday 27 May 2016 and is available on Council's website.

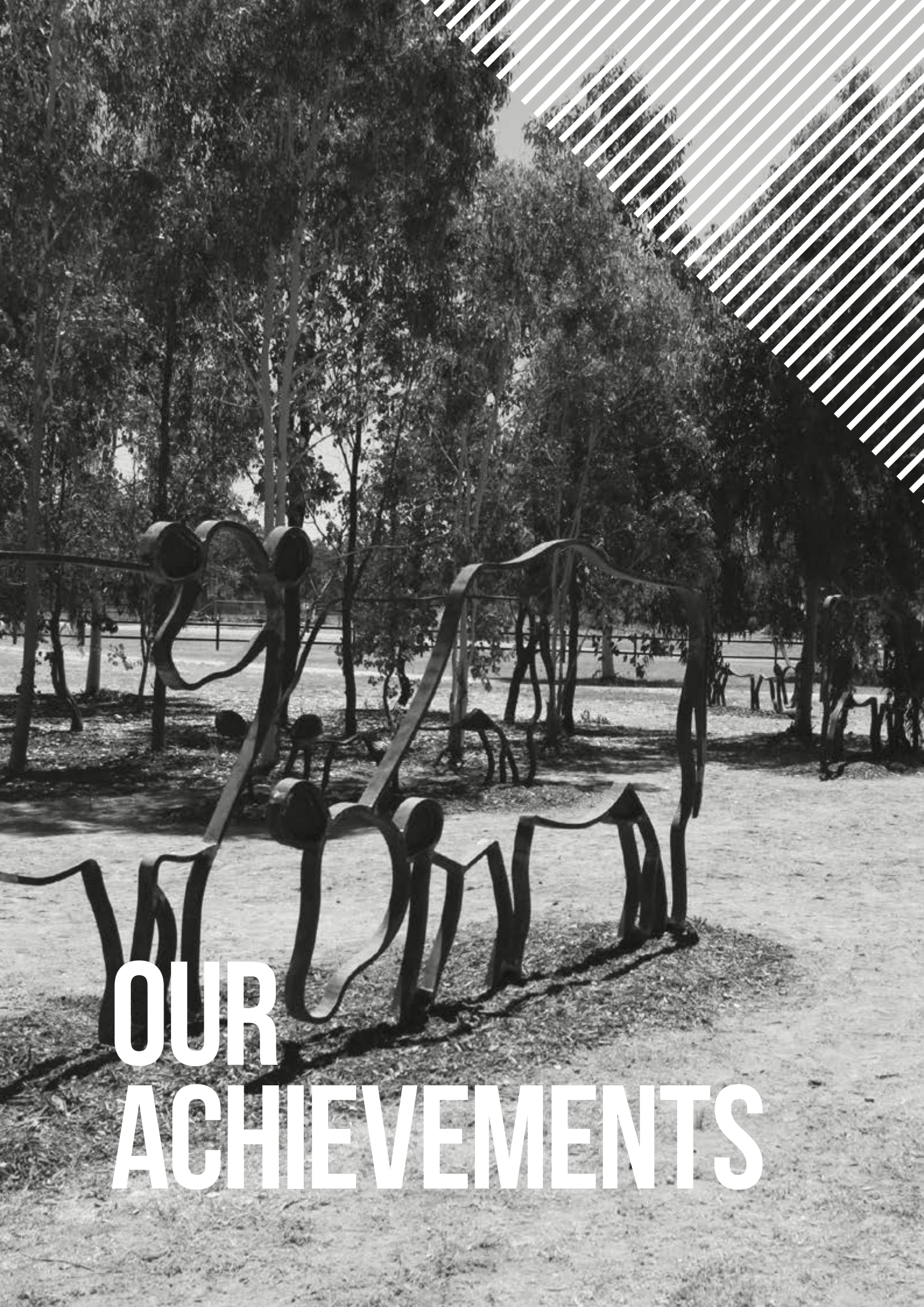
COST OF ANIMAL MANAGEMENT 2015/16

- ▶ Staff salaries and on costs **\$272,474**
- ▶ Office Expenses **\$3,603**
- ▶ Vehicle Operations **\$28,641**
- ▶ Maintenance & Repairs **\$1,943**
- ▶ Cleaning Expenses **\$33,160**
- ▶ Dog Expenses **\$33,939**
- ▶ Cat Expenses **\$8,947**
- ▶ Other Expenses **\$42,178**

OFF LEASH AREAS

Wagga Wagga has six designated off leash areas:

- ▶ The fenced dog run located at Narrung Street on the southern boundary of the Wiradjuri Golf Centre driving range
- ▶ Eastern side of Wilks Park, North Wagga Wagga, the area south of Parken Pregon
- ▶ Lagoon, east of Hampden Avenue and north of Central Island Road
- ▶ Boat Club Reserve, Lake Albert, between Plumpton Road and the Boat Club car park on the southern side of Nelson Road
- ▶ Willans Hill, east of Captain Cook Drive, south of Lord Baden Powell Drive and all of Willans Hill Reserve south of Leavenworth Drive to Red Hill Road
- ▶ O'Halloran Park Dog Agility Track, Lake Albert
- ▶ Forest Hill – the area at the intersection of Cypress St and Kurrajong Avenue adjoining the western side of the RAAF base.



OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

WE ARE AN ENGAGED AND INVOLVED COMMUNITY

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Council uses a range of processes to build the community's views into policies, processes and decision making. These range from formal public exhibition periods to community meetings and online consultations.

Council's revised Community Engagement Strategy was endorsed in April 2015, cementing Council's commitment to engaging the community on a variety of platforms. The revised strategy reflects new methods of engagement used by Council and puts a focus on online and social media platforms.

Members of the local community participate in Council's decision making in many ways, including:

- ▶ Membership of a Council committee
- ▶ Addressing Council during the public forum at Policy and Strategy meetings or other public forums
- ▶ Making submissions on Council's plans and policies during their public exhibition
- ▶ Participating in Council's online consultation platform Your Say Wagga at www.wagga.nsw.gov.au/yoursay
- ▶ Participation on the People's Panel
- ▶ Participation in engagement sessions and consultations in the community, at events, or specific venues
- ▶ Participation at village engagement sessions
- ▶ Visiting Charlie the community engagement vehicle
- ▶ Contacting elected Councillors
- ▶ Contacting Council on any matter – contact details are listed on the back cover of this report.

IAP2 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SPECTRUM

INCREASING LEVEL OF PUBLIC IMPACT

INFORM

CONSULT

INVOLVE

COLLABORATE

EMPOWER



LET'S TALK TRASH – TIPPING POINT

Wagga Wagga City Council launched the 'Tipping Point' engagement campaign in June 2015. The campaign resulted in staff holding hundreds of conversations with residents about waste services and the roll out of a four-page survey, which went to more than 23,000 households in the Wagga Wagga Local Government Area (LGA).

Tipping Point provided the Wagga Wagga community an opportunity to help shape the future of waste services in the LGA with anything relating to Council's waste services up for discussion. Engagement methods during the rollout of Tipping Point were designed to ensure that residents had multiple opportunities and avenues to contribute to the conversation in their own time. The aim was to make it as easy as possible to contribute whilst still collecting quality data.

Some of the methods used included:

- ▶ Meetings in selected rural areas and as requested by community groups
- ▶ Pop-up stalls
- ▶ Website featuring surveys and discussion forums
- ▶ Mail out surveys with reply paid envelopes enclosed

A new contract for the three-bin kerbside waste collection service is set to begin in late 2017 presenting a prime opportunity to enhance the vast range of waste services provided by Council. In the future Council wants to look at ways to further reduce the amount of recyclables, garden green waste and food organics that go into landfill.

The focus of the 'Tipping Point' engagement was to receive

community input that would help inform the process used to develop an enhanced system of collecting and processing waste materials at an appropriate and acceptable cost.

While there were a number of options available to assist this process, significant community input is crucial in the planning stage to ensure that any potential changes are a success.

At the conclusion of the engagement campaign in November 2015, Council had received more than 4500 completed surveys and submissions from residents on how they currently use waste services and how we can enhance these services. These results will now be used to help inform the next kerbside waste collection contract.

HALL-A-DAY ADVENTURES

Village halls came to life during the July 2015 school holidays with Aslan and the White Witch doing battle in front of packed crowds of enchanted children. Hall-A-Day Adventures is a joint program organised across several Council sections including the Civic Theatre, Museum of the Riverina, Social Planning and Cultural Services.

This year's Hall-A-Day Adventures saw *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* travel across not just the fictional land of Narnia, but the Riverina countryside with shows in Uranquinty, Oura, Collingullie and Ladysmith.

The unique adaption by le Clanche du Rand tells the tale of the C.S.

Lewis classic in a 45-minute two-actor show which starred Michael Mitchell and Melissa Hume. The shows proved so popular the entire week was a sell-out.

Not only were the sold-out crowds treated to the short theatrical performance, after the show local kids made origami as part of the Writtenworlds exhibition at the museum and enjoyed a fundraising barbecue.

This was the third year Hall-A-Day Adventures had taken place in the July school holidays providing an exciting and enjoyable performance for the community, with *Gran's Bag* and *The Magic Story Coat* entrancing children in previous years.



COUNCIL NEWS RECOGNISED – RH DOUGHERTY AWARD

The City of Wagga Wagga was honoured at the Local Government NSW (LGNSW) annual awards dinner in Sydney on 6 August 2015. Praised by the judges for its innovation, Wagga City's weekly publication *Council News* took out the RH Dougherty Award for Reporting to Your Community (population 30,000 to 100,000).

Former Mayor of the City of Wagga Wagga Councillor Rod Kendall and former General Manager Phil Pinyon were on hand to accept the award. The RH Dougherty Awards are presented each year during Local Government Week to recognise high quality communication by councils to their local communities.

This was the third prestigious RH Dougherty Award for Council, having won the Excellence in Communication category in 2013 for the Waggafest short film competition and in 2014 for The Funbobulator.



LGNSW president Councillor Keith Rhoades AFSM said a number of high quality entries were received, showing the importance councils are placing on communication and engagement.

"Local Government communication and reporting has gone from strength to strength," he said. "They make smart use of technology and deliver budget efficiencies to achieve greater community engagement and better service delivery," said Cr Rhoades.

Council News was created by rethinking how to meet the Department of Local Government's legislative advertising requirements,

while keeping the community informed about Council projects, services and initiatives.

Council News is a one-stop shop for important community information," former Mayor of the City of Wagga Wagga Councillor Rod Kendall said. *Council News* has saved ratepayer money while creating what's now an award-winning resource for residents."

The publication of *Council News* aligns with the Community Strategic Plan – Ruby & Oliver, which recognises the importance the community places on access to information.

JOIN THE DOTS

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR ABORIGINAL ARTISTS

PANEL FORUM : KEY CULTURAL AND POLITICAL ISSUES IMPACTING INDIGENOUS ARTISTS TODAY

Three experienced artists and experts in the industry will participate in an informative, thought provoking and challenging panel forum discussing key cultural and political issues impacting Indigenous artists today.

FREE ENTRY



DJON MUNDINE (OAM) Djon is a member of the Bandjalung people of northern New South Wales. Djon is a curator, writer, artist and activist and has held prominent curatorial positions in many national and international institutions, including the Art Gallery of New South Wales, Museum of Contemporary Art and Sydney and Queensland Art Gallery.



BLAK DOUGLAS (aka Adam Hill) Adam's painting style stems from studying graphic design, illustration and photography and his works are politicised for social justice. Collectors include Town Hall Collection, Taipai Museum & Liverpool Council. A classically trained Yidaki (Didgeridoo) player, he has performed at Festival of the Dreaming, Australian Idol finale, The Deadlys and international tours.



NICOLE MONKS A trans-disciplinary creative of Aboriginal, Dutch and English heritage who works across multiple industries including art, interior & surface design. Monks has exhibited at Boomalli Aboriginal Art Co-operative, participated in an international exhibition at the Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum and showcased at Australian Indigenous Fashion Week.

Thursday 27 August 2pm-4pm | Wagga Wagga Art Gallery | Lunch provided

RSVP: Bookings are essential. Call 6926 9358 to secure your place.





JOIN THE DOTS PROGRAM

The City of Wagga Wagga and Eastern Riverina Arts held a series of workshops throughout the year for Aboriginal artists and creators to enhance their skills and knowledge of marketing, branding, copyright laws, grants and other issues relevant to artists.

A panel discussion focusing on issues for Indigenous artists was held on 27 August 2015 as part of this program. The topic for the forum was "key cultural and political issues impacting Indigenous artists today" and featured a panel of three highly esteemed Indigenous artists. Djon Mundine, Blak Douglas (Adam Hill) and Nicole Monks spoke about the challenges they have faced in their art careers and how being Indigenous translates in the arts world.

Join the Dots began in December 2014 as a partnership between Council, Eastern Riverina Arts and local Aboriginal artists interested in developing their careers. A 12-month program was created, with a focus on increasing knowledge around small business models, getting artwork into galleries and retail spaces, increasing art networks and other issues such as copyright law and pricing artwork.

FAB FUSION

Hip hop from Western Sydney via India and a businessman who likes to boogie? It could only be Wagga Wagga's multicultural street festival, Fusion15.

A grey sky may have hung overhead early, but even the weather couldn't stop Wagga's community spirit shining through at Fusion15.

The Victory Memorial Gardens and Civic Precinct burst into life on 17 October 2015 for the multicultural street festival with 10,000 people experiencing sights, scents and sounds from around the world.

The bumper crowd was entertained by community performers and headline acts L-FRESH The LION, Mojo Juju, Relfejos Musique and The Dancing Accountant.

Fusion15 also featured circus entertainers to keep the kids occupied, while the free interactive creative arts activities also proved a hit.

The festival was again a paradise for foodies, with the crowd tasting delicacies from Afghanistan, Turkey, and Poland – and everywhere in between.

"Wagga is made up of 98 countries, 99 language groups and 67 faiths," Council's Director Environmental and Community Services Janice Summerhayes said.

"Fusion brings together every facet of our community to not only share our cultures and cuisines, but to celebrate our differences.

"A sprinkling of rain didn't deter the crowds and just meant we were treated to a stunning sunset as L-FRESH took to the stage."

Fusion15 was proudly funded and presented by the City of Wagga Wagga and Multicultural NSW in partnership with Multicultural Council of Wagga Wagga, Riverina Community College and St Vincent de Paul Society NSW.



TECH SAVVY SENIORS

Wagga City Councils Library staff, partnered with Telstra and the State Library of NSW successfully launched "Tech Savvy Seniors" a series of classes designed for the over 65 age group that covered basic internet, social media, online shopping and Banking, Email and Word processing skills.

The classes were attended by 99 community members. With a maximum of ten participants per course and four staff to assist them, the library staff ensured everyone's needs were met. This was a very rewarding learning program because everyone was able to work at their own pace and was well supported. Attendees overcame their initial fear of the technology and grew in confidence throughout the training. Some residents brought their own laptops, ipads and tablets while

"I FOUND IT VERY INTERESTING AND STAFF VERY ATTENTIVE"

- BASIC INTERNET CLASS

others used those supplied by the library.

Many older community members said they wanted to learn how to order their groceries online, use eBay, access online banking, use social media to keep in touch with family and friends, use email and read newspapers online. They also wanted to know how to be safe online

and not become a victim of fraud or identity theft.

The Tech Savvy Seniors classes covered all of these concerns and participants were empowered with their new skills and knowledge. The classes not only helped the seniors who attended, library staff also developed a high level of skill in providing technology assistance.



MAGNIFICENT MUSICAL – LEGALLY BLONDE PUTS COMMUNITY CENTRE STAGE

The curtain has long closed, but the sound of applause is still echoing for the Wagga Wagga Civic Theatre's 2015 community production *Legally Blonde: The Musical*.

A cast of talented locals came together to put on the musical based on the movie of the same name, performing nine blockbuster shows.

Legally Blonde was the latest production of quality shows produced by the Civic Theatre, including *Les Miserables*, *The 25th Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *The Boy from Oz*, *My Fair Lady*, *Oliver* and *Away*.

Along with rave reviews from local audiences, Wagga's *Legally Blonde* production received seven nominations in the Canberra Area Theatre (CAT) Awards – including overall categories Best Musical and Best Orchestra and with five individual leading role nominations such as Best Actress and Actor and Best Musical Director.

At the awards night, Wagga's Brent Dolahenty took home the Best Actor

in a Leading Role in a Musical for his portrayal of good guy Emmett in *Legally Blonde*, which was the cherry on top of a highly successful community production.

"The calibre of talent in the performing arts in Wagga is outstanding. Wagga punches above its weight, not just in sport, but in performing arts as well, and often that is overlooked," Civic Theatre Manager Carissa Campbell said.

"To receive a Best Musical nomination means every single person in the production – those front and centre on stage, music, lighting and the host of people involved behind the scenes – have received a nomination. It's a great achievement.

"The Civic Theatre community production has always been a showcase for the many talented people we have in this region. I am proud that the audiences got to see what new talent is out there."

FAMILY DAY CARE RATED EXCEEDING

Local families have known for the past 40 years, but in October 2015 it was made official. Wagga Wagga Regional Family Day Care (WWRFDC) was assessed against the National Quality Standard (NQS) for education and care services and has received an overall rating of “exceeding”.

The standard sets a national benchmark for the quality of children’s education and care across Australia. Services receive a rating for each of the seven quality areas in the NQS, as well as an overall rating.

“Small groups and personalised attention to children have always been strengths for WWRFDC,” Family Day Care Service Manager Kym Stewart said.

“The standard looks at everything from educational program and practice to children’s safety and wellbeing, as well as the relationship between the educator and families.

“The NQS report commended the City of Wagga Wagga’s commitment to quality and our achievements in providing quality outcomes for children.

“Our educators were also praised for the deep level of knowledge and understanding they have of the children and families that access their services.”

WWRFDC celebrated its 40th anniversary in May 2015 and has gone from 30 registered families in 1975 to 250 in 2015.

“Our educators provide personalised care for children and their families in very small groups,” Ms Stewart said.

“Family day care stretches across the region from Lockhart to Coolamon and it also offers other unique services like mobile play sessions for rural villages in partnership with Council’s Social Planning department.



MUSEUM HONoured WITH AWARD – WRITTENWORLDS

The writing is on the wall – Museum of the Riverina is one of the best facilities in NSW.

The exhibition *Writtenworlds: Handwritten Local Histories* received highly commended in the three to 10 staff category at the Museum and Galleries NSW’s Imagine Awards held at the Justice and Police Museum in Sydney on 13 November 2015, *Writtenworlds* was edged out by Hawkesbury Regional Museum’s exhibition: *Flood*, in a strong field of 24 nominees.

Museum of the Riverina Manager Luke Grealy praised the hard work of everyone involved.

“This is quite an achievement and I’d like to extend my congratulations to everyone who helped to bring the exhibition together, including staff, researchers, lenders, creatives, technicians and installers and in particular our Regional Museum officer Dr Rachael Vincent, who curated the show,” Mr Grealy said.

“Exhibitions like *Writtenworlds* allow the community and visitors alike to explore the stories of the past and present in an interesting and entertaining way.”

The museum was also nominated for the engagement category for the exhibition *Their Light Still Shines*.

SATISFACTION SOARS – COMMUNITY SURVEY RELEASED

The community has acknowledged an improvement in the City of Wagga Wagga's performance over the past three years, with the 2015 Community Survey results showing an increase in satisfaction levels.

Four out of five residents are somewhat satisfied with Council, a significant improvement on the 2012 results and higher than other regional councils.

The independent survey was conducted through a random phone sample of more than 500 residents that represented the community's demographics.

"The survey was geographically targeted with 12 per cent of survey participants residents of our villages," Manager Corporate Strategy, Communications and Governance Christine Priest said.

"Twenty-five out of 30 Council services and facilities received at least a moderate level of satisfaction and satisfaction with input in decision making doubled.

"Important services such as the Wagga Wagga Art Gallery, Museum of the Riverina and the Civic Theatre received 100 per cent satisfaction rates, while the Wagga Wagga City Library scored 99 per cent."

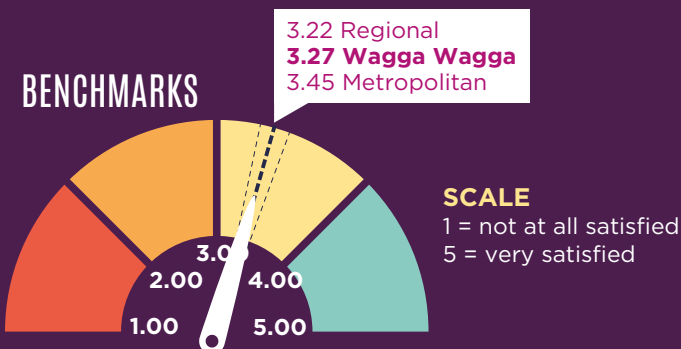
While there were a number of positives in the survey, Mrs Priest said there is always work to be done to improve satisfaction with Council.

The full Community Survey results are available at Council's website.

CITY OF WAGGA WAGGA

PERFORMANCE DASHBOARD

OVERALL SATISFACTION WITH COUNCIL'S PERFORMANCE



SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVED ON THE 2012 SCORE **3.15**
 IRIS 2012 COMMUNITY SURVEY

HELP, HEALTH AND SAFETY

85%

'agree' to 'strongly agree' that they can get help from neighbours, friends and family when they need it.

83%

'agree' to 'strongly agree' that they have access to health services addressing their needs.

76%

'agree' to 'strongly agree' that they feel safe in their home.

25/30

SERVICES AND FACILITIES PROVIDING AT LEAST MODERATE LEVELS OF SATISFACTION (3/5 MEAN RATING)

OPPORTUNITY AREAS

69%

'agree' to 'strongly agree' that Wagga Wagga has a good variety of retail options.

67%

'agree' to 'strongly agree' that Wagga Wagga has a good variety of leisure and recreation options.

59%

'agree' to 'strongly agree' that Wagga Wagga has a good variety of entertainment options.

58%

'agree' to 'strongly agree' that they can participate in arts and cultural related activities.

COUNCIL SERVICES

SATISFACTION WITH INPUT IN DECISION MAKING **HAS DOUBLED**



SATISFACTION WITH WAGGA WAGGA ART GALLERY, MUSEUM OF THE RIVERINA AND THE CIVIC THEATRE

99% SATISFACTION WITH SERVICES PROVIDED BY WAGGA WAGGA CITY LIBRARY

ROADS AND FOOTPATHS REMAIN A HIGH PRIORITY



OF PARTICIPANTS GAVE A SCORE OF 4/5 OR HIGHER WHEN RATING COUNCIL SERVICES OR FACILITIES, AN INCREASE OF 50% FROM PREVIOUS SURVEY



A FOR APPLE, B FOR BALL, C FOR CHARLIE, – CHARLIE GOES TO COLLINGULLIE SCHOOL



The kids from Collingullie Public School got a visit from Charlie the community education and engagement truck in April 2016.

Charlie became a mobile classroom for the afternoon, with Council staff helping the students learn about the ways Council communicates internally and externally.

From *Council News* to social media, the kindergarten to year 6 students discovered more about the different tools used to talk to the community as part of the school's study into communication methods.

"We've been learning about all the different ways you can communicate with people," School Captain Layla Wilson, 11, said.

"We found out about how Council communicates with everyone, like through the newspaper."

"I didn't know that they use videos, Facebook and YouTube to communicate," Ben Merrills, 7, said.

Charlie itself also proved popular, with the kids taking a look around the former mobile library truck.

"I learned about the truck and it goes around to different place to talk to everyone," Aleah Stone, 11, said.

CHARLIE HITS THE ROAD – COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TRUCK

Council's community engagement truck has hit the road. "Charlie" was officially unveiled at the Snapshot 14/15: A year in focus event on 9 December 2015 and has spent the first half of 2016 bringing Council to the community.

In an innovative approach to engage, educate and help the community, Charlie has been travelling around the region to villages, events and more.

The truck is a unique opportunity for Council to utilise a space outside of the Civic Centre and proactively educate, inform, engage and meet face-to-face with residents.

Charlie stands for "Council, Help, Advice, Resources, Learning, Information, Education" and was a former Riverina Regional Library truck.

The vehicle was transformed inside and out and now has a customer counter, dedicated work/desk spaces, air conditioning, whiteboard, smart television and even a kitchen sink.

One of the unique features of Charlie is a 19-foot expandable pod, meaning there's plenty of space inside, so keep an eye out for the bright yellow truck and pop in and say hello!



COUNCIL LAUNCHES FACEBOOK PAGE

2015 saw the City of Wagga Wagga launch an official Facebook page. The new page is yet another tool Council is using to provide updates on events, facilities, services and happenings around the city, ensuring the community is kept informed on anything from upcoming projects to engagement opportunities.

The page is also assisting with the lodgement of customer requests, which are then filtered through to staff members for action and has proved to be a valued resource providing timely information in emergencies such as flood events.

The Facebook page has increased Council's social media presence, which already includes a Twitter and Instagram feed. Since the launch in January 2015 the page has already received 3,600 likes.

JAM PACKED SENIORS FESTIVAL – SENIORS WEEK

Whether you wanted to learn something new, discover local history or sit back and relax, the 2016 Wagga Wagga Seniors Festival had something for everyone aged 50 years and over.

The jam-packed celebration of seniors had outgrown its week timeslot and runs for 10 days from April 1 to 10, prompting a name change from NSW Seniors Week to NSW Seniors Festival.

The festival's 10-day program not only aimed to provide a range of entertainment options for our community's seniors but also to celebrate and thank them for their contributions to the community.

Whatever their passion, there was something for everyone 50-plus to enjoy, with up to 38 events and workshops designed to excite and delight. There was a mixture of free and paid events ensuring everyone could be involved.

This 2016 festival included unique activities such as the Love Cats Collage Workshop and the Silver Screen Seniors program, as well as informative events such as the Elder Abuse Legal Aid NSW Workshop and Climate Conversations.

"With approximately a third of our city's population aged 50 years and over, it is important to have a greater focus on seniors integrating and connecting with others, and this is one of the key aims of the festival," she said. City of Wagga Wagga's Director Environment and Community Services Janice Summerhayes said.

"Council is proud to fund and support local festivities that promote positive attitudes towards older people."





STAR LINE UP AT COMEDY FEST – COMEDY FEST ARTISTS

Residents of Wagga Wagga rapidly developed abs of steel after too much giggling and guffawing at the 2016 Wagga Comedy Fest held from Wednesday 1 to Saturday 4 June at the Wagga Wagga Civic Theatre.

Crowds were thoroughly entertained by the hysterical lineup which, included some of Australia's funniest people with the likes of Joel Creasey, Hannah Gadsby and Sammy J headlining the 2016 festival and Melbourne International Comedy Festival favourites Aunty Donna and Triple J breakfast host Matt Okine packing out the E3 Art Space. Dane Simpson held an open mic night for anyone who fancied themselves a comedian, and the night owls were entertained with a special late night event with the Wine Bluffs and a hilarious show for the kids by Frank Woodley.

Civic Theatre Manager Carissa Campbell said the 2016 event followed on from the success of the inaugural festival in 2015.

"In 2015 we sold 91 per cent of tickets overall and a lot of shows were completely sold out," she said.

"Last year was really well supported, but being the inaugural festival we also learned a lot and we've used that feedback to make sure the 2016 festival was even better. The 2016 festival sold over 2000 tickets proving that all the hard work had paid off and this year's festival was a huge success."

STEER WAGGA'S TRANSPORT FUTURE - WAGGA WAGGA INTEGRATED TRANSPORT STRATEGY

Cycle ways, public transport and the condition of roads are just some of the hot topics that came out of the first stage of the "Our Transport" consultations.

A key component of the Wagga Wagga Integrated Transport Strategy 2043 (WWITS 2043), is gaining feedback from the wider community, once all the feedback is received this will be combined with the outcomes of a technical report to draft emerging strategies.

A workbook "Moving Forward Together: What matters to you?" was developed to make it easy for residents to comment before the strategy is drafted for public exhibition. A range of engagement opportunities were also held to provide community members an opportunity to speak with staff one on one such as, at a shopfront in April and the speak out event in December.

So far Council has received extremely valuable feedback as a result of the engagement process receiving information on topics like parking



in the medical precinct all the way through to growth areas and traffic flow in our growth areas. This kind of feedback is crucial as this strategy will guide the approach to transport in Wagga Wagga for the next 30 years.



WAGGA VIEW — COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN CONSULTATION

If you could create a community of the future, what would it look like?

A mix of roads and buildings, infrastructure services, some parks and playgrounds, a huge chunk of diversity, safe and secure neighbourhoods, opportunities to grow, a bit of environment here and there.

We all have a vision for the community we call home. Working towards a common vision is the aim of Wagga's new Community Strategic Plan (CSP) – Wagga View – Our Future in Focus.

"Generating a clear and exciting vision for the future is the purpose of the plan. It defines who we are as a community today, and where we want to be in the next 30 to 40 years," Former Mayor of the City of Wagga Wagga Councillor Rod Kendall said.

"The only way of achieving a shared common vision is to go directly to

the people that make up our Wagga community.

"The CSP is not a Council plan, it's a plan developed by the community for the community and together we are all responsible for achieving its delivery."

To create this shared vision, a series of hands-on, engaging events and activities open to all residents in the Wagga Wagga LGA were rolled out in May and June 2016 with each week honing in on different elements that make up our community and how these can be nurtured or improved.

Residents and businesses took part in an "Amazing Race" scenario to emphasize key liveability elements in the city. A pop-up shop operated in the Sturt Mall for three weeks, where a wishing tree grew out of residents' thoughts and ideas and conversations were held with community leaders.

"There was also a school's program

and road show that stopped in more than 20 communities, villages and Wagga suburbs, which allowed us to reach everyone in our community. There was no shortage of engagement opportunities for the community during the four-week Wagga View consultation period," former Mayor Cr Kendall said.

At the conclusion of the marathon engagement Council had received more than 3500 responses and these are now being used to inform the draft plan, which will be placed on public exhibition from 22 November 2016.

During the exhibition period you will still have the opportunity to provide feedback on the plan and even help contribute to the imagery used in the design. Keep a lookout for future Wagga View: Our Future in Focus community engagement opportunities at our website: wagga.nsw.gov.au/waggaview

LIBRARY MARKS 70 YEARS OF HISTORY – LIBRARY BIRTHDAY

From donated books in a tin hut to a thriving community hub, a lot has changed in the past 70 years for Wagga Wagga City Library.

The facility's long history was celebrated on 24 May 2016 with a community morning tea and other events as part of National Library and Information Week.

"Our library has come a long way over the years and today provides countless services to the community," Library Manager Claire Campbell said.

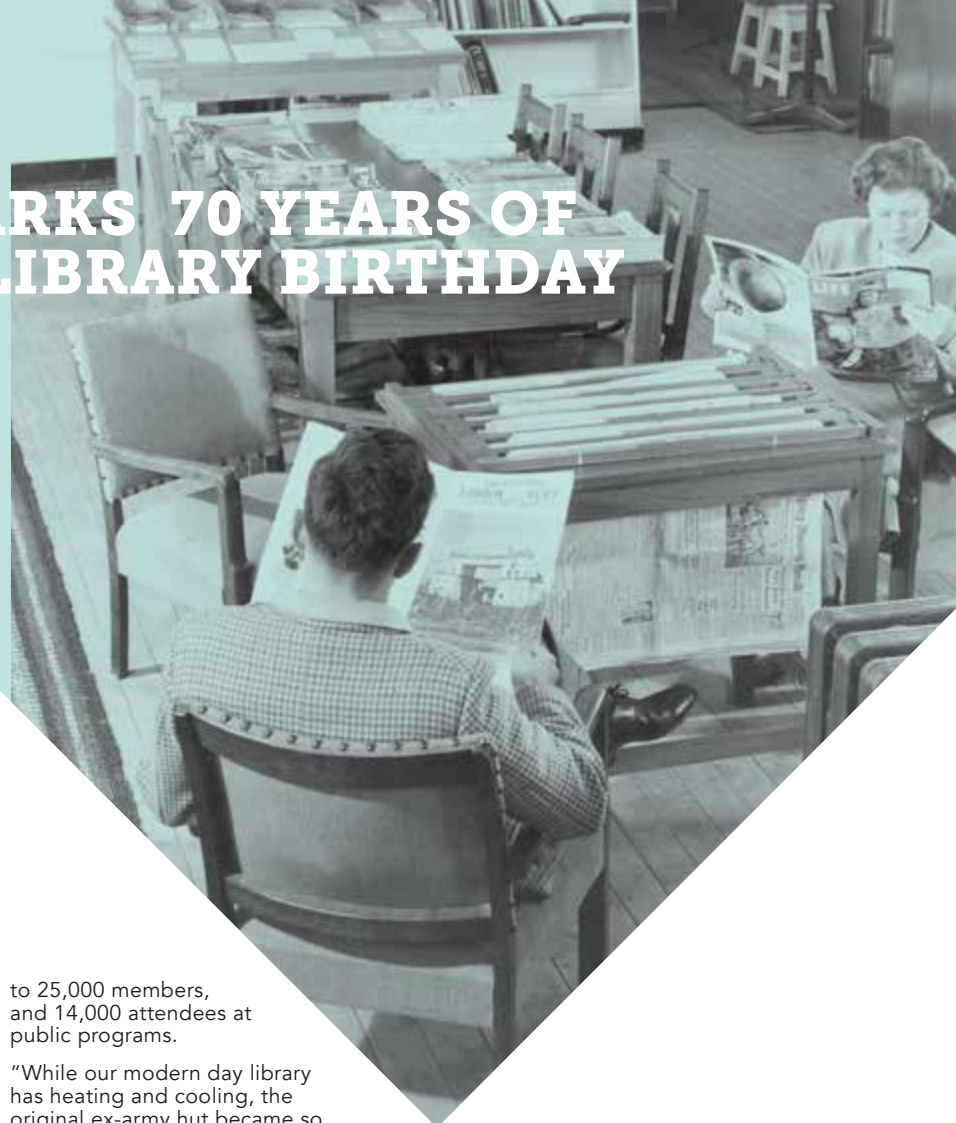
"Free WiFi, ebooks, workshops and classes, DVDs, children's programs and of course books – the library now offers a range of important services for all of the community."

The library's story began in 1936 when Mayor H.E. Gissing championed the "Free Public Library Movement". In 1945, Council decided to seek temporary use from the Mayor's Patriotic and War Fund to access the Patriotic Hut, in the Town Hall Gardens, for the purpose of a library.

The School of Arts generously donated its entire collection of 3914 books and book racks and on 24 May 1946 the library was opened by the Minister of Education Mr J G McKenzie.

"By 1948, the library had issued 108,600 books to more than 5000 members," Ms Campbell said.

Jump forward to 2016 and in the last 12 months alone there have been 186,773 visits, 293,000 items issued



to 25,000 members, and 14,000 attendees at public programs.

"While our modern day library has heating and cooling, the original ex-army hut became so hot during the summer of 1949 that special opening hours from 10am to noon and 4pm to 10pm had to be used."

Along with the community morning tea, a number of other events were held throughout the week to celebrate the library's rich history. Heidrun Lohr and Hans Bildstein

created a digital history of the library, which was projected onto the lagoon side of the Civic Centre each evening until mid-June.

The projection artwork featured faces of community members from all age groups who use the library and participate in its programs.

WIRADJURI HERITAGE RECOGNISED BY NAMING OF NEW WETLAND

The Narrung Street Wetland project has been named in recognition of the local Wiradjuri people and their relationship with the Murrumbidgee River.

The wetland will now be known as the "Marrambidya" Wetland – the Wiradjuri word for Murrumbidgee.

The name was officially endorsed at City of

Wagga Wagga's July 2015 Ordinary Meeting.

Council staff consulted with project stakeholders and the Indigenous community for their input into the name, which is appropriate for the location and meaningful for the Wiradjuri people.

"Naming this project the Marrambidya Wetland is a permanent Welcome to Country for all visitors to the area and recognises the traditional owners of this land, the Wiradjuri people," former Mayor of the City of Wagga Wagga Councillor Rod Kendall said.

"This project will enhance the natural environment along the Murrumbidgee River as well as provide a community resource for education and engagement in local Wiradjuri culture."

City of Wagga Wagga, with funding partners Riverina Local Land Services and the NSW Environmental Trust, redeveloped the disused ponds of the Narrung Street Sewerage Treatment Plant into wetland area recreating the area as a new community asset.

FROM HULA HOOPS TO TREASURE HUNTS AT **LITTLE BIG DAY OUT**



More than 4000 families flocked to the Civic Precinct for the annual Little Big Day Out on Thursday 1 October 2015. The free community event for two to 12 year olds was jam-packed with activities to showcase the services of the City of Wagga Wagga.

Thousands of kids got to climb inside a grader or a fire truck, while the Oasis Regional Aquatic Centre water rollers also proved popular.

There was a line up for the Planning Permit Pursuit treasure hunt and parents were taking advantage of the Chill Out Zone.

Little Big Day Out was established in 2003 as an opportunity to showcase Council's services to the community. The free annual community event is celebrated in the second week of the spring school holidays and in the Civic Precinct and Wollundry Amphitheatre space.

WE ARE A SAFE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITY

EVOCITIES SERIES RIDES INTO CITY — MOUNTAIN BIKE SERIES

Almost 250 participants competed in the "MTB Wagga Six Hour Enduro," which was the final round of the inaugural Evocities MTB Series. With a prize pool of more than \$80,000 some of Australia's best riders descended on Pomingalarna Park to tackle the 13km track for the six-hour endurance race on 6 September 2016.

The mountain bike series had already been a success in five of the other

Evocities (Albury, Bathurst, Dubbo, Orange and Tamworth) with Wagga Wagga no exception. Former Mayor of the City of Wagga Wagga Councillor Rod Kendall said "It will inspire increased participation in sport, raise the standard of mountain bike racing in regional NSW and raise the profile of each of the cities represented".

The event received some great feedback from competitors and

spectators with comments such as "the track was perfect and most of the competitors advised that they would love to come back to Wagga and compete again" and "Events planning did an amazing job". Some 150 competitors came from out of town, which was a great result for Wagga tourism and sport.



AFL PRE-SEASON AND YOUTH GAME

The AFL pre-season match held on 5 March 2016 at Wagga's Robertson Oval was a close contest that resulted in Collingwood claiming a 0.12.13 (85) to 1.10.8 (77) victory over North Melbourne. A crowd of more than 6000 locals and visitors turned out to watch the top-level match.

Speaking after the game North Melbourne coach Brad Scott applauded the spectators for enduring the heat on the day and commented on the condition of the ground. "The fans got to watch a game of AFL footy at the top level, but just as important, this ground gets left for the community in terrific

condition – I think it's a win-win for everyone," he said.

"We're really pleased with the show that the people of Wagga put on and hopefully the players put on a good show for them."

Council's Director Environmental and Community Services Janice Summerhayes also outlined other community benefits of the new deal, such as two Kick Start Centres established in Ashmont and Tolland for Indigenous youth, a Multicultural AFL Program, free registration for Indigenous and multicultural players and the hosting of a North East

Australian Football League (NEAFL) home and away game.

Known as the City of Good Sports, the pre-season game was one of many recent sporting events held in Wagga, such as the Country-City Origin in May, the first of two Super Rugby trials in January and the Eastern University Games in July.

"These sorts of events and programs make our city a great place to live and work, as well as ensuring we have an active and healthy community," Mrs Summerhayes said.

THE HOUSEHOLD ASBESTOS DISPOSAL SCHEME – ASBESTOS AWARENESS MONTH

November 2015 was National Asbestos Awareness Month, which aimed to educate Australians about the dangers of working with asbestos during home renovations and maintenance, where asbestos might be found.

The City of Wagga Wagga announced the Household Asbestos Disposal Scheme had been extended allowing disposal of asbestos waste for free. The scheme makes it cheaper and safer for households to dispose of small amounts of asbestos from home demolition or renovation

jobs, and also helps in educating the community – It's not just fibro homes that contain asbestos and it is important the community is aware of that.

Property owners once registered had two options under the scheme, engage a licensed Workcover contractor to undertake the removal or pop into the Civic Centre to get a pre-purchase asbestos removal kit which contained all the necessary personal protective equipment and bags to ensure the removal work was completed safely. These kits could

also be disposed of at the Gregadoo Waste Management Centre with the asbestos waste. The Gregadoo Waste Management Centre is the only waste facility in the LGA licensed to accept asbestos waste.



PLAYGROUNDS PLANNED FOR WAGGA'S NEXT GEN – PLAYGROUND STRATEGY

The future of playgrounds in Wagga Wagga for the next 20 years have been set – and it's bright, playful and exciting. Ensuring quality existing and new playgrounds are available in Wagga today, and for future generations is the purpose of the new guiding document – "Playground Strategy 2016-2036". The strategy highlights the need for recreational diversity and considers costs for upgrades of existing playgrounds, the installation of new playgrounds, and ongoing maintenance of all playgrounds in the city.

"Playgrounds and open space are key components to the city that provide

health and wellbeing benefits for children and improve the overall liveability of the city," Director Environmental and Community Services Janice Summerhayes said.

Wagga Wagga and the surrounding villages have over 90 playgrounds, which offer a range of different play opportunities for kids. We also use the award-winning Funbobulator to enable local children to help us design any new playgrounds!

The strategy outlined 10 new playgrounds for land releases in Lloyd, Estella and Forest Hill and ensures a level of service to provide quality playgrounds in Ashmont,

Central, Estella, Koorngal, Lake Albert, Lloyd, Tolland and Turvey Park.

"Wagga is a family-friendly city and the provision of great playgrounds contributes to this attribute, along with health and wellbeing outcomes for children and the overall liveability of our city," Mayor of the City of Wagga Wagga Rod Kendall said.



JOINT CAMPAIGN TO TACKLE UNDERAGE DRINKING AND VIOLENCE – COMMUNITY SERVICES POSTER PROMOTION

The harsh realities of alcohol-related violence and underage drinking were the focus of two community campaigns that were rolled out in Wagga Wagga in 2016.

The 'One Punch Can Kill' and 'Rethink That Sneaky Drink' campaigns focused on consequences of people's actions when under the influence of alcohol, and reinforced the city's no-tolerance approach to alcohol-fuelled violence and defiance of the law.

"Both campaigns have a strong youth focus, aged 13 to 25 years, and are about educating the community to think about their decisions and behaviours. The take-home message is think before you drink as there can

be real life-changing consequences," Director Environmental and Community Services Janice Summerhayes said.

The 'One Punch Can Kill' campaign highlighted that a split-second decision could result in a jail sentence for a minimum of eight years.

'Rethink That Sneaky Drink' reinforced Wagga Wagga's blanket rule of being caught underage drinking at any pub, club or restaurant, means you'll be barred from entering a licensed premises in the city until your 19th birthday.

Campaign posters were put up at five bus stops across the city and supplied

to pubs and clubs. High schools were also approached to help spread the message. Wagga Wagga Local Area Command Licensing Supervisor Sergeant Nigel Turney said a united front by local liquor accord, licensees, police and other key stakeholders helped with a general decline in alcohol-related problems in Wagga.

The campaigns were initiatives of the City of Wagga Wagga and had the backing of the Wagga Wagga Liquor Accord, The Australian Hotels Association NSW Sub Branch and the NSW Police Wagga Wagga Local Area Command.

FUNDING BOOST FOR CRIME PREVENTION – FUNDING TO NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH AND POLICE

Building a more vigilant, safer community has been made easier for Wagga's Neighbourhood Watch after securing funding through Council's Annual Grants Program.

The community crime prevention group was officially presented a cheque for \$3000 from former Mayor Cr Rod Kendall and Wagga Wagga Local Area Command Superintendent Bob Noble and Detective Inspector Darren Cloake.

Neighbourhood Watch said that they would use the funding to purchase a branded marquee for events, branded uniforms and print brochures to increase their exposure across the city. "Crime can sometimes go unreported for a variety of reasons; people aren't sure how to report or are worried of the consequences of reporting,"

Wagga Wagga Neighbourhood Watch president David Abbott said. "Neighbourhood Watch helps improve communication between the local police and the community. Providing quality information can assist the police to improve and maintain levels of personal safety and household security."

The objective of the Neighbourhood Watch program was to deliver an increase in social health and wellbeing by encouraging neighbours to communicate regularly and promote crime prevention strategies to reduce the fear of crime. The programs aim is to help feel safe at home and in public places.

Wagga Wagga Neighbourhood Watch was one of 71 successful applicants in the 2015/16 City of Wagga Wagga's Annual Grants Program.





BUSINESS HYGIENE RATING ON DISPLAY

Twenty-one local businesses are now proudly displaying their commitment to food hygiene by taking part in the Scores on Doors program.

Scores on Doors gives participating businesses the opportunity to show customers just how seriously they take hygiene by displaying a rating certificate.

Council's Environmental Health Coordinator Sharomi Dayanand said the rating system of Excellent (5 stars), Very Good (4 stars) and Good (3 stars) is an easy way to show the public that the businesses meet the Food Standards Code.

"The Scores on Doors program makes everyone aware that local restaurants, takeaway, shops and cafés are complying with NSW hygiene and food safety standards," she said.

"Visitors and locals alike can then make informed choices about where to eat or shop for food just by checking the certificate."

Ms Dayanand said "Scores on Doors" is a great opportunity for food retail businesses to collectively promote their high level of food safety compliance.

"The program promotes and encourages businesses to strive for the highest hygiene score," she said.

"In Wagga, we're lucky to enjoy a fantastic range of quality restaurants and food outlets and businesses are encouraged to participate in the program to reap the benefits."

Residents can also visit the list of participating local businesses and their scores at Council's website.



TOLLAND SKATE PARK – NEW SKATEPARK FOR YOUTH

You can now grab your skateboard or jump on your scooter or bike and make tracks to Chambers Park following the addition of the new skate park. The \$150,000 community investment included grind rails and boxes, banks and three quarter pipe ramps.

"It's so pleasing to see yet another fantastic recreational facility now available for the youth of the city," Director Environmental and Community Services Janice Summerhayes said.

"Kids of today and future generations will benefit from this skate park, from a health and fitness aspect, to helping improve child development and social skills."

Wagga kids were thrilled with the city's fifth skate park at Chambers Park alongside others including Henwood Park in Koorringal, Bolton Park in Central, Webb Park in Ashmont and William Street in North Wagga.

"Skate parks, like all parks and recreational facilities, are key components to the city, providing open spaces and contributing to the overall liveability for residents," Mrs Summerhayes said.



BRUMBIES ARE BACK

– SUPER RUGBY MATCH THOUSANDS FLOCK TO BRUMBIES-WARATAHS

A whopping 7237 Super Rugby fans packed into McDonald's Park on 6 February 2016 to see the Brumbies take on the Waratahs. While the Brumbies went down 21-17 to their NSW rivals, the club was left grinning thanks to an almost 1500 increase in crowd figures from their 2015 trial against the Highlanders. Both games were part of a two-year partnership between the club, City of Wagga Wagga, Southern Inland Rugby Union and ACT & Southern NSW Rugby Union.

Prior to the game ACT Brumbies chief executive Michael Jones praised the facilities at the upgraded McDonald's Park and said the club is looking forward to returning to Wagga.

"One of the reasons we chose to play both the Waratahs in 2016 and the Highlanders earlier this year was because the facilities in Wagga are going to be among the best regional Australia has to offer," he said

Council's Director Environmental and Community Services Janice Summerhayes said major sporting events like the Brumbies-Waratahs trial benefit the city in a number of ways. "These elite sporting events give supporters and players from Wagga and the wider region the opportunity to witness first-class sport in their own backyard, while also giving our economy a shot in the arm."



WE HAVE A GROWING ECONOMY

SPORT KICKING GOALS FOR LOCAL ECONOMY

The City of Good Sports hosted five major sporting events over the 2015/16 financial year, which gave the local economy a \$9.5M boost.

The 2015 Eastern University Games, AFL pre-season game, Super Rugby trial game, World Field Archery 2016 Championship, Australian Clay Target National "DTL" Championships were all held in Wagga Wagga, along with several other state and nationally recognised events.

The latest 'Sports Tourism' economic benefit figures for the year ending March 2016 from Tourism Research Australia shows the national average spend of a "sports tourist" whose main purpose of travel is either participating in or watching sport is now \$262 per person per night. That's

compared to a normal holiday tourist, who will spend on average \$201 per person per night.

The NAB Preseason AFL game and Super Rugby trial game alone saw a combined attendance of over 13,000 people in Wagga Wagga. Using the Profile Id - economic predictor, the estimated total impact on the Wagga Wagga City economy from the events was approximately \$9,582,000. The breakdown for each event is below;

- ▶ July 2015 Eastern University Games - \$2,825,100
- ▶ March 2016 NAB Preseason AFL game - \$1,525,000
- ▶ February 2016 Super Rugby trial game - \$1,610,000
- ▶ September 2016 World Field Archery Championship 2016 - \$1,232,000
- ▶ April 2016 Australian Clay Target National "DTL" Championships - \$5,215,000

The \$9,582,000 figure also doesn't take into consideration other state level events which often bring their own benefits and economic boosts due to their high participation rates or length of the events.



FUNDING FLOWS FOR TAXIWAY UPGRADE

In the latter part of 2015 the City of Wagga Wagga welcomed a \$4M NSW State Government funding announcement to upgrade the taxiway network at the Wagga Wagga Airport.

The money will come from the Restart NSW: Regional Tourism and Infrastructure Fund for regional airports and adds to the \$22M Council has already invested in upgrades at the airport over the last decade.

The former Mayor of the City of Wagga Wagga, Councillor Kendall, said the upgrade is about increasing capacity and mitigating future expenses.

"It will also improve safety and movement so that pilots are not taxiing on the runway for any longer than they

need to be," former Mayor Cr Kendall said. "This upgrade will allow the airport to best serve the travelling public well into the future."

Cr Kendall said this latest investment is also good news for local tourism.

"The better your facilities are the more likely people it is that people will fly here, that in turn will attract other airlines and I'm certain airlines will continue to consider Wagga Wagga as an opportunity," he said.

Since the funding announcement, the project has progressed into the detailed design and technical specifications stage with construction works for the upgrade anticipated to commence in early 2017.

HANGAR TO BE SOLD

This year it was announced that the City of Wagga Wagga and Regional Express (Rex) had reached a Sale of Assets Agreement in relation to the hangar at the Wagga Wagga Regional Airport. The agreement will see Rex purchase the hangar for \$2.8M.

The hangar was built by aircraft painting and refurbishment business Douglas Aerospace Pty Ltd using a \$2.5M loan from the City of Wagga Wagga. The company defaulted on this loan in early 2015 when it went into voluntary administration, at which point Council acquired the hangar, plant and equipment. Under the terms of the agreement Rex will pay a Licence Fee of \$20,000 per month to be rebated against the sale price

of the hangar upon completion of rectification works. Upon completion of the sale, Council will enter into a long term sub-lease of the land with Rex.

The City of Wagga Wagga's General Manager Alan Eldridge said the sale of the hangar to Australia's largest independent regional airline is an outstanding outcome for the community.

"Rex has proved its commitment to the Riverina time and time again with ongoing, multimillion-dollar investments that continue to play an important role in the local economy," Mr Eldridge said.

"The expertise and financial

strength that Rex brings to this deal provides certainty for the future of the hangar as an aircraft painting and refurbishing facility and its ability to generate unique job opportunities. I thank Rex for its assistance in reaching an agreement that represents value for ratepayers' money.

"This agreement came about after the elected Council agreed to continue to look proactively at all potential outcomes for this facility. This has allowed Council staff to come to an agreed sale to Rex that provides great long term benefits for the city while alleviating the immediate costs."



LEEVE ONE STEP CLOSER WITH FUNDING SECURED

To help protect the community and safeguard future prosperity, the City of Wagga Wagga is upgrading the Main City Levee to a 1 in 100 hundred year level of protection, and the North Wagga levee to a 1 in 20 year level of protection.

The City of Wagga Wagga welcomed a federal election promise that would see the upgrade to the levee system completed earlier. Under the current funding model, the upgrade to the Main City Levee North Wagga Levee's would take eight years and cost more than \$23M.

Deputy Prime Minister Barnaby Joyce and Member for Riverina Michael McCormack pledged \$10M in

federal funding to the levee upgrade should the Coalition be returned to government. Member for Wagga Wagga Daryl Maguire was also on hand to announce a further \$2.1M in state funding on top of their original commitment. The State and Federal Government commitments combined with Council's share from the recently approved special rate variation (SRV) means the project is now fully funded.

An upgrade of the levee system dramatically improves the protection of the CBD and North Wagga against flood events. The CBD is home to thousands of homes, businesses and assets that are currently exposed and vulnerable to a catastrophic flood event, and as demonstrated in March

2012 an evacuation of this area even without the water topping the levee bank can have a significant social and economic impact.

The Insurance Council of Australia has advised that insurance premiums for business and residential property owners protected by the levee system would be reduced following the levee upgrade. The levee upgrade will also provide a greater sense of security to all residents and business owners when river levels rise.

Council has also completed extensive work in other areas in recent years, including adopting the Tarcutta, Ladysmith and Uranquinty Village Flood Studies in 2015.

EUNONY BRIDGE UPGRADE

The City of Wagga Wagga has welcomed an announcement by the Federal and State Governments for \$4.9M each in funding to go towards an upgrade of Eunony Bridge. The \$9.8M upgrade will allow higher mass limit (HML) vehicles to cross the Murrumbidgee River at Eunony Bridge Road.

Former Mayor of the City of Wagga Wagga, Councillor Rod Kendall, said the upgrade is a crucial step in providing better heavy vehicle access from the Sturt Highway to the Bomen Business Park. "It's fantastic to see that the Member for the Riverina and the Federal Government share our vision for Wagga Wagga as a hub for freight in regional Australia," Cr Kendall said.

"Higher mass limit vehicles who currently travel via Edwards street and the Olympic highway will now have a much more direct route over the Eunony Bridge, which will save freight companies time and money as well as reduce heavy vehicle activity through the city centre."

The process towards upgrading the link between the Sturt Highway and the Bomen Business Park began in November 2014 with the Eunony Bridge Road Deviation Project, which was jointly funded by Council and the NSW Government. Council will also match a \$1.27M dollar grant that it recently received from the Heavy Vehicles Safety and Productivity Program to upgrade existing sections of Byrnes Road and Eunony Bridge Road.

FUTURE LOOKS BRIGHT FOR LIVESTOCK MARKETING CENTRE

The Livestock Marketing Centre (LMC) continues to be one of the best facilities in Australia with more than \$387M worth of stock sold there in the last financial year alone - about 1.85 million sheep and 222,000 cattle. The centre provides an estimated \$32.6 million in gross regional product to the local economy and supports in excess of 200 jobs through direct and flow-on effects.

A lot of work has gone into a Master Plan for the centre over the 2015/16 financial year with a key component being on outlining the infrastructure needed to expand its capacity to meet the industry's current and future needs, as well as accommodate changes in environmental, animal welfare and work health and safety legislation. The plans aim is for the Livestock Marketing Centre to continue to be the premier livestock selling centre for cattle, sheep and lambs in southeast Australia well into the future.

CRITICAL FUNDING SECURED FOR BOMEN ENABLING ROADS

In June 2016, Council received the welcome notification from the Hon. Duncan Gay (NSW Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight) advising that the City of Wagga Wagga was successful in securing \$8.3M in NSW government funding towards the Bomen Enabling Roads (Stage 1).

The Federal Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development had committed \$14.5M towards the construction of enabling road infrastructure at Bomen Business Park on the condition that a commitment of NSW Government funding was secured.

"A state government funding commitment is the final piece of the puzzle to make this project a reality," former

Mayor of the City of Wagga Wagga Councillor Rod Kendall said.

The proposed Bomen Enabling Roads (Stage 1) and the RiFL Hub (Stage 2) form a program of works worth approximately \$70M. This program would see the construction of major rail and road infrastructure and a freight terminal on 95 hectares of land at the Bomen Business Park.

"The proposed Bomen Enabling Roads and RiFL Hub would be a transformative piece of infrastructure for Wagga. It will provide a significant and long-lasting benefit to current and future businesses, as well as the broader community." Cr Kendall Said

TOURISM PARTNERS PROGRAM

This year saw the City of Wagga launch a partner program aimed at promoting and developing tourism in the Wagga region. The Wagga Tourism Partner Program brings together businesses, individuals and industry to showcase all that's great about Wagga Wagga and to help boost visitation to the city and surrounds.

"The program will be Wagga's one-stop-shop for tourism and will work two-fold, to help attract more visitors to the city, and provide information on services and attractions once visitors arrive," Manager Economic Development and Visitor Economy Richie Robinson said.

Annually, about 1.3M tourists choose Wagga as a destination for short or long stays for work or leisure and spend about \$340M at local businesses. The city also plays host to several major events, such as the

Stone the Crows Festival, the Wagga Wagga Gold Cup, Fusion multicultural festival and Charles Sturt University and defence graduations, which bring people from far and wide.

"Wagga is already a popular destination for many visitors. This program is aimed at bringing tourism operators and a host of other businesses and individuals together to provide holistic listings for our visitors, covering everything from accommodation options, services, attractions, restaurants, clubs, retailers and much more," Mr Robinson said.

The program markets partners through promotional guides, online platforms, via the regional tourism app SeeRiverina, brochures, newsletters and more over a 12 month period. A new-look Wagga Visitor Guide, featuring all program partners, was also launched mid-year.

Wagga's annual Big Business Breakfast was back for the eighth consecutive year. This year's event saw CEO and founder of the BRW-award winning firm Bell Partners, Anthony Bell, attend as the special guest at the popular business networking event.

Heading up one of the country's largest sole partner advisory and accounting firms, the former CSU Wagga student is a nationally recognised public speaker, writes for a number of publications and is retained by clients ranging from entrepreneurial individuals and companies to some of the top 100 Australian companies. Outside of the business world Anthony lists being a Sydney to Hobart winning skipper among his greatest achievements. "We were excited to have Anthony Bell share his knowledge and experience with our business leaders," Council's Acting Director Commercial and Economic Development James Bolton said. "The idea behind the Big Business Breakfast is to bring local business leaders together to network with other business and industry representatives. "The breakfast is designed for any business, regardless of the size."

The Big Business Breakfast is proudly supported by the City of Wagga Wagga, along with event partner TAFE NSW Riverina Institute. The event's major sponsors were Wagga Mobile Cranes and Heavy Haulage, Riverina Water County Council, RSM and Ladex Construction Group along with the Event Supporters; Jam Media, RIC Electrics and Tag Publishing and the Townhouse Hotel.

Anthony Bell appeared by arrangement with Renegade Management.

WAGGA BUSINESS BREAKFAST



WE HAVE A SUSTAINABLE NATURAL AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT

ARTWORKS TO CURB GRAFFITI AT RAILWAY — ANNUAL GRANTS ARTWORK

The City of Wagga Wagga's 2015 Annual Grants Program added a splash of colour to one of the city's most popular attractions.

The Wagga Wagga Society of Model Engineers (WWSME) was successful in its funding application for a mural on part of the Willans Hill Miniature Railway track.

The tunnel under Lord Baden Powell Drive has in recent times been vandalised by graffiti, with WWSME engaging local artist Kyle Pearson to design and paint the tunnel and its entrances.

Council and WWSME shared 50 per cent of the cost of the artwork, which features a vibrant peacock and incorporated suggestions from Council's Arts and Culture, Parks and Gardens and Museum of the Riverina staff, the Friends of the Botanic Gardens and members of the society.



HOLY COW!

ARTWORK BEEFS UP IN URANQUINTY



In 2015 Uranquinty residents embraced a herd of cattle as their new neighbours, but unlike other cows in the region these ones were made from hand-forged flatbar steel.

The 10 cows make up the first artwork in the Village Works Program, the City of Wagga Wagga's strategy to construct eye-catching art in local villages.

These 1.7m tall and 2.8m long cows can be found on the Olympic Highway, right across from the Quinty Bakehouse and Uranquinty Hotel, and stand proud and tall in their new home.

The \$50,000 artwork was constructed by artist Jane Cavanagh, with a 50/50 contribution of funds from Council and Origin Energy.

Janice Summerhayes, the Director of Environment and Community Services, was thrilled with the end result.

"It was a fantastic opportunity to work in partnership with Origin Energy and the Uranquinty community to make these cows come to life" She said.

Former Mayor of City of Wagga Rod Kendall said the new public art display draws more people into the small village.

"It not only benefits the residents of Uranquinty but visitors as well, it is important that we capture the attention of the visitors as they come through our towns and villages," he said

"the cows aren't only pieces of art to admire, but also a playground for the younger generations"

"One of the outcomes of public art, I hope, is the encouragement of children at school to potentially take on art as either a career or an interest in their life."

TURNING OVER A NEW LEAF

— 600 STREET TREES

Six hundred news trees now grace the city's streets as part of the City of Wagga's annual planting program. From new suburbs to established areas, Council staff are busy planting over winter each year.

Wagga Wagga suffers from a heat island effect which is common in cities and occurs when bitumen and buildings heat up, strategic plantings are crucial in reducing the city's temperature during summer and into the future.

Council purchases trees from quality regional nurseries and staff ensure the new plantings are well-looked after until they are established.

The trees are watered every month during summer for the first two years and are also pruned regularly to ensure they become a long-standing part of the city's impressive "treescape".



COMMUNITY RECYCLING STATION IS NOW OPEN

What do you do with a burnt-out bulb? Let us enlighten you. In August 2015 the city of Wagga Wagga launched a Community Recycling Station located in the Civic Centre for flat batteries, ink cartridges and more.

It's the latest green move from Council after a recent trial to minimise workplace waste kept a whopping 12,000kg of rubbish from going into landfill.

"Most of us just throw light globes and batteries in the bin, but up to 99 per cent of the material in a bulb can be recovered for recycling," Environmental Education Officer Alice Kent said.

"Australians buy about 345 million batteries each year, so buy dropping

them off at the Community Recycling Station you can really make a difference.

"It's up to all of us to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill and this is an easy way for everyone to get involved."

There are currently 23 million unwanted mobile phones lurking in cupboards and drawers around Australia, which can be dismantled to recover gold, silver, copper and glass.

"By not recycling that many phones we are preventing 2200 tonnes of metal, glass and plastic from being reused.

"Printer cartridges are another item that's great to recycle as they can

be turned into a range of innovative products, including low carbon asphalt to make roads."

Household quantities of ink cartridges, light globes, batteries and mobile phones and accessories can be dropped off at the Community Recycling Station during Council business hours and from 10am to 4pm on Saturdays and 10am to 2pm on Sundays.

More details on what items you can recycle at the station can be found by visiting wagga.nsw.gov.au/waste.



FOOD ORGANICS COLLECTION GAINS \$1M IN FUNDING

A food organics kerbside collection system for Wagga residents has the backing of the NSW Government with the announcement of a \$1M grant from the Environmental Trust.

The purpose of the grant is to financially assist the City of Wagga Wagga in setting up the collection infrastructure and community education requirements for the diversion of domestic kitchen food waste and garden organics from landfill and convert it to a composted product.

Former Mayor of the City of Wagga Wagga, Councillor Rod Kendall, welcomed the announcement, saying

the grant will go a long way towards making sure any introduction of a food organics collection system will represent value for ratepayer's money.

"We know from a recent survey of 4500 residents that the majority of people in Wagga Wagga support the introduction of a food organics collection service," Cr Kendall said. The survey was undertaken as part of the previously mentioned successful "Tipping Point" consultation (pg.38)

"Not only is keeping this waste out of landfill a fantastic outcome for the environment, it will also save Council money by reducing the rate at which we need more space for landfill." A

key component of this grant is for education resources, if residents do not know how to use the system properly the full financial and environmental benefits will not be realised."

If introduced, residents would be able to put their food scraps in the existing green waste bin, which will be picked up on a weekly basis, meaning a fourth kerbside bin will not be required.

Securing this grant funding is yet another step forward in the work Council staff are doing to increase our sustainability.

TARCUTTA STREET REHABILITATION

The trip to work is much smoother for the thousands of motorists that travel along Tarcutta Street every morning, with the completion of asphalt works. Council staff worked with contractors over a total of seven nights to minimise the impact on traffic during the day.

Along the way Council encountered some challenges with machinery and the discovery of an abandoned stormwater pit and sink hole. Council staff did a fantastic job in resolving these issues and ensuring there was no impact on deadlines.

Wagga Wagga City Council was again highly appreciative of the patience of the local residents. Road works can be inconvenient when undertaken in your neighbourhood but the community had been very supportive which made the job so much easier.

Funded from the Roads to Recovery Program, the \$1M project saw 3968 tonnes of new asphalt laid. To maximise efficiency, Council staff also utilised time during the project to replace some kerb and guttering and conduct repair work on the median strip.



PLUMPTON ROAD REHABILITATION

One of Wagga's busiest roads is looking better than ever after getting a full facelift. For five weeks staff worked hard on rehabilitating the road base of Plumpton Road between Lake Albert Road and Red Hill Road, before completing the works with a two coat seal.

The project saw the removal of around 1500 cubic metres of old, unsuitable material that was responsible for many of the potholes appearing on the surface.

Provided that routine maintenance and periodic reseals are undertaken, there should be no requirement for

any further intervention to this scale on this section of road for decades. The cooperation and patience of residents living along the stretch of the rehabilitated road, was greatly appreciated throughout the duration of the project.

Project Snapshot:

- ▶ 300mm of road base replaced with new material
- ▶ 300mm of road base stabilised with lime
- ▶ 13 water mains relocated
- ▶ Gas mains stabilised

- ▶ 20m of new kerb and gutter installed
- ▶ Approximately 10 driveways reinstated each day
- ▶ 2 coat seal to finish
- ▶ 4.5 weeks to complete
- ▶ New road life of 30-50 years



GOING GREEN: MAYOR ROD KENDALL CHECKS OUT THE NEW TURF AT THE SCOUT HALL WITH (FROM LEFT) ASHTON BOURKE, GROUP LEADER AILEEN COOKE, RHYS BLAKE, WILLIAM MEIKLEJOHN, JONATHON LAW AND ANTHONY DUTTON FROM THE 1ST WAGGA SCOUT GROUP, WHICH RECEIVED \$2800 FOR THE PROJECT AS PART OF LAST YEAR'S ANNUAL GRANTS PROGRAM.

NEW TURF LAID AT SCOUTS HALL FROM ANNUAL GRANTS

The grass is greener at the 1st Wagga Scout Group's hall after new turf was laid thanks to Council's Annual Grants Program.

The scouts received \$2800 under the 2015/16 program and presented the former Mayor of the City of Wagga Wagga Councillor Rod Kendall with

a certificate to thank Council for its contribution.

The Scouts were successful under the Community Health and Wellbeing category, which is separated into two sub-categories.

Funding for each application in the

recreational facilities sub-category ranges from \$500 to \$7500 and can be used to upgrade amenities or lighting, install sport specific facilities like cricket nets or create other infrastructure like storage sheds and shade structures.

BEAUTIFICATION WORK FOR BAYLIS STREET

In 2014/15, Council allocated \$200,000 to revitalise the look and feel of Baylis Street and the broader CBD area. Feedback from the community suggested the street was due for a refresh and it was determined the restoration works would focus on key features of the street including furniture, the footpath and the inconsistent appearance of rubbish bins.

Works began in mid-2016 with refurbished bench seats and tables installed, complete with freshly powder-coated gloss black frames and new Merbau timber with stainless fasteners. The timber has been stained in a light, natural finish to accentuate the grain of the wood compared to the dark stain of the older benches.

The side walk pavers had been pressure cleaned from Station Place to the lagoon at Fitzmaurice Street and any significant trip hazards removed. These works aim to make the CBD beautiful, clean and safe space that the community can enjoy.



In the next 12 months, the entire network of CBD bins will be replaced. The new units will have a consistent appearance to the street furniture and together with the freshly cleaned pavers will greatly improve Wagga's street appeal.

APEX PARK FACELIFT – RENOVATIONS AT LAKE ALBERT

One of the city's popular recreational destinations has received a facelift worth more than \$700,000 that has improved the usability, safety and aesthetic appeal of the area. Lake Albert water and recreational users now benefit from a range of upgrades to the car park and boat ramp at Apex Park on the eastern side of the lake.

Manager Environment and City Compliance Mark Gardiner said "Some of the facilities at Apex Park were tired and ready for an upgrade".

"These works will make access to the area easier and safer for residents and visitors with boats and those wanting to enjoy the barbecue and play areas

on the eastern side of the lake.

"People are already attracted to Lake Albert and what the area has to offer. Improving this space will boost that appeal, and Wagga Wagga as a whole."

For boat users the project included widening the existing boat ramp from 7.5 metres to 8 metres, allowing two cars on the ramp at one time. There will also be a boat tie-up area along the shoreline. During the project existing trees were removed and trimmed where required and removed trees have been replaced with 32 established native trees and garden beds in the car park.

The existing car park has been redesigned to allow for 20 boat trailer parking bays, two rigging bays, 61 car parks and 4 disabled parking bays.

A complete reseal of the car park surface will be carried out as the last stage of the works, with new line markings and kerbing, creation of a new traffic island and installation of LED solar lights to finalise the works. The space will be fully operational and ready for the community to enjoy this summer.

Some \$500,000 of the project was secured through the Roads and Maritime Services NSW Boating Now Projects funding, with Council contributing \$230,000.



BILL THE ENVIRO EDUCATION TRAILER HITS THE STREETS

Meet Bill – Council's newest employee.

Bill is the City of Wagga's new sustaina-Bill-ity education trailer and features a 250 watt solar system that powers energy efficient LED lights, a TV screen and mobile devices.

He started popping up around the city in October 2015, performing his first official duties at the Garden and Leisure Festival.

Bill also attended Sturt Public School's Twilight Community Markets and the Lutheran Sustainable Living Festival, where Bill had a brush with stardom when he met Costa from ABC's *Gardening Australia*.

"The aim of Bill is to provide a backdrop for conversations between Council and the community on ways we can develop sustainable practices in the home and create an environmentally sustainable city," Council's Environmental Education Officer Alice Kent said.



FUTURE IMPROVEMENTS FOR DUNNS ROAD - FUNDING IS SECURED

Dunns Road will receive a \$5M overhaul following a funding commitment of \$2.5M from the Coalition government.

Federal Minister for Infrastructure and Transport Darren Chester announced the funding, which Council will match dollar for dollar to vastly improve safety in the area.

Sealing Dunns Road has been cost prohibitive for Council in the past due to its poor alignment and the scale of the works involved.

"This funding will allow us to seal a road which has been the site of at least one fatal accident in recent times," General Manager Alan Eldridge said.

"It's one of our most dangerous roads and with this funding we will be able to make our streets safer and provide better connections for Uranquinty residents to other parts of the city."

The current alignment of Dunns Road does not meet design standards for a sealed road, which means major construction works will be required.

The project would likely require the relocation of power lines, acquisition of land, removal of significant amounts of vegetation, bulk earthworks and reconstruction of a number of large drainage structures.

Council currently undertakes maintenance work on Dunns Road several times a year, with both heavy rain and extended dry periods causing the surface to degrade.

Along with the ongoing costs of the grading and resheeting, the road is often closed for up to a week at a time to undertake the works.

Following the delivery of the funding, Council will be able to schedule the project in its works program. In the meantime, Council encourages motorists to continue to use Red Hill Road, an arterial road designed to accommodate large traffic volumes.

POSITIVE SIGNS FOR WALKING TRACK –

NEW SIGNS FOR WIRADJURI WALKING TRACK

Get some fresh air, admire the landscape and learn something new next time you hit the Wiradjuri Walking Track.

Eight signs have been installed at iconic locations around the track, to engage and educate track users about the cultural, natural heritage or historical significance of the area.

The project was completed as a partnership between the City of Wagga Wagga, Wagga Wagga Urban Landcare, Local Land Services and the Department of Primary Industries – Lands, which manages the track.

“These new signs at sites such as Pomingalarna Reserve, Wiradjuri Reserve, the Riverside precinct

and the Silvalite reserve highlight the significance of these areas to Wagga,” Council’s Strategic Officer CED, Rob Sharpe said.

“It’s also hoped they will help build community pride in our natural assets and discourage illegal dumping and planting of invasive species.

“As funding becomes available, more signs will be able to be installed along the track.”

The track is about 42km long, along with a small inner-city loop that cuts alongside Wollundry Lagoon connecting the Wiradjuri Walking Track between the Visitor Information Centre and Flowerdale Lagoon.

“We expect that with continued improvement to signage and track surface works, including the addition of the Marrambidya Wetland and Lake Albert loop, the track will become even more popular,” NSW Department of Primary Industries – Lands, State Recreational Trails Coordinator George Schneider said.

“Further re-routes will occur in the next year to align the track with the footpaths adjacent at new highway upgrade at Kapooka.”



OUR PEOPLE

LONG-SERVING EMPLOYEES RECOGNISED BY COUNCIL

Long-serving staff members were honoured for a combined 605 years of employment at City of Wagga Wagga at a special presentation night on 3 September 2015.

Fifty-three staff from across all directorates of Council were presented with certificates, including two staff members for 35 years of service.

Senior Team Leader (Civil) Nigel Griffiths from Infrastructure Services and Riverina Regional Library (RRL) Director Robert Knight from Environmental and Community Services were both recognised for their continued contribution to Council.

Former Mayor of the City of Wagga Wagga Councillor Rod Kendall thanked the long-serving employees at the ninth annual recognition dinner.

"Council is fortunate to have many dedicated staff who have given invaluable service, not only to Council but to the community in which they live," he said.

"It is our pleasure to recognise the commitment of staff achieving milestones throughout 2015 and offer our congratulations and recognition."

Mr Griffiths started as an apprentice carpenter in March 1980 and has been involved in major projects such as the music bowl and constructing large tanks at the Koorringal treatment works.

Mr Knight began his employment with Council in October 1980 as a reference librarian and has held a number of roles before being appointed Executive Director of the Riverina Regional Library in 2010. Mr Knight oversees 130,000 constituents across 13 local government areas, with a network of 18 branch libraries, three deposit stations and a mobile library service covering 47,900sqm – more than the size of Switzerland.



LONG SERVING EMPLOYEES

40 YEARS

Barry Elphick
Carpenter

35 YEARS

Nigel Griffiths
Senior Team Leader (Civil)
Robert Knight
Director Riverina Regional Library
Wayne Peacock
General Maintenance Assistant

30 YEARS

Mark Hewson
Supervisor Contract Services

25 YEARS

Carol Slattery
Library Assistant & Promotions
Stuart Matheson
Payroll Coordinator
Peter Brunt
Facilities Management Support Officer
Patrick Murphy
Works Assistant (Engineering)

20 YEARS

Susan Stanton
Records Officer
Kym Stewart
Manager Family Day Care
Michael Ellis
Mobile Library Supervisor
Cameron Collins
Development Assessment Coordinator

Carmel Posselt
Executive Assistant

Michael Hann
Team Leader (Civil)

Robert Wishart
Environmental Assets Attendant

Claire Campbell
Manager Library Services

Geoff Norris
Stores Coordinator

Bill Zanoni
Surveillance Officer (Roads)

15 YEARS

Isobel MacCallum
Marketing & Education Officer

Graeme Clark
Team Leader (Parks & Garden)

Sarah Myers
Visitor Economy Officer

Vicki Bennett
Rural Landfill Attendant
Galore/Currawarna/Collingullie

Ray Outram
Truck Driver

Phil Hamilton
Surveillance Officer



EXCELLENCE IN FOOD SAFETY RECOGNISED



Council's Environmental Health Coordinator Sharomi Dayanand has been recognised at the biennial Food Surveillance Champion Awards. Ms Dayanand was nominated by the Murrumbidgee Regional Food Group for the Food Surveillance Champion Award – Individual.

A number of nominations were received, but Ms Dayanand was selected by the judging panel for her "leadership and commitment undertaking robust food surveillance activities" and for providing encouragement to other Environmental Health Officers at a regional and state level. "It is a great honour to be the recipient of the 2015 Champion award," Ms Dayanand said. "I would like to thank the Environmental Health team at Council for their great efforts and continued support."

The awards were presented at the Food Regulation Partnership workshop on 19 October by chair of the Food Regulation Forum, Councillor Paul Braybrooks OAM. Manager Environment and Recreation Services Mark Gardiner congratulated Ms Dayanand on her award. "It's great to see Sharomi recognised for her work through this award," he said. "To receive such accolades from her peers is a credit to her."

WAGGA'S FINEST RECOGNISED AT YOUNG ACHIEVER AWARDS

Two City of Wagga Wagga employees were recognised at the NSW & ACT Young Achiever Awards held in Sydney on 1 April 2016. Aboriginal Youth and Community Development Officer Ashleigh Pengelly was awarded the Australian Super Career Kick Start Award, while Art Gallery Assistant James Farley was the joint winner of The Coffee Club (Australia) Arts and Fashion Award.

The Young Achiever Awards are a national program, aiming to acknowledge and highlight the achievements of young Australians,

educate the general public, encourage and motivate young Australians at all levels, and develop a sense of pride in being Australian.

Ms Pengelly is a valued member of the Wagga NAIDOC Committee and was a driving force in creating events such as the 2015 NAIDOC Masquerade Ball and Awards.

A passionate photographic artist, Mr Farley was recognised for his work, which explores experimental arts practice in the environment.

"This award for our community's outstanding young people is well deserved and a valuable recognition of their accomplishments," Mayor of the City of Wagga Wagga Councillor Rod Kendall said.

"Wagga is very proud of these outstanding young people I'm sure they will continue to make tremendous contributions to the social and cultural life of Wagga."

COUNCIL STAFF RECOGNISED BY REDCROSS FOR BIGGEST DONATIONS

The City of Wagga Wagga was recognised by the Red Cross for its huge amount of donations in 2015. Council received a trophy and certificate for the highest number of donations in the Wagga region last year as part of the Red25 program.

Red25 unites workplaces, community groups, schools and universities around Australia to save lives through blood donation. Council staff made 73 donations in 2015 and contributed to the saving of 219 lives.



25 YEARS OF SERVICE TO FAMILY DAY CARE

An evening celebrating dedicated Wagga Wagga Regional Family Day Care (WWRFDC) educators and employees helped mark National Family Day Care Week 2016 in Wagga Wagga.

Special recognition was extended to educator Sandra Stewart and Co-ordination Unit Officer Lynne Rees who both reached 25 years' service with WWRFDC.

Mrs Stewart started with WWRFDC in 1991 after trying to find reliable, suitable care for her own children. Once she started, she never looked back.

"A friend of mine was doing Family Day Care and she invited me around

to see how it all worked. It didn't take me long to realise that I wanted to be involved. I love the kids and get so much joy from being around them each day," Mrs Stewart said.

In the past 25 years Mrs Stewart has helped care for hundreds of Wagga children and their families and seen the organisation transition. However, Mrs Stewart said the core values and beliefs of Family Day Care have always remained the same.

"Parents are always telling me they choose Family Day Care for the family-type environment it provides. The groups we care for are small, which means we can help nurture and provide more personalised care for each child," she said.

The centre supports 45 self-employed Family Day Care business operators to deliver education and care to small groups of children in the homes of educators. "WWRFDC wouldn't be the organisation it is today without the fantastic support and dedication of our experienced co-ordination staff and educators," Family Day Care Service Manager Kym Stewart said.

"National Family Day Care Week is our chance to recognise and promote the important role family day care educators play in our communities. This year was extra special for WWRFDC marking Lynne and Sandra's special 25 year milestone."



COUNCILLORS APPOINT GENERAL MANGER ALAN ELDRIDGE ON FOUR-YEAR CONTRACT

October 2015 saw Alan Eldridge, a well-respected local businessman take on the temporary role as General Manager under a short-term contract. During his period working under the short-term contract Mr Eldridge enacted a number of service improvements, impressing Council's elected body. After an extensive recruitment processes the City of Wagga Wagga appointed Alan Eldridge to the position of General Manager on a four-year contract.

"I am pleased to announce that after an extensive recruitment process, Councillors have appointed Mr Eldridge to the position of General Manager," Mayor of the City of Wagga Wagga Councillor Rod Kendall said at the time.

"My fellow Councillors and I have been impressed by Mr Eldridge's time in the position and are confident he has the experience and expertise to shape the future of our city.

"The past seven months have been a time of change and progress for Wagga Wagga and Mr Eldridge has guided the city and Council through this period exceptionally."

Mr Eldridge was the Chair of Council's Audit and Risk Committee from 2009 until October 2015 and has a background in managing large organisations. The General Manager position was advertised nationally in March 2016, with Council looking for a transformational leader to manage a budget of about \$110 million, assets of more than \$1 billion and a total staff of 450.

Councillors held an Extraordinary Council Meeting on 21 April 2016 in which Council resolved to provide a formal letter of offer to Mr Eldridge, who accepted the offer in writing that evening.



30 YEARS OF VOLUNTEER WORK AT WAGGA'S ART GALLERY

Nearly 30 years of volunteer work at the Wagga Wagga Art Gallery was recognised as part of National Volunteers Week in May 2016

Inspired by last year's 40 anniversary of the gallery, the volunteer guides worked with Curator Education and Public Programs Linda Elliott to share their own history.

A special e-book was created and launched at the afternoon tea to commemorate the hard work of the guides over the years.

"Since 1988, the guides have passed on great insight, knowledge and passion to the thousands of visitors to the gallery," Manager Stephen Payne said.

"Every group they lead receives a very individual and unique experience – it's never just a routine and every exhibition is always brought to life with humour and a personal perspective, as well as thorough research.

"The guides are truly a tremendous asset to the gallery and the

community. On behalf of the gallery and Council, I sincerely offer our deepest thanks for their dedication, passion and commitment."

There are currently five volunteer gallery guides - Leanne Croker, Mardi Holcombe, Sue Lidden, Irene Turner and Joan Cahill, who was one of the original guides in 1988.

FORMER COUNCILLORS RECOGNISED WITH LIBRARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Two former Wagga Wagga Councillors have been presented with a Life Membership for the NSW Public Libraries Association.

In receiving this award, Mary Kidson and Bob Osborne have been recognised for their distinguished service to public libraries and exceptional level of contribution to the association during their time as Councillors.

Mayor of the City of Wagga Wagga, Councillor Rod Kendall, presented the awards at the December 2015 Council Meeting.

"Libraries are an essential part of regional communities and the passion and dedication of Mary Kidson and Bob Osborne in championing the cause of country libraries over many years is appreciated not only here in Wagga Wagga, but across NSW," Cr Kendall said.

Ms Kidson served as a Councillor from 1977 to 1999, the longest-serving woman in Council's history. One of her passions was public libraries, and she was a delegate to the Riverina

Community Library Service (now Riverina Regional Library) Committee and held the role of Chairperson from 1991 to 1998.

As well as supporting the establishment of the NSW Country Public Libraries Association in 1989, Mary held the role of Association Chairperson from 1995 to 1997, and Chairperson of the Association's South-West Zone from 1996 to 1998.

A Councillor from 1980 to 1995, Bob Osborne served on the Riverina Community Library Service Committee from 1982 to 1995 and was Chairperson for five years.

Mr Osborne was a strong supporter of libraries and lobbied for improved state funding for country libraries.

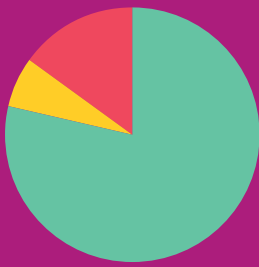
He and 120 Local Government representatives met in Parkes in 1989 to form the NSW Country Public Libraries Association, with the Minister for the Arts offering \$1M in extra funding for country libraries.





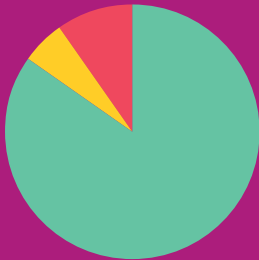
OUR PERFORMANCE

HOW WE'RE TRAVELLING



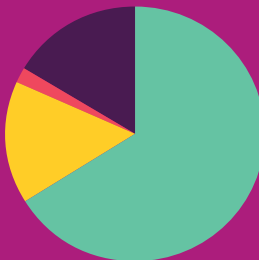
47 DELIVERY PROGRAM ITEMS

37 COMPLETED
3 PROGRESSING/BEHIND SCHEDULE
7 DELAYED/POSTPONED



146 OPERATIONAL PLAN ITEMS

124 COMPLETED
8 PROGRESSING/BEHIND SCHEDULE
14 DELAYED/POSTPONED



142 PROJECTS

94 COMPLETED
22 PROGRESSING/BEHIND SCHEDULE
3 DELAYED/POSTPONED
23 ON HOLD

KEY

 ITEM COMPLETED

 ITEM PROGRESSING / BEHIND SCHEDULE

 ITEM DELAYED / POSTPONED

 ON HOLD

1 WE ARE AN ENGAGED + INVOLVED COMMUNITY

	TARGET	ACTUAL
WE HAVE ACCESS TO INFORMATION		
1.1 ACTIVELY ENGAGE WITH THE COMMUNITY TO ENSURE OPEN COMMUNICATION		
1.1.1 Manage Council's internet and intranet		
Design concept for Council's website completed	100%	100%
<p>Comments: Council launched its redesigned website in May 2016. The new design is mobile responsive which allows our increasing mobile visitor number (currently at 50%) to view our pages on their phones and tablets in a more easily accessible way. Facility web sites are currently being redesigned and launched as completed, with the Civic Theatre website launched in late June 2016.</p> <p>Community Engagement: A working group of representatives from Council business units was formed to gain feedback on requirements for the new web sites. Council also utilised the Peoples Panel to gain feedback on Council's web site before undertaking the redesign.</p>		
1.1.2 Coordinate and administer online People's Panel		
Number of facilitated online consultations	8	8
Percentage of panel members contributing to each consultation	50%	13.1%
<p>Comments: The People's Panel was expanded into the Your Say Wagga site to broaden the demographic for consultations. All registered Your Say user are now considered to be panel members. Two consultations with online components were held during the last quarter: Planning for our Community 16/17 Wagga View - Our Future in Focus This online consultation was also supported by a massive physical presence in the community with a successful engagement for Wagga View - Our Future in Focus!</p> <p>Explanation / Remedial Action: Following the initial 12 months of the People's Panel an internal review was undertaken. The decision was made to broaden the panel to include all registered Your Say users which will allow for a broader demographic for consultations. All registered Your Say Wagga users are now considered to be Panel members and the website will feature not only online discussion forums, but dates for opportunities such as focus groups and workshops that people can be a part of. We have also created more flexibility by removing the requirement to have rolling topics over the 12 month period</p> <p>Community Engagement: Two consultations were held during the last quarter: ;Planning for our Community 16/17 Wagga View - Our Future in Focus</p>		
1.1.3 Facilitate Neighbourhood meetings		
Outcomes from meetings actions within 30 days	100%	100%
<p>Comments: Two Neighbourhood meetings were held this quarter at Uranquinty and Galore. The minutes from each meeting are available online for community viewing. Eight meetings were held over the past year and items raised at the meetings have been actioned.</p>		
1.2 PROVIDE AND DELIVER UP TO DATE INFORMATION TO COUNCIL STAKEHOLDERS		
1.2.1 Provide regular information and events to stakeholders on the local and regional economy		
Business events held	12 events	12 events
Business Wagga website updates	12 updates	12 updates
Social media posts	48 posts	48 posts
<p>Comments: Regular information regarding the local economy has been disseminated to the public through a variety of mediums including online and hard copy material. A monthly Mayoral Breakfast is organised for a themed sector of the local economy.</p>		
1.2.2 Promote opportunities to build relationships with Planning stakeholder groups		

	TARGET	ACTUAL
Planning Advisory Committee Meetings held	4 meetings	5 meetings
Monthly Industry Newsletter created and distributed	11 newsletters	11 newsletters
Comments: Committee has dissolved at present by GM. Industry newsletters have been distributed in accordance with KPI.		
1.3 DELIVER EXCELLENCE IN CUSTOMER SERVICE THROUGHOUT THE ORGANISATION		
1.3.1 Develop, maintain and improve Council's corporate application system		
Maintain online services system availability	99%	99%
1.3.2 Maintain, support and renew Council's information and communication technology		
Percentage of support requests resolved on time	85%	87%
1.3.3 Provide quality customer service from the Customer Service Centre		
First Call resolutions	60%	84%
Customer Satisfaction	95%	98%
1.3.4 Facilitate a legislatively compliant open access information - Government Information Public Access Act		
Formal Applications are responded to within 20 working days	100%	100%
Informal applications are responded to within 20 days	100%	95%
1.3.5 Provide community communication through traditional and social media		
Weekly Council news published	48 publications	50 publications
Number of Media Releases	120 media release	s158 media releases
Comments: This year saw the launch of Council's official corporate Facebook page in late January 2016. Council has 2084 page likes in its first six months, an increase of 643 in the last quarter. Council celebrated the 100th edition of <i>Council News</i> this quarter. The publication continues to keep residents and visitors to the city informed of about Council facilities, services and events.		
1.4 ACTIVELY IMPLEMENT AND PROMOTE COUNCIL'S BEST PRACTICE GOVERNANCE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES		
1.4.1 Deliver Council's Annual Internal Audit Program in accordance with Council's four year Internal Audit Strategy		
Annual work program completed	100%	100%
1.4.2 Work in partnership with the Electoral Commission to deliver the Council Pre-Election Program		
Compliance with Electoral Commission requirements	100%	100%
Comments: Council have been working with the NSW Electoral Commission in delivering all pre-election activities such as office accommodation, polling venues, advertising and promotion.		
1.4.3 Implement the Diversity Strategy		
Annual actions implemented	100%	80%
Equal Employment Opportunity Policy updated	100%	100%
1.4.4 Facilitate Council and Policy and Strategy meeting processes		
Percentage of agendas available on Council's website 3 days prior to the meeting	100%	100%
Percentage of minutes posted to Council's website within 5 working days	100%	100%

	TARGET	ACTUAL
1.4.5 Review and implement Aboriginal protocols to embed culturally appropriate practice in staff dealings with the first people of Australia		
Protocols implemented	100%	100%
Comments: Protocols have been finalised and are currently being prepared for Council endorsement.		
1.4.6 Develop a framework for Mayoral Receptions and Civic Functions		
Develop a framework	100%	75%
Comments: A formal policy has not yet been endorsed by Council but a number of forms and procedures have been implemented to manage this process.		
1.5 ENSURE COUNCIL'S RISK MANAGEMENT PROCESS REFLECTS INDUSTRY BEST PRACTICE ACROSS ALL OF COUNCIL'S FUNCTIONS		
1.5.1 Implement Council's Governance and Risk Management Framework and Action Plan		
Management trained in new governance and risk management system	90%	100%
E-learning module for risk management available to staff	1 module	1 module
1.5.2 Review and update Annual Risk Management Plan		
Plan submitted to Council's insurer StateWide	1 plan	1 plan
Critical issues reviewed by Executive Management Team and Audit and Risk Committees	1 review	1 review
1.5.3 Coordinate the review of the Corporate Business Continuity Plan, Divisional Disaster Recovery and Emergency Response Plans		
Revised Corporate Business Continuity Plan endorsed by Executive Management Team	100%	95%
1.6 PROVIDE A SUSTAINABLE WORKFORCE WITH THE CAPABILITY AND CAPACITY TO SUPPORT CURRENT AND FUTURE INFRASTRUCTURE		
1.6.2 Provide recruitment services to the organisation		
Successful recruitment of skilled employees	100%	90%
1.6.3 Review and implement the Workforce Plan		
Implement planned actions for 2015/16 from the Workforce Action Plan	100%	80%
1.7 STRIVE FOR ZERO HARM AND A CULTURE OF HEALTHY AND SAFETY		
1.7.1 Maintain Workplace Health and Safety management system		
Audit program actions implemented	85%	85%
1.8 SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGE INNOVATIVE AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT		
1.8.1 Deliver Council's annual service review program		
Service reviews completed	12	11
We are provided the opportunity to be involved in decisions impacting us		
1.09 CONDUCT STRATEGIC AND OPERATIONAL PLANNING AND REPORTING OF PERFORMANCE		
1.9.1 Implement Council's Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework		
Quarterly Performance Report Council	1 report	1 report
Combined Delivery Plan & Operational Plan adopted by Council	100%	100%

	TARGET	ACTUAL
Develop a community engagement plan for the Community Strategic Plan - Ruby & Oliver	100%	100%
Conduct community survey	100%	100%
Prepare End of Term Report	60%	60%
1.9.2 Implement the Asset Management Framework		
Develop a concept brief for the review of the Asset Management Plans	100%	100%
Complete the revaluation of community assets, other assets and land improvements	100%	90%
Asset Management Steering Committee meetings held	4	5
1.10 ENSURE THE LONG TERM FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY OF COUNCIL THROUGH EFFECTIVE AND PRUDENT FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT		
1.10.1 Report on Council's Financial position and performance		
Revise the Long Term Financial Plan	100%	100%
Financial performance reports submitted to Council	15 reports	15 reports
Comments: KPI - 00638 - Revise the Long Term Financial Plan The review of the 2015/16 Long Term Financial Plan is an ongoing process with variations for the 10 years reported as part of the monthly financial performance report adopted by Council. The 2016/17 Long Term Financial Plan document was placed on public exhibition for during April/May and was adopted by Council at the 27 June 2016 Council Meeting. KPI - 00639 - Complete the 2014/15 Financial Statements The 2014/15 Financial Statements have been completed, audited and lodged with the Office Of Local Government (OLG) before the October 30 deadline. KPI - 00640 - Unqualified audit report received The report on the Conduct of the Audit received from Crowe Horwath for 2014/15 suggests that there are no major issues in the 2014/15 Financial Statements and has resulted in an unqualified audit report. KPI - 00641 - Financial Performance Reports submitted to Council The financial performance report has been submitted on a monthly basis which has a current reported balanced budget to the end of May 2016 which was reported to Council at the June 2016 Council Meeting. The March 2016 Quarterly Budget Review Statement was reported to Council in May 2016.		
1.10.3 Complete Treasury activities		
Investments are managed in accordance with Council's Investment Policy and Strategy	100%	100%
Percentage of creditors are paid within their payment terms	100%	100%
Rates and annual charges are levied in accordance with statutory limits and requirements	100%	100%
Comments: KPI00643 - Rates and annual charges levied including arrears are continuing to be collected and monitored. The percentage of rates outstanding has decreased to below 6%, which is the Office of Local Government's (OLG)'s target. This decrease is a great result for Council. KPI00644 - Investments for the quarter have been managed in accordance with Council's Investment Policy. KPI00645 - Council's Creditors have continued to be paid within their payment terms.		
1.10.4 Implement Fit For the Future Action Plan and Report on performance against the Fit For the Future benchmarks		
Operating Performance Ratio	5%	-
Own Source Revenue	60%	-
Building and Asset Renewal Ratio	100%	-
Infrastructure Backlog Ratio	10%	-
Asset Maintenance Ratio	60%	-

	TARGET	ACTUAL
Debt Service Ratio	20%	-
Comments: Data will be available in next quarter		
1.10.5 Deliver Capital Works Program		
Scheduled works completed	85%	50%
1.10.6 Oversight of Major Projects by the Program Management Office		
Regular reporting to Council	12	12
WE USE SPORTS, RECREATION, ARTS AND LEISURE AS WAYS OF STAYING CONNECTED		
1.11 FACILITATE IDENTIFIED COUNCIL EVENTS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE WIDER COMMUNITY		
1.11.1 Deliver Council community events		
Regenerate Youth Festival	100%	100%
Comments: Little Big Day Out in October was a great success showcasing Council's services and facilities. Approximately 5,000 children, parents and grandparents attended this event. The 2016 Australia Day Event was held at Wagga Beach. With a perfect summer's day, thousands flocked to the Beach for the BBQ breakfast with residents and visitors continuing to visit the beach throughout the day.		
1.11.2 Provide advice and support to assist in securing a variety of events		
Response to requests	100%	100%
Comments: The inaugural NSW Regional Events Conference was held in Wagga Wagga Monday 2 May - Wednesday 4 May. Presenters and participants came from near and far in the state of NSW and Queensland.		
1.11.3 Develop an event toolkit and update resources for internal and external event organisers		
Annual review of toolkit complete	100%	100%
Comments: Event toolkit was developed, produced and went live in June/July 2015. Updates to the online edition can be made easily and can occur on an as needs basis. Wagga Events Guide and hard copies are available. This guide is for event organisers and provides detailed information on planning, organising and holding an event in the Wagga Wagga LGA. This information is updated on an as needs basis to reflect any changes to policies, procedures and legislative requirements. Also maps of venues and their facilities and requirements are updated as infrastructure is upgraded.		
1.11.4 Provide advice and support to existing events		
Number of existing events support	5	5
Comments: Some of the existing events assisted include: - Gears and Beers - Cork and Fork - Riverina Truck Show - The Riverina Producers' Markets - NSW Regional Events Conference, hugely successful inaugural event. - Visited Boramobola Sport and Rec for potential Events and Conferences. - Walk of Honour Event - Little Big Day - Australia Day Updating existing Blanket Development Applications to further assist new events. Working on a final Blanket Development Application for Botanic Gardens to assist new and existing events being held in this space. - Assisting event organisers with the annual grants program as well as various submissions for tourism awards and Destination NSW funding.		
1.11.5 Coordinate Citizenship ceremonies		
Citizenship ceremonies conducted	12 ceremonies	12 ceremonies
Comments: All Citizenship Ceremonies have been coordinated as per the agreed program.		
1.11.6 Improve access to quality artistic experiences for diverse groups in the community		
Partnerships activities between the community and the Art Gallery	6 activities	12 activities

	TARGET	ACTUAL
Comments: The Art Gallery has partnered with community groups across many diverse sectors to present significant projects including the annual Art to Crow About exhibition (in partnership with Kurrajong Waratah); the Dabaamalang Waybarra Miya event, with Indigenous community groups and Elders; and the educational and community outreach programs 'Ngulagambilaha' and 'Gulbalaha'.		
1.11.7 Provide an accessible range of activities to people from a variety of backgrounds and demographics		
Number of programs/events	20 program/events	20 program/events
Average satisfaction rating from feedback forms	85%	85%
Comments: A wide range of programs, events and projects are delivered annually in partnerships with a diverse range of community organisations, not for profit organisations, government agencies and individuals to connect and engage with the needs and interests of the Wagga Wagga community including Aboriginal, Cultural & Linguistically Diverse CALD, Disability & Aged, LGBTI, Families with Children and Young people.		
1.12 DELIVER A BROAD RANGE OF CULTURAL SERVICES, COMMUNITY PROGRAMS AND EVENTS THAT SUPPORT PARTICIPATION, LIFELONG LEARNING AND ENGAGEMENT BY ALL		
1.12.1 Deliver library services and collections		
Number of visitors to the library per quarter	45,000 visitors	46,604 visitors
Number of new members per quarter	800 members	805 members
Number of library collection item loans including hardcopy and electronic	250,000 loans	275,594 loans
Comments: Library services and collections were delivered on time and budget		
1.12.2 Deliver learning and community programs, events, exhibitions and partnerships through the Wagga Wagga City Library		
Number of diverse children, adults and youth programs delivered	42 programs	79 programs
Community partnerships activities delivered	20 activities	29 activities
Number of displays and exhibitions	24 displays/exhibitions	37 displays/exhibitions
Participant satisfaction with library programs	85%	85%
Outreach Services provided	16 services	13 services
Bulk deliveries to hostels and facilities and individual access to specialist collections and services	80 deliveries	80 deliveries
Comments: All learning and community programs, events and events schedule for this quarter were delivered on time and within budget. Highlights included the partnership with Wagga RSL Club to host the One Book One Wagga event as well other programs and events scheduled to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the establishment of the Wagga Wagga Library service.		
1.12.3 Riverina Regional Library (RRL) provides centralised library services to 13 member Councils in accordance with agreed Service Levels and a Deed of Agreement		
Council meets the obligations of the Executive Council as prescribed in the RRL Deed of Agreement	100%	100%
Riverina Regional Library provides agreed services to Wagga Wagga City Council as prescribed in the Service Level Agreement between Council and RRL	100%	100%
1.12.4 Maintain Council's online Community Directory and produce annual publication		
Community Directory published annually	100%	100%
Comments: The library team updated the LINCS Online Community Directory database this quarter and the 2016-17 Wagga Wagga Community Directory hard copy was printed in June 2016. The directory is an invaluable resource for the local community and people considering a relocation to Wagga Wagga covering diverse subject areas like animal services, arts and culture, community organisations and facilities, education, health and information services, multicultural and refugee services, sport and leisure, support services and transport.		

	TARGET	ACTUAL
1.12.5 Provide diverse program of exhibitions from the Historic Council Chambers and Botanic Gardens Museum sites		
Number of visits	26,000 visits	29,608 visits
Customer satisfaction	85%	68%
Comments: Highlights during this quarter included the following travelling exhibitions presented at the Historic Council Chambers site: "Freewheeling – the history of cycling in Australia" from the National Museum of Australia, "The Making of Midnight Oil" from Manly Museum and Art Gallery and the "Winning Skies" photographic exhibition from the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences. .		
1.12.6 Provide museum education and public programs		
Number of education and public programs delivered	40 programs	238 programs
Comments: Program highlights during this quarter included: The Power and the Passion – where 7 community activists spoke for 5 minutes about their passion, a live music event featuring the Backsliders and a booked out behind the scenes tour of The Making of Midnight Oil exhibition with Rob Hirst (drummer from Midnight Oil)		
1.12.7 Provide outreach museum advisory service to Riverina regional volunteer run museums		
Hours of service provided	1800 hours	1800 hours
Number participating museums	11 museums	11 museums
Comments: The major regional outreach project for this quarter was Talking Machines. Including research, interviews and filming undertaken involving 11 museums across Eastern and Western Riverina.		
1.12.8 Implement Public Art Policy and WaggaWorks Public Art Plan 2014-16		
Public Art projects completed	10 projects	10 projects
Comments: The NightLights Projection major commissions have been completed. Masterclass participants who were commissioned to complete works are in the final stages, with this body of work being completed by December 2016. Due to an additional negotiated project funded by Riverina Water County Council and project managed by WWCC, 1 x ArtWorks project was not completed and will be carried over into 16/17.		
1.12.9 Deliver an annual schedule of Cultural Programs		
Community satisfaction rating	85%	90%
Comments: Program highlights during this quarter included: Silver Screen Seniors for the 2016 Seniors Festival, funded by Family and Community Services. This program was multi generational, as students from the Charles Sturt University TV and Production course were engaged to work with Seniors to create short videos of Seniors Week.		
1.12.10 Deliver educational programs in conjunction with theatre seasons		
Customer satisfaction rating	85%	94%
Comments: This quarter the Wagga Wagga Civic Theatre presented workshops for Bell Shakespeare's Othello. The Theatre also worked in partnership with Patch Theatre Company and Charles Sturt University in a program that trained local acting students to perform in the professional production of The Moon's a Balloon. The the past year some of the highlights of the Civic Theatre education program have been the performances in professional productions by local performers in Carmen Sweet and The Moon's a Balloon, the pen-pal engagement with the Flying Fruit Fly Circus, the playwrighting workshop with the Dapto Chaser and the high school theatre student internships created for The Confidence Man. Legally Blonde gave real world professional theatre experience to 15 local University and high school theatre students.		
Community Engagement: All of these activities are community engagement that were in conjunction with performances at the theatre.		
1.12.11 Deliver the annual subscription season, children's season and senior's season		
Number of tickets purchased	2,700 tickets	16,457 tickets
Comments: Highlights during this quarter include the Wagga Comedy Festival, The 52 Storey Treehouse children's show and the Senior's Week performance by Rhonda Burchmore. Highlights of the year include two performances by Circus Oz, the postponed but still brilliant performance of Bell Shakespeare's Hamlet and the return to the Riverina Playhouse with The Dapto Chaser. This year saw a large increase in family audiences at the evening and school holiday shows and Silver Circle audiences attracting more and more visitors from around the Riverina.		
1.12.12 Facilitate performances at the Civic Theatre by commercial and community hirers		

	TARGET	ACTUAL
Theatre hire revenue	55,000	254,357
Comments: Highlights during this quarter include: four sold out shows from The Wiggles in one day and a two week season of Popstars from Mater Dei Catholic College. This quarter also included the first ever Regional Pitchfest event and hosting the Regional Rotary Conference. Highlights of the last year include the community production of Mary Poppins as well as concerts from Troy Casser-Daly and Guy Sebastian.		
1.12.13 Deliver Twilight by the Lagoon, Hall-a-Day Adventures and Music at Midday		
Attendance	1,500 attendees	10,108 attendees
Average participant satisfaction rating with program	85%	93%
Comments: Two concerts were held Music at Midday and Music in the Evening. Highlights of the past year have included the farewell concert for Major Peter Thomas, the sell out season of Hall-a-Day Adventures and the Twilight by the Lagoon Finale concert		
1.12.14 Produce and deliver an annual community production		
Number of tickets purchased	1,500 tickets	4,106 tickets
Average participant satisfaction rating with program	85%	100%
Comments: In this quarter planning commenced for the end of year Community Choir Concert. The highlight of the year was the production of Legally Blonde which included over 50 members of the community, received seven CAT Award nominations and sold out the whole season.		
Community Engagement: This activity is for the community and in the next quarter the community will be invited to take part.		
1.12.15 Present a diverse range of Art Gallery exhibitions of regional and national significance		
Art Gallery exhibitions	30 exhibitions	31 exhibitions
Visitor satisfaction	85%	94%
Visitor attendance	28,000 attendances	30,841 attendances
Exhibitions by local and regional artists	12 exhibitions	18 exhibitions
Comments: Of the eight exhibitions presented by the Gallery in April-June 2016, highlights included the 2016 edition of the Gallery's internationally renowned National Emerging Art Glass Prize; the Wagga Wagga Art Society's ANZAC commemorative exhibition 'Keep My Memory', and the incoming touring exhibition 'Stars + Stripes: Contemporary American Art from the Goldberg Collection.' Local artists showcased in this period included painters Errol Fielder ('Memoirs') and Gregory Carosi ('From There to Here'), and photographers Ashleigh McDonald and Madeline McGuigan ('Hyperreality').		
1.12.16 Deliver a diverse range of Art Gallery events and programs that are accessible and relevant to the community		
Art Gallery events and public programs	42 events/programs	51 events/programs
Participant satisfaction	85%	94%
Participant attendance	10,000 attendances	9,784 attendances
Comments: The Gallery's public programs, engagement activities and events during April-June 2016 included the continuation of the children's art workshop series ArtBlast!; the monthly portrait sittings 'Meeting Room 1'; and launches and artist talks associated with new exhibitions. The Gallery also hosted several concerts presented by the Riverina Conservatorium of Music; sessions of the Civic Theatre's Wagga Comedy Festival; and the City Library's live stream of the Sydney Writers Festival.		
1.13 PROVIDE, FACILITATE AND MAINTAIN COMMUNITY AND CULTURE INFRASTRUCTURE		
1.13.1 Develop and care for Art Collections of national significance		
Develop acquisition report	1 report	1 report
Conduct annual Art Gallery collections audit	1 report	1 report
Comments: The Gallery continued to maintain excellent care for the collections as civic and national cultural assets. A full audit and external valuation of the Gallery's collections was completed in June 2016.		
1.13.2 Provide museum collection management process		
Number of objects accessioned and de-accessioned	20 Collections	20 Collections

	TARGET	ACTUAL
Comments: Museum collection management systems are up to date.		
1.13.3 Implement Public Art Policy and WaggaWorks Public Art Plan 2014-16		
Public Art works completed	10 art works	10 art works
Comments: This is a duplicate report item and has been completed already		
1.13.4 Maintain and renew cultural infrastructure and technology to ensure that the Civic Theatre remains viable and effective		
Maintain technical equipment to a safe and professional standard	100%	100%
Implement Civic Theatre Asset Management Plan	100%	94%
Comments: A projector screen was replaced and the theatre purchased drapes that can be used for smaller performances. This year the highlights include the approval for a refurbishment of seats and carpet in the auditorium and the purchase of curtains for small performances, a black scrim and a new projector screen.		
1.14 ADVOCATE, PARTNER AND FACILITATE THE DELIVERY OF AFFORDABLE AND ACCESSIBLE SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE		
1.14.1 Promote and provide education and care via the Family Day Care and In Home Care programs		
Number of accredited Educators	200 educators	180 educators
Weekly number of education and care places available	3,600 places	3,576 places
Percentage of places filled	80%	91%
Number of facilitated education and professional development sessions held in Wagga Wagga per term	120 sessions	246 sessions
Number of play sessions delivered in rural villages	40 sessions	40 sessions
Comments: During this quarter Wagga Wagga Regional Family Day Care (WWRFDC) hosted professional development opportunities for Educators on topics including Educational programming and Practice, Intentional Teaching and Critical reflection in Early Childhood practice. An advisory group has been held to consult with stakeholders on future directions for the service. WWRFDC Educational Leader and Service Manager have participated on an Educational Leadership panel to represent the service and NSW Family Day Care. WWRFDC currently has 44 Educators providing care for over 200 families to ensure they can meet work and study requirements		
Community Engagement: Consultation with parents and Educators at Advisory group meeting held once per term		
1.14.2 Work with Senior Citizens and Ngurra Hub to increase usage of their facilities		
Percentage increase in usage rating against available hours	10%	100%
Comments: Staff continue to work with the community to maximise the usage of the Senior Citizens Centre and Ngurra Hub to host programs, events and projects that connect and engage with the diverse interests and needs of community groups, organisations and individuals living in Wagga Wagga.		
WE PROTECT OUR HERITAGE AND KEEP WHAT WAS		
1.15 MANAGE LOCAL HERITAGE		
1.15.1 Maintain and protect heritage items contained within the Wagga Wagga Heritage Study Inventory		
Identify areas or items recommended to be listed in the LEP	50%	0
Review heritage controls contained within the Wagga DCP 2010	50%	0
WE HAVE A VARIETY OF TRANSPORT OPTIONS		
1.16 SUPPORT ACTIVE TRANSPORT		
1.16.1 Develop the Wagga Wagga Active Transport Cycling Plan		
Produce Transport Plan	100%	75%
Comments: This project has been combined with the Wagga Wagga Integrated Transport Study. The draft Active Transport Plan is due to be presented to Council later this year.		

2 WE ARE A SAFE + HEALTHY COMMUNITY

	TARGET	ACTUAL
THERE IS REDUCED CRIME IN OUR COMMUNITY		
2.1 IMPROVE COMMUNITY SAFETY AND REDUCE INCIDENTS OF CRIME THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS, ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN AND MONITORING OF HIGH RISK AREAS		
2.1.1 Maintain the CCTV Operation network		
Maintain system uptime	99%	95%
Police requests for footage provided within 2 working days	100%	100%
Comments: The CCTV system had 4 nodes that had power provision issues during this period. All approved requests have been actioned within 2 business days. There were 11 approved requests for April to June 2016.		
Explanation / Remedial Action: The CCTV system has encountered 2 electrical issues that affected 4 nodes in the period. Both electrical issues have been resolved.		
ARRANGEMENTS ARE IN PLACE TO RESPOND TO AND RECOVER FROM NATURAL DISASTERS		
2.2 COLLABORATE WITH LOCAL EMERGENCY ORGANISATIONS TO ENSURE EFFECTIVE EMERGENCY AND DISASTER PLANS ARE IN PLACE		
2.2.1 Lead and support the Local Community Emergency Management Committee		
Emergency Management Plans reviewed	100%	100%
Emergency Management committee held	4 meeting	4 meeting
Comments: Meetings of the Local Emergency Management Committee were held as scheduled. The Wagga Wagga Local Emergency Management Plan is in the process of being compiled. This plan replaces the Wagga Wagga Disaster Plan. Parts 1 and 2 of the Local Emergency Management Plan have been completed and adopted by the District Emergency Management Committee. Part 3 and Annexure F of the Local Emergency Management Plan are currently under review.		
2.3 PARTNER WITH STATE GOVERNMENT TO MANAGE THE WAGGA WAGGA DISTRICT FLOOD PLAN		
2.3.1 Facilitate the Floodplain Risk Management Advisory Committee		
Floodplain Risk Management Advisory Committee meetings held	4 meeting	5 meeting
Comments: The Floodplain Risk Management Advisory Committee met 5 times during 2015/16.		
2.3.2 Undertake community consultation for review of the Riverine Floodplain Risk Management Plan		
Outcomes reported to Council	1 report	0
Comments: WMA Water have been engaged to undertake the revision of the Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan. Preliminary work is progressing well with community consultation to be undertaken later in 2016.		
2.3.3 Deliver major overland flow flood risk management plan		
Final report /model document published	100%	0
Comments: Council has received funding under the NSW Floodplain Management Program for this project. Work will commence soon to engage a consultant to deliver this project.		

	TARGET	ACTUAL
2.3.4 Complete villages overland flood studies for Uranquinty, Tarcutta and Ladysmith		
Findings presented to Council	100%	100%
Comments: The village overland flow flood study is complete and was adopted by Council on 24 August 2015.		
We have access to beautiful parks and recreational spaces throughout the community		
2.4 ENHANCE AND MAINTAIN PARKS, RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AND OPEN SPACE		
2.4.1 Deliver burial and cremation services at Wagga Wagga Lawn Cemetery, Monumental Cemetery and four rural cemeteries		
Respond to customer requests within 5 business days	100%	98%
Deliver scheduled maintenance	100%	100%
Comments: Burial and cremation services are provided at the Wagga Wagga Lawn Cemetery, and burial services are provided at the Monumental Cemetery and the four rural cemeteries at Currawarna, Humula, Tarcutta and Uranquinty. Approximately 600 services per annum are delivered.		
2.4.3 Deliver Open Space Mowing programs		
Mowing cuts undertaken	17 cuts	10 cuts
Community satisfaction with the presentation of our parks	85%	98%
2.4.4 Deliver Roadside Mowing programs		
Roadside mowing cuts undertaken	4 cuts	4 cuts
2.1.5 Deliver parks mowing program at high profile parks (Botanic Gardens, Collins Park, Victory Memorial Gardens, Baylis Street and Civic Precinct)		
Number of mowing cuts undertaken	39 cuts	39 cuts
2.4.7 Manage Council's street trees		
Customer requests completed within 21 days	90%	73%
Number of new and replacement trees planted	550	850
Percentage of trees replaced within useful life expectancy	90%	70%
2.4.8 Provide tree management services		
Percentage of requests completed within 7 days	100%	78%
2.4.9 Maintain Wagga Wagga Zoo		
Maintain zoo compliance	100%	100%
Comments: The zoo continues to be maintained to a high standard with a focus on animal care and presentation of the facility. All legislative conditions as part of the licensing requirements implied by the Department of Primary Industries have been complied with by WWCC staff. Staff continue to liaise with the Department of Primary Industries regarding approvals required for stock management.		
2.4.10 Review Council's Recreation and Open Space Strategy		
Strategy adopted by Council	100%	50%
Comments: This strategy is now being conducted in house as a part of the planning task force. A final draft is expected to be presented to Council in December 2016.		
2.4.14 Playground Equipment Replacement as per schedule		
Replace Bolton Park playground	100%	25%
Replace Simmons Street playground	100%	100%
Refurbish Ashmont Oval playground	100%	100%
Comments: New playgrounds installed at Simmons St and Visitor Information Centre. Ashmont Oval playground refurbished. Bolton Park All Abilities playground currently on hold pending Councillor workshop with stakeholders. Works on playground will commence once the workshop has taken place and Council resolve to proceed.		

	TARGET	ACTUAL
Explanation / Remedial Action: Council staff were approached by the Touched by Olivia Foundation to partner in the delivery of this playground. Touch by Olivia Foundation are able to assist with raising further funds to ensure a better playground is delivered at the completion of the project. This has resulted in delays to the project while council staff work with Touched by Olivia Foundation to finalise an MOU for approval by Council.		
Community Engagement: There has been extensive consultation with the community in the delivery of this program. There has been meetings with residents in the immediate surrounds of the new playgrounds. For the Bolton Park All Abilities Playground there has been consultation through meetings with disability groups such as Kurrajong Waratah and the Northcott Society. Council staff have also met with community members. This playground was also featured on the "Funbobulator" at the Little Big Day Out in 2015. Feedback was also provided through the Council Your Say website.		
2.4.15 Renew Recreational Assets		
Number of condition 4 / 5 assets renewed	32 renewals	32 renewals
Comments: The assets that have been replaced include: French Field irrigation, Furniture at Forest Hill Playground Furniture at Crisp Drive Playground Harris Park Drainage Renewal Furniture at Gissing Oval Playgrounds		
2.4.16 Conduct the Playgrounds inspection and maintenance program		
Number of playgrounds inspections undertaken	372 inspections	372 inspections
Comments: All playgrounds have been regularly inspected throughout the year. Maintenance work was carried out where required.		
2.5 PROVIDE RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS		
2.5.1 Provide aquatic facilities and programs		
Number of visitations	300,000 visits	292,763 visits
Swim and Survive bookings	5,600 bookings	9,351 bookings
Community Engagement: Yes we engage the community via the Oasis Facebook page and Web page to inform them of activities and programs on offer. We also engage the community via user groups Schools, RLSSA, Sporting clubs e.g. Swimming, Diving, Water Polo and others.		
2.5.2 Run professional development workshops for recreation and sporting clubs		
Workshops undertaken	4 workshop	7 workshop
Comments: Council staff have undertaken a number of workshops to assist various sporting groups in the city with master planning over the last year. These include Wagga Rugby League, Equex Outdoor Association, Wagga Cricket and the Wagga Combined Cycle Clubs. Council recreation staff conducted 2 grants workshops for all community groups that applied for Council's annual grants.		
WE ARE A HEALTHY COMMUNITY		
2.6 IMPLEMENT PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY INITIATIVES		
2.6.1 Deliver food safety and health education program		
Number of resource developed and distributed	4 resource	4 resource
2.6.2 Investigate reported incidents or complaints of roaming livestock, dog attacks and nuisance animals		
Percentage of incidents attended / investigated within 5 business days	100%	99%
Percentage of reported dog attack incidents investigated with 2 business days	100%	100%
Percentage of reported incidents investigated within 5 business days	100%	98%
2.6.3 Maintain Glenfield Road Animal Shelter operations		
Animals released from shelter	80%	93%
2.6.4 Provide regulatory service for parking enforcement and abandon vehicles		
Respond to regulatory requests within 3 working days	100%	93%
2.6.5 Administer street furniture licenses and display of goods		

	TARGET	ACTUAL
Percentage of alfresco dining furniture licenses issued within 3 business days	90%	95%
Percentage of activity applications approved/processed within 3 business days	90%	98%
2.6.6 Provide development compliance services		
Respond to regulatory requests within 3 business days	90%	95%
2.6.7 Implement regulatory and compliance programs		
Retail food business premises inspected	100%	100%
Skin penetration, hairdressing and mortuary business premises inspected	100%	100%
Customer complaints responded to within 5 days	100%	100%
2.6.8 Conduct the Safe Sharps Disposal Program		
Scheduled inspections/collections undertaken	100%	100%
Customer requests responded to within 24 hours	100%	100%
2.7 PROVIDE AND IMPLEMENT AN INSPECTION FRAMEWORK THAT SUPPORTS PUBLIC SAFETY		
2.7.1 Undertake swimming pool compliance inspections		
Percentage of pools located in tourist and visitor accommodation and premises with more than 2 dwellings inspected	100%	100%
Percentage of swimming pools inspected on premises for sale or lease inspected	100%	100%
Comments: 150 inspections were undertaken of residential swimming pools the subject of sale or lease of the property during this period.		
2.7.2 Implement provisions of the Awnings Policy		
Premises on the Council's Awning Register are forwarded annual awnings maintenance reminder letters	100%	100%
Comments: Awnings reminder letters sent in March 2016. Target achieved.		
2.8 PROVIDE WASTE MANAGEMENT SERVICES		
2.8.1 Provision of kerbside waste collection		
Kerbside missed bins do not breach contractual conditions to ensure level of service	860 missed bins	463 missed bins
2.8.2 Provide Landfill Waste Operations		
Compliance with Environmental Protection Licence	100%	100%
Comments: All environmental protection licence were adhered to without incident.		
2.8.3 Conduct on-site sewage management inspection		
Percentage of scheduled on-site management system inspected	100%	100%

3 WE HAVE A GROWING ECONOMY

	TARGET	ACTUAL
WE HAVE A SKILLED WORKFORCE		
3.1 IMPLEMENT AND DEVELOP STRATEGIES TO ATTRACT AND RETAIN HIGHLY SKILLED NEW RESIDENTS TO WAGGA WAGGA		
3.1.1 Provide assistance to prospective residents and new residents		
Business Wagga and Evocities website updates	12 updates	12 updates
Contribute to the Evocities campaign	12 contributions	12 contributions
Comments: The Evocities program is coming up to its sixth birthday with Interest from families and couples still very strong. People are finding that they can get a better work life balance in a regional City like Wagga Wagga. Visitation for the year to the main websites include: www.evocities.com.au - 94,109 and www.evojobs.com.au was 357,403		
THERE IS GROWING BUSINESS INVESTMENT IN OUR COMMUNITY		
3.2 ENSURE WAGGA WAGGA AIRPORT IS A MARKET LEADER IN DELIVERING REGIONAL AIR SERVICES		
3.2.1 Promote Wagga Wagga Airport as a regional business hub and key contributor to the regional economy		
Develop a Marketing Strategy	100%	100%
3.3 ENSURE THE LIVESTOCK MARKETING CENTRE IS A MARKET LEADER IN PROVIDING LIVESTOCK SALES AND SERVICES		
3.3.1 Ensure the Livestock Marketing Centre is a market leader in providing livestock sales and services		
Implement the 2015/2016 Livestock Marketing Centre Strategic Master Plan actions	100%	-
3.3.2 Manage Livestock Marketing Centre operations in accordance with industry regulations and stakeholder requirements		
Maintain National Saleyard Quality Assurance accreditation	100%	100%
Number of user group meetings held	1	1
3.3.3 Implement scheduled capital works from the Livestock Marketing Centre Strategic Master Plan		
Scheduled works completed	100%	100%
TOURISM IS A LARGE INDUSTRY IN OUR COMMUNITY		
3.5 PROMOTE A POSITIVE IMAGE OF COUNCIL IN BOTH THE LOCAL COMMUNITY AND THE BROADER REGION		
3.5.1 Provide organisational graphic design		
Respond to internal requests for graphic design within 5 business days	100%	100%

	TARGET	ACTUAL
Respond to requests to develop material and support usage of the of the City Brand across Council and the community	100%	100%
Review Corporate Brand guidelines	100%	100%
Comments: Requests for graphic design this year has been the highest since the position commenced 5 years ago. Re-branding of Council facilities and design of corporate documents and events has been the major focus for the year. Major projects for this quarter included: Visit Wagga Partner Program, Wagga Shop branding, NAIDOC Week, Delivery Program Operational Plan, Long Term Financial Plan, Comedy Festival, SeeRiverina and the ongoing publication of Council News.		
3.6 DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT TOURISM ACTIVITIES AND PLANS TO ATTRACT VISITORS TO WAGGA WAGGA		
3.6.1 Assist with tourism product and industry promotion		
What's On Guides produced	12 guides	12 guides
Visit Wagga website updates	12 updates	12 updates
Social media posts	48 posts	48 posts
Visitor Economy Guides updated	2 update	2 update
Comments: The Visit Wagga website had almost 350,000 visits for the year, growth of over 7% on 2014-15. Followers of Visit Wagga Wagga channels across Facebook, Twitter and Instagram grew by 72%. In particular, Instagram has driven this growth with a 333% increase in followers over the year.		
3.6.2 Collaborate with state and regional partners to increase visitation to Wagga Wagga and the region		
Update Destination NSW website	12 updates	12 updates
Riverina Regional Tourism meetings	4 meeting	5 meeting
Comments: Collaboration with regional councils is ongoing through SeeRiverina (formerly AppVenture) and the development of a new Visitor Guide.		
3.6.3 Advocate for and support the delivery of regional, state and national sporting events		
Events held	8	10
Comments: During this quarter the following sporting events were delivered NEAFL Cup AFL match Hockey NSW U13 Girls State Championship		
THERE IS GOVERNMENT INVESTMENT TO DEVELOP OUR COMMUNITY		
3.7 PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO COMMUNITY GROUPS AND PROJECTS		
3.7.1 Administer the Community Grants Program		
Finalise payment of the 2015/2016 grants	100%	100%
Advertise the 2016/2017 grants program	100%	100%
Information workshops held	100%	100%
Assess applications	100%	100%
Comments: Applications closed on 31 May for the Annual Grants Program 2016/17, Applications were assessed in June by a Councillor, Community Representative and Council staff. Recommendations will be endorsed on 25 July at the Ordinary Council Meeting. A presentation evening with the Mayor and media will be held on 18 August 2016.		

3

WE HAVE A SUSTAINABLE BUILT + NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

	TARGET	ACTUAL
WE MONITOR THE QUALITY OF OUR ENVIRONMENT		
4.1 EFFECTIVELY MANAGE WATER RESOURCES		
4.1.1 Undertake water quality monitoring of Lake Albert, Wollundry Lagoon and the Murrumbidgee River		
Water quality monitoring of local waterways	12 samples	12 samples
4.1.2 Undertake monitoring of groundwater levels and salinity of bores		
Groundwater bores monitored and recorded	800 bores	750 bores
We promote environmental sustainability through education and through sustainable practices		
4.2 IMPLEMENT THE RESOURCE RECOVERY STRATEGY		
4.2.1 Implement the Resource Recovery Strategy		
Complete the Local Government Waste and Resource Recovery Data Survey	100%	100%
Comments: Report was completed in August 2015		
4.3 IMPLEMENT ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTICES AND INITIATIVES		
4.3.1 Identify and implement resource efficiency initiatives		
Resource efficiency initiatives to be completed	2 initiative	2 initiative
4.3.2 Monitor and report on Council's environmental performance		
Utility consumption data provided to facility managers	4 report	3 report
4.4 IMPLEMENT COMMUNITY PROGRAMS TO IMPROVE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY		
4.4.1 Coordinate events, workshops and educational material for the community on environmental sustainability		
Number of events run	4 event	5 event
Number of workshops run	8 workshops	47 workshops
4.5 MINIMISE DETRIMENTAL IMPACTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT		
4.5.1 Coordinate environmental compliance activities		
Percentage of breaches investigated within two weeks	90%	95%
Number of dumped rubbish sites cleaned up	200sites	284 sites
Number of industrial trade waste to sewer samples taken	36 samples	26 samples
We improve the quality of our environment		
4.6 PROTECT AND ENHANCE NATURAL AREAS		
4.6.1 Renew Lake Albert Management Plan		
Plan adopted by Council	100%	50%

	TARGET	ACTUAL
Comments: The draft Lake Albert Management Plan is currently being developed and is nearing completion. It is expected to be completed over the coming months. Options for the capture of ground water are currently being reviewed. The results of this review will assist in informing the plan.		
4.6.2 Implement a program of improvements to natural areas		
Revegetation/restoration project undertaken	100%	100%
4.6.3 Undertake condition surveys of Council managed reserve		
Number of surveys completed	20 surveys	15 surveys
4.6.4 Implement the noxious weed control program		
Number of kilometres of roadside sprayed	2,400 km	3,600 km
Number of hectares of reserves sprayed	1600 ha	800 ha
4.6.5 Undertake biodiversity condition surveys of Council managed reserves		
Number of assessment surveys completed	20 surveys	10 surveys
4.6.6 Undertake the noxious weed inspection program		
Number of inspections completed	320 inspections	247 inspections
4.7 MANAGE CONTAMINATED SITES		
4.7.1 Monitor contaminated sites		
Contaminated sites monitored	100%	100%
We maintain our current and future infrastructure		
4.8 PLAN, CONSTRUCT, MAINTAIN AND MANAGE SEALED ROADS		
4.8.1 Capital renewal - reseal program		
Sealed road resealed	250,000 m2	430,000 m2
Sealed road pavement rehabilitation	50,000 m2	30,000 m2
Comments: The 2015/16 reseal program and sealed road pavement rehabilitation programs were successfully completed. Some of the roads rehabilitated include Plumpton Road, Old Narrandera Road, Fitzhardinge Street and The Gap Road.		
4.8.2 Replace Kerb and Gutter		
Kerb and gutters replaced	2,000 m	440 m
Comments: The kerb on Johnston Street between Simmons Street and Trail Street was replaced during 2015/16.		
4.8.3 Complete Amendsen Bridge - Boorooma East to Boorooma		
Execution	100%	0
Closure	100%	0
4.8.4 Complete Bakers Lane widening		
Execution	100%	0
Closure	100%	0
Comments: This project has been placed on hold until the completion of the Wagga Wagga Integrated Transport Strategy.		
4.8.5 Complete Red Hill Road and Hudson Drive intersection improvements		
Initiation	100%	15%
4.9 PLAN, CONSTRUCT, MAINTAIN AND MANAGE UNSEALED ROADS		
4.9.1 Gravel Resheets		
Kilometres of road gravel resheeted	40 kms	42 kms

	TARGET	ACTUAL
Comments: This program is an annual program and will continue next financial year. The work on this program will continue on our unsealed network when and where it is required.		
4.10 PLAN, CONSTRUCT, MAINTAIN AND MANAGE STREETSCAPES		
4.10.1 Bus Shelter Upgrade		
Routine maintenance undertaken as scheduled	100%	0%
Comments: No bus shelters were upgraded during 2015/16. The upgrades will occur during 2016/17		
4.11 PLAN, CONSTRUCT, MAINTAIN AND MANAGE PATHWAYS		
4.11.1 Construct, maintain and renew footpaths, shared paths and cycleway		
Number of footpath trip points removed	2,000 trip points	365 m
4.12 PLAN, CONSTRUCT, MAINTAIN AND MANAGE LEVEES		
4.12.1 Upgrade Main City (1 in 100) + North Wagga (1 in 20) Levee Systems		
Designs completed	100%	100%
Comments: The detailed design was completed during May 2016. Council has received \$4M in grant funding from the State Government to commence construction.		
4.13 PLAN, CONSTRUCT, MAINTAIN AND MANAGE SEWER SYSTEMS		
4.13.1 Provision of sewage treatment plant operations		
Compliance with Environmental Protection Licence Standards for Treatment of Sewage	100%	100%
Comments: All sewage treatment plants have been operating within Environmental Protection Licences and best practice operations		
4.13.2 Provision of sewer operations, reticulation		
Percentage of all call outs within 1hr during business hours or 2hrs outside of business hours	90%	90%
Kilometres of sewer main and associated house connections rehabilitated	3 km	3 km
Comments: All targets were achieved for this financial year regarding call outs.		
4.13.3 Process liquid trade waste discharges into the sewerage system in accordance with the NSW Office of Waters Liquid Trade Waste Regulation Guidelines		
Percentage of liquid trade waste discharges into the sewerage system in accordance with the NSW Office of Waters Liquid Trade Waste Regulation Guidelines	100%	100%
Comments: All new applications for approval to discharge liquid trade waste to sewer are up to date.		
4.14 PLAN, CONSTRUCT, MAINTAIN AND MANAGE DRAINAGE SYSTEMS		
4.14.1 Deliver annual Stormwater and flood mitigation network works program		
System inspected and cleaned	2,000 m	2,000 m
Number of Flood gates inspections	2 inspection	2 inspection
Number of Levee bank inspections	2 inspection	2 inspection
COMMENTS: INSPECTIONS ON BOTH LEVEE BANKS AND FLOOD GATES HAVE BEEN CONDUCTED.		

	TARGET	ACTUAL
4.15 PLAN, CONSTRUCT, MAINTAIN AND MANAGE COMMUNITY BUILDINGS		
4.15.1 Deliver appropriately maintained buildings fit for purpose		
Percentage of complaints responded to within 48 hours	100%	100%
Comments: Council buildings are maintained in a fit for purpose condition utilising a number of service contacts including Cleaning, Security and Trade Services.		
4.15.2 Administer leasing and licensing of Council owned or Council controlled property		
Council properties vacancy rate under 5%	5%	3%
Comments: Lease and licence portfolio managed to ensure timely renewal of expiring agreements, actioning of rent reviews and conducting of expressions of interest for vacant land.		
4.15.3 Administer real property dealings		
Percentage of occasions when response actions are initiated within 10 working days	100%	92.5%
Comments: Enquires addressed within 10 days unless the necessity for research or another stakeholders contribution delays the sending of an informed response.		
4.15.4 Upgrade of Backstage Equipment - Civic Theatre		
Percentage of schedule maintenance performance	100%	100%
Comments: The Civic Theatre has a regular maintenance schedule that is delivered each quarter. This includes painting the stage, replacing globes, technical repairs, air-conditioning and plumbing.		
4.15.5 Maintain Art Gallery infrastructure and operations to National Industry standards		
Conduct annual review of Art Gallery infrastructure	1 review	1 review
Review Art Gallery policies and procedures	1 review	2 review
Comments: The Art Gallery infrastructure has been maintained to high standards throughout the past twelve months, while operational standards, including policies, procedures and workplace health and safety practices, have been regularly reviewed and upgraded to maximise visitor satisfaction and support for artistic excellence.		
4.16 IMPLEMENT SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT PRACTICES		
4.16.1 Manage Council's Procurement services		
Percentage of purchases that fully comply with Government Procurement Guidelines	100%	97.5%
4.16.2 Manage Council's Stores Services		
Stock turnover ratio of Council stores	4	4
Percentage of purchases that fully comply with Government Procurement Guidelines	100%	73.8%
Average utilisation of major plant	75%	76%
4.16.3 Manage the purchase and disposal of Council's Vehicle and Mobile Plant Fleet		
Percentage of purchases that fully comply with Government Procurement Guidelines	100%	100%
WE PLAN FOR A GROWING COMMUNITY		
4.17 MAINTAIN AND UPDATE STRATEGIC LAND USE PLANS		
4.17.1 Prepare amendments to the Wagga Wagga Local Environmental Plan (LEP) 2010 and Development Control Plan (DCP) 2010		

	TARGET	ACTUAL
Number of planning proposals prepared and submitted to the Department of Planning & Environment	1 proposal	2 proposal
Number of amendments to the Development Control Plan are prepared	1 amendment	3 amendment
Comments: Two planning proposals have been prepared to amend the Wagga Wagga Local Environmental Plan 2010		
Community Engagement: Both Planning Proposal were placed on public exhibition for a minimum of 28 days.		
4.17.2 Implement the Wagga Wagga Spatial Plan 2013/43 short term actions		
Prepare a Rural Land Strategy to inform LEP and DCP amendments	50%	25%
Prepare a Residential Strategy to inform LEP and DCP amendments	50%	25%
4.17.3 Implement actions from the Section 94 Developer Contributions review		
Prepare an Integrated Transport Strategy	50%	75%
Commence planning necessary to identify main street upgrade projects consistent with the Wagga Wagga Retail Growth Strategy 2010-2015	25%	10%
4.18 ASSESS AND DETERMINE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS		
4.18.1 Process and issue Section 149 (2) and 149 (5) Planning Certificates		
Applications processed within 5 working days	90%	100%
4.18.2 Assess and determine Development applications, Construction Certificates and Building Certificates		
Development applications determined within 40 days of receipt	80%	83.3%
Construction Certificates (CC) applications determined within 40 days of approval of Development Application	70%	84.9%
Building Certificate Applications determined within 21 business days	70%	54.2%
Comments: A total of 210 DA's were determined, 174 (82%) were determined within 40 days, good result. A total of 138 CC's were determined, 118 (.85%) were determined within 40 days, good result. A total of 42 149D's were determined, 17 (40%) were determined within 27 calendar days.		
4.18.3 Administer Subdivision Certificate and Sewerage and Drainage applications		
Subdivision Certificate Applications are determined within 10 days business timeframe	70%	77.4%
Assess and determine Section 68 (Public) Sewerage and Drainage applications within 7 business days	80%	47%
Comments: Subdivision Certificates are on track. Section 68 permits need improvement. Will investigate how to better monitor Section 68 permit times.		
Explanation / Remedial Action: Will investigate how to better monitor Section 68 permit times. Two applications were held up due to difficult site conditions and the need to seek input from Infrastructure staff.		

CAPITAL PROJECTS

PROJECT	REVISED BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	COMMITMENTS	TOTAL	UNEXPENDED BUDGET	REMAINING BUDGET	STATUS
16574 Bomen RIFL - Project Management/Development/Planning	\$20,010,000	\$1,198,648	\$170,740	\$1,369,388	\$18,640,612	93.16%	
17082 Wiradjuri Reserve Cable Fence	\$3,026	\$585	\$0	\$585	\$2,441	80.67%	
17744 Riverside - Hampden Bridge Legacy Project	\$17,985	\$4,537	\$13,500	\$18,037	\$52	0.28%	
45069 LMC - Computer network upgrades	\$50,000	\$35,814	\$1,320	\$37,134	\$12,866	25.73%	
45071 LMC - Road overlays	\$165,000	\$1,650	\$0	\$1,650	\$163,350	99.00%	
45049 LMC Treatment of Re-use Water	\$300,000	\$16,577	\$0	\$16,577	\$283,423	94.47%	
45078 Additional Cattle Unloading Ramp	\$75,000	\$750	\$0	\$750	\$74,250	99.00%	
45079 LMC - Additional Draft & Selling Pens in Cattle Yards	\$350,000	\$4,052	\$0	\$4,052	\$345,948	98.84%	
45080 LMC Ablutions Block Expansion	\$150,000	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,500	\$148,500	99.00%	
45081 LMC - Relocate Trucking Yards	\$200,000	\$2,000	\$0	\$2,000	\$198,000	99.00%	
47278 Airport - Design + Construct - Upgrade to Code C: Taxiways A, B, D, E	\$0	\$3,334	\$0	\$3,334	-\$3,334	0.00%	
16820 Welcoming - Roundabouts	\$55,000	\$27,355	\$427	\$27,782	\$27,218	49.49%	
16821 Connecting - NightLights/BrightLights	\$100,000	\$82,341	\$0	\$82,341	\$17,659	17.86%	
16823 Connecting - Exhibition Centre & Bolton Pk	\$80,000	\$800	\$0	\$800	\$79,200	99.00%	
16825 Placeshaping - VillageWorks	\$75,000	\$75,500	\$0	\$75,500	-\$500	0.00%	
16826 Placeshaping - NeighbourWorks	\$55,000	\$51,673	\$0	\$51,673	\$3,327	6.05%	
16827 Placeshaping - ArtWorks	\$14,000	\$7,540	\$0	\$7,540	\$6,460	46.14%	
17456 Willans Hill Dual Use Track Alignment Fencing	\$12,500	\$13,565	\$0	\$13,565	-\$1,065	0.00%	
45086 Wash Pump Replacement/Upgrade	\$120,000	\$103,615	\$0	\$103,615	\$16,385	13.65%	
15566 Deliver major overland flow flood risk management plan	\$29,860	\$18,740	\$0	\$18,740	\$11,120	37.24%	
14065 GPIMS Budget (excluding Tuffbooks purchase)	\$8,672	\$17,866	\$0	\$17,866	-\$9,194	0.00%	
13947 Bomen Infrastructure Implementation - Eunony Deviation	\$200,585	\$179,420	\$0	\$179,420	\$21,165	10.55%	
17425 2015/16 Blackspot Program - Red Hill Rd & Kimberley Drive	\$82,120	\$82,121	\$0	\$82,121		0.00%	

PROJECT	REVISED BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	COMMITMENTS	TOTAL	UNEXPENDED BUDGET	REMAINING BUDGET	STATUS
17426 2015/16 Blackspot Program - Kincaid St & Beckwith St	\$30,275	\$30,275	\$0	\$30,275	\$0	0.00%	
17451 Restart NSW -Coolamon Rd (MR240) Upg 1.8km	\$331,000	\$331,186	\$0	\$331,186	-\$186.00	0.00%	
17673 MR384 Tumarumba Rd Rehab (South of Hume Hwy)	\$120,000	\$120,012	\$0	\$120,012	-\$12	0.00%	
17686 Butterbush Rd Turning-Head	\$30,000	\$1,081	\$6,168	\$7,249	\$22,751	75.84%	
17696 Fernleigh Rd West of Glenfield Rd (traffic)	\$20,000	\$200	\$0	\$200	\$19,800	99.00%	
17697 Leavenworth Dr St Lighting at Pedestrian Crossing (traffic)	\$10,857	\$4,011	\$15,608	\$19,619	-\$8,762	0.00%	
17698 Esplanade Pedestrian Facility near Best St (traffic)	\$21,447	\$4,180	\$17,267	\$21,447	\$0	0.00%	
17699 Old Narrandera Rd at Malebo Hill (traffic)	\$25,766	\$26,063	\$0	\$26,063	-\$297	0.00%	
17700 Tompson St & Tarcutta St Intersection (traffic)	\$45,000	\$9,322	\$13,748	\$23,070	\$21,930	48.73%	
17701 Maher Ave & Adjin St Intersection (traffic)	\$4,000	\$133	\$0	\$133	\$3,867	96.68%	
17702 Benedict Ave & Michael Ave Intersection (traffic)	\$5,000	\$50	\$0	\$50	\$4,950	99.00%	
17703 Copland St width of road seal (traffic)	\$150,000	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000	\$149,000	99.33%	
17704 Tumba Rd Ladysmith Bus Bay (traffic)	\$20,000	\$29,274	\$0	\$29,274	-\$9,274	0.00%	
17705 Hampden Ave at Nth Wagga Public School (traffic)	\$7,500	\$531	\$5,945	\$6,476	\$1,024	13.65%	
17706 Marrar Rd Intersection with Coolamon Rd (traffic) design only	\$3,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,500	100.00%	
17788 MR384 Tumarumba Rd Rehab (Ladysmith & Sturt Hwy)	\$345,040	\$340,080	\$0	\$340,080	\$4,960	1.44%	
15080 Explorer Park -Amundsen St Embellishment & Landscaping	\$365,186	\$36,300	\$179,554	\$215,854	\$149,332	40.89%	
15081 Lineal Park Boorooma (Promenade - Amundsen) - Corridor Recreation Improvements	\$913,100	\$42,346	\$202,490	\$244,836	\$668,264	73.19%	
15095 Construction of Bourkelands Neighbourhood Park	\$126,373	\$125,813	\$1,674	\$127,487	-\$1,114	0.00%	
16005 Equex Multi Purpose Stadium	\$29,993	\$95,485	\$13,236	\$108,721	-\$78,728	0.00%	
15265 Sportsground Lighting - Jubilee Park	\$514,600	\$480,756	\$15,507	\$496,263	\$18,337	3.56%	
16217 Copland St Land Acquisition	\$21,753	\$9,000	\$9,295	\$18,295	\$3,458	15.90%	
13687 Open Space and Rec Study	\$185,000	\$4,580	\$0	\$4,580	\$180,420	97.52%	
15140 Animal Shelter Expansion	\$71,900	\$26,586	\$27,557	\$54,143	\$17,757	24.70%	
17455 Apex Park Improvements (Boating Now Infrastructure Program)	\$700,000	\$402,750	\$149,199	\$551,949	\$148,051	21.15%	
17638 Glenfield Rd Animal Shelter CCTV	\$22,500	\$22,834	\$0	\$22,834	-\$334	0.00%	
17663 Robertson Oval Infrastructure Development	\$133,100	\$134,874	\$1,306	\$136,180	-\$3,080	0.00%	

PROJECT	REVISED BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	COMMITMENTS	TOTAL	UNEXPENDED BUDGET	REMAINING BUDGET	STATUS
17694 Marrambidya Wetland Enhancements	\$30,000	\$30,024	\$480	\$30,504	-\$504	0.00%	
17695 Exhibition Centre Heavy Vehicle Access	\$50,600	\$46,310	\$0	\$46,310	\$4,290	8.48%	
28099 Oasis Tile Repairs/Floor Surfacing	\$121,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$121,000	100.00%	
14042 Civic Centre Air Conditioning Upgrade	\$143,356	\$135,973	\$5,584	\$141,559	-\$1,799	0.00%	
14817 Community Amenities - Jubilee Park Clubhouse	\$81,866	\$40,990	\$0	\$40,990	\$40,876	49.93%	
14818 Community Amenities - Botanic Gardens Kidsville	\$22,613	\$7,704	\$0	\$7,704	\$14,909	65.93%	
14866 Lineal Park - Boorooma - Acquisition Costs	\$370,000	\$279,279	\$350	\$279,629	\$90,371	24.42%	
17046 Civic Centre Lift Control Upgrade	\$91,629	\$93,450	\$0	\$93,450	-\$1,821	0.00%	
17480 Douglas Aerospace Purchase of Plant & Equipment	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$0	\$30,000	\$0	0.00%	
17482 Douglas Aerospace Hangar Works	\$578,466	\$410,904	\$139,990	\$550,894	\$27,572	4.77%	
15227 Village Overland Flow Flood Study	\$1,899	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,899	100.00%	
17069 Floodplain Risk Mgt Study & Plan 2014-15-FM-0130	\$110,000	\$25,300	\$125,698	\$150,998	-\$40,998	0.00%	
14814 Sportsground Lighting - Duke of Kent	\$70,559	\$18,363	\$42,764	\$61,127	\$9,432	13.37%	
16392 Lawn Cemetery Master Plan Stage 2A Works	\$292,165	\$24,455	\$55,041	\$79,496	\$212,669	72.79%	
17672 Cemetery - Septic Tank Replacement	\$30,000	\$26,970	\$0	\$26,970	\$3,030	10.10%	
15084 Farrer Road Widening & Reconstruction	\$126,354	\$334	\$0	\$334	\$126,020	99.74%	
12916 Implement Stormwater Drainage - Tarcoola Rd - Wagga East DSP Area	\$343,205	\$288	\$0	\$288	\$342,917	99.92%	
14034 Lakeside Drive Rehabilitation	\$123,369	\$108,353	\$491	\$108,844	\$14,525	11.77%	
14045 New Amenities Building at Duke of Kent Oval	\$465,512	\$368,880	\$97,100	\$465,980	-\$468	0.00%	
15093 Construction for renewal of Tolland Neighbourhood Skatepark	\$164,536	\$163,624	\$0	\$163,624	\$912	0.55%	
15145 Conolly Park Rugby Expansion	\$30,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$30,000	100.00%	
15531 Narrung St Wetlands Project	\$683,287	\$560,247	\$143,100	\$703,347	-\$20,060	0.00%	
16027 Implement Riverside Masterplan Landscaping	\$43,159	\$42,967	\$0	\$42,967	\$192	0.44%	
17053 Eunony Bridge Replacement	\$40,000	\$40,238	\$6,000	\$46,238	-\$6,238	0.00%	
17088 Reconstruct Byrnes Rd/ Eunony Bridge Rd -HVS	\$2,552,000	\$712,320	\$175,276	\$887,596	\$1,664,404	65.22%	
50022 Mangoplah STW Construction	\$932,246	\$377,333	\$13,162	\$390,495	\$541,751	58.11%	
50221 Narrung St Treatment Plant Flood Protection Infrastructure	\$980,816	\$790,722	\$24,160	\$814,882	\$165,934	16.92%	
52047 Mangoplah Reticulation Construction	\$691,451	\$449,160	\$43,830	\$492,990	\$198,461	28.70%	
70041 GWMC Construction of New Cell	\$2,143,506	\$860,516	\$5,750	\$866,266	\$1,277,240	59.59%	

PROJECT	REVISED BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	COMMITMENTS	TOTAL	UNEXPENDED BUDGET	REMAINING BUDGET	STATUS
17697 Leavenworth Dr pedestrian crossing lighting upgrade.	\$10,857	\$4,011	\$4,011	\$19,619	-\$8,762	0.00%	
15243 Upgrade Main City (1 in 100) + North Wagga (1 in 20) Levee Systems	\$160,407	\$78,461	\$163	\$78,624	\$81,783	50.98%	
50278 SPS12 CSU Renewals	\$231,824	\$527	\$0	\$527	\$231,297	99.77%	
50290 SPS56 Moorong St Renewals	\$130,386	\$373	\$0	\$373	\$130,013	99.71%	
50268 STW Narrung St General Improvements	\$200,000	\$74,921	\$8,500	\$83,421	\$116,579	58.29%	
50312 Forsyth St New Sewer Pump Station	\$150,000	\$1,988	\$0	\$1,988	\$148,012	98.67%	
50313 Sewer Pump Stations - Structural Report	\$100,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$100,000	100.00%	
13296 Fernleigh Rd Trickle flow from Culvert north west of	\$386,106	\$845	\$0	\$845	\$385,261	99.78%	
16340 Flood Recovery 15/10/10 - Flowerdale Lagoon Outlet	\$125,615	\$127,519	\$0	\$127,519	-\$1,904	1.52%	
16372 Flood Recovery 02/12/10 - Repair Flood Gate 15A	\$60,611	\$4,113	\$0	\$4,113	\$56,498	93.21%	
16840 Flood Recovery March 2012 - Open Drain R1, McNickle Rd	\$16,540	\$0	\$16,536	\$16,536	\$4	0.02%	
16841 Flood Recovery March 2012 - Open Drain R2, Glenfield Rd	\$90,600	\$2,694	\$97,955	\$100,649	-\$10,049	0.00%	
16847 Flood Recovery March 2012 - Open Drain R12, Glenfield Rd - Bunnings	\$9,508	\$668	\$10,118	\$10,786	-\$1,278	0.00%	
50058 Oura Sewer Pump Station Pressure Reticulation Construction	\$122,482	\$36,049	\$0	\$36,049	\$86,433	70.57%	
50172 Upgrade Sewerage pump station Control system	\$128,440	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$128,440	100.00%	
50222 Bomen Industrial Sewer Treatment Facility Land Acquisition	\$34,716	\$35,861	\$0	\$35,861	-\$1,145	0.00%	
70059 Complete Gregadoo Waste Management Centre cell capping	\$250,000	\$28,625	\$0	\$28,625	\$221,375	88.55%	
70078 GWMC - Alternate Waste Treatment Facility	\$500,000	\$159,409	\$58,998	\$218,407	\$281,593	56.32%	
13685 Transport/Movement Strategy	\$248,000	\$154,040	\$86,784	\$240,824	\$7,176	2.89%	
50256 SPS30 Bomen New Assets	\$400,000	\$80,725	\$213,641	\$294,366	\$105,634	26.41%	
50296 STW Forest Hill Plant Renewals	\$165,000	\$61,755	\$0	\$61,755	\$103,245	62.57%	
50301 Forest Hill STP Effluent Storage Ponds Transfer Structures	\$61,482	\$10,176	\$5,100	\$15,276	\$46,206	75.15%	
50302 Forest Hill STP EPA Point 1 Tfr Pit & Assoc Structures	\$52,898	\$4,946	\$0	\$4,946	\$47,952	90.65%	
50310 Uranquinty Rock Protection	\$290,116	\$124,980	\$29,066	\$154,046	\$136,070	46.90%	
70084 Carbon Mate Relocation	\$49,081	\$11,868	\$33,912	\$45,780	\$3,301	6.73%	
19504 Acquire pieces for the Australian Print Collection	\$7,000	\$6,761	\$0	\$6,761	\$239	3.41%	
19505 Acquire pieces for the National Art Glass Collection	\$17,500	\$17,128	\$0	\$17,128	\$372	2.13%	

PROJECT	REVISED BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	COMMITMENTS	TOTAL	UNEXPENDED BUDGET	REMAINING BUDGET	STATUS
17458 Clare Avenue RoB Drainage	\$200,000	\$16,232	\$0	\$16,232	\$183,768	91.88%	
17459 Norton St Stormwater Drainage	\$140,000	\$139,787	\$0	\$139,787	\$213	0.15%	
17823 Tony Ireland Park Drainage Fencing	\$10,901	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$10,901	100.00%	
17824 Morgan/Docker St Drain Fencing	\$19,780	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$19,780	100.00%	
50200 SPS 22 Elizabeth St - New SPS Mech/Elec	\$102,700	\$104,638	\$0	\$104,638	-\$1,938	0.00%	
19503 Upgrade of Backstage Equipment - Civic Theatre	\$10,000	\$11,214	\$0	\$11,214	-\$1,214	0.00%	
16529 Capital renewal - reseal program	\$1,945,139	\$1,719,050	\$0	\$1,719,050	\$226,089	11.62%	
39868 Replace Kerb and Gutter	\$405,962	\$380,512	\$0	\$38,512	\$25,450	6.27%	
24218 Gravel Resheets	\$1,840,127	\$1,911,747	\$0	\$1,911,747	-\$71,620	0.00%	
12498 Bus Shelter Upgrade	\$20,000	\$947	\$0	\$947	\$19,053	95.27%	
12673 Construct, maintain and renew footpaths, shared paths and cycleway	\$181,618	\$163,297	\$2,364	\$165,661	\$15,957	8.79%	
15181 Implement unfunded Traffic Committee resolutions as adopted by Council	\$21,000	\$52,682	\$0	\$52,682	-\$31,682	0.00%	
12786 Street Lighting Improvements Program-RTA (as per schedule)	\$148,389	\$33,690	\$41,285	\$74,975	\$73,414	49.47%	
16531 Conduct Heavy Patching Program	\$733,868	\$434,836	\$0	\$434,836	\$299,032	40.74%	
30044 Conduct Urban Asphalt Program	\$2,215,947	\$2,121,578	\$0	\$2,121,578	\$94,369	4.26%	
15230 Renew and Replace Culverts	\$528,818	\$551,639	\$0	\$551,639	-\$22,821	0.00%	
12231 Playground Equipment Replacement as per schedule	\$253,826	\$70,081	\$0	\$70,080	\$183,745	72.39%	
15271 Renew Recreational Assets	\$20,000	\$20,180	\$0	\$20,180	-\$180	0.00%	
16089 Renew Parks Facilities	\$108,648	\$99,946	\$0	\$99,946	\$8,702	8.00%	
16090 Renew Recreational Facilities	\$130,206	\$128,663	\$0	\$128,663	\$1,543	1.19%	
Replace Plant and Equipment	\$4,900,000	\$1,942,450	\$0	\$1,942,450	\$2,957,550	60.36%	
16532 Pavement Rehabilitation Program	\$2,003,739	\$1,759,887	\$0	\$1,759,887	\$243,852	12.17%	
51390 Eliminate Sewer Joint Connections	\$140,809	\$8,357	\$0	\$8,357	\$132,452	94.07%	
50027 Implement renewal program for Gravity Sewer	\$130,000	\$134,079	\$0	\$134,079	-\$4,079	0.00%	
50018 Sewer Main Rehab Program	\$1,445,013	\$887,190	\$398,659	\$1,285,849	\$159,164	11.01%	
50024 Replacement and Renewal of Sewer Plant	\$50,000	\$25,023	\$0	\$25,023	\$24,977	49.95%	
12665 Flood Pumps - Progressively Upgrade Pumps	\$40,400	\$404	\$0	\$404	\$39,996	99.00%	
16003 Stormwater Pollution Traps	\$50,000	\$1,310	\$0	\$1,310	\$48,690	97.38%	

The image features three tall stacks of gold coins in the foreground, set against a background of gold banknotes. The coins are stacked vertically, with the top coin of each stack clearly visible. The background banknotes are slightly out of focus, showing intricate patterns and some text, including the number '100'. The overall color scheme is a warm, golden-yellow, creating a sense of wealth and value.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

2015/16 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

This report provides analysis on Council's 2015/16 Financial Statements. It compares the actual reported financial results against Council's own financial objectives.

Council's Financial Statements are produced in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards and the NSW Local Government Code of Accounting Practice. These statements are independently audited, reported to Council, placed on public exhibition and lodged with the Division of Local Government (DLG) by early November each year.

Under the 1993 NSW Local Government Act, Council is required to produce an audited set of Financial Statements. Key reports produced and included in the statements are:

- ▶ Income Statement
- ▶ Statement of Comprehensive Income
- ▶ Balance Sheet
- ▶ Cash Flow Statement, and
- ▶ Notes to the Financial Statements

SUMMARY OF 2015/16 KEY RESULTS

- ▶ Operating surplus of \$4.26M
- ▶ Net Operating Deficit before capital grants and contributions of \$20.1M
- ▶ Investment Income ▼ \$0.22M as a result of the record low cash rate and maturity of investments that were earning well above current cash rate
- ▶ New Infrastructure, Property, Plant and Equipment of \$32.34M
- ▶ Total assets ▲ 1.56% to \$1,385M as a result of asset additions and renewals

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Council's financial position as at 30 June 2016 has improved in comparison to the previous financial year's result. The draft financial statements show a preliminary net operating deficit of \$20.1M (before capital grants and contributions). This \$20.1M deficit is an unfavourable result compared to the 2014/15 result of \$3.6M deficit.

Council's current liquidity position as determined by the unrestricted current ratio of 3.39:1 shows an improved position for 2015/16. This represents a relatively strong level of liquidity.

Council's 2015/16 Long Term Financial Plan stated proposed borrowings of \$15.75M for a variety of capital projects. In order to delay the need to borrow from the external market, Council funded any expenditure for these capital projects from its internal loans reserve, and will repay the reserve over a 10-year period, beginning in 2016/17.

It is expected that Debt Service Ratio will increase during the delivery of Council's Long Term Financial Plan when a number of proposed capital projects are implemented that are to be funded by external borrowings. While borrowing levels are still quite conservative, the completion of the identified capital projects will increase debt servicing ratios to around 7 percent. Council intends to limit external borrowings to those levels as proposed in the Long Term Financial Plan and will continue to utilise internal borrowings from reserves as was the case this financial year, as an alternative to external loans where funds are available.

As of 30 June 2016 Council held \$31.05M in internal reserves, an increase of \$4.32M on the previous year. This increase has been mainly due to additional funds being held in the Plant & Vehicle Replacement Reserve, Fit for the Future Reserve and Livestock Marketing Centre Reserve.

Council's Unrestricted Cash and Investments are calculated on unrestricted funds and give an indication of Council's working liquidity. As at 30 June 2016, Council held an amount of \$3.03M in available unrestricted cash and investments. This level of working liquidity is considered to be adequate in the short term, and in the future it is proposed to increase this to \$3.5M which is deemed appropriate for a regional Council of this size.

A final review of the 2015/16 budget is performed in tandem with the completion of the financial statements, and major material variations to original budgets are outlined in Note 16 of Council's 2015/16 Financial Statements. Council's result for the year was a surplus of \$984,000 which has improved Council's unrestricted working capital from a deficit of \$2.68M to a \$1.70M deficit.

TREASURY CORPORATION PERFORMANCE MEASURES

The Office of Local Government (OLG) commissioned NSW Treasury Corporation (TCorp) in 2012 to conduct a financial sustainability assessment of all NSW Councils and to establish appropriate benchmark indicators. In developing appropriate benchmark indicators to be used in the analysis, TCorp considered the work undertaken by Queensland Treasury Corporation, the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) and the OLG.

Based on the work previously undertaken, TCorp compiled a list of 10 key benchmarks to use to measure performance on a common basis across all Councils. In 2013/14 these 10 indicators were incorporated into the Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting and as such each NSW Council has since reported them in their Annual Financial Statements.

The below table summarises Council's results based on the TCorp Performance Measures for 2015/16.

RATIO	PURPOSE	WWCC RATIO	TCORP BENCHMARK	MEET BENCHMARK
Operating Performance Ratio	Measures Council's achievement of containing operating expenditure within operating revenue	-17.90%	Minimum 4.00%	✘
Own Source Operating Revenue	Measures fiscal flexibility. Degree of reliance on external funding such as operating grants & contributions	63.70%	Minimum 60.00%	✔
Unrestricted Current Ratio	Assesses adequacy of unrestricted working capital & Council's ability to meet short term obligations as they fall due	3.39	Minimum 1.50	✔
Debt Service Cover Ratio	Measures the availability of operating cash to service debt including interest, principal and lease payments	3.37 times	Minimum 2.00 times	✔
Capital Expenditure Ratio	Assesses the extent to which Council is expanding its asset base with capital expenditure (on new assets, replacement & renewals of existing assets).	0.76 times	Minimum 1.10 times	✘
Infrastructure Backlog Ratio	Shows what proportion of backlog is against the total value of Council's infrastructure.	0.31 times	Minimum 0.01 times; Maximum 0.02 times	✘
Asset Maintenance Ratio	Compares actual vs required maintenance. A ratio of > 1.0x indicates enough has been spent to stop the backlog from growing.	1.47 times	Minimum 1.00 times	✔
Building & Infrastructure Renewals Ratio	Assesses the rate at which these assets are being renewed relative to rate at which they are depreciating.	0.31 times	Minimum 1.00 times	✘
Cash Expense Cover Ratio	Liquidity Ratio that indicates the number of months that Council can continue paying its immediate expenses without additional cashflow.	1.40 months	Minimum 3.00 months	✘
Interest Cover Ratio	Indicates the extent to which a Council can service its interest bearing debt and take on additional borrowings through operating cash.	5.29 times	Minimum 4.00 times	✔

INCOME SUMMARY

TOTAL INCOME

▼ 4.87% TO \$127.27M

Overall income for 2015/16 decreased by \$6.52M which is mainly attributed to:

- ▶ \$2.54M increase in Rates and Annual Charges to \$56.83M
- ▶ \$763,000 increase in User Charges and Fees to \$24.19M
- ▶ \$3.6M decrease in Other Revenues to \$3.74M
- ▶ \$5.76M decrease in Grants & Contributions to \$39.09M

RATES & ANNUAL CHARGES

▲ 4.69% TO \$56.83M

The increase in property numbers from 27,219 in 2014/15 to 27,617 in 2015/16 together with the rate peg increase of 2.4% and increased Domestic Waste and Sewer charges added \$2.54M to operating revenue.

USER CHARGES AND FEES

▼ 3.26% TO \$24.2M

Revenue from user charges and fees increased by 3.26% for the 2015/16 financial year. The main contributing factors relate to increased income for specific user charges including Sewerage services of \$150,000 and non-domestic waste charges of \$256,000 as well as increased Airport charges of \$118,000 and cemeteries income of \$121,000.

INTEREST & INVESTMENT REVENUES

▼ 5.93% TO \$3.41M

Council's return on investments fell by approximately 5.93% compared to 2014/15 as a result of softening interest rates.

OTHER REVENUES

▼ 49.03% TO \$3.74M

Other revenues decreased by \$3.6M in 2015/16. This is mainly attributable to a \$3.33M reduction attributable to remeasurement adjustments to provisions for remediation, including a review of the remediation requirements for the Solid Waste and Sewer Plant Operations. Traffic Infringement Income decreased by \$379K for the 2015/16 financial year.

GRANTS & CONTRIBUTIONS

▼ 12.85% TO \$39.09M

In 2015/16, Council saw a reduction in its allocation of the Financial Assistance Grant of \$136,000 which was offset by an increase in the Roads to Recovery grant of \$2.67M. Council also received \$2M for the Main City Levee Upgrade project due to begin in 2016/17.

The 2015/16 year also saw a reduction in the payment of Developer Contributions to Council of \$3.02M when compared to 2014/15. In addition to this, Council recognised a reduction in developer contributed assets of \$3.65M in 2015/16.

EXPENSES SUMMARY

TOTAL EXPENSES

▲ 13.75% TO \$123.02M

Overall expenditure for 2015/16 increased by \$14.87M which is mainly attributed to:

- ▶ \$749,000 increase in employee benefits and on costs to \$40.13M
- ▶ \$13.12M increase in depreciation, amortisation and impairment to \$35.44M

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS & ON-COSTS

▲ 1.90% TO \$40.13M

Total employee costs increased by \$749,000 for 2015/16. The key factor contributing to the increase was the salary award increase of 2.70% for the 2015/16 year.

BORROWING COSTS

▼ 4.48% TO \$3.96M

Council saw a reduction in its interest payable on external loans of \$109,000 for 2015/16 as well as a reduction in borrowing costs for its other liabilities of \$77,000 as a result of falling interest rates.

MATERIALS & CONTRACTS

▼ 2.42% TO \$29.16M

The total costs to Council for materials and contracts decreased in 2015/16 by \$723,000. This is a result of decreased expenditure on contractors & consultancy during the year. The detailed notes to the Financial Statements provide further information.

DEPRECIATION, AMORTISATION & IMPAIRMENT

▲ 58.86% TO \$35.44M

Depreciation is a non-cash expense that reduces the value of an asset over time due to wear and tear, ageing of an asset or obsolescence. The depreciation rates are set out in Note 1 of the Financial Statements. The Office of Local Government requires that a revaluation of an asset class is undertaken every five years. As predicted, as a result of the revaluation undertaken in 2014/15 of the categories of road and associated assets, bridges, footpaths, and stormwater drainage, Council saw a significant increase in depreciation expenditure for the 2015/16 financial year. Council will review the componentisation of the roads network and it is likely this will reduce the depreciation expenditure from the 2016/17 year forward.

OTHER EXPENSES

▼ 6.58% TO \$10.21M

The detailed notes to the Financial Statements provide information on other expenses. The main reason for the decrease in other expenses in 2015/16 was a result of reduced insurance costs associated with Council changing its premium excess.

ASSETS SUMMARY

TOTAL ASSETS

▲1.56% TO \$1,464M

INFRASTRUCTURE , PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

▲0.88% TO \$1,351M

NET ASSETS

▲1.97% TO \$1,385M

CASH POSITION

An analysis of Council's cash holdings at 30 June 2016 highlights that cash and investments increased by \$11.5M for the year. Much of this was due to an increase in external restrictions for developer contributions and domestic waste management for 2015/16.

Council's interest on investments performed to budget for the 2015/16 financial year. Council's total portfolio return of 3.64% for the 2015/16 year was considered very strong given the movements in the Reserve Bank of Australia's (RBA) cash rate to an all-time low of 1.5% in August 2016. As Council's higher yielding investments continue to mature, it will become evident that Council no longer continue to have the benefit of higher performing investments to bolster the overall performance of the portfolio.

Council, as at 30 June 2016, held 10.46% of its entire investment portfolio in cash and cash equivalents to ensure funds are immediately available for working capital and cash flow purposes. This is a slight increase on the previous year of 9.66%.

Council engages the services of an independent investment advisor for advice in relation to its portfolio.

RESERVES

Council operates a number of internally and externally restricted reserves. External restrictions relate to those funds held for a specific purpose and include developer contributions (Section 94 funds), specific purpose unexpended grants, sewer, stormwater and domestic waste services. External restrictions increased by \$7.86M, mainly attributable to developer contributions (\$3.5M) and domestic waste (\$1.8M).

Council continues to maintain a wide variety of internal reserves as detailed in Note 6c of the Annual Financial Statements. These reserves have been established by Council resolution, and include provisions for major future projects and operations. Internal restrictions increased by \$4.32M and is mainly attributable to the Livestock Marketing Centre reserve (\$1.47M), plant & vehicle replacement reserve (\$1.25M) and the Fit for the Future reserve (\$852,000).

UNRESTRICTED CURRENT RATIO

The unrestricted current ratio for 2015/16 was 3.39:1. This ratio increased from the 2014/15 ratio of 2.68:1, illustrating Council's strong level of liquidity.

RECEIVABLES

Receivables for 2015/16 totalled \$10.91M, a decrease of 4.87% on the previous year. This is mainly due to a reduction in outstanding debt due to Council for long term debtors and Government grants.

The rates and annual charges outstanding is 5.91% as at 30 June 2016 (a decrease of 0.3% on the previous year). This outperformed Council's benchmark of 6% for rates and charges outstanding, reflecting the effectiveness of the debt recovery team and the strategies implemented to ensure successful debt recovery for Council

INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (I,P,P&E) increased for the year by 0.88% to \$1,351M. Note 9 of the 2015/16 Financial Statements shows the detail of the asset classes that contribute to the total amount of I,P,P&E. The increase of \$11.8M is mostly comprised of the net result of the revaluation of assets and an increase in depreciation costs. The revaluation of the other assets, other structures and other open space/recreational assets categories saw an overall increase of \$23.69M. The total depreciation increased \$13.12M as a result of the significant increase in the asset values in the revaluation of roads assets in 2014/15.

PLANT & EQUIPMENT	\$
Vehicles purchased	32
Vehicles sold	51
Plant items purchased	11
Plant items sold	6
Volvo FM1306A Cab Chassis Truck	\$252,393.73
Nissan MK11250K	\$207,666.91
Sloanebuilt 3 axle Dog Trailer (x2)	\$183,955.22
Mack Metro Liner 6x4	\$173,880.00
Hino 920 Medium 300 Series	\$68,283.68
TOTAL VALUE	\$1,947,983.62
FURNITURE & FITTINGS AND OFFICE EQUIPMENT	\$
HP Elite 800 Small Form Factor Desktop PCs (x130)	\$159,250.00
Radio Wide Area Network (WAN)	\$73,000.90
Canon OCE Colorwave Large Format Printer	\$51,982.40
HP Elitedisplay E190i 18.9" LED Monitor (x155)	\$32,550.00
HP Elitebook Folio 9480m i7 Ultrabook (x8)	\$17,120.00
TOTAL VALUE	\$377,659.03
BUILDINGS AND OTHER STRUCTURES	
Robertson Oval Infrastructure Development	\$133,842.90
LMC - Wash Pump Replacement/Upgrade	\$102,415.03
Civic Centre Southern Lift Control Upgrade	\$93,450.00
Lakeside Drive - Construction of Bollards	\$41,784.73
Community Amenities - Jubilee Park Clubhouse	\$40,990.00
TOTAL VALUE	\$331,430.24
INFRASTRUCTURE DEDICATIONS	
Roads Dedications	\$5,757,763.76
Drainage Dedications	\$2,498,138.13
Sewer Dedications	\$781,024.37
ROAD ASSETS	
Roads	\$8,410,338.20
Kerb and Gutter	\$54,213.33
Culverts	\$589,778.83
TOTAL VALUE	\$9,054,330.36
OTHER ASSETS AND OTHER OPEN SPACE/RECREATIONAL ASSETS	
GWMC - Construction of New Waste Cell	\$860,516.41
Sportsground Lighting - Jubilee Park	\$479,417.85
Construction for renewal of Tolland Neighbourhood Park	\$163,624.18
GWMC - Alternate Waste Treatment Facility	\$154,408.65
Renew Recreational Facilities	\$127,457.91
Construction of Bourkelands Neighbourhood Park	\$125,813.42
Renew Parks Facilities	\$ 98,859.10
TOTAL VALUE	\$2,284,958.69
SEWER ASSETS (EXCLUDING DEDICATIONS)	
Sewer Mains Rehabilitation Program	\$887,190.21
Gravity Sewer renewal program	\$134,079.42
Waste Water Reuse Network Extensions	\$ 93,212.43
Forest Hill Treatment Works Plant Renewals	\$61,755.34
Replacement and Renewal of Sewer Plant	\$ 25,022.97
TOTAL VALUE	\$1,224,740.26

CAPITAL WORKS IN PROGRESS	
Sewerage Network	\$2,013,344.26
Roads	\$1,809,699.60
Stormwater Drainage	\$1,266,345.38
Buildings	\$1,002,451.23
Other Open Space/Recreational Assets	\$468,976.95
Other Assets	\$266,685.65
Other Structures	\$ 9,000.00
TOTAL VALUE	\$6,836,503.07
MAJOR CAPITAL PROJECTS	
GWMC - Construction of New Waste Cell	\$860,516.41
Sportsground Lighting - Jubilee Park	\$479,417.85
Roads Reseal Program	\$1,700,044.79
Urban Asphalt Program	\$2,114,559.84
MR384 Tumbarumba Rd Rehabilitation	\$553,779.72
Gravel Resheeting Program	\$1,899,605.36
Plumpton Road Rehabilitation	\$451,764.26
TOTAL VALUE	\$8,059,688.23

LIABILITIES SUMMARY

CASH POSITION

TOTAL LIABILITIES

▼ **5.18% to \$78.58M**

- ▶ Payables ▼15.33% to \$10.48M
- ▶ Borrowings ▼4.03% to \$53.91M
- ▶ Provisions ▼0.94% to \$14.19M

PAYABLES

Council's payables at 30 June 2016 totalled \$10.48M, a reduction of \$1.9M on the previous year. This is mainly due to Council having less outstanding invoices for capital projects than in previous years.

BORROWINGS

Total borrowings for Council now stand at \$53.91M, a decrease of \$2.26M from 2014/15. Council has a significant borrowing program projected for future years, which aims to address required upgrades to infrastructure, provide additional community facilities to be used by current and future generations as well as new infrastructure including the Riverina Intermodal Freight & Logistics Facility (RIFL) which aims to facilitate the future growth of the city.

PROVISIONS

Council's total provisions at 30 June 2016 total \$14.19M. Council's provision for Employee Leave Entitlements (ie annual leave and long service leave) increased by \$215,000 (1.78%) for 2015/16. Council's provision for asset remediation reduced for 2015/16 by \$347,000 (15.67%) due to remediation works being completed during the financial year.

BUSINESS ACTIVITY REPORTING

Business activity reporting illustrates the results for Council's various business activities in accordance with the National Competition Policy for Local Government.

It is designed to reflect the full cost to Council of running these activities, as if Council were competing in a normal commercial environment, where the applicable taxes and competitive pricing principles come into effect.

Council operates three distinct business activities being the sewerage network, the Livestock Marketing Centre and the Wagga Wagga Airport.

SEWERAGE NETWORK

City of Wagga Wagga sewerage network services more than 27,000 connections. The sewerage network consists of 626km of gravity and pressure mains and 39 pump stations. Last year 5620 ML of sewerage was transported through Wagga's sewerage system.

INCOME

▲ **3.56% TO \$16.78M**

Income for sewer for 2015/16 has increased on the 2014/15 financial year. The main contributing factor was the increased revenue from Sewer Access and User charges.

EXPENSES

▼ **0.44% TO \$18.90M**

Sewer expenditure for 2015/16 increased by \$82,000. The main factor was an increase in depreciation expense of \$265,000 for the sewer network. This increase is offset by a decrease in Employee expenses of \$239,000 for the 2015/16 financial year.

NET OPERATING RESULT (AFTER TAX) - \$0.07M SURPLUS

The sewer business saw a surplus result after tax for the 2015/16 financial year. This is mainly due to increased revenue and capital grants & contributions. The main contributing factor was the increased revenue from sewer access and user charges.

ASSETS

▲ **1.03% TO \$281.22M**

Total assets for the year increased by \$2.86M as a result of asset additions and renewals to the sewerage network.

LIABILITIES

▼ **2.75% TO \$34.80M**

Liabilities for sewer primarily relate to the principle outstanding for loans for the Sewer 2010 project. This reduction in liabilities is a result of a reduction in the provision for future sewer remediation works as well as principal loan repayments made during the financial year.

RESERVE BALANCE

▲ **2.18% TO \$20.87M**

The increase in the reserve balance is reflective of the overall surplus result for 2015/16.



LIVESTOCK MARKETING CENTRE

The Wagga Wagga Livestock Marketing Centre (LMC) is the premier livestock selling centre in Australia for the marketing of cattle, sheep and lambs. The LMC was established in 1979 and continues to lead the way in livestock sales throughout the nation. The facility is located

Approximately 10km north of the city in rapidly expanding Bomen Business Park and is neighboured by several key agricultural businesses supporting the region. The LMC remains a major driver of agribusiness, employment and economic growth in the Wagga Wagga regional economy and community.

The LMC is wholly owned by Council and operates on a completely self-funded financial model that delivers a significant dividend to Council annually and is distributed to a number of rural and regional projects. Through a broad cross-sectional series of internal service recharges the LMC itself is continually increasing its support as a major customer to Council. The LMC continues to rank as the largest sheep and lamb selling centre in Australia selling 1,898,734 head in the 2015/16 financial year. The LMC also sold 183,734 head of cattle for the same period maintaining our ranking in the

top group of cattle yards throughout Australia. Approximately \$412 million worth of livestock was sold through the LMC in the 2015/16 financial year, an increase of \$25 million.

Significant works took place throughout the year to create the Draft Livestock Marketing Centre Strategic Master Plan to provide Council the opportunity to solidify the operations success in the future by identifying areas of growth and expansion within the current site.

INCOME

▼4.12% TO \$5.08M

Income for the Livestock Marketing Centre has decreased when compared to 2014/15 but still continues to receive high volumes of sheep and cattle sold through the facility.

EXPENSES

▼5.57% TO \$3.63M

The decrease in expenses for the year was attributable to a decrease in freight and delivery costs as well as employee costs associated with slight continued high volume of livestock being sold through the facility.

NET OPERATING RESULT (AFTER TAX) - \$1.02M SURPLUS

The surplus result for the 2015/16 year is due to the continued high volume of livestock sold through the facility.

ASSETS

▲20.76% TO \$29.28M

Livestock Marketing Centre total assets have increased this year as a result of the favourable operating result (after tax) for the financial year and an increase in asset values resulting from the revaluation of LMC assets undertaken during the financial year.

LIABILITIES

▼19.57% TO \$0.37M

Liabilities for Livestock Marketing Centre have decreased due to a reduction in payables outstanding at the end of the financial year.

RESERVE BALANCE

▲22.13% TO \$8.10M

The increase in the Livestock Marketing Centre reserve balance is primarily due to the surplus result for the year.



WAGGA WAGGA AIRPORT

Wagga Wagga Regional Airport had another successful and busy year in 2015/16, with a significant amount of operational improvement being initiated. These improvements add to security, safety and the passenger experience. The Riverina continues to be well serviced by the airport with Qantaslink providing four return services to Sydney each weekday and Rex providing five return flights to Sydney. Rex also operates two return flights to Melbourne each day. This excellent frequency saw 214,132 passengers over the course of the year. There were a total of 20,030 aircraft movements across all categories, including 6892 regular public transport movements and 3018 training movements.

The public car park management system continues to provide a good return on investment with \$261,777 in revenue generated. Security screening operations at the airport are contracted to an external provider and have continued to be compliant and meet or exceed the expectations of the Department of Infrastructure and Transport, Office of Transport Security. Council's significant investment in the future of regional aviation, through the development of the Commercial Aviation Precinct and Light Aircraft Precinct will continue to grow business, economic development, jobs and flying activity in the region.

It was also announced that the airport was successful in securing a total of \$6M in funding through the Restart NSW: Regional Tourism and Infrastructure Fund - \$4M for a taxiway network upgrade and \$2M for a terminal upgrade. Both of these projects are progressing through procurement and design phases with construction due to begin in 2016/17.

Wagga Wagga Airport continues to be a leader in regional aviation, contributing significantly to the Gross Regional Product and employment as well as achieving its vision of being a centre of national aviation significance'. The airport generated a surplus from ordinary activities before depreciation of \$682,000 and a closing balance of \$203,000 in the Airport Reserve as at 30 June 2016.

INCOME

▲ 4.35% TO \$3.58M

Income for the airport increased for the 2015/16 financial year mainly due to security screening of passengers prior to boarding and fees for leasing Council property.

EXPENSES

▼ 1.23% TO \$3.79M

The decrease in Operating expenses for 2015/16 was mainly as a result of reduced employee expenses for the 2015/16 financial year.

NET OPERATING RESULT (AFTER TAX) - \$0.21M DEFICIT

The net operating result for the airport for 2015/16 was a deficit of \$206,000.

ASSETS

▲ 22.15% TO \$40.00M

Airport assets have increased for 2015/16 by \$7.25M due to an increase in asset values resulting from the revaluation of airport assets undertaken during the financial year.

LIABILITIES

▼ 6.99% TO \$16.47M

Liabilities have decreased for the year as loan commitments have been paid, which has resulted in the total principle outstanding being reduced. In addition, as a result of the airport generating a surplus from ordinary activities before depreciation of \$682,000 the cash overdraft of the airport has improved.

RESERVE BALANCE

▲ 322.92% TO \$0.20M

The reserve balance for the Airport increased by \$154,000 for 2015/16 to a balance of \$203,000.

RATES AND CHARGES - WRITTEN OFF

2015/16 RATES AND CHARGES WRITTEN-OFF PURSUANT TO CLAUSE 131 (4) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (GENERAL) REGULATION 2005.

DEBTOR TYPE:
Rates and Interest Charges

AMOUNT:
\$49,135.69

INVOICE DATE:
2007/2008 Rate Levy through to 2015/2016 Rate Levy

PRIVATE WORKS

SECTION 428(2) K RESOLUTIONS MADE UNDER SECTION 67 CONCERNING WORK CARRIED OUT ON PRIVATE LAND.

RESOLUTION:
16/004 RESOLVED:

On the Motion of The Mayor, Councillor R Kendall- That Council conduct maintenance works on the existing track at the start line for the South Wagga Apex World Championship Gumi Race being held on 14 February 2016.

CARRIED

SUMMARY OF WORK:

Placement of gravel and grading of the entrance road to the start line of the Gumi Festival which was located on Riverina Local Land Services controlled land adjacent to the Eunony Bridge.

COST:

\$1062 (Cost of the works were funded solely by Council)

EXTERNAL BODIES, COMPANIES AND PARTNERSHIPS

SECTION 428(2) EXTERNAL BODIES THAT EXERCISED FUNCTIONS DELEGATED BY COUNCIL.

Council did not delegate any function to an external body in the 2015/16 financial year.

SECTION 428(2) Q PARTNERSHIPS, COOPERATIVES OR OTHER JOINT VENTURES TO WHICH COUNCIL WAS A PARTY 2015/16

- ▶ Riverina Regional Library (RRL): Council participates in cooperative arrangements with nine other councils (Bland, Coolamon, Cootamundra-Gundagai, Federation, Greater Hume, Junee, Lockhart, Snowy Valleys and Temora) for the provision of services and facilities through the RRL Service. City of Wagga Wagga is the executive council for the RRL service.

- ▶ Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils (REROC): A voluntary organisation of Councils through which the member Councils work together for the benefit of their local communities and the region as a whole. REROC acts as an advisory body to develop regional strategies and initiatives of benefit to member Councils. Members of the body are the Councils of Bland, Coolamon, Cootamundra-Gundagai, Greater Hume, Junee, Lockhart, Snowy Valleys, Temora, Wagga Wagga, Goldenfields Water County Council and Riverina Water County Council.

- ▶ NSW Statewide Mutual Insurance Scheme: City of Wagga Wagga is a member of this scheme.
- ▶ NSW Statecover Mutual Ltd: City of Wagga Wagga is a member of this worker's compensation mutual scheme.

STORMWATER LEVIES AND CHARGES

Stormwater charges during 2015/16 applied to all properties, with the following exemptions as specified under the Local

- ▶ Government Act:
- ▶ Crown land
- ▶ Council owned land
- ▶ Land held under lease for private purposes granted under the Housing Act 2001 or the Aboriginal Housing Act 1998
- ▶ Vacant land
- ▶ Rural residential land or rural business land, not located in a village, town or city
- ▶ Land belonging to a charity or public benevolent institution.

RESIDENTIAL STANDARD STORMWATER

A charge of \$25 was applied to all residential properties (including rural residential lands) that are not exempt from the charge.

RESIDENTIAL MEDIUM/ HIGH DENSITY STORMWATER

A charge of \$12.50 per occupancy was applied to all residential strata, community title, multiple occupancy properties (flats and units), and retirement village style developments that are not exempt from the charge. Subject to a maximum charge of \$250

BUSINESS STORMWATER

A charge of \$25 was applied to all business properties (including rural business lands) that are not exempt from the charge.

Properties are charged on a basis of \$25 per 350 square metres of land. Subject to a maximum charge of \$250

BUSINESS STRATA STORMWATER

A charge of \$5 was applied to all business strata title properties that are not exempt from the charge. Subject to a maximum charge of \$250

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

Council's Stormwater Management Plan 2013/2017 outlines Council's proactive plans to improve the management of stormwater within the Local Government Area. In 2015-16, Part 5.2.5 Environmental monitoring and Part 6.3 Priority 3 - Mitigation of known storm water system risks, of the Stormwater Management Plan 2013-2017 were addressed.

PART 5.2.5

Environmental monitoring is regularly carried out by Council's Environmental Monitoring Team for the Wollundry and Flowerdale lagoons and Lake Albert.

PART 6.3

Risks have been identified around the Wollundry Lagoon, it is proposed that concept plans and briefs are to be developed for the following, to eliminate the risks:

- ▶ Duplication of the Murray Street box culvert, to mitigate flooding.
- ▶ Installation of a lagoon level control weir, for irrigation and flood mitigation.
- ▶ Installation of gross pollutant traps on the inlets to the lagoon, to improve water quality.

A permanent flood mitigation pump was also installed at the eastern end of Wollundry Lagoon.

DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTIONS SYSTEM

The Developer Contributions are determined through the development of the Section 94 Contributions Plan adopted in April 2010 and Section 94A Contributions Plan, and Sewerage and Stormwater Development Servicing Plans adopted in February 2013. These plans provide for quarterly increases in contributions based on Consumer Price Index increases.



STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT

CLIMATE

Wagga Wagga has a temperate climate with hot dry summers and cold winters. At an elevation of 147 metres above sea level, Wagga Wagga generally has four distinct seasons. With a Local Government Area (LGA) spanning 4862km² climate can show some minor variability in different areas, but overall, in 2015/16 the Wagga Wagga LGA had a hotter, wetter year than average.

Nine out of 12 months had a higher than average mean maximum temperature and 11 out of 12 months had a higher than average mean minimum temperature.

Although evaporation rates exceeded the long-term average on eight out of 12 months, it was a wet year overall, with six out of the 12 months exceeding the long-term average rainfall, with a total of 667mm for the year compared to the long-term average of 573mm.

EVAPORATION AND RAINFALL (mm)

	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
	69.2	89.4	20.8	17.2	121.6	37.6	55.2	16.2	33.4	10.8	110.6	84.6
LT Mean	54.4	51	49.9	56.7	46	45.6	40.7	41	45.1	40.3	51.2	51.2
	1.3	1.5	3.2	5.7	7.3	9.4	8.6	8.9	7.4	4.5	3.0	1.6
LT Mean	1.2	1.9	3.0	4.9	7.2	9.4	10.1	9.0	6.8	3.9	2.0	1.3

Source: Bureau of Meteorology, Forest Hill station data

MAXIMUM AND MINIMUM TEMPERATURES (mm)

	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
2015/16 Max	12.4	13.5	18.3	27.1	27.5	31.1	31.5	32.6	30.6	26.2	18.0	13.4
Mean Max	12.7	14.5	17.7	21.6	25.9	29.4	31.7	30.9	27.7	22.5	17.4	13.8
2015/16 Min	2.9	4.4	4.3	11.5	13	15.5	17.8	16.6	16.4	10.6	7.9	6.3
Mean Min	2.8	3.6	5.1	7.8	10.9	13.8	16.3	16.5	13.4	9.2	5.9	3.7

Source: Bureau of Meteorology, Forest Hill station data

AIR

A state-wide air quality monitoring network provides information on air quality to the community. Data from the monitoring network is presented online as ambient concentrations and air quality index (AQI) values. In Wagga Wagga they measure particulate matter (PM10 and PM2.5). Solid or liquid particles may be suspended in the air and reduce visual amenity and adversely impact health. The size of a particle determines its potential impact on human health. Larger particles are usually trapped in the nose

and throat and swallowed. Smaller particles may reach the lungs and cause irritation there.

In 2015/2016 there were 17 recorded PM10 exceedences. These occurred in November, December, January, February, March and April. There were two recorded exceedences for PM2.5. Both of these were in April 2016.

STANDARDS/GOALS FOR AIR QUALITY CONTROL

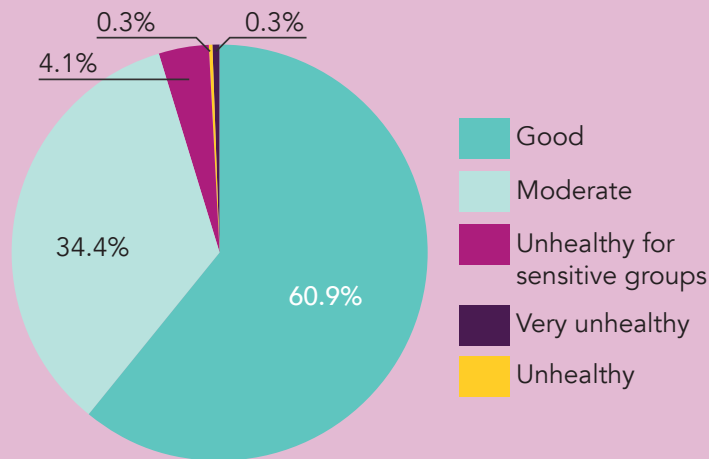
POLLUTANT	AVERAGING PERIOD	MAXIMUM CONCENTRATION	GOAL (MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE EXCEEDENCES)
PM ₁₀	1 day	50 µg/m ³	5 days a year
PM _{2.5}	1 day 1 year	25 µg/m ³ 8 µg/m ³	Goal is to gather sufficient data nationally to facilitate a review of the standards for PM _{2.5} .

Source: NSW Office of Environment & Heritage

The air pollutants monitored by the Office of Environment and Heritage and used in the AQI are ozone, carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide and air particles. Visibility is also measured and reported.

These parameters are collated by region and Wagga

Wagga forms part of the South-West Slopes region. As illustrated in the graph below, our air quality is good or moderate most of the time. There were 17 days when the AQI was ranked as "Very Unhealthy, Unhealthy or Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups". The worst month for air quality in the region was April.



WATER

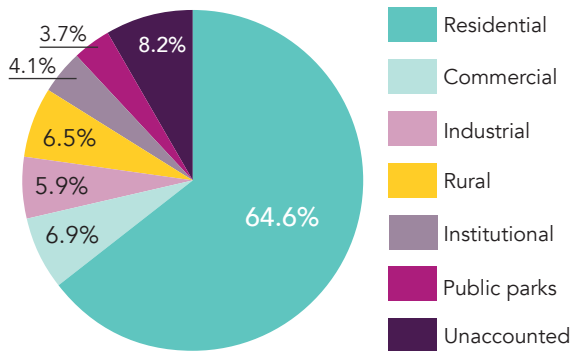
WATER USAGE

Riverina Water County Council owns and operates all of the potable water supply for the Wagga Wagga LGA, 85% of which is sourced from groundwater and the remaining 15% from the river.

YEAR	TOTAL FOR WAGGA WAGGA LGA (KL)	AVERAGE PER CAPITA (L)
2015/2016	13,835,000	218,121
2014/2015	13,962,000	222,324
2013/2014	12,297,000	197,868
2012/2013	14,236,000	230,429

Source: Riverina Water County Council data

As the graph below illustrates, almost 65% of this was for residential purposes.



Source: Riverina Water County Council data

WATER QUALITY MONITORING

Council conducts water quality testing of Lake Albert, the Murrumbidgee River, Flowerdale Lagoon and Wollundry Lagoon. This is done to monitor the health of the waterways as well as highlight any important concerns for human health. The river and the lagoons are tested for nutrients and Lake Albert is monitored for nutrients, bacteria and algae. The lake was not closed at all in 2015/2016 due to unsuitable water quality.

Lake Albert Alert Levels	BLUE-GREEN ALGAE			CYANO-BACTERIA		
	GREEN	AMBER	RED	LOW	MED	HIGH
2011-2012	22	1	0	7	16	0
2012-2013	18	7	3	6	19	3
2013-2014	16	4	2	5	13	2
2014-2015	15	7	3	9	11	3

Source: City of Wagga Wagga data.

KEY

GREEN - routine monitoring only.

AMBER - increase sampling to enable risks to be more accurately assessed.

RED - warns the public that the water body is considered to be unsuitable for water contact activities.

LOW - no restrictions on use.

MEDIUM - advises against primary contact.

HIGH - advises against all use.

WASTE WATER

There are three main sewage treatment plants (STP) currently servicing the Wagga Wagga area. These are at Narrung Street, Koorungal and Forest Hill. There are also two minor STPs, at Uranquinty and Tarcutta. The Bomen industrial area also has a pre-treatment facility. Each sewage treatment plant has to be licensed under the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) and operated according to the licence conditions.

EFFLUENT REUSE FOR IRRIGATION

Treated effluent from the Narrung Street and Koorungal sewage treatment plants is used for irrigation purposes on a number of sites around Wagga Wagga. The use of this effluent is closely monitored and is used on a number of sites, including Bolton Park, Wagga Wagga Cricket Ground, McPherson Oval, Rawlings Park and a small amount onsite.

The Marrambidya Wetland has also received 269ML of treated effluent from the Narrung Sewage Treatment Plant.

2015/16	TOTAL DISCHARGE (ML)	% TO RIVER	% TO REUSE
Narrung STW	3,934.09	97.1	2.9
Koorungal STW	1,363.08	93.7	6.3
Forest Hill STW	220.30	0.0	100.0
TOTALS	5,517.47	92.4	7.6

Source: City of Wagga Wagga EPA license data

INDUSTRIAL TRADE WASTE

Liquid trade waste means all liquid waste other than sewage of a domestic nature. Liquid trade waste discharges to the sewerage system include liquid wastes from:

- ▶ Business/commercial/industrial premises
- ▶ Community/public premises
- ▶ Trade activities
- ▶ Saleyards, racecourses and from stables and kennels
- ▶ Septic tank waste, chemical toilet waste, waste from the discharge of pan content from mobile homes/caravans to the sewerage system.

Industries that dispose of industrial treated wastewater into the Wagga Wagga sewage reticulation system are monitored by City of Wagga Wagga on a monthly basis.

The company is charged for this based on the level on contaminants in the discharge. Water quality testing is conducted by City of Wagga Wagga and sent to an accredited laboratory.

WASTE

City of Wagga Wagga provides the following solid waste services:

- ▶ Kerbside collection of domestic and commercial waste within specified collection areas
- ▶ Waste management facilities, including landfills and transfer stations
- ▶ Provision and servicing of street bins and park bins
- ▶ Provision of a Resource Recovery & Resale facility at Gregadoo Waste Management Centre.

In total for 2015/2016 more than 61,777 tonnes of waste was disposed of into landfill while just 6366 tonnes was recycled through Kurrajong Recyclers.

WASTE STREAM	2015-16	2014-15	2013-14	2012-13	2011-12
RECYCLED (KG/CAPITA)	100	156	156	177	174
PERCENTAGE COMPARISON	10	16	17	21	18
LANDFILLED (KG/CAPITA)	974	993	930	856	968
PERCENTAGE COMPARISON	90	84	83	79	82

Source: City of Wagga Wagga data, Kurrajong Recyclers data.

Data from the weighbridge at the Gregadoo Waste Management Centre and the Kurrajong Recycling Centre indicates that the Wagga Wagga community (on average) has shown a decrease in the amount of waste recycled compared to past years, and a slight decrease in the amount of waste being sent to landfill compared to last year.

ENERGY AND CARBON

Essential Energy operates the electricity network in this region. The table below illustrates the amount of electricity used in the Wagga Wagga Local Government Area. While energy use continues to rise, it also demonstrates that the number of customers with solar PV contributing to their energy consumption and exporting excess energy back to the grid is also on the rise.

TYPE	MWH ELECTRICITY					NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS				
	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
BUSINESS	247,238	257,965	265,004	267,907	269,596	3,029	2,985	3,099	3,118	3,068
Controlled Load	22,150	20,077	18,854	18,634	17,814	8,250	8,080	8,096	8,005	7,887
Export	4,722	6,417	7,745	9,318	9,876	1,250	1,854	2,285	2,666	2,890
Residential	135,319	136,700	134,121	135,610	140,398	24,875	24,877	25,573	25,860	26,134

Source: Essential Energy data

COUNCIL'S FOOTPRINT

Council utilises the Planet Footprint scorekeeping service to track our consumption data, cost and any emissions from energy, fleet, waste and water.

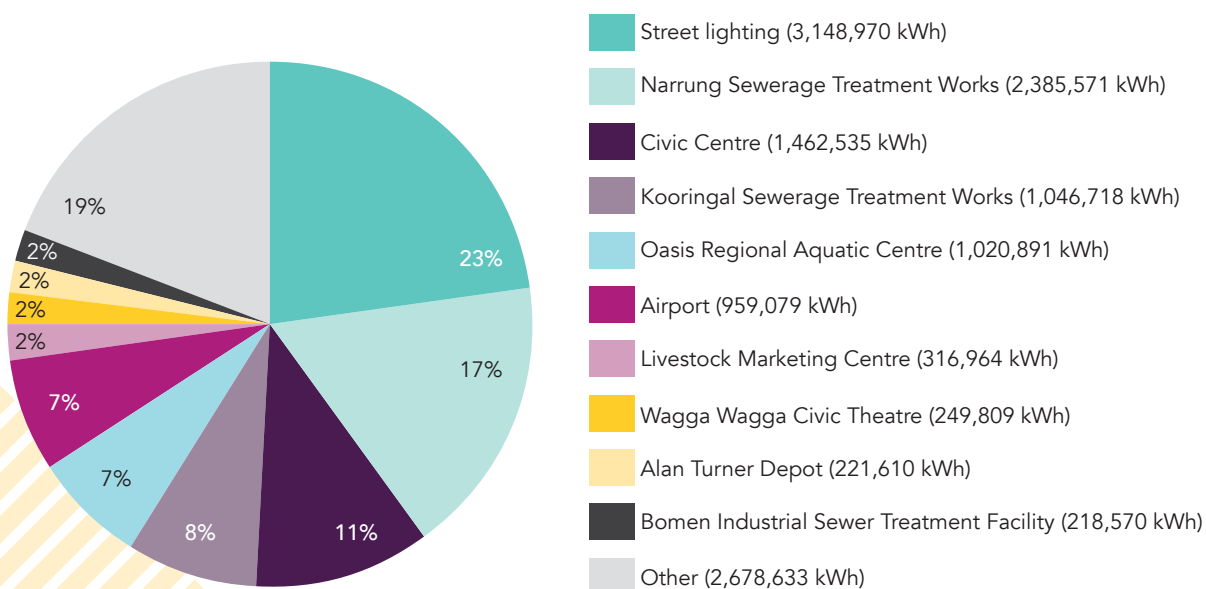
As at the end of the 2015/16 financial year, Council's total expenditure on electricity was \$2.4M. This does not include gas, which was an additional \$243,000.

Council's energy consumption actually increased by 6% but due to effective tariff changes the actual cost was down \$304,000 compared to the same period in the previous financial year on a business as usual scenario.

Council currently has approximately 6,500 streetlights, which is the largest user of electricity making up 21% of the overall electricity profile. The graph below gives a breakdown of Council's electricity profile with street

lighting using 2,887,000 kWh of electricity at a cost of approximately \$440,000 per annum. This does not include the maintenance cost that Council pays, which is around \$385,000 per annum.

Council also uses energy in the form of gas, and liquid transport fuels for its fleet of vehicles and heavy plant. Council also pays for the city's street lighting network to be operated and maintained by Essential Energy. The graph below gives a breakdown of Council's emission profile for the year. In terms of energy consumption, the electricity for all of Council's facilities and assets is the biggest user. In terms of our overall emissions, the operation of the Gregadoo Waste Management Centre where the community's waste is sent to landfill accounts for three quarters of our total emissions. This is inclusive of 'legacy waste' that is still emitting greenhouse gases into the atmosphere as it continues to break down.



Source: Planet Footprint and Essential Energy data

SOLAR PROJECTS

Council now has solar photo-voltaic installations totalling around 65kW that can produce an estimated 85,000 kWh per year.

These sites include:

- ▶ Senior Citizens Centre
- ▶ Glenfield Community Centre
- ▶ Ashmont Youth Hub
- ▶ Alan Turner Depot
- ▶ Livestock Marketing Centre

Council's solar installations generate enough energy to fully power at least eight average Australian homes for an entire year.

LAND

URBAN SALINITY

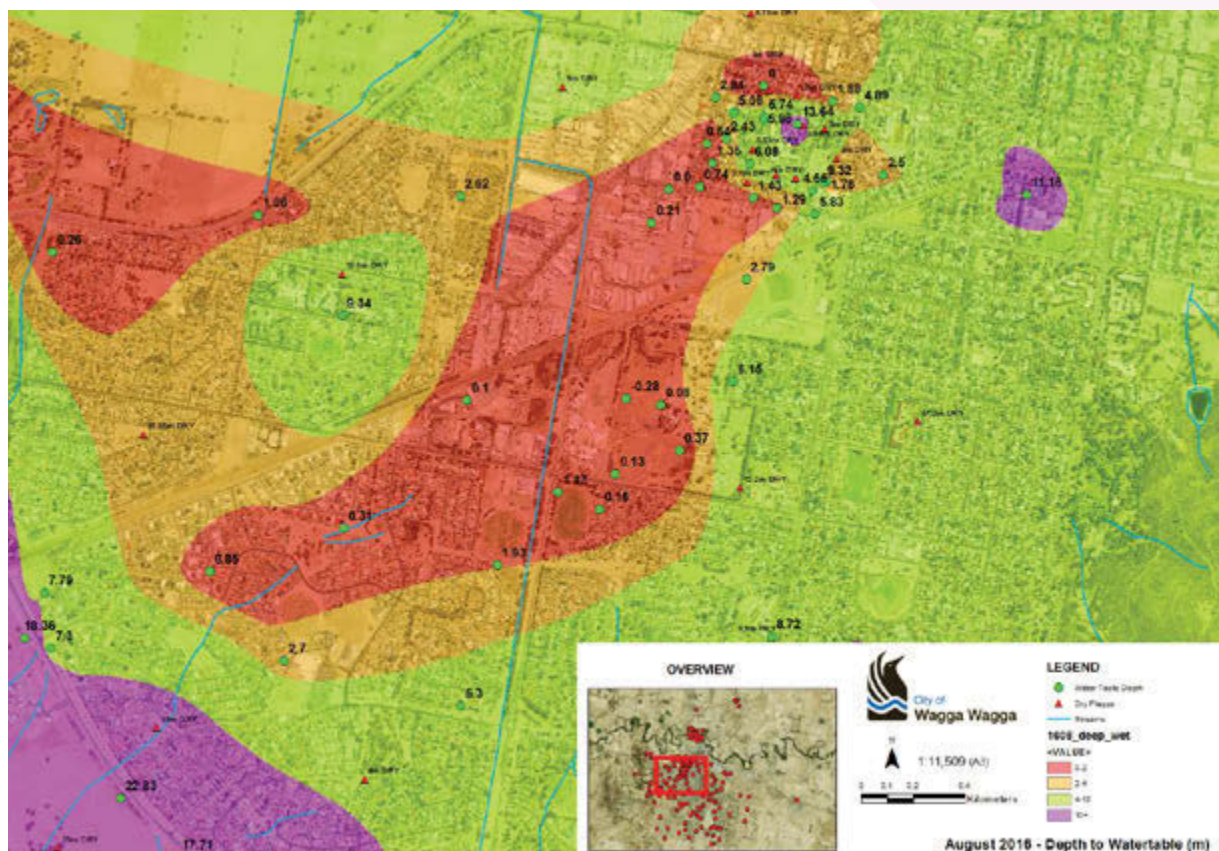
Urban salinity is recognised as one of Wagga Wagga's most significant land degradation concerns. Annually City of Wagga Wagga works with the community to adopt management practices to reduce salinity in the urban environment.

Salinity within the urban environment impacts on all members of the community by damaging infrastructure and impacting on the surrounding natural environment through loss of vegetation.

The establishment of a rear block drainage replacement system, an evaporation basin and the dewatering bores are examples of major capital works programs utilised by Council to control urban salinity, as well as targeted revegetation where possible.

The status of urban salinity is monitored through an extensive network of 198 piezometers and reported on annually.

Groundwater contour maps have been developed using interpolated data from Council's 200+ piezometers within the Wagga Wagga Local Government Area. The increase in shallow 0 – 2 metres from surface groundwater tables (shown in red), are most likely due to above average rainfall experienced in the region during the winter months of 2016.



The map above shows the depth to groundwater (metres below surface) contour map from winter 2016 piezometer readings for an area including Turvey Park, Mount Austin, Glenfield, Ashmont and Central Wagga. Green dots indicate piezometer locations (cluster of green dots north of centre show the Calvary Hospital Borefield area).

POLLUTION COMPLAINTS

The following complaints were received in 2015/16. These figures do not include complaints related to development.

The figures in the table above indicate that illegal dumping is a key problem area for Wagga Wagga. Council staff are applying for additional funding from the NSW government to help tackle this issue.

Woodsmoke/Open burning	18
Noise	67
Dust	12
Dumped Rubbish	340
Odour	58
Asbestos related	9

CONTAMINATED LAND MONITORING

Council has responsibility for a number of contaminated or potentially contaminated land parcels where we undertake monitoring and if required, other ongoing management or remediation. The largest and most significant of these is the Former Tarcutta Street Gasworks, which underwent a \$13M large-scale remediation. Council also monitors the Former Wiradjuri Landfill, as well as current operational sites with Environmental Protection Licenses:

- ▶ Narrung Sewerage Treatment Plant
- ▶ Koorungal Sewerage Treatment Plant
- ▶ Forest Hill Sewerage Treatment Plant
- ▶ Gregadoo Waste Management Centre
- ▶ Livestock Marketing Centre

BIODIVERSITY AND VEGETATION

Since settlement in Wagga Wagga in the 1930s, more than 90% of the native vegetation cover has been cleared for agriculture and urban development. As a result a number of ecological communities have been declared endangered within the Local Government Area. For this reason it is just as important that we manage remnant vegetation as well as restore what has been degraded through past practices. The five endangered ecological communities of the Wagga Wagga area are:

- ▶ Fuzzy Box
- ▶ Myall Woodland
- ▶ Inland Grey Box
- ▶ White Box Yellow Box Blakely's Red Gum Woodland
- ▶ Aquatic Ecological Community of the Lower Murray River Catchment

THREATENED SPECIES

Council staff maintain a database of threatened species that have been found within the Local Government Area. These records are used to guide decisions for works on

revegetation and habitat restoration. Squirrel Gliders are foremost among these species and the population in the Wagga Wagga LGA is listed as an Endangered Population under the Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995. There are a small number of these gliders found in Wilks Park (North Wagga Flats) and elsewhere along the river margins in the urban area.

Superb Parrots are another Threatened Species and this species is regularly seen in small numbers along the river and in Silvalite Reserve.

THREATENED SPECIES DAY

Each year Threatened Species Day is on 7 September. To mark this occasion an annual spotlighting event is held in Wilks Park. In 2015, 19 people attended and we found 10 Common Brushtail Possums, one Common Ringtail Possum and a Boobook Owl.

HABITAT REVEGETATION

NATIONAL TREE DAY 31 JULY 2016

The community planting was held at the Bomen Axe Quarry site. A total of 1.3ha was planted with 1500 trees, shrubs and groundcover plants. All of these plants are local natives to the Yellow Box White Box woodland naturally occurring at the quarry site.

DCP 2010, Section 5.3 Native Vegetation Cover

In the 2015/16 financial year, 1907 native seedlings of species growing naturally in the Wagga Wagga area were planted to fulfill this development requirement in R5 land and similar zoned land.

PROPERTY VEGETATION PLANS

Property Vegetation Plans (PVP) are administered under the Native Vegetation Act 2003 by the NSW Local Land Services. In the 2015/16 financial year there were two PVPs

granted in the Wagga Wagga Local Government Area. Revegetation works associated with these PVPs have a combined total of 6ha.

SQUIRREL GLIDER HABITAT RESTORATION

City of Wagga Wagga is a partner with the Local Land Services in an Environmental Trust funded project to establish habitat for the endangered Squirrel Glider in the area between Livingstone National Park and Nest Hill Nature Reserve. The main objective of the project is to establish an essential corridor of suitable habitat which links the National Park with the Nature Reserve and so allow Squirrel Gliders to move freely between these two reserves.

GULLY EROSION WORKS IN SILVALITE RESERVE

In the summer of 2015/16 the NSW Soil Conservation Service completed major works to control gully erosion at three sites in the southern part of Silvalite Reserve.

At the first site a 30m long loose rock flume was constructed on the east side of the main gully to control erosion which was actively destabilizing the main gully.

The second site was the installation of a loose rock flume to control active erosion at a point where stormwater flows out of the railway reserve.

The third site was in the bed of the main gully where a grade control structure was installed. This required the installation of a deep concrete cut-off wall and rock lined apron on the outlet side. The steep sides of the gully were cut back to a less steep grade and the sloping sides were covered with rock protection to prevent further erosion. The total cost of these works was \$58,000.

NOXIOUS WEEDS

Noxious weeds within the Wagga Wagga LGA have the potential to pose a serious threat to our natural environment, agricultural productivity and the health of the community.

Noxious weeds are those plant species that can potentially bring harm to individuals and the broader community, are difficult to control and have the potential to spread quickly within and to other areas.

Private land owners or occupiers of land are required under the Noxious Weeds Act 1993 to control any declared noxious weed which maybe present on their property. City of Wagga Wagga staff provide advice on weed control issues and carry out regular property inspections. In addition to this, more than 300 inspections were carried out on high risk sites, as well as 2600km of high risk pathways.

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

Council's Vegetation Management Officers implemented an extensive extensions campaign which included the following events:

- ▶ Henty Field Day
- ▶ Leisure Festival Road Show
- ▶ Garden and Leisure Show
- ▶ Tarcutta Community Education Day
- ▶ Science Week- Noxious Weeds under the Microscope
- ▶ The Humula Field Walk

These events included activities and advice on plant identification, management strategies, hygiene protocols, chemical application, and bio-controls. The noxious weed under the microscope was a new initiative where noxious weed seeds were set into resin and then viewed under the microscope by school students and their parents as part of Science Week. The program provided the participants with an understanding of how weeds are transported from area to area.

USE OF FIRE TO CONTROL WEEDS

Vegetation management staff have integrated the use of fire into the noxious weed control program. Many weed species such as coolatai grass and spiny burrgrass produce large quantities of seed that may lay dormant for years before germinating when conditions are right. The current strategy uses fire to destroy the parent plant after chemical treatment, this practice not only destroys any viable seed that may be on the plant but also any seed that may have fallen to the ground.

PEST ANIMALS

Some of the main pest species in the Wagga Wagga Local Government Area include Red Deer, Fallow Deer, Pigs, Goats, Rabbits and Foxes. Foxes are a major predator of native animals and ground nesting birds. The other pest mammal species are destructive, causing detrimental impacts on the habitat of native species.

Carp are a major pest species found in the Murrumbidgee River and tributary creeks. Carp are a vigorous species that out-compete our native fish for food, habitat and breeding sites.

A recently arrived pest with only a few sightings is the Common (Indian) Myna. Mynas are aggressive and deprive native birds of food, shelter, kill native nestlings, and evict native species from nests in tree hollows.



MARRAMBIIDYA WETLAND

The Marrambidya Wetland is located at the western end of Narrung st, a short five minute drive from Wagga Wagga's CBD. The wetland was constructed on a site that was previously used as tertiary treatment ponds. These ponds became redundant after the Narrung Street sewerage treatment plant was upgraded in 2010. Council partnered with the Riverina Local Land Services (LLS), the NSW Environmental Trust, Origin Energy and the Federal Government's Green Army initiative to complete the project in June 2016.

Extensive earthworks were undertaken to reshape the site to create three connected wetland ponds covering an area of six hectares. A mixture of shallow water with gently sloping banks, deep water channels as well as a variety of substrates ensures that there is enough diversity and niche habitats for a wide range of aquatic animals.

A team of 10 Green Army trainees were engaged to revegetate the site. The team planted more than 22,000 native plants in and around the ponds the plants were selected from native species, which will provide habitat and foraging areas for native animals.

The wetland was established with the aim of making an environmentally

beneficial asset through creative reuse of the site.

In addition to being a valuable resource to the natural environment it is also an asset that can be used by the community for:

- ▶ Environmental education
- ▶ Promotion of indigenous culture
- ▶ Tourism and passive recreation

As visitors walk around the constructed walkways there is extensive interpretive signage, discussing topics such as indigenous use of plants, macro-invertebrates, water birds, fish habitats and so on.

The site features an elevated viewing platform, shelters with tiered seating, and bird hides. These structures provide individuals and larger groups with a range of vantage points to view the wetland and birdlife.

Another important element of the site is the Wiradjuri Cultural Demonstration Area with a bora ring, fire pit, gunyahs, bush tucker garden and Healing Place.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION & ENGAGEMENT

COMMUNITY RECYCLING STATION

Council has a Community Recycling Station located in the Civic Centre. This station allows residents to dispose of problems wastes such as light globes, household batteries, printer cartridges, mobile phones and accessories, all for free. The most common item is household batteries. In its first year the station has accepted 91kg of batteries.

ANNUAL GRANTS

As part of its ongoing Annual Grants Program, Council has a funding stream specifically targeting 'Sustainable Environments'. Grants to the value of \$7000 were awarded in 2015/16 to not-for-profit/community groups who were carrying out projects deemed to have a positive environmental impact, such as sustainable gardens, biodiversity mapping of Willans Hill and similar projects.

SCHOOLS NATIONAL TREE DAY

Thirty three schools and preschools participated in Schools National Tree Day on Friday 24 July 2015. The City of Wagga Wagga provided 3335 seedlings to schools and preschools across the Local Government Area to plant in their school grounds.

NATIONAL TREE DAY

National Tree Day was celebrated on Sunday 26 July 2015. Twenty eight volunteers braved the cold, wet and windy conditions to plant seedlings at a community planting at Hilltop. As these seedlings grow they will link two areas of established vegetation. Connecting areas of bushland helps establish safe passageways for native fauna to move through our city promoting healthy populations.

SCHOOLS CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY

Twenty one local schools participated in the annual Schools Clean Up Australia Day event to help keep our city clean by collecting litter from their school grounds, local parks and bushland reserves.

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY

Local Clean Up Australia Day activities were coordinated by the City of Wagga Wagga on Sunday 6 March 2016. Community groups and individuals registered 11 sites throughout the Local Government Area to tidy up. The City of Wagga Wagga and the Wagga Wagga Tidy Town Sustainable Community Committee hosted a community clean up activity along Koorinal Road.

WILKS PARK AFTER DARK

The City of Wagga Wagga celebrated National Threatened Species Day and Biodiversity Month in September by hosting a free nocturnal guided tour of Wilks Park. Twenty participants helped spot Squirrel Gliders and Possums as part of the annual survey.

SMART HOMES SEMINAR SERIES

Local experts shared their knowledge on creating sustainable homes that are more comfortable and cheaper to run through the Smart Homes seminar series. Over the four week program topics included building and renovating with sustainability in mind, tapping into solar energy, energy efficient devices, health implications for a changing climate and growing a productive garden for the family and native fauna. The program was attended by 75 residents.

COMPOST DOCTOR

The City of Wagga Wagga received six Compost Doctor Workshops as part of a REROC project funded through the Environmental Trust. Participants learnt how composting works, what materials could be put into a composting system and common tricks and fixes for effective composting. One participant at each workshop also received a free compost bin.

SCHOOL SUSTAINABILITY SESSIONS

The City of Wagga Wagga offers free workshops to local schools on topics related to the environment including urban salinity, waste and recycling, biodiversity and water quality. More than 1450 students participated in the Schools Sustainability Sessions program in 2015/16.

BIODIVERSITY BLOOMS

Through this workshop students learned the basics of biodiversity including what it is, why it is important and how we can all assist in enhancing our natural environment. This workshop also includes a school ground biodiversity investigation either through a Mini-beast Hunt or Biodiversity Audit.

CLEANING UP OUR CATCHMENT

Water is a precious resource, but the activities that take place within a catchment can affect the quality of the water in our creeks, rivers and lakes. This workshop demonstrated how our actions can affect water ways, the animals that live there and ultimately the water we drink. Students conduct a school ground catchment assessment and identify potential areas of pollution.

RETHINKING WASTE

The way we consume resources and dispose of our waste is one of the greatest challenges facing our environment. This workshop looked at ways we can reduce our consumption of waste products, look at ideas for reuse of items and, when we must dispose of these wastes, how to do so responsibly.

URBAN SALINITY TOURS

Urban salinity is the accumulation of salt in the upper limits of the soil profile due to a high water table. Salt can impact roads, footpaths, vegetation and buildings. It is important that residents understand the causes of urban salinity as well as how this issue can be managed and the impact minimised. Senior students were taken on a bus tour of key sites around Wagga Wagga.

SOCIAL MEDIA

- ▶ 473 subscribers to the Sustainable Wagga monthly eNews
- ▶ 255 'likes' on the Sustainable Wagga Facebook page
- ▶ 11 monthly EnviroChat radio spots on 2AA

CONTACT US

GENERAL ENQUIRIES? REQUESTS? FEEDBACK?

There are many ways you can get further information or provide feedback on this report:

TALK WITH US

Phone 1300 292 442 or (02) 6926 9100,
or chat online with a Council representative.

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council@wagga.nsw.gov.au

WRITE TO US

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COME SEE US

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