

Gwydir Shire Council Annual Report 2017



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Council Statements and Values

Our Vision

To be the recognised leader in Local Government through continuous learning and sustainability.

Our Mission

To ensure that the Council's long term role is viable and sustainable by meeting the needs of our residents in a responsible caring way, attract sustainable development while maintaining the traditional rural values, character and culture of our people.

Council Core Values

1. For Our Community and Visitors

We will provide a safe, clean and healthy environment in which all people have the opportunity to participate in, and share in the Council's services and facilities.

2 For Our Community Committees

We will seek their opinion in relation to the services in which they assist us, offer relevant and timely support, and recognise their valuable contribution.

3 For Our Staff

We will create an atmosphere of team support, which encourages frank and honest communication, and the use of common sense and innovation in a safe and friendly working environment with the aim of efficiency.

4 For Our Councillors

We will treat all Councillors equally and ensure that they are provided with accurate and timely advice and expect that they will treat each other and the staff with due respect.

Council acknowledges the traditional owners of the land, the Kamilaroi People and pays its respect to Elders both past and present.

Welcome

Welcome to Gwydir Shire Council's Annual Report for 2016-2017. It is important to both Council and the community that we measure and report on our progress.

The plans are all interconnected. Progress toward the Operational Plan contributes to the implementation of the Delivery Program which contributes to achieving our community's goals and objectives as outlined in the Community Strategic Plan.

Measures are designed to inform each other and tell a story about Council's progress towards achieving the Community Strategic Plan, both day to day and over longer periods of time. The diagram below identifies the types of reports we are required to provide and what reporting periods will be covered.



This Annual Report has been produced for the benefit of our community and stakeholders. It is designed to keep them informed about our activities during the 2016-2017 Financial Year.

It is reporting on our performance against the Operational Plan 2015-2016 which forms part of the combined Delivery Program for 2015-2019 and Operational Plan.

This document reports on performance against the strategies to achieve our community's long term objectives. The priorities were formed through consultation with the Gwydir Community.

Community Consultation resulted in four key themes;



All NSW Councils provide different services. Some of these services are the traditional services such as infrastructure renewal and waste management or 'roads, rates and rubbish'. Others are not so traditional like some of the services we are required to provide including Residential Aged Care, Medical Centres, Childrens and Youth Services.

Gwydir Shire Council is committed to meeting its commitments under the Local Government Act 1993 – Sections 8A, 8B and 8C and to be transparent in reporting to our community and stakeholders. This Annual Report 2016-2017 is the primary means of sharing our performance in the last financial year.

If you would like to find out more about Gwydir Shire Council or contribute, through feedback, to the running of the Council you can do the following;



Visit Council's Website

24/7 access to council is provided through our website www.gwydirshire.com. On our website you will find information on our operations by viewing the IP & R Documentation, Agendas and Minutes along with key documents. Policies and guidelines are also available on the website. www.gwydir.nsw.gov.au



Facebook

We are on Facebook. Look for us on Facebook Gwydir Shire Council (Government Organisation). Enquiries, suggestions and comments can be posted here for consideration by the Administrator. Please 'like' us to make sure you get regular updates. www.facebook.com/GwydirShireCouncil



Gwydir Shire Council Newsletters

We send out Newsletters on a regular basis. These Newsletters are produced in-house with the purpose of providing the community and ratepayers with the latest Council related news and information.

Council & Committee Meetings

Council Meetings are held on the last Thursday of every month commencing at 9am. Committee Meetings (involving the whole Council) are held on the second Thursday of every month commencing at 9am. Although this is not the forum to contribute, members of the public are encouraged to come along and sit in the gallery to view the business of the council. Information on the location and time of these meetings are published in the local media and on the website.

Community Public Meetings

Public Meetings in outlying centres are held once a year or when there are topical issues concerning certain areas. Residents are involved to attend these meetings and have their say on the future planning and current operation of the Council. Information on the location and time of these meetings are published in the local media and on the website.

Mayor's Introduction



It is with pleasure that I introduce the 2016/17 Annual Report for Gwydir Shire Council. Gwydir Shire Council received a reality check in May 2015 when the State Government handed down a finding of unfit with threat of a merger with Moree Plains Shire Council.

The community expressed a strong unwillingness to the merger as did the council team of staff and elected members.

Since that time the entire organisation has become more efficient. Unfortunately in doing so, some employees have taken redundancy packages.

The result for the current year is a healthy financial surplus and a council working co-operatively together with a strong vision for the future.

It is an exciting time for Gwydir. We have received combined funding from the State and Federal Governments to construct a heavy vehicle by-pass around Warialda which will allow road trains and B Triples access to the Gwydir Highway from the north. The total cost of the project, which includes a dump point and truck wash, is in excess of \$6.5m.

The Federal Government significantly increased their contribution to the Roads to Recovery programme over a three year period and this has had a positive effect on both the condition of the shire roads and the liquidity of the local economy.

The State Government has commenced the roll out of funds which have resulted from the sale of the electricity poles and wires and Gwydir will be a direct beneficiary of that scheme.

It was a positive note for Gwydir when the last census revealed that the Shires population had increased by 6% and not fallen as predicted. This is an important factor as one of the criteria in the fit for the future exercise is population. This council is currently looking at a major development that on completion will provide 300 jobs. Stage one which could commence as early as next year will support 64 full time jobs with many more during the construction stage.

This, combined with the proposed behind the meter scheme, will enhance job opportunities within the shire and increase the population making Gwydir even more liveable.

It is pleasing to be able to serve the community in the atmosphere of efficiency and friendliness that is exhibited by the staff. We have a wonderful team.

I also thank my fellow councillors for the contribution they make to the community and admire the way the team works through problems, resulting in a decision that everyone owns and supports.

John Coulton.

General Manager's Report



The Council has addressed many significant issues over the previous year. Foremost among these issues has been addressing the need to move the Council's finances onto a more sustainable basis.

This Annual Report contains the Audited Financial Statements for the year 2016/17 and it is very pleasing to note the significant improvement in Council's net operating result for the year's operations from a deficit of \$7,050,000 in 2015/16 to a surplus of \$3,133,000 in 2016/17.

Over the last few years the State Government's Fit for the Future process has resulted in every Council, including Gwydir Shire, evaluating its operations with a commitment to improvement.

The improvements made over this last year will be used as the springboard going into 2017/18 to consolidate and sustain the gains made to date.

The Integrated Planning and Reporting requirements on Local Government are also been embedded into the way the Council undertakes its public consultation with its community.

The improvements made to the Council's operations don't just happen without hard work and a strong commitment to a shared vision.

The Mayor, elected Councillors and staff work extremely well as a team with a shared prosperous vision for Gwydir's future.

M Eastcott

Our Population has increased by 6%. The 2016 Census released 27 June 2017 informed us that our population had a healthy increase

We welcomed six new citizens during the reporting period. Citizenship ceremonies were held at the February and June Council Meetings.

Our Council Area

Gwydir Shire is located on the North West Slopes and Plains of NSW, approximately 400kms north of Sydney, 120kms north of Tamworth, 300kms south west of Brisbane, 40kms west of Inverell and 40kms east of Moree.

The Shire sits at the crossroads of the Fossickers Way, a popular north-south touring route, the Gwydir Highway, a significant east-west route linking the NSW North Coast to Outback NSW and on Nature's Way (State Touring Route 3), which links Narrabri to Inverell via Gwydir Shire. The Bruxner Highway (east-west route) traverses the northern edge of the Shire with links into southern Queensland.

Much of Gwydir Shire lies between the 29°S and 30°S latitudes, placing it mid-way in the realm of arable lands within the Southern Hemisphere. It has a temperate climate with warm to hot summers (25°C – 35°C) and cool to mild winters (10°C – 20°C). The average elevation across the shire is approximately 350m above sea level. The Gwydir Shire lies about 300kms from the Tasman Sea and the north coast of NSW.

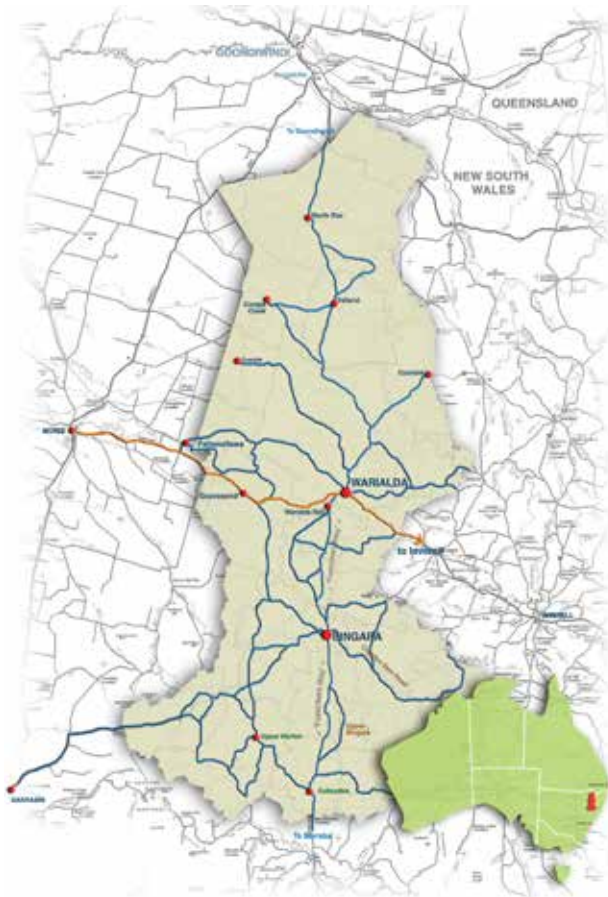
The Shire is part of the New England – North West Region of NSW (also known as the Northern Inland Region) and is bounded by Tamworth Regional Council to the south, Narrabri Shire to the south west, Moree Plains Shire to the west, Inverell Shire to the east and Uralla and Guyra Shires to the south east.

Incorporating an area of 9,122 square kilometres, Gwydir Shire extends from the Nandewar Range in the south and north to close to the Queensland border. The landscapes of the Shire are diverse, and in places, breathtaking.

The southern and central areas of the Shire are located within the Gwydir River catchment area with the Gwydir River flowing through Bingara and Gravesend. The southern areas of the Shire are hilly with pockets of highly fertile river flats along the Gwydir River and its main tributaries.

Mt Kaputar National Park forms the western edge of the Shire, with rugged remnant volcanic peaks and landforms rising above the Gwydir Valley. The northern part of the Shire lies within the 'Golden Triangle'. Built on the black soils from basalt outflows of the New England, it is one of the most productive agricultural areas in Australia.

Agriculture is the primary land use and economic activity within Gwydir Shire. Livestock production dominates in the southern and central areas of the Shire, with the Shire producing prime beef, lamb and pork. The Shire has a collection of beef cattle and sheep properties with a number of renowned beef studs.



Broadacre cropping is undertaken in the northern part of the Shire, with the main crops being wheat, sorghum and barley. Other crops include dryland cotton, other grains (oats, maize, triticale), hay and pasture seeds, pulses (chickpeas, field beans, mung beans, faba beans, lentils) and oilseeds (canola, soybeans and sunflowers).

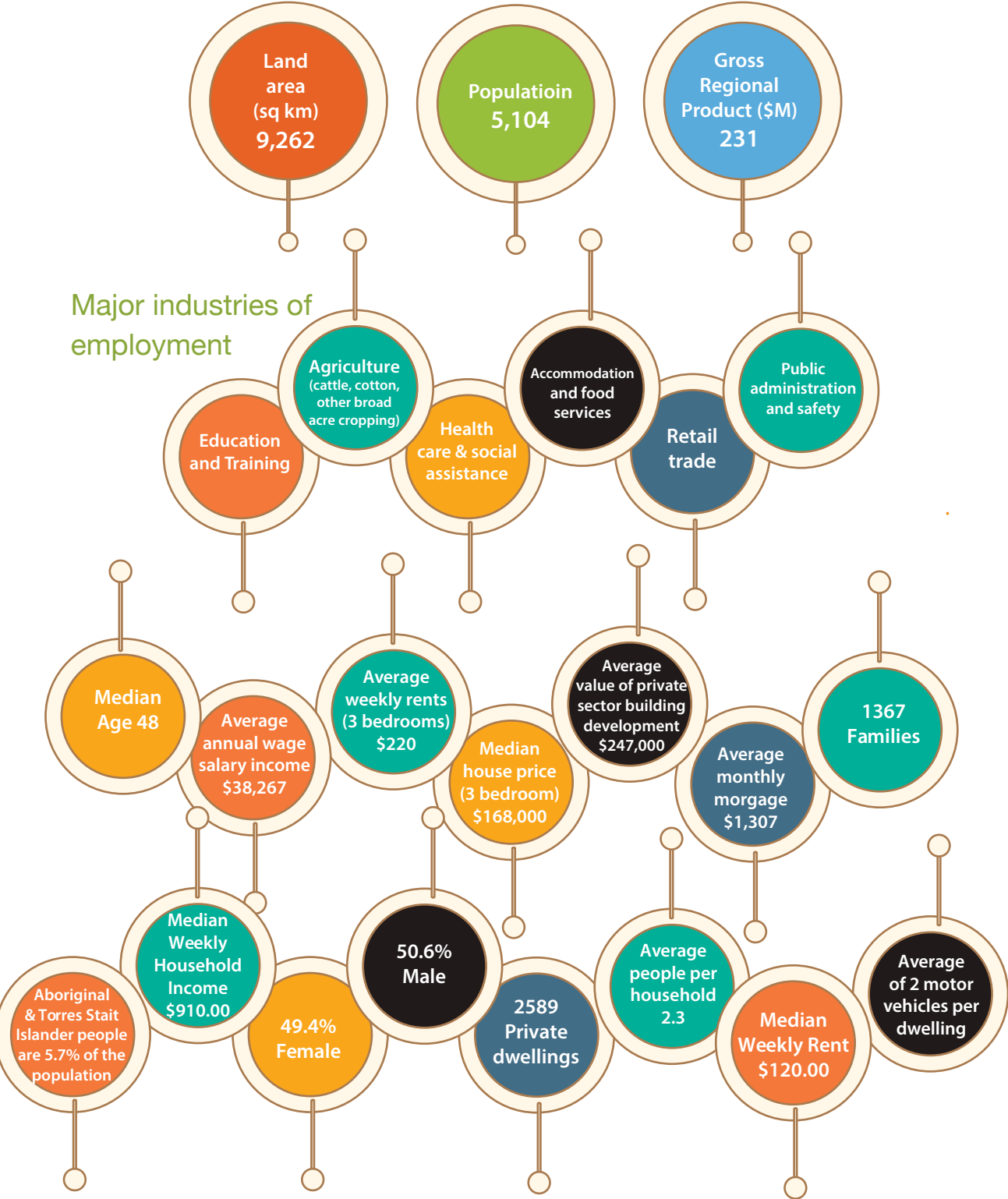
In June 2015, Gwydir Shire had an estimated population of 5,068. The Shire has two small towns, Bingara and Wyallda, located approximately 40km apart. Bingara services the southern part of the Shire. Located on the Gwydir River at the intersection of the Fossickers Way and Nature's Way (State Touring Route 3), Bingara is a popular stop for travellers.

Wyallda is located on the Gwydir Highway, midway between Inverell and Moree. The town is a service centre for both the surrounding rural area and Highway travellers.

Both towns have small, vibrant shopping centres, with IGA supermarkets, historic hotels, eateries and shops that meet the day-to-day needs of the community. There are also a few boutiques and some lifestyle and 'quirky' retailers that are always popular with visitors. Both towns are ideal to use as a stop-over base for exploring the Gwydir Shire and surrounding regions.

The Shire has five rural villages – North Star, Croppa Creek, Coolatai and Gravesend in the northern part of the Shire, and Upper Horton in the south. The Shire has 21 rural localities – Boonal, Blue Nobby, Yallaro, Crooble, (part of) Pallamallawa and Balfours Peak in the northern half of the Shire, and Wyallda Rail, Gineroi, Bangheet, Riverview, Elcombe, Pallal, Rocky Creek, Back Creek, Cobbadah, Gundamulda, Dinoga, Gulf Creek, Upper Bingara, Keera and Copeton in the southern half.

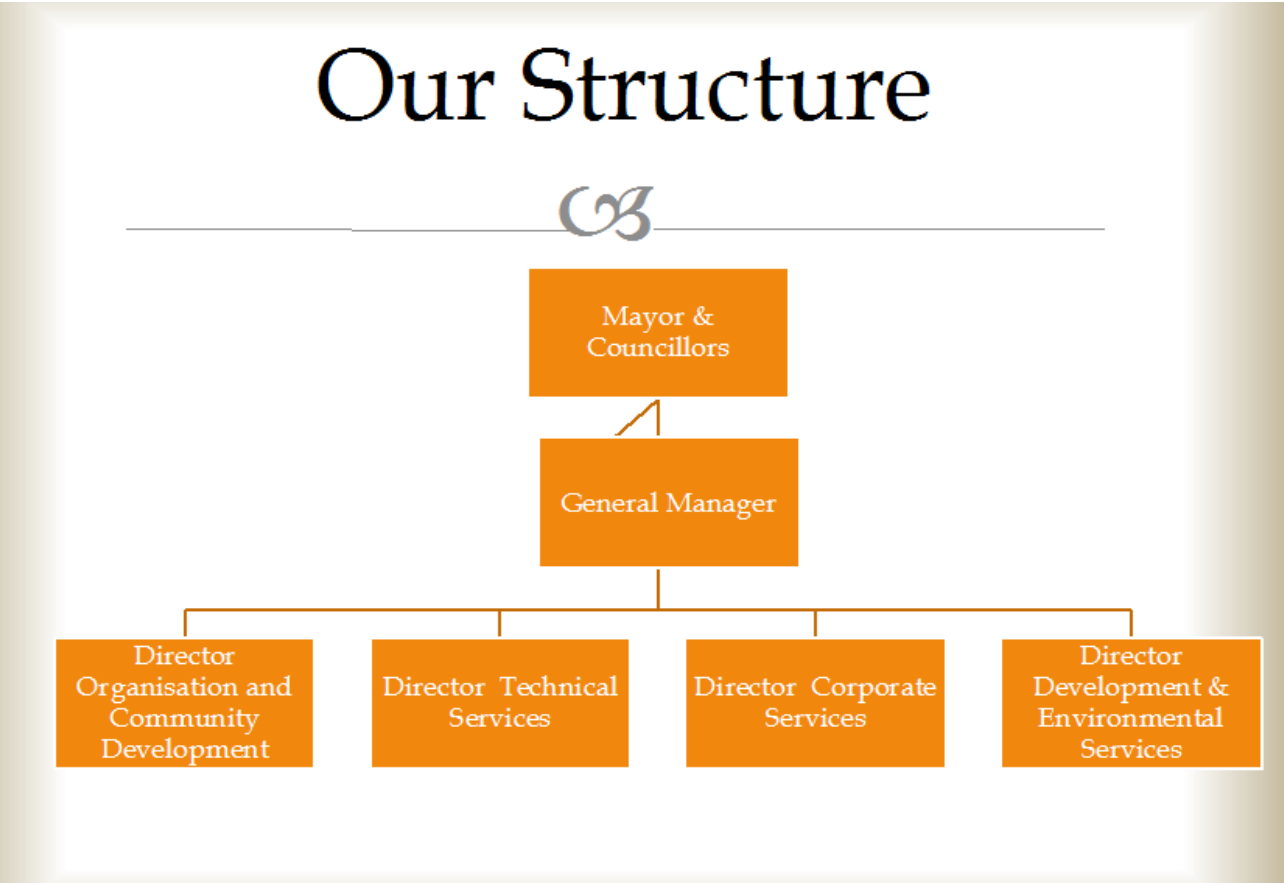
Gwydir Shire Council At A Glance



References:
Australian Bureau of Statistics www.abs.gov.au
Regional Development Australia - Gwydir Shire Local Government Area

Gwydir Shire Council Organisation Structure

Below is the organisation structure in place during this reporting period. This structure was reviewed and changed in the first quarter of the 2017/18 financial year.



Our Elected Council

Gwydir Shire Council elections were held on Saturday 10 September 2016. Outgoing Councillors who did not seek re-election were Crs Peter Pankhurst, Kerry McDonald and Angela Doering.

Councillors John Coulton, Catherine Egan, Stuart Dick, James Moore, Marilyn Dixon and Geoff Smith were all re-elected. Welcomed to Council were new Councillors Tiffany Galvin, David Coulton and Frances Young. John Coulton was re-elected Mayor and Catherine Egan was re-elected Deputy Mayor. Both were re-elected unopposed and for the first time, for a two year term.

Council celebrated the contribution of the outgoing Councillors; of particular note was the presentation of the Office of Local Government NSW Certificate of Appreciation to Peter Pankhurst for 33 years of service.



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Cr Catherine Egan - Deputy Mayor
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Cr. Tiffany Galvin
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Cr Geoff Smith
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On Australia Day, 2017 Cr Marilyn Dixon was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for her tireless community service and her commitment to lifelong volunteering.



How the Annual Report is structured

This Annual Report is divided into three sections:

Section 1 – Gwydir Shire Council Achievements

This section provides an outline of Gwydir Shire Council's progress against the actions set out in the Delivery Program 2016-2020 and Operational Plan 2016-2017.

Section 2 – Statutory Reporting Requirements

This section includes the Statutory reporting requirements prescribed by the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.

Section 3 – Financial Statements

This section includes Gwydir Shire Council's General Purpose Financial Statements for the Financial Year ending 20 June 2017, including an Income Statement, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Changes in Equity and Statement of Cash Flows



Our Financial Achievements

Operating profit
>\$3 Million

Fit for the Future financial
sustainability position strengthened

Gwydir Shire Council has returned an operating profit of just over \$3 million at the end of June 2017. This progress will strengthen our Fit for the Future position and work towards building solid financial foundation. Below are our main financial indicators for the 2016/2017 year.

Income Statement	(\$'000)
Total Income from Continuing Operations	28 020
Total Expenses from Continuing Operations	24 947
Net Operating Result from Continuing Operations	3 133
Net Operating Result before Capital Grants and Contributions	2 592

Balance Sheet	(\$'000)
Total Current Assets	9 859
Total Current Liabilities	6 282
Net Current Assets	3 577
Total Non-Current Assets	424 032
Total Non-Current Liabilities	11 503
Total Equity	416 106

Impact of the Special Rate Variation

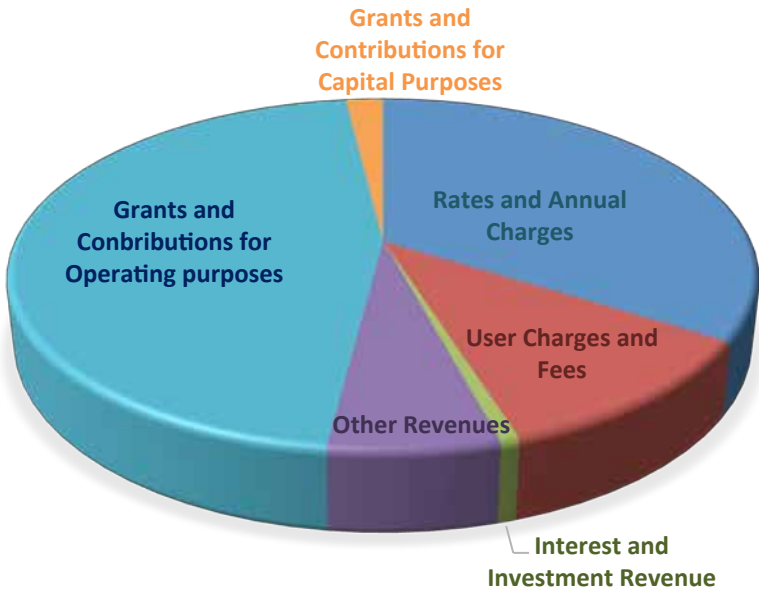
The Special Rate Variation received in the 2016-2017 Financial Year has allowed Council to improve its Financial Position and Sustainability. This is in line with the proposed use of the Special Rate Variation. The Special Rate Variation along with other financial management has allowed Council to return a net operating profit for the 2016-2017 Financial Year.

Council’s Budgeted income was \$30 465 000 with an actual Income of \$28 080 000. The reduction in actual income to budget income was due largely to a significant reduction in Roads and Maritime Services income for works completed.

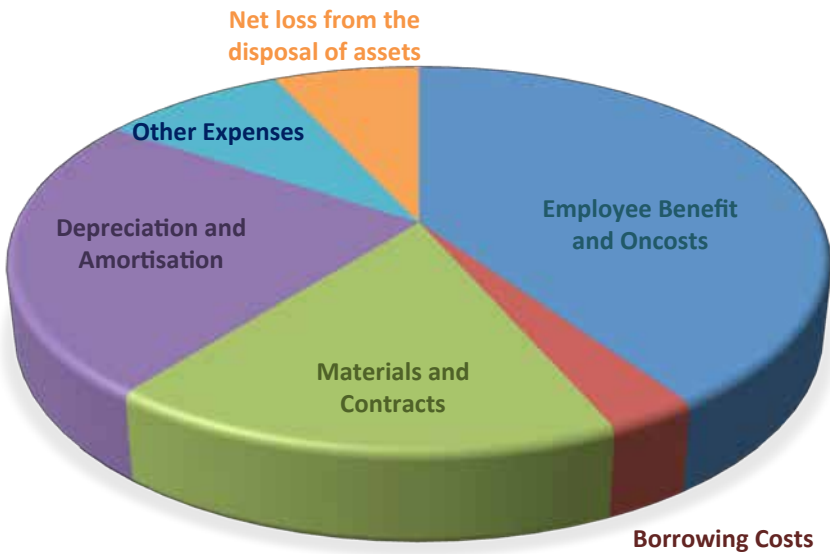
Council’s Budgeted expense was \$26 353 000 with an actual expense cost of \$24 947 000. This difference was largely due to the revaluation of tip and quarry rehabilitation.

Gwydir Shire Finances at a Glance

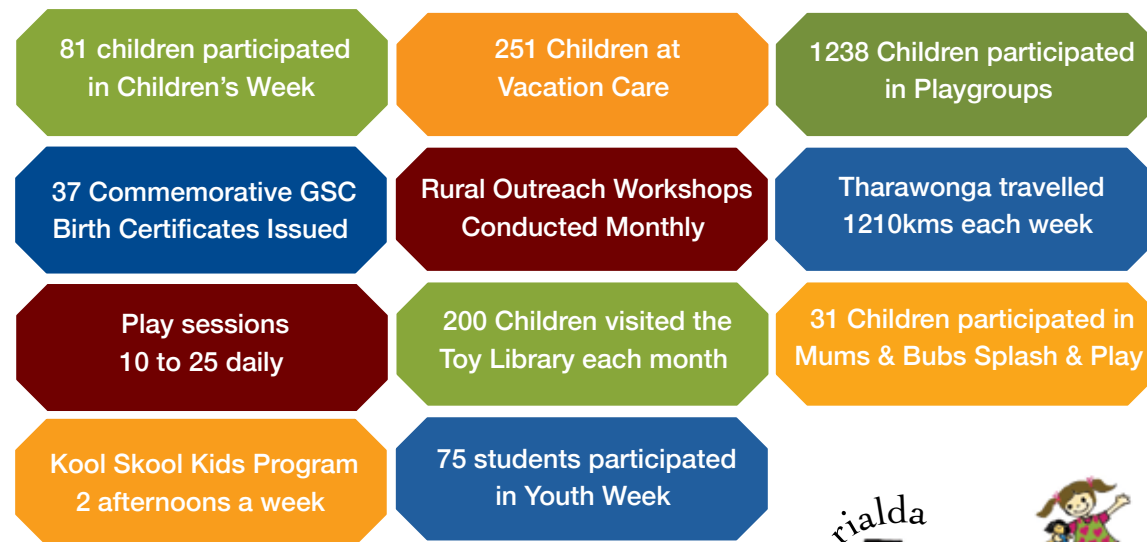
WHERE OUR MONEY COMES FROM



WHERE OUR MONEY GOES



Our achievements in Social Services



Warialda Toy Library

Childrens Week Celebration

Children's week was celebrated with 81 children attending the event. Children were encouraged to engage in a variety of experiences including Police and Ambulance vehicle demonstrations, story time, playdough and painting activities as well as shaving cream sensory play. Visitors on the day included children and staff of the Warialda Preschool, Tharawonga Mobile resource Unit, Gravesend and Warialda Playgroups and members of the Toy Library.

Cooking Day

Each month a cooking day was catered for where children were encouraged to be hands on in the preparation and process of cooking. Families were asked to contribute ideas on the food they would like to see created at the service and families brought along home grown produce to use during these sessions. Children then shared the food prepared with their peers.

Festive events

Warialda Toy Library prides itself in providing opportunities for children and their families to take part in special events celebrating, parents, grandparents, Christmas & Easter celebrations. Experiences were catered for throughout the weeks leading up to the events, building anticipation and excitement, whilst ensuring all children had the opportunity to participate. Special guests were invited along to take part in these events with the children and their families.

Music and movement / Literacy and story time

Children and families engaged in wonderful dance and story time sessions. Story time happens routinely, however, once a month when collaboration with the Town Library takes place.

Commemorative Birth Certificates

Families residing in the Gwydir Shire that have a child born on or after March 17th 2004, (The date in which the Gwydir Shire was formed) are eligible to receive a certificate. Applications are issued upon request by the Supported Playgroup Development Worker or are handed out by Hunter New England Health Child and Family Health Nurse.

Presentations are then organised and an invitation extended to either the Mayor or a Councillor to present the certificates to families. Families are provided with a gold certificate, a parent pack and a light morning tea and play session to follow the presentation.

24 Warialda families were recorded during the 2016/2017 financial year with ceremonies taking place during Oct 2016 and May 2017

13 Bingara families were recorded during the 2016/2017 financial year, with ceremonies taking place during December 2016 and July 2017

Information and Education Mornings

Throughout 2016/2017 an abundance of information sessions were held inviting all members to attend.

The Rural Outreach & Support Service provided a 'Purse Strings Cooking' class for parents and carers. Sandy Scotton from the Hunter New England Area Health Service attended the Toy Library providing education and creating awareness regarding children's speech and the importance of early detection/assessment.

Dietician Sally Lavery, also from the Hunter New England Area Health Service, provided an informative session surrounding nutrition during the early years.

Centrelink joined the service to clarify family and various other payment options and also discussed any changes to eligibility of payments. Beverly Walls from the DET visited in March 2017 and shared a morning with members, providing them with a wonderful presentation regarding Otitis Media and the importance of ear health during the early years of child development and beyond.

Preschool director Sara Turner attended an information morning for parents regarding transition to preschool and held a basic Q&A session for parents attending on the day.

Regular visits each month from Hunter New England Area Health Services, Child and Family Health Nurse, Debbie Armstrong were maintained. During visits from Debbie, parents/carers were able to have their children weighed and or measured and any immunisations administered upon request.

The Toy Library also values, promotes and encourages local home based businesses, inviting them along often to share with members their particular area of interest or expertise. During 2016/2017 the toy library enjoyed visits from Meaghan Stamer, providing valuable information to parents/ carers about placenta encapsulation and baby wearing, Angie Pritchard who is a local 'Your Inspiration At Home' Consultant, Hannah Landrigan showcased her 'Country Rose' (hand and home made

assessor), Hannah Coote made available for viewing a range of ‘Tupperware’ and Amy Brooks joined a session providing the opportunity for families to experience the ‘Scentsy’ range.

Play sessions

Warialda has continued to maintain numbers throughout the year averaging between 10 and 25 children daily. The structure of the service has remained the same with morning sessions being available each week day from 10am – 12noon, (excluding Wednesdays due to playgroup being held in Gravesend on this day). During these morning sessions not only is play provided, but the implementation of art and craft, cooking, music and movement or literacy and story time experiences, education regarding various early childhood developmental stages and general family wellbeing is provided throughout the year as well.

Orange Picking

The Orange Picking Ceremony is always a highlight for Toy Library families. This year playgroup and toy library families enjoyed the school presentation and community commemorative ceremony before joining the school children to pick the oranges.

Inter Service Collaboration

The Bingara Public Librarian provided Toy Library and Playgroup sessions with story time and craft. This was a great collaboration of the two services to encourage children and families to read together. A small table with chairs and a book box filled with children’s and adult books for families to borrow was installed at the Toy Library to continue the important connection with the Town Library. This enabled families to access both services at once.

School Holidays

During the school holidays the Toy Library is open for craft and play sessions for families. The attendance is always high as this offers families a place to come and play with their children and participate in activities with other children and families.

After School Activities

The Public Library initiated Crafty Kids sessions for school aged children at the Toy Library and this was very well attended. At the conclusion of the program it was decided to continue with an after school program for school aged children as there was a demonstrated need for this type of service in Bingara. The Kool Skool Kids Program commenced at the beginning of the 2017 school year and has proved to be an invaluable service to working parents. This service is open to Toy Library members only and accommodates up to 15 children each Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon. The children participate in craft, games and sporting activities. The children are able to catch the “walking bus” from the school to the Toy Library where they are accompanied by a staff member and this really adds to the fun of the program.

New Shade Shelter

With the help of Toy Library staff and one of our regular members over \$1000 was raised for the

New Shade Shelter. The funds raised enabled the Service to purchase and install a permanent shade structure over the sandpit and cubby house. All our members enjoy the new structure and the children can now use this area more in the hotter months of the year. The addition of safety screens on the front and rear doors have also added to the security of the service.

Bubz Biz

Bubz Biz and Mothers’ Group sessions provide families with educational advice on a wide range of areas including diet, alternative therapies, speech, parenting, preschool readiness, food taste testing, lunch box ideas, immunisation, Centrelink, hearing and local business. These sessions are run on a monthly basis with professionals from each field attending to assist families in their role.

Workshops

The Rural Outreach and Support Service in conjunction with the Toy Library provided workshops and sessions for families once a month. Topics covering communication, cooking on a budget, healthy relationships, love and body language were delivered.

Toy Library

Approximately 200 children access the Toy Library each month to attend either playgroup, after school programs or play sessions. Activities are planned in accordance with the age of the children attending and families are able to access the service for specialist discussions or to visit the HNEH Child and Family Health Nurse who attends on a monthly basis. The service continues to thrive and grow with each new child born receiving a complimentary membership so that all families in Bingara and surrounds are welcome to enjoy this wonderful service.

Broadband for Seniors

Broadband for Seniors now runs on Monday and Wednesday mornings from the Bingara Toy Library. Senior members of the community were invited to morning tea and an introductory session. There has been good participation and numbers continue to increase in this valuable service.

Playgroups

Playgroups across the Shire have continued to strive towards providing families with an opportunity to participate in a welcoming and friendly play environment, whereby children are granted the ability to explore their surrounds through play and parents/ carers are encouraged to engage with one another whilst attending to play experiences with their child/ren.

Sessions take place each Monday morning at the Warialda Toy Library and in Bingara each Thursday morning, and in Gravesend each Wednesday morning throughout the school term calendar year. Various arts/crafts, music and movement, literacy and story time experiences are a consistent routine during session times.

A total of 1238 points of contact were achieved during this financial year. This means that 1238 children attended playgroups across the Shire and were able to participate and gain experience in everything that this service has to offer.

Bingara Preschool

Connections to the community

Bingara Preschool continued with its close connection to The Living Classroom. Over last 12 months there have been several visits for planting weaving grasses and other native plants including Bush Tucker propagated and nurtured in the Preschool Green House. 'Aunty Dolly Jerome from Tenterfield visited as part of "The Water Weaving Way" project and she engaged with over 150 people from preschoolers to seniors.



Through funding provided by the Department of Education for Bingara Preschool, Dolly delighted the preschoolers with a range of indigenous arts and crafts. Grinding and mixing coloured ochres led to drawings on the concrete paths and then face/body painting. The session was followed by boomerang throwing and then planting of native grasses around the dam. Children were introduced to language of 'country' learning about the emu and their unusual chick raising habits. Next, the challenge was weaving, but not just with the ready-made products. The students had to first make twine from the leaves of plants like Lomandra, Bull Rushes and Yuccas then fashioning a useful product. Many pieces of jewellery were produced as well as grass skirts and yabby traps. The students and teachers learnt a lot about how things were done in years gone by and how to apply these skills and attitudes to everyday living. The lessons learnt around understanding culture and respect for those around you were invaluable.

35 adults from across the Shire tried their hand at the weaving crafts. Again they had to start with the raw materials to make their weaving cords. It was a great session of craft with some storytelling and some indigenous knowledge and wisdom.

For Childrens Week Bingara Preschool invited Playgroup and preschool families to join in on some 'Old fashioned' games and old fashioned scones, jam and cream. The scones were cooked with help from the children. They made watermelon and banana kebabs as well for an after morning tea treat for the visitors.

The Orange Picking and Orange Festival are always a highlight of the year. This year had a theme of 'Happy Days'. The preschool children performed a rock and roll number called 'Yakety Yak'.

Early Childhood Education

Bingara Preschool prides itself in providing an educational program suited to children's early years learning. Children are engaged in play based learning giving them opportunities for the underpinning knowledge of literacy, maths, science, technology, social and emotional skills. ELLA is part of the literacy program teaching children Japanese using iPads.

Graduation

18 children graduated from Bingara Preschool at the end of 2016 and were presented with official Graduation Certificates.

Tharawonga Mobile Resource Unit

Tharawonga continues to provide a great service to five communities across the northern end of Gwydir Shire. To provide this service the team is covering 1210 kilometres each week. Playgroup, Preschool and Toy Library are delivered to Crooble, North Star, Yallaroi, Yetman and Tulloona.



The families who accessed Tharawonga are from a diverse background ranging from international students on working visas to multi-generational farming families. Tharawonga offers an opportunity for children to learn and grow and for families to interact and communicate, to gain confidence and experience in parenting and life skills.

In total 38 children attend Tharawonga during this reporting period. Many families attend more than one service each week. Throughout the last year Tharawonga has celebrated many things with the communities they visit.

Connections to Community and beyond

As a strategy to reach out to families with in the northern reaches of Gwydir Shire, Tharawonga Mobile Resource Unit put on special events at each venue to bring attention to the wonderful service provided to the area. Some of these events included a "Winter Wonderland" at Yallaroi, a "Pyjama Party" at Yetman and "Olympic Games" at Tulloona. These events were successful in bringing new families to Tharawonga.

The Rural Health Nurse visits Yallaroi on a monthly basis to provide Baby Health checks, talks on relevant topics and immunisations.

An Outreach Library service is at Yallaroi Hall. The box of books is available for children to use as if at a regular 'town' library.

Graduation

A total of 14 children graduated from Tharawonga Mobile resource Unit and a beautiful ceremony was held at Yallaroi. These children now attend schools in many different towns.

Mums and Bubs Splash & Play

Mums and Bubs 'Splash and Play' sessions continued in the 2016/2017 season at Warialda and Bingara pools. These sessions provide Mums the opportunity to gain skills and help children gain water confidence. The lessons were provided by a qualified Austswim teacher. 31 children accessed this service over the reporting period.

Vacation Care

The Vacation Care Program covered several key developmental areas for children, including gross motor development, creative skills, social development and fine motor skills.

Vacation Care was held in Bingara and a free bus was offered to transport children from Warialda to enable access to the service. By having a single venue the cost efficiency of the program has improved immensely. This was a great way to encourage inter town participation and cooperation.

251 Children enrolled for Holiday Activities over the reporting period.

Youth Service

Youth Week



On Friday the 7th of April, Gwydir Shire Council in conjunction with Bingara Central School held an event to celebrate Youth Week. There was a bus from Warialda with 40 students to participate in the event. 75 students attended the event in total.

Speakers on the day included Sam Bailey who had an amazing story of adaptability and resilience, speakers from Hunter New England health ran a workshop on healthy diet and the importance of maintaining it. They also had a

sexual health education professional make a presentation. There were also speakers from Headspace and UNE. The day was a success for both students and supervisors. It was an excellent opportunity for young people to mix and learn about many of the issues that they face as they grow up.

School Involvement

Gwydir Youth Service continues to support young people across the Shire, offering intake and assessment services. The youth service works closely with Bingara Central School to provide first point of contact for counselling services as well as referral to specialists for young people who are struggling to cope with the pressures of life. Staff accompanied young people from Bingara and Warialda to Youth In Search camps and continue to support these young people.

2016 Gwydir/Willoughby Youth Exchange Program



The 2016 program saw 5 young people from our shire participate in the exchange. Through the Gwydir end of the exchange the Willoughby participants were given the opportunity to experience what Gwydir Shire has to offer and what it is like to live in a rural area and see how different it is compared to city life.

In September the Gwydir participants ventured down to Sydney.

Our achievements in Aged Care

Naroo underwent a period of change	1310 days of respite	Bingara CHSP - Transport – 948 occasions of service
Reduction of transfers from Naroo by 90% in second half of the year	60 new admissions	Warialda/Delungra CHSP - Assistance to 165 clients, Served 7050 meals
Provision of End of Life Care at Naroo	Bingara CHSP - 2363 occasions of service, 170 Social support	Warialda/Delungra CHSP - Meals On Wheels 2788, Provided transport to 2511 clients
Falls reduced by 25%	Bingara CHSP - 52 Centre Based Day care, Meals – 537	



Aged Care Services within the Gwydir Shire have had a busy year. Added to the activity that the year has brought there have been significant staff changes. After a period four months of temporary management arrangements Sharon Baker commenced in October, 2017 as Aged Care Manager for the Gwydir Shire Council. The Aged Care Manager position was newly created. This position is responsible for all of Gwydir Shire Council's Aged Care services.

Naroo Aged Care Facility

Naroo is a 36 bed Aged Care Facility. 10 beds are designated as dementia specific. The ongoing problem of securing a Registered Nurse at Naroo Hostel to support care staff with the care of residents in the facility was solved with the appointment of another competent Registered Nurse. The Aged Care Manager is also a Registered Nurse and is based at Naroo.

Naroo has undergone many changes throughout the year focusing on staff education and improved care for the residents and community. The first half of the reporting period saw a dramatic reduction in resident numbers. For a considerable period of the time 12 of the available 36 beds were vacant. This had a damaging impact on the end of year financial result.

Since the new Aged Care Manager has commenced the following changes have been made to the operations at Naroo;

- Review and adjustment of staffing hours
- Restricted overtime
- Partnership with Warialda Multipurpose Centre (Resource Sharing)
- Industry specific training delivered in-house by Manager
- Established networks with health care professionals and regional health facilities

- Review of procurement practices resulting in costs savings
- Dietician review of menus
- Review of sick leave culture
- Updated ACFI Reviews for all residents

These changes collectively have provided a solid basis for an improved financial performance in this area over the next financial period and beyond.

The team at Naroo have put together “Above and Below the Line Behaviours” to assist with improved teamwork and communication.

Naroo Hostel has provided care on 45 Respite occasions of service to a total of 1310 days and 98 permanent occasions of service to a total of 27503 days. Total admissions to Naroo 60. There has been extensive work on falls prevention and education to staff. Falls have been reduced by 25% in the last 6 months.

There were a total of 22 transfers out of Naroo from July 2016 to December 2016. From January 2017 to June 2017 there was a total of 3. There has been a reduction in transfers by 90%. Focus has been on provision of end of life care within Naroo and impact of reduction in both falls and associated injuries, as well as support from Registered Nurses to care staff within the facility.

Naroo Advisory Committee

The purpose of Naroo Committee is to provide support to Management within the Naroo facility and promote Ageing In Place within the community as well as fundraising to provide those extra special items to our residents. The Committee consists of 11 community members.

The Committee has purchased a brand new mechanical lifter and falls prevention equipment which has been utilised on a daily basis.

During the reporting period a subcommittee was formed to provide catering within the community. All profits from this group will come back to the Naroo committee to spend within the facility and support the residents.

Some committee members and staff also ran the canteen at the local show in March raising over \$3500.00 for Naroo. This was a massive effort by the staff and volunteers who participated.



Commonwealth Home Support Services

Home and Community Care (HACC) services were replaced by the Commonwealth Home Support Program(CHSP) in July 2015. This is the second year that the CHSP has been running. This model for older Australians provides entry level support to allow them to continue living independently in their home and in their community for longer.

We aim to provide services that support good health and well-being, through increasing independence and community involvement. Residents registered with Gwydir Commonwealth Home Support Services can access Meals, Transport and Social Support (Individual and Social). Additionally Bingara Community Transport is funded through Transport NSW and provides for a comprehensive Community Transport Program.

Both Bingara and Wialda CHSP Services rely heavily on volunteer workers to assist with the delivery of services. Bingara CHSP service boasts a large number of competent volunteer drivers for the Transport service.

Our Community Transport Service is both local and inter-town. The Local Service operates Monday to Friday and is available for residents who want to go shopping, to medical appointments, social events or visits to the Community Health Centre or Multipurpose Centre. The Inter-Town Service provides transport to the towns of Tamworth, Armidale, Moree, Narrabri, Inverell, Barraba and Wialda for medical appointments as well as professional services and access. The Access Bus travels to Tamworth and Inverell on alternate monthly visits.

CHSP Bingara had some dramatic changes after it farewelled its two long serving staff members and two new staff members were recruited for the service. This service has provided the following over the reporting period;

- 2363 occasions of service
- 170 Social support
- 52 Centre Based Day care
- 537 Meals provided
- 948 occasions of Transport service

The Bingara CHSP staff commenced working towards healthy community through the implementation of a program to improve overall health and wellbeing aimed at reducing falls and increasing confidence in members of the Bingara community.

Wialda and Delungra CHSP services are operated by the competent Wialda team. During this reporting period they have provided the following;

- Assistance to 165 clients
- Served 7050 meals
- Meals On Wheels 2788
- Provided transport to 2511 clients

They have also organised many events throughout the year including celebrations such as St Patrick’s Day, Christmas in July and Volunteers morning tea.

The Gwydir Health Alliance

During the 2016/17 year Gwydir Shire Council formed the Gwydir Community Health Alliance.

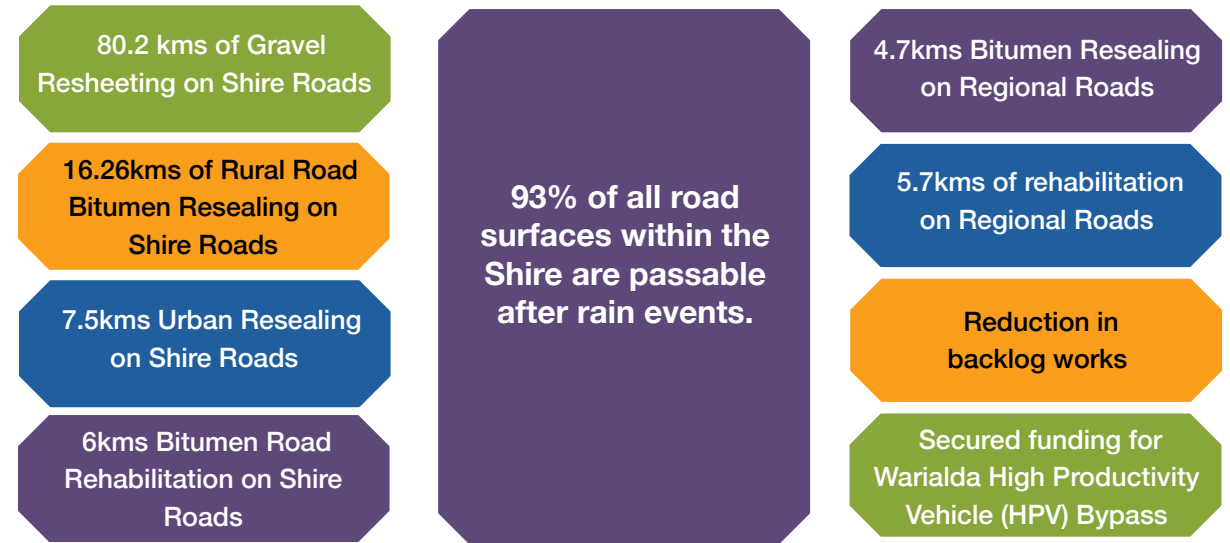
The primary role of this Committee is to monitor the provision of the ongoing quality and consistency of healthcare within Gwydir Shire.

The Committee will achieve this role through reviewing the various benchmarks used in measuring the provision of health care within the Shire's two Multipurpose Services.

The Committee will:

- recommend to Council what support and/or assistance may be required to attract and maintain appropriately qualified General Practitioners with Visiting Medical Officer accreditation or other relevant matters pertaining to the provision of healthcare within the Shire.
- act as an advocate group on behalf of the Gwydir Community with other levels of Government as and when required.
- table the minutes of each Committee Meeting at the next available Council Meeting
- meet at least quarterly or more often if required.

Our Achievements in Technical Services



The Technical Services department is responsible for the maintenance and construction of 369.27km of sealed Local Roads, 1,397.63km of unsealed Local Roads and 258.8km of Regional Roads. The replacement value of these roads and their associated infrastructure (including large culverts and bridges) exceeds \$360 million.

During the 2016-2017 Financial Year the Technical Services Department completed a very full program of Shire Road maintenance and construction. This included 80.2km of gravel resheeting, 16.26km of rural road bitumen resealing, 7.5km of urban resealing, and 6.0km of bitumen road rehabilitation.

In addition to the Shire Road network, the Technical Services department undertook Regional Road construction and maintenance. This included 4.7km bitumen resealing and 5.7km of rehabilitation.

These works have enabled Gwydir Shire Council to maintain the enviable position of having 93% of all road surfaces, within the Shire, passable after rain events.

Further to the above, the Technical Services department also maintained Aerodromes, Carparks, Footpaths, Kerb & Gutter, Stormwater, Bridges and Bus Shelters throughout the Shire.

These achievements are enabled by a very mature asset management system, designed and assembled in-house, that allows the Technical Services staff to specifically identify service needs and then direct resources to those needs.

Emergency Services were also coordinated through the Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC) with direct administrative assistance provided to the Rural Fire Service (RFS).

The Technical Services team has continued with process improvement, particularly in Road Construction and Maintenance that has created efficiencies in the order of 25%. This has allowed additional works to be undertaken for the budgets allocated which, in turn, have enabled the reduction of identified backlog works. It is anticipated that the backlog of work will be cleared in the 2018-2019 financial year.

Warialda High Productivity Vehicle (HPV) Bypass

In 2016/2017 Council's applications for funding under the Fixing Country Roads Program and Heavy Vehicle Safety and Productivity Program for the Warialda High Productivity Vehicle Bypass were approved with over \$6million of Federal and State government funding granted. The success of these applications will provide significant economic benefit to the Council and the community as construction is phased over 2 years. In addition to this, an application under the Fixing Country Truckwashes Program was successful, granting over \$300,000 towards the construction of a truck wash-down facility and effluent dump point.

The objective of developing the Warialda Bypass is to provide significant improvements in the efficiency of the local freight industry, making local roads safer, and to improve the amenity values in the centre of town. The Bypass will allow truck traffic generated from the northern parts of the Shire to travel shorter distances to eastern markets, therefore avoiding the current requirement to travel west to the Moree Plains Shire to access the Gwydir Highway via intersections designed for truck access. The existing intersection of Stephen Street and the Gwydir Highway is not designed for truck turning paths. The project is also expected to remove safety hazards associated with truck traffic and pedestrians access through the centre of Warialda. It will allow trucks to avoid the current intersection of Stephen Street onto the Gwydir Highway, reducing the impacts of noise and odour within Warialda.

The development involves construction of a new bridge over Reedy Creek and 3.7 kilometres of new road that will connect Warialda Road to the north of Warialda town area to the Gwydir Highway east of the town centre. It will cater for heavy vehicles up to 36.5m Type 1 road trains. The truckwash facility will be located near the bypass intersection with the Gwydir Highway and will include two wash down bays suitable for type 1 road trains, along with two effluent dump points, an amenities block and a hard stand area for truck parking.



Figure 1 – Locality Map of the Warialda HPV Bypass.

Rehabilitation

During the first 6 months of the 2016-2017 Financial Year, Southern crews underwent rehabilitation works on SR003 Elcombe Road, from 27.68km to 31.18km from SH012 Gwydir Highway. These works involved ripping the existing pavement and incorporating locally imported road base material for shape correction up to 200mm below the proposed design level. A 200mm layer of locally imported road base material was then placed over the existing pavement where it was stabilised by an external contractor, 'Stabilfix', using a mobile reclaimer to incorporate a 70:30 slag/lime blend. The pavement was then re-compacted, final trimmed to design level and sealed with a 14/7 double/double bitumen seal, completed by 'NSW Spray Seal'. Other works during the rehabilitation project included culvert extensions, drainage works, tree removal and general earthworks, the majority of which was all completed by Council staff.



Figure 2 – Crews working hard to complete the SR003 Elcombe Road Rehabilitation Project.

For five of the first six months of the Financial Year, Northern crews completed rehabilitation works on RR7705 North Star Road, from 23.96km to 27.23km from RR063 Warialda Road. These works involved a similar process to that used on Elcombe Road where the existing pavement was widened and brought up to 200mm below design level. A 200mm layer of road-base material was then imported from a local quarry, stabilised with a 70:30 slag/lime product and re-compacted, sealed with a 20/10 double/double seal with a 5mm scatter coat. Other works during the rehabilitation included culvert extensions, drainage works and general earthworks, all completed by Council staff.

Interesting Fact #1:

Lime is often used in road pavement stabilisation as it breaks down the clay matter within the existing material to obtain a less plastic and more rigid pavement. The slag used in a slag/lime blend also significantly improves the physical and strength properties of the material whilst reducing the swelling pressures potentially created by the reactions of lime and clay matter in the material.

Interesting Fact #2:

A double/double seal is a term used for a seal that contains a layer of bitumen with a layer of pre-coated aggregate, followed by another layer of bitumen with another layer of pre-coated aggregate. The numerals used (14/7, 20/10) refer to the size of the pre-coated aggregate used for each layer respectively. A scatter coat refers to a light spread of small pre-coated aggregate over the top of the double/double seal to help fill the voids and lock in the larger aggregates used.

Starting in February 2017, Northern crews then completed rehabilitation works on SR004 Baroma Downs Road, from 6.8km to 9.3km from RR7705 North Star Road. Before construction took place on the road pavement, it was a necessity to rehabilitate the bridge approaches. The approaches were dug out to a suitable depth below the deck. Gabion rock baskets were used to prevent washing around the bridge piers. A no fines concrete was then poured into the approaches up to 150mm below design level. The existing road pavement was then ripped, widened and brought up to 150mm below design level also, where it was stabilised with a 70:30 slag/ lime product and then re-compacted. 150mm of locally imported DGB20 road-base material was then placed over the top of the road pavement and the bridge approaches, compacted, final trimmed and then sealed with a 20/10 double/double bitumen seal with a 5mm scatter coat. Other works during the rehabilitation project included the construction of a side road, drainage works and general earthworks, all completed by Council staff.



Figure 3 – The approaches of the bridge on SR004 Baroma Downs Road filled with no fines concrete.

Gravel Resheeting

The following table gives the details of gravel resheeting that was completed throughout the Gwydir Shire during the 2016-2017 Financial Year. Council resheeting works were entirely funded through the 'Roads to Recovery' program.

Left: Gravel resheeting undertaken on Oakey Creek Road.



Interesting Fact #3:

A no fines concrete is, as it suggests, a concrete mix that contains only water, aggregate and cement, with no fines (sand). This allows for a porous yet very solid platform that moisture can dissipate through without any movement of the pavement around it.

Interesting Fact #4:

Interesting Fact #4: DGB20 refers to a material that has been graded to a specific standard in regards to base layer road pavements. The DGB stands for 'Densely Graded Base' Course material and the numeral (20) refers to the nominal particle size of the material.

ROAD NAME	CHAINAGE LOCATION / LENGTH
SR037 Oakey Creek Road	4.0 – 8.0km from MR063 Cobbadah Road (Fossickers Way)
SR051 Towarra Road	13.1 – 14.3km, 19.2 – 21.0km, 25.2 – 27.2km from SR001
Copeton Dam Road	
SR038 Adams Scrub Road	0.7 – 6.4km, 7.0 – 8.8km from SH012 Gwydir Highway
SR044 Boundary Creek Road	1.0 – 1.8km, 4.0 – 4.7km, 9.8 – 13.0km from MR133 Killarney
Gap Road	
SR090 Old Bora Road	2.0 – 6.3km from SR001 Copeton Dam Road
SR100 Kellys Access Road	0.0 – 0.7km, 2.7 – 3.9km from SR044 Boundary Creek Road
SR096 Duftys Road	0.0 – 1.5km from SR095 Bangheet Road
SR085 Butlers Road	0.0 – 1.0km from SR055 Moreena Mail Road
SR286 Sonoma Road	0.7 – 2.2km from SR018 Gineroi Road
SR013 Oregon Road	24.6 – 27.0km, 39.2 – 47.4km from RR7705 North Star Road
SR063 Gil Gil Creek Road	19.0 – 21.6km from SR014 Mosquito Creek Road
SR036 Baroma Road	13.8 – 15.1km from RR7705 North Star Road
SR041 County Boundary Road	4.0 – 12.2km from MPSC Boundary
SR081 Langley Road	0.0 – 2.0km, 2.4 – 4.3km from SR008 Gragin Road
SR006 Getta Getta Road	0.0 – 3.0km from existing bitumen (RR7705 North Star Road)
SR010 Yallaroi Road	15.1 – 17.7km, 18.5 – 23.0km from RR7705 North Star Road
SR043 Buckie Road	8.5 – 10.0km from SR005 Croppa Moree Road
SR238 Talula Road	Gravel patching haul road to gravel pit
SR065 Munsies Road	6.3km total between SR010 Yallaroi Road & SR067 Agincourt Road

Bitumen Resurfacing (Reseals)

The following three (3) tables show respectively, the Rural, Urban and Regional Roads that received segmented/full resurfacing works during the 2016-2017 Financial Year. These were all completed using a pre-coated aggregate of various sizes and a Polymer Modified Bitumen (PMB). All resurfacing works were completed by NSW Spray Seal as part of a full service bitumen spray sealing contract.



Interesting Fact #5:

A PMB seal is used throughout our Shire for our resurfacing works as it provides the wearing surface with greater physical and strength properties. By modifying the bitumen with a polymer material we obtain a bitumen seal that is more elastic and hence a seal holds the pre-coated aggregate in a stronger position as opposed to a cutback bitumen. This results in a longer life cycle for our seals, as well as maintaining a strong wearing surface throughout our colder months, where often a cutback bitumen can become too brittle and begin to lose its hold on the stone.

REGIONAL ROADS RESURFACING	
STREET NAME	CHAINAGE LOCATION / LENGTH
MR132 Macintyre Road	Segments 30 (2.785km) and 120 (0.910km)

RURAL ROADS RESURFACING	
ROAD NAME	CHAINAGE LOCATION / LENGTH
SR022 Upper Bingara Road	0.925 – 1.215km, 5.030 – 5.206km, 7.142 – 10.390km, 11.710 – 11.960km from MR063 Cobbadah Road (Fossickers Way)
SR088 Kywarra Road	5.790 – 6.720km from MR063 Cobbadah Road (Fossickers Way)
SR011 Horton Road	7.038 – 13.064km from MR63 Cobbadah Road (Fossickers Way)
SR020 Gravesend Road	0.000 – 2.000km from SH012 Gwydir Highway
SR064 Gournama Road	0.000 – 0.850km from RR063 Warialda Road
SR004 Baroma Downs Road	18.600 – 20.600km from RR7705 North Star Road



Work crews heavy patching MR063 Fossickers Way using Council's Asphalt Zipper.

URBAN STREETS RESURFACING	
STREET NAME	CHAINAGE LOCATION / LENGTH
Pound Street, Bingara	Heber Street to Martyn Street
Byrnes Street, Bingara	Heber Street to Martyn Street
Belford Street, Croppa Creek	0.00 – 0.46km from SR043 Buckie Road
Bowling Club Road, Croppa Creek	0.00 – 0.23km from SR043 Buckie Road
Cleveland Street, North Star	0.00 – 0.14km from Wilby Street
David Street, North Star	0.00 – 0.51km from RR7705 North Star Road
Dunrobyn Road, Gravesend	0.00 – 0.16km from SH012 Gwydir Highway
Gwydir Street, Gravesend	0.00 – 0.24km from SH012 Gwydir Highway
Onus Street, Gravesend	0.11 – 0.41km from Yagobie Street
Warialda Street, Gravesend	0.00 – 0.53km from West Street
Yagobie Street, Gravesend	0.00 – 0.75km from West Street
Queen Street, Warialda	0.00 – 1.11km from SH012 Gwydir Highway
Stewart Avenue, Warialda	0.00 – 0.22km from Stephen Street
Riddell Street, Warialda	0.00 – 0.46km from James Street
Christie Street, Warialda	0.00 – 0.22km from Long Street
Cross Street, Warialda	0.00 – 0.26km from Queen Street
Holden Street, Warialda	0.00 – 0.20km from Long Street
Hope Street, Warialda	0.00 – 0.45km from Market Street
Market Street, Warialda	0.00 – 0.41km from SH012 Gwydir Highway

State Roads (RMS)

Within our Shire, we also maintain and undertake ordered works on two (2) State Roads, these being MR063 Fossickers Way and SH012 Gwydir Highway. For these particular works, Council is bound by the Roads Maintenance Council Contract (RMCC) with the Roads and Maritime Services (RMS). All Work Orders issued by the RMS are quality assurance schedule of rates projects carried out by Council staff under the RMCC.

During the 2016-2017 Financial Year, Council staff undertook general maintenance activities throughout the year such as drainage/culvert maintenance, guardrail replacement and maintenance, vegetation control (weed spraying, slashing, sucker bashing etc.), rest area servicing, fortnightly inspections, sign replacement and maintenance and bitumen repairs (potholes, edge breaks etc.).

Other works this Financial Year included Heavy Patching works throughout various segments, Reseal Preparation through various segments and also a resurfacing program throughout various segments on both State Roads. Reseal preparation and resurfacing took place throughout segments shown in the table below, where the highlighted sections show segments that were completed as Final Reseals from construction projects the previous Financial Year.

ROAD NAME	SEGMENT NUMBER	AREA RESURFACED (m ²)
SH012 Gwydir Highway	8095	5400
SH012 Gwydir Highway	8100	9270
SH012 Gwydir Highway	8115	6080
MR063 Fossickers Way	5020	8856
MR063 Fossickers Way	5030	7760
MR063 Fossickers Way	5035	5360
MR063 Fossickers Way	5080	10164
MR063 Fossickers Way	5095	8640
MR063 Fossickers Way	5100	8910
MR063 Fossickers Way	5211	1950
MR063 Fossickers Way	5260	4770
MR063 Fossickers Way	5300	11074
MR063 Fossickers Way	5305	6435
MR063 Fossickers Way	5310	10004
MR063 Fossickers Way	5340	7740
MR063 Fossickers Way	5350	8266
MR063 Fossickers Way	6105	9990
MR063 Fossickers Way	6110	4050

Self Help

Council’s Self Help Program continued successfully in 2015/2016 with gravel resheeting works being carried out on SR079 Girraween Road, SR247 Fairview Road and SR262 Nunga Road. The Self Help Program allows ratepayers to contribute to the overall cost of resheeting works by providing financial resources, machinery, gravel or gravel carting. In a true community building arrangement, privately owned and operated trucks will typically operate in concert with Council machinery and staff carrying out construction works on Council’s unsealed road network. This innovative program allows resheeting projects to take place where Council’s finite financial resources and strategic priorities would typically prevent works from happening.

Our Achievements in Building Services



Councils Building Services Business Unit comprises 6 full time, 1 part time and 1 school based trainee staff members and is responsible for, but not limited to, providing the following services to the community:

- Building certification and inspections
- Swimming pool compliance and inspections
- Building repairs & maintenance
- Capital works construction

Building Certification and Inspections

Building Services staff provided effective and affordable building certification and inspection services to the community. Services extended to the assessment and issuing of construction certificates, building certificates, occupation certificates and OSSM approvals and inspections.

Swimming Pool Inspections

Building Services have a private swimming pool inspection program in place where all known swimming pools in Gwydir Shire are inspected once every 3 years. The program is designed to ensure owners of private swimming pools maintain their pools and pool barriers in an effective manner to ensure the safety of all pool users. In the 2016/17 financial year Council inspectors carried out 26 inspections and issued 24 swimming pool compliance certificates.

Building Repairs & Maintenance

Building Services carried out 105 planned maintenance activities and responded to a large number of reactive repairs and maintenance request across over 100 Council owned facilities.

Capital Works

Building Services carried out a number of Capital Works projects for 2016/17. These included the following:

- Plunkett Street Aged Units – Refurbishment of Unit 3
- 84 Finch Street residence - Roof and ceiling repairs
- Bingara Court House – Refurbishment of public amenities
- Warialda Rivercare Shed – External painting
- Bingara Administration Building – Internal painting and floor coverings to western sections

- 123 High Street residence – Refurbish bathroom
- 12 Olive Pyrke Terrace residence – Internal painting and floor coverings
- Warialda Administration Building – Refurbish male amenities
- Warialda Memorial Hall – External painting

We were also able to work with different community groups to partner in delivering the following projects:

- Crooble Hall - Installation of awning
- Coolatai Public Hall – Installation of air-conditioning

Thursday 11 November 2016 saw the opening of the new kitchen at the Bingara Senior Citizens' rooms in Maitland Street. Miss Daphne King was acknowledged for the many years she cooked luncheons for members and the new facility was named 'Daphne's Kitchen'.

Council maintains the building and agreed to partner the group with the upgrade of the kitchen. Bingara Senior Citizens purchased the new kitchen and Council staff installed it including tiling. Council also installed a new hot water system and organised the necessary plumbing and electrical works.

It is through partnerships like those mentioned above that the Council is able to assist the community to ensure that we continue to enjoy high quality facilities and services.



Plaster repairs and painting of Council's Administration Buildings



Bingara Living Classroom – Installation of Greenhouse



Warialda Memorial Hall – External painting

Our achievements in Water Operations

706 Mega Litres was treated and delivered to residents

90 service lines from main to meter repaired

33 main breaks were repaired

All reservoirs were inspected

49 water meters replaced

Water alerts Bingara and Gravesend

8 water service lines were replaced from main to meter

Gwydir Shire Council provides water supply to Warialda, Bingara, Gravesend and North Star.

Warialda's water supply is sourced from groundwater from 5 bores. The water is aerated and disinfected with sodium hypochlorite before being delivered to residents.

Bingara's water is sourced from the Gwydir River via bank infiltration chamber, the water is then treated using dissolved air floatation/filtration process, and disinfected with chlorine before delivery to reservoirs where the water gravitates to users.

Gravesend water is sourced from the Gwydir River via bank infiltration bores located north east of Gravesend. Water is disinfected with sodium hypochlorite before being delivered to residents. North Star's water supply is sourced from sub artesian ground water. The water is aerated, then treated using Reverse Osmosis and disinfection with sodium hypochlorite before being delivered to residents.

In 2016/17 a total of 706ML of water was treated and delivered to users in the Shire.

Water Charges have an access component and a usage component with a two part tariff. Water usage less than 600KL is \$1.25/KL and water usage over 600KL is \$1.95/KL. Water billing is undertaken on a quarterly basis.

Water Supply Capital improvements 2016/17 included:

- Water main replacement Riddell Street Warialda from Long to James Street
- Gravesend River under boring – rising main replacement
- Gravesend – submersible bore pump replacement
- Water main replacement High Street Warialda – Stephen to Market Street
- Water main replacement Crane Street Warialda- Market to Olive Pyrke Terrace.
- Water line Gragin Road
- Water main replacement – Queen St Warialda – Holden to Plunkett Street
- The Living Classroom irrigation additional area
- Gravesend – Redbank service connection
- Coin operated Standpipe
- Replacement of water main Gwydir River and Halls Creek Bridge Bingara
- Extension of water main to supply Warialda Airstrip RFS tank



Above: Queen St Wialda – Water main replacement



Left: Water main replacement and new sewer main over Gwydir Bridge

Maintenance

In December 2016 all nine of Council's water storage reservoirs were inspected and as a result 5 reservoirs underwent cleaning. The inspections were carried out by an external company and several defects were identified. Most notable was Gravesend ground reservoir being classified as "past economic repair".

One new water connection was installed during 2016/17. Eight (8) water service lines were replaced from main to meter and ninety (90) service lines repaired.

Forty nine (49) water meters were replaced due to age limit or faults and thirty three (33) water main breaks were repaired.

There were two major incidents with the water supplies during November. The first incident was at Bingara water treatment plant with a variable speed drive of the filtered water pump burnt out. Bingara was placed on emergency water restrictions for 3 days while the problem was repaired.

The second incident was with Gravesend water supply. Ecoli bacteria was found in the regular testing of the water. The ecoli bacteria most likely from bird droppings in the Gravesend reservoir. As a result NSW Public Health department advised Council to issue a Boil Water alert for Gravesend. The Boil water alert was in place from Friday 18th November to Thursday 24th November.

Water Restrictions

Water restrictions were introduced at Gravesend for household use only as the main bore struggled to keep up with the demand. These restrictions were in place from the 5th February to the 15th of February. These were in place until March. The old original bore located at Redbank was equipped with a submersible pump and was used to supplement the water supply to meet the demands.

Water restrictions were introduced in Wialda from 23rd February to 1st March 2017. The submersible pump located at the sale yard bore burnt out and the other 3 bores struggled to keep up with demand. The pump was replaced and restrictions were removed on the 1st of March 2017.

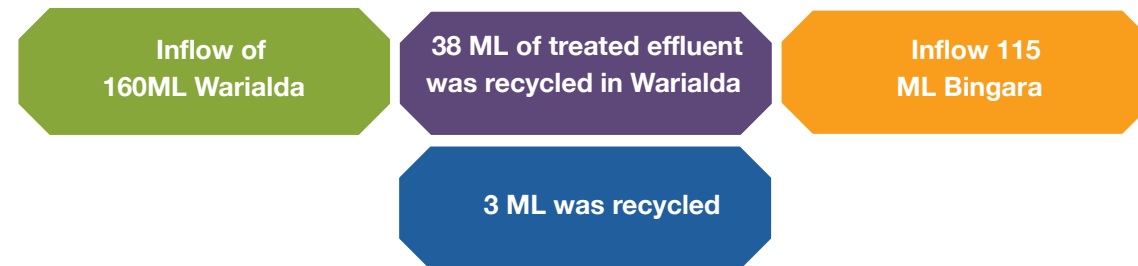


Gravesend reservoir roof repairs



RPZ valve at Gwydir Oval

Our achievements in Sewerage Operations



Sewerage Systems

Gwydir Shire Council operates two sewerage systems.

Warialda system, built in 1969-70 has a design size of 1500EP (equivalent population). Warialda operates under Environmental Protection (EPA) Licence L584 for small treatment plants with an allowable discharge of 250ML/year into Reedy Creek. The yearly inflow into the sewerage treatment was 160ML. 38ML of treated effluent was recycled and used at the local Golf Course to irrigate the fairways and tees.

Bingara sewerage system was commissioned in 1971 and has a design capacity of 2000EP. The Bingara system operates under EPA licence L586 for small treatment plants with an allowable discharge of 250ML/year into the Gwydir River. The inflow for Bingara sewerage treatment plant was 115ML and 3ML of treated effluent was recycled and used on site.

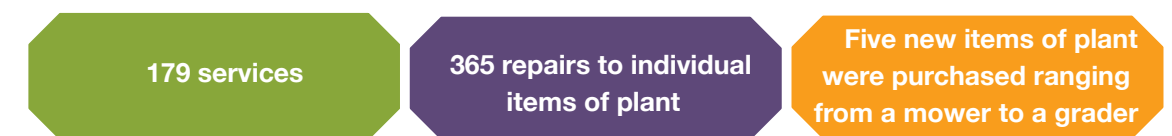
- Sewer extension Dinoga Street Bingara
- Sewer extension Keera Lane Bingara
- Sewer pump Station No 2 Bingara – access ladder replacement
- Sewer pump Station No 3 Bingara – inflow stop valve replacement
- Sewer jetting trailer purchase
- Relocation of sewer dump point
- Warialda Sewer treatment plant – concrete refurbishment
- Sewer pump station No 2 Warialda – pump replacement
- Sewer pump station gantries at No 1, 2 and 3 pump stations
- Warialda sewer manhole inspection report



Left top: Warialda sewer pump station No 1 Gantry installation

Left bottom: Bingara SPS 3 stop valve

Our achievements in Fleet Management



Workshop

Council operates two workshops. There are two fulltime mechanics, a fabricator/welder, three (3) apprentice mechanics and two (2) school based trainee mechanics. During 2016/17 the workshop completed 179 services and carried out a total of 365 repairs to individual items of plant.



Bingara workshop service bay with air operated oil dispersers



Fabrication of BBQ's for Glacial area



Apprentices rebuilding an engine from JCB Backhoe



Grid Roller drums being refurbished

Council's heavy plant fleet consists of the following equipment:

Description	Number
Plant	
Graders	7
Excavators	2
Front end Loaders	2
Backhoes	4
Skid Steer Loader/sweeper	1
Rollers – smooth drum	3
Roller – padfoot	2
Roller – rubber tyred	1
Tractor – Grid roller combination	3
Tractor – Slasher combinations	5
Compactor – Landfill	1
Rock Crusher	1
Zipper	1
Trucks	
Prime mover/low loader	1
Tipper and pig trailer	2
Jetpatcher	2
Watercarts	5
Medium tipper trucks	5
Light trucks	5

Plant replacement Program:

The following new items of plant were purchased in 2016/17.

- P1855 Mower – Toro 7210 zero turn
- P1856 Mower – Toro MX4800
- P1859 Grader – Caterpillar 140M
- P1863 Roller – Ammann ASC150D
- P1866 Tractor – John Deere 6105M



*P1856 Mower Toro MX4800
on fabricated Parks trailer*



*P1859 Grader Caterpillar -
140M*

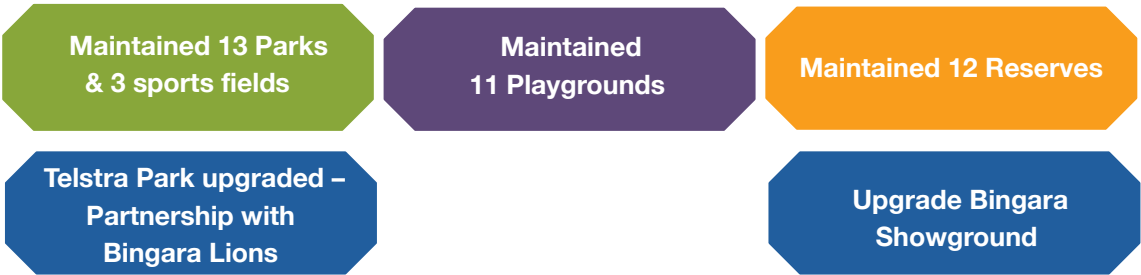


*P1866 Tractor – John Deere
6105M used for slashing*

Council surplus equipment was sold through Grays online auctions:

- Plant 1103 Pig Trailer
- Plant 1445 – International Prime mower
- Plant 1101 – Moore tipping trailer

Our achievements in Parks & Gardens



Gwydir Shire Council operates and maintains 15 parks, 3 sports fields, including 11 playgrounds, 12 reserves and numerous gardens. There are two separate teams the South Crew which maintain Bingara, Gravesend, Upper Horton, Glacial area and Myall Creek memorial site. The North Crew maintain Warialda, Warialda Rail, Coolatai and Cranky Rock reserve. The community and numerous visitors use these facilities and it is Councils aim to keep these areas in prime condition.

Fays Park Bingara

In 2016/17 Council under took a joint project with the local Lions Club to upgrade Telstra Park in Maitland Street Bingara. The work involved placement of two life size silhouettes in memory of a local Doctor and Chemist who contributed to the Bingara Community. The project also involved construction of a rotunda, paving and installation of turf. The paving was funded by families in the community purchasing individual personalised pavers. The Lions club funded the Rotunda and Council carried out the installation of paths, paving and turf.

Lions Park Bingara

Gwydir Shire Council is the trustee for Crown Land reserve D560019 Bingara Showground. The showground is maintained by Council in consultation with four main user groups; Bingara Show Society, Bingara Pony Club, Bingara Polocrosse and Bingara Jockey Club. The showground is a popular for holding large regional equestrian events due the size and facilities available on the site. During 2016/17 the following major events were held.

- Bingara Pony Camp
- Bingara Central School – Prime Stock Competition
- Barrel Racing
- Bingara Show
- Pony Club mini camp
- Anglican Youth Muster
- State Show jumping championships
- Polocrosse carnival and
- Numerous one day events

Capital Improvements to the Bingara Showground during 2016/17 included the extension of a stable block, funded by a grant from Public Reserves Management Fund Program of \$12,000, \$12000 from the Bingara Jockey Club and \$4,000 from Gwydir Shire Council.

Our achievements in Risk



Statewide Mutual was created in 1993 in response to NSW Councils’ volatile risk portfolio which led to spiralling insurance premiums ultimately resulting in underwriters withdrawing their support to Local Government.

The Mutual is owned by the Members which are NSW Councils and is run in accordance with the NSW Local Government Mutual Liability Scheme. It is managed by the Statewide Board of Management (the Board). The Board comprises senior level managers from Member Councils representing 11 regions in NSW and the Mutual is managed by Jardine Lloyd Thompson.

As the manager of the Statewide Mutual, JLT works with NSW Local Government to ensure that the insurance programs provide the comprehensive protection required by Councils and that it is robust enough to weather any cycles of the insurance market.

One of the benefits of participating in the Mutual includes the annual rebate program which provides a return of each Member’s annual contribution where the scheme has performed well. Since commencement of Membership, Gwydir Shire Council has received over \$235,347.41 in combined rebates from Statewide Mutual.

Insurance costs over the last 2 years

Insurance Class	2016/17	2015/16
Casual Hirers Liability	\$3,685.00	\$2,948.00
Councillors and Officers Liability	\$33,334.29	\$32,744.88
Crime	\$8,807.52	\$8,807.52
Motor Vehicle	\$166,094.50	\$148,268.51
Property	\$231,885.34	\$200,984.61
Public Liability-Professional Indemnity	\$181,517.56	\$178,308.02
Totals	\$625,324.21	\$572,061.54

Contractor Insurance Management System

Council has fully implemented a Contractor Insurance Management System (CIMS) for Contractors in the reporting period. The system is a secure, web-based database, where regular Contractors working with Council are required to register their business and insurance information. Prior to engagement for works with Council, contractor insurance records are uploaded into the system and Council’s Insurers review and verify the policies so that Council has a clear overview of the policy coverage, limits and exclusions for each Contractor. This ensures that all insurances have been verified by an insurance professional and enables Council staff to focus their attention on the management of works and/or services provided by the Contractor.

Business Continuity Plan

Risk has commenced development of a Business Continuity Plan during the reporting period and will complete the project in 17/18.

A key objective of the Business Continuity Plan (BCP) is to increase the awareness within Council of potential business interruption events that could impact on the organisation. The plan outlines the response and recovery protocols associated with such an event.

The BCP is intended to provide guidance to Council officers to assist continuity of service for critical services, where those officers are not normally responsible for managing the specific service affected.

A BCP does not directly deal with individual events; it provides the methodology to effectively deal with an event.

To implement a BCP in the event of an event you need people to manage it. A successful Continuity Management Team (CMT) relies on expertise from within the organisation as they are the people who understand the business processes and related risks. The GM and Council's Directors are the designated leaders of the CMT.

The focus of the CMT is to manage a crisis from a corporate perspective while providing guidance and support to the Managers on site. This process is facilitated by the development of pre-determined guidance sub plans which allows the CMT to focus on the strategic or whole of business response to the business interruption event.

Strategic Risk Register

Risk has commenced development of Strategic and Operational Risk Registers during the reporting period, using CAMMS enterprise risk management software which complies with international standards such as ISO 31000:2009.

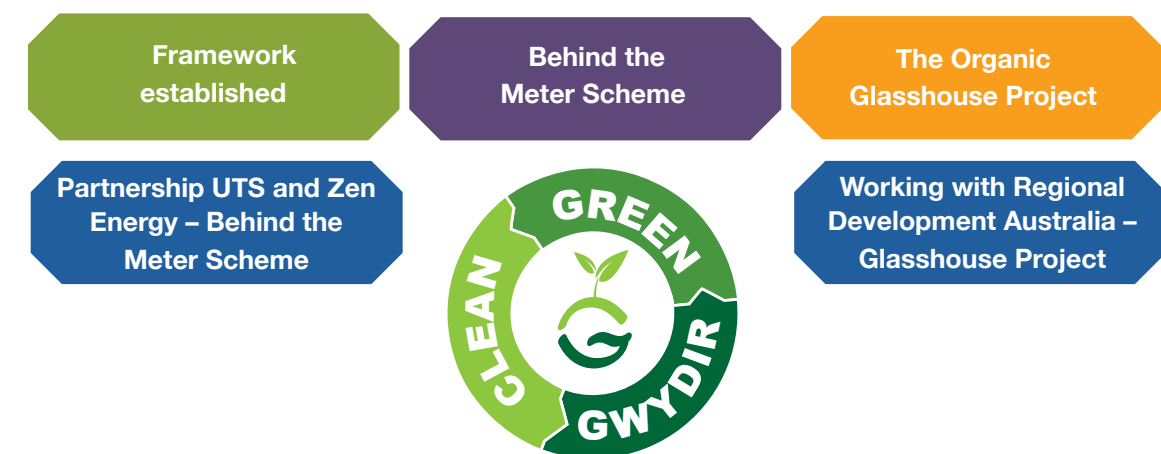
The purpose of risk management is to proactively establish programmes and processes that support the achievement of Gwydir Shire Council's strategic goals and objectives while protecting the organisation's assets—its employees, property, income and reputation—from loss or harm, at the lowest possible cost.

To be effective, Gwydir Shire Council's risk management plan requires the development and maintenance of an ongoing process that enables the identification, analysis, evaluation, and treatment of risks that may impact the council. This knowledge further enables the prioritisation of actions to reduce these risks to an acceptable level.

GSC can manage its risk management information through developing Strategic and Operational Risk Registers using CAMMS risk management software. The Risk Registers will serve as a central repository for risk information and allows for the information that results from the risk management process to be suitably sorted, standardised, and merged for relevance to the appropriate level of management. Its key function is to provide management, Council, and key stakeholders with significant information on the main risks faced by GSC.

The project is expected to be completed in 2017/2018.

Our achievements in working towards a Circular Economy



In 2016 and Gwydir Shire Council established the framework for the establishment of a Circular Economy in the Shire.

During the first half of 2017 Council staff have been working with external stakeholders to complete the structure for our Behind the Meter Scheme and Stage of the Development application to construct an organic Glasshouse Project.

The following statement provides an update on where we are with the two major Projects, The Behind the Meter Energy Efficiency Scheme (BTM) and the 20 Hectare Glasshouse Project.

The Behind the Meter and Energy Efficiency Scheme

Our aim is to provide, at no upfront finance, the opportunity for residential and commercial property owners to upgrade buildings with energy efficiency improvements and/or install Solar panels and/or storage batteries.

The Council has engaged the University of Technology Sydney (UTS) to work with the support of Zen Energy to produce a Model for this Scheme. This model will be used to source the capital required to float the 'not for profit' program.

Property assessments will be carried out by private technicians who wish to participate in our scheme. Training for technicians will be provided by UTS and our solar partners.

Property owners will be provided with an Energy Efficiency and Solar Plan. If the property owner approves the plan, a contract between the Council and the Property Owner will allow for repayments to be structured within existing rate notifications.

This is a perfect opportunity for rate payers in the Gwydir Shire to beat the rapidly rising electricity costs and add value to their properties.

Access to cheap power is also an attraction for new residents and businesses to our region.

20 Hectare Organic Aquaculture Glasshouse Project

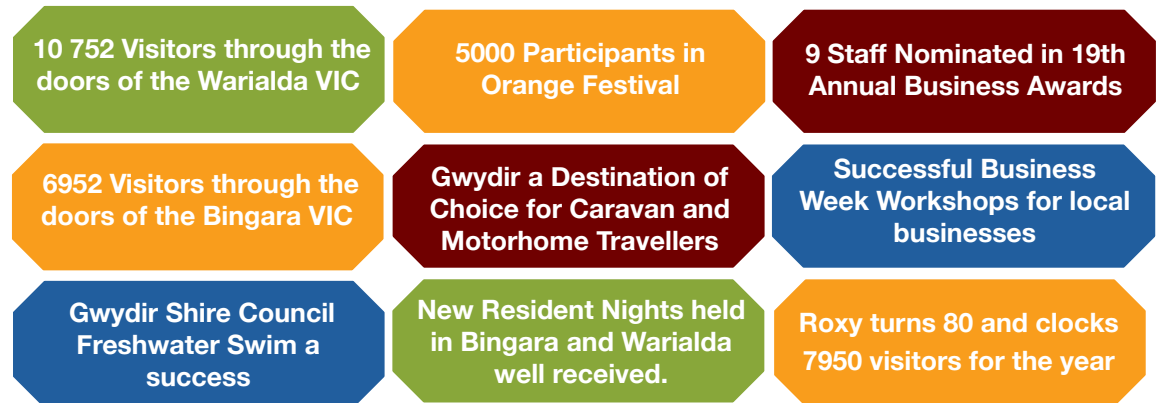
During the reporting period Gwydir Shire Council embarked on a most exciting job creation project with a leading tomato grower and a major fresh fruit retailer. Collectively we have almost completed Stage 1 of a Development Application (DA) and the Council is now exploring the financial opportunities for project funds.

The immediate aim is to source funding for Stage 1, which is the first of four 5 hectare self-contained organic aquaculture glasshouses. This project is unique in the Australian organic fresh fruit market. When Stage 1 is operational we will source third party investment in stages 2, 3 & 4.

As stated, job creation is the main catalyst and in addition there will be significant economic benefit for local business, housing and education.

The Council commissioned Regional Development Australia to conduct a recently completed Capital Expenditure Analysis of our Circular Economy Project. Readers will be interested to learn that the Direct and Indirect Economic Impacts of the fully complete 20Ha Glasshouse Project will be \$26.6 million, annually.

Our achievements in Marketing and Promotion



The Roxy

Roxy management has been working towards the listing of the Roxy Theatre on the NSW State Heritage Register. Late in 2016 the Roxy and its staff were visited by representatives of the Department of Heritage who were overwhelmed by the building, its heritage significance and the activation of the space as a community venue, as a function centre and as a regional hub for performing arts. After a long waiting period the Roxy was successfully listed on the register in August 2017.

On the 28th March 2016 the community of Bingara celebrated the 80th Anniversary of the opening of the Roxy Theatre. To commemorate the milestone the annual Bingara Orange Festival on the 2nd July took on a Greek theme. The festival celebrated the contribution of Greek immigrants to rural Australia, and in particular the lasting legacy they left in Bingara through the Roxy Theatre and Peter's Cafe.

All things Greek were on offer including Greek music and exhibitions, toga fun run, Greek feast, gardening demonstrations, tours of the Mediterranean garden at Bingara's 'Living Classroom', followed by the Orange Festival military ball and Roxy Birthday celebrations on the Saturday evening and Greek films at the Roxy on the Sunday. Patron of the festival was Costa Georgiadis from ABC's Gardening Australia who delighted guests with his gardening tips and playful and lively spirit.

From July 2016 and June 2017 the Roxy saw just over 7950 visitors to the venue for live shows, school performances, private functions and tours.

Visitor Centres

The Shire is proving to be growing in popularity amongst tourists, with large numbers of RV travellers flocking to the area for our clean air, wide open spaces and picturesque landscapes. Although it is difficult to estimate the exact number of visitors to the shire each year, the visitation statistics collected through our Visitor Information Centres is a good indication. In Warialda 4680 visitors were greeted at the Warialda Information Centre with an additional 3686 visiting the centre for the café and another 2386 for the RMS services, a grand total of 10,752 visitors to the centre in the year. In Bingara a whopping 6952 visitors were met by our friendly staff for tourism related information.



Orange Festival

This year's Bingara Orange Festival has been reported as one of the best on record with an estimated 5000 participants.

The Greek theme attracted a number of people of Greek heritage from as far away as Nowra, Canberra, Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane.

All aspects of the festival proved to be successful with the Long Lunch and ball selling out, and all tours and lectures presenting to a full house.



Honey Festival

After years of battling with hot weather the Honey Festival faced a new challenge this year, rain and lots of it. After torrential rain the night before the festival had to be moved, even the plan B wet weather option at the showground was too wet and the festival was moved to the town hall.

Despite the series of disasters that the organisers faced the event was successful with a steady stream of visitors throughout the day and a packed auditorium for the talent show and Benny Nelson concert.

Gwydir Community Business Awards

2017 saw another successful business awards function. Now in its 19th year the awards drew a 130 strong crowd.

The winners of the business awards categories were Small Business under 5 employees The Warialda Golf and Bowling Club, Large Business over 5 employees the Bingara Sportsman's Hotel, Junior Employee (under 21) Katelyn South of Pally Styles Bingara and Senior Employee (over 21) Erin Hall from the Warialda Toy Library. Bingara Central School student Rosalie Carr took out Gwydir Vocation Education Student of the year.

An outstanding number of nominations were received this year with over 30 separate nominations for the Senior category alone. 9 council staff received a nomination which is testament to the hard work and dedication of Gwydir Shire Staff.

Newcastle Caravan and Camping Show

Gwydir once again proves to be the destination of choice for caravan and motorhome travellers with overwhelming numbers of requests for information by attendees at the Newcastle Caravan and Camping Expo.

The Gwydir Shire Council participated in the expo as part of the New England North West Tourism which is made up of several councils throughout the region and the stand was manned by representatives from each local government area.

The staff member who represented Council stated that "Despite the heat, crowd numbers were still high and overwhelmingly most of the requests by visitors to the stand were for information on the Gwydir".

New England North West Tourism represented the region throughout Australia including Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane and Coffs Harbour.

Business Workshops

As part of back to business week Gwydir Shire council held two workshops. The first was an E Commerce seminar held by Derek Tink from Nortec and the second was a media writing workshop for community groups and small business.

The Media writing workshop was a one day free course where participants learnt how to identify their target audience, select the best method to communicate to their target market and how to deliver their message effectively. The course also looked at how to write social media posts that engage target audiences and news media releases that get results.

Copeton Fresh Water Swim

The annual Gwydir Shire council Freshwater swim was held on Saturday 8th April with excellent conditions for both swimmers and spectators. Numbers were down on previous year which was due to a large number of swimming events held the same week, as well as clashes with other sporting events on the same day.

New Residents Evenings – May

During the month of May Gwydir Shire Council's Economic Development Department held two new resident nights. The first was in Bingara on Thursday 11th May with over 65 participants, 30-35 of whom were new residents. The majority of these new residents were in the over 50s age bracket, many of whom relocated to Bingara after visiting the town as free campers.

The second evening was held in Warialda on Thursday the 18th May with 42 participants 11 of which were new residents.

Both evenings were very well received and gained lots of positive feedback from both community groups and new residents.

“We would just like to say last night was so great met heaps of nice people over lovely food and drink. We feel really welcome to this lovely country town, so happy we have settled here, country people are so different to city people they talk to one another. Thanks again for organising the night”

Regards Pam & Graham Cooper



Left: Bernadette Gunthorpe, Bingara Lions Club. New residents Shirley, Yvonne Foster. Right: The crowd at the Warialda evening being addressed by Mayor John Coulton

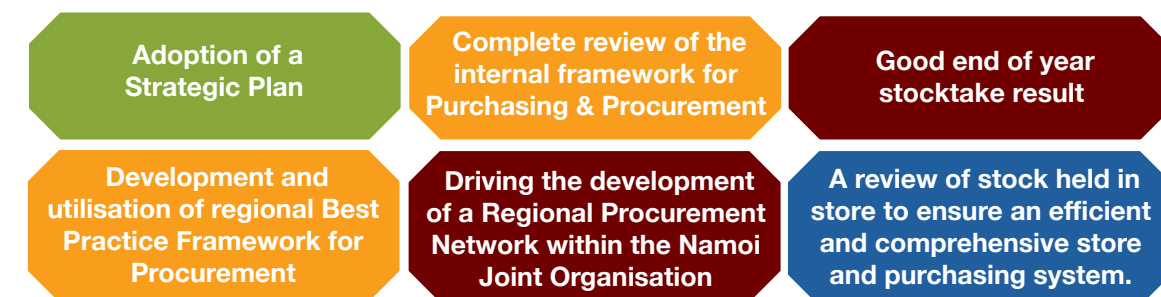


Left: The crowd at the Warialda evening being addressed by Mayor John Coulton. Right: New Residents Pam and Graham Cooper



Left: New Residents Sam and Anne Tink, Bingara VIC Officer Jenny Mead with new resident Oisin Stamer. Right: New residents Suzanne Buckland and Gay and John Raymond with Brenda Pankhurst from Friends of Touriandi.

Our achievements in Procurement, Purchasing & Stores



Procurement

Gwydir Shire Council has adopted a strategic plan in relation to procurement and the management of contracts. Council strives to obtain the best value for money when negotiating their procurement and major contracts. A strong commitment to utilisation of regional partnerships has enabled Council to deliver the highest value for money through a collaborative approach. This includes the development and utilisation of regional best practice framework for procurement to be adopted for use throughout Councils across the region.

When entering into agreements, Council strives to deliver not only the necessary goods and services to perform its functions, but to also use funds in the most effective way and ensure honesty and compliance and always consider the public's interest. For major contracts (exceeding \$150,000 incl GST) an open and transparent process is followed to comply with Local Government Regulated standards. All other procurement outside major contracts is undertaken within Council's policies and procedures to ensure value for money, compliance and a high level of ethical behaviour and sound probity practice. A complete review of the internal framework for Purchasing and Procurement has been developed and is being introduced which will comply with current standards from an audit and probity perspective.

Within Gwydir Shires procurement practices, specific consideration is given to local and regional suppliers, as well as the social, environmental, economic and cultural basis of the products themselves and the suppliers with whom Council transacts.

Gwydir Shire Council has been actively driving the development of a Regional Procurement Network within the Namoi Joint Organisation of Councils. The initial project plan recommending the formation of a working group within the region was delivered to the Namoi Executive and subsequently the Namoi Board for consideration and the plan was adopted and included in the Namoi JO's Strategic Plan.

The Project Objectives will be to:

- Educate Namoi JO Working Groups on good procurement practices
- Establish Category expenditure profiles for each council and each working group
- Identify categories where aggregated expenditure would be advantageous
- Deliver against agreed objectives and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) with Namoi JO working groups assigned to target categories.

Since the adoption of the Procurement Project by the Namoi JO, Gwydir Shire has led in the development of a comprehensive framework, which has also been adopted by the Namoi JO. This includes Policy, Guidelines and templates for the use of the Regional Procurement Group or by individual member councils when procuring, or entering into, or managing contracts.

Now that a guiding framework has been established, the Regional Procurement group will be implementing the following the actions:

1. Implementation of a program of data collation and analysis of Namoi JO member Councils expenditure by category (type).
2. Using data from Action #1, to highlight the key opportunities across all Namoi JO councils that can be addressed through strategic aggregated procurement. This would be co-ordinated through the Namoi JO Procurement Working Group.
3. Define and implement prioritised activities by category under the Namoi JO Procurement Working Group.

Our achievements in Library Services



Gwydir Shire libraries are continually exploring the realms of innovative ways to reach members across its vast Shire. In addition to the existing successful branches in Bingara and Warialda, Council has expanded the services through the introduction of an Outreach Program. The program was developed as part of the library service strategy to deliver library services to outlying villages and communities who may suffer from geographical isolation or may not have access to information services which support traditional library usage.

Gwydir Libraries continue to prove very popular with local residents and visitors to the Gwydir Communities with services being well patronised. Gwydir Library services are delivered using the Central Northern Regional Library (CNRL) contract which enables a much larger access to quality collections, resources and library management systems than those Gwydir Council could possibly deliver as a standalone service provider.

Statistics from the CNRL annual report consistently rate the usage and services levels delivered by Gwydir Shire Libraries per capita very highly, and in many cases the highest, within our region. The children and youth participation are exceptionally high and indicative of the wonderful job our library staff are doing.

Patrons are very happy with the variety, size and quality of the collections which are regularly rotated through weekly deliveries from CNRL. Positive customer feedback is regularly received with the approval rating of the library services scoring very highly during community consultation.

In addition to the general collection, specialised resources and equipment has been made available throughout 2016-2017 at Bingara and Warialda Libraries including

- | | |
|--|---------------------|
| • Autism Spectrum Disorder Support Collection | • 3D Printers |
| • Law Week Display and Presentation | • Robotics |
| • Themed craft and learning units | • Large Print Books |
| • eBook, eMagazines. eAudio and EMusic collections | |

The very popular children's programs continue to be well supported with regular and special holiday programs being often booked out and a waiting list required. These very well delivered programs include:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| • Baby Bounce and Rhyme | • Toddler Tales |
| • Kids Book Club | • Homework Helper |
| • Craft Groups | |

A variety of activities are delivered in school holidays

- Summer Reading Club
- School child collection and drop off at library – The “Virtual Bus”
- Study Groups for older children and teenagers
- A group formed for the tweenies for children aged 9 -12 years.

Some of the other programs and events that have being successfully delivered by Gwydir Libraries in 2016-2017 include:

- Adult book clubs
- Men’s groups
- Author visits
- Local History and Special Interest groups
- Celebration of Local Government Week (involving Councillors and the children who studied and delivered presentations to council on their vision for the future for Gwydir Shire).
- Read across the Shire where one book is read by as many participants as possible.
- Older residents reading to Children has become quite popular as have the visits by the children from the library to the aged care facilities.

The focus for the year was to deliver Council’s outreach program to as many residents across the Shire as possible. The outreach program enables residents to connect with their local library through digital technology as well as having exposure to a travelling librarian who visits remote sites across the Shire.

The outreach program has been very successful with new memberships and relationships forged throughout the Shire. The mobile service has delivered to schools, pre-schools, play groups, toy libraries and private groups across all sectors of the Gwydir Region. Travelling book collections, craft sessions and access via digital formats have been encouraged and the communities have been very welcoming of this unique service. In addition to the face to face elements of the program these remote residents have been trained and encouraged to utilise the vast range of digital resources that can be accessed through Gwydir libraries and as members of the CNRL. Geographically disadvantaged children have been offered a research and study assistance resource whereby they email the local libraries to be guided through a myriad of questions and research techniques that the library now offers.

During the year Gwydir libraries were privileged to be visited by the State Library representative, Ellen Forsyth (Consultant Public Library Services), who conducted a review of the Gwydir Library Services. The report received subsequent to the visit was very positive and encouraging. Ms Forsyth was especially pleased with the collection, program delivery, community connection, technology, local study initiatives and in particular the strong connection between the Local and Regional Library and the outstanding success of the Gwydir Outreach Program.

The State Library was also supportive of a proposal to relocate the Bingara Library to a more suitable space as the existing space has been outgrown as the Service has developed in recent years. This proposition has been identified as one of the foremost ideas that the local community identified from community consultation in 2016-2017. The existing Bingara Civic Centre has been earmarked as the possible new location. Initial feasibility, design briefs, funding proposals and costings have commenced and the project will be considered as a future project in the Long Term Plan.

Our achievements in Agency Services

**Gwydir Centrelink Services
rated very highly**

**High levels of conversion
of clientele to the digital
reporting format**

**Services NSW Transactions
Bingara 2866**

**Gail Phillpott recognised
for Outstanding
Service Delivery**

**Tech Savvy courses
delivered to seniors**

**Services NSW Transactions
Warialda 4792**

Centrelink

The delivery of the contracted Centrelink contract continues to operate as a vital service within the Bingara Community. The Department of Human Resources renewed the contract for another year and during their annual performance review rated this service very highly. During 2016-2017 the local agency was led by Gail Phillpott who was recognised by the Department of Human Services for her outstanding service delivery of the range of services provided at Bingara. This award was in recognition of the way she “delivers excellent customer service and goes above and beyond what is required to assist our customers”

During the last twelve months there has been a big shift for clients to use digital reporting and lodgements and the Bingara Branch has achieved very high levels of conversion of clientele to the new format. Additionally clients are being urged once they have converted to the digital format aggregate and connect a range for services which are delivered by Human Services. These include not only regular social security payments but also:

- Medicare
- Australian Taxation Office
- Centrelink
- Australian JobSearch
- My Health Record
- My Aged Care
- Child Support
- Department of Veterans’ Affairs
- National Disability Insurance Scheme
- Drought and Disaster Relief

The agency integrates Centrelink online services and myGov into Tech Savvy courses delivered to seniors through work the Bingara library. Connections to other services delivered by Council and the wider community are frequently used to refer Human Services clients to. The situation of this service in the existing space with other like services continues to work well with customers being able to meet multiple needs from the one centre.

Services NSW

Services NSW continues to operate out of out two main centres, in Bingara on Monday and Thursday and Warialda on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.

The majority of transactions processed at both sites helps support the agricultural and transport industries within the Shire by renewing and registering many conditional, general and seasonal registrations.

People in both towns appreciate having friendly competent staff to help with Service NSW transactions rather than navigating the online website or call centre themselves.

Transactions range from licence and registration renewal to birth certificate applications, boat registrations, fair trading transactions and many more. The local service provides immediate access to the community, in contrast to visiting Inverell or Moree which may be inaccessible to them during opening hours or may involve extensive waiting times.

Offering driver testing in both towns gives locals increased opportunity to obtain a drivers licence without having to travel elsewhere. It also minimises applicants' need to take time off employment. During 2016/2017 the Bingara branch undertook 2866 transactions and Wyalda 4792.

Our achievements in the Gwydir Learning Region

New nursery at the Living Classroom

Partnership with Bingara Central School Civics Class

The Living Classroom a location for research

'Greenest and Most Sustainable Garden' Award

The Gwydir Learning Region (GLR) has maintained its principal focus on facilities, skills provision and the pursuit of learning across Gwydir Shire.

The GLR is a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) and continues to offer Heavy Vehicle Training and Licensing. There is a Learn to Drive vehicle and trainer and three Trade Training Centres.

The RTO supports the Men's Sheds, school activities and community interest groups, and continuously looks to find new and varied opportunities to broaden the interests and outcomes of our citizens.

The RTO responds to Grant opportunities, and teams up with groups like Northern Slopes Landcare Association, Gwydir Ark, Country Women's Association (CWA) and Schools to champion environmental and social fabric of our community and encourage visitors to Gwydir Shire.



Major 2016-17 Projects and Programs:

- Automotive Trade Training Centre (ATTC) Warialda: Fence repairs and gate construction. Purchase of a new welder. Delivery of Welding Programs.
- Hospitality Trade Training Centre (HTTC) Bingara: Use by Cookery classes; catering for Roxy Theatre events
- The Living Classroom, (TLC) Bingara, Primary Industries Trade Training Centre: New Nursery; development of a Cochineal beetle nursery working with Northern Slopes Landcare Association (NSLA); establishment of a Berry Patch; further development of an expansive Mediterranean Garden; further development of Nourish Bush Tucker Garden; creation of connecting pathways/cycleways; construction of raised mandala Garden beds; construction of benches for Nursery.
- Heavy Vehicle (HV) and Learn to Drive offered at ATTC.
- Work for the Dole Program at TLC
- Working with the visiting Bingara Central School Civics Class
- Indigenous Arts & Crafts

Visitors

During the reporting period there have been many visitors at TLC. These have included community groups like the Bingara Lions Club, Bingara Garden Club, Taree Car Club, Inverell Legacy, Tamworth Probus and Warialda Craft Group. Other visitors have included Costa Georgiadis; representatives from Tocal College; Narrabri Sydney University Research, Northern Tablelands Local Land Services and the Bingara Community College.

Regular Users

- ATTC – Tertiary And Further Education (TAFE);
- HTTC – Cookery skills Inverell Rural Outreach & Support Services
- TLC – Bingara Country Women’s Association; Selah Yoga; Gwydir Ark; Namoi Joint Organisation of Council; North West Risk Management; Work for Dole; Bingara Central School; Bingara Pre-school.

Research

The Living Classroom has become a location for research. Research undertaken over this reporting period has included; research on Honey Bees (Tocal), Native Plants & Grasses (Dr Judi Earl); Fauna (Alex Dudley); Soil Carbon (The Carbon Farm).

Education:

In addition to our local Gwydir Schools, school groups visiting our Gwydir Learning Region facilities have included Collarenebri & Mungindi Central School and Cavendish Road High School, Brisbane. TLC also hosted a group of mature aged students undertaking Certificate 3 in Horticulture.

Awards:

The Living Classroom Kitchen Garden was awarded the ‘Greenest and Most Sustainable Garden’ by the Centre for Organic Research & Education.

Our achievements in the Gwydir Learning Region

Opening of 24/7 Bingara Fitness Centre



The much anticipated second 24 hour Fitness Centre was officially opened by local member Adam Marshall in Bingara on Monday July 25.

The new facility was made possible through a partnership between the Gwydir Fitness Centre fundraising committee and the Gwydir Shire Council proving anything is possible when a community works together.

The fundraising committee worked tirelessly over three years to see the project to fruition, raising funds through a number of events and activities including a fundraising dinner and Fitness Centre Fun Run as part of the annual Bingara Orange Festival which has run for the last three years.

In the past 12 months, the project also received a much welcomed boost when Member for Northern Tablelands Adam Marshall presented the committee with a grant of \$25,000 from the NSW Government’s Sport and Recreation Participation and Facility Programs. The total spend for this project was approximately \$98,000.00.

This is an exciting project for Bingara and an excellent example of the outcomes that can be achieved when community groups work in partnership with Council. One of the courts is now designed as an aerobics exercise room, the other court is a weight training room and the foyer houses all the cardio exercise equipment. The upstairs viewing area is now a boxing punch fit workout area.

The new Bingara Centre compliments the first 24/7 gym set up in Warialda three years ago by the Council. The Warialda Fitness Centre continues to operate successfully.

Our achievements in Planning & Development

51 Development Applications

4 Complying Development Certificate Applications

Total Value of development \$4 229 276.00

During the 2016/2017 financial year Council received 51 Development Applications and 4 Complying Development Certificate Applications with a total value of \$4,229,276.00. The types of development applied for were 16 new dwellings, 18 applications for residential ancillary developments (such as dwelling additions and alterations, sheds, garages, carports, verandahs and patios), 7 commercial applications, 4 rural subdivision and 2 urban subdivision, 2 quarries, 2 events and 4 miscellaneous applications (such as signage).

The total number of development applications and complying development certificates approved for the year was 47 as seen in the below table which also includes various other applications and approvals issued under the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979 and the Local Government Act 1993.

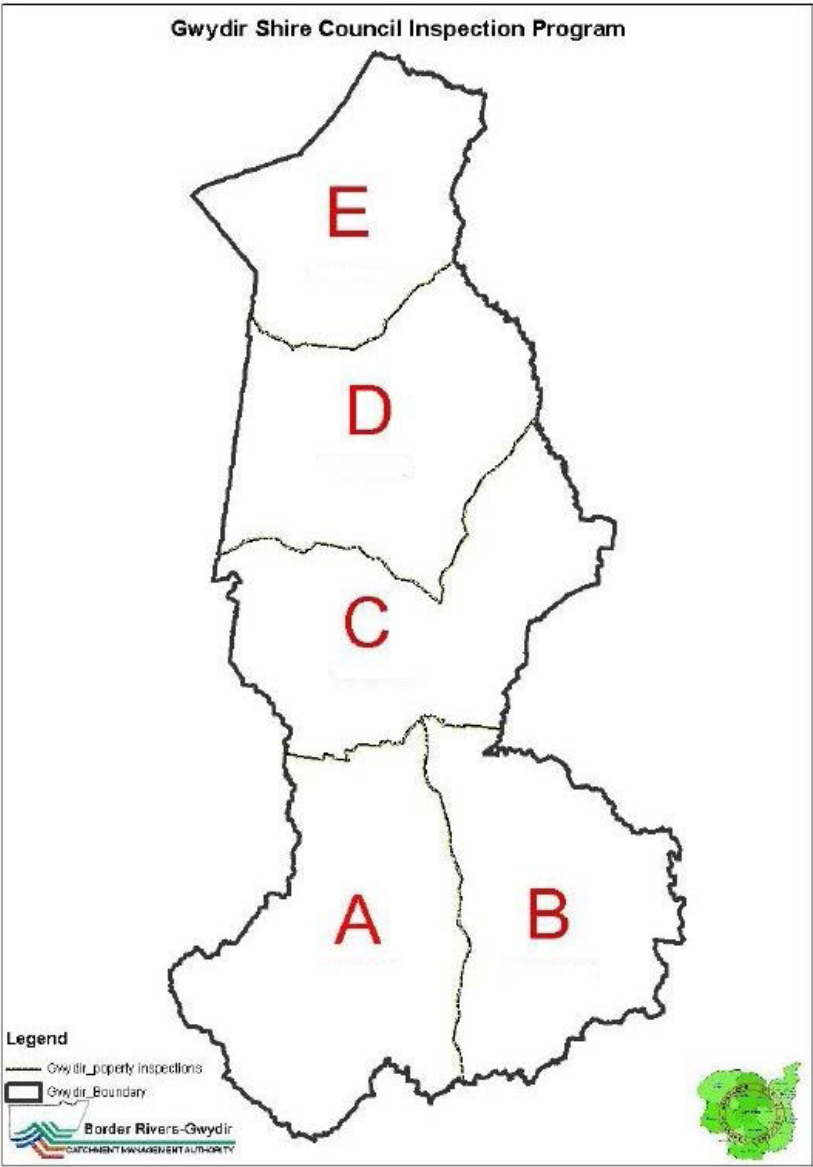
	Development Applications	Construction Certificate	Complying Development Certificates	S96 Modification Applications	Subdivision Certificates	S68 Applications	Building Certificates
Applications Received	51	37	4	9	9	18	7
Cancelled	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Applications Approved	43	34	4	6	9	18	7
Applications Approved by Delegation	42	28	3	5	9	18	7
Applications Approved by Council	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
Applications Approved by Private Certifier	-	6	1	-	0	-	-

Throughout the 2016/2017 year Council also issued two hundred s149(2) Certificates (Zoning Certificate under Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979), twenty three s149(5) Certificates (Annexure to s149(2)), twenty 735A Certificates (Outstanding Notices under the Local Government Act 1993), nineteen 121ZP Certificates (Outstanding Notices under the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979) and twenty eight s64 Certificates (Noxious Weeds). In addition Council replied to eighty two requests for Drainage Diagrams.

Our achievements in Weed Management

This year marked the second year of the 5 year Weed Action Plan. The large majority of properties in section B (see map below) were inspected and control information and advice given to landholders. Noxious Weeds were successfully controlled in hotspots identified around the Shire and across our road network. The Harissa Cactus containment line at North Star was held with works done across the area.

This was the 2nd year of a 3 year grant program to control green cestrum in Slaughterhouse Creek in partnership with Moree Plains Shire Council. The Noxious Weeds Officers ran information stalls at Bingara and Wialda Shows where they have a display of Noxious Weeds and booklets for weed control focusing on the targeted weeds for our geographical area.



Our achievements in Waste

1.354 Tonnes of Chemical Waste was collected

337.5 kg per service of waste was collected over 1439 Services

197kg of recycled material per service was collected over 1439 Services

159 kg per service was collected from Green Bins over the 1376 services

Through the hierarchy of Avoid, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle the Gwydir Shire Council aims to achieve sustainability and the responsible use and disposal of resources within the region.

The Shire provides Landfill and Transfer sites services at 7 facilities across the Shire. Warialda and Bingara have a fully staffed landfill operating 7 days a week. There are remote landfills at Coolatai, Croppa Creek, Gravesend, Warialda Rail and Upper Horton, and a transfer station facility at North Star. All residents and ratepayers across the Gwydir Shire have access to a landfill or transfer station. Gwydir Shire Council provides households with a 3 bin system consisting of general waste, recycling and food and kitchen organics (FOGO). Commercial and Non Rateable properties have a general waste, recycling service and food and kitchen organics upon request as needed.

There are Public Place Bins in parks, ovals and rest areas across the Shire. Commercial and domestic 'Cardboard cage' recycling services are located at Bingara, Coolatai, Croppa Creek, Gravesend, Warialda and Upper Horton.

The Gwydir Shire Council also provides a range of specialised recycling and disposal services such as Asbestos, DrumMuster, Mobile Muster, Printer Cartridge, E-Waste, Petroleum and Cooking Oil and Household Chemical Collections.

We are a member of the Northern Inland Regional Waste Group. This group was formed in 1998. Northern Inland Regional Waste (NIRW) is a collaboration of Councils from the New England and North West region of New South Wales who are focused on delivering cost effective and sustainable waste management options for the regional community. Tamworth Regional Council hosts the positions of the NIRW Executive Officer and Program Coordinator. Current member councils are Armidale Dumaresq, Glen Innes Severn Shire, Gunnedah Shire, Guyra Shire, Gwydir Shire, Inverell Shire, Liverpool Plains Shire, Moree Plains Shire, Narrabri Shire, Tamworth Regional, Uralla Shire, Tenterfield Shire and Walcha Shire.

1.354 Tonnes of Chemical waste was collected for proper disposal through The Household Chemical clean out. This program is 50% funded by the NIRW and NSW EPA.

Waste Collection

An online fortnightly promotional campaign targeting the improvement of recycling habits has been undertaken along with a fortnightly campaign aimed at promoting increased use of FOGO bin (Food Organics Garden Organics Bin).

- An average of 337.5 kg per service was collected in the Red bin over 1439 services
- An average of 197 kg per service was collected in the Yellow bin over 1439 services
- An average of 159 kg per service was collected in the Green bin over 1376 services

Landfills and Transfer Stations

At the Warialda Landfill the all-weather access roads were completed, a new general waste disposal cell was excavated, the lower section was shaped for better access and stockpiled tyres were recycled. There was \$2176.27 in 'Tip-Shop' sales.

At the Bingara Landfill the all-weather access roads were completed. The compound fencing by Council's Building Services Team was commenced and is being continued into the new financial year. There was \$1378.17 in 'Tip-Shop' sales.

The Bingara Landfill was also the recipient of the Bingara Garden Club's Certificate Of Appreciation *"to acknowledge the time and effort spent by staff in planting and maintaining green and colourful areas at and around the entrance to the Waste Recovery Centre. We feel that this shows co-operative and commendable community spirit, and brings pleasure to residents visiting this place."*

A new general waste disposal cell was excavated at Gravesend and a bank of 12 recycle bins on stands were installed.

Croppa Creek landfill and North Star Transfer Station also saw a bank of 12 recycle bins on stands installed at both facilities.

The North Star Transfer Station site was also fenced by Council's Building Services Team.



Our achievements in Information Services



Information Services

Council's Information Services team consists of 4 full time staff who are ultimately responsible for all Information and Technology systems. These include, but not limited to

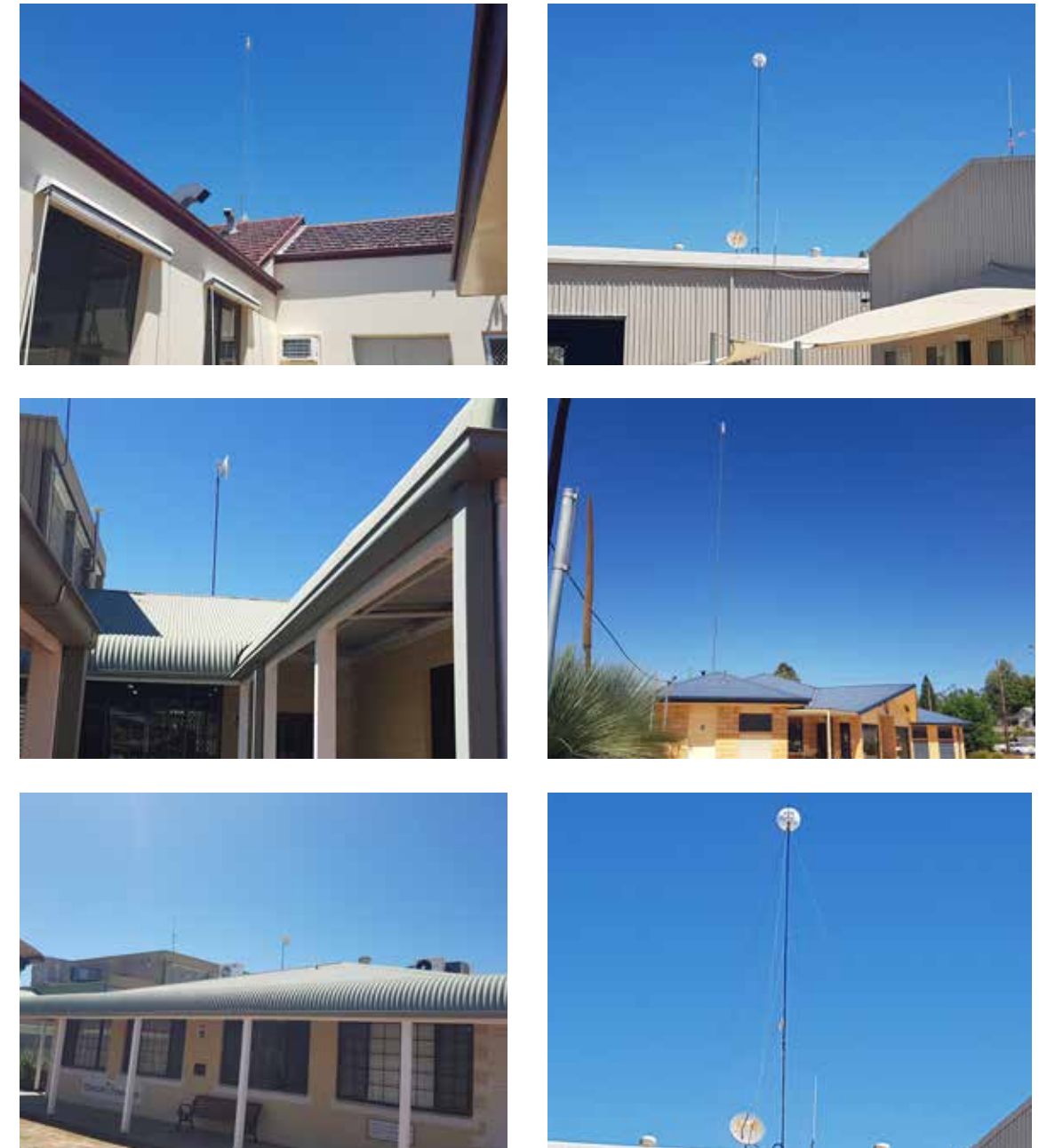
- Support for over 500 + devices including
 - o Desktops, laptops and tablets
 - o Printers and scanners
 - o Network and server equipment
 - o Telephony devices, phones, mobiles & tablets
- Information Contract Management
 - o Telecommunication Contracts
 - o Printer fleet contracts
 - o Software contracts – Microsoft, Civica etc.
- Records Management
 - o Maintenance of Council's Electronic Document Management System (EDMS)
 - o Supporting over 23000 records inputted into our EDMS annually
 - o Classification, Resentencing, Storage and Maintenance of all physical (paper) based records

Information Services respond to over 7500 support requests, queries & training annually. We support a network that transfers over 60 terabytes annually. We are supporting over 500 devices. We have over 23000 records entered into our Electronic Document Management System a year.

Key Achievements for 2016/2017 Include

- Software Implementation. iFerrett – Council's digital assets, such as records, emails and databases have been growing at an exponential rate. This creates challenges for council staff to adequately find appropriate information in a timely manner. iFerrett scans and indexes all our digital assets. Any user can now find any piece of information which they have permission to access, whether that information is in a document management system, file system, e-mail or database.
- Warialda Data upgrade – A point to multipoint (PTMP) wireless network upgrade has allowed Information Services team to deliver the same access to Gwydir Shire's information systems and telephony network. These sites no longer have to rely on slow and expensive data networks.

- Naroo	- Warialda Toylibrary
- Warialda Library	- Warialda CHSP
- Warialda Tourism Centre	



- Warialda Wireless Upgrade – Our Corporate & Public WiFi system have been extended to include all primary council offices in Warialda. This allows council staff to work in any council owned office and still access the same Information Systems as if they were in the Warialda Admin Office. This upgrade has also allowed council to offer free public WiFi in all council owned buildings.

The following pages include an outline of actions included in the 2016/17 Operational Plan and Council's Delivery Program covering this period.

Corporate Services
Financial Operations
Financial Administration

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
5.1.1.17 September Quarter Budget Review --> Refer operational action	Ronald Wood - Chief Financial Officer	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: Incorrectly created as a delivery plan action rather than operational plan. Refer operational plan item. Last Updated: 10-Jan-2017						

Information Services
Information Services

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
5.1.2.7 IT replacement program	Timothy Greensill - Information Services Manager	Not started	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	-	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: Capital Program deferred to FY 2017 Last Updated: 30-Jun-2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
5.1.3.8 Continuous improvement program	Timothy Greensill - Information Services Manager	Ongoing	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2020	100%	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: Current Reviews - Accounts Payable - On going review. Purchase cards to replace majority of orders sub \$200 in FY 2017 Last Updated: 30-Jun-2017						

Development and Environmental Services
Building Services
Administration Buildings

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.1.1.18 Bingara Court House refurbish public amenities	Colin Cuell - Building Services Manager	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: Work completed. Last Updated: 06-Mar-2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.1.1.23 Bingara Office paint internal and floor coverings to southern section of office	Colin Cuell - Building Services Manager	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: Completed Last Updated: 21-Dec-2016						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.1.1.24 Bingara Office paint internally and floor coverings to northern section of office	Colin Cuell - Building Services Manager	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: Completed Last Updated: 30-June 2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.1.1.9 8 Olive Pyrke Terrace Residence paint internally and floor coverings	Colin Cuell - Building Services Manager	Not Started	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	0.00%	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: Work to be deferred on request of tenant Last Updated: 06-Mar-2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.1.1.64 Rosehill Drive Residence paint internally and floor coverings	Colin Cuell - Building Services Manager	Not Started	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	0.00%	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: Advised by GM to hold off doing this work until a later date. Last Updated: 06-Mar-2017						

Other Buildings

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.1.1.51 Old SES Rivercare shed paint externally	Colin Cuell - Building Services Manager	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: Project completed under budget. Last Updated: 21-Dec-2016						

Pools

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
1.1.3.21 Bingara pool leak rectification and filtration system upgrade	Colin Cuell - Building Services Manager	Completed	01-Jul-2015	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: Filtration system has been upgraded. Sump has been repaired. This project was originally arranged and assigned to Duncan Thain. During organisational changes pools were transferred to Building Services. Last Updated: 04-Feb-2016						

Public Halls

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.1.1.66 Warialda Memorial Hall paint externally	Colin Cuell - Building Services Manager	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: Work completed. Last Updated: 06-Mar-2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.1.1.67 Warialda Memorial Hall refurbish amenities	Colin Cuell - Building Services Manager	Not Started	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	0.00%	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: Project was not undertaken due to budget restrictions. Last Updated: 06-Mar-2017						

Development and Land Use Management Planning

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
1.2.1.7 Prepare a local housing market study	Glen Pereira - Development & Environmental Services Dir	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: This action is not considered relevant. Last Updated: 02-Mar-2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
1.2.3.10 Implement the Shire wide Heritage study with community consultation	Glen Pereira - Development & Environmental Services Dir	In Progress	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	76.00%	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: Heritage Study has been completed. Initial consultation with property owners has been completed. Last Updated: 02-Mar-2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
1.2.3.11 Partner with local land services & indigenous groups for cultural & heritage projects	Glen Pereira - Development & Environmental Services Dir	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: There have been a number of partnerships commenced with NWLLS and the Moree Local Area Lands Council, Anaiwan Local Area Lands Council and NSW Office of Environment and Heritage to Develop Cultural and Heritage Projects, including Last Updated: 02-Mar-2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.1.1.73 Identify and create land development opportunities for residential, industrial and other land use needs	Glen Pereira - Development & Environmental Services Dir	In Progress	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	60.00%	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: land has been identified for residential and industrial uses. Last Updated: 06-Mar-2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.2.2.1 Partner with educational and research institutes and related groups to identify opportunities	Glen Pereira - Development & Environmental Services Dir	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: Council through the Living Classroom and agricultural industry initiatives is engaging with educational and research institutes. Last Updated: 06-Mar-2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
3.1.1.3 Support the existing agricultural industry as well as providing new opportunities	Glen Pereira - Development & Environmental Services Dir	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: Council continues to support the agricultural industry. Last Updated: 06-Mar-2017						

Environment

Environment

Environmental Services

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START	END DATE	COMPLETED	TARGET
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ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START	END DATE	COMPLETE	TARGET
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ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START	END DATE	COMPLETE	TARGET
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ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
3.1.3.3 Develop of a community permaculture garden to help foster an understanding of sustainable living within both Bingara and Warialda	Glen Pereira - Development & Environmental Services Dir	In Progress	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	72.00%	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: Community garden developed in Bingara at the Living Classroom. Last Updated: 06-Mar-2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
3.1.3.7 Investigate the possibility of joint funding applications with the LLS and neighbouring Council's to achieve regional biodiversity outcomes	Saul Standerwick - Environment and Sustainability (234)	Ongoing	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: Joint weed eradication and containment projects undertaken Last Updated: 30-June 2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
3.1.3.11 Partner with LLS and Landcare groups to revegetate areas affected by degradation within the Shire	Saul Standerwick - Environment and Sustainability (234)	In progress	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	70.00%	70.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: Hall creek bio-links project ongoing revegetation project ongoing. Last Updated: 30-June 2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
3.1.3.12 Seek funding opportunities for native vegetation programs	Saul Standerwick - Environment and Sustainability (234)	In progress	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: Working with LLS on obtaining funding-additional funding granted for High Risk Pathways Feral Fruit Tree eradication Program Last Updated: 30-June 2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
3.1.3.13 Support the development of re- vegetation corridors & fish habitat in consultation with local owners along waterways.	Saul Standerwick - Environment and Sustainability (234)	Ongoing	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	70.00%	70.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: Hall creek bio-links project ongoing revegetation project ongoing Last Updated: 30-June 2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
3.2.1.1 Biogas investigation	Duncan Thain - Recreation Manager	Ongoing	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	0.00%	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: A desk top study has been completed by independent engineering contractor, Sohum Gandhi. This is with the Circular Economy committee for consideration. Last Updated: 30-June 2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
3.2.1.2 Explore alternative energy options	Duncan Thain - Recreation Manager	Ongoing	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	0.00%	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: In addition to the Desk top Study, there is a proposal put forward by a community member to build a biomass plant in Bingara. This is still being considered. Last Updated: 30-June 2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
3.2.1.3 Investigate any opportunities to reduce electricity costs within the Shire through the introduction of a community based alternative energy production scheme	Duncan Thain - Recreation Manager	Ongoing	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	-	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: UTS have been commissioned to complete a Behind the Meter Energy Efficiency Model as presented by GSC. Zen Energy are a stakeholder in this process. Through the support of Professor Ross Garnaut GSC has applied to become part of the NSW Energy Challenge. Professor Garnaut has advised we are at the presentation stage of this Last Updated: 30-June 2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
3.2.3.1 Implement Council's Waste Management Strategy, in consultation with the community	Saul Standerwick - Environment and Sustainability (234)	Ongoing	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: Strategy implemented and ongoing management Last Updated: 30-June 2017						

Parks and Urban Spaces

Town Streets Improvement

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
1.1.3.15 Town streets beautification program - not defined	Carl Tooley - Manager Compliance and Urban Spaces	Not Approved	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017		100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: Not funded in 16/17 Last Updated: 02-Mar-2017						

Public Health

Public Health Administration

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
1.2.2.14 Develop a Community Safety Plan	Glen Pereira - Development & Environmental Services Dir	In Progress	01-Jul-2015	30-Jun-2017	15.00%	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: consultation with the Barwon Area Command needed to review existing agreement. Last Updated: 06-Mar-2017						

Regulatory Services

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
1.2.2.13 Animal pound construction	Saul Standerwick - Environment and Sustainability (234)	Deferred	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	20.00%	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: Deferred until 2020/21 Last Updated: 30-June 2017						

Recreational Facilities

Community Fitness

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
1.1.3.25 Continue to explore ways to maximise the potential of Council's recreational resources.	Duncan Thain - Recreation Manager	Ongoing	01-Jul-2016	01-Jul-2020	-	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: The Gwydir River is an under utilized recreation resource. NSW Canoe and Slalom Assn has made a preliminary approach to establish a Junior slalom course in Bingara. An official approach is pending Last Updated: 30-June 2017						

Waste Management

Waste Management

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
3.2.3.14 Fence erection Landfills Shire Wide	Saul Standerwick - Environment and Sustainability (234)	In Progress	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	70.00%	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: North Star Transfer Station Complete-Bingara 2 of 4 sides completed Last Updated: 30-June 2017						

Governance, Plant and Town Utilites

Governance

Executive Services

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
5.1.5.1 A report on the progress on implementation of the Community Strategic Plan must be presented at the final meeting of the outgoing Council	Maxwell Eastcott - General Manager	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
Last Updated: 30-June 2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
5.1.5.8 Major review of Community Strategic Plan and Delivery Plan following local government elections.	Maxwell Eastcott - General Manager	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
Last Updated: 30-June 2017						

Sewerage Services

Sewerage Services

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
3.2.3.2 Bingara Sewer main relining	Andrew Cooper - Town Utilities and Plant Manager	Not Started	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	0.00%	100.00%
Nil carried out in 2016-17 deferred to 2017-18						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
3.2.3.3 Bingara Sewer Treatment Plant amenity building roof replacement	Andrew Cooper - Town Utilities and Plant Manager	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
Building services department completed in 2016						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
3.2.3.4 OHS work renewal	Andrew Cooper - Town Utilities and Plant Manager	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
Sewer pump station 2 access ladder replaced February 2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
3.2.3.9 Warialda sewer mains relining	Andrew Cooper - Town Utilities and Plant Manager	In Progress	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	10.00%	100.00%
Nil carried out in 2016-17 deferred to 2017-18						

Town Utilities and Plant Plant Operations

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
5.1.3.28 Plant renewal Program 2016-17	Andrew Cooper - Town Utilities and Plant Manager	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
Major plant items replaced in 2016-17 were Grader, Slasher tractor, smooth drum roller and two zero turn mowers.						

Showground Facilities

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
1.1.3.49 Showground revenues	Andrew Cooper - Town Utilities and Plant Manager	In Progress	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	85.00%	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: Income from user groups and private hire has been received						

Water Supply Services Water Supply Services

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
3.2.2.1 Warialda Water replacement of bore pumps	Andrew Cooper - Town Utilities and Plant Manager	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: Replaced Saleyard bore submersible pump June 2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
3.2.2.3 Water Main replacement Gwydir Hwy Warialda from Apex Park to Motel	Andrew Cooper - Town Utilities and Plant Manager	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
started June 2017 and completed August 2018						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
3.2.2.10 Water meter replacement program	Andrew Cooper - Town Utilities and Plant Manager	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS:						
49 water meters were replaced during 2016/17						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
3.2.2.17 Installation of Water bottle refilling stations in Warialda and Bingara	Andrew Cooper - Town Utilities and Plant Manager	Not Started	18-May-2017	30-Jun-2017	10.00%	100.00%
Water refilling stations have been ordered and will be installed November 2017						

Organisation and Community Development

Aged and Disability Services

Commonwealth Home Support Program

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
1.1.3.1 Identify and support initiatives that create new opportunities for the participation of older people in our community	Sharon Baker - Aged Care Manager	In Progress	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	75.00%	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS:						
This is an ongoing process that involves input from the Doctors, council care providers, health and private care providers. Regular Community Care Meetings are held where opportunities for the participation of older people in the community are discussed and planned for.						
Last Updated: 27-Feb-2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
1.2.1.6 Continue and expand partnerships with service providers to ensure the provision of home help and assistance to frail, older and disabled people.	Sharon Baker - Aged Care Manager	In Progress	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2020	75.00%	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS:						
Ongoing as part of daily operational activities. Our staff participate in community meetings and one-on-one discussions with medical staff at the Medical Centres and						
Last Updated: 27-Feb-2017						

Naroom

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
1.2.1.4 Preparation of independent living residential options floor plans, subdivision layout etc	Sharon Baker - Aged Care Manager	Not approved	01-Jul-2015	30-Jun-2017	0.00%	100.00%
Plan developed awaiting funding opportunities						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.1.1.1 Pursue the acquisition of land from the State Government for development of independent living units adjacent to Naroom	Leeah Daley - Organisation & Community Development Dir	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
Land purchased						

Marketing & Promotion

Events Co-ordination

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.1.3.22 Attract new events to the shire	Georgia Standerwick - Economic Development Officer	Not Started	12-Apr-2017	30-Jun-2017	0.00%	100.00%
New events will be investigated when funding is available. Staff are concentrating on existing events to value add ensuring sustainability.						

Organisation Development Administration

Organisational Development Administration

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
1.1.3.4 Identify and rectify any barriers to the involvement of residents with a disability in the activities promoted by the Shire	Suzanne Webber - Social Services Manager	Completed	01-Jul-2015	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: The Disability Access Action Plan is complete and has been implemented into interplan for action. Last Updated: 30-June-2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
1.2.1.8 Undertake a community survey with the ageing to identify housing needs and priorities.	Leeah Daley - Organisation & Community Development Dir	Not Started	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	0.00%	100.00%
Deferred to a future year.						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.2.2.5 Continue the development of the GLR initiative	Leeah Daley - Organisation & Community Development Dir	In Progress	04-Jan-2016	30-Jun-2018	75.00%	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: Promotional material has been designed to promote the Driver Training opportunities. Relationships have been developed with TAFE and Landcare to increase exposure for Last Updated: 27-Feb-2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
4.1.2.1 Develop Council Engagement Strategy	Leeah Daley - Organisation & Community Development Dir	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: Complete Commenced in February expected to be complete by 31 March 2017. Strategy reviewed, and revised version adopted by Council. Last Updated: 30-June 2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
4.2.1.1 Develop and promote volunteering initiatives in the Shire	Leeah Daley - Organisation & Community Development Dir	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: Volunteer Plan developed and objectives included in the IPR documentation. Implementing volunteering initiatives are ongoing, however the strategy, and induction processes are finalised. Last Updated: 30-June 2017						

Social Services

Families NSW

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
1.1.2.5 Advocate on behalf of service providers and community groups for additional family support services and facilities	Suzanne Webber - Social Services Manager	Ongoing	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2020	100.00%	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: Discussions are underway with Families NSW in conjunction with the Targeted Early Intervention Reform Package which is due to be implemented in the 2018/2019 financial year. This will possibly see an increase in funding for Playgroups and toy library services in the form of an Early Intervention Family Worker being employed. Last Updated: 30-June-2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
1.1.2.6 Facilitate community awareness and support for important health issues, including to: Identify existing agencies and programs providing relevant health awareness education; develop programs for short to medium implementation and identify potential partners for collaborative programs	Suzanne Webber - Social Services Manager	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2020	100.00%	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: Twenty four sessions were held in Bingara and Warialda through the Toy Library Services. Over 200 families were assisted to access information and education regarding health and well being. Last Updated: 30-June-2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
1.1.2.7 Facilitate the provision of services that aim to reduce alcohol and drug abuse in the community	Suzanne Webber - Social Services Manager	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2020	100.00%	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: The Rural Outreach Service delivered sessions in both Bingara and Warialda which related to this topic. The service offers information, education and referral to specialist services and is facilitated through the Toy Library Services in both towns. Last Updated: 30-June-2017						

Social Services Administration

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
1.1.2.9 Identify and prioritise child care delivery options, both government funded/private services	Suzanne Webber - Social Services Manager	In Progress	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2020	80.00%	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: This is ongoing and continually monitored as to the possibilities available. Wherever possible encouragement is forthcoming to individuals wanting to engage in the childcare industry. Traineeships are offered in the hope that on completion individuals may take up the option of Family Day Care as this is a significant gap in both Bingara and Warialda. Bingara Preschool has extended the hours of operation to try to fill this gap. Last Updated: 30-June-2017						

Youth Services

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
1.1.3.32 Develop and maintain youth space	Suzanne Webber - Social Services Manager	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2020	100.00%	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: Programs are offered in both towns of Bingara and Warialda which captures young people from across the Shire and events are run in conjunction with SRC's from both schools. These are planned and delivered by young people and attendance has been good. Last Updated: 30-June-2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
1.1.3.35 Foster relationships between Council and other service providers to maximise the provision of and effectiveness of youth services, especially the GLR	Suzanne Webber - Social Services Manager	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2020	100.00%	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: Throughout the year sessions are held for Young people in conjunction with health services and other agencies to keep young people engaged and employed where needed. Young people are encouraged to engage in education and training through the GLR and other providers to maximise potential for employment. Last Updated: 30-June-2017						

Technical Services
Asset Management
Asset Management Administration

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.1.1.2 Actively support agricultural productivity improvements by completion of all requests for assessment for extension to existing applicable HPV routes within the financial year.	Richard Jane - Director Technical Services	Ongoing	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2020	-	100.00%
Last Updated: 17-Jan-2017						

Emergency Services
Rural Fire Service

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
1.2.2.12 Warialda Rail RFS shed contracted works	Colin Cuell - Building Services Manager	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: Works completed and handover undertaken. Awaiting copies of some invoices from finance before claim for reimbursement from RFS can be completed. Last Updated: 06-Mar-2017						

Roads

Sealed Local Roads

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.1.1.106 Rehab Program, Arterial road, Baroma Downs Road Funded Internally and S94 Contribution	Richard Jane - Director Technical Services	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
Last Updated: 24-Apr-2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.1.1.107 R2R - Rehab Program, Arterial road, Elcombe Road	Richard Jane - Director Technical Services	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
Last Updated: 17-Jan-2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.1.1.134 Rehab Program, road, Shire Roads Heavy Patching Program	Richard Jane - Director Technical Services	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
Last Updated: 24-Apr-2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.1.1.136 Rural Resealing, Minor road, Shire Roads Resealing	Richard Jane - Director Technical Services	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
Last Updated: 24-Mar-2017						

Sealed Regional Roads

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.1.1.127 Regional Roads Structure Pavement Renewal - not defined	Richard Jane - Director Technical Services	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2018	100.00%	100.00%
Last Updated: 17-Jan-2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.1.1.129 Regional Roads Structure Pavement Renewal - not defined	Richard Jane - Director Technical Services	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
Last Updated: 24-Mar-2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.1.1.130 Regional Roads Surface Reseal Program - not defined	Richard Jane - Director Technical Services	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
Last Updated: 24-Apr-2017						

Stormwater Drainage

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.1.1.157 Stormwater Drainage Renewal Program - not defined	Richard Jane - Director Technical Services	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
Last Updated: 24-Apr-2017						

Unsealed Local Roads

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.1.1.189 Actively support 'just in time' agricultural contracts by maintaining the percentage of gravel roads passable after 50mm rain.	Richard Jane - Director Technical Services	Ongoing	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2020	100.00%	100.00%
Last Updated: 17-Jan-2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.1.1.108 R2R - Resheeting, Arterial road, SR36 Baroma Road: 1.3 13.8kms to 15.1kms	Richard Jane - Director Technical Services	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
Last Updated: 17-Jan-2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.1.1.109 R2R - Resheeting, Arterial road, SR41 County Boundary Road: 8.2 4kms to 12.2kms	Richard Jane - Director Technical Services	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
Last Updated: 17-Jan-2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.1.1.110 R2R - Resheeting, Arterial road, SR43 Buckie Road: 1.5 8.5 kms to 10kms	Richard Jane - Director Technical Services	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
Last Updated: 24-Mar-2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.1.1.111 R2R - Resheeting, Arterial road, SR6 Getta Getta Road : 3 0kms to 3kms plus 1000m3 patching out	Richard Jane - Director Technical Services	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
Last Updated: 24-Mar-2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.1.1.112 R2R - Resheeting, Arterial road, SR90 Old Bora Rd: 4.25 1.95- 2.15, 2.2-6.25. From SR1	Richard Jane - Director Technical Services	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
Last Updated: 24-Mar-2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.1.1.113 R2R - Resheeting, Collector road, SR10 Yallaroi Road: 7.1 15.1kms to 17.7kms & 18.5kms to 23kms	Richard Jane - Director Technical Services	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
Last Updated: 24-Mar-2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.1.1.114 R2R - Resheeting, Collector road, SR13 Oregon Road: 10.6 24.6kms to 27kms & 39.2kms to 47.4 kms	Richard Jane - Director Technical Services	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
Last Updated: 24-Mar-2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.1.1.115 R2R - Resheeting, Collector road, SR38 Adams Scrub Rd: 6.72 0.68-6.40, 7.0-8.0 From SH12	Richard Jane - Director Technical Services	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
Last Updated: 05-Feb-2016						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.1.1.116 R2R - Resheeting, Collector road, SR63 Gil Gil Road: 2.6 19kms to 21.6kms	Richard Jane - Director Technical Services	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
Last Updated: 24-Apr-2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.1.1.117 R2R - Resheeting, Local road, SR44 Boundary Crk Rd: 4.7 1.0-1.8, 4.0-4.7, 9.8, 13.0 From MR133	Richard Jane - Director Technical Services	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
Last Updated: 05-Feb-2016						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.1.1.118 R2R - Resheeting, Local road, SR81 Langley Road: 4 0kms to 2kms & 2.4kms to 4.3kms	Richard Jane - Director Technical Services	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
Last Updated: 24-Mar-2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.1.1.119 R2R - Resheeting, Minor road, SR100 Kelly's Access Rd: 1.9 0-700, 2.7-3.9 From SR44	Richard Jane - Director Technical Services	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
Last Updated: 24-Mar-2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.1.1.120 R2R - Resheeting, Minor road, SR238 Talula Road: 4 Gravel Patching Haul Road to gravel pit	Richard Jane - Director Technical Services	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
Last Updated: 24-Apr-2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.1.1.121 R2R - Resheeting, Minor road, SR286 Sonoma Rd: 1.5 700-2.2 from SR18	Richard Jane - Director Technical Services	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
Last Updated: 24-Apr-2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.1.1.122 R2R - Resheeting, Minor road, SR85 Butlers Rd: 0-1.0 From SR55	Richard Jane - Director Technical Services	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
Last Updated: 24-Mar-2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.1.1.123 R2R - Resheeting, Minor road, SR96 Duftys Rd: 1.5 0.1.5 From SR95	Richard Jane - Director Technical Services	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
Last Updated: 24-Mar-2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.1.1.135 Upgrade Program, Warialda High Productivity Vehicle Route	Richard Jane - Director Technical Services	Not Approved	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-19	0.00%	0.00%
Last Updated: 05-Feb-2016						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.1.1.151 Self help program - 50% funded by contributions	Richard Jane - Director Technical Services	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
Last Updated: 24-Apr-2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.1.1.171 Upgrade Mosquito Creek Rd. HVSP project.	Richard Jane - Director Technical Services	Completed	01-Jul-2015	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
Last Updated: 24-Apr-2017						

Urban Roads

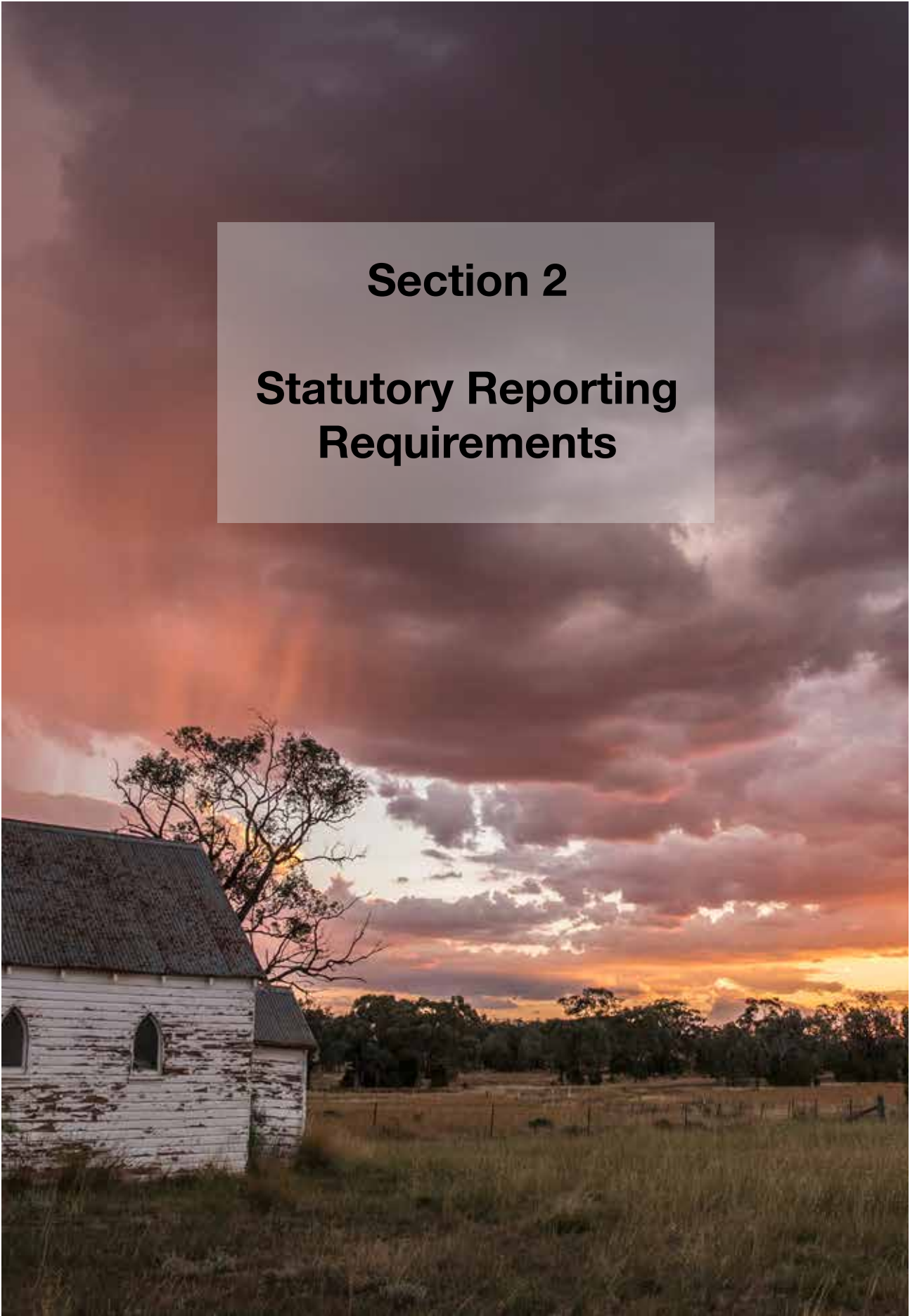
ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.1.1.150 Sealed Urban Roads Surface Renewal - not defined	Richard Jane - Director Technical Services	Completed	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
Last Updated: 17-Jan-2017						

Technical Services Administration
Technical Services Administration

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
1.2.1.10 Actively support 'off farm income' by maintaining the level of all-weather access on gravel Shire roads.	Richard Jane - Director Technical Services	Ongoing	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2020	100.00%	100.00%
Last Updated: 17-Jan-2017						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
2.1.1.176 Completion of the Warialda High Productivity Vehicle Route (bypass) to allow A-doubles and B-triples to access the Gwydir Highway at Warialda.	Richard Jane - Director Technical Services	Not Approved	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-19	0.00%	0.00%
Last Updated: 25-Nov-2015						

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	TARGET
4.2.2.1 Liaise with RMS, neighbouring Councils, RJO to resolve issues re regional, freight transport	Richard Jane - Director Technical Services	Ongoing	01-Jul-2016	30-Jun-2017	100.00%	100.00%
Last Updated: 25-Nov-2015						



Section 2
Statutory Reporting
Requirements

Amount of Rates and Charges Written Off in 2016/2017 Year

Pension Rebate Breakdown 2016 2017

Pension Rebate - 2016/2017				
Rate Classification	Rebate Given	Council	Govt	Total (\$)
General Rates	Pensioner Farmland	\$ 7,961.86	\$ 9,731.13	\$ 17,692.99
	Pensioner Residential	\$ 36,614.33	\$ 44,750.67	\$ 81,365.00
Water & Sewerage Rates	Pensioner Water	\$ 19,877.06	\$ 24,288.57	\$ 44,165.63
	Pensioner Sewerage	\$ 17,002.32	\$ 20,775.81	\$ 37,778.13
Waste Charges	Pensioner Domestic Wate & Disposal	\$ 20,407.90	\$ 24,943.89	\$ 45,351.79
	Pensioner Rebate Waste Management	\$ 7,196.41	\$ 8,794.92	\$ 15,991.33
Total Rebate				\$ 242,344.87

Total Cost of Councillor Expenses In Relation To Civic Functions

Councillor fees and expenses

The total cost during the year of the payment of expenses of, and the provision of, facilities to Councillors in relation to their civic functions resulted in a net cost of **\$266,450**. Details of the reportable items forming part of this expense are outlined in the table below;

Details – Reportable Items Councillor Expenses	Amount (\$)
Note these items are included in the amount above they are not additional expenses.	
• Elected Members Allowance	132,951
• Provision of dedicated office equipment	7,674
• Telephone and internet	6,691
• Intrastate training, conferences & meetings	Nil
• Interstate visits representing Council	Nil
• Oversees visits representing Council	Nil
• Spouse expenses	161
• Child care expenses	Nil

Conferences, seminars and training attended by councillors

Conference	Location
Intrastate	
Local Government NSW State Conference - 16 - 18th October 2016	Wollongong
72nd MDA National Conference: 26 - 27th October 2016	Dubbo
Strategic Workshop: 2 - 4th November 2016	Bingara
Local Government Councillor's Workshop: 223rd November 2016	Moree
Workshop: 12th January 2016	Bingara
Namoi Joint Organisation Strategic Planning Workshop: 3rd March 2017	Bingara
Financial Issues in Local Government Workshop: 7th March 2017	Port Macquarie
Country Mayors Meeting - 24th March 2017	Sydney
Budget Workshop: 30th March 2017	Bingara
Company Director's Course: 1 - 5th May 2017	Tamworth
Budget/Finance Workshop: 8th June 2017	Warialda
Interstate	
Local Roads Congress: 9 - 11th November 2016	Toowoomba

Details of Contracts over \$150 000

Contract	Nature of Contract	Supplier Name	Date	Value inc GST
LGP707-3	Supply Caterpillar 140M Grader	Westrac Pty Ltd	29/11/2016	\$503,002.50
VP59543	Supply Ammann ASC150D Smooth drum roller	ConPlant Pty Ltd	28/11/2016	\$170,170.00
2012/13/09	Provide waste removal services	Transpacific Cleanaway Pty Ltd	ongoing	\$403,525.10
VP53879	Provide bitumen sealing services	NSW Spray Seal Pty Ltd	19/07/2016	\$2,189,993.04
VP55506	Provide pavement stabilisation services	Stabilifix Pty Ltd	3/08/2016	\$258,112.38

Council awarded 5 contracts exceeding \$150,000 during 2016/17 totalling \$3,524,803.02.

Details of Overseas Travel

There were no overseas visits by councillors, council staff or other persons representing council in the 2016/2017 financial year.

There were no overseas visits, sponsored by other organisations, by councillors, council staff or other persons representing council in the 2016/2017 financial year.

Summary of Legal Proceedings

There were two legal actions brought against Council during the 2016/17 period. Both involved Development Applications before the Land and Environment Court, NSW.

The first matter occurred when Council refused a DA. The matter was finalised through mediation (coordinated by the Court). Legal costs incurred totalled \$19,825.75.

The second matter occurred when Council did not approve a DA modification to the satisfaction of the applicant. This matter is ongoing. Council has engaged legal representation but to date has not received any invoices for costs incurred.

Summary of Resolutions Made Under Section 67 – Private Land

Below is a summary of Private Works for the 2016-2017 Financial period.

WO Number	Summary or Details of Work	Cost of Work (excl. GST)	Ampunt subsidised by Council (excl. GST)
5476	Hollow - Grading of property access	\$131.39	\$0.00
5513	Stieger - Grading of property access	\$131.39	\$0.00
5514	Monie - Gading of property access	\$343.10	\$0.00
5518	Cush - Hire of watercart, delivery of water to Warialda Aerodrome for Spray Planes	\$112.41	\$0.00
5529	Bancroft - Sweep Bingara IGA Carpark	\$103.72	\$0.00
5560	Lee - Frazer Street	\$81.91	\$0.00
5561	Bogan - Transport heavy machinery	\$94.68	\$0.00
5573	Riley - Delivery of 1m³ of granite	\$160.91	\$0.00
5574	McCartney - Delivery of 1m³ of granite	\$53.64	\$0.00
5593	Gill - Slashing of vacant block, Bingara	\$33.39	\$0.00
5600	Gorman - Warialda Rail property access	\$6,498.93	\$0.00
5609	Egan - Shifting of loam, plant hire	\$101.18	\$0.00
5610	Grieve - Purchase of removed grid on Elcombe Road	\$454.55	\$0.00
5624	Smith - Purchase of property sign	\$91.80	\$0.00
5637	Bogan - Transport heavy machinery	\$191.58	\$0.00
5643	Craddock - Grading of property access	\$131.39	\$0.00
5656	Bogan - Transport heavy machinery	\$201.44	\$0.00
5663	Bogan - Transport heavy machinery	\$259.61	\$0.00
5671	Riley - Hire of Jetpatcher	\$56.22	\$0.00
5672	Traffic accident - Back Creek, Killarney Gap Road	\$257.36	\$0.00
5708	Copeton Dam Inland Waters Holiday Parks - Supply of guideposts	\$2,603.17	\$0.00
5723	Bogan - Transport heavy machinery	\$129.37	\$0.00
5762	Zabba - Grading of property access	\$131.39	\$0.00
5764	Doake - Grading of property access	\$197.09	\$0.00
5771	Warialda P&A Committee - Purchase of reflectaline	\$130.68	\$0.00
5777	Egan Plumbing - Trench Digging, Warialda	\$24.61	\$0.00

Financial Assistance to Others – Section 356

Grants provided by Council under Section 356 of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW) during the 2015/2016 year are outlined below.

Donation Budget Totals			
Organisation	2016/2017 Purpose	Recommended Donation	With Oncost
Donations over \$1,000			
Barraba PA & H Association Inc	Annual Donation	\$1,500	\$1,605.00
Warialda Motor Sports Club Inc	Warialda Off Road 200	\$3,000	\$3,210.00
Warialda & District Chamber of Commerce - Honey Festival	Annual Sponsorship	\$5,000	\$5,350.00
Bingara Show Society	Annual Donation	\$1,500	\$1,605.00
Bingara Dash - new event - foot race to the top of the look out	Sponsorship	\$15,000	\$16,050.00
North Star Public Hall Committee	Restumping, sanding and other minor works	\$10,000	\$10,700.00
Warialda Pastoral & Agricultural Association	Repayment of advance	\$1,500	\$1,605.00
Barwon Division of General Practice Ltd	Annual scholarship	\$1,500	\$1,605.00
Bingara Orange Festival	Annual sponsorship	\$5,000	\$5,350.00
Gwydir Learning Region	Annual Sponsorship	\$20,000	\$21,400.00
Gwydir Art Prize	Annual Sponsorship	\$2,500	\$2,675.00
Industry Annual Awards and School Book Prizes	Prizes and assistance during event	\$10,000	\$10,700.00
Copeton Freshwater Swim Committee	Annual Sponsorship	\$5,000	\$5,350.00
2016 Sports Shear	National Shearing and Woolhandling Championships (Gold Sponsor: Open Shearing; Open Wool Handling; and; Open blade)	\$5,000	\$5,350.00
Willoughby-Gwydir Exchange Program	Annual Sponsorship	\$5,000	\$5,350.00
In Kind Support			
Bingara Show Society	Showground Maintenance	\$3,000	\$3,210.00
Warialda Jockey Club	Preparation for annual race day	\$2,000	\$2,140.00
Warialda Pastoral & Agricultural Association	Support during events	\$3,000	\$3,210.00
Bingara Jockey Club	Preparation for annual race day	\$2,000	\$2,140.00
Warialda APEX Committee	Support during events	\$500	\$535.00
Carinda House Committee	Annual support	\$300	\$321.00
Myall Creek Memorial Committee	Ground maintenance for annual commemoration	\$1,000	\$1,070.00
Warialda Fall Progress Association	Maintenance	\$500	\$535.00
Bingara RSL Club and Bingara RSL Sub-Branch - Upkeep of the Memorial Gardens in Bingara	Maintenance	\$500	\$535.00
Warialda Tennis Club	Ground maintenance	\$500	\$535.00
Warialda Pre School	Sealing of car park	\$4,000	\$4,280.00
Warialda Events Unallocated	Support for community events	\$6,000	\$6,420.00
Bingara Events unallocated	Support for community events	\$6,000	\$6,420.00
Foregone Income			
Bingara Radiance Club Inc.	Rates and other charges subsidy	\$2,000	\$2,140.00
Country Women's Association North Star	Rates and other charges subsidy	\$1,000	\$1,070.00
Country Women's Association Warialda	Rates and other charges subsidy	\$1,250	\$1,337.50
Warialda Girl Guides	Rates and other charges subsidy	\$1,500	\$1,605.00
Warialda Pre School	Rates and other charges subsidy	\$2,000	\$2,140.00
Bingara 'Bullets' Rugby League Club Club	Use of oval and training lights	\$800	\$856.00
St John's Anglican Church Bingara	Water, sewerage and waste charges	\$1,800	\$1,926.00
Boggabilla Anglican Parish	Water, sewerage and waste charges	\$500	\$535.00
Gwydir Rugby Club	Use of oval and training facilities	\$800	\$856.00

Organisation	2016/2017 Purpose	Recommended Donation	With Oncost
Catholic Church, Presbytery, Convent and St Joseph's Primary School Warialda	Water, sewerage and waste charges	\$6,000	\$6,420.00
Presbyterian Church Warialda	Water, sewerage and waste charges	\$900	\$963.00
Salvation Army Bingara	Water, sewerage and waste charges	\$900	\$963.00
Scots Presbyterian Church Bingara	Water, sewerage and waste charges	\$900	\$963.00
St Mary's Catholic Church Bingara	Water, sewerage and waste charges	\$2,700	\$2,889.00
St Simon's and St Jude's Anglican Church Warialda	Water, sewerage and waste charges	\$1,100	\$1,177.00
Uniting Church Bingara	Water, sewerage and waste charges	\$900	\$963.00
Warialda Pastoral & Agricultural Association	Rates, water, sewerage and waste charges	\$4,000	\$4,280.00
All Junior and School Sports	Waiving of all hire fees	\$5,000	\$5,350.00
Waiving Development Application and other fees	Annual support	\$3,000	\$3,210.00
Donations \$1,000 and under			
Bingara Anglers Club	Annual Donation (Easterfish)	\$400	\$428.00
Bingara 'Bullets' Rugby League Club	Match equipment	\$500	\$535.00
Northern Inland Academy of Sport	Annual Donation	\$500	\$535.00
Upper Horton Sports Club - Sheep Dog Trials	Sheep Dog Trials Donation	\$200	\$214.00
Warialda Model Plane Display	Annual Donation	\$200	\$214.00
Upper Horton Pony Club	Annual Donation	\$500	\$535.00
Bingara Oztog Association	Annual Donation	\$300	\$321.00
Warialda Rotary Club	Annual Donation for Australia Day Celebrations	\$1,000	\$1,070.00
Bingara Australia Day Celebrations	Assistance during event	\$1,000	\$1,070.00
Bingara Historical Society	Annual Sponsorship plus a request for \$1500 for storage boxes. Only the annual subsidy is recommended until the need for the money is proven as not being available from their own bank balance.	\$300	\$321.00
Warialda Historical Society	Annual Sponsorship	\$300	\$321.00
Gwydir Concert Band	Instruments	\$1,000	\$1,070.00
Warialda Rail Progress Association	Renovate kitchen and other minor works	\$1,000	\$1,070.00
Unallocated Donations	Support during the year upon request approved by	\$5,000	\$5,350.00
Upper Horton Rodeo	Annual sponsorship	\$500	\$535.00
Warialda Sports Council	Annual sponsorship of Awards' Night	\$350	\$374.50
Warialda Show Photographic Prize	Annual sponsorship	\$200	\$214.00
Bingara Central School	Support for a breakfast club together with Bingara IGA	\$1,000	\$1,070.00
Total Allocated		\$172,100	\$184,147.00
Total Budget			\$190,169.00
Contingency Remaining			\$6,022.00

Statement of all external bodies which exercised functions delegated by Council

Local Government Border River Project
 Joint Weight of Loads Committee
 Fossickers' Way Promotion Committee
 Traffic Committee
 Regional Tourism Committee
 Bush Fire Liaison (Service Level Agreement) Committee
 Border Regional Organisations of Councils
 Copeton Dam Trust
 Arts North West
 B Division
 Namoi Joint Organisation

To better engage the community and reflect local community views and needs, Gwydir Shire Council delegates a range of its functions to volunteer committees.

Bingara Historical Society
 Gravesend Historical Society
 Naroo Advisory Committee
 Bingara Anglers' Club
 Bingara Showground Committee
 Warialda Historical Society
 Coolatai Sportsgrounds Committee
 North Star Hall Committee
 Croppa Creek Hall Committee
 Yallaroi Hall Committee
 Crooble Hall Committee

Statements of all corporations, partnerships, trusts, joint ventures, syndicates or other bodies in which council held a controlling interest.

Gwydir Shire Council did not hold a controlling interest in any corporation, private company, partnership, trust, joint venture, syndicate or any other body in the year ending 30 June 2017.

Statements of all corporations, partnerships, trusts, joint ventures, syndicates or other bodies in which council participated.

The Council is involved in several co-operative arrangements with a non-controlling interest in the following entities:

StateCover Mutual – a co-operative body providing workers' compensation insurance coverage for Council staff

Statewide Mutual – a co-operative body providing liability and property insurance services to Council

Central Northern Regional Library and Information Service -a jointly funded relationship with a number of Councils to provide library services throughout the region

Namoi JO - A Regional Organisation of Councils providing a forum for Councils to consider matters of common interest

Border ROC – A Regional Organisation of seven (7) councils giving strategic direction to the region

The Fossickers Way Committee - Providing tourism support and coordinated services to the Region

The Copeton Dam Trust - Administering the operations of the dam and its facilities

B Division of the Shires Association of NSW - providing a forum for councils to consider significant regional and state matters affecting local government and their communities

Australian Rural Roads Group – an incorporated association of Councils petitioning for improved local road infrastructure and management

Equal Employment Management

During this period review of the Equal Employment Management policies were commenced with a view to completion in the 2017/2018 financial year. Existing policies and induction programs highlight the importance of treating all staff and customers with respect and reinforce that discrimination in any form will not be tolerated.

Gwydir Shire Council demonstrates a commitment to EEO principles through the development of systems and processes for recruitment and promotion. All decisions made regarding recruitment and promotion are based on merit not influenced by gender, disability, race, age, religion or any other attribute.

Council has several trained EEO Contact Officers who have been trained by the Anti-Discrimination Board of NSW to assist with the application of EEO policies and procedures and provide support and guidance to staff.

General Manager Remuneration Package

Item	Amount \$
Salary	256,337
Superannuation	26,514
Non Cash Benefits	27,600
FBT	0
Total Package	310,451

Senior Staff Members Remuneration Package

Not applicable. The only staff member classified as Senior Staff is the General Manager.

Statement of Stormwater Management Services Provided

Council levied a Stormwater Management Service Charge (SWSC) of \$25 per residential property, \$12.50 for residential strata lots, \$25 per 350sq.m for business properties capped at a maximum charge of \$1000.

The total received funds for the 2016-2017 FY was \$39,633. The budgeted expenditure was \$45,617 for Maintenance and \$55,630 for Capital Works.

The maintenance expenditure totalled \$21,855, which included Repairs & Maintenance, Cleaning of Gross Pollutant Traps and Removal of Debris from Grates and Inlets.

The planned Capital Works in Spring Street, Bingara was not completed by the end of the financial year and was rolled over to the 2017-2018 Financial Year.

Coastal Protection Services

Not applicable

Environmental Upgrade Agreements – Section 406

There were no Environmental Upgrade Agreements entered into in the 2016/2017 Financial Year.

Report on Capital Works Projects

Capital Works Projects are included in the body of the report.

Statement Of Activities Companion Animals Act 1998 And Regulation 2008

Companion Animals management

Gwydir Shire Council employs Regulatory Officers who are responsible for administering the Companion Animals Act 1998. The officers patrol the region to provide companion animal owners with support, education and regulation. A summary of the activities undertaken in 2016-17 are listed below.

Pound data / Collection returns

Council reports annually on impounded animals in the Gwydir Shire region. This information is provided to the Department of Local Government, and forms part of the Survey of Council Seizures of Cats and Dogs. Council lodged its pound data collection return in July 2017. A brief summary of the pound data collections for the year is presented in the table below.

ACTIVITY	CATS	DOGS
Total Animals Seized	28	30
returned to owner	2	5
Impounded	26	25
Released to owner		13
Euthanised Dangerous dog		2
Euthanised un-rehomed	1	2
Euthanised feral	25	0
Rehomed	0	2
Released to Organisations for Rehoming	0	6

Dog Attack Statistics

Known dog attacks reported and investigated by Council’s Regulatory officers are entered into the Companion Animals Database, in accordance with the requirements of the Companion Animals Act 1998. During 2016-17 there were 4 dog attacks reported to Council which were investigated and reported on the Companion Animals Database.

Funds spent on Companion Animal management and activities

Funding spent by Council in 2016-17 totalled \$107720.24

This figure includes the employment of Regulatory officers, the operation and maintenance of Council’s Companion Animal Impounding facility, as well as educational and awareness activities.

Educational activities

The Strategic Companion Animal Management Plan (SCAMP) contains objectives for undertaking companion animal awareness and educational activities. This year saw an increasing use of social media for a range of Companion Animal Management Activities including education, reuniting lost pets and rehoming pets. The free microchipping strategy uses this face to face contact to educate people on their roles and responsibilities as a pet owner. The Shire also produces a range of factsheets for companion animal owners which are distributed physically and information is available online at Council’s website.

Strategies to promote the desexing and permanent Identification of companion animals

It is recognised that the desexing of cats and dogs helps to reduce nuisance behaviours such as roaming, aggression and the production of unwanted litters. We promote desexing to our customers highlighting these advantages both socially and financially. This year saw a successful funding application for the Responsible Pet Ownership Grant. Funding was secured to run free microchipping days, free desexing programs for eligible pensioner’s companion animals and free desexing for companion animals suitable for rehoming. During the 2016-17 period over forty companion animals were microchipped, twenty dogs and five cats were desexed and an additional two dogs were desexed before rehoming.

Strategies to reduce euthanasia rates

Council operates a Facebook page and eligible impounded animals are advertised for rehoming. This allows the community to view and share that information and reach a wider audience. Partnerships have been developed across the State with rehoming organisations and companion animals that are not rehomed ocaly are picked up by these organisations and taken to larger population centres for rehoming.

Through the Responsible Pet Ownership Grant funding the Shire offered free desexing for impounded companion animals eligible for rehoming to help reduce rehoming costs. For the period a total of eight dogs were rehomed using these tools. A total of four dogs have been euthanased as they were unable and unsuitable to be rehomed. All the euthanised cats were feral cats.

Off leash areas

Council provides five designated off leash areas in the region.

Bingara - Bicentennial Park including part-Bingara River Common-crown reserve area under council management and All Nations Hill, Hill Street, Bingara.

Warialda - Pioneer Cemetery Park, Long Street Triangle Park corner of Long and Mosquito Creek Road (triangle reserve)

Gravesend - Off leash Reserve Gwydir Street Gravesend



STATEMENT GOVERNMENT INFORMATION (PUBLIC ACCESS) ACT 2009 AND REGULATION

During the 2016/17 period Council received three requests under the Government Information (Public Access) Act, 2009. All three were dealt with and the relevant and appropriate information furnished.

PLANNING AGREEMENTS UNDER THE ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT ACT 1979

Nil

PUBLIC INTEREST DISCLOSURE ACTION 1994 AND REGULATION

No disclosures were made during the reporting period. Council's Privacy Management Plan is available at www.gwydirshire.com to view or download.

STATEMENT CARERS RECOGNITION ACT 2010

In our Aged Care services carers play an important role. Community consultation is undertaken with carers to determine any specific needs that they have that can be accommodated by the council. There is a representative number of carers involved in the Naroo Advisory Committee who meet on a monthly basis. Carers are always invited to attend celebrations at our aged care services.

When considering carer responsibilities the Council introduced flexible work arrangement for our staff. This provides the opportunity for flexibility in handling work, family and carer responsibilities. Staff are encouraged to speak with their supervisors or a representative from the Human Resources Team regarding their personal circumstances and the need for flexible work arrangements. Flexible work arrangements have been developed in consultation with the internal Consultative Committee.

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ACT 1994

Gwydir Shire Council has not been identified as responsible for the implementation of measures in any Recovery Threat Abatement Plan.