



WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL  
**COMMUNITY PLAN**

2010 - 2014

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## Section 1: Executive Summary

Social/community planning is a vital corporate tool to help Councils increase their accountability, guide the future of their communities and develop effective planning partnerships with other government and non-government agencies.

The Walgett Shire Council's Community Plan 2010 – 2014 aims to build on the existing strengths of the community, and address community challenges by working in partnership to improve people's quality of life.

A whole of community approach is required to respond to local issues and build community capacity. By identifying, mobilizing and building on the assets and skills within our community we, as a community, begin to be responsible for our future.

Walgett Shire Council is committed to co-operating with the Murdi Paaki Regional Council, Community Working Parties and interagency structures Instituted within the Council of Australian Government (COAG) Trial. The COAG Trial was an Indigenous agreement, signed by Federal, State and Local Governments, to work in partnership with local communities by setting a workable structure to address local issues. The COAG Trial ended in November, 2007 and partnerships have been continued working within the established structures.

Many of the challenges identified in the Community Plan will require a commitment by all stakeholders in the community over the longer term. Social/ Community Planning is an evolving process. It involves continual updates, assessment, planning, implementation, monitoring and review. The Plan will be updated as part of Council's Integrated Planning process and as social objectives are achieved, new strategies emerge and the community evolves and changes.

## Section 2: Introduction

### ***What is Social Planning?***

Social Planning is the process of ensuring that social well being and the welfare of individuals and community is protected and enhanced in all aspects of planning, policy, decision-making, service delivery and the allocation of financial and in-kind resources.

Social Planning aims to enhance the community's social well-being with an emphasis on individuals and communities under stress.

### ***What is Council's role in Social Planning?***

Local Government guidelines currently require Councils to produce a Community Plan to meet the needs of their community;

*"The Local Government (General) Regulation 1999 requires all Councils in NSW to develop a social/community plan and report on identified access and equity activities in their annual reports"*

(source: Social and Community Planning & Reporting Guidelines, NSW Dept of Local Government December 2002)

Changes to the Local Government Act requires that Councils consult with their communities and place social planning objectives alongside, instead of separate to infrastructure, environment and economic objectives. Walgett Shire Council will have completed this integration by 2011.

### ***What is a Community Plan?***

The Walgett Shire Community Plan 2010 – 2014 is a document that reflects the challenges, aspirations and key social issues facing our community. The aim of the Community Plan is to identify key social needs and to develop a series of action plans in response.

The Community Plan is intended as a guiding document for government and non government agencies, community groups and the broader community for working together to improve the quality of life for people living, working and visiting Walgett Shire.

A Community Plan;

- Provides a community profile
- Identifies the community's current social well-being
- Assesses and reports on the achievements of Council's previous Social Plan
- Guides the work of the Community Development team for the following five years
- Encourages broad based community participation in community planning and decision making processes which will affect community life
- Provides direction for Council and local community organisations in planning, delivery and advocacy services within the community
- Provides direction to State and Federal Government agencies in the planning and distribution of funding for services and facilities in the Walgett Shire

### ***What Principles are used in developing the Community Plan?***

The Department of Local Government Social/Community Planning and Reporting Guidelines outline the desired outcomes for Social/Community Plans as follows:

- Promote fairness in the distribution of resources, particularly for those in need
- Recognise and promote people's rights and improve the accountability of decision makers
- Ensure that people have fair access to resources and services essential to meeting their basic needs and improving their quality of life
- Improve people's opportunities for authentic participation in decision making that affects their lives

Development of the Community Plan is underpinned by the four interrelated social justice principles of participation, access, equity and rights.

### ***How does the Community Plan link with other Council Plans?***

The Community Plan links into Walgett Shire Council's management planning and strategic planning framework. The Plan has direct links with other Council Plans as follows:

- Walgett Shire Council's Management Plan  
The Management Plan identifies key issues and actions for the coming financial year
- State of the Environment Report  
The State of the Environment Report is an annual report required by the Local Government Act, which covers environmental management within the Shire

- Aboriginal Community Development & Reconciliation Plan 2007- 2010  
Relates to community development with Aboriginal and Torres Straight Islander residents of the Shire
- Walgett Shire Council Youth Development Strategy 2009-2014  
This strategy focuses on the well being of children and young people residing and visiting the Shire
- Multi-cultural Policies and Services Plan (formerly named EAPS)  
This document sets out how Council will address the needs of a culturally and linguistically diverse society

### ***What are the budget implications of the Community Plan?***

The 2010 – 2014 Community Plan begins on the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2010 and ends on the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2014. Year 1, referred to in the Action Plans contained in each section, relates to 1/7/2010 – 30/6/2011.

In order for the Community Plan to be carried out, resources outlined in the Action Plans must be considered and approved each May/June during Council budget allocation.

## **Section 3: Development of the Walgett Shire Community Plan 2010-2014**

The consultation process for this Social Plan represents a first for Walgett Shire Council. The process involved residents, community organisations working in the front line of service delivery and community members. Development of the Community Plan included the following stages:

- Stage 1 - Review of existing Social Plan, policies, community survey 2008 and census data
- Stage 2 - Community consultation (according to Council's community consultation procedure)
- Stage 3 - Identification of strengths, challenges and common themes
- Stage 4 - Development of action plans
- Stage 5 - Development of draft Community Plan
- Stage 6 - Exhibition of draft Community Plan
- Stage 7 - Adoption and implementation of the Community Plan

### ***Overview of community consultation process***

The Community Plan has been developed through community engagement with residents, service providers, government and non-government agencies and community groups.

Qualitative methods were used to collect views and priorities of residents and organisations. It is recognised that local people have valuable knowledge of the community they live in and have the capacity to identify local solutions. Focus groups and individual conversations were used to draw information about community quality of life.

Government and non-government agencies contributed views and valuable insight into the process. It is acknowledged that the majority of front line staff are also local residents and community members.

## Community engagement

The following groups were promoted in the development of this plan:

Public forums	Lightning Ridge, Walgett, Collarenebri, Burren Junction, Grawin, Carinda and Rowena.
Open agency and service provider forums	Walgett and Lightning Ridge
Agency and community group visits	Walgett Domestic Violence Prevention Legal Service Women's Group Walgett Aboriginal Medical Service Dharriwaa Elders Group Collarenebri Rotary Club Nova Employment/Café 64 Collarenebri Working Party Collarenebri Yarn Up Lightning Ridge Transcultural Council Lightning Ridge Neighbourhood Centre Walgett Interagency Group Lightning Ridge Interagency Group HomeCare Walgett (DADHC) Walgett Community Working Party
Children and young People	Walgett St Joseph's Primary School students Walgett High School students Collarenebri Pre School Lightning Ridge Pre School Walgett Shire Youth Council

## Section 4: Achievements of the 2007 – 2010 Social Plan

Council's previous Social Plan achievements are highlighted in the table below;

Category	Achievements
Children and Young people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quality youth service delivery in accordance with the Walgett Shire Council Youth Development Strategy 2009- 2014</li> <li>• Expanded partnerships with community groups</li> <li>• Early literacy program implemented</li> <li>• Consultation with children and young people carried out</li> <li>• Playgrounds installed</li> <li>• Youth Council established</li> <li>• Skate Parks installed</li> <li>• Received Best Small Council Award for Youth Week 2009</li> <li>• School to Work program sustained</li> </ul>
Women	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• International Women's Day event</li> <li>• Targeted consultation with women conducted</li> <li>• Expanded partnerships and collaboration with women's groups and support organizations</li> </ul>
Older people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expanded opportunities for older people to participate in social planning directions</li> </ul>
People with a Disability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engaged in consultation with people with a disability</li> </ul>
Aboriginal people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delivered activities in accordance with the Walgett Shire Council Aboriginal Community Development and Reconciliation Plan 2007-2010</li> <li>• Developed relationship with Murdi Paaki to enable employment opportunities for local Aboriginal people</li> <li>• Consistent community engagement through Community Working Party</li> <li>• Engagement of Aboriginal Liaison Officer</li> <li>• Supported and sponsored NAIDOC week celebrations</li> <li>• Managed Community Capability projects</li> <li>• Conducted Cultural Awareness training for all staff</li> </ul>
People from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds (CALD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developed relationship with Lightning Ridge Transcultural Council</li> <li>• Actively source funding for multi-cultural services and organisations</li> <li>• Community consultation with people from CALD backgrounds and organisations</li> </ul>
Additional actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expanded partnerships with Police in relation to crime prevention and community safety</li> <li>• Commenced CBD redevelopment plans for Walgett</li> </ul>

## ***Assessment of effectiveness of the 2007 – 2010 Social Plan***

The 2007 – 2010 Social Plan focused on community service delivery activities to the seven mandatory target groups which has led to an improvement of customer service delivery. Of the 30 actions outlined in the Social Plan, 26 have been successfully acted upon with positive outcomes. The 4 actions that have not been completed appear in this Community Plan as priority actions.

Limitations of the 2007-2010 Social Plan include

- Minimal community consultation
- Inadequate assessment of the community's state of well-being
- A quantitative approach to services available, without analysis of community experience or satisfaction

## **Section 5: Summary of our Community and identified Strengths & Issues**

Walgett Shire Local Government Area is located in the far north west of New South Wales and covers an area of 22,007 square kilometres. Walgett Shire borders with Queensland to the North, Moree Plains and Narrabri to the East, Coonamble to the South and Brewarrina to the West.

The Shire is located on Gamilaraay, Yuwaalaraay, Waiylwon and Ngemba country.

The Shire is geographically on the productive black-soil plains of New South Wales, part of which is in the Central Division and part in the Western Division. The north and north west of the Shire is opal bearing country.

Walgett Shire comprises of a number of towns and villages spread throughout the Shire. Each community has its own identity, through cultural expression, cultural diversity and economic structures and development.

Income is derived from traditional farming and grazing activities, together with cotton and other irrigated crop production. Opal mining, tourism, and service industries are other sources of income for residents of the Shire.

### Summary of identified community strengths

- Beauty of the natural environment
- Life-work balance
- Connection to family and friends
- Well maintained public facilities
- Unique character of towns and villages
- High community spirit

## Summary of community issues

- Provision of health services that meet the diverse needs of the community
- Increased community and family safety
- Provision of recreation and leisure opportunities.
- Ensuring children and young people have opportunities to develop their full potential
- Provision of safe and affordable housing
- Reducing the disadvantage experienced by Aboriginal people
- Ensuring community diversity is respected
- Provision of quality education and genuine employment opportunities
- Limited opportunities for community connections
- Presenting a visual image of town centres that reflects community character

## Section 6: Our Community

### Social outcome

*A community that is supported and has access to a range of services  
A connected community where people interact and participate in community life*

### Social indicators

*Resident level of interaction with people and groups*

*Perceived sense of community*

*Perceived adequacy of opportunities to participate in local planning*

The population of Walgett Shire is difficult to collate due to the high number of people in the mining areas and the Aboriginal communities who chose not to complete the census. There are also a number of people who reside in the mining areas for different periods of the year but whose main residence is in other Local Government Areas.

### Population profile

TOWN	MALE	%	FEMALE	%
Walgett	1537	55.2	1245	44.8
Lightning Ridge	1474	56.6	1128	43.4
Collarenebri	528	53.4	460	46.6
Carinda	378	51.9	350	48.1
Rowena	167	61.2	106	38.8
Burren Junction	68	52.3	62	47.7
Cumborah	n/a	-	n/a	-
Come by Chance	n/a	-	n/a	-
Pokataroo	n/a	-	n/a	-
Grawin	n/a	-	n/a	-
Sheepyard	n/a	-	n/a	-
Glengarry	n/a	-	n/a	-
Cryon	n/a	-	n/a	-
<b>TOTALS</b>	4152		3351	

Source: ABS 2006 QuickStats Census

	MALE	FEMALE	PERSONS
<b>Total persons</b>	3,876	3,070	6,946
<b>Age groups:</b>			
0-4 years	299	265	564
5-14 years	522	432	954
15-19 years	157	151	308
20-24 years	169	177	346
25-34 years	454	402	856
35-44 years	503	438	941
45-54 years	609	487	1,096
55-64 years	602	364	966
65-74 years	372	228	600
75-84 years	163	99	262
85 years and over	25	27	52

Source: ABS Community Profile 2006 Walgett Local Government Area

Communities are defined here broadly in two ways; communities of place and communities of interest. Communities of place are identified by geography and communities of interest are identified by shared interests and identity across groups of people. Communities of interest can be located within or across communities of place.

Community spirit is an important element of a healthy community. Indicators of high community spirit include respect and celebration of heritage, a common vision for the future; strong social networks, active participation, a sense of personal value and strong empathy for others. Communities that welcome and value new residents and practice inclusive behaviours are likely to build social capital by attracting active individuals and families to the area (Kretzmann & McKnight , 1993).

### **Council's role in community development**

Council plays a key role in community development with the aim of assisting to grow resilient, vibrant and strong communities. Council's Community Development team includes a number of workers whose roles include direct service provision, supporting other services, building networks, planning and policy development and advocacy.

### **Community snapshot**

It is acknowledged that residents will belong to more than one of the following groups. For example, an older woman who is the carer of a child would fall into three of the following groups. However, the following mainly outlines issues raised for each of the groups in isolation.

#### ***Older people***

Positive and negative aspects of living in Walgett Shire were identified by older people.

Overwhelmingly, older people identified "people & friends" as being a positive aspect of the Shire. The natural environment and the pace of living were also valued.

While it was recognised there are opportunities for older people to become involved in volunteer activities, older people expressed a desire for more diverse choices.

#### Negative aspects included

- Inadequate housing options and the impact of having to leave the community to take up aged care accommodation
- Limited opportunity to age in place and a fear that Council is not planning for the impact of the aging population
- Concern regarding the implications of an aging population of people living on opal field camps
- Worry associated with the prevalence of drugs, alcohol and gambling in the community
- Lack of health services and the impact of traveling to major towns to receive treatment
- Lack of activities and facilities to support active ageing
- Level of vandalism and anti-social behaviour in the community
- Lack of aged care assistance available for community members

Many older people recognised the value of inter-generational connections that help to develop relationships between different age groups. Many people commented that there is a lack of respect and understanding between older and younger people and opportunities to share skills, knowledge and values could address this.

### ***Women***

Women placed a high value on the importance of having family and friends nearby. Opportunities for social connections and support were also important to women throughout the Shire.

#### Positive aspects for women included

- Strong social networks
- Beauty of the natural environment
- A sense of community

#### Negative aspects of living in the Shire included

- An unacceptable level of domestic violence
- Women's refuge not able to be accessed by older children
- A disconnection from traditional women's business for Indigenous women
- Level of alcohol and drug related crime
- Limited opportunity to develop life skills (eg: cooking, sewing, parenting)
- Limited access to fresh food
- Isolation experienced by rural women

- Isolation experienced by women from cultural and linguistically diverse backgrounds
- Lack of access to health services for women
- Lack of privacy when appearing in Court (victims and perpetrators wait outside the Courthouse together, in full view of general public)

## ***Men***

During consultations men identified positive aspects of living in the Shire as friendly people and the natural environment.

Negative aspects included;

- Damage to the natural environment and the impact on both traditional Indigenous lifestyle as well as rural livelihood
- Vandalism and anti social behavior
- Stress related to agricultural based business operation
- Lack of health services and the impact of traveling to gain health treatment
- Isolation and work schedules, of rural men, makes accessing programs difficult
- Lack of programs that link men to activities that prevent loneliness, address depression and promote mental health
- Access to information was also raised as an issue in terms of language, literacy and format as follows;
  - ~ Migrant men have difficulty with language barriers and expressed the need for information in community languages
  - ~ Literacy levels were raised as an issue where information is only presented in written format
  - ~ The absence of computer skills makes accessing information difficult where it is only presented on the internet

## ***Families***

A high proportion of people believe that the Walgett Shire is a healthy place to raise a family. Mostly, people identified the natural environment and easy pace of living as positive factors for families.

Conversely, negative aspects of living in Walgett Shire centered on access to services and recreational opportunities.

Families highlighted the importance of developing connections and social networks that involve family activities. As a result of the Shire's labour force some families are located in the area for a fixed period of time. These families have moved from social supports and place high value on programs and opportunities that encourage a sense of community.

Issues contributing to family stress and community dissatisfaction included

- Lack of accommodation (both general and crisis)
- Lack of access to health and dental services and the impact of having to travel distances for health services
- Lack of activities for families, both structured and informal (eg: family orientated entertainment & child friendly parks and play areas)
- Lack of affordable child care services, particularly for working parents
- Lack of access to a variety of healthy food
- Dissatisfaction with both educational and social opportunities for their children
- Children having to leave the local community for higher education and/or employment

Families also mentioned access to early childhood programs that were not aimed at crisis intervention, but rather offered opportunities for building on existing healthy family relationships.

In some communities, the desire for a neighbourhood centre as a central point of contact for parenting information and programs was raised. A neighbourhood centre, or similar community space, was viewed as an important tool for building individual skills and community connections.

### ***Communication and participation***

One of the recurring themes resulting from community consultations involved the sharing of information, between Council and the community, and opportunities for participation.

There was an acknowledgement by many residents that Council has recently improved in its effort to seek out, and listen to, community views. Residents placed high importance on Council as an organisation that facilitates community development. A high stress was also placed on the importance of residents seeing their opinions & input reflected in action.

Some of the negative issues for residents included;

- Not knowing how to access information
- Council not providing an adequate level of information

- Information not provided in forms that meet community need (eg: other than written format in English language only)
- Lack of understanding of the role of Council
- Lack of Council consultation was raised in all towns
- Residents expressed their desire for genuine, rather than tokenistic, involvement in decision making processes
- Council website information not keep current

*Action Plan – Our Community ..... page 42*

## Section 7: Community Spaces

### **Social outcome**

*A community that has safe and attractive public spaces that reflects community identity and encourage community connections*

### **Social indicators**

*Perceived adequacy of public spaces for people to come together  
Attendance at sporting and cultural events*

Social space and public facilities are important in the development of strong and cohesive communities. Community spaces include the formal and informal areas within the Shire that allow people to gather for a variety of purposes. Examples include playgrounds, BBQ areas, reserves, walking tracks, restaurants and shopping areas. Elements of spaces that are conducive to healthy community interaction include natural and built features of the environment, architecture, landscaping, street furniture and public art.

### **Council's role**

Council's role involves providing equitable public facilities, responding to leisure and recreation needs of residents, maintaining public spaces and facilities to ensure that they are presentable and safe, planning a range of recreation services and facilities and advocating for recreation resources and facilities.

### **Community snapshot**

Community members placed a high value on public space and rated this aspect as essential to the development of community connectedness. People commented on the importance of having safe and attractive areas to meet and socialize. Because of the isolated nature of the Shire people also expressed their desire for local (within walking distance) spaces.

### **Open spaces**

Public open space encourages physical activity, social connections and can affect a community's health and well being. Walgett Shire includes bushland, rivers, reserves, crown land, natural bores and civic spaces.

The importance of open spaces that reflect the needs of the community were raised in each community. Specifically –

- Extend recreational diversity in existing public space. For example, ovals being utilized as camping areas for public events
- Provide spaces that allow for mixing and connecting with other people
- Provide adequate public seating and provision of rest areas in main street areas and on route to popular destinations. Eg: from Walgett main street to the hospital
- Community pride was a prominent theme in all towns and villages with residents placing high importance on the maintenance and cleanliness of facilities
- Public art is a contentious issue with divided views about how the existing public art contributes to the overall feeling of civic pride. Many residents expressed a desire to have public art reflect the individuality of their towns
- Additional age appropriate parks and playgrounds
- Safe and accessible walkways, cycleways and exercise areas

### **Community buildings**

Community members highlighted the importance of community centres, libraries, halls and youth centers in the delivery of social programs and support services. The existence of a space that is easily accessible where people can gather was described as essential in providing a focal point for activity and opportunities to community that are not currently available.

Residents raised their desire for-

- Development of recreation “hubs” in each of the towns
- Provision of space that does not involve being on licensed premises
- Provision of affordable community space that includes kitchen facilities (to assist with programs such as cooking classes)

### **Entertainment venues**

Entertainment opportunities such as live music; cafes, theatres and other cultural pursuits were identified as lacking throughout the Shire. Touring cultural programs visit the Shire on occasion and are well attended. Calendar events throughout the Shire are well attended but opportunities for regular or spontaneous entertainment was raised as inadequate. Further, residents raised the issue of existing entertainment venues being connected with licensed premises and the need for alternative options.

*“there aren’t many things to do outside the home that don’t involve being at a club. That’s not good, we have little kids. So we tend to stay within a small social group” – resident*

Many residents stated that due to lack of alternatives, their backyard is their entertainment venue and a place where friends gather. This situation limits opportunities for social connections and building social capital.

## Section 8: Children & Young People

### **Social outcome**

*The children and young people of Walgett Shire are valued and are able to reach their full potential through positive social, cultural, educational and employment experiences*

### **Social indicators**

*Youth unemployment rate*

*School retention rate*

*Perceived sense of community*

Walgett Shire Council defines children between 0 – 14 and young people as between 15 – 25. Strong research suggests communities that value children and young people as important and active citizens, rather than solely vulnerable and passive residents, are stronger and more inclusive (Kretzmann & McKnight, 1993).

<b>TOWN</b>	<b>AGE 0-14</b>	<b>% 0-14</b>	<b>AGE15-24</b>	<b>%15-24</b>
Walgett	611	22.9	308	11.1
Lightning Ridge	528	20.3	204	7.8
Collarenebri	254	25.7	101	10.2
Carinda	157	21.6	82	11.3
Rowena	51	18.7	25	9.2
Burren Junction	27	20.7	10	7.7
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1628</b>	<b>21.5</b>	<b>883</b>	<b>11.5</b>

Source: ABS Community Profile 2006 Walgett Local Government Area

### **Council's role in children and youth services**

Council plays an important role in developing and supporting children and young people throughout the Shire. This involves encouraging meaningful participation of young people in decisions that affect them, providing age-appropriate facilities and ensuring Council's Youth Development Team are resourced to develop the capacity of children and young people.

## Community snapshot

Throughout the consultations community members raised the importance of nurturing and developing young people to be strong and resilient citizens. The young people of the Shire are a diverse group of people with a range of talents, skills, abilities and aspirations. During consultations young people felt challenged by a number of issues, many of which were shared by the broader community-

## Negative image of young people

- Both youth and adult residents expressed their view that young people are generally perceived in a negative light. While they acknowledge that some young people do perpetrate crime and engage in anti-social behaviour they are concerned that *all* young people are stereotyped in this way.
- In particular, young people from Walgett and Collarenebri expressed the view that they feel unwelcome by some parts of the community, especially if they are gathered in groups.

## Transport

- Lack of public transport between the Shire's towns and villages has the effect of isolating young people. Young people raised the issue of not being able to access facilities in other areas such as the Lightning Ridge Aquatic Centre and the Skate Parks in the three larger towns.

## Entertainment and recreation

- The Shire's youth centres operate after school hours and during school holidays. While many adults and young people value the activities and facilities there is a strong desire for additional services.
- Diverse weekend activities were raised as important in developing young people and encouraging healthy social behaviour. An increase in sporting opportunities was identified in all communities.
- Pre-school children identified their most valued activities as-
  - (a) building things
  - (b) making things
  - (c) climbing
  - (d) dancing and
  - (e) cooking

Engaging children in consultation of this nature assists to develop built environments that align with Child Friendly Initiatives and respond to the interests of our youngest citizens.

## Public space

- Public spaces where young people feel welcome and encouraged to participate are important for community building activities.
- Youth specific public space such as youth centres, skate parks and playgrounds were identified as valued parts of community infrastructure.
- Some young people raised that they did not feel welcome in some community spaces due to both the physical environment and the people encountered.
- Some young people had never visited community spaces due to a preconception that it was not a place for them. An example of this is the Walgett Library which has recently experienced an influx of young library users. This behavioural shift by young people is a result of the library staff making a conscience effort to innovatively respond to the needs of local youth.

*Action Plan – Children & Young People .....page 48*

## Section 9: Aboriginal people

### **Social outcome**

*A community that recognizes, values and respects Aboriginal people and culture*

### **Social indicators**

*Percentage of Aboriginal people*

*Community perception of equity experienced by Aboriginal people*

Walgett Shire Council respectfully acknowledges the Gamilaraay, Yuwaalaraay, Waiylwon and Ngemba nations within the Shire and all other Aboriginal people residing in the Shire. Council is committed to providing a high quality of service and responsiveness to the needs of the Aboriginal community within the Walgett Shire.

TOWN	PERSONS	POPULATION %
Walgett	990	35.6
Lightning Ridge	554	21.3
Collarenebri	374	37.9
Carinda	249	34.2
Rowena	17	6.2
Burren Junction	20	15.4
TOTAL	2204	

*Source: ABS Community Profile 2006 Walgett Local Government Area*

### **Council's role**

Council's role involves providing non discriminatory access to services, resources and facilities to enable all people to fully participate in their community. Council has a role in working with partners and the community to aim to reduce the disadvantage experienced by Aboriginal people as a result of historical dispossession of their land and displacement from their culture.

Council has developed the Aboriginal Community Development and Reconciliation Plan in order to focus on increasing the quality of life experienced by Aboriginal people and to promote reconciliation throughout the Walgett Shire. Council also employs an Aboriginal Liaison Officer as part of the community development team.

## Community Snapshot

There appears to be a consensus amongst Government departments and service providers that Aboriginal people are represented by larger numbers in Walgett, Lightning Ridge and Collarenebri than those actually identified in the 2006 Census collection. Walgett has the largest Aboriginal community in the Shire. In addition, while the non-Aboriginal community population is decreasing, the Aboriginal population has been steadily increasing.

Council therefore also has a role in developing an understanding of the role of local Government in the Shire and in increasing the participation of Aboriginal people in Local Government.

ATSI	1991	1996	2001	2006	%Change 1996-2006
Persons	1513	1764	1781	2204	36.29
ATSI as % of Population	18.4	20.6	21.4	29.37	34.04

Source: ABS Community Profile 2006 Walgett Local Government Area

Aboriginal people contributed to all parts of this Community Plan and, as previously noted, could belong to various other groups identified (eg: An Aboriginal woman with a disability and children may have contributed with various views). However, this snapshot focuses on issues raised by Aboriginal people as important to them as *Aboriginal people*.

Many community members expressed an appreciation of improved understanding between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people. Likewise, many people commented on the improved effort of Walgett Shire Council in working with the Aboriginal community. However, it was generally believed that there is a long way to travel before reconciliation is achieved.

Reoccurring issues that were raised as important included

- Poor health of Aboriginal people in comparison with the broader community (eg: Diabetes, liver disease, mental health)
- Poor educational outcomes in comparison with the broader community
- Housing not available to reflect cultural needs (eg: extended families residing together)
- Poor self esteem of Aboriginal people and the perception of “shame” associated with self image
- High levels of family violence which is contrary to the traditional Aboriginal way of life and degrades the Aboriginal culture
- Disproportionally high levels of unemployment for Aboriginal people

- Lack of knowledge, history and pride in traditional culture
- Lack of understanding and participation in decision making processes by Aboriginal people
- Concern that current Federal and State government focus on Walgett will not result in meaningful action that increases quality of life for Aboriginal people
- Lack of understanding and respect for the Aboriginal culture by the broader community
- Safe walking access required for Namoi, Gingi & Wolli (eg: lighting, pedestrian access)

Discussion about ways to move forward on some of the identified issues included

- Interagency groups engaging in active collaboration (ie: local agencies working together to take action on issues, rather than sharing agency news and information)
- Stronger Community Working Party (CWP) membership and attendance. A commitment from community groups and government agencies that the CWPs are the peak Aboriginal community governance bodies and consultative mechanism for the Walgett, Lightning Ridge and Collarenebri Aboriginal communities

*Action Plan – Aboriginal People .....page 50*

## Section 10: Diversity

### **Social outcome**

*A community and encourages and respects diversity*

### **Social indicators**

*Percentage of diverse community members*

*Perception of community acceptance of diverse community members*

The concept of diversity involves acceptance and respect of individual differences. A strong community understands that all people have strengths and talents and unique differences to contribute to the community. Diversity includes race, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, culture, age, physical ability, religious, political and other beliefs.

Acceptance and inclusiveness of diversity demonstrates that a community has respect for a range of lifestyles and beliefs. Social inclusion of this nature is vital in ensuring that groups are not disadvantaged through marginalization.

### **Council's role**

Council's role involves providing non discriminatory access to services, resources and facilities to enable all people to fully participate in economic, social and cultural life. Council also facilitates and supports community development projects that promote and develop community diversity.

## Community Snapshot

### ***Culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD)***

Population by country of birth

<b>Country of Birth</b>	<b>Walgett Shire</b>	<b>% of total persons in Region</b>	<b>Australia</b>	<b>% of total persons in Australia</b>
Australia	5,677	81.8%	14,072,944	70.9%
England	117	1.7%	856,939	4.3%
New Zealand	78	1.1%	389,463	2.0%
South Eastern Europe	57	0.8%	33,357	0.2%
Germany	54	0.8%	106,525	0.5%
Croatia	36	0.5%	50,990	0.3%

*Source: ABS QuickStats 2006 Walgett Local Government Area*

Council is committed to promoting principles of multiculturalism. In the 2006 Census, English was stated as the only language spoken at home by 88.4% of persons usually resident in the Walgett LGA. The most common languages other than English spoken at home were: Croatian 0.6%, German 0.6%, Serbian 0.5%, Serbo-Croatian/Yugoslavian, so described 0.4% and Hungarian 0.3%.

There are a significant number of people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds living in the Shire. There is also consensus from organizations working with CALD people that the number is higher than recorded, due to the number of people who choose not to complete the census, reside elsewhere for part of the year and other reasons. Organisations in Lightning Ridge have recorded residents from over 50 different cultural backgrounds.

Some of the issues indentified for CALD communities included

- Lack of information in accessible formats
- Lack of access to culturally appropriate services
- Poor use of translator services
- Fear of aging in isolation (especially people living on the Opal fields)
- Reluctance to access medical services as a result of language barriers
- Loss of traditional celebrations, languages and customs as people age and knowledge is not passed on to other generations

Some of the positive aspects of living in the Shire included

- Strong multicultural community of Lightning Ridge
- Both the social and therapeutic aspect of the Bore Baths
- Natural and easy paced lifestyle of the Shire

### ***People with a disability***

Walgett Shire Council is committed to valuing the *ability* of people with a disability. According to the Department of Aging Disability and Home Care, a person has a disability if they report that they have a limitation, restriction or impairment, which has lasted, or is likely to last, for at least six months and restricts everyday activities. This could include restrictions related to:

- loss of sight, loss of hearing, speech difficulties, respiratory difficulties, chronic or recurrent pain, difficulty learning or understanding, incomplete use of limbs, nervous or emotional condition causing restriction, restriction in physical activities, disfigurement or deformity, mental illness or condition requiring help or supervision, long-term effects of head injury, stroke or other brain damage causing restriction.

Walgett Shire residents

<b>People with a disability requiring assistance with core activities</b>	<b>People with a disability requiring no assistance with core activities</b>	<b>Assistance requirements not stated</b>	<b>Total Persons</b>
220	3357	297	6944

*Source: ABS Community Profile 2006 Walgett Local Government Area*

*Café 64, a Walgett Shire business has demonstrated it's focus on ability by receiving a National award for "Best Regional Small Business 2009"*

People with a disability identified positive aspects of living in the Shire as

- Employment opportunities at Café 64
- Natural and peaceful environment
- People are friendly
- Bore baths and river

Negative aspects for people with a disability or mobility restriction include

- Access into shops and along public walkways, especially footpaths
- Access to natural recreational spaces (eg: riverbank, bush walkways)
- Appropriate and affordable social opportunities
- Isolation associated with lack of transport

*Action Plan – Diversity..... page 51*

# Section 11: Community Safety

## **Social outcome**

*A community where residents feel safe*

## **Social indicators**

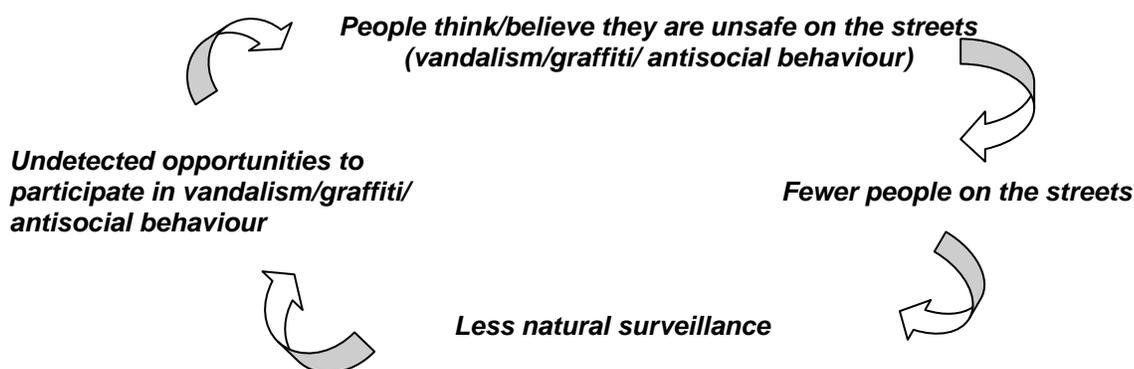
*Crime rates*

*Perception of crime*

*Percentage of people who feel safe in their neighbourhood*

Community safety refers to the extent to which people feel safe to freely engage with their environment. It can refer to both crime and the perception of crime and can be influenced by the appearance or maintenance of local areas, threatening or criminal activity, word of mouth or media reports and/or by personal experiences.

A negative perception of community safety can lead to an unfortunate cycle as depicted below;



## Council's role

Council's role involves working in partnership with government, non government and community groups to address crime and safety issues. Importantly, Council is involved with community development aimed at building a sense of trust in the community. Council also participates in community safety through law enforcement activities via the Ranger.

## Community snapshot

Compared with the rest of the State, Walgett Local Government Area (LGA) currently reports a significantly higher percentage of offences related to domestic violence, sexual assault, break and enter, steal from dwelling and malicious damage to property. The Local Government ranking, in the table below, indicates Walgett LGA as recording the highest incidence of break and enter in the State and the second highest incidence of assault. Trends based on reported incidents of these offences have remained stable over the past three years, with the exception of break & enter dwelling (increased) and malicious damage to property (decreased).

Recorded incidents of selected offences in the Walgett Local Government Area  
July 2006 to June 2009. Source: NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research, 2008.

Offence	Jul 2006 to Jun 2007	Jul 2007 to Jun 2008	Jul 2008 to Jun 2009	36 month trend	Average annual percentage change	LGA Ranking#
Assault - domestic violence related	213	171	185	Stable	**	2
Assault - non-domestic violence related	191	187	153	Stable	**	2
Sexual assault	11	18	16	Not Calculated *	**	4
Break and enter – dwelling	118	148	198	Up	29.5%	1
Break and enter - non-dwelling	106	75	100	Stable	**	1
Steal from dwelling	68	75	51	Stable	**	4
Malicious damage to property	336	261	273	Down	-9.9%	3

\* A trend is not calculated if at least one 12 month period in the selected timeframe had less than 20 incidents.

\*\* No annual percentage change is given if the trend is stable or if a trend has not been calculated.

# LGAs with population under 3000, Sydney LGA and LGAs without the offence have been excluded

Despite the above figures, most residents expressed their belief that their neighbourhood is a safe place to live. Residents acknowledged that, in order to improve safety, a cross section of the community must work together and partnerships between Police, agencies, Council and schools are vital.

The following issues were reoccurring throughout the consultations

- Increased lighting in CBDs and residential areas important
- The provision of public walkways that do not pose a trip risk is important
- Community spaces should be designed to reduce opportunity for crime (eg: dead spots, areas concealed by fencing, reducing surveillance)
- Continued restrictions on drinking in alcohol free zones were supported
- High levels of domestic violence unacceptable
- Levels of anti-social behavior in public places and as a result of street parties
- Levels of graffiti and vandalism
- Road safety was raised and specifically risks related to –
  - Young people playing on the roads
  - Lack of pedestrian crossings and inadequate pedestrian crossing signage
  - Danger to pedestrians presented by B Double trucks
  - Danger to pedestrians who are walking to Namoi, Gingi and Wolli
- Increased foot patrol by Police desired
- Accessible refuges for all age groups and both genders needed
- Activities are required for people to engage with as an alternative to petty crime

*Action Plan – Community Safety .....page 53*

## Section 12: Culture, Recreation & Leisure

### **Social outcome**

*A connected community that has access to a diverse range of cultural pursuits, physical and passive activity*

### **Social indicators**

*Percentage of residents engaged in recreation and leisure activities  
Perception of adequacy in diversity of cultural activities available to residents*

Culture refers to the way people express themselves in everyday life. Culture means different things to different people. Within the 'Cultural Planning Guidelines for Local Government' the NSW Ministry for the Arts and the NSW Department of Local Government defines culture as a 'way of life' and explains it as follows:

'Culture has three dimensions: our sense of place, our values and our identity; the material products of creative processes; and our engagement with and participation in creative processes.'

Participation in physical and passive leisure activities is important to a healthy community. Cultural experiences reflect the uniqueness of a community and contribute to its sense of identity. Interactive engagement in cultural, recreational and leisure activities bring people together and contribute to the building of social capital.

### **Council's Role**

Council plays a role in recreational and leisure activities through services provided by its Youth Development Team and libraries. In addition, Council supports the Walgett and Lightning Ridge Historical Societies by contributing to museum planning support.

Council also manages and maintains infrastructure that supports cultural pursuits. This includes halls, buildings, libraries, bore baths, parks and reserves. In addition Council makes a contribution, with other close LGAs to the Outback Arts Council towards the development of arts and culture within the Shire.

## Community snapshot

Active cultural pursuits involve the production of writings, performing music or art or craft items. A majority of residents reported that they take part in one of these from time to time. The most popular response being art, craft and sewing. A high proportion of residents also mentioned taking part in passive cultural activities such as reading and listening to music on a regular basis.

It is broadly accepted that exercise is vital to general physical and mental wellbeing, rehabilitation and healthy aging. While there are sports activities available in some of the communities in the Shire (eg: netball, tennis, bowls) many residents saw lack of infrastructure and organisation as a barrier to their participation.

Some of the positive aspects of culture, recreation and leisure raised by community members include –

- Well kept public facilities (parks and ovals)
- Appreciation of schools as a venue for whole of community activities. For example, Collarenebri School runs adult sewing, language, life skills classes for the broader community
- Skate parks
- Art and craft groups
- Galleries and historical groups
- Range of talented artists and performers
- Events that celebrate the Shire (eg: Lightning Ridge Easter Festival, Walgett Community Festival, racing events, shows, rodeos and camp drafts)
- Clubs and groups such as Country Women's Association, churches, sporting clubs, Australian Red Cross and Lions Club, aero and pony clubs.

Negative aspects of culture, recreation and leisure in the Shire include –

- Weekend sports for young people required (especially in Walgett and Collarenebri)
- Swimming pool hours inappropriate – need to reflect the climate by extending opening hours
- Lack of non licensed premises to support cultural, recreation and leisure activities
- Need to diversify use of current facilities (eg: swimming pool used for aqua aerobics)
- Some recreational walkways require maintenance
- Lack of age appropriate play equipment in parks
- Lack of sitting areas in parks that allow easy surveillance for parents
- Lack of diverse equipment in each park
- Desire to increase opportunities for social gatherings that do not involve alcohol
- Lack of diversity in activities available to community

*Action Plan – Culture, Recreation & Leisure..... page 55*

## Section 13: Education, Training and Employment

### **Social outcome**

*A community where learning, education and training is valued  
A community with local employment opportunities and career paths*

### **Social indicators**

*School education attainment*

*Attitudes to education*

*Unemployment rate*

Engagement in education, training and employment is a key ingredient of a robust and resilient community. Education and training includes school and formal adult education as well as life-long learning opportunities. Community learning needs can be vocational, educational and social and can be developed through formal and informal settings, such as volunteer placements.

Research suggests that quality early learning (from birth) is linked to abilities in higher education and for general participation in society. Lifelong learning refers to the notion that learning is an important aspect of all stages of life.

Local employment opportunities are vital in order to provide a level of income that allows residents to actively participate in their community. In addition, employment contributes to a sustainable economic environment and provides a sense of value to individuals.

### **Council's Role**

#### *Education & Training*

Council's role involves supporting programs that address literacy, numeracy, social skills development and lifelong learning for residents. Currently, Walgett Shire Youth Development team provide education and training with regular information sessions, topical forums and social interaction. The Shire libraries also provide information, resources and programs for residents of all ages and levels.

## Employment

Council has a planning and advocacy role in attracting employment activity in the Shire. This involves raising the profile of Walgett Shire as a positive environment for business development as well as providing regulatory processes for economic development. Council also operates the School to Work program which provides employment, after a period of work skills development, for young people. Council has recently experienced contact from Government agencies and interested small business operators regarding the difficulty of finding office space and accommodation for potential staff.

## Community Snapshot

### Education & Training

Highest level of education attained by age

	15-19 years	20-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	65-74 years	75-84 years	85 years and over	Total
	<b>PERSONS</b>									
Year 12 or equivalent	47	141	368	264	245	200	104	32	6	1,407
Year 11 or equivalent	39	32	84	65	55	42	26	14	3	360
Year 10 or equivalent	97	83	191	340	384	273	140	37	12	1,557
Year 9 or equivalent	73	39	89	111	143	128	59	26	5	673
Year 8 or below	20	10	29	51	119	184	138	79	14	644
Did not go to school	3	0	7	8	8	15	18	7	0	66
Highest year of school not stated	30	41	88	102	143	124	116	66	11	721
<b>Total</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>856</b>	<b>941</b>	<b>1,097</b>	<b>966</b>	<b>601</b>	<b>261</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>5,428</b>

Source: ABS Community Profile 2006 Walgett Local Government Area

Positive aspects related to education involved school and community partnerships. This includes school participation in community events, and enabling community to use school resources in diverse ways. Examples include

- School Indigenous Dance groups performing at NAIDOC celebrations and other community events
- School halls being utilized for evening concerts, events and parenting groups

Negative aspects of education expressed by residents

- Generally, young people did not express enjoyment of school
- Adults expressed concern related to the low educational level of young people and the effect on their opportunities in adulthood
- Young people leaving the Shire for educational purposes and then taking up employment opportunities elsewhere
- School curriculum needs to reflect the interests and learning styles of young people
- Lack of innovative alternative education programs for young people experiencing difficulties with the school system
- Lack of innovative educational support programs eg: homework support
- Limited opportunities for leisure learning, particularly in the smaller towns and villages
- Work placements, apprenticeships and traineeships for young people should reflect their cultural and social environments

### ***Employment***

Labour force participation rate refers to the proportion of the population over 15 years that was employed or actively looking for work. In 2006, the size of the labour force was 2,826 people with 25.1% part time and 58.1% full time workers. The Shire's unemployment rate (10.2%) was 5% higher than the National average. The main features of Walgett Shire's labour force are:

- High unemployment rates
- High ratio of part time to full time employment for females aged 15 – 24
- High proportion of population not in the labour force for both males and females aged 15 – 19.

## Labour force participation

<b>LABOUR FORCE (Population aged 15 years and over)</b>	<b>Walgett Shire</b>	<b>% of persons in the labour force in Region</b>	<b>Australia</b>	<b>% of persons in the labour force in Australia</b>
Total labour force (includes employed and unemployed persons)	2,826	-	9,607,987	-
Employed full-time	1,642	58.1%	5,827,432	60.7%
Employed part-time	708	25.1%	2,685,193	27.9%
Employed away from work	98	3.5%	337,991	3.5%
Employed hours not stated	89	3.1%	253,567	2.6%
Unemployed	289	10.2%	503,804	5.2%
Not in the labour force	2,085	-	5,271,116	-

Source: ABS QuickStats 2006 Walgett Local Government Area

A full table of labour force participation by age and sex is attached as Appendix 2.

In the 2006 Census, the most common responses for occupation for employed persons usually resident in Walgett Local Government Area were managers 25.9%, labourers 15.3%, professionals 11.7%, community and personal service workers 11.4% and machinery operators and drivers 10.2%.

The percentage of managers, labourers, community and personal service workers and machinery operators and drivers are higher than the National average. Conversely, the percentage of professionals and technicians and trades workers are significantly lower than the National average.

A full table outlining occupational categories is attached as Appendix 3.

Residents recognized the importance of local employment for individuals as well as the viability of our towns and villages. Many residents mentioned empty shops and subsequent decline in economic activity as a concern and a challenge to the Shire's sustainability.

Residents also placed high importance on building the skill capacity of local people to enable them to successfully fill employment vacancies.

Other reoccurring issues raised by residents included

- Need for local employment, especially for school leavers and TAFE
- Job and business creation programs need to match skill set of job seekers
- Creation of a greater range of job opportunities through new enterprise
- Greater access to work experience opportunities
- Increase incentives for people to shop locally, resulting in job security
- Build on indigenous tourism to create employment
- Attract business diversity to the Shire

*Action Plan – Education, Training & Employment ..... page 57*

## Section 14: Action Plans

### Action Plan: Our Community

Social outcome	Measurement
<p>A community that is supported and has access to a range of services.</p> <p>A connected community where people interact and participate in community life.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase in range of services available to residents.</li> <li>• Increase in opportunities for people to connect to their community.</li> <li>• High perceived sense of community felt by residents.</li> </ul>

Aim	Action	Timeframe	Responsibility	Partners	Resources	Performance Indicators	
<b>Develop opportunities for community connections</b>	6.1	Support and resource local activities/projects to increase community participation and connection	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services	Government, non government and community groups	Community development team \$5,000	Number and quality of projects supported/resourced
	6.2	Assist to develop inter-generational opportunities for connection between different age groups	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services	Government, non government and community groups	Community development team \$5,000	Number and quality of intergenerational connections developed
	6.3	Investigate and maximize opportunities for Council buildings to be used for multi-purpose community activity.	Year 1	Corporate & Community Services Urban Infrastructure	Government, non government and community groups	Community development team Library Officers Asset officer	Number and quality of opportunities created
	6.4	Continue to develop the Libraries as multi-purpose community spaces	Year 1	Corporate & Community Services	Government, non government and community groups	Community development team Library Officers	Number, quality and effectiveness of multipurpose space created
<b>An informed community</b>	6.5	Continue to consult residents with an expanded focus on quality of life experience rather than solely satisfaction with Council services	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services	Community members Community development team \$8,000 (also includes actions 8.2,9.1,10.1, 12.1)	Number and quality of consultations conducted	

Aim	Action	Timeframe	Responsibility	Partners	Resources	Performance Indicators	
	6.6	Improve the quality of the Walgett Shire Council website and include opportunities for community groups to share community information	Year 1	Corporate & Community Services Executive Assistant	Government, non government and community groups	Customer Service Officer, Executive Assistant	Increase in quality of Website Number of opportunities for information sharing
	6.7	Utilize internet technology (U Tube, MySpace etc) to provide community information	Years 1- 5	Corporate & Community Services Executive Assistant	Youth Council	Community development team, Executive assistant	Number and quality of information provided via internet technology
	6.8	Develop a rural email distribution list to disseminate information to residents who are geographically isolated	Year 1	Corporate & Community Services Executive Assistant	Rural residents	Community development team, Executive assistant	Data base established and operational
	6.9	Install, promote and keep updated community notice boards in each community	Year 2	Urban Infrastructure Services Corporate & Community Services	Community Groups	Parks & Gardens staff Community Development Team \$10,000	Notice boards installed and utilised with current Council information posted.
<b>New Residents are welcomed</b>	6.10	Develop the Walgett New Resident's Kit into a shire wide New Resident's Kit	Year 1-2	Corporate & Community Services	Government, non Government and community groups	Community Development Tea, tourism officer (\$ included in 6.26)	Residents Kit developed and distributed to New Shire Residents
<b>Build a sense of Community</b>	6.11	Develop initiatives that increase a sense of community and assist people to develop and build community connections	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services	Government, non government and community groups Community members	Community development team \$10,000	Number and quality of initiatives developed
	6.12	Develop a policy and strategic approach to volunteering within Council including a policy that encourages Council staff to volunteer in the community	Year 2-3	Corporate & Community Services, Urban Infrastructure, Rural Infrastructure, Planning & Regulatory	Council staff	Community development team	Policy developed and implemented
<b>Support our people</b>	6.13	Provide a team of community development workers to facilitate community building	Years 1-5	Corporate & Community Services Human Resources		Community development team wages	Community Development Team operational

Aim	Action	Timeframe	Responsibility	Partners	Resources	Performance Indicators	
	6.14	Support community development activities undertaken by a range of organizations and provide assistance with governance, grant writing and group facilitation.	Years 1-5	Corporate & Community Services	NGOs Government organizations Community, groups	Community development team	Number and quality of activities supported
	6.15	Expand the role of Council libraries to support early language /literacy skills and life skills programs	Years 1 – 2	Corporate & Community Services Libraries	Playgroups Preschools Early Childhood Networks	Librarians Community development team	Number and quality of programs supported
	6.16	Initiate, advocate, support and raise awareness of programs that promote the physical and mental health and well being of men	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services	NGOs Government organizations Community members	Community development team \$2,500	Number and quality of initiatives developed and commenced
	6.17	Provide high quality youth services	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services - Youth Development Services	Community groups, youth services, young people, NGOs, Government organizations	Community development team \$included in 8.5	Number and quality of objectives met in the Walgett Shire Youth Development Strategy
	6.18	Support strategies that focus on aging in place initiatives	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services Planning and Regulatory	Community groups, aged services, NGOs, Government organizations	Community development team	Number and quality of initiatives supported
	6.19	Work with partners to initiate active aging programs	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services	Community health groups, aged services, NGOs, Government organizations	Community development team	Number and quality of Programs initiated
	6.20	Develop an Ageing Population Strategy	Year 2	Corporate & Community Services	Community health groups, aged services, NGOs, Government organizations	Community development team	Ageing Population Strategy developed
	6.21	Develop an Ageing Population Strategy	Year 2	Corporate & Community Services	Community health groups, aged services, NGOs, Government organizations	Community development team	Ageing Population Strategy developed

Aim	Action	Timeframe	Responsibility	Partners	Resources	Performance Indicators	
	6.22	Facilitate opportunities that enable CALD families to participate in the community	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services	Community multicultural groups, multicultural services, NGOs, Government organizations	Community development team \$8,000	Number and quality of opportunities facilitated
	6.23	Lobby and advocate for services and initiatives that support the health, safety and early development of children 0 – 5.	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services	NGOs, Government & no government organizations, community groups, early childhood network, early childhood services	Community development team Director Corporate & Community Services	Number of advocacy strategies implemented
<b>A strong understanding of Council's role</b>	6.24	Initiate an annual Welcome to Walgett event for Council and other organizations to promote their services, role and function	Year 2	Corporate & Community Services Rural infrastructure, Urban Infrastructure, Planning & Regulatory	NGOs, Government organizations, Community members, Service organisations	Community development team \$2,500	Annual event initiated.
	6.25	Ensure new resident's kit and local directories produced by Council are relevant and up to date	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services	Local organizations and business	Community development team, Tourism Officers \$3,000	Annual update of New Resident's Kit & local directories
	6.26	Utilise Local Government Week to raise awareness of the role and function of Council	Year 2	Corporate & Community Services	NGOs Government organizations Community members	Community development team \$1,000	Number and effectiveness of awareness raising activities undertaken

## Action Plan: Community Spaces

Social outcome	Measurement
A community that has safe and attractive public spaces that reflects community identity and encourages community connections.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Perceived adequacy of public spaces for people to come together.</li> <li>Increase in attendance at sporting and cultural events.</li> </ul>

Aim	Action	Timeframe	Responsibility	Partners	Resources	Performance Indicators	
<b>Usable. Accessible and vibrant open spaces</b>	7.1	Ensure playgrounds are installed and maintained in each of the towns and villages	Years 1 - 5	Urban Planning & Infrastructure	Community groups Community members	Outdoor maintenance staff	Daily maintenance check of soffall and equipment
	7.2	Develop further age appropriate play areas that meet the needs of age groups 0 – 5 and 6 – 14 yrs	Years 2 – 5	Urban Planning & Infrastructure Corporate & Community Services	Community groups, NGOs, community members	Community development team, Outdoor maintenance staff \$40,000	A minimum of one play area established and operational each year
	7.3	Develop a network of “picnic/BBQ” spaces in Walgett & Lightning Ridge that allow for a variety of social venues	Years 3 – 5	Urban Planning Corporate & Community Services	Community members	Community development team, outdoor maintenance staff, Planning & Regulatory staff, urban infrastructure staff \$60,000	Number and quality of areas established
	7.4	Maintain a range of sporting facilities to promote healthier lifestyles	Years 1 - 5	Urban Planning & Infrastructure	Community members	Outdoor maintenance staff	Sporting facilities maintained to a high standard
	7.5	Develop and maintain walking and cycling tracks that encourage physical activity	Years 2 - 5	Urban Planning & Infrastructure	Community members	Community development team, Urban infrastructure staff, outdoor maintenance staff	One walking/cycling track established each year. One walking/cycling track established in Walgett, Lightning Ridge & Collarenebri.
	7.6	Involve community and other stakeholders in the planning of child safe/child friendly play spaces	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services, Urban Planning & Infrastructure, Planning & Regulatory	Community members , community groups	Community development team \$included in 8.2	Number of consultations and quality of involvement of stakeholders

Aim	Action	Timeframe	Responsibility	Partners	Resources	Performance Indicators
Well maintained community facilities as a focal point for community activities and services	7.7 Encourage development of multi purpose community facilities to meet the needs of the local communities and provide a focal point for community activity	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services, Planning & Regulatory	Community groups, Government & non-government organisations, community members	Community development team	Funding applications developed/supported. Community/business initiatives assisted.
	7.8 Involve community and other stakeholders in the planning of community facilities in the Shire	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services, Urban Planning & Infrastructure, Planning & Regulatory	Community groups, Government & non-government organisations, community members	Community development team	Number and quality of consultations conducted
	7.9 Encourage commercial provision of local hospitality and entertainment and support value-add activities at existing venues eg: cafes incorporating open mic nights, theatre restaurants	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services	Business	Community development team	Number and quality of value-add activities at existing venues

## Action Plan: Children & Young People

Social outcome	Measurement
The children and young people of Walgett Shire are valued and are able to reach their full potential through positive social, cultural, educational and employment experiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High youth employment rate.</li> <li>• High school retention rate.</li> <li>• High perceived sense of community by young people.</li> </ul>

Aim	Action	Timeframe	Responsibility	Partners	Resources	Performance Indicators	
<b>Participation in civic life</b>	8.1	Continue to support the Walgett Shire Youth Council as a link between young people of Walgett Shire and their Council	Years 1 - 5	Corporate & Community Services – Youth Development Team	NGOs, Government organizations, Community members	Community development Team \$included in 6.18	Number and quality of Youth Council objectives reached
	8.2	Provide genuine opportunities for children and young people to participate in decisions that affect them	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services, Rural Infrastructure, Urban Infrastructure, Planning & Regulatory	NGOs Government organizations Community members	Community development team \$included in 6.5	As a minimum, annual community consultation is conducted with children and young people
	8.3	Involve children and young people in the planning and design of community spaces	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services, Rural Infrastructure, Urban Infrastructure, Planning & Regulatory	NGOs Government organizations Community members	Community development team	Consultation with children and young people is undertaken with each community
<b>Positive image for young people</b>	8.4	Continue to take active measures to publicize the positive contribution young people make to the Walgett Shire (eg: Local media and Council newsletter)	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services – Youth Development Team	Media outlets	Community development team	Youth development activities included in Council Newsletter. Quarterly (minimum) media releases to local media.
<b>Strategic approach to working with young people</b>	8.5	Continue to implement the Walgett Shire Council Youth Development Youth Strategy 2009 - 2014	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services – Youth Development Team	NGOs Government organizations Community members	Community development team \$ 360,504	Number of outcomes of the strategy achieved.
	8.6	Continue to work in partnership with key youth services in the Shire	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services	Shire wide youth services	Community development team	Number and quality of partnerships

<b>Aim</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Resources</b>	<b>Performance Indicators</b>	
	8.7	Implement guidelines produced by the Youth Action Policy Association (YAPA) for assessments of new Development Applications		Planning & Regulatory Corporate & Community Services	Young people Development applicants	Planning & Regulatory, Community development team	YAPA guidelines considered with all Development Applications
<b>Employment and Education</b>	8.8	Continue to provide the School to Work program and encourage other organisations to participate	Years 1 - 5	Corporate & Community Services	NGOs Government organizations Community members, young people	Community development team	A minimum of one participant in the program in Walgett, Collarenebri & Lightning Ridge
	8.9	Facilitate partnerships and linkages with government, business and community to develop and improve the education and skill base of young people.	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services	NGOs Government organizations Community members	Community development team	Number and quality of partnerships developed
	8.10	Support the development of Mentoring and similar programs that assist young people to develop employment and social skills	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services – Youth Development Team	NGOs Government organizations Community members	Community development team	Number and quality of programs supported
	8.11	Support social enterprise opportunities that allow young people to transition from school/TAFE to employment	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services	NGOs, Government organizations, TAFE , business DET, Schools	Community development team	Number and quality of social enterprise opportunities supported
<b>Recreational opportunities</b>	8.12	Support development of diverse cultural and recreational opportunities for young people	Years 1 -5	Corporate & Community Services	NGOs Government organizations Community members	Community development team	Number and quality of opportunities supported

## Action Plan: Aboriginal People

Social outcome	Measurement
A community that recognizes, values and respects Aboriginal people and culture.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High perception of equity experienced by Aboriginal people.</li> <li>• Increased employment of Aboriginal people.</li> <li>• Increased participation in Local Government elections.</li> <li>• Increased participation by non-Aboriginal community in culturally significant events such as NAIDOC, Sorry Day, Reconciliation Week.</li> </ul>

Aim	Action	Timeframe	Responsibility	Partners	Resources	Performance Indicators	
Participation and inclusiveness	9.1	Ensure consultation provides extensive opportunities for participation, for Aboriginal people, in all Aboriginal Community Development and Reconciliation Plans developed by Council	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services	Aboriginal people, organizations and community groups	Community development team \$included in 6.5	Number and quality of consultations
	9.2	Continue to provide Aboriginal cultural awareness training for Council staff and provide fee for service training to other organisations if requested	Years 1 – 5 Annually	Corporate & Community Services	Aboriginal organizations, services, groups and community members	Community development team \$1,000	All council staff undergo Cultural Awareness Training
Promote cultural awareness	9.3	Continue to deliver strategies outlined in the Aboriginal Community Development and Reconciliation Plan that promote cultural awareness (eg: celebration of NAIDOC week)	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services	NGOs Government organizations Community members	Community development team \$8,000	Active involvement in NAIDOC, Sorry Day, Reconciliation Week
Responsiveness to cultural issues	9.4	Work in collaboration with agencies and community groups to address existing and emerging issues specific to the Aboriginal community	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services	NGOs Government organizations Community members	Community development team	Number of issues and quality of collaboration
	9.5	Continue to meet objectives of Walgett Shire Council Aboriginal Community Development and Reconciliation Plan 2007 – 2010 and subsequent plans	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services	NGOs Government organizations Community members	Community development team \$20,000	Number of objectives achieved, quality of outcomes.

## Action Plan: Diversity

Social outcome	Measurement
A community that encourages and respects diversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High percentage of diverse community members</li> <li>• High perception of acceptance by diverse community members</li> <li>• Celebration of diversity by broader community members</li> </ul>

Aim	Action	Timeframe	Responsibility	Partners	Resources	Performance Indicators	
<b>Participation and inclusiveness</b>	10.1	Ensure consultation provides opportunities for participation for people from diverse backgrounds	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services	Multi cultural organizations, disability organizations, people from diverse backgrounds	Community development team \$ Included in number 6.5	Number and quality of consultations undertaken.
	10.2	Develop a Disability Action Plan	Year 1	Corporate & Community Services	Disability organizations and services, people with a disability	Community development team	Disability Action Plan produced
	10.3	Facilitate Shire wide cultural mapping to assist with community planning and development	Years 2 – 3	Corporate & Community Services	Multi cultural organizations and services, people who are culturally and linguistically diverse	Community development team \$5,000	Cultural map produced.
	10.4	Develop a Multi-cultural advisory board to assist Council with planning	Year 1	Corporate & Community Services	Multi cultural organizations and services, people who are culturally and linguistically diverse	Community development team \$800	Multi cultural advisory board developed and operational
<b>Promote cultural awareness and diversity</b>	10.5	Raise awareness of cultural diversity and community ability through community celebrations (eg: Harmony Day and International day of People with a Disability)	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services	Multi cultural organizations, disability organizations, people from diverse backgrounds	Community development team \$10,000	
	10.6	Review Multi-Cultural Policies and Services Plan annually	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services		Community development team	Multi Cultural Policies and Services Plan review and report produced

Aim	Action	Timeframe	Responsibility	Partners	Resources	Performance Indicators
	10.7 Support multicultural and disability groups within the community to provide services and support to people with a disability and the CALD community	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services	Multi cultural organizations, disability organizations, people from diverse backgrounds	Community development team	Number and quality of groups supported
	10.8 Support community events and activities that celebrate diversity	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services	Multi cultural organizations, disability organizations, people from diverse backgrounds	Community development team	Number and quality of groups supported
	10.9 Increase level of staff cultural competence through Cultural Diversity training	Year 2	Corporate & Community Services		Community development team	All staff undertake cultural diversity training
	10.10 Investigate opportunities to fund a multicultural worker	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services		Community development team	Number and quality of groups supported. Multi cultural worker engaged
	10.11 Investigate and develop alternative methods of communicating council information	Years 1 – 2	Corporate & Community Services		Community development team	Number and quality of methods developed

## Action Plan: Community Safety

Social outcome	Measurement
A community where residents feel safe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Decreased crime rates</li> <li>Increased perception of community safety</li> </ul>

Aim	Action	Timeframe	Responsibility	Partners	Resources	Performance Indicators
Safe public spaces	11.1 Work with community and Police to target crime "hot spots" in public areas	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services, Urban Infrastructure, Planning & Regulatory	NGOs, Government organizations, community members, Police	Community development team	Number and quality of projects undertaken.
	11.2 Utilise Safer By Design Principles in public space planning	Years 1 – 5	Planning & regulatory Urban Infrastructure	NGOs, Government organizations, community members	Community development team Planning & Regulatory , Urban infrastructure staff	Number and quality of safer by design projects undertaken.
	11.3 Investigate establishment of community patrols using partnerships if possible	Years 1 – 2	Corporate & Community Services	NGOs, Government organizations, community members	Community Development team	Establishment of community patrols
Reduced family violence	11.4 Work with partners to develop early intervention projects aimed at reducing family violence	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services	NGOs, Government organizations, community members, Police	Community development team	Number and quality of projects developed
	11.5 Work with partners to develop programs that assist women to escape from violence	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services	NGOs, Government organizations, community members, Police	Community development team	Number and quality of projects developed
	11.6 Work with partners to develop programs that assist men to reduce family violence	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services	NGOs, Government organizations, community members, Police	Community development team	Number and quality of projects developed

<b>Aim</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Resources</b>	<b>Performance Indicators</b>	
	11.7	Work with existing refuges to improve service delivery and program development	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services	NGOs, Government organizations, community members, Police	Community development team	Quality of Increase in services delivery and program development
	11.8	Lobby for the development of a Youth refuge	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services	NGOs, Government organizations, community members, Police	Community development team	Establishment of refuge.
<b>Strong safe communities</b>	11.9	Work with community groups to develop local solutions to drug and alcohol related issues	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services	NGOs, Government organizations, community members	Community development team	Number and quality of initiatives developed
	11.10	Support community events that raise awareness of safer communities (eg: Take Back the Night march)	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services	NGOs, Government organizations, community members, Police	Community development team \$2,000	Number and quality of initiatives supported
	11.11	Investigate and pursue opportunities to fund community patrol programs	Year 1	Corporate & Community Services	NGOs, Government organizations, community members, Police	Community development team	Number of funding applications. Community patrol established
	11.12	Investigate and pursue opportunities to fund a Community Safety Officer	Year 2	Corporate & Community Services		Community development team	Community Safety Officer employed
<b>Reduced anti social behaviour</b>	11.13	Work with partners to develop strategies to minimize anti-social behavior in the community	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services	NGOs, Government organizations, community members, Police	Community development team \$5,000	Number and quality of strategies implemented
	11.14	Facilitate community education projects that discourage graffiti	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services – Youth Development Team	NGOs, Government organizations, community members, Police	Community development team \$included in 6.18	Number and quality of strategies implemented

## Action Plan: Culture, Recreation & Leisure

Social outcome	Measurement
A connected community that has access to a diverse range of cultural pursuits, physical and passive activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High level of resident engagement in recreation and leisure activities</li> <li>• High perception of adequacy in diversity of cultural activities available to residents</li> </ul>

Aim	Action	Timeframe	Responsibility	Partners	Resources	Performance Indicators	
<b>Cultural planning that builds on community strengths and reflects the aspirations of the community</b>	12.1	Develop a Walgett Shire Council Cultural plan in accordance with the DLG Cultural Planning Guidelines	Year 1	Corporate & Community Services	Community members, cultural groups	Community development team \$included in 6.5	Cultural plan developed
	12.2	Investigate and pursue opportunities to fund a Cultural Community Worker	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services	State and Federal departments	Community development team	Number of funding applications. Cultural Community Worker employed
	12.3	Develop a Walgett Shire Public Art Policy	Year 1	Corporate & Community Services	Community members, cultural groups	Community development team	Public Art Policy developed
<b>A community with access to a range of cultural and recreational activities</b>	12.4	Support new community arts, recreation and leisure groups that are linked to positive social outcomes	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services	Community members, community groups	Community development team	Number and quality of cultural groups supported
	12.5	Explore options for funding cultural development projects	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services	State and Federal departments	Community development team	Number of options explored Number of projects funded
	12.6	Implement a touring cultural program that provides diverse recreational opportunities for residents	Year 1	Corporate & Community Services	Cultural performers, event managers and producers	Community development team \$15,000	Quarterly performance by touring cultural group.
	12.7	Encourage development of interest and skill sharing groups in response to community consultation outcomes	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services	Community members, community groups	Community development team \$10,000	Number and quality of groups developed.
	12.8	Continue to support and resource cultural and community events across the Shire.	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services	Community members, community groups, NGOs, government organizations	Community development team \$20,000	Number and quality of events supported.

<b>Aim</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Resources</b>	<b>Performance Indicators</b>	
	12.9	Explore opportunities to utilize existing venues as low cost performance and entertainment spaces	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services	Existing business, government and non government organization	Community development team	Number and quality of opportunities developed.
	12.10	Expand library hours in Walgett and Lightning Ridge	Year 1	Corporate & Community Services		Community development team \$ 21,200	Library hours expanded incrementally
	12.13	Continue to provide high quality library services	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services		Community development team – library officers \$197,000	Visitation numbers Number and quality of services provided
	12.14	Continue to support regional arts development	Years 1 - 5	Corporate & Community Services	Outback Arts	Community development team \$7,500	Membership to Outback Arts sustained
	12.15	Continue to provide Museum Advisory support	Years 1 - 5	Corporate & Community Services	Museums & Galleries NSW	Community development team \$22,900	Advisory services provided to Walgett & Lightning Ridge Historical Societies
	12.16	Support organisations and programs that increase physical health outcomes for the community	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services	Community members, community groups	Community development team	Number and quality of strategies developed
<b>A community that enjoys a range of sporting and physical activity</b>	12.17	Continue to upgrade and maintain infrastructure that supports cultural, recreational and leisure activities	Years 1 – 5	Urban Infrastructure		Outdoor maintenance staff	All Council infrastructure maintained to a high standard
	12.18	Continue to implement youth development strategies that encourage creative and physical activities	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services – Youth Development Team	Community members, community groups, NGOs, government organizations	Community development team \$ included in number 6.18	Number and quality of strategies implemented
	12.19	Continue to access Heritage advisor in relation to Shire Heritage matters	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services Planning & Regulatory Services		Community Development team	Number of projects assisted

## Action Plan: Education, Training and Employment

Social outcome	Measurement
A community where learning, education and training is valued. A community with local employment opportunities and career paths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High education attainment</li> <li>• Increased positive perception of the importance of education</li> <li>• Decreased unemployment rate</li> </ul>

Aim	Action	Timeframe	Responsibility	Partners	Resources	Performance Indicators	
<b>A community that enjoys access to quality educational opportunities</b>	13.1	Support the development and expansion of tertiary education opportunities	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services	TAFE	Community development team	Number and quality of opportunities supported
	13.2	Support the development of programs which offer alternative education programs	Years 1 - 5	Corporate & Community Services	Community groups, NGOs, Government organizations	Community development team	Number and quality of programs developed
	13.3	Pursue funding opportunities to implement wireless internet in Walgett & Lightning Ridge	Year 3	Corporate & Community Services	Community members	Community development team	Number and success of funding applications.
<b>Life Long learning opportunities</b>	13.4	Facilitate partnerships that support and develop life long learning opportunities	Years 1 - 5	Corporate & Community Services	Community groups, NGOs, Government organizations	Community development team \$2,000	Number and quality of learning opportunities facilitated.
	13.5	Continue to focus on early childhood literacy learning through the library services	Years 1 - 5	Corporate & Community Services	Community groups, NGOs, Government organizations	Community development team \$18,000	Early literacy worker retained Literacy outreach project completed
	13.6	Promote Shire libraries as venues for innovative educational support	Years 1 - 5	Corporate & Community Services	Community groups, NGOs, Government organizations, community members	Community development team	Number and quality of support programs facilitated from library premises
	13.7	Provide work experience opportunities in appropriate areas of Council	Years 3 - 5	Corporate & Community Services		Community development team	Development of work. experience policy for Council Number and quality of work experiences placements provided

<b>Aim</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Resources</b>	<b>Performance Indicators</b>	
<b>A diverse and robust economy</b>	13.8	Develop a Community Employment Team to work on development of local employment strategies	Year 1	Corporate & Community Services	Community groups, NGOs, Government organizations, community members	Community development team \$500	Community Employment Team developed and operational.
	13.9	Support business initiatives that develop business growth	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services	Business groups/ owners	Community development team	Number and quality of business initiatives supported
	13.10	Continue to plan and implement main street beautification and revitalization projects	Years 1 – 5	Urban infrastructure Corporate & Community Services	Community groups, NGOs, Government organizations, community members	Community development team, urban Infrastructure, Planning & Regulatory	Main Street upgraded according to beautification plan
	13.11	Promote the Shire as a location for business development and investment (eg: Country Week Expo)	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services	NGOs, Government organizations, community & business groups	Community development team	Extent and quality of promotion.
	13.12	Continue to facilitate the School to Work program	Years 1 – 5	Corporate & Community Services – Youth Development Team	Schools, young people	Community development team	School to work program operational. Number and quality of placements.

## Section 15: Appendices

### Appendix 1 - Labour force status by age and sex

	15-19 years	20-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	65-74 years	75-84 years	85 years and over	Total
<b>MALES</b>										
Employed, worked:										
Full-time(a)	25	76	224	207	271	191	47	7	0	1,048
Part-time	22	20	38	62	59	45	19	7	4	276
Employed, away from work(b)	5	4	11	10	12	9	0	3	0	54
Hours worked not stated	3	3	12	9	5	10	7	0	0	49
<b>Total</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>255</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1,427</b>
Unemployed, looking for:										
Full-time work	10	13	33	46	32	21	3	0	0	158
Part-time work	4	3	12	10	8	6	0	0	0	43
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>201</b>
<b>Total labour force</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1,628</b>
Not in the labour force	74	22	84	108	159	274	248	115	18	1,102
Labour force status not stated	13	27	41	51	66	49	49	29	0	325
<b>Total</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>455</b>	<b>503</b>	<b>612</b>	<b>605</b>	<b>373</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>3,055</b>
<b>FEMALES</b>										
Employed, worked:										
Full-time(a)	15	44	108	125	180	96	21	3	0	592
Part-time	31	31	90	100	107	52	20	3	0	434
Employed, away from work(b)	0	5	16	7	3	5	3	3	0	42
Hours worked not stated	0	0	7	10	7	10	3	0	0	37
<b>Total</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,105</b>
Unemployed, looking for:										
Full-time work	8	7	8	13	11	3	0	0	0	50
Part-time work	7	3	8	11	8	3	3	0	0	43
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>93</b>
<b>Total labour force</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,198</b>
Not in the labour force	80	67	138	146	130	162	157	81	20	981
Labour force status not stated	9	21	27	25	42	30	22	9	7	192
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>402</b>	<b>437</b>	<b>488</b>	<b>361</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>2,371</b>
(a) 'Employed, worked full-time' is defined as having worked 35 hours or more in all jobs during the week prior to Census Night.										
(b) Comprises employed persons who did not work any hours in the week prior to Census Night.										

Source: ABS Community Profile 2006 Walgett Local Government Area

## Appendix 2 - Persons by Occupation

Source: ABS Community Profile 2006 Walgett Local Government Area

OCCUPATION (Employed persons aged 15 years and over)	Walgett Shire	% of employed persons aged 15 years and over in Region	Australia	% of employed persons aged 15 years and over in Australia
Managers	658	25.9%	1,202,267	13.2%
Labourers	387	15.3%	952,520	10.5%
Professionals	298	11.7%	1,806,010	19.8%
Community and Personal Service Workers	288	11.4%	801,906	8.8%
Machinery Operators And Drivers	259	10.2%	604,616	6.6%
Clerical and Administrative Workers	228	9.0%	1,365,805	15.0%
Technicians and Trades Workers	215	8.5%	1,309,258	14.4%
Sales Workers	128	5.0%	896,208	9.8%

## Section 16: References

Kretzmann, J. P., & Mcknight, J. L. (1993). Building communities from the inside out: A path toward finding and mobilizing a community's assets. Evanston, IL: Center for Urban Affairs and Policy