

# Community

## GOAL: Develop a connected, informed, resilient and inviting community

CSP REF	STRATEGY	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	STATUS 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023
1.1.1	Support and initiate a range of local activities and projects that build community connections for all age sectors	<p>Develop a community consultation framework</p> <p>Provide Sec 356 Donations and subsidies</p> <p>Develop projects in conjunction with community organisations</p>	GM	<p>Council will strive to have this completed prior to Community Consultation rounds in early 2024.</p> <p>Council successfully offers 356 donations and subsidies to charities, incorporated committees and community groups.</p> <p>Council has worked with a number of committees this year especially with the Community Events Program to deliver events and projects.</p>
1.1.2	Provide vibrant and welcoming town centres, streets and meeting places	Liaise with volunteers and other community groups to assist in maintenance of parks and gardens	DETS	In progress. Council will continue to champion for volunteers and community groups to assist with ideas and maintenance of our parks and garden.
1.1.3	Embellish our community with parks, paths, cycleways, facilities, and meeting places	<p>Implement the active transport plan</p> <p>Progressively review and upgrade community halls and swimming pools</p>	DETS GM	<p>In progress. Awaiting community consultation to assist in developing a localised plan.</p> <p>In progress. Carinda community hall repainting has been completed. Collarenebri hall is in the process of restoration. Burren Junction Hall roof has been replaced and further repairs are in progress.</p> <p>Walgett Swimming pool is in the process of being repaired and a strategy for replacement is in the works. Carinda and Burren Junction pools will be repainted prior to the season.</p>
1.1.4	Respect the heritage of the region and highlight and enhance our unique characteristics	Continue to implement the recommendations of Council's heritage advisor	DES	Ongoing. Council continues to work with a heritage advisor and offer grants to eligible buildings for restoration works.
1.1.5	Support, encourage and celebrate community participation and volunteerism	Creation and promotion of volunteer opportunities	GM	The Lightning Ridge Visitor Information Centre hires several volunteers. Council also attempts to promote volunteer opportunities within other community organisations via weekly bulletin and social media site.
1.1.6	Work with other agencies and service providers to deliver community programs, services and facilities which complement and enhance Council's service provision	Identify gaps in service delivery	EDO	<p>Council works closely with the Walgett Interagency Group to identify gaps in service delivery.</p> <p>Also meets with relevant agencies and groups when gaps are identified to implement strategies.</p>

## GOAL: A safe, active and healthy Shire

CSP REF	STRATEGY	ACTION	RESPONIBILITY	STATUS 30th June 2023
1.2.1	Partner with health agencies and community organisations in promoting healthy lifestyles and better health outcomes	Engage with local sporting associations and peak sporting bodies	CSM	Ongoing. Council partner with PCYC and Creative Community Concepts to promote and deliver sporting opportunities.
1.2.2	Support agencies and local organisations to address the availability of emergency services, affordable housing, disability and aged services and employment for people with disabilities	<p>Consultation process for engaging with marginalised sections of community developed.</p> <p>Enhanced wellbeing options provided for disadvantaged and marginalised community members</p>	CSM	<p>Ongoing. Council work with interagency groups to support and deliver community events such as Seniors Week, NAIDOC Week and Youth Programs.</p> <p>Ongoing. Council is working to create an inclusive “Everyone Can Play” park in Lightning Ridge. Support provided through interagency groups for programs, events, and information sessions to assist those who are disadvantaged and marginalised.</p>
1.2.3	Work with key partners and the community to lobby for adequate health services in our region	Identify gaps in service delivery	DES	Ongoing. Work with interagency groups.
1.2.4	Provide, maintain and develop children’s play and recreational facilities that encourage active participation	Operate youth centres and vacation care programs.	CSM	Fully operational. Youth Centres in Walgett, Collarenebri and Lightning Ridge operate with programs including after school and vacation care.
1.2.5	Provide, maintain and develop passive recreational facilities and parklands to encourage greater utilisation and active participation	Maintain all parks and gardens including playground equipment and progressively upgrade shade shelters	DETS	<p>Achieved with weekly inspections.</p> <p>Grawin playground was completed.</p>
1.2.6	Partner with police, community organisations and the community to address crime, anti-social behaviour and maintain community safety	<p>Partner with all combat emergency services and emergency support services</p> <p>Install and maintain cctv systems across the Shire</p>	GM GM	<p>Regular Local Emergency Management Committee Meetings. Daily briefings with agencies during flood emergency of 2022.</p> <p>CCTV systems placed to discourage anti-social behaviours.</p>
	Provide effective regulatory, compliance and enforcement services for the community	<p>Carry out food premises inspections to ensure compliance with the Food Act</p> <p>Target number of premises audited for fire safety compliance</p> <p>Undertake impounding of animals and registrations</p> <p>Inspections of Swimming Pools for compliance</p> <p>Provide management and investigation of dog attacks and dangerous dog declarations</p> <p>Orders to be issued or served where necessary</p>	DES	<p>Food Inspections carried out annually and reported to the Food Authority as required.</p> <p>Staff working with a number of high-risk premises in relation to fire safety. Providing opportunities for businesses to learn about and upgrade their fire safety services.</p> <p>Swimming Pool Inspections carried out as required</p> <p>Actively working with and caring for impounded animals as required. Thorough investigations of dog attacks and action taken as required. Construction of a new pound facility.</p> <p>Orders issued as necessary and as appropriate and followed up to ensure compliance.</p>
1.2.8	Provide and maintain accessible quality sport and recreation facilities that encourage participation	Maintain swimming pools and bore baths facilities and the surrounds	DETS	<p>Burren Junction and Carinda pools repainted.</p> <p>Burren Junction Bore Bath fence repaired, overgrown shrubs removed, repainted hazard lines and repair to concrete.</p> <p>Construction for the Collarenebri Bore Bath and Walgett Splash Park facilities underway.</p>

## GOAL: A diverse and creative culture

CSP REF	STRATEGY	ACTION	RESPONIBILITY	STATUS 30th June 2023
1.3.1	Provide enhanced and innovative library services that encourage lifelong learning	Continue yearly membership of Outback Arts Support Arts Program Increase use of library as a community space	CSM	Supported for the 2022/2023  Annual contribution - Complete  Our libraries hosted community events and groups such as the Walgett Knitters Group, Senior's Week, cake decorating for children, screen printing and much more.
1.3.2	Work with the community and other agencies to develop major cultural and community events	Work with agencies to encourage events for the Shire Apply for grants for cultural events	EDO	Ongoing. Work with the Interagency Group to deliver events.  The Jimmy Little Festival was successfully delivered under the Community Event Program Grant.
1.3.3	Work in collaboration with agencies and community groups to address existing and emerging issues specific to the Aboriginal and ageing communities	Implement the Aboriginal Reconciliation Plan Undertake Aboriginal Projects Develop an ageing strategy	CSM	Complete in 2020. For review in 2025.  Ongoing. Delivered programs such as NAIDOC week, Reconciliation Week, Sorry Day.  Ongoing – to be completed with community consultation.
1.3.4	Support the development of programs which offer alternative education programs and opportunities that meet the needs of specific community sectors	Establish programs for cadetships/traineeships  Advocate for the improvement of secondary school educational outcomes across the Shire	GM  GM	Council has a strategy in place to support cadetships & traineeships. Recent examples include the workshop mechanical area and administration staff.  Ongoing. Working with the DETS to improve outcomes. School to work program in place and has students visiting Council for work experience and tours.  Careers expo in Walgett in August every year.

# Economic Development

## GOAL: An attractive environment for business, tourism and industry

CSP REF	STRATEGY	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	STATUS 30th June 2020
2.1.1	Implement tools to simplify development processes and encourage quality commercial, industrial and residential development	Advocate for the development of the Australian Opal Centre	GM	Ongoing. Construction to commence soon.
		Ensure that building certification and inspections are carried out as per National Construction and the requirements of the Building Professionals Board	DES	Building Surveyors continually act within the conditions of their Accreditation.
2.1.2	Develop the skills of businesses to maximize utilization of new technologies and the emerging broadband and telecommunications networks	Develop and implement an Economic Development Strategy	EDO	In progress.
		Lobby for improved mobile phone coverage across the shire	EDO	Actively lobbying Telstra to improve coverage in the Grawin Opal fields.
		Implement an Economic Incentive Scheme	EDO	Incentive policy under development
2.1.3	Lobby the Government to address needed infrastructure and services to match business and industry development in the region (education, transport and health)	Continue to lobby the Government for funding for transport infrastructure	GM	Ongoing but have received funding to upgrade several roads in the Shire. The completion of the Goangra Bridge is one example of improved infrastructure that will assist industry and business in the area.
2.1.4	Promote the Walgett Shire to business and industry and increase recognition of the area's strategic advantages	Develop business development prospects in collaboration with various government agencies	EDO	Ongoing.
2.1.5	Provision of caravan support facilities throughout the Shire	Maintain and expand facilities of the 'RV Friendly'	VIC	Alex Trevallion Park facilities have been upgraded to include a new toilet and shower facilities. This park remains free. The Showground caravan area was recently sealed to allow access during wet weather.

## GOAL: Employment opportunities that supports local industries

CSP REF	STRATEGY	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	STATUS 30th June 2023
2.2.1	Identify partnerships and innovative funding approaches to provide for new and upgraded infrastructure for event hosting and tourism expansion	Continue to apply for grants for a new information centres for Lightning Ridge and Walgett	GM	Completed. Lightning Ridge Visitor Information Centre has been a popular place for tourists.
2.2.2	Provide land use planning that facilitates employment creation	Monitor and review Council's Local Environment Plan	DES	LEP 2013 continues to be reviewed and monitored.
2.2.3	Support and encourage existing business and industry to develop and grow	Maintain a sufficient supply of residential, lifestyle, agriculture, commercial and industrial zoned land	DES	LEP 2013 continues to be reviewed. Walgett Rural Residential Strategy being reviewed in 2023/2024.
2.2.4	Develop and implement an economic development strategy which identifies potential projects and/or industries that build on the Shire's attributes and/or natural resources	Provide consultation with potential new business operators and pre-development application assistance	EDO	Council continues to work with business operators to assist with pre-development applications.
2.2.5	Encourage and support youth employment initiatives	Promote the school to work programme	EDO	In operation

## GOAL: An efficient network of arterial roads & supporting infrastructure; town streets & footpaths that are adequate & maintained

CSP REF	STRATEGY	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	STATUS 30th June 2023
2.3.1	Provide an effective road network that balances asset conditions with available resources and asset utilisation	Undertake bitumen maintenance program in line with service levels  Undertake maintenance grading program in line with service levels	DETS  DETS	This process is ongoing. Council have maintained a regular heavy patching program.  Flood conditions have impacted maintenance grading opportunities in late 2022, grading program recommenced in 2023.
2.3.2	Maintain, renew and replace Council bridges and culverts as required	Undertake annual inspections of all bridges and culverts and update the required maintenance and repair program	DETS	Regular inspections undertaken and routine maintenance undertaken as required. Culverts replacement program was underway in 2023.
2.3.3	Ensure road network supporting assets are maintained (signs, posts, guardrails etc.)	Renew and maintain Council's road network supporting assets in-line with the Asset Management Plan	DETS	Regular inspections undertaken and maintenance undertaken as required
2.3.4	Maintain existing footpaths in Shire towns and villages	Undertake annual inspections of all footpath and update the required maintenance and repair program	DETS	Regular inspections undertaken and maintenance undertaken as required.
2.3.5	Lobby the Government to provide needed funds to maintain regional networks	Continue to apply for grants for the reconstruction and sealing of unsealed Regional Roads and major Local Roads network  Investigate using SRV(5-15%) to fund a major upgrade of Local Roads	DETS  GM	On-going lobbying of State Government  Regional road grants received as well as emergency flood repair grants.

## GOAL: Communities that are well serviced with essential infrastructure

CSP REF	STRATEGY	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	STATUS 30th June 2020
2.4.1	Implement Council's strategic asset management plans and continue to develop asset systems	Implement an electronic asset management system for all Council assets	CFO	Asset system "Confirm" in place
2.4.2	Ensure adequate public car parking and kerb and gutter infrastructure is provided and maintained	Inspect all kerb and gutter and undertake the required repair and replacement program	DETS	Works in progress. Kerb and guttering replacement in Walgett and Lightning Ridge have been completed. Collarenebri to commence.
2.4.3	Provide the infrastructure to embellish public spaces and recreation areas	Undertake the maintenance program for Council's parks and gardens team	DETS	Regular inspections undertaken and maintenance undertaken as required. Graffiti removed. Swings replaced.
2.4.4	Continue to lobby Government to provide incentives to appeal to airline companies to service the region	Partner with Brewarrina and Bourke to lobby the Government to subsidise airlines and the reintroduction of RPT services for Walgett and Bourke	GM	Successfully lobbied for subsidies and increased flights during the 2022 floods.

# Governance and Civic Leadership

## GOAL: An accountable and representative Council

CSP REF	STRATEGY	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	STATUS 30th June 2020
3.1.1	Provide clear direction for the community through the development of the community strategic plan, delivery program and operational plan	Implement, monitor and review the Delivery and Operational Plan	CFO	Quarterly reports submitted to Council.
3.1.2	Engage with the community effectively and use community input to inform decision making	Deliver a Local Government week Program to engage the community and show case services provided by Council	CFO	Complete. Event held in Collarenebri.
		Distribute newsletters to residents	EDO	Weekly e-bulletin sent out to community via email and social media providing updates on Council and Community.
3.1.3	Provide strong representation for the community at regional, state and federal levels	Participate in and make visible contributions to regional forums such as OROC and Western Division	GM	Council continues to be active in regional forums.
		Advocate the needs of the Shire to State and Federal Governments	GM	Ongoing.
3.1.4	Undertake the civic duties of Council with the highest degree of professionalism and ethics	Ensure annual pecuniary interest declarations are completed	GM	Applications received & tabled
		Ensure Councillors comply with the Code of Conduct	GM	Council continues to monitor.
3.1.5	Councillors represent the interests of the whole of the Shire area	Arrange seminars to ensure all Councillors appreciate their roles	GM	Ongoing.

## GOAL: Implement governance and financial management process that support the effective administration of Council

CSP REF	STRATEGY	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	STATUS 30th June 2020
3.2.1	Develop processes that ensure that legislative and financial standards are actioned in a timely manner	Provide financial reports to management and staff to assist in budget control and decision making	CFO	Fortnightly reports issued
		Complete quarterly budget review statements in line with statutory requirements	CFO	Reports tabled
		Review, revise and maintain Council's Long Term Financial Plan	CFO	Under review.
		Oversight financial decision making process	GM	Under review.

## GOAL: Promote community involvement in Government decision making

CSP REF	STRATEGY	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	STATUS 30th June 2023
3.2.1	Engage with the community through effective consultation and communication processes	Facilitate the delivery of community presentations to Council Meetings	GM	Council meetings are open for public forum.
		Conduct regular community meetings to present the annual budget	GM and CFO	This has not been actioned.
		Promote community involvement in any emerging Government Initiatives	GM and CFO	Promotion through Council website, social media and e-bulletin.
3.3.2	Develop and implement community feedback systems that provides for community input on council projects and activities	Develop an online survey for Council's website	EDO	Not yet commenced

## GOAL: Promote community involvement in Government decision making

CSP REF	STRATEGY	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	STATUS 30th June 2020
3.4.1	Resource the organisation of Council adequately to provide the services and support functions required to deliver the goals and strategies detailed in this plan	Resources provided in a timely fashion	GM	Resources allocated in accordance with budget
3.4.2	Implement and maintain a performance management framework to enable clear reporting on progress in Councils strategic planning documents	Report to Council Meetings	GM & Directors	Reports tabled in accordance with Legislation

# Sustainable Living

## GOAL: Operate an an urban waste management system that meets the community needs and environmental standards

CSP REF	STRATEGY	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	STATUS 30th June 2023
4.1.1	Develop and implement a Shire Wide Waste Management strategy that includes recycling services	Develop and implement the Waste Management Strategy  Effectively manage the domestic waste and landfill management contracts	DES	Finalised in 2018. Review and updated to be conducted. Management contracts in place, new Council staff hired to monitor landfill and waste.
4.1.2	Implement initiatives to reduce illegal dumping and provide community education to prevent litter	Actively respond to complaints and issues identified to ensure appropriate outcomes for illegal development, dumping and other activities such as abandoned vehicles, noise pollution and odour.  Develop and implement a waste education program	DES  DES	Council signed a funding deed with the EPA for Illegal Dumping Prevention Program. This will enable Council to expand the RID database, promote community awareness and surveillance of hot spots. Ongoing.

## GOAL: Provide potable and raw water supply systems that ensures enhanced water security and meets health standards

CSP REF	STRATEGY	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	STATUS 30th June 2023
4.2.1	Improve and upgrade the water supply infrastructure through an asset management framework	Complete an annual water main replacement program  Ensure water supply is provided and maintained in compliance with the Drinking Water Quality requirements	DETS	Ongoing. Electronic water meters have been installed in Collarenebri.  Regular water testing undertaken in accordance with Drinking Water Management plan
4.2.2	Maintain and renew the sewerage network infrastructure to ensure the provision of efficient and environmentally-sound sewerage services	Operate the sewer treatment plants in an efficient manner	DETS	Ongoing
4.2.3	Ensure adequate stormwater and drainage infrastructure is provided, maintained and renewed	Maintain and renew the stormwater and drainage infrastructure	DETS	Regular inspections undertaken and maintenance undertaken as required

## GOAL: A sustainable environment that recognises our rivers, natural environment, ecological systems and biodiversity

CSP REF	STRATEGY	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	STATUS 30th June 2023
4.3.1	Promote and raise community awareness of environmental and biodiversity issues	Undertake waste avoidance, waste reduction and recycling program	DES	Contract in place for the collection & recycling of waste tyres.  Council supports Return and Earn contractors and programs however, distance from regional recycling facilities are an issue.
4.3.2	Protect and maintain a healthy catchments and waterways	Inspect Council's water networks and take samples when necessary	DETS	Ongoing
4.3.3	Protect the Shire's historic buildings and sites recognising their value to the community	Implement the recommendations of Council's heritage advisor	DES	Development and promotion of the Council Local Heritage Fund which operates annually. Engagement of a heritage advisor.



## GOAL: Maintain a healthy balance between development and the environment

CSP REF	STRATEGY	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	STATUS 30th June 2020
4.4.1	Retain open space that are accessible to everyone	Monitor environmental protection measures for sensitive land	DES	Implement new Biodiversity Laws and Walgett LEP and DCP 2013 & 2016. New LEP changes.
4.4.2	Ensure that Walgett Shire is sufficiently prepared to deal with natural disasters	Provide annual contribution to the RFS, SES and NSW Fire and rescue	GM & LEMC	Annual contributions are being reviewed.
4.4.3	Educate the community about sustainable practices	Promote and provide adequate and user-friendly pre-lodgement advice on all aspects of development	DES	Actively providing pre-lodgment services and advice. Attend on-site inspections and provide advice on all aspects of development. Making staff available for questions and queries and working actively with clients.

# Infrastructure

## GOAL: Provide and maintain an effective road network that meets the community needs and expectations

CSP REF	STRATEGY	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	STATUS 30th June 2023
5.1.1	Manage the road network to respond to community needs, growth in the Shire, improving road safety and improving transport choices	Continually revise the works program for regional and local roads	DETS	This is done and ongoing.
5.1.2	Develop a strategy that addresses transport options for the local community	Advocate for taxi services, air services and public transport	GM	Air service and bus service run frequently. Council to continue to advocate for community bus services.
5.1.3	An effective complaints management process that effectively responds to residents issues regarding roads	Maintain complaints management process	DETS	Complaints lodged through TRIM and processed
		Complaints actioned within 7 days through the CAR system	CFO	Complaints processed within 7 days. Complaints followed up.

## GOAL: A Regional and State Road network that is appropriately supported and resourced by the Government

CSP REF	STRATEGY	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	STATUS 30th June 2020
5.2.1	Ensure that the road network is maintained to a standard that is achievable within the resources available	Continually revise the works program for regional and local roads	DETS	Regular inspections undertaken and maintenance undertaken as required
5.2.2	Maintain an effective operational relationship with the Roads and Maritime Services	Submit progress reports in a timely manner	DETS	Routine maintenance undertaken in accordance with contractual requirements
5.2.3	Lobby the Government to provide needed funds to maintain regional and state road networks	Continue to advocate for betterment and other funding through advocacy to state/federal Government	GM	Continuing to lobby other levels of Government for additional funding

## GOAL: Maintain and improve Council's property assets to an optimal level

CSP REF	STRATEGY	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	STATUS 30th June 2020
5.3.1	Manage properties in accordance with Council Asset Management Plan	Carry out the property works programme in line with the annual budget	CFO	Program for 2022/2023 complete

## GOAL: Provision of facilities and communication services

CSP REF	STRATEGY	ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	STATUS 30th June 2020
5.4.1	Provide a range of recreational and community facilities	Maintain and upgrade Council's community halls and reserves	CFO	Ongoing. Carinda Hall recently repainted. Collarenebri and Rowena Hall undergoing repairs.
5.4.2	Represent the community with regard to external services including energy, communication, water, waste management and resource recovery	Lobby service providers in response to identified community concerns including mobile phone services	GM	Actively lobbying Telstra to improve coverage in the Grawin Opal fields and applying for Black Spot Program.
5.4.3	Advocate to utility and communication providers regarding the capacity and reliability of infrastructure across the Shire	Lobby service providers in response to identified community concerns	GM	On-going