

Connecting with Council

We are committed to providing accessible, responsive and transparent services for our community. If you'd like to share feedback or need this publication in an alternative format or language, please get in touch with us.



Phone: 02 6828 6100



Email: admin@walgett.nsw.gov.au



Website: www.walgett.nsw.gov.au



Post: PO Box 31, Walgett NSW 2832



Visit Us:

Walgett Office

77 Fox Street, Walgett NSW 2832

Lightning Ridge Office

45 Pandora Street, Lightning Ridge NSW 2834

Collarenebri Office

65 Herbert Street, Collarenebri NSW 2833



Assisted Services Interpreter Service: 131 450

Call the National Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) on 131 450 to speak to a Council officer.

This is a free service for Council-related business

Contents

Ack	knowledgment of Country	4
Ack	knowledgment of Cultural Diversity	5
Mes	essage from the Mayor	6
You	ur feedback has shaped this strategy	7
1.	Introduction	8
2.	What is Community Engagement?	9
3.	Why Council consults with the community	10
4.	What do we mean by community?	12
5.	What engagement looks like in Walgett Shire?	13
6.	Making engagement inclusive	15
7.	How we engage	18
8.	When we will and won't engage	19
9.	Exhibition periods	21
10.	. Community Participation Plan	22
11.	. Notification for development related matters	23
12.	. Development applications not requiring notification	27
13.	. Making a submission	30
14.	. How we listen and respond	34
15.	. Reviewing and improving engagement	35
Арр	pendix 1: Public Exhibition Consultation Report	36

Document Control

Issue	Revision	Date	Description	Resolution
Draft	1.1	12.9.25	For Public Exhibition	
Final	1.2	10.11.25	For Council Adoption	
Adopted	1.3	18.11.25	Adopted	Motion R-16-11-2025



ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY

WHERE WE LIVE. WHERE WE WORK. WHERE WE GROW.

Walgett Shire Council acknowledges Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia.

We recognise the continuing connection to lands, waters, and peoples of the Gamilaraay, Yuwaalaraay and Yuwaalayaay of the Gamilaroi Nation located in the Walgett Shire.

We pay respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

Painting by the Lightning Ridge Youth Group and Frank Wright

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF CULTURAL DIVERSITY

How to get a copy of this document (in multiple languages)

This document can be translated into alternative languages by calling the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) on 13 14 50.

Arabic

يمكن ترجمة هذا المستند إلى لغات بديلة من خلال الاتصال على (Interpretation (TIS)بخدمة والت الرقم 13 14 50

Chinese (simplified)

您可以通过拨打 13 14 50 联系翻译和口译服务(TIS),**将此文件翻**译成其他语言。

Greek

Αυτό το έγγραφο μπορεί να μεταφραστεί σε εναλλακτικές γλώσσες καλώντας την Υπηρεσία Μετάφρασης και Διερμηνείας (TIS) στο 13 14 50.

Serbian

Овај документ се може превести на друге језике позивањем Службе за превод и тумачење (TIS) на број 13 14 50.

Thai

เอกสารนี้สามารถแปลเป็นภาษาอื่นได้โดยโ ทรติดต่อฝ่ายบริการแปลและล่าม (TIS) ที่หมายเลข 13 14 50

Hindi

इस दस्तावेज़ का अनुवाद वैकल्पिक भाषाओं में किया जा सकता है, ट्रांस्लेटिंग एंड इंटरप्रेटिंग सर्विस (TIS) पर 13 14 50 पर कॉल करके।

Vietnamese

Tài liệu này có thể được dịch sang các ngôn ngữ khác bằng cách gọi Dịch vụ Phiên dịch và Biên dịch (TIS) theo số 13 14 50.



Message from the Mayor

Connecting and engaging with our community is at the heart of everything we do at Walgett Shire Council. Council is responsible for delivering the essential services that support our region — from roads and water to recreation facilities, community programs and local economic development. But beyond delivering services, we have a responsibility to listen, to be open and transparent, and to ensure the voices of our communities are heard.



Our Shire is vast and diverse, home to many towns and villages—each with its own strengths, challenges and priorities. From Walgett to Lightning Ridge, Collarenebri, Carinda, Cumborah, Rowena, Come By Chance and across our opal fields at Grawin, Glengarry and Sheepyard, as well as smaller centres like Cryon and Pokataroo - every community and every voice matters.

You deserve to know what Council is doing and to have meaningful opportunities to help shape the decisions that affect your daily life.

This Strategy sets out how Council will engage with our residents, businesses, organisations and stakeholders. It commits us to creating more opportunities for participation, improving how we share information, and making sure you can have your say in a way that works for you. Just as importantly, it also ensures you know how your input has influenced Council's decisions.

We know our community expects Council to be transparent, respectful and accountable. We also know that genuine engagement helps us make better decisions that reflect local needs and aspirations. This is why we are embedding a whole-of-Council approach to engagement — one that builds trust, strengthens relationships and ensures every voice matters.

This Strategy is not just a document — it is our commitment to working with you. Together, we can shape a stronger, more connected and more resilient Walgett Shire.

Jasen Ramien

Mayor of Walgett Shire Council



Your feedback has shaped this strategy

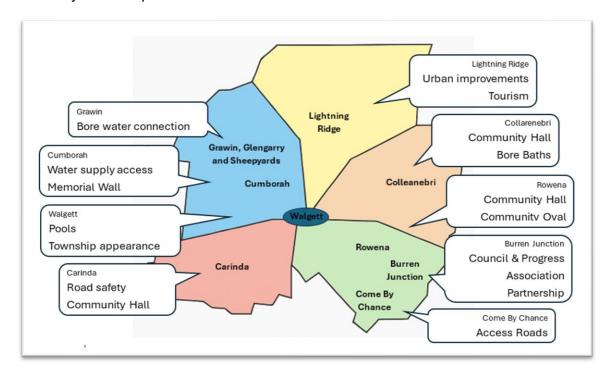
During May 2025, Council engaged widely with the Walgett Shire community as part of our work to update Council's Community Strategic Plan and related IP&R documents (which can be viewed on Council's website).

This engagement told us that the community would like to be kept updated on Council progress included:

- Email or newsletter updates
- Community meetings or drop-in sessions
- Social media or Council website

Through this engagement with the community, Council learnt that:

- **1. Unified communities:** All communities demonstrated a passion for their local area.
- 2. Clear Shire focus: The whole community had a consistent interest in:
 - Roads
 - Recreational facilities
 - Infrastructure improvements
 - Community identified projects
- **3. Locally based issues:** Each locality had specific issues that were identified by most respondents in that area.



Since May 2025, Council has been working towards addressing issues raised by local communities and improving local community partnerships.



1. Introduction

This Plan explains how Council will work with our community to shape long-term plans and day-to-day decisions. It sets out **when, how, and why people can get involved**, and makes sure all voices have the chance to be heard.

Our approach is guided by four social justice principles:

Equity Everyone has fair access to services and opportunities.

Access We make extra effort to include people who are harder to

reach or more vulnerable.

Participation Community members are encouraged to have their say and

understand how decisions are made.

Rights People of all backgrounds and abilities are supported to

take part in community life.

These principles will guide Council when preparing the **Community Strategic Plan** and other key strategies, policies, programs, and projects.

1.1. Goals of Engagement

Through this Plan, Council aims to:

- Increase awareness of projects, programs, and services.
- Improve community satisfaction with Council services, facilities, and events.
- Help people understand how and why decisions are made.

1.2. Our Commitment

This Plan has been developed in line with **Section 402 of the Local Government Act 1993**, which requires councils to take a community-centred approach to decision-making.

By following this Plan, Council is committed to giving everyone in our Shire the chance to shape the future—creating a community we can all be proud of, both now and into the future.



2. What is Community Engagement?

Community engagement is about working together to make good decisions for our Shire.

It means:

- Working together Finding solutions as a community, so decisions are balanced and fair.
- **Being open and honest** Building trust by making sure people understand how and why decisions are made.

At Walgett Shire Council, we believe everyone has the right to know what's happening and to have a say on projects that matter. By listening to the community, Council gains a better understanding of local needs and ideas.

This leads to:



Better services and facilities



A **stronger** sense of pride and ownership in the outcomes.



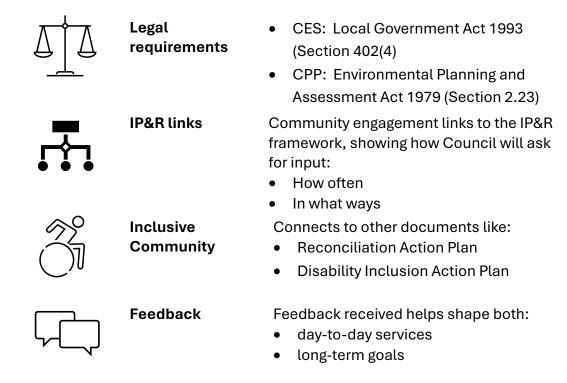
A **closer connection** between people and their community.

Not every project will involve the same level of input, but whenever Council makes plans or decisions, the community will always have the chance to be involved in a meaningful way.



3. Why Council consults with the community

There are laws in New South Wales that guide when and how councils must involve the community in decision-making. They can be summarised into 4 broad categories and are outlines further under the following headings.



3.1. How This Links to Council's Legal Requirements

- 1. Local Government Act 1993 (Section 402(4) Councils must prepare a Community Engagement Strategy. This strategy sets out how we involve the community when creating plans, policies, and programs that are more than just everyday administrative tasks.
- 2. **Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (Section 2.23)** Councils must explain how and when the community will be engaged in planning matters, such as developing policies or assessing projects.

3.2. How This Links to the IP&R Framework

The Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) framework, introduced by the NSW Government in 2009, brings all council planning together. It sets out how councils plan for the future, deliver services, and report back to the community.

Community engagement is a key part of this framework. It shows **how often** and **in what ways** Council will ask the community for input on our major plans and strategies. The feedback we receive helps shape both our **day-to-day services** and our **long-term goals**.



3.3. Plans Developed with the Community

By law, all councils must prepare certain plans in consultation with their communities. For Walgett Shire, this includes:

- Community Strategic Plan the 10+ year vision for the future of the Shire
- **Delivery Program** the 4-year plan that sets out Council's priorities
- Operational Plan the annual plan of actions and budgets
- Resourcing Strategy long-term planning for assets, workforce, and finances
- Annual Report reporting back to the community on progress

3.4. Building an Inclusive Community

This Plan also connects to other important documents, such as the:

- **Reconciliation Action Plan,** which helps Council turn reconciliation into part of everyday business, service delivery, and community engagement.
- **Disability Inclusion Action Plan**, which helps make our community more accessible and inclusive by improving access to services and supporting the participation of people with disability.





4. What do we mean by community?

When we talk about our community, we mean all the people, groups, and organisations who have a connection to our Shire. This includes:

Community Members

- People that live or own a property here
- Children and Young People
- Seniors and Older People
- People with Disability
- Local Aboriginal communities
- Multicultural Groups
- and Agencies

Workers, Visitors & Economic Participants

- People who work or study here including shortterm contractors
- Visitors and Tourism Groups
- Business and Industry
- Developers and Investors

Community & Service Organisations

- Community, Sporting and Environmental groups
- Community
 Agencies that
 provide services
 (including
 homeless support)
 to and/or advocate
 for people in the
 local area
 Schools and
 Education

Council & Political Representatives

- Elected
 Councillors
- Council
 Committee
 Representatives
 and Council Staff
- Neighboring Councils and Regional bodies
- Local Members of Parliament (State and Federal)

Government & Institutions

- Government Agencies
- Media

Each of these groups plays a role in the life of our Shire, and each has a voice that Council values when planning for the future.



What engagement looks like in Walgett Shire? 5.

The way Council engages with the community will depend on the size and **importance** of the plan, project, or program.

- For big projects such as the Community Strategic Plan Council will use activities that give the whole community the chance to be involved.
- For **local projects** such as upgrading a sporting field engagement will focus more on the people and groups most affected, like nearby residents and the sporting clubs who use the field.

To help guide our approach, Council uses the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) Spectrum. This framework helps us decide the best type of engagement to use and how much influence community feedback will have on the final decision.

Increasing	impact	on the	decision
-------------------	--------	--------	----------

S
ā
9
9
0
Ξ
a
. <u>0</u>
<u>ပ</u>
E
a
О.
C
₹
므
2

To provide the
public with
balanced and
objective
information to
assist them in
understanding
the problem,
alternatives,
opportunities
and/or
solutions.

We will keep

you informed.

Consult Involve To obtain public feedback on analysis. alternatives and/or decisions.

To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and solution. considered.

To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred

Collaborate

To place final decision making in the hands of the public.

Empower

Promises to the Public

We will keep
you informed,
listen to and
acknowledge
concerns and
aspirations, an
provide
feedback on
how public
input
influenced the
decision.

We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations d are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.

We will look to you for advice and innovation in formulating solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendation s into the decisions to the maximum extent possible.

We will implement what you decide.

Reference: IAP2 Public Participation Spectrum

(International Association for Public Participation - (https://www.iap2.org.au/resources/spectrum/)



5.1. Our Engagement Principles

At Walgett Shire Council, we believe community engagement should:

- Have a **clear purpose** and be well planned.
- Be **easy to access** so everyone can take part.
- Be straightforward and easy to understand.
- Build trust between Council and the community.
- Be genuine and meaningful, so people feel their input makes a difference.
- Be reviewed and improved regularly.

5.2. A Shared Responsibility

Community engagement is not just the role of Council—it is a **shared responsibility**. Everyone has a part to play in shaping our Shire:

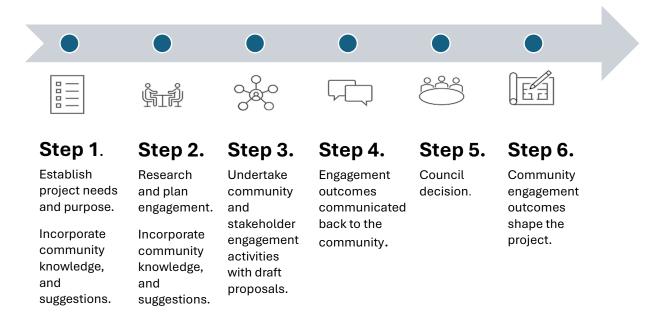
- Council leads the process, shares information, and listens to feedback.
- Community members contribute their ideas, knowledge, and experiences.

Together, we can make better decisions that reflect the needs, priorities, and aspirations of our community.

Role	Responsibilities	
Mayor	 Speaks on behalf of Council about important plans like the Community Strategic Plan. Works with the General Manager to make sure the community has plenty of chances to be involved. Builds partnerships between Council and the community. 	
Councillors	 Lead by example by showing good engagement practices and making decisions that reflect community input. Support and join in engagement activities with Council staff. Encourage residents to take part in conversations and activities. 	
General Manager & Leadership Team	 Lead the organisation in best practice engagement and make sure the right processes are followed. Speak on behalf of Council to encourage involvement. Help develop documents that guide community engagement. Ensure the community receives clear, easy-to-understand information. 	
Council Staff	 Support the General Manager in creating and carrying out the Community Engagement Strategy. Collect and share community feedback so it can guide Council's decisions. 	



Council's engagement process



Source: Basis of diagram from 'Let's Shape Lake Mac Community Engagement Strategy 2024-2028'
(Community Engagement Strategy - Lake Macquarie City Council)

6. Making engagement inclusive

Council understands that some groups in our community may find it harder to take part in engagement activities. This can be due to barriers such as language, physical ability, access to technology, social isolation, or lack of time. When planning engagement, we will look for ways to remove these barriers so that **everyone can be involved comfortably and fairly.**

6.1. How We Engage Successfully

Good engagement doesn't happen by accident—it comes from **planning and preparation**. Council is committed to:

- Creating an environment where communication is honest, open, and timely.
- Using clear processes and providing the right resources to support better planning and decision-making.
- Making sure our engagement activities are inclusive, reaching all parts of the community, especially those who are usually harder to involve.
- Respecting and valuing feedback from community members.



- Acting in the **best interests of the whole community**.
- Keeping people **informed about progress and outcomes**, so they can see how their input makes a difference.

This Plan identifies several groups in our community who may find it harder to take part, such as:

- Youth and older people
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities
- Children and families
- People experiencing homelessness.
- People with disabilities
- People with mental health issues
- LGBTIQA+ communities
- People who are socially isolated
- People who do not speak English as a first language.





6.2. How We Make Engagement Work for Everyone

We will:

- **Use different ways to engage** from online surveys and social media to meetings, workshops, and traditional methods like letters or phone calls.
- **Keep things clear and simple** using plain language and avoiding technical terms.
- Provide age-appropriate options with activities that suit young people, families, older residents, and other groups.
- **Give people the right information** so they feel informed and confident to participate.
- Make engagement accessible by offering information in different formats and using venues that everyone can access.
- **Promote widely** using a variety of channels to make sure people know when and how to get involved.
- Tailor activities for different groups including young people, families, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, people with disability, and culturally diverse communities.
- Avoid engagement overload by staggering activities and combining opportunities where possible.
- **Be open and transparent** explaining how feedback will be used and why decisions are made.
- Report back sharing outcomes with both participants and the wider community, so people can see how their contributions have shaped the results.



7. How we engage

7.1. Inform

How we engage	What this means for the Community
Community Information Hubs	Paper-based updates will be placed in key Shire locations so residents can easily find local information and stay informed without needing online access.
Engagement Champions	Local people and groups will share Council news through trusted word-of-mouth networks, helping more community members stay informed and involved.
Website, Social Media, and Newsletters	Council will share updates through its website, Facebook, and newsletters to keep the community up to date.
Advertisements, Signs, Letters, and Flyers	These tools will be used to Invite people to take part in engagement activities, inform the community about upcoming projects and works', share where to find more information, and explain how and when to give feedback
Customer Service Centres, Libraries, and Visitor Information Centres	Community members can visit these sites to get project information and help with providing feedback.

7.2. Consult and Involve

How we engage	What This Means for the Community	
Community Meetings and Workshops	Opportunities to meet, share ideas, and give feedback on Council projects or policies.	
Council Meetings	Community members can attend meetings and speak during Public Participation before decisions are made.	
Public Exhibitions and Submissions	Draft plans or projects are displayed so people can review and provide comments.	
Surveys	Used to gather community opinions, such as in the Satisfaction Survey.	
Drop-in Sessions and Pop-up Stalls	Informal chances to ask questions and share ideas face to face.	
Councillor and Senior staff consultation activities	In-person opportunities to talk directly with Council decision-makers.	

7.3. Collaborate and Empower

How we engage	What This Means for the Community	
Advisory Committees	Committees of community members, stakeholders, and Councillors that provide advice on local priorities and needs.	
Community and Stakeholder	Groups that meet with Council to discuss issues, shape decisions, and	
Reference Groups	advise on projects or policies.	



8. When we will and won't engage

8.1. When We Will Engage

Council will involve the community whenever there are opportunities to **help shape decisions**. This includes:

- Setting the long-term direction for our community.
- Developing new projects, plans, or initiatives.
- Creating or updating a policy, strategy, or plan.
- Planning major construction projects.

A table later in this document shows how Council will engage with the community on different types of projects, so everyone knows what to expect.

For planning projects, there are **set timeframes for public exhibition**. These are outlined in the **Community Participation Plan** in this document.

8.2. When We Won't Engage

There are some situations where Council will only **inform the community** rather than invite feedback. This happens when:

- There is no opportunity for community input.
- Public health or safety could be at risk.
- An urgent decision must be made immediately.
- A project involves confidential or commercial information.
- Council is reviewing internal procedures.
- There is an emergency.
- Legal requirements limit how we can engage.

Examples include:

- When there is a public health emergency, such as a 'boil water alert' for a drinking water supply.
- In response to a natural disaster such as immediate required recovery efforts to a flood, bushfire or storm.

8.3. Our Commitment to Transparency

- Even when engagement is not possible, Council will always follow the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (GIPA Act). This means we will:
- Proactively share information on our website and in other accessible formats.
- **Protect individual privacy** when releasing information.



This ensures the community continues to have access to important information, while personal privacy is respected.

8.4. Public Exhibition

Public exhibition is when Council shares draft documents with the community before they are finalised. This gives everyone the chance to **read the documents** and provide feedback.

How it Works

- Draft documents must first be approved by Council.
- Once approved, they are placed on public exhibition for a set period of time.
- During this period, the community can view the documents and send in feedback.

How We Let You Know

The way we promote a public exhibition will depend on the project. At a minimum, Council will:

- Post information on the Council's website and Facebook page.
- Notify residents and neighbours who may be directly affected.
- Provide copies at the Customer Service Centre, Visitor Information Centre, and Council Libraries.

Timeframes

- The exhibition period will always meet the minimum timeframe required by law.
- Council may extend this period depending on the size and importance of the project.
- Timeframes are measured in calendar days (including weekends and public holidays).
- Public exhibitions will not run over the Christmas/New Year period.

How to Have Your Say

Anyone can provide feedback during a public exhibition by sending a submission by **post or email**. Submissions may:

- Support or oppose a proposal.
- Explain reasons for a particular view.
- Suggest improvements or provide general feedback.

Council will **acknowledge every submission in writing** and carefully consider all feedback before making a final decision.



9. Exhibition periods

Type of Document	How We Engage	Why We Engage	Exhibition Period
Long-Term Plans (Community Strategic Plan, Delivery Program, Resourcing Strategy, Community Engagement Strategy, Local Strategic Planning Strategies, Master Plans, Management Plans)	We use the Community Engagement Plan to give people a range of ways to share their ideas and feedback.	To understand the community's priorities and future goals.	28 days
Operational Plan, Budget, Fees and Charges	Information is shared on Council's website, social media, media releases, and advertising.	To gather community feedback and make sure it is considered in Council's decision-making.	28 days
Key Policies (Council policies, Code of Meeting Practice, Code of Conduct, others as required)	Information is shared on Council's website, social media, and through advertising.	To gather community feedback and make sure it is considered in Council's decision-making.	28 or 42 days, depending on the law or a Council decision.
New Capital Works and Place Making	Council will use the Community Engagement Plan to provide different ways for people to share their views and feedback.	To understand the community's priorities and future aspirations.	28 days
Maintenance and Renewal Works	Council will share updates through: • Letters • Social media • Website • Door knocking affected residents (if needed)	To keep the community informed about upcoming or unplanned works.	Planned works: at least 7 days' notice. Unplanned works: notification by door knocking or social media.



10. Community Participation Plan

10.1. What is the Community Participation Plan

A Community Participation Plan (CPP) explains how and when Council will involve the community in planning matters, as required by the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979. It makes sure that when Council carries out its planning responsibilities, the community has a real opportunity to take part in a meaningful and fair way.

This Plan has been prepared in line with **Section 2.23 of the Act**. It sets out how and when Walgett Shire Council will ask the community for input when exercising its planning functions.

The law also sets **minimum timeframes for public exhibition** and minimum requirements for public consultation. This ensures there is enough time and opportunity for community members to view documents, ask questions, and provide feedback before decisions are made.

10.2. How This Plan Helps Our Community

The CPP aims to:

- Build stronger understanding between Council and the community.
- Ensure Council services reflect the values and priorities of the community.
- Support Council to make **better, more informed decisions**.
- Increase accountability and transparency in Council's decision-making.
- Encourage and create opportunities for the community to take part in shaping local decisions.



11. Notification for development related matters

The table below explains the minimum ways Council will consult with the community when working on planning projects, documents, or applications.

Type of Plan or Document	How We Engage with the Community	Why We Engage	Consultation Period
Community Participation Plan	Information on Council's websiteSocial media posts	To give the community a real opportunity to be involved in plan-making and to stay informed.	28 days
Planning Strategies, Structure Plans, or Master Plans (that may change the Local Environmental Plan or Development Control Plan) Examples: Flood Risk Management Plans, Local Strategic Planning Statement	 Council website Social media posts Media Public drop-in sessions Notices to industry stakeholders (where relevant) Letters to affected property owners (where relevant and appropriate) 	To make sure community views and aspirations are directly reflected in the final plan.	45 days
Draft Development Control Plans (DCPs) and Guidelines (these set controls to guide new development and are used when assessing development applications)	 Council website Social media posts Notices to landowners and adjoining owners (if changes affect specific sites) Notices to industry stakeholders (where relevant) 	To acknowledge community concerns, explain how feedback has been used, and make sure public input influences the final decision.	28 days



Type of Matter	How We Engage with the Community	Why We Engage	Consultation Period
Draft Contribution Plans Developer contributions toward transport, community and recreational facilities to support new development	Council websiteSocial media	To acknowledge community concerns and explain how feedback was considered.	28 days
Draft Planning Agreements Agreements between Council and a developer – e.g. contributions for land, recreation, transport or community facilities instead of development contributions under the law.	 Council website Social media Where possible, exhibited alongside related development applications or planning proposals 	To acknowledge concerns and explain how community input influenced the decision.	28 days
Planning Proposals or Local Environmental Plans (subject to Gateway determination) These can: Rezone land to change how it can be used Make administrative updates to the Local Environmental Plan (e.g. adding heritage items, updating land uses or clauses)	 Council website Social media Letters to adjoining landowners (for sitespecific rezonings or additional uses) Other methods required by the Gateway determination 	To acknowledge concerns and explain how feedback was considered in the decision.	14 days (or as required by Gateway determination)
Council Staff	 Inform and involve staff through the Community Engagement and Participation Plan 	To give staff opportunities to share their views and feedback, ensuring plans reflect the community's priorities.	Helps identify community aspirations for the future
Development Applications Applications for development consent – e.g. some housing, retail, commercial or industrial projects.	 Plans published on Council's website and/or NSW Planning Portal Social media Letters to adjoining landowners (if required) 	To acknowledge concerns and explain how community feedback was used.	14 days
	Note: Some types of devel notification. These are list requiring notification.		



Type of Development Matter	How We Engage with the Community	Why We Engage	Consultation Period
Designated or Nominated Integrated Development Applications Includes developments under laws such as the Heritage Act, Water Management Act, Protection of the Environment Act, Threatened Species laws, or Category 1 remediation works under SEPP – Resilience and Hazards.	 Council website Social media Letters to adjoining property owners On-site notice 	To acknowledge concerns and explain how public input has been considered in the decision.	28 days
Council-Related Development Applications made by or on behalf of Council, Councillors, or senior staff.	 Council website Social media Letters to adjoining property owners (Additional requirements may apply under Council's Council Related Development Policy) 	To provide the highest level of transparency in Council-related development, and to acknowledge and respond to community feedback.	28 days (unless another timeframe is specified in Council's Conflict of Interest Policy)
Modification of Development Consent Changes to a previously approved development, where community notification is required.	 Council website Social media Letters to adjoining property owners 	To acknowledge concerns and explain how community input has been considered in the decision.	14 days
Section 8.2 Reviews A review of a decision about a development application.	Engagement will follow the same process as the original development application.	To acknowledge concerns and explain how community input has been considered in the decision.	Same period as the original application.



Important Notes

Advertising Development Applications

In some cases, Council may decide to place advertisements in newspapers or use other methods (in addition to those already listed) to make sure the community is aware of a proposal.

Changes to Development Applications

If a development application is changed during the assessment process, and those changes create new or bigger impacts for neighbours, Council will usually re-notify affected property owners. This re-notification period is generally 14 days.

Legislative Requirements

If there are any differences between this Plan and the requirements of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 or the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021, the legislation will take priority.

Exempt and Complying Development

Development that is classified as exempt or complying development does not require community notification under this Plan.

Council Projects – Review of Environmental Factors (REF)

For Council projects that require a Review of Environmental Factors, community consultation will follow Council's Conflict of Interest Policy.

Formal determination by Council Meeting

Applications are required to be referred to a council meeting for formal determination where there have been ten (10) unique submissions during the exhibition period.





12. Development applications not requiring notification

12.1. Development Applications

When a development application is lodged, it is first reviewed by senior members of Council's Planning Team.

As part of this review, Council will decide whether the application needs to be shared with the community for feedback.

Some smaller applications – where the development is **minor** and not expected to impact neighbours or the surrounding area – will not require community consultation under this Plan.

The table below lists the types of applications that are generally considered **minor** and do not require public consultation.

12.2. Examples of Minor Development Applications - No Community Consultation Required

The following types of development are generally considered **minor** and do not require community consultation under this Plan:

- Low-scale residential works such as carports, detached garages, pergolas, sheds, swimming pools, outbuildings, or small internal alterations. (Note: External alterations to heritage items are not included.)
- **Single-storey houses** on residential-zoned land, including modest alterations or additions. (Excludes land in heritage conservation areas or heritage items.)
- **Houses on rural or environmental land** where the house is a replacement dwelling or built on a lot created by subdivision approved by Council.
- Alterations or additions to rural or environmental dwellings.
- Alterations or additions to commercial or industrial buildings, provided the site is not next to a residential property.
- Change of use of buildings in employment-zoned land, except where the new use involves:
 - Sex service premises
 - Restricted premises
 - Crematoria
 - New or additional industrial activity that may impact nearby residential land
- Strata subdivisions.



- Internal building works that do not change the outside of a building.
- Demolition works, except where they involve a heritage item or land within a heritage conservation area.

12.3. When Council May Still Notify the Community

Even if a proposal is listed in the previous table as a **minor development** that normally does not require community consultation, Council may still decide to notify the community if it believes the proposal could impact neighbouring land.

When reviewing an application, Council staff may consider:

- How the proposal fits with the Walgett Local Environmental Plan 2013.
- Whether it complies with the Walgett Development Control Plan.
- If the works affect or are near a **heritage item** or take place within a **Heritage Conservation Area**.
- If the land is in a Flood Planning Area.
- Any **technical studies or reports** submitted with the application.
- The **proposed trading hours** (for businesses).
- Likely traffic or vehicle access impacts.
- The extent of earthworks (cut and fill) and how they affect nearby land.
- How stormwater will be managed.
- Any land use constraints that apply to the site.
- Any relevant **Council policy or procedure** guiding the assessment.

12.4. Modifications to Development Consents

Once a development has been approved, the applicant (or someone acting on their behalf) can apply to Council to **modify the consent**.

In most cases, community notification will follow the **same process as the original application**.

However, Council may decide that extra notification is **not required** if the change:

- · Does not increase environmental impacts, and
- Is considered by Council staff to be only a minor change to the original approval.

Examples of when further notification is not required include:

• Correcting a **minor error or description** in the approval (Section 4.55(1) modification).

Changes to a development that **did not need notification** when it was first approved.



- **Minor changes** connected to a staging plan or administrative requirements for the development.
- Small amendments (Section 4.55(1A) modifications) that **do not increase** environmental impacts.



WSC 25-29 Community Engagement Strategy_Adopted November 2025 (Rev 1.3)



13. Making a submission

When making a submission on a plan or application, it's important to include certain details so Council can properly record your feedback and consider the issues you raise.

13.1. What to Include in Your Submission

Your submission should contain:

- Your name and address.
- Your email address (so Council can notify you if the matter is being reported to a Council Meeting).
- The Council file reference number (this will be on the exhibition notice).
- A clear statement saying whether you support or object to the plan or application.
- The reasons why you support or object, explained as clearly as possible.

Submissions must relate only to the plan or application being considered and must not include defamatory comments.

13.2. When to Send Your Submission

- Submissions must be received by close of business on the last day of the exhibition or notification period.
- Submissions received during the exhibition period will always be considered.

13.3. Late Submissions

Council may also consider **late submissions** if doing so does not cause delays in finalising the plan or application.

- Submissions received within the official exhibition period will always be considered.
- Council may also consider late submissions if doing so will not delay the finalisation of the plan or application.



13.4. General Information on Exhibitions and Submissions

Information Area	How Council will act		
Unique submissions	 A unique submission is one that raises its own points, ideas, or concerns – it is different in content from other submissions. A petition, or submissions that all use the same wording, are not counted as unique. Different people (or households) can make separate unique submissions on the same issue. An individual or household can also make more than one unique submission if each one raises new points. Reference: Sydney District and Regional Planning Panels Operational Procedures – September 2022 		
Accessing documents	 During an exhibition period, key documents will be available online through Council's website. In some cases, links will take you to the NSW Planning Portal where documents can be viewed 		
Letters to neighbours	 Property owners who may be directly affected will receive a letter notice with details about the proposal, notification dates, how to make a submission, and where to view full plans and documents. Council may also include basic plans or diagrams (such as site or elevation plans) to help explain the proposal. Full technical reports and complete sets of plans will not be sent with letters but will be available to view online. 		
Social media notices	 Council may post notices on its official social media accounts (e.g. Walgett Shire Council Facebook page). These posts will describe the proposal, provide notification dates, and explain how to view full plans and make a submission. Comments on social media posts are not counted as formal submissions. 		
Speaking with staff	 Council's Development Assessment Officers are available to answer questions and explain the assessment process. For more information, contact Council's Planning Section on ph 6828 6100 		
How submissions are treated	 Multiple submissions from the same household will be treated as one objection. Petitions will also count as one objection, regardless of the number of signatures. Where possible, people are encouraged to make submissions via the NSW Planning Portal. If this is not possible, submissions by letter or email will also be accepted. Council staff generally will not correspond directly with submitters during the assessment process. Applicants may be asked to respond to submissions received. If this happens, Council will remove all personal information (names, phone numbers, addresses, emails, signatures) before sharing comments with the applicant. When a matter is reported to a Council Meeting, the issues raised in submissions will be summarised in the report. All personal information will be removed before publication. 		



13.5. How Submissions Influence Decisions

- Decisions on planning matters must follow the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.
- Council is legally required to **consider issues raised in public submissions** before making a decision.
- Some matters will be decided at a Council Meeting. In these cases, submissions will be summarised and considered as part of the planning report.
- In other cases, applications may be determined by Council staff under delegated authority. Staff are still required by law to consider all issues raised in submissions.
- When Council staff make a decision under delegation, copies of the assessment report and Notice of Determination will be available to submitters or interested community members on request.

13.6. How Planning Matters Are Decided When Submissions Are Received

- Decisions on planning matters must follow the obligations set out in the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.
- Council is legally required to **consider the issues raised in community submissions** before making a decision on a development application.
- Some planning matters, including certain development applications, must be decided at a **Council Meeting**. In these cases, submissions will be summarised in the planning report, and the issues raised will be considered as part of the decision.
- In other cases, development applications may be decided by Council staff under delegated authority (as allowed by Council's policies and delegations). Even then, staff are still legally required to consider all matters raised in submissions when making their decision.
- When a decision is made under delegated authority, copies of the
 assessment report and the Notice of Determination will be available to
 anyone who made a submission or to any interested community member on
 request.



13.7. Determining decisions on Planning Matters with Submissions

- The determination of planning matters are principally informed by the provisions of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.
- Council has a legislated obligation to consider matters raised by a public submission in their determination of development applications.
- The determination of various planning matters, including some
 development applications will require the matter to be reported to a
 Council Meeting to determine. Where a submission has been received to a
 planning matter being reported to the elected Council submissions will be
 referenced, and the matters they raise considered as part of any related
 planning report and determination.
- A Call Up Request happens when at least two Councillors write to the General Manager (GM) asking for a specific Development Application to be taken to an Ordinary Council Meeting. This means the application will be formally discussed, considered, and decided by the elected Council rather than determined by Council staff.
- Subject the decision-making delegations issued by Council to the General Manager and any related Council Policy, the determination of certain development applications which have received submissions may be undertaken by appropriately delegated Council Officers. Where a development application for which a submission has been received is determined by a Council Officer it remains a legislated requirement for that Council Officers to take into consideration matters raised by the submission in their assessment and determination of the development application. Where a matter is determined under delegated authority copies of the related assessment report and Notice of Determination will be made available to any submitters or interested members of the public on request

"Submissions make the planning process stronger."



14. How we listen and respond

Council values the time and effort community members put into making a submission. Every submission helps us make better decisions, and we are committed to respecting that contribution by keeping people informed throughout the process.

14.1. Our Commitment

We will:

- Acknowledge every submission: You will receive a receipt, either through the NSW Planning Portal or in writing, confirming that your submission has been received.
- Keep submitters informed about Council Meetings: If a planning matter
 or development application that received submissions is being reported to a
 Council Meeting, those who made a submission and provided an email
 address will be notified of the meeting date. We will also share information
 about how you can attend and, if you wish, address the meeting.

Please note: Meeting notices can only be issued once the Business Paper is finalised (usually 5 days before the meeting). This means you may receive short notice ahead of the meeting.

- Advise you of the outcome: After Council has made a decision, we will write to anyone who made a submission to let them know the outcome.
- **Provide access to information**: Documents such as Council Business Papers, Meeting Minutes, Development Assessment Reports, and Notices of Determination will be available to submitters or any interested community member upon request.



15. Reviewing and improving engagement

Council is committed to learning from every engagement activity so we can keep improving the way we involve the community in decision-making.

We will assess our engagement by looking at:

- **Process**: Was the engagement well planned and delivered?
- Relevance: Was it the right type of engagement, and did people take part?
- **Reach**: Did we include everyone who was affected or interested?
- Outcomes: Did we achieve what we set out to do?

This strategy will be **formally reviewed within three months after each local government election**, alongside the review of the Community Strategic Plan. It may also be reviewed earlier if there are changes to legislation or other requirements.



Appendix 1: Public Exhibition Consultation Report

On the following pages.



Walgett Shire Council

Public Exhibition Consultation Report

Community Engagement Strategy

(incorporating Community Participation Plan)

2025-2029

Connecting with Council

We are committed to providing accessible, responsive and transparent services for our community. If you'd like to share feedback or need this publication in an alternative format or language, please get in touch with us.



Phone: 02 6828 6100



Email: admin@walgett.nsw.gov.au



Website: www.walgett.nsw.gov.au



Post: PO Box 31, Walgett NSW 2832



Visit Us:

Walgett Office

77 Fox Street, Walgett NSW 2832

Lightning Ridge Office

45 Pandora Street, Lightning Ridge NSW 2834

Collarenebri Office

65 Herbert Street, Collarenebri NSW 2833



Assisted Services Interpreter Service: 131 450

Call the National Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) on 131 450 to speak to a Council officer.

This is a free service for Council-related business

Contents

Acl	knowled	gement of Country	4
Acl	knowled	gement of Cultural Diversity	5
1.	Public	exhibition consultation period	6
2.	Comm	nunity engagement summary	7
3.	Feedb	ack Review	8
	3.1.	In-person and online meeting feedback	8
	3.2.	Online Survey feedback	8
	3.3.	Key Community Insights	9
4.	Incorp	oration of feedback into IP&R 2025 documents	11
5.	Counc	il Responses and recommended actions	11
	Table 1	: Community insights related to the Community Engagement Strateg	12
	Table 2	: Actions raised for Council response	24
Αp	pendix 1	: Online Survey Responses	39
Ар	pendix 2	: Burren Junction Inc. Written Submission 13.10.25	42
Αp	pendix 3	: CES & CPP – Communication Plan	44
Αp	pendix 4	: A5 Flyer	53
Αр	pendix 6	: Community Feedback Survey	54
Αp	pendix 6	: Community Meeting Presentation	55
Αр	pendix 7	: Council Website Article	61
Apı	pendix 8	: Newspaper and Social media examples	62

Document Control

Issue	Revision	Date	Description	Resolution
Final	1.1	10.11.25	Incorporated into CES final draft for November Ordinary Council meeting presentation	
Adopted	1.3	18.11.25	Adopted	Motion R-16-11- 2025

Acknowledgement of Country

Where we live. Where we work. Where we grow.

Walgett Shire Council acknowledges Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia.

We recognise the continuing connection to lands, waters, and peoples of the Gamilaraay, Yuwaalaraay and Yuwaalayaay of the Gamilaroi Nation located in the Walgett Shire.

We pay respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

Acknowledgment of Cultural Diversity

How to get a copy of this document (in multiple languages)

This document can be translated into alternative languages by calling the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) on 13 14 50.

Arabic

يمكن ترجمة هذا المستند إلى لغات بديلة من خلال Interpretation الاتصال بخدمة الترجمة و الت على الرقم 13 14 50 (TIS)

Chinese (simplified)

您可以通过拨打 13 14 50 联系翻译和 口译服务(TIS), **将此文件翻**译成其 他语言。

Greek

Αυτό το έγγραφο μπορεί να μεταφραστεί σε εναλλακτικές γλώσσες καλώντας την Υπηρεσία Μετάφρασης και Διερμηνείας (TIS) στο 13 14 50.

Hindi

इस दस्तावेज़ का अनुवाद वैकल्पिक भाषाओं में किया जा सकता है, ट्रांस्लेटिंग एंड इंटरप्रेटिंग सर्विस (TIS) पर 13 14 50 पर कॉल करके।

Vietnamese

Tài liệu này có thể được dịch sang các ngôn ngữ khác bằng cách gọi Dịch vụ Phiên dịch và Biên dịch (TIS) theo số 13 14 50.

1. Public exhibition consultation period

The formal exhibition period occurred from 22nd October – 15th November 2025.

The community communication plan is included as Appendix 3. Key elements of the consultation included:

- Council website article (links to documents, brochure, and feedback link) (Appendix 7)
- Newspaper and social media articles/posts (3 posts on Facebook) (Appendix 8)
- Face-Face and online community meetings (63 people attended)
- Poster and PO Box distribution (over 2100 in PO Boxes)
- Information packs distributed to 10 communities (including copies of the draft Strategy document, posters, postcards and hard copy surveys).
- Online Survey responses

62 people attended community meetings, 6 written submissions were received via an online survey and 1 written submission was received at a community meeting.

2. Community engagement summary

During this public exhibition period, Council focused on **how** to effectively engage with the community, **rather than what** actions and activities Council should consider.

While Council welcomed the communities questions a range of actions and activities (see Table 2), there were several new initiatives and redevelopments that reflected on how Council can engage with the community. These are listed below.

1. 'Postcard' Flyer

An A5 light card flyer was produced to introduce the Community
Engagement Strategy and promote upcoming community meeting times.
These flyers were **very well received** as a practical and accessible way to inform residents. Helpful feedback was gathered on how to improve future distribution, ensuring they reach more people across the Shire. (larger images in Appendix 4)







2. Community led meeting

Council welcomed **community-led feedback** on the timing and location of meetings. In response, an **additional session** was held at a venue and time that suited a broader range of residents. Council plans to continue tailoring meetings like this to make participation easier for different community groups.

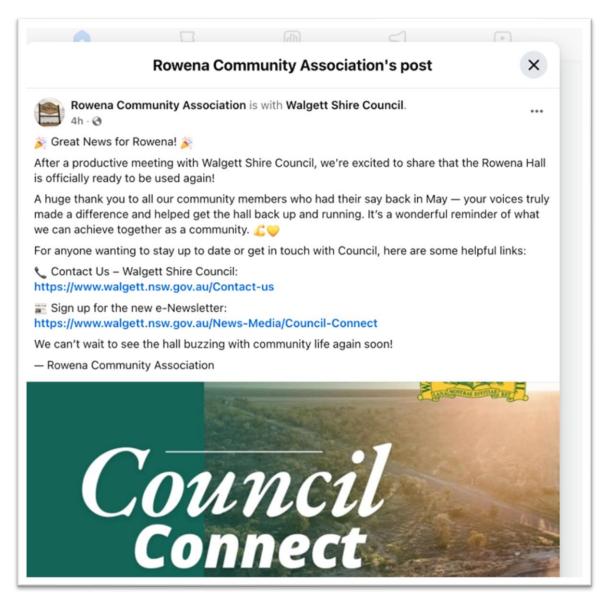
3. New venues

In Collarenebri, Council was invited by the local school to hold a meeting on-site, which allowed both parents and staff to take part. The success of this approach showed the value of **partnering with schools and local venues**, and Council will explore similar partnerships for future engagement activities.

4. Return meetings

Throughout the consultation with the community, consistency of approach was raised as an important factor for building trust and improving partnerships.

Rowen Community Association's social media post was a positive example of a developing Community-Council partnership.





3. Feedback Review

Community feedback was collected by:

- Community meetings (11 in person and 1 online)
- Online Survey (Survey Monkey) link

All responses were reviewed and Council's responses from part of this report – refer Appendix 1 and 2.

3.1. In-person and online meeting feedback

In general, the community feedback highlighted a strong appetite for consistent, face-to-face, and clearly structured engagement. People want Council to measure success, be visible, communicate regularly, and provide local contact points so that trust and participation can grow over time.

Council reaching out to the community

The community identified that successful engagement needs a mix of personal, printed, and digital approaches. Building on trusted local networks and consistent communication will strengthen how Council reaches and listens to its communities.

Community providing feedback to Council

Residents want easier, more responsive ways to share feedback—through local contacts, simple online tools, or supported written responses—and for Council to close the loop by acknowledging and following up on community input.

3.2 Online Survey feedback

A total of six community members provided feedback on the draft Community Engagement Strategy and Community Participation Plan, offering generally positive and constructive suggestions. Most respondents found the documents clear and easy to follow, praising the plain language, layout, and step-by-step guidance. Around 40% felt the plans reflected community needs well, while others saw room to strengthen local relevance. People valued the locality maps, clear explanations, and transparency about when Council will and won't engage, suggesting additions such as a simple "How to Get Involved" guide, clearer staff roles, timeframes for responses, and stronger cultural protocols.

Confidence in Council's listening was divided. Some participants were uncertain that diverse voices — including young people, Aboriginal people, seniors, and people living with disabilities - were heard, while others saw the new Strategy as a positive step forward for inclusion and accessibility. Feedback came from across the Shire- Walgett, Collarenebri, Cumborah, and Lightning Ridge- plus one respondent from outside the area, showing broad interest in improving engagement.



Overall, community members felt the Strategy and Plan are heading in the right direction: clear, inclusive, and practical. The key message was that Council needs to follow through on commitments, ensure all voices are heard, and maintain consistent, local, and personal communication to build long-term trust and participation.

3.3 Key Community Insights

Community feedback shows that the Strategy and Plan are heading in the right direction - clear, inclusive, and practical. People want Council to be visible, consistent, and responsive, providing local contact points, timely communication, and multiple ways to engage and give feedback so that trust and participation continue to grow across the Shire.

The community insights can be summarised into 8 key points and are further expanded on the following page.



Foundations for Engagement

- 1. Measure and improve engagement
- 2. Build a culture of connection
- 3. Be consistent and reliable



Building Connections and Tools

- 4. Strengthen local networks
- 5. Use multiple engagement methods
- 6. Improve communication tools



Feedback and Transparency

- 7. Support people to give feedback
- 8. Plan and communicate timelines



Foundations for Engagement

1. Measure and improve engagement

- Establish clear ways to track and report engagement outcomes.
- Use results to show progress and accountability.

2. Build a culture of connection

- Engagement should be inclusive, consistent, and face-to-face.
- Staff and Councillors need to be visible in communities.
- Tailor approaches for each locality and build long-term partnerships.

3. Be consistent and reliable

- Communicate regularly through trusted local channels.
- Promote Council meetings, reports, and feedback loops to strengthen trust.

Building Connections and Tools

4. Strengthen local networks

- Work with community groups and key locals already sharing information.
- Consider a Locality Liaison Officer model as a single, reliable contact point.

5. Use multiple engagement methods

- Blend personal, printed, and digital communication.
- Rely on word of mouth, local venues, signboards, and newsletters, supported by online channels.
- Ensure printed materials reach tenants and smaller villages where mail delays occur.

6. Improve communication tools

- Develop a simple mobile/web reporting tool (e.g. "See, Snap, Solve").
- Add email alerts and localised updates for residents and visitors.

Feedback and Transparency

7. Support people to give feedback

- Offer help for those less confident with writing or technology.
- Encourage group submissions and always acknowledge responses.

8. Plan and communicate timelines

- Show when and how engagement will occur, allowing enough time for feedback.
- Include multiple check-in points across project stages, not just one.

Working with these key community insights, Walgett Shire Council begin to create meaningful, inclusive, and transparent engagement that resonates with all community members and drives lasting positive change.



4. Incorporation of feedback into IP&R 2025 documents

Where adjustment to the draft Community Engagement Strategy is required, these will be made prior to the final documents being presented at the November 2025 Council meeting.

Where 'Use what we learnt to improve how Council works has been allocated as an action, these comments will form part of the operational activities required to integrate this strategy into Council's standard operations.



5. Council Responses and recommended actions

The following tables list all the community responses received, Council's response and intended action.

- **Table 1: Community insights** related to the Community Engagement Strategy.
- Table 2: Actions raised for Council response.

These responses will be circulated:

- to community contacts and meeting attendees where contact details have been provided
- at the November Ordinary Council Meeting
- in **hardcopy as an Appendix** in the adopted Community Engagement Strategy.

The following table provides an explanation of the terms used.

Term	Description
Community Feedback	Summarised comments received during the consultation
Council Responses	Council response to the community feedback provided.
Action to be taken	Council action after consideration of the feedback. This has been categorised into the following response types:
Response Types	
Amend draft Strategy based on community feedback	Ideas and suggestions will help shape the final version of Council's Community Engagement Strategy.
Work together to build the approach	Council will continue to develop and refine the way we engage, in partnership with our community.
Use what we learnt to improve how Council works	The feedback will guide Council's internal processes and decision-making, so that Council's everyday business continues to improve.
Action included in Annual Operating Plan	Action is already included in this year's Annual operational Plan - reference number is included.
Referred to Council staff for investigation/action	Action requires more time to address. It has been referred to the relevant service area in Council.
Community action required	Council encourages community representatives to progress this action.
Noted	Feedback will form part of the increasing body of community knowledge which will help Council staff consult and deliver for the Shire's community.

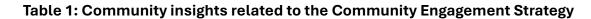




Community Feedback	Council Response	Recommended Action
General comments		
 Measure effectiveness Determine methods and evaluate effectiveness 	Explore as part of the broader engagement plan, to be developed after Community Engagement Strategy is adopted.	Use what we learnt to improve how Council works
 Create a culture of engagement Inform: people not mentioned Consult and Involve: staff and Councillors need to be on the ground meeting with stakeholders. Collaborate & Empower: personalise 'reach out' message, value proposition required for each community, understand your cohort, recognise the impact of an 'adoption curve', partner strategically. 	Amend draft Community Engagement Strategy to provide further clarity. and Explore as part of the broader engagement plan, to be developed after Community Engagement Strategy is adopted.	Amend draft Strategy based on community feedback and Work together to build an approach
 Consistency If Council does something, it needs to do it more than once. The communities need to build trust that the source of information is reliance and consistently used. Community will learn the 'rhythm' of Council's approaches and begin to look there to keep informed (eg. quarterly Annual Operational Plan reports). Awareness of Council meetings and ways to access information would be helpful. 	Explore as part of the broader engagement plan, to be developed after Community Engagement Strategy is adopted.	Work together to build an approach
 Community groups exist in almost all small communities. All of the localities (other than Collarenebri) had community groups. These groups used different approaches to keep their communities informed. Groups were at different stages of development and had different skill sets in use. 	Council recognises that it could play a role in bringing representatives together to support the sharing of ideas and resources amongst the groups – with the view of increasing engagement and awareness, particularly between communities. Council has begun consolidating it's contact register.	Work together to build an approach



Community Feedback	Council Response	Recommended Action
General comments		
 Council and Councillor contact information Many residents did not know who the current Councillors were. Residents required clear direction on which Council staff to contact for queries. No community meeting was able to express clarity about contacting Council or able to identify a method that they found effective. 	Council will now start to actively promote the Councillors representing the Shire, Council's Service Areas and key roles. Council approved a new organisational structure in October Councillor profiles are planned for the first quarterly newsletter – which is currently under development.	Use what we learnt to improve how Council works
 Council Locality Liaison Officers Communities supported the idea of a 'case worker' concept of a single Council contact for their location. This provided a single point of contact, provided continuity and tangible point of contact (a person rather than a phone number or email address). 	 Explore as part of the broader engagement plan, to be developed after Community Engagement Strategy is adopted. Due to the past success and positive feedback received, Council is keen to explore the development of the concepts of 'Council Locality Liaison Officers' and direct council contact pathways. 	Work together to build an approach
 Communicating timelines and planning engagements Residents needed to know the timeframes for consultation and responses. Timeframes needed to be adequately planned for to ensure that the community had sufficient time to engage and comment. Know where the engagement was placed in a project (eg. timeline) was important. Engagement with a community may need to occur more than once in a project, particularly in the early stages of scoping works/activities. 	Explore as part of the broader engagement plan, to be developed after Community Engagement Strategy is adopted.	Use what we learnt to improve how Council works
Draft CES Clarification Draft CES – Item 8.2 Provide examples to explain: legal requirements limit how we can engage.	Amend draft Community Engagement Strategy to provide further clarity.	Amend draft Strategy based on community feedback





Community Feedback	Council Response	Recommended Action
General comments		
Paper documents and accessible language Hard copies of documents are important due to a large segment of the community that doesn't use electronic methods to access Council information. Ensure that council documents are written in accessible language.	Explore as part of the broader engagement plan, to be developed after Community Engagement Strategy is adopted.	Use what we learnt to improve how Council works
Organisation Networks • Council should attend Interagency Meetings	Explore as part of the broader engagement plan, to be developed after Community Engagement Strategy is adopted.	Use what we learnt to improve how Council works





Community Feedback	Council Response	Recommended Action
Council reaching out to the community Location Based		
 Word of mouth Significant in all locations. Identifying key locations/people where information is already passed on is key to maximising the impact of this mode of communication. 	Explore as part of the broader engagement plan, to be developed after Community Engagement Strategy is adopted.	Work together to build the approach
 Locality gathering/information sharing places Burren Junction: Café open 6 days/week Lightning Ridge: IGA, post office, library and bowling club Cumborah: Coffee Club Thursday 10am-12noon Carinda: Store Visitor Information Centres and Rest Areas: key locations for tourists 	Explore as part of the broader engagement plan, to be developed after Community Engagement Strategy is adopted.	Use what we learnt to improve how Council works
 Library is an important location A good place for community activities like art clubs or social groups. Ideal for Council drop-in sessions, especially during the hotter months (such as in Lightning Ridge). Provide a comfortable space to read and access printed information. Attract a mix of people — older residents, families, and those seeking a cool place in summer. 	Explore as part of the broader engagement plan, to be developed after Community Engagement Strategy is adopted.	Use what we learnt to improve how Council works
 Key local contacts All of the smaller communities were able to identify individuals who were conduits for information distribution. Progress Committees/Associations officer holders were included in these, however it was noted that Collarenebri does not have community groups like this. 	Explore as part of the broader engagement plan, to be developed after Community Engagement Strategy is adopted.	Work together to build an approach





Community Feedback	Council Response	Recommended Action
Council reaching out to the community		
 In-person meetings and 'Drop in' sessions Important to do meetings more than once and develop a sense of trust based on listening and appropriate action. Provide the ability for people to 'drop in', ask questions and make comment. Consider cohort specific locations (e.g. age care facilities, youth programs). 	Explore as part of the broader engagement plan, to be developed after Community Engagement Strategy is adopted.	Use what we learnt to improve how Council works
 Signboards Signboards used to promote specific events Specifically mentioned; Collarenebri Pub and Carinda Store 	Explore as part of the broader engagement plan, to be developed after Community Engagement Strategy is adopted.	Work together to build an approach
Council Information locations Places in the local communities where Council leaves hard copy information and updates it on a regular basis. Known locations to review Council information, not reliant on electronic methods (eg. email, internet, social media)	Explore as part of the broader engagement plan, to be developed after Community Engagement Strategy is adopted.	Amend draft Strategy based on community feedback
Building relationships that allow for Council information to be shared on existing electronic notice boards (eg. school notice boards like Collarenebri).	Explore as part of the broader engagement plan, to be developed after Community Engagement Strategy is adopted.	Work together to build an approach
 Local businesses and organisations Identify receptive/supportive locations and provide posters/flyers that can be displayed. Walk around the town and engage with business to improve engagement and understanding of business needs. Locations mentioned included: CWA's, Medical Centres, organisation mail lists like Lighting Ridge Historical Society, Australian Opal Centre, Lightning Ridge Mining Association. 	Explore as part of the broader engagement plan, to be developed after Community Engagement Strategy is adopted.	Work together to build an approach



Community Feedback	Council Response	Recommended Action
Council reaching out to the community		
 Current development processes that hinder community action Burren Junction Inc. shared their Council experience with installing a water tank on Council land. They expressed their difficulty in meeting all the following criteria and expressed frustration at the mixed messaging they received from Council. Progressing master plan actions for the benefit of the community Taking advantage or a financially beneficial offer with a restructured timeframe. Meeting Council's requirements for developing on Council land. 	Standing Development Approval Process Case study process review: Council, together with the Burren Junction community group (BJCA), will look at how a clear process can be set up to help community groups take advantage of new opportunities — while still making sure Council can check planning, safety and maintenance needs before any work goes ahead.	Work together to build an approach
 Developments that involve Community, Council and Crown Lands The difficulty of community grants working being able to be constructed on Council and/or Crown Lands was raised. Lack of a pathway created frustration within the community and limited funding opportunities, and community led development opportunities. 	Development in Partnership Process Case study process review: Work with the community to find planning options that: support projects using community grant funding allow works on Council or Crown land clearly outline who looks after maintenance in the future	Work together to build an approach
Hard copy distribution of Information		
 Local newspapers Council columns are still a useful in informing the residents on Council activities. 	Continue to develop as part of the broader engagement plan, to be developed after Community Engagement Strategy is adopted.	Use what we learnt to improve how Council works
 Council Newsletter Positive feedback when advised that this has been 'rebirthed'. Needs to include hard copy distribution, not just electronic. Rates notice newsletter will not go to rental tenants. 	Continue to develop as part of the broader engagement plan, to be developed after Community Engagement Strategy is adopted.	Use what we learnt to improve how Council works





Community Feedback	Council Response	Recommended Action
Council reaching out to the community		
 Postcard-type flyers The use of post card flyers was positively received and encouraged to be used again. Delivery via Post Office boxes had good coverage but was too late in Lightning Ridge. Content and terminology could be simplified to improve engagement. 	Continue to develop as part of the broader engagement plan, to be developed after Community Engagement Strategy is adopted.	Use what we learnt to improve how Council works
 Posters Are useful in locations where people pass (eg. shop fronts, Post Offices, local businesses). Could also be displayed in areas like campgrounds. 	Continue to develop as part of the broader engagement plan, to be developed after Community Engagement Strategy is adopted.	Use what we learnt to improve how Council works
 Post Box Distribution Effective in Walgett and Lightning Ridge. Timing important Smaller communities such as Collarenebri and Carinda still check mailboxes. Burren Junction residents do not have a timely mail service from Walgett (post goes via Tamworth and can take 2 weeks). No timely postal option here. 	Continue to develop as part of the broader engagement plan, to be developed after Community Engagement Strategy is adopted.	Use what we learnt to improve how Council works
Council Information locations Idea positively received in all locations See comments in 'Location based' section above	Continue to develop as part of the broader engagement plan, to be developed after Community Engagement Strategy is adopted.	Work together to build an approach



Community Feedback Council Response Recommended Action Council reaching out to the community **Electronic copy distribution of Information** Council Website Continue to develop as part of the broader Use what we learnt to Not highly used by residents engagement plan, to be developed after Community improve how Council works Engagement Strategy is adopted. Very important for tourists when planning travel in the Shire. The ability to be able to register for email updates that provides information important for the region (eg. travel, temperature warnings, etc) from the website was raised, example of 'Region Watch' managed by Gladestone Council and reportedly well used as a reliable source of information by residents and tourists alike. Links to tourist information import for travellers. **Emails** Explore as part of the broader engagement plan, to Use what we learnt to Use of email was well used in some communities and not in others. be developed after Community Engagement Strategy improve how Council works is adopted. Email can be a targeted and direct form of communication. The larger centres of Lightning Ridge and Walgett strongly expressed the need not to rely on electronic methods only, as many older people did not engage with any electronic forms of communication. Smaller communities, where residents were more dispersed, relied heavily on email communication (eg. Come By Chance). Email was an effective way to reach groups such as Progress Associations and organisations (eg. Come By Chance Race Club, Rowena and Burren Junction Progress Associations).



Community Feedback	Council Response	Recommended Action
Council reaching out to the community		
 Social Media groups Some localities heavily relied on this form of communication for information sharing. 'Notice boards' were used in Lightning Ridge, Burren junction and Carinda, which were managed by community members. Council does use these to share information directly with individual communities. Some communities had multiple online groups 9eg. Grawin had 3). Travellers look for event pages and traveller information - linking into existing online groups. This is the equivalent of 'word of mouth' often for travellers, providing up-to-date and relevant insights and information from one traveller to another. 	Continue to develop as part of the broader engagement plan, to be developed after Community Engagement Strategy is adopted.	Use what we learnt to improve how Council works
Burren Junction Progress Committee has just launched their own website promoting Burren Junction (www.burrenjunction.com). This website also centralising information such as meeting minutes.	Council to share as an example of local community engagement that is resident driven.	Use what we learnt to improve how Council works
Podcast recordings Not a high priority, but Council could investigate providing audio recordings or key council information(e.g. Monthly newsletters read and recorded by GM/Exec or staff each month)	Explore as part of the broader engagement plan, to be developed after Community Engagement Strategy is adopted.	Work together to build an approach

Community Feedback



Recommended Action

Community providing feedback to Council Work together to build an Support to respond **Explore** as part of the broader engagement plan, to Support community to provide feedback in ways that they feel comfortable: be developed after Community Engagement Strategy approach Opal Community Consultation example where organisations scribed is adopted. for others to enable the submission of written responses (as required for a state government consultation). This was seen as important for cohorts of the community (eg. youth, aged, etc) and was received positively in Carinda and Cumborah. Written responses Explore as part of the broader engagement plan, to Use what we learnt to Groups responses enabled a consolidated and a considered be developed after Community Engagement Strategy improve how Council works community view to be expressed. is adopted. Responses to written submission were important. Customer service - enquiry follow up Council is very aware of the need to improve Use what we learnt to Residents didn't have confidence in queries being responded to when Customer Service response times. improve how Council works All staff were instructed to follow the approaches contacting Council via the main phone number (02 6828 6100) or below on 22.10.25. Council continues to develop IT admin email address (admin@walgett.nsw.gov.au). systems and processes to ensure efficient sharing of Residents generally expressed frustration due to their historical information. experience and poor responses. Acknowledgement of enquiry by 9am the following business day. Even if you do not have the answer, let the Customer know you have the request and give a realistic timeframe. Customer Service team will be taking enquiries and transferring, emailing and phoning these enquiries to relevant officers/departments - they will conduct follow ups of these enquiries to ensure acknowledgment has been made

Council Response





Community Feedback	Council Response	Recommended Action
Community providing feedback to Council		
Community organisations Committees could include a standing item on their agenda: 'What do we want Council to know?' and email minutes to a council contact – rather than relying on face-face meetings.	Council to encourage all community organisations to include additional agenda item.	Work together to build an approach
 'Web portal' type access Residents expressed that it would be good to have a quick way of letting Council know about concerns (eg. sending a photo and a location via a mobile phone - of a pothole or an area that needs unexpected maintenance). Easy access via phone important. Needs to be able to be a quick response. Example of other Councils using 'See, Snap and Solve' portals were mentioned. 	 Explore as part of the broader engagement plan, to be developed after Community Engagement Strategy is adopted. Snap, Send, Solve: Dubbo example Snapping in Dubbo, New South Wales. 	Work together to build an approach
 Locality Liaison Officers The Carinda meeting provided the example of having a single contact that took their concerns back to Council each month. This worked well for them. They saw things getting done and had a single point of contact. 	 Explore as part of the broader engagement plan, to be developed after Community Engagement Strategy is adopted. Due to the past success and positive feedback received, Council is keen to explore the development of the concepts of 'Council Locality Liaison Officers' and direct council contact pathways. 	Work together to build an approach



Community Feedback Council Response Recommended Action

Community providing feedback to Council

Multiple opportunities to engage/respond

• The diagram showing Council's engagement process in the draft document should include opportunities for community input during steps 1,2 and 3 – not just step 3.



Amend draft Community Engagement Strategy to provide further clarity.

Amend draft Strategy based on community feedback



Community Feedback	Council Response	Recommended Action
BURREN JUNCTION - 14.10.25 Community Meeting		
Burren Junction Inc. Committee Website Share beautiful new website internally at Walgett Shire Council. www.burrenjunction.com. (PCPC minutes located here).	Shared internally to General Manager and relevant Council staff on 15 th October, 2025. Response provided by Director Planning,	Noted
	Environment and Economy	
Burren Junction Inc. Feedback to WSC using agenda Burren Junction Inc. to consider adding a standing agenda item - "What we want Council to know?" so that Council can review monthly and act as required.	Council welcomes this suggestion of collaboration and review/respond as items are raised. Items might include but not limited to: Community feedback Maintenance concerns Request for Council attendance Updates on key BJPA future actions	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action Council Staff: Corporate Planning and Reporting Specialist
	Response provided by Director Planning, Environment and Economy	
Burren Junction Inc. Submissions Lack of response to written submissions noted for 2025.	Recommend that all correspondence be cc'd or directed to Donna and Jo to improve Council's response time. Donna Ausling - Director Planning, Environment and Economy Dausling@walgett.nsw.gov.au Jo Dodds - Corporate Planning and Reporting Specialist. Jdodds@walgett.nsw.gov.au Response provided by Director Planning,	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action Council Staff: Corporate Planning and Reporting Specialist
	Environment and Economy	
WSC attending Burren Junction Inc. meetings Request for Council attendance at some Burren Junction Inc. meetings.	Donna Ausling and Jo Dodds to review dates suitable for remote attendance. Council will aim to attend 2-3 per year. Response provided by Director Planning, Environment and Economy	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action Council Staff: Corporate Planning and Reporting Specialist





Community Feedback	Council Response	Recommended Action
Burren Junction Inc. Christmas Party Invite Burren Junction Inc. to invite council to Christmas Party to enable the community to discuss Council issues (as appropriate with party setup).	Burren Junction progress Committee to send invite to Council – attention: Donna Ausling and Jo Dodds.	Community action recommended Burren Junction Inc.
Bore Chanel Work Work not completed	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action and discussion with the community.	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action Council Staff: Manager Water and Wastewater
\$3K Council Community Grants Currently not advertised on the Council website or within the most recent Grants newsletter. Grants Specialist is currently working with the Progress Association to submit applications to both Crown Lands and Club grants for the Sportsground upgrades.	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action. Council Staff: Grant	
	Progress Association to submit applications to both Crown Lands and Club grants for the Sportsground	Specialist
	Response provided by Grants Specialist	
Staffing Concerns Concerns raised about the support offered to solo employees supporting Burren Junction.	If the Burren Junction community wish to discuss this further, please contact Council's, Chief People and Culture Officer. The Community's concerns have been raised with Chief People and Culture Officer.	Noted
Regional Airport Grant What happened to this grant for Burren Juction Airport?	Grant application preparation to the Crown Reserve Improvement Fund in progress. Response provided by Grants Specialist	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action. Council Staff: Grant Specialist
		26/27 Annual Operating Plan Consideration



Comm	unity Feedback	Council Response	Recommended Action
Burren Ju	g Development Approval Process unction Inc. shared their Council experience with installing a nk on Council land.	Case study process review: Corporate Planning and Reporting Specialist to initiate an internal Council review (with BJCA included) to see if a process can be established that enables community groups to capitalise on unexpected opportunities, while ensuring Council has the opportunity to review planning, risk and maintenance requirements prior to works being completed. Response provided by Corporate Planning and Reporting Specialist	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action Council Staff: Corporate Planning and Reporting Specialist
Burren J	unction Inc Priority List 1: 'Submitted response to Council follow	ring June GM revised version' - attached.	
Item 1:	BJ Sports Precinct The Oval: vision for the Burren Junction Sports Precinct shared with Council.	Grants Specialist is currently working with the Progress Association to submit applications to both Crown Lands and Club grants for the Sportsground upgrades. Response provided by Grants Specialist	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action Council Staff: <i>Grants</i> Specialist 26/27 Annual Operating Plan Consideration
	The Amenities Building: review timing and provision of services	Refer above response.	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action Council Staff: Manager – Urban Services
	The Kitchen: explanation of the allocation of \$420,050 dollars for a portable kitchen at the sportsground.	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action and discussion with the community.	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action Council Staff: Manager – Urban Services
Item 2:	Bore Baths Breakdown of how the \$100,000 allocated annually to the Burren Junction Bore Baths is spent.	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action and discussion with the community.	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action Council Staff: Manager – Water and Wastewater
Item 3:	Airstrip Further explanation:	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action and discussion with the community.	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action



Comn	nunity Feedback	Council Response	Recommended Action
	 no budget allocation for maintenance of the Burren Junction Airstrip. We have been told that the ADF pays an annual fee to use this facility for training purposes. If this is correct, we believe maintenance of this strip should be budgeted for. 		Council Staff: Work Health and Safety Specialist 26/27 Annual Operating Plan Consideration
Item 4:	Roads Burren Junction Inc. concern regarding general road maintenance in the area Annual Operating Plan 5.1.1 'Manage the road network to respond to community needs, growth in the shire, improving road safety and improving transport options'.	This financial year, Council plans to deliver drainage upgrades along Hastings, Waterloo, Alma, Slack-Smith, Corunna, and Balaclava Streets to improve stormwater management and reduce localised water ponding. Response provided by Manager - Roads	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action Council Staff: Manager - Roads
BJPA Pr	iority List 2: Request from the Burren Progress Committee to the S	hire Council, 20.10.2025	
Item 1:	Truck Stop Burren Junction Inc. would like to work with the Shire to apply for funding for a heavy vehicle truck stop in Burren Junction on the Kamilaroi Highway (further detail in attached submission).	Transport for NSW currently has a designated rest area on the Kamilaroi Highway, west of Burren Junction, approved for both light and heavy vehicles. https://maps.transport.nsw.gov.au/egeomaps/restareas/index.html# Response provided by Manager - Roads	Noted
Item 2:	Sports Precinct Work with the Shire to apply for a sports infrastructure grant or Club's grant (further detail in attached submission).	Grants Specialist is currently working with the Progress Association to submit applications to both Crown Lands and Club grants for the Sportsground upgrades. Response provided by Grants Specialist	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action Council Staff: Grants Specialist 26/27 Annual Operating Plan Consideration
Item 3:	Signage Burren Junction Inc. is committed to improving the signage around Burren, particularly at the Bore Baths and increasing the town's attractiveness to tourists (further detail in attached submission).	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action and discussion with the community.	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action Council Staff: Manager – Urban Services





Comr	nunity Feedback	Council Response	Recommended Action
Item 4:	The Bore Ongoing management and opportunity for future development (further detail in attached submission).	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action and discussion with the community.	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action Council Staff: Manager – Water and Wastewater and Manager – Communications and Tourism
	The Airstrip Partnership to apply for a remote airstrip upgrade grant (further detail in attached submission).	Grant application preparation to the Crown Reserve Improvement Fund in progress. Response provided by Grants Specialist	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action.
			Council Staff: Grant Specialist



Community Feedback	Council Response	Recommended Action
COLLARENEBRI - 15.10.25 Community Meeting		
Youth Activities Desire to see more opportunities and aware of the benefits.	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action and discussion with the community.	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action Council Staff: Manager – Community Development and Director Planning, Environment and Economy
Recreational Facility based around the tennis courts Tennis coaching programs (Grant sponsored), weekly competitions (local volunteers?) and introduction of Pickle Ball competitions for adult/children. This would require: Upgrade of tennis court. Reconstruction of toilets (cnr Barwon and Queen St). Ongoing development programs eg. Holiday coaching programs.	Council to work with the community to develop an Action Plan to facilitate appropriate grant funding applications.	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action Council Staff: Director Planning, Environment and Economy 26/27 Annual Operating Plan Consideration
General upgrade of urban facilities to enable community gathering.		
Skate Facility Consider enlarging skate park.	Consider need as part of the Sports and Recreation internal review (AOP 4.2.1.53)	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action Council Staff: Manager – Urban Services and Manager – Community Development
		26/27 Annual Operating Plan Consideration
Community Gathering Space Determine outcome of hall (community do not want money spent on restoring it – too far gone. Identify ither possibilities for community gathering spaces.	Council to explore developing an action plan with community that incorporates community gathering places.	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action Council Staff: Director Corporate and Community 26/27 Annual Operating Plan Consideration



Community Feedback	Council Response	Recommended Action
LIGHTNING RIDGE – 13/15.10.25 Community Meetings		
Bore Bath Signage Community feel it is embarrassing.	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action and discussion with the community.	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action Council Staff: Manager – Urban Services and Manager – Communication and Tourism 26/27 Annual Operating Plan
Historic LR projects VIC Grant of \$2.4m: Where did the money go?	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action and discussion with the community.	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action Council Staff: Director Planning, Environment and Economy
Pandora St Roundabout and VIC relocation project Pandora St Roundabout and VIC relocation project (2000 project): What happened to it? It got to pre-tender stage.	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action and discussion with the community.	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action Council Staff: <i>Director</i> Planning, Environment and Economy
Tourism Brochures Brochures in circulation at LR VIC do to community member funds and personalised grant. • Birds • Geology • Plants	Council to review brochure production.	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action Council Staff: Manager – Communication and Tourism

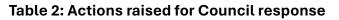


Community Feedback	Council Response	Recommended Action
Security at Camps No overnight police presence and number of break-ins on comps is rising. Community member has contacts over 6 different organisations for delivery of security educational programs and has no success.	Partner with community members to develop and deliver 'Protecting you Camp' educational programs.	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action Council Staff: Director Planning, Environment and Economy
Lorne Rd Access Provide Community with an update	Walgett Shire Council, NSW Resources and Crown Lands (contact details below) working together to resolve the complex issue. NSW Public Works recently engaged Douglas Partners Pty Ltd to carry out geological investigations. Regional Operations West Crown Lands - West Region - Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure P 1300 886 235	Action included in Annual Operating Plan Refer community to Q1 AOP Report for update. (AOP 2.2.1.13)
	Manager Legacy Mines Program Governance and Operations Mining, Exploration and Geoscience Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development P 02 4931 6600	Community action recommended
	Response provided by Manager - Roads	
Bird Hides Opportunity to develop bird hides on either Council or Crown Land.	Explore planning options with community member that allow at least the following: Use of community grants funding Construction on either Council or Crown Lands Ongoing maintenance responsibilities	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action Council Staff: Director Planning, Environment and Economy and Manager – Urban Services
	Use a s test case and document process for future use.	





Community Feedback	Council Response	Recommended Action
		26/27 Annual Operating Plan Consideration
Seating Provide seating within Lightning Ridge (high pedestrian areas).	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action and discussion with the community.	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action Council Staff: Manager – Urban Services 26/27 Annual Operating Plan Consideration
Footpath to Cemetery Extend footpath access to enable mobility scooter access to Cemetery.	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action and discussion with the community.	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action Council Staff: Manager – Urban Services
Rates information Specific community member request for information.	Rates Specialist contacted community member, emailed a copy of this year's Revenue Policy and encouraged the community member to call back with any further questions. Response provided by Rates Specialist	No further action required.
Lightning Ridge Tip Road Specific community member requests: all weather access (?)	Access track to the Lightning Ridge Tip is on Crown Land. All enquiries should be directed to: Regional Operations West Crown Lands - West Region - Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure P 1300 886 235 Response provided by Manager - Roads	Community action recommended
Pool Contract update Information of assessment of contract in light of the contract ending in June 2026.	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action and discussion with the community.	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action Council Staff: Director Corporate and Community





Community Feedback	Council Response	Recommended Action
		and Manager – Community Development
Highway Intersection Safety Community concerned about safety at Castlereagh Hwy and Collarenebri turnoff (specific location mentioned).	State highways are not Council's responsibility. Concerns should be raised with Transport Management Centre - ph 13 17 00. Response provided by Manager - Roads	
Bike track to Castlereagh Hwy Request to consider as a potential exercise resource.	Consider need as part of the Sports and Recreation internal review (AOP 4.2.1.53)	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action Council Staff: Manager – Urban Services and Manager – Community Development
		26/27 Annual Operating Plan Consideration
Waste Management Strategy Community member wanting to be involved in consultation during strategy development.	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action and discussion with the community. Refer update in AOP Q1 Progress Update Report – AOP 2.2.1.13.	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action: Council Staff: Director Planning, Environment and Economy
Community attendance at Council meetings A community member would like to know if they can attend meetings in person.	Council confirmed with the community member that the public are welcome at Ordinary Council Meetings. Council meeting dates, agendas and minutes, live recordings and application to speak at meetings area all available on the Council's website.	No further action required



Community Feedback	Council Response	Recommended Action
CUMBORAH – 16.10.25 Community Meeting		
Notice board Location Move notice board location to the township's main intersection (Wiby Rd and Walgett St).	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action and discussion with the community.	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action Council Staff: Manager – Urban Services
Directional Signage 'Grawin Opal Fields' directional signage has fallen over and impacts tourists.	New sign has been ordered and will be installed in the next couple of weeks. Council is in contact with local community regarding placement. Response provided by Manager - Roads	
Bin storage Town bin storage frame has rusted and needs repair.	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action and discussion with the community.	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action Council Staff: <i>Manager –</i> <i>Urban Services</i>
Tourist Signage Improve tourist information within the town.	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action and discussion with the community.	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action Council Staff: Manager – Communications and Tourism
Memorial Wall Community happy with agreed actions to finalise.	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action and discussion with the community.	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action Council Staff: Manager – Urban Services
Councillor Promotion Those present don't know who the Councillors are, so would find it difficult to contact them	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action and discussion with the community.	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action Council Staff: Manager – Communications and Tourism





Community Feedback	Council Response	Recommended Action
Fire Shed • Sale of land to Council	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action and discussion with the community.	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action Council Staff: Director Planning, Environment and Economy
Maintenance of pipework and gutter	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action and discussion with the community.	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action Council Staff: <i>Property</i> Coordinator

ROWENA – 14.10.25 Community Meeting		
Water connection to Community Hall - Grant assistance Association would like assistance with grant application to enable water connection.	Council to support Association to pursue grant	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action Council Staff: <i>Grants</i> Specialist
Rowena Community Hall Access: to confirm how to access	Renovations have been completed, and community access has since been arranged. Response provided by Property Coordinator	No further action required.
Bookings: current process and fees/bond requirements	Application for Hire of Facilities and Fees and Charges Schedule provided to Rowena progress Association on 21.10.25. Response provided by Customer Services and Records Coordinator	No further action required.
Cleaning: approach	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action and discussion with the community.	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action Council Staff: Property Coordinator



Community Feedback Council Response Recommended Action GRAWIN - 16.10.25 Community Meeting Road management after rain Council operates under strict legislative No further action required. Council road management often delayed after rain. Community could do requirements and engages contractors to undertake road maintenance works. Each financial year, it quicker - with privately owned machinery. Council invites tenders for plant hire to establish a panel of local and regional contractors who can be engaged as required. Response provided by Manager - Roads Action included in Annual Tourism Experience - Grawin Opal Fields Referred to Council staff for investigation/action and Travellers are looking for an Opal Fiels experience outside of Lightning discussion with the community. Operating Plan Refer update in AOP Q1 Progress Update Report -Ridge. Council Staff: Manager -AOP 3.2.1.1.07 Tourism - Tourism Destination Have a fossicking experience Communications and Management Plan. Be aware of the attractions Tourism Have clear directions **Tourist Information** Referred to Council staff for investigation/action and Action included in Annual Locate council and attraction information relevant to tourists at rest areas discussion with the community. Operating Plan Refer update in AOP Q1 Progress Update Report and all villages. Council Staff: Manager -Key information includes: AOP 3.2.1.1.07 Tourism - Tourism Destination Communications and Water to refill caravans Management Plan. Tourism Waste dump points Camping locations



Community Feedback	Council Response	Recommended Action
COME BY CHANCE – 17.10.25 Community Meeting		
Village Road Update Progress update requested. Access on wet road is impacting community event access (e.g. catering delivery)	Colless Street is scheduled for construction this financial year. Refer update in AOP Q1 Progress Update Report - AOP 3.2.1.1.07. Response provided by Manager - Roads	Action included in Annual Operating Plan
Come by Change to Piliga Road Sealing Community would like a written explanation about why the grant funding wasn't used to complete this works (historic reasons).	The council sought grant funding from two sources to use for the Come By Chance Road upgrade, amounting to \$12,430,000. This funding is unable to be used on any works other than the Come By Chance Road Upgrade and will be used here in its entirety. The length of the road upgrade was reduced to ensure that the road was built to a higher quality than originally specified. This included additional earthworks to raise road levels in high-risk flood locations, additional drainage lines, improved pavement layers and spray seal. As a result, Council revised the project to deliver approximately 31 kms within the available funding. Despite Council's continued advocacy, additional funding was not provided by the funding bodies to complete the entire length.	No further action required.
Update on scheduling of this work	Council has flagged this project subject to grant funding. Refer update in AOP Q1 Progress Update Report - AOP 2.2.1.56. Response provided by Manager - Roads	Action included in Annual Operating Plan
BBQ in playground Not installed as part of the 'Better Cities' (?) grant.	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action and discussion with the community.	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action Council Staff: Manager – Urban Services and Grants Specialist



Community Feedback	Council Response	Recommended Action
Ongoing Road Closures Ongoing road closures at the S bends (CBC- Piliga Rd) due to the contractor taking gravel for other construction works (Council related). Liaise with Clr Kier for exact location. Community believes there was mismanagement by Council for not holding the Contractor responsible for not rectifying this work. Community disgusted.	This area of the Project has been difficult due its low lying nature and tendency to be inundated with water. The Contractor has focused on this area in recent months to raise the earthworks levels to ultimately improve flood immunity of the road at this location. Council apologises for any inconvenience to the community while this has remained an active construction area. Council has been actively monitoring the contractor's performance and works are being carried out as per contractual obligations and under Council's supervision to ensure compliance with agreed standards. Response provided by Manager - Roads	No further action required.

Procurement process Contract present interested in knowing more about Council's new procurement processes.	A community member contacted by Council and discussed Council's panel tender & Regional Procurement process. Response provided by Procurement Specialist / Stores	No further action required.
Activity awareness Community keen to know about council activities and resources in other parts of the Shire.	Council to explore including information in the monthly newsletter and other information sources. Referred to Council staff for investigation/action and discussion with the community.	Referred to Council staff for investigation/action Council Staff: Manager – Communications and Tourism

Walgett Community Meetings

Note: no actions requiring response were raised in the Walgett Community Meetings held on the 13th and 15th October 2025.

Appendix 1: Online Survey Responses

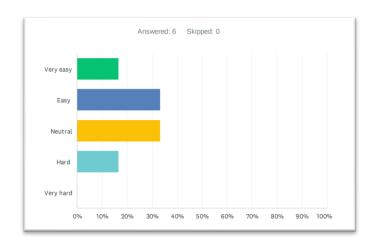


Question 1.

How easy was the Community Engagement Strategy and Community Participation Plan to read and understand?

Response options:

- Very easy
- Easy
- Neutral
- Hard
- Very hard

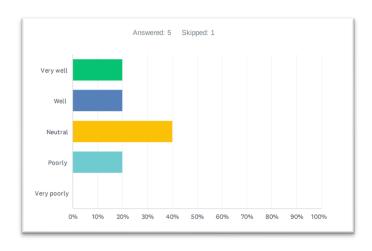


Question 2.

How well do you think the documents reflect the needs and priorities of our community?

Response options:

- Very well
- Well
- Neutral
- Poorly
- Very poorly



Appendix 1: Online Survey Responses



Question 3.

What parts of the Community Engagement Strategy and Community Participation Plan were clear and easy to understand, and what parts could be improved?

Question 3 Resp	Question 3 Responses					
Response 1	There is no reference to the staff's role in engagement. This is a missed opportunity for trust building and effective engagement.					
Response 2	Great visual communication and practical guidance. The locality map showing community-specific priorities. The plain language approach and the step-by-step submission guidelines. Demonstration of transparency "When we won't engage". Some repetition, use of abbreviations without glossary, Outcome commitments are vague (when will submissions be acknowledged? how quickly will decisions be communicated?). Lacks specific culturally responsive protocols/approaches. Add in a Quick How to Get Involved guide.					
Response 3	-					
Response 4	All of it :-)					
Response 5	-					
Response 6	-					

Question 4.

How confident are you that Council listens to and includes a wide range of voices in its decisions (e.g. young people, Aboriginal people, seniors, people with disability)?

Question 4 Resp	ponses
Response 1	I'm not confident.
Response 2	In the past community engagement has been minimal although current activities seem very positive. Based on the document the strategy explicitly names diverse groups, establishes social justice principles framework, offers translation services and acknowledges barriers like language, technology access, and social isolation.
Response 3	Council does not listen to marginalised people voices.
Response 4	Super-duper confident.
Response 5	-
Response 6	-

Appendix 1: Online Survey Responses

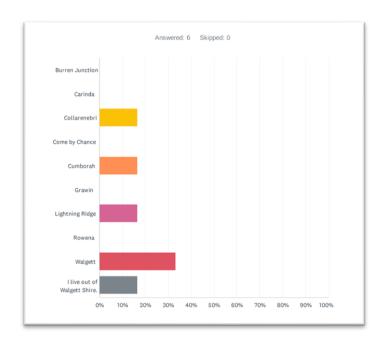


Question 5.

Where do you call 'home'?

Response options:

- Burren Junction
- Carinda
- Collarenebri
- Come by Chance
- Cumborah
- Grawin
- Lightning Ridge
- Rowena
- Walgett
- I live out of Walgett Shire.

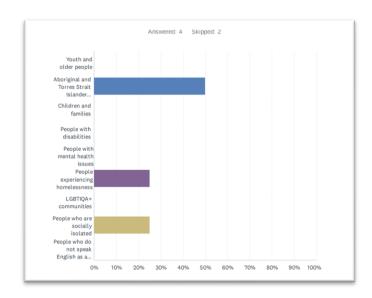


Question 6.

Do you identify with any of these groups within our community?

Response options:

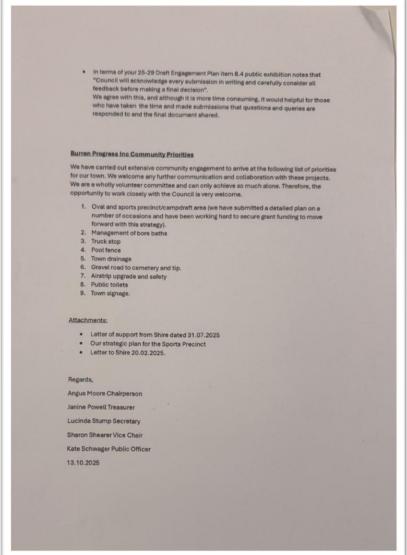
- Youth and older people
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities
- Children and families
- People with disabilities
- People with mental health issues
- People experiencing homelessness
- LGBTIQA+ communities
- People who are socially isolated
- People who do not speak English as a first language



Appendix 2: Burren Junction Inc. Written Submission 13.10.25









CES & CPP - Community Consultation, September 2025

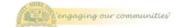


Public Consultation Dates (28-day public exhibition): Wed 24.9.25 - Wed 22.10.25

	Week 1	Week 2 Mon 29.9.25 – Sun 5.10.25	Week 3 Mon 6.10.25 – Sun 12.10.25	Week 4	Week 5 Mon 20.10.25 – Wed 22.10.25
Communication Name	Wed 24.9.25 – Sun 28.9.25			Mon 13.10.25 – Sun 19.10.25	
WSC Website Article	Uploaded Wednesday 24.9.25	j			
PO Box Distribution					
Info / Feedback Brochure					
Community Awareness: Digital Displays					
Community Awareness: Poster 'On Exhibition'			-11		
Online Community Meetings (4 in total)		Wednesday, 1.10.25			
In-Person Community Meetings (12 in total)				Monday 13.10.25 Walgett:5pm Lightning Ridge: 7.30pm Tuesday 14.10.25 Rowena: 5pm Burren Junction: 7.30 pm Wednesday 15.10.25 Walgett: 10 am Lightning Ridge: 2pm Collarenebri: 6pm Thursday 16.10.25 Grawin 10 am Cumborah: 12pm Carinda: 6pm Friday 17.10.25 CBC: 8 am	Wednesday22.10.25 ■ Collarenebri: 3.30pm
Partnership Organisations Promo - email	Information sent 24.9.25				



CES & CPP - Community Consultation, September 2025



Public Consultation Dates (28-day public exhibition): Wed 24.9.25 - Wed 22.10.25

	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	
Communication Name	Wed 24.9.25 – Sun 28.9.25	Mon 29.9.25 – Sun 5.10.25	Mon 6.10.25 – Sun 12.10.25	Mon 13.10.25 – Sun 19.10.25	Mon 20.10.25 – Wed 22.10.25	
Partnership Org Meeting (2 in total)						
Staff Presentation		Online video PowerPoint shared via email				
Response capture - online				,		
Response capture – hard copy				~		
Newspaper Articles		The Walgett Spector The Western Herald Western Plains App (Digital)				
WSC Social Media	Announcement	Min. one per week	Min. one per week	Min. one per week		

Public Participation Spectrum: Involve (Collaborate)

Link to Content: see following pages

Link to meeting schedule: <u>CES+CPP Community</u> Consultation Meetings Schedule August 2025.docx

INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.	To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions.	To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.	To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.	To place final decision making in the hands of the public.
We will keep you informed.	We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will look to you for advice and innovation in formulating solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible.	We will implement what you decide.

CES & CPP Communication Plan August 2025



ţ)

CES & CPP - Community Consultation, September 2025



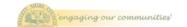
Public Consultation Dates (28-day public exhibition): Wed 24.9.25 - Wed 22.10.25

Communication Name	Short Description and Objectives	Audience	Communication Channel	Responsible for delivery	Follow up Actions & Comments
WSC Website Article / Public Exhibition Notice	Website Article: Explain CES and CPP purpose Explain how they community can be involved by using this document Seek local comments/feedback Includes links to draft document	Local community	WSC website 1 article	Sherisse	Written Uploaded on website Date: Wed 24.9.25 Draft Community Engagement Strategy & Community Participation Plan
Media Release	Media Release for website, sent to media outlets including Spectator ,2Web, Western Herald, WAP and Opal FM which service the local area.	Local Community	Media Release	Sherisse	Brill Continued Tangament Vision & Continued To Continued
Document hard copies	Hard Copies of Draft Strategy/Plan at Council Offices & Libraries, Rowena Pub/Post Office, Collarenebri Service Agency and Carinda Post Office	Local Community	Hard Copies	Jo D / Debbie	WSC 25-29 Community Engagemen Strategy Public Exhibition Revision 1.1.docx
Council Column	Notification in Council Column that document adopted at Nov Council Meeting.	Local community	The Walgett Spectator The Western Herald The Western Plains App (digital)	Sherisse	
WSC Social Media	Separate social media posts: Explain CES and CPP purpose Explain how they community can be involved by using this document Seek local comments/feedback	Local community	WSC Facebook page eg_ 4 posts	Sherisse	Post 1 Post 2 Weekly content Uploaded on socials Comments monitored and captured as feedback

CES & CPP Communication Plan August 2025



CES & CPP - Community Consultation, September 2025



Public Consultation Dates (28-day public exhibition): Wed 24.9.25 - Wed 22.10.25

Short Description and Objectives	Audience	Communication Channel	Responsible for delivery	Follow up Actions & Comments	
Emails to Interagency, progress associations, key community contacts, businesses, Indigenous Organisations	Targeted Community members	Email	Sherisse	Sent 24.9.2025 – Media Contacts, Interagency (Sent on 9/10/2025, I tried to send it earlier via just email the secretary but they did not pass onto the group), BJ Progress, Carinda Contacts. Will do more targeted emails.	
Email Explain CES and CPP purpose Invitation to promote to own client list Invitation to attend partnership org consultation meeting	Partnership Organisations	F2F with the ability for people to attend remotely	Donna A	Keep a record of who they emails were sent to. WAMS and DEG EOI to interagency	
Promotional brochure – see below					
One Page Explainer: for promotional purposes summarises key points for a basic understanding needs to include community meeting times and locations include space for hardcopy feedback responses	Local community Councillors Staff	Use for PO Box drop and countertop distribution Use content for: Social media posts Website link content	Sherisse Jo (content)	 Printing Distribution to Walgett, LR and Colly PO's Print as A5, double sided in house CES Summary Flyer Updated.pdf 	
Feedback Survey Quantitative and qualitative feedback Data collection questions for Council Include links to Website article and online survey link include space for hardcopy feedback responses	Local community	Council offices Council Libraries Council Visitor Information Centres Community meetings	Jo	PDF – print on A4 paper Feedback Survey Hard Copy CES_CPP Sept 2025.pdf Word – A3 copy Feedback Survey Hard Copy CES_CPP Sept 2025.docx	
Display promotion: Exhibition period Consultation program QR code to website	Local community	Digital Display Boards	Sherisse	Walgett Office Online	
	Emails to Interagency, progress associations, key community contacts, businesses, Indigenous Organisations Email Explain CES and CPP purpose Invitation to promote to own client list Invitation to attend partnership org consultation meeting Promotional brochure – see below One Page Explainer: for promotional purposes summarises key points for a basic understanding needs to include community meeting times and locations include space for hardcopy feedback responses Feedback Survey Quantitative and qualitative feedback Data collection questions for Council Include links to Website article and online survey link include space for hardcopy feedback responses Display promotion: Exhibition period Consultation program	Emails to Interagency, progress associations, key community contacts, businesses, Indigenous Organisations Email Email Explain CES and CPP purpose Invitation to promote to own client list Invitation to attend partnership org consultation meeting Promotional brochure – see below One Page Explainer: for promotional purposes summarises key points for a basic understanding needs to include community meeting times and locations include space for hardcopy feedback responses Feedback Survey Quantitative and qualitative feedback Data collection questions for Council Include links to Website article and online survey link include space for hardcopy feedback responses Display promotion: Exhibition period Consultation program Local community	Email to Interagency, progress associations, key community contacts, businesses, Indigenous Organisations Email Email Email Explain CES and CPP purpose Invitation to promote to own client list Invitation to attend partnership org consultation meeting Promotional brochure – see below One Page Explainer: for promotional purposes summarises key points for a basic understanding needs to include community meeting times and locations include space for hardcopy feedback responses Feedback Survey Quantitative and qualitative feedback Connect on the formation questions for Council Include links to Website article and online survey link include space for hardcopy feedback responses Display promotion: Exhibition period Community members Fargeted Community members Local community Coganisations Fagr with the ability for people to attend remotely Local community Councillors Staff Use for PO Box drop and countertop distribution Use content for: Social media posts Website link content Council Usiator Information Centres Council Visitor Information Centres Community meetings Digital Display Boards	Email to Interagency, progress associations, key community contacts, businesses, Indigenous Organisations Email Email Email Email Explain CES and CPP purpose Invitation to promote to own client list Invitation to attend partnership org consultation meeting Promotional brochure – see below One Page Explainer: Invitation to include community meeting times and locations include space for hardcopy feedback responses Feedback Survey Cuantitative and qualitative feedback Data collection questions for Council Include links to Website article and online survey link include space for hardcopy feedback responses Display promotion: Exhibition period Community Targeted Community Organisations F2F with the ability for people to attend remotely F2F with the ability for people to attend remotely F2F with the ability for people to attend remotely F2F with the ability for people to attend remotely F2F with the ability for people to attend remotely F2F with the ability for people to attend remotely F2F with the ability for people to attend remotely F2F with the ability for people to attend remotely F2F with the ability for people to attend remotely F2F with the ability for people to attend remotely F2F with the ability for people to attend remotely F2F with the ability for people to attend remotely F2F with the ability for people to attend remotely F2F with the ability for people to attend remotely F2F with the ability for people to attend remotely F2F with the ability for people to attend remotely F2F with the ability for people to attend remotely F2F with the ability for people to attend remotely F2F with the ability for people to attend remotely F2F with the ability for people to attend remotely F2F with the ability for people to attend remotely F2F with the ability for people to attend remotely F2F with the ability for people to attend remotely F2F with the ability for people to attend remotely F2F with the ability for people to attend remotely F2F with the ability for people to attend re	



CES & CPP - Community Consultation, September 2025



Public Consultation Dates (28-day public exhibition): Wed 24.9.25 - Wed 22.10.25

Communication Name	Short Description and Objectives	Audience	Communication Channel	Responsible for delivery	Follow up Actions & Comments
Community Awareness: Poster 'On Exhibition'	Poster: 'Promotion' • QR code link to website article	Local community	Libraries Local businesses Council facilities Community notice boards	Sherisse	Printing People to distribute Lightning Ridge Office: Lightning Ridge Library: Lightning Ridge VIC: Walgett Office: Walgett Library/VIC: Colly: Carinda: Grawin: B Junction: Rowena: Cumborah:
In-Person Community Meetings (11 in total)	On location workshops: Explain CES and CPP purpose Explain how they community can be involved by using this document Seek local comments/feedback	Local community	F2F meetings Towns: 1 daytime & 1 evening Walgett Lightning Ridge Villages: 1 x proposed times Collarenebri Carinda, Burren Junction Cumborah: Come by Chance Grawin Rowena	Jo D: content Donna and Jo D: minimum attendance	 Venues and refreshments No RSVP required Hard copy handouts for attendees Min 2 document hard copies available to leave with the community Min additional 3 for review during meeting Venue organisation: Debbie S Catering: Debbie S
Online Presentations (4 in total)	Online workshops: Explain CES and CPP purpose Explain how they community can be involved by using this document Seek local comments/feedback	Local community	Wednesday, 1.10.25 Online 1: 10 am Online 2: 7pm Thursday, 2.10.25 Online 3: 1pm Online 4: 7pm	Daytime: Jo D, DS Nighttime: Jo D	Online meeting invite (Teams? PowerPoint presentation Resources in electronic form to be able to share/email
ES & CPP Communication F	Plan August 2025				Page 6



CES & CPP - Community Consultation, September 2025



Public Consultation Dates (28-day public exhibition): Wed 24.9.25 - Wed 22.10.25

Communication Name	Short Description and Objectives	Audience	Communication Channel	Responsible for delivery	Follow up Actions & Comments
Partnership Org Meetings (2 in total)	Partnership org workshops: Explain CES and CPP purpose Explain how they community can be involved by using this document Seek org comments/feedback re: reaching vulnerable cohorts	Partnership Organisations	F2F meetings	Donna A (Jo D in attendance)	WAMS and DEG EOI to interagency Venues and refreshments No RSVP required Hard copy handouts for attendees Min 2 document hard copies available to leave with the community Min additional 3 for review during meeting Venue organisation: Debbie S Catering: Debbie S
Staff Presentations	Staff Presentations: Explain CES and CPP purpose Explain how they community can be involved by using this document Seek operational comments/feedback to consider	Council staff	Online video PowerPoint shared via email	Jo D	PowerPoint presentation Resources in electronic form to be able to share/email
Response capture - online	Survey Monkey Online Survey Set up to capture via separate surveys Design to capture info relevant to cohorts	Local community Staff Partner Orgs	Survey Monkey x 2 Community Staff Partner Orgs	Jo D	Survey design Survey Monkey set up with QR codes
Response capture – hard copy	Use Info / Feedback Brochure	Local community Staff	Consultation meetings Brochures at Council locations (Offices, Libraries, VIC's)	Jo D	PrintingDistribution

CES & CPP Communication Plan August 2025



CES & CPP - Community Consultation, September 2025



Public Consultation Dates (28-day public exhibition): Wed 24.9.25 - Wed 22.10.25

Communication Name	Short Description and Objectives	Audience	Communication Channel	Responsible for delivery	Follow up Actions & Comments
Newspaper Articles	Interview with Mayor and GM: Explain CES and CPP purpose	Local community	The Walgett Spectator 1 article	Sherisse	Organised with journalists
	Explain how they community can be involved by using this document Seek local comments/feedback		The Western Herald 1 article		To include: Core messaging Consultation opportunities Feedback
Council Report	For submission with Final Draft for adoption	Council Meeting	Council Report	Jo D	 Ready for November Council meeting.

CES & CPP Communication Plan August 2025



CES & CPP - Community Consultation, September 2025



Public Consultation Dates (28-day public exhibition): Wed 24.9.25 - Wed 22.10.25

Survey Questions

Question	Focus	Reason for asking			
How easy was the Community Engagement Strategy and Community Participation Plan to read and understand?	1. Clarity & Accessibility	Tests readability, plain English use, and accessibility — important under NSW IP&R and IAP2 principles.			
 Very easy Easy Neutral Hard Very hard 					

"What parts of the Community Engagement Strategy and Community Participation Plan were clear and easy to understand, and what parts could be improved?

2. Usefulness &

Relevance

Tests whether the content feels relevant, inclusive,

and aligned with community expectations.

How well do you think the documents reflect the needs and priorities of our community?

- Very well
- Well
- Neutral
- Poorly
- · Very poorly

How confident are you that Council listens to and includes a wide range of voices in its decisions (e.g. young people, Aboriginal people, seniors, people with disability)?

Open ended

Open ended

CES & CPP Communication Plan August 2025



CES & CPP - Community Consultation, September 2025



Public Consultation Dates (28-day public exhibition): Wed 24.9.25 - Wed 22.10.25

Question	Focus	Reason for asking		
Where do you call home?	3. Location representation	Tests whether our engagement activities are reaching the key townships and villages within th		
Collarenebri		Shire.		
Carinda,				
Burren Junction				
Cumborah				
Come by Chance				
Grawin				
Rowena				
 Walgett 				
Lightning Ridge				
Do you identify with any of these groups within our community?	4. Community Group	Tests whether our engagement activities are reaching any of these community groups.		
Youth and older people	Representation			
 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities 				
Children and families				
 People experiencing homelessness. 				
People with disabilities				
 People with mental health issues 				
LGBTIQA+ communities				
 People who are socially isolated 				
 People who do not speak English as a first language. 				

CES & CPP Communication Plan August 2025



CES & CPP - Community Consultation, September 2025

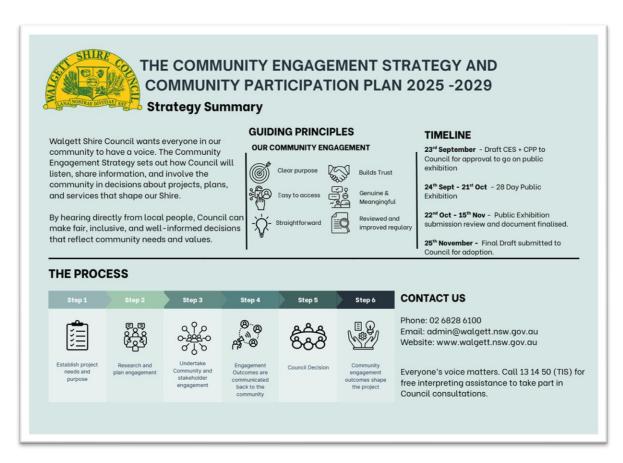


Public Consultation Dates (28-day public exhibition): Wed 24.9.25 - Wed 22.10.25

Location	Drop off location and contact details	Document hard copy	PO Box Distribution	Flyers	Posters - A3	Posters - A4	Feedback form (to closest 5)
Total documents required		33	2950	950	56	56	475
Lightning Ridge						,	
LR Council Office		3		50	4	4	25
LR Visitor Information Centre		2		100	4	4	50
LR Library		2		50	4	4	25
LR Post Office			1600		2	2	0
Walgett							
Walgett Council Office		3		50	4	4	25
Walgett Visitor Information Centre		2		100	4	4	50
Walgett Library				50	4	4	25
Walgett Post Office			600		2	2	0
Villages							
Collarenebri Post Office/Service Agency		3	200	100	4	4	50
Burren Junction		3	140	75	4	4	38
Carinda		3	60	50	4	4	25
Collarenebri		3	200	150	4	4	75
Cumborah		3		25	4	4	13
Grawin		3	150	100	4	4	50
Rowena		3		50	4	4	25

CES & CPP Communication Plan August 2025







Appendix 5: Community Feedback Survey (hardcopy shown, also available online)





Community Engagement Strategy & Community Participation Plan

Have Your Say!

Draft on Public Exhibition

24 September - 22 October 2025

Walgett Shire Council wants everyone to have a say. The Community Engagement Strategy explains how Council will listen, share information, and involve the community in decisions.

By hearing from local people, Council can make fair and inclusive choices that reflect community needs.

You can read and provide feedback on this document:

- Online at the Council website
 https://www.walgett.nsw.gov.au/Home
- Or at the Walgett and Lightning Ridge Council offices, and the Collarenebri Post Office.

Thank you for sharing your thoughts.

Your feedback helps us plan for a better future for our community.

All feedback will be reviewed and reported to Council before the document is presented to the November Council meeting for final adoption.



Multiple languages

This document can be translated into alternative languages by calling the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) on 13 14 50.



Select the best option

- How easy was the Community Engagement Strategy and Community Participation Plan to read and understand?
 - □ Very Easy
 - ☐ Easy
 - □ Neutral
 - ☐ Hard
 - Very hard

How confident are you that Council listens to and includes a wide range of voices in its decisions (e.g. young people, Aboriginal people, seniors, people with disability)?

- 2. How well do you think the documents reflect the needs and priorities of our community?
 - ☐ Very well
 - ☐ Well
 - □ Neutral
 - ☐ Poorly
 - □ Very poorly

How confident are you that Council listens to and includes a wide range of voices in its decisions (e.g. young people, Aboriginal people, seniors, people with disability)?



Survey online Scan this QR code to complete this survey



More things to say?

If you need more space, please write on the back of this page.

- 3. Where do you call home?
 - □ Burren Junction
 - □ Carinda
 - □ Collarenebri
 - ☐ Come By Chance
 - ☐ Cumborah
 - ☐ Grawin
 - ☐ Lightning Ridge
 - □ Rowena
 - Walgett
- 4. Do you identify with any of these groups within our community?
 - ☐ Youth and older people
 - ☐ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
 - Communities
 - ☐ Children and families
 - People living with disabilities
 - ☐ People living with mental health issues
 - ☐ LGBTIQA+ communities
 - ☐ People who are socially isolated
 - People who do not speak English as a first language



Council Website links

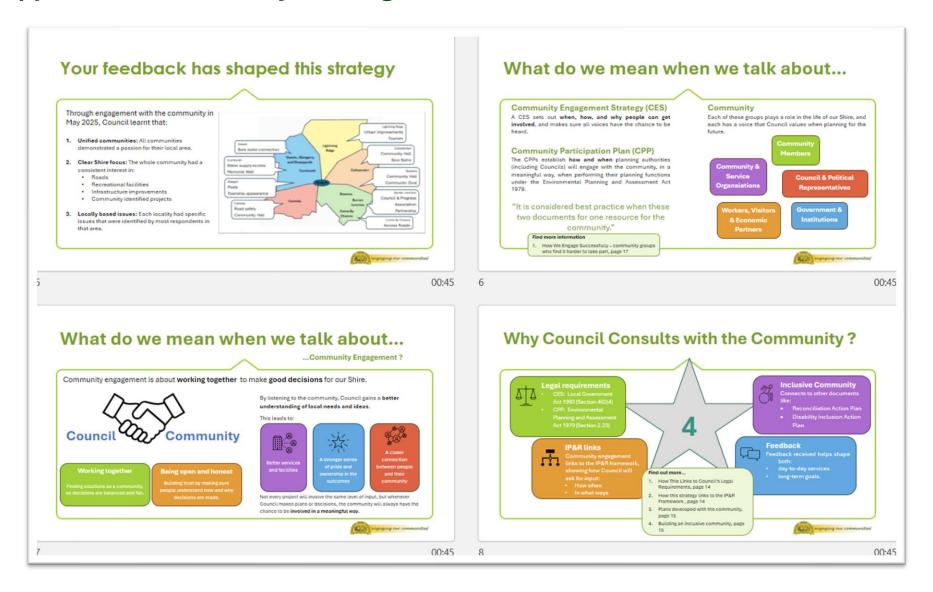
- Scan this QR code to see:
- Council website article
- Community Engagement Strategy link
- · Feedback form (online) link

Return completed feedback forms: in person at any Council Office, Library, Agency or community meeting or via email 'admin@walgett.nsw.gov.au'

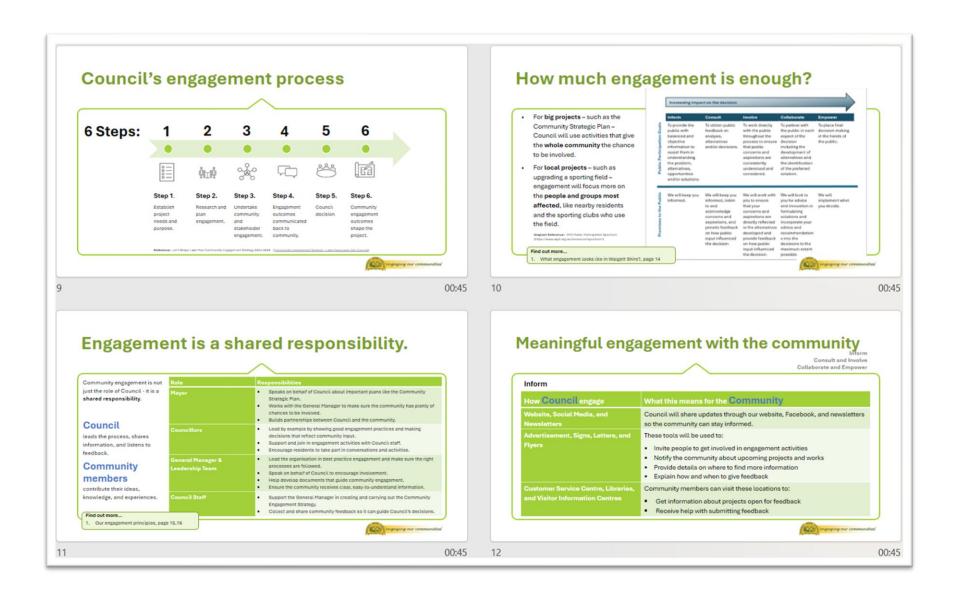








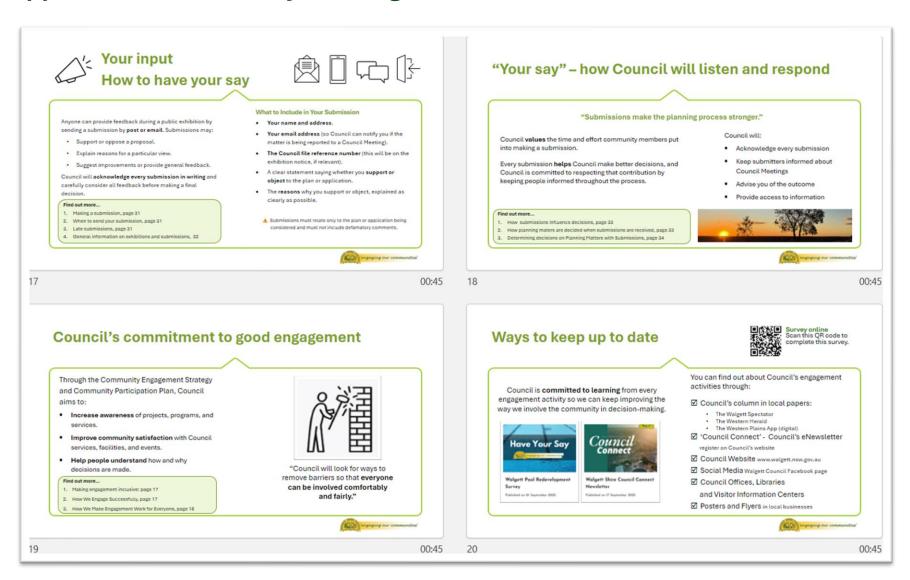












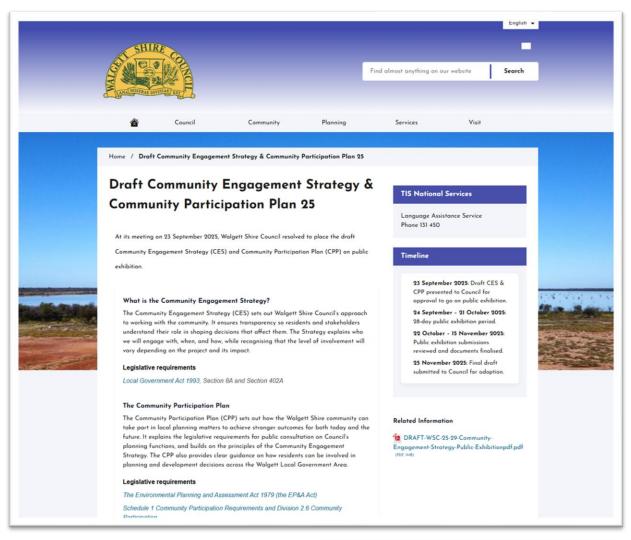


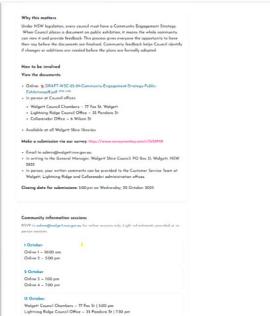


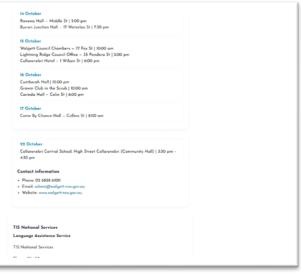
Appendix 7: Council Website Article



Link: <u>Draft Community Engagement Strategy & Community Participation Plan 25 - Walgett Shire Council</u>







Appendix 8: Newspaper and Social Media Examples



Council Column, The Spectator, 8.10.25

Facebook post - 22.10.25

