

BATHURST REGIONAL COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2015 - 2016

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Economic Development

FROM THE MAYOR





Bathurst Regional Council is committed to providing quality services, infrastructure and amenity for the residents of the local government area. Each year, Council continues to invest in productive infrastructure to ensure we are catering for the continued growth and development of the city.

2015/2016 was no exception with a record budget and investment in many and varied capital projects. Among them the world-class BMX track which hosted the 2016 National BMX titles and brought visitors from across Australia to our city for the event. Council also commenced construction of a new water reservoir in Kelso to service an estimated 4000 residential lots and an estimated population growth of around 10,000 people over the next 25 to 30 years.

Council continued to progress plans to guide growth in our visitor economy with the establishment of the Tourism Reference Group which will oversee the implementation of Council's Destination Management Plan.

There were continued celebrations for Bathurst's Bicentenary, marking the 200th anniversary of the proclamation of Bathurst as a settlement, Australia's oldest inland European settlement.

The Bathurst Winter Festival and October Race Week Festival both featured Illuminate Bathurst events and along with the New Year's Eve Party in the Park were significant events that provided an opportunity for the community to come together and celebrate our history and look to our future.

The Bicentenary celebrations will live on through a number of legacy events which have now become permanent fixtures in the Bathurst calendar, including the Winter Festival and Illuminate Bathurst and the Bathurst Macquarie Heritage Medal.

In May, the State Government announced a proposed merger for Oberon Council and Bathurst Regional Council and while this proposal is still pending, Council remains committed to moving forward and delivering on its goals and objectives as outlined in our annual operating plan.

Cr Gary Rush 30 June 2016

FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER



Bathurst's Bicentenary was a major focus of 2015/2016 and the community celebrations sat alongside Council's implementation and delivery of projects and activities identified in the annual operating plan to ensure the city continues to grow and develop as a vibrant regional centre.

Council continued to invest in productive infrastructure with a record capital expenditure program. Council's focus on infrastructure development helps build a city that is providing a range of services and facilities to the local community, and ensuring the city is able to meet the needs of our growing population.

Council manages \$1 billion in assets and is continuing to focus on addressing the backlog on asset maintenance with a suite of asset management plans. A significant increase in Roads to Recovery funding in 2015/2016 has resulted in additional roadworks on the local road network across the LGA. Council received more than \$2.5 million in Roads to Recovery funding, as a result of the increased investment in the program by the Commonwealth government.

Council continues to be in a strong financial position and is able to meet the challenges that lay ahead as we wait for an outcome on the proposed merger between Oberon Council and Bathurst Regional Council.

I congratulate staff on their continued focus and commitment over the last year and appreciate the value of working with a diverse and forward thinking Council, as we work together to plan and secure a positive future for the Bathurst Region.

David Sherley

THE BATHURST 2036 COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN (CSP)



In 2009, new guidelines were legislated by the NSW Government to help improve the way Local Government strategically plans for the future. The Bathurst 2036 Community Strategic Plan (CSP) is a new document under the NSW Government's Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) Reforms.

Its specific aim is:

To inform the community about the major directions and programs Council is undertaking in shaping the future of the Bathurst Region.

The CSP represents the "blueprint" for the future by describing the focus of Council's activities. It also recognises that others in the community (individuals, businesses, governments and agencies) can also contribute to the future outcomes.

The CSP will be revised at the commencement of each term of Council (councils are elected for 4 year terms) in consultation with the community.

The CSP's four key themes to provide for sustainability and community well-being are:

- economic prosperity;
- · liveable communities;
- environmental sustainability; and
- sound leadership;

The six key principles that underpin the plan are:

- · good custodianship;
- enhancing prosperity;
- conserving our place;
- valuing diversity;
- empowering people; and
- shared responsibility.

Delivering the Plan

The 4 year Delivery Program links the "planning" in the Bathurst 2036 Community Strategy Plan (CSP) with its implementation via the annual Operational Plan. The Delivery Program guides the Council's work program over each 4 year Council term. It sets out clear priorities, ongoing activities and specific actions Council will undertake towards achieving the community's outcomes.

The key objectives under the four themes are.

Economic Prosperity

- 1. To attract employment, generate investment and attract new economic development opportunities.
- 2. To encourage the dynamic and innovative development and growth of the region's primary resources.
- To protect a vibrant CBD and support and grow retail diversity.
- 4. To market Bathurst as a great place to live, work, study, invest, play and visit.
- 5. To facilitate and foster partnerships, networks and infrastructure to support and attract knowledge, innovation and research.
- 6. To support infrastructure development necessary to enhance Bathurst's lifestyle and industry development.
- 7. To support integrated transport infrastructure development.

Environmental Sustainability

- 8. To promote sustainable and energy efficient growth.
- 9. To protect and enhance the region's landscapes, views, vistas, open spaces and the Macquarie River.
- 10. To protect and enhance the region's biodiversity.
- 11. To protect the region's unique heritage and history. To protect a unique identity.
- 12. To protect and enhance water quality and riparian ecology.
- 13. To minimise the City's environmental footprint.
- 14. To encourage less car dependency.
- 15. To secure a sustainable water supply and raise awareness on water issues.
- 16. To encourage sustainable waste management practises, including opportunities for energy generation.

Liveable Communities

- 17. To encourage living, vibrant and growing villages and rural settlements.
- 18. To encourage sustainable housing choice and quality design that engenders a sense of place.
- 19. To improve equity of access to all members of the community in public and private domains.
- 20. To provide a range of cultural facilities, programs, activities and events and to support and enhance cultural sectors and the community.



- 21. To support the provision of community services and facilities to meet the needs of specific community sectors and the community as a whole.
- 22. To improve community safety.
- 23. To encourage a supportive and inclusive community.
- 24. To provide and support the provision of accessible, affordable and well planned transport systems.
- 25. To support the provision of high quality medical care that meets the needs of the Bathurst community.
- 26. To encourage and support the provision of a range of opportunities for life long education across the Bathurst community.
- 27. To encourage youth engagement, participation and achievement across all areas of the Bathurst community.

Sound Leadership

- 28. To plan for the growth of the region and the protection of the region's environmental, economic, social and cultural assets.
- 29. To guide the construction of new infrastructure, facilities and services and the management and upgrading of existing assets and service levels.
- 30. To identify the needs of the community and encourage and support communication, interaction and support within the community.
- 31. To maintain local public ownership of water and sewer assets.
- 32. To ensure Council is supported by an adequate workforce and appropriate governance procedures.
- 33. To be and develop good leaders.

Council's Vision

A vibrant regional centre that enjoys a rural lifestyle, the Bathurst Region achieves health and well-being through strengthening economic opportunities, planning for sustainable growth, protection and enhancing our assets and encouraging a supportive and inclusive community. A Region full of community spirit and shared prosperity. The Bathurst 2036 Plan proposes a list of strategies or actions that Council will implement to realise the community's vision.

The key outcomes of the proposed strategies/actions are to:

- make Bathurst a great place to live, work, study, invest and play;
- create a vibrant regional city that has all the benefits of a rural lifestyle; and
- encourage sustainable growth and the protection of the region's economic, social and environmental assets.

Implementation of the Bathurst 2036 Community Strategic Plan

2012/2013 financial year was the first full year that Council operated under the Bathurst 2036 Community Strategic Plan (CSP). The aim of the Plan is to inform the community about the major directions and programs Council is undertaking in shaping the future of the Bathurst Region. The CSP provides the long term "blueprint" for the future.

To implement the CSP, Council has also developed two other plans; The Delivery Plan and the Annual Operating Plan.

The Delivery Plan links the 'planning' in the CSP with its implementation via the Annual Operating Plan. The Delivery Plan guides the Council's work program over each 4 year council term. It sets out clear priorities, ongoing activities and specific actions Council will undertake towards achieving the CSP objectives.

The Annual Operating Plan spells out the details of the Delivery Plan, i.e., the individual projects and activities that will be undertaken for the year to achieve the targets set in the Delivery Plan. Council annually updates the Delivery Plan and adopts a new Annual Operating Plan.

Council's Mission

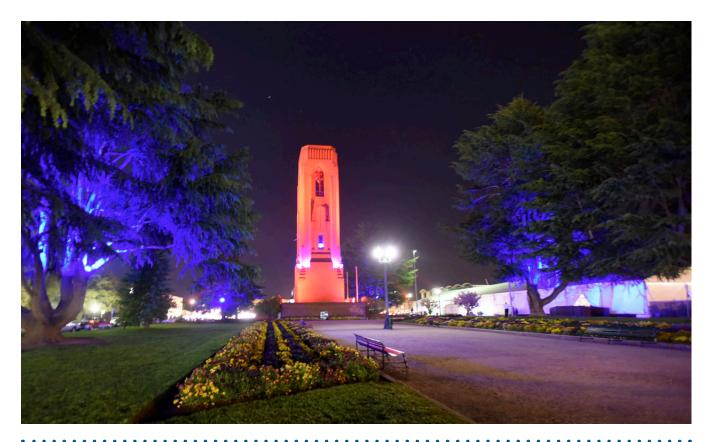
The equitable development and maintenance of services provided for the general health and wellbeing of the citizens of the Bathurst Region and the adjustment of these services to meet the changing needs.

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BATHURST SNAPSHOT

Bathurst is Australia's oldest inland European settlement located just over 200 kilometres west of Sydney on the Macquarie River. As the hub of central west New South Wales, Bathurst provides access to a market of more than 8 million people with Sydney just two and a half hours drive away. An idyllic lifestyle is supported by quality infrastructure and essential services that contribute to an annual growth rate of 1.56%.

Population	42,231		
Area Bathurst Region	3,815 sq. km		
Distance from Sydney	By road	207km approx. 2.5 hours	
	By rail	239km approx. 3.5 hours	
	By air	144km approx. 40 mins	
Average Temperatures	Summer maximum	27.8°C	
	Winter maximum	13.4°C	
	Summer minimum	11.2°C	
	Winter minimum	0.5°C	
Rainfall	631mm per annum (Bathurst area)		
Elevation	Bathurst	670m	
Metres above Sea Level	Mount Panorama	874m	
	Mount Ovens (Yetholme)	1276m	
	Mount Tennyson (Yetholme)	1152m	
	Mount Horrible	1204m	
Longitude	149° 39.1' E		
Latitude	33° 24.6' S		
Major Industries	Education, food processing, public admin	istration, construction	





Mayor, Deputy Mayor And Councillors as at 30 June 2016



MAYOR CR GARY RUSH



DEPUTY MAYOR CR IAN NORTH



CRWARREN AUBIN



CR BOBBY BOURKE



CR MICHAEL COOTE



CR GRAEME HANGER



CR JESS JENNINGS Resigned 27 May 2016



CR MONICA MORSE



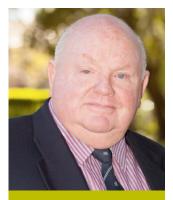
CR GREG WESTMAN

COUNCIL STRUCTURE

Senior Staff as at 30 June 2016

MAYOR/ COUNCIL

COUNCIL COMMITTEES



DIRECTOR Corporate Services & Finance BOB ROACH

Payroll

Administration Governance Stores/Purchasing Information Services Geographic Information System Records Human Resources Risk Management/Insurance Rates Creditors/debtors **Business Papers** Government Information (Public Access) Public Interest Disclosures Work, Health & Safety Internal Audit Annual Report Delivery & Operating Plan Financial Management Committee Secretariat Switchboard Customer Request Management System Customer Service State Emergency Service Rural Fire Service Emergency Management Corporate Communications Marketing **Events** Property Development & Management Mount Panorama Business Sister City



DIRECTOR Engineering Services DOUG PATTERSON

Water

Sewer Waste & Recycling Collection Waste Management Centre Parks & Gardens Aquatic Centre Depot Plant (Workshop) Floodplain Management Mount Panorama Operations Maintenance (roads, bridges, kerb & guttering) Construction (roads, bridges) Contract Management Design Works Disaster Planning Aerodrome Asset Management Project Management Forward Planning: • Environment • Recreation Infrastructure Rural Works Indoor Sports Stadium Tennis Courts Traffic Management Buildings Maintenance Subdivision Design & Construction Vegetation Management Plan Cemeteries Drainage/Stormwater Private Works



& Building Services JANET BINGHAM RICHARD DENYER

Currently sharing role pending

Land Use Planning

Corporate Planning Environmental Planning Control **Building Control** Health Pollution Control Development Control & Applications Traffic Inspectors (parking control) Rangers Stock Impounding Heritage & Conservation Regulatory Functions Animal Control Companion Animals Food/Health Inspections Immunisation State of Environment Tree Preservation Order Septic Tanks Strategic Planning Land Use Planning Subdivision Planning Ordinance Control Licence Monitoring Section 94 Contributions Plumbing & Drainage Environmental Management Contamination



GENERAL MANAGER DAVID SHERLEY



DIRECTOR Cultural & Community Services ALAN CATTERMOLE

Art Gallery Library Chifley Cottage Somerville Collection Bathurst Memorial Entertainment Centre Scallywags Childcare Family Day Care Vacation Care Community Services Cultural Planning Community Social Planning Community Development Destination Management Historical Society Youth Council Crime Prevention Community Facilities Community Halls/Groups • Eglinton • Raglan • Perthville Community Organisations Rockley • Hill End • Sofala • Eglinton • Wattle Flat • Trunkey Creek Bathurst Information & Neighbourhood Centre Home & Community Care Centre • Kelso Community Centre Club Grants

Community Interagencies Senior Citizen Centre National Motor Racing Museum Rail Museum Tourism

2015-2016 Annual Report

CORPORATE SERVICES & FINANCE





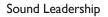
Looking after its staff and ensuring open and transparent government is the main priority at Bathurst Regional Council. Council employs around 370 staff in 20 locations and attracting and keeping good people is our priority.

Indicates that objectives relate to Key Direction:

Economic Prosperity

Environmental Sustainability

Liveable Communities



Human Resources & Risk Management

Manage Council's Health and Safety and support ageing workforce initiatives

CSP 2036 Objective Reference	25 32, 33	
Implement random drug and alcohol testing across Council's operations.	5% of permanent staff tested quarterly.	103 staff were randomly tested for drugs and alcohol during 2015/2016. This accounts for 10% of permanent staff who were tested in the first half of the year, and 5% in the second half of the year.
Maintain and service effective Consultative and WHS Committees.	Collect feedback from Committee members annually.	The Consultative and WHS Committees met bi-monthly throughout 2015/2016 and were serviced by the Human Resources Section on each occasion.

Provision of a range of education and training opportunities for Council's workforce

CSP 2036 Objective Reference	5 26	
Monitor State and Federal Government resources to assist with resourcing the educational and training needs of the workforce.	Staff training plans developed annually. Government funding accessed where eligible.	Staff training plans were developed and distributed to Departments. Meetings were held with training/education providers to discuss the range of training and education options available for staff and the availability of Government grants.

Develop opportunities for apprentices, trainees and work experience within all areas of Council's workforce

CSP 2036 Objective Reference	5	26	
Actively promote trainee / apprenticeship and work experience opportunities to the youth of the region.		distribute information a ır occasions per year:	Human Resources Section is working on an information kit for local high schools to encourage participation in careers offered by Local Government and work experience opportunities.
			In total 40 works placements and internships were completed at Council sites during 2015/2016.

Information Services

Manage Council's ability to provide inf	ormation to the public	
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	5 29	
Improve mapping.	Upgrade GIS/CAD workstations.	Completed.
Provide improved networking and inte	ernet access at Mount Panorama	
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	4, 5,6	1, 23, 26, 27
Install WiFi points throughout the pit garage precinct.	Improved internet access to race teams and officials.	Completed.
Install fibre optic loop at Mount Panorama.	_	Equipment being purchased, proceeding as per plan.
Provide network/internet access via V	/i-Fi to all locations on the network	- -
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	4, 5,6	1, 23, 26, 27 28, 30
Install Wi-Fi points throughout the remote sites.	Improved network and internet access for staff and contractors.	Completed as per budget, except for the Australian Fossil & Mineral Museum which is almost complete.
Ensure network security from both in	ternal and external locations	
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	4, 5,6	1, 23, 26, 27 28, 30
Conduct network penetration testing as per accepted standards.	Ensure network is secure from both internal and external threats.	Completed.
Upgrade Network management.	Ongoing improvements to network software.	In progress.



Financial Services

Ensure Council's long term financial su	ustainability	
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	28, 29, 33	
Review need for special variation in rate income.	Long Term Financial Plan complete and adopted by Council.	LongTerm Financial Plan completed for 2015/2016.
		Council considered and declined to apply for a special variation for 2015/2016 Operating/ Delivery.
Improve Council's cash flows.	Rates and Charges Outstanding Ratio less than 10%.	As per 2015/2016 Financial Statements achieved 5.85%.
		(2014/2015 6.63%) (2013/2014 8.19%) (2012/2013 8.47%)
Ensure Council's level of debt is manageable.	Debt service ratio less than 10%.	As per 2015/2016 Financial Statements achieved 3.95%.
		(2014/2015 4.10%) (2013/2014 3.33%) (2012/2013 3.97%)
Maximise invested funds within prudential guidelines.	Outperform monthly 90 day bank bill swap rate.	At 30 June 2016:
		 90 day bank bill swap – 2.20% (2014/2015 average 2.61%)
		 Current earnings (2015/2016 average) – 3.10% (2014/2015 average – 3.39%)
Improve internal financial reporting to	Review monthly and quarterly reporting process for internal customer satisfaction.	Cost centre reports issued monthly.
managers for sound cost control.		QBRS for September quarter was reported to Council at November meeting.
		QBRS for December quarter was reported to Council at February meeting.
		QBRS for March quarter was reported to Council at May meeting.

Property Development

Manage the development of new residential land releases to ensure appropriate level of supply available		
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	1,6 28	
Complete development of residential land at Eglinton 100 and Windradyne	Eglinton 100 Sold by July 2016.	Eglinton 100 – Construction completed and ballot held 24 June 2016. 28 lots sold out of 59.
1000 estates.	Windradyne 1000 Release and selling by July 2016.	Windradyne 1000 – Stage 1, 55 lots sold out of 57 as of 30 June 2016.
		Stage 2, 52 lots sold out of 67 as of 30 June 2016.
	Aim to have land stock for residential needs.	Land stock is at 48 residential lots as of end of 30 June 2016.
Land residue for development.		Residue land for future developments of residential land is at approximately 233ha as of 30 June 2016.
Complete development of residential land at Windradyne 1100 estates.	Windradyne 1100 selling by June 2016.	Engineering Department finalising Master Plan for estate. Expect tenders to be issued late 2016.

Manage the development of new commercial and industrial land releases as required to meet the needs of new businesses		
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	1,6	
Development in Bathurst Trade	Provision of available land to meet	Bathurst Trade Centre – all current lots sold.
Centre and Kelso Industrial Park as required.	demands.	Watt Drive – 17 lot development now due early 2017.
		Kelso Industrial Park – I I lots still available.
	Council has a stock of developed land and undeveloped land for trade & industrial use.	Residue land for future developments of Industrial/Trade land is at approx. 60ha as of 30 June 2016.

Governance

Provide Councillors, staff and the community with timely and accurate information to facilitate open and accountable government

CSP 2036 Objective Reference	23 32, 33	
Provide Council Business Papers on a timely basis.	Three days before each meeting.	Business Papers provided one week prior to Council/Committee meetings.
		Ordinary meetings 17, Policy 10, Councillors Meetings with Community Groups/ Representatives 10 (17 groups).
Provide access to Council documents on website.	Review of documents on website.	Documents are available on website and are regularly updated.
Complete Annual Report to the community.	Completion by statutory deadline (30 November).	2015 report submitted 18 November 2015.

Ensure Council policies reflect community needs and organisational requirements			
CSP 2036 Objective Reference 30, 32, 33			
Monitor Policy Manual.	Individual Policies reviewed for relevance and compliance with statutory requirements.	Policies are monitored regularly and updated as required. Last update issued 16 December 2015.	
Community satisfaction with Council service levels.	Conduct Community Surveys.	Survey not yet due.	

Implementation of the Government Information Public Access Act (GIPA Act)		
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	32	
Provision of Contract Register on Council's website.	Register updated monthly.	Council's Contract Register is available on the Council website and is updated after each Council meeting.
Respond to requests for information under GIPA Act in timely manner.	Information requests (formal and informal) responded to in accordance with statutory guidelines.	All requests responded to on time. 18 requests received. 20 completed.



Review of Financial Accounts

[Local Government Act 1993 - Section 428]

REVENUE	ACTUAL 2015/2016 \$'000
Rates & annual charges	36,844
User charges & fees	24,908
Interest & investment revenue	2,503
Other Revenue	4,120
Grants & contributions - operating	14,220
Grants & contributions - capital	7,665
Net gains from disposal of assets	2,35
TOTAL INCOME	102,611

Review of Financial Results

The following information on Council's financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2016 has been provided by Council's Auditor, Intentus Chartered Accountants.

Review of Financial Results

(a) Operating Result

As disclosed in Council's Income Statement the year's operations resulted in a surplus after capital amounts of \$14,417,000 (2015 - \$7,023,000). Some items of note in the income statement include:

Revenue

- The operating surplus before capital amounts was \$6,752,000 (2015 \$1,344,000 deficit).
- Council's revenue from rates and annual charges rose by \$2,158,000 from \$34,686,000 in 2015 to \$36,844,000 in 2016.

Rates increased by \$874,000 (4.03%) which was the combined result of the approved rate pegging increase of 2.4% and normal additions to rateable land within the Council area through land developments.

- Other revenues fell by \$2,640,000 to \$4,120,000 (2015 -\$6,760,000). During the 2014/2015 financial year Council engaged an independent expert to re-assess the remediation costs required for the waste management facility in Bathurst. Due to a combination of factors, including improvements in remediation techniques and the extension of the estimated life of the facility, the provision required for the remediation of this location was reduced by \$2,677,000 in the year ended 30 June 2015. There was no comparable line item in this revenue category during the 2015/2016 financial year.
- Operating grants and contributions for the year were \$14,220,000 compared to \$11,723,000 in 2015 (increase of \$2,497,000). The main contributor to this was an increase of \$1,660,000 in Roads to Recovery funding received by Council during the current year.
- Council achieved a net gain from the disposal of assets for the year of \$12,351,000 (2015 net loss of \$279,000).

EXPENSES ACTUA 2015/2016 \$'00	
Employee costs	29,789
Borrowing costs	1,281
Materials & contracts	24,789
Depreciation & amortisation	22,793
Other expenses	9,542
Net gains from disposal of assets	0
TOTAL EXPENSES	88,194
OPERATING RESULT	14,417

The current year result was the combined effect of a loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment of \$375,000, offset by a gain on the disposal of real estate assets of \$12,726,000. Only minimal sales of Council's real estate assets occurred in the 2014/2015 financial year.

Expenditure

- Total employee costs rose by \$2,633,000 to \$29,789,000 (2015 \$27,156,000). Council was successful in filling some long standing vacant positions during the year, and the increase in full time equivalent employees, combined with the annual award increase, has contributed to this result.
- Council's depreciation expense for 2015/2016 financial year was \$22,793,000 compared to \$18,761,000 for 2014/2015. This was due to the revaluation of Council's infrastructure assets at 30 June 2015 resulting in higher depreciation expense in the current financial year.

(b) Financial Position

The Statement of Financial Position discloses that for the year ended 30 June 2016 Council's net assets stood at

\$1,146,783,000 (2015 - \$1,118,426,000) which represents an increase of \$28,357,000.

This increase is the combined effect of the surplus for the year after capital amounts of \$14,417,000 and the current year asset revaluations and indexation of Council's water and sewerage assets which saw a total of \$13,940,000 directly recognised in the asset revaluation reserve within Council's Statement of Changes in Equity and Statement of Comprehensive Income.

To assess the health of Council's net current asset position it is necessary to review the level of restrictions placed against the use of Council's assets. The notes to the financial statements indicate clearly where restrictions exist and the effect of the restrictions is summarised below.

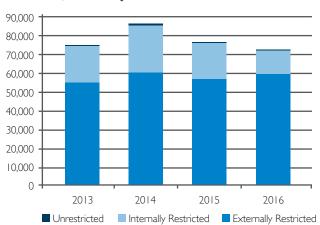
		2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
Net current	assets	37,421	47,033
Less:	Amounts externally restricted for		
	special purposes refer Notes 6; 7; & 8		
	of financial statements	(36,022)	(39,723)
Less:	Council internally imposed restrictions		
	(refer Note 6 of financial statements)	(15,095)	(18,557)
Add:	Applicable current liabilities refer Note 10		
	- Water	1,211	781
	- Sewerage	515	536
Add:	Employee leave entitlements not expected to be		
	paid within 12 months	8,263	7,630
Unrestricted	I net current asset surplus/(deficit)	(3,707)	(2,300)
Unrestricted	l liabilities to be funded from next year's operating revenues (refer Note 10)		
- Annual lea	ve and other provisions	658, ا	1,554
- General in	iterest bearing liabilities	3,741	3,373
Adjusted un	restricted net current asset surplus/(deficit)	692, ا	2,627
Unrestricted	net current assets comprise:	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
Assets			
Cash		120	374
Receivables		5,857	4,849
Inventories		2,984	2,837
Other asset	S	301	159
		9,262	8,219
Liabilities			
Payables		(7,570)	(5,592)
Unrestricted	net current asset surplus/(deficit)	1,692	2,627

At 30 June 2016 Council had a \$3,707,000 deficit (2015 – \$2,300,000 deficit) of net unrestricted current assets.

This result continues to emphasise the relative financial strength of Council's non-General Fund activities when the financial position of Council as a whole is considered.

This position will place reliance on short-term cash inflows in the new year to sustain the currency of the restrictions Council has placed on its General Fund assets. The impact of this is articulated in the above analysis adjusted for items to be specifically funded from 2016/2017 revenues which alters the analysis significantly and does indicate the position is manageable within Council's resources.

Whilst the analysis of the net current asset position is a complete summary of Council's short-term position, the strength of that position is determined by the liquidity of those assets, hence Council's ability to operate effectively is largely governed by the amount of available cash.



Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments

Liquidity

Note 6 to the financial statements discloses total cash and investments of \$74,993,000 (2015 - \$76,596,000). Included in this total is an amount of \$59,778,000 (2015 - \$57,665,000) which is subject to external restrictions requiring Council to commit those funds to the purposes for which they were provided and \$15,095,000 (2015 - \$18,557,000) is subject to internal restrictions agreed upon by Council for designated purposes, which may be altered at the discretion of Council, consistent with their operational plan.

The unrestricted cash balance of \$120,000 (2015 - \$374,000) represents funds available to cover non-budgeted discretionary expenditure and short-term cash flow requirements.

(c) Performance Indicators

Note 13 to the Financial Statements provides a measure of Council's performance using a number of selected ratios as follows:

Operating Performance

This is performance measure is intended to assess whether Council has contained its operating expenditure within its operating revenue.

The current year result of (6.91%) is below the benchmark indicated by the Office of Local Government of greater than 0%.

It is important to note that the calculation of this ratio excludes revenue from Council's land sales, which has historically been an ongoing revenue stream for Bathurst Regional Council.

Own Source Operating Revenue

This indicator is intended to measure Council's fiscal flexibility by showing its degree of reliance on external funding sources such as grants and contributions. The higher the ratio, the more financially flexible Council is considered to be.

At 75.73% (2015 – 77.04%) Bathurst Regional Council's result indicates a degree of financial flexibility which exceeds the benchmark of greater than 60% determined by the Office of Local Government.

Unrestricted Current Ratio

The Unrestricted Current Ratio is a measure of Council's liquidity that demonstrates its ability to satisfy obligations out of short-term and immediate asset balances. Council's ratio of 1.88:1 (2015 - 2.55:1) indicates that it is comfortably able to settle its debts as and when they fall due.

Debt Service Cover Ratio

This ratio measures the ability of Council to service debt by expressing that capacity as a multiple of the operating result from continuing operations, excluding capital items and depreciation / impairment, over the principal and interest costs.

At 3.95 times (2015 - 4.10) Bathurst Regional Council's ratio indicates that Council can meet its current levels of debt.

Rates & Annual Charges, Interest & Extra Charges Outstanding Ratio

This ratio is a measure of management efficiency. Whilst prevailing economic conditions may influence Council's ability to collect revenue, the efficiency and application of collection procedures are still the largest determinant of this ratio.

Bathurst Regional Council's rates and annual charges outstanding percentage of 5.85% (2015 – 6.63%) is an improvement on the prior year.

Cash Expense Cover Ratio

The purpose of this ratio is to indicate the number of months a Council can continue paying for its immediate expenses without additional cash inflow. The benchmark recommended by the Office of Local Government is greater than three (3) months.

We suspect that this is a ratio that may vary considerably from year-to-year depending on the timing of payments for materials and contracts which is the component in the denominator most susceptible to fluctuation on a yearly basis. Bathurst Regional Council's ratio for the year ended 30 June 2016 was 8.36 months (2015 – 9.4 months) and meets the requirements of the benchmark.

(d) Statement of Cash Flows

The Statement of Cash Flows reports a net increase in cash assets held of \$2,097,000 (2015 – net decrease of \$4,713,000) in cash inflows (outflows) as follows:

	2016 \$'000	2015 \$'000
Operating activities	24,892	20,460
Investing activities	(22,422)	(24,853)
Financing activities	(373)	(320)
Net increase / (decrease) in cash held	2,097	(4,7 3)

Cash flows from Operating Activities

Council has again generated strong cash inflows from its operating activities.

Cash flows from Investing Activities

The net cash outflows from investing activities totalled \$22,422,000 (2015 - \$24,853,000). The major cash outflows related to additions to infrastructure, property, plant and equipment of \$34,129,000 (2015 - \$31,323,000). Council also spent \$5,891,000 on the acquisition of real estate assets for future development.

Cash flows from Financing Activities

The net cash outflow from financing activities was \$373,000 (2015 - \$320,000 outflow). Borrowings of \$3,000,000 were drawn in the current financial year (2015 - \$3,000,000).

Repayments of \$3,373,000 (2015- \$3,320,000) were in line with the requirements of the loan agreements.

(e) Comparison of Actual and Budgeted Performance

Council's surplus for the year after capital amounts of \$14,417,000 was \$26,669,000 less than Council's original estimate of \$41,086,000.

The purpose of this report is not to provide detailed analysis of individual budget variations. Council's financial statements include Note 16, which addresses the contributing factors to this variation in detail.

However, a significant contributor to this variance was the lower than budgeted grants and contributions for capital purposes due to delays in some major projects, including the second circuit at Mount Panorama.

(f) National Competition Policy

In accordance with the requirements of National Competition Policy guidelines, Bathurst Regional Council has prepared a special purpose financial report on its business units for the year ended 30 June 2016. Council has determined that it has three (3) business units within its operations: Water, Sewerage, and Waste.

The Office of Local Government's July 1997 guidelines 'Pricing and Costing for Council Businesses: A Guide to Competitive Neutrality' outlines the process for identifying and allocating costs of activities and provides a standard of disclosure requirements. These disclosures are reflected in Council's pricing and/or financial reporting systems and include taxation equivalents, Council subsidies, rate of return on investments in business units and dividends paid.

An unqualified audit report on the special purpose reports for the year ended 30 June 2016 has been issued.

(g) Legislative Compliance

As a result of Council's audit, there are no material deficiencies in the accounting records or financial reports that have come to the attention of the auditors during the conduct of the audit and Bathurst Regional Council's accounting records have been kept in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act, 1993 and Regulations:

- The Council's accounting records have been kept in a manner and form that facilitated the preparation of the general purpose financial report and allowed proper and effective audit of this report;
- The Council's accounting records have been kept in a manner and form that facilitated the preparation of the special purpose financial reports and allowed proper and effective audit of this report; and
- All information relevant to the conduct of the audit has been obtained.



Legal Expenses

[Local Government Act 1993 - Section 428, Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 - Clause 217(1) (a3)]

Area	Matter	Cost	Status
Environmental, Planning and	Manning	12,285	Ongoing
Building Services	McHugh - Development Application	84,685	Finalised
	Burke - Development Application	6,610	Finalised
	Stewart Street - Land use investigation	8,116	Ongoing
	Billywillinga Road - Land use investigation	6,710	Ongoing
	Russell Street - Land use investigation	3,500	Ongoing
	Contaminated Land Policy - Legal Review	12,527	Finalised
	Sundry Matters	I,260	Finalised
	TOTAL PLANNING LEGAL COSTS	135,693	
Engineering Services	Minor Road Adjustments	20,319	Finalised
	Flood Maintenance Property Adjustments	2,322	Finalised
	Floodplain - Voluntary Acquisition Scheme	9,361	Finalised
	General Advice	I,884	Finalised
	TOTAL ENGINEERING LEGAL COSTS	33,886	
Cultural & Community	General Advice	3,477	Finalised
Services	TOTAL CULTURAL & COMMUNITY LEGAL COSTS	3,477	
Corporate Services & Finance	Regis Resources - Sale of Treated Water	24,259	Finalised
	Geolyse / Joubert Drive - insurance claim	26,560	Finalised
	Industrial Relations	4,700	Finalised
	Land Matters - Search Fees	6,703	Finalised
	Land Matters - Lease Preparation	3,730	Finalised
	Land Matters - Contract Preparation	18,698	Finalised
	Mt Panorama - Trackcorp	61,080	Finalised
	Mt Panorama - land purchases	27,633	Finalised
	Mt Panorama - Hire contract preparation	7,425	Finalised
	General Advice	30,542	Finalised
	TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE LEGAL COSTS	211,330	
TOTAL LEGAL EXPENSES		384,386	

Councillors' Fees and Expenses

[Local Government Act 1993 - Section 428, Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 - Clause 217(1) (a1)]

Money Expended During The 2015/2016 Financial Year On:	
Mayoral fees	\$40,090
Councillors' fees	\$163,381
Councillors' expenses	\$41,764
TOTAL	\$245,235

Councillors' Expenses Listed Above Include the Following Items Which Must be Separately Reported:	
Provision of dedicated office equipment allocated to Councillors	\$5,214
Telephone calls made by Councillors	\$6,003
Attendance of Councillors at conferences and seminars	\$13,887
Training of Councillors and provision of skill development	Nil
Interstate visits by Councillors, including transport, accommodation and other out of pocket travelling expenses	Nil
Overseas visits by Councillors, including transport, accommodation and other out of pocket travelling expenses	\$11,686
Expenses of any spouse, partner or other person who accompanied a Councillor	
Expenses involved in the provision of care for a child or an immediate family member of a Councillor	Nil

Policy: Governance - Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities for Councillors

OBJECTIVE: Provide guidelines for payment of expenses and provision of facilities for Councillors in accordance with the Local Government Act.

I. Purpose

Section 252 of the Local Government Act 1993, requires Councils to adopt a policy for the payment of expenses and provision of facilities to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors.

The policy identifies expenses that will be paid and facilities that will be provided, to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors in relation to discharging the functions of civic office.

In the event that an Administrator is appointed for Bathurst Regional Council, this policy will apply to the Administrator in the same manner as the Mayor.

2. Objective

- To ensure that no Councillors suffer hardship by reason of meeting their civic responsibilities as an elected person.
- To adequately reimburse Councillors for expenses incurred in the performance of their duties, including expenses incurred in becoming adequately informed on subjects relevant to their civic duties.

3. Statement of Principles

The Councillors are the elected governing body of Bathurst. To assist them to discharge their civic, statutory and policy making functions, they are entitled to be provided with the range of necessary facilities and to be reimbursed the expenses specified in this policy.

Recognising the special role of the Mayor this policy allows for the payment of some additional expenses and the provision of some additional facilities.

Claims for facilities and expenses not included in the policy will not be approved.

Where replacement equipment or facilities is required, Council's policy on plant and asset replacement will be followed. Equipment and facilities will be compatible with and of the same standard as other Council equipment and facilities.

Council's facilities and services, as detailed in this Policy, are available to Councillors while carrying out the functions of civic office. These facilities and services are not available for use by members of a Councillor's family, unless the use is directly related to attendance at a civic function or to another aspect of the Councillor's civic duties.

4. Legislative & Legal Requirements

The Local Government Act 1993 states:

248 Fixing and payment of annual fees for Councillors

- (1) A Council must pay each Councillor an annual fee.
- (2) A Council may fix the annual fee and, if it does so, it must fix the annual fee in accordance with the appropriate determination of the Remuneration Tribunal.

- (3) The annual fee so fixed must be the same for each Councillor.
- (4) A Council that does not fix the annual fee must pay the appropriate minimum fee determined by the Remuneration Tribunal.

249 Fixing and payment of annual fees for the Mayor

- (1) A Council must pay the Mayor an annual fee.
- (2) The annual fee must be paid in addition to the fee paid to the Mayor as a Councillor.
- (3) A Council may fix the annual fee and, if it does so, it must fix the annual fee in accordance with the appropriate determination of the Remuneration Tribunal.
- (4) A minimum fee determined by the Remuneration Tribunal.
- (5) A Council may pay the Deputy Mayor (if there is one) a fee determined by the Council for such time as the Deputy Mayor acts in the office of the Mayor. The amount of the fee so paid must be deducted from the Mayor's annual fee.

250 At what intervals are fees to be paid?

Fees payable under this Division by a Council are payable monthly in arrears for each month (or part of a month) for which the Councillor holds office.

251 What is the consequence of paying fees?

- A person is not, for the purposes of any Act, taken to be an employee of a Council and is not disqualified from holding civic office merely because the person is paid a fee under this Division.
- (2) A fee paid under this Division does not constitute salary for the purposes of any Act.

252 Payment of expenses and provision of facilities

- A Council must adopt a policy concerning the payment of expenses incurred or to be incurred by, and the provision of facilities to, the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor (if there is one) and the other Councillors in relation to discharging the functions of civic office.
- (2) The policy may provide for fees payable under this Division to be reduced by an amount representing the private benefit to the Mayor or a Councillor of a facility provided by the Council to the Mayor or Councillor.

253 Public notice of proposed policy concerning expenses and facilities

Before adopting a policy for the payment of expenses or provision of facilities, the Council must give at least 28 days public notice of the proposal.

254 Decision to be made in open meeting - Section 254

The Council or a Council committee all the members of which are Councillors must not close to the public that part of its meeting at which a policy for the payment of expenses or provision of facilities is adopted or at which any proposal concerning those matters is discussed or considered. The Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 states:

404 Circumstances in which Councillors' annual fees may be reduced or not paid

For the purposes of Section 254(A) of the Act, the prescribed circumstance for the non-payment or reduction of a Councillor's annual fee is the circumstance where both of the following conditions are satisfied:

- (a) The payment of the annual fee adversely affects the Councillor's entitlement to a pension, benefit or allowance under any legislation of the Commonwealth, a Territory or a State (including NSW),
- (b) The Councillor agrees to a non-payment or reduction.

5. Reporting Requirements

The Local Government Act, 1993 imposes reporting requirements on Councils. Council's Annual Report satisfies the reporting requirements imposed under the Local Government Act 1993 and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.

6. Other Government Policy Provisions

This policy has been developed in accordance with the following policies and documents provided by various government departments.

- Department of Local Government Guidelines for Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities to Mayors and Councillors - October 2009.
- Division of Local Government Circulars (issued from time to time) including but not limited to:
 - 04/04 Appropriate Controls on the use of Council Credit Cards
 - 05/08 Legal Assistance for Councillors and Council Employees
 - 08/24 Misuse of Council Resources
 - 08/37 Council decision making prior to ordinary elections
- Department of Local Government Model Code of Conduct - June 2008
- Council's Adopted Code of Conduct
- Various ICAC Publications.

7. Annual Fee

Pursuant to Section 248 of the Local Government Act, 1993, an annual fee will be paid to each Councillor in twelve instalments (monthly in arrears). In addition to this, the Mayor will be paid an annual fee in accordance with Section 249 of the Act, to be paid in twelve instalments (monthly in arrears). The amount to be paid will be as determined by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal and adopted in Council's Management Plan for that year.

8. Access And Use of Facilities/Equipment

Councillors are to be provided with access and use of the following:

- (i) A room suitably furnished for use by all Councillors;
- (ii) Access to a motor vehicle if available, or alternative arrangement (e.g. hire car), for the purposes of attending official functions or meetings outside the Council area; (see also Clause 15);
- (iii) Use of Council photocopiers, telephones, computers,
 (& associated equipment) and fax machine in the course of the Councillor undertaking official business.
- (iv) Access to Council Operated Facilities
 To assist Councillors to understand the operations of and to promote the various facilities to the community, Council will provide each Councillor with
 - (a) annual admission (for the use of the Councillor only) to the following Council operated facilities:
 - Australian Fossil and Mineral Museum
 - National Motor Racing Museum
 - Chifley Home and Education Centre
 - (b) two adult tickets (for the use of the Councillor and their spouse/partner) to each of the Theatre Season performances at the Bathurst Memorial Entertainment Centre.
- (v) Access to Motor Sport Events

To assist Councillors to promote Bathurst and network with dignitaries, Council will provide four (4) tickets per Councillor to attend all days of each motor racing event (including attendance at Mayoral functions) that requires full track closure at Mount Panorama.

At some events, Councillors may be provided with access to a reserved parking allocation for one vehicle per Councillor.

In addition to those facilities/equipment listed above, the Mayor will be provided with the use of:

- (vi) An office suitably furnished
- (vii) Mayoral robes and chains;
- (viii) A corporate credit card to meet expenses connected with the entertainment of guests of the city;
- (ix) A "Rex" card to allow the Mayor access to the Rex lounge at the airport for the conduct of meetings and whilst waiting between meetings and flights (a card will also be provided to the Deputy Mayor for official use).

9. Provision of Equipment

Each Councillor will be provided with the following:

- (i) Business cards.
- (ii) Councillor letterhead.
- (iii) A name badge.
- (iv) Stationery, office supplies and other consumables.
- (v) Provision of car parking sticker for parking in designated/ authorised parking areas.
- (vi) Each Councillor will be provided with the following for Council use:
 - A laptop computer and associated equipment (printer etc.).
 - Access to the internet.
 - Facsimile transmission device (Fax) (including installation at the principal place of residence).
 - A document shredder.

NB: All rental, call and stationery costs incurred in the course of Council activities will be met by Council.

- (vii) Effective following the Local Government Election to be held on 13 September 2008, Councillors will have the following options in relation to telephone calls made in the course of Council business:
 - a. Council will reimburse Councillors for the cost of official mobile and landline calls made in the course of Council business up to a limit of \$80 per month. Claims for reimbursement of calls must be made on the appropriate expenditure claim form.
 - or
 - b. Council will provide Councillors with a mobile phone for exclusive use for Council business, limited to an amount of \$80 per month.

In addition to the equipment listed above the Mayor will be provided with the following:

- (viii) A mobile phone with rental and all charges to be met by Council;
- (ix) A motor vehicle (including private use) on the basis that all costs are met by the Council. NOTE - that during periods of "leave of absence" of the Mayor the vehicle will be made available to the Deputy Mayor under the same terms and conditions.
- (x) A permanently allocated parking space

Note: A person's re-election to the Council is considered a personal interest. Official Council material such as letterhead, publications, websites, email, as well as council services and forms must not be used for any such personal interests.

<u>9.1 Acquisition and Return of Council Equipment and Facilities</u> <u>by Councillors</u>

All equipment provided to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor or a Councillor to assist them to carry out their official duties remains the property of Council and is to be returned to Council upon the Mayor or the Councillor ceasing to hold office. A Councillor may at the cessation of their duties request to purchase the equipment provided to them for their official duties or part thereof. Any items offered for sale to a Councillor under this clause will be offered on the basis that they are valued at a fair market price or the current written down value, whichever is the greater.

9.2 Private Benefit

Councillors should not generally use Council equipment for their own personal benefit. However, it is acknowledged that incidental use of Council equipment for private benefit may occur. Such incidental use will not be subject to repayment.

Where more substantial use of Council equipment occurs Council will seek reimbursement at a rate determined by the

- (i) Mayor/Deputy Mayor and the General Manager or
- (ii) the Council,

depending upon the circumstances.

10. Administrative Support

Councillors will be provided with secretarial support in relation to official correspondence.

II. Training

Councillors will be provided with training to enhance their ability to carry out their civic responsibilities. An allowance is made in the annual budget for provision of training to Councillors. The type of training attended would normally be approved by the Council but may, in some circumstances, be approved by the Mayor.

12. Insurance

Council will provide appropriate insurance for Councillors including insurance against personal injury whether fatal or not, arising out of, or in the course of carrying out duties, or the performance by such Councillor at functions in his/her capacity as a member of Council.

Council will provide the following insurance cover for Councillors undertaking official Council business:

- Public Liability.
- Councillors and Officers.
- Personal Accident.
- Travel Insurance (where approved) for interstate and overseas travel on Council business.

13. Sustenance/Meals

Councillors are entitled to the provision of a meal and/or refreshments in conjunction with the Committee/Council meeting or at any official ceremony authorised by Council or the Mayor, or in carrying out their Councillor's responsibilities including meetings with residents, ratepayers or guests of the city.

14. Legal

In the event that indemnity is not granted under the existing Councillors and Officers liability policy in relation to:

- (a) any enquiry, investigation or hearing into the conduct of a Councillor:
 - (i) by the Independent Commission Against Corruption;
 - (ii) by the Office of the Ombudsman;
 - (iii) by the Administrative Decisions Tribunal;
 - (iv) by the Division of Local Government, Department of Premier and Cabinet
 - (v) by the NSW Police Force;
 - (vi) by the Director of Public Prosecutions;
 - (vii) by Council's Conduct Review Committee/Reviewer
 - (viii) by the Local Government Pecuniary Interest Tribunal; or
 - (ix) pursuant to FOI legislation;
 - (x) pursuant to Privacy and Personal Information Protection legislation
- (b) legal proceedings against a Councillor

Council shall reimburse such Councillor on a solicitor/ client basis for all legal and associated expenses properly and reasonably incurred having regard to the nature of the enquiry, investigation, hearing or proceedings, provided that:

- (i) the enquiry, investigation, hearing or proceedings relate to conduct arising out of or in connection with a Councillor's performance of his or her civic duty or the exercise of his or her functions as a Councillor;
- (ii) the enquiry, investigation, hearing or proceedings have been finalised and have resulted in a finding, in the opinion of the Council, substantially favourable to the Councillor;
- (iii) the amount of any such reimbursement shall be limited to the amount of moneys that are not otherwise recoverable by a Councillor on any other basis;
- (iv) the Council authorises the reimbursement by resolution.

Note: Council cannot pay any legal expenses for:

- (a) legal proceedings initiated by a councillor
- (b) a councillor seeking legal advice in respect of possible defamation.

15. Expenses

(a) Council will reimburse claims for expenses for actual costs incurred by Councillors in relation to discharging the functions of civic office.

The fundraising activities of political parties, including political fundraising events, are considered to be personal interests. Council will not pay expenses or provide facilities to councillors in relation to supporting and/or attending such activities and events.

- (b) In relation to discharging the functions of civic office, the following facilities will be provided:
 - Mayoral Office.
 - Councillors' meeting room.
 - Provision of a meal/refreshments in conjunction with the Committee/Council meeting.
- (c) Where a Councillor provides his/her own motor vehicle for transport in relation to discharging the functions of civic office, reimbursement of costs will be made on either:
 - (i) a per kilometre basis at the rates specified under Clause 4 of the Local Government (State) Award (NAPSA), or
 - (ii) based on the presentation of a fuel docket/receipt.
- (d) Where travel is by air, Council will pay the cost of an economy class ticket.
- (e) Costs of vehicle hire, taxi fares and/or public transport which are reasonably incurred while attending conferences will be reimbursed by the Council.
- (f) Council will reimburse the cost of parking fees (upon the provision of an appropriate receipt) and the cost of any road tolls paid while on Council business.

In regard to "functions of Civic Office", the following guide is provided:

Travel expenses relate to travel that is on Council business (this can be within NSW or interstate, where approved), including:

- to and from Council meetings;
- to and from Committee meetings, Working Parties etc. of which the Councillor is a member;
- to and from meetings of external bodies to which the Councillor is an approved delegate;
- inspections within the area of the Council where such inspections have been arranged by a resolution of Council, or by Mayoral approval;
- to and from the periodical conferences, training courses and seminars of Local Government related organisations at which attendance has been approved by a resolution of Council or by Mayoral approval;
- to and from public meetings where such meetings have been arranged by a resolution of Council or by Mayoral approval.

NB: For the purposes of this Policy, travel within the ACT is regarded as travel within NSW.

Payment is subject to:

- the travel being undertaken expediently and by the shortest practicable route;
- claims must be made within three (3) months of incurring the expense;
- wherever possible and appropriate, a Council vehicle will be made available for use by a Councillor travelling outside the Bathurst Regional Council boundary on Council approved business.

N.B. The driver of the vehicle (whether a Council vehicle or private vehicle) will be personally responsible for all traffic or parking fines incurred while travelling on Council business. Under no circumstances will Council reimburse costs associated with traffic or parking infringement fines.

A copy of the "Claim for Reimbursement of Expenses" form is at Appendix A.

15.1 Payment of expenses for spouses, partners and accompanying persons

Council will pay the cost of attendance of a spouse, partner or accompanying person at an official function of the Council (which includes BMEC Theatre Season performances) or other official functions that are of a formal and ceremonial nature. Examples would include Citizenship ceremonies, civic receptions/functions and charitable functions for charities supported by the Council.

Council will also pay for any reasonable expenses incurred for a spouse, partner or accompanying person of the Mayor, or of a Councillor when they are representing the Mayor, when they are called upon to attend an official function of Council or, carry out an official ceremonial duty while accompanying the Mayor (or the Mayor's representative) outside the Council's area, but within the state of New South Wales. Reasonable expenses would include the cost of the ticket and meal etc.

In all other instances any costs incurred as a result of the attendance by a spouse, partner or accompanying person shall be met by the respective Councillor.

15.2 Payment in Advance:

The Council will normally pay all costs associated with attendance by a Councillor on official Council business at a conference, seminar or function in advance. Where this is not appropriate or possible:

- a cash allowance or cheque equivalent thereto will be paid to the attendee in advance;
- An allowance for estimated "out-of-pocket" expenses may be paid to an attendee in advance upon request.

Payment via either of these methods will require the provision of a reconciliation statement, verification of expenses and the refund of any unexpended amount being submitted within ten (10) days of the close of the conference, seminar or function.

N.B. Councillors are provided with a credit card to minimise the requirement for payments in advance.

15.3 Child Care

Council will reimburse Councillors for the cost of child care services incurred while on authorised Council business. The amount of reimbursement will be the actual cost incurred, with a maximum of \$8 per hour per child applying.

15.4 Dependant Care Related Expenses

Council will reimburse Councillors for the reasonable cost of child/dependant care services (including care of elderly, disabled and/or sick immediate family members of Councillors) incurred while attending Council meetings, Committee meetings, workshops, briefing sessions and other meetings relating to Council's operations. Councillors will be reimbursed for expenses associated with child/dependent care paid to providers other than immediate family, spouse or partner up to 1 hour before and after such meetings (based on advertised commencement time) subject to the prescribed form being completed and/or the production of appropriate documentation/receipts.

15.5 Councillor Care Related Expenses

Council will give consideration to the payment of other related expenses associated with the special requirements of Councillors such as disability and access needs, including reasonable transportation provisions for those unable or unwilling to drive a vehicle, to allow them to perform their normal civic duties and responsibilities. Costs could include accommodation, meals and travel expenses for carers, accompanying a Councillor where required.

16. Corporate Credit Card

Councillors will, upon request, be given a Corporate Credit Card with a limit of \$1,000.

17. Provision of Council Uniform

Councillors are to be provided with a Council uniform. The initial purchase will be subsidised to a maximum of \$800 and thereafter an annual allowance for maintenance of a maximum \$200 per annum.

A councillor who is re-elected for a new term of office shall, during the first year of that term, be entitled to an allowance of up to a maximum of \$400 and thereafter the annual maintenance amount will apply.

Where Councillors are required to wear personal protective equipment (PPE), this will be provided up to a maximum of \$500 in any one term of Council.

18. Code of Conduct

Councillors should be aware that where actions are taken in breach of the Code of Conduct, the failure to comply with the Code of Conduct may be evidence of a lack of good faith which may lead to a denial of payment under the Policy.

Further, Chapter 13, Part 5 of the Local Government Act allows the Department to surcharge Councillors to recover any deficiency or loss to Council arising from actions involving misconduct. Councillors should be aware that where actions are taken in breach of the Code of Conduct, the failure to comply with the Code of Conduct may be evidence of misconduct which may lead to personal liability pursuant to the surcharge provision of the Local Government Act in connection with such actions.



19. Conferences

In this part Conference means conferences, seminars, congresses, forums, workshops, courses, meetings, deputations, information and training sessions, events, etc. held within Australia, related to the industry of local government.

19.1 Who May Attend Conferences

Councillors may be nominated to attend conferences by:

- the Council, by resolution duly taken;
- the Mayor, acting within his/her delegated authority.

In addition the Mayor may nominate a substitute Councillor in his or her absence to attend functions within and outside the Council area on those occasions where the Mayor is unable to be in attendance.

19.2 What Conferences May be Attended

The conferences to which this policy applies shall generally be confined to:

- Local Government Association (LGA) and Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) Conferences.
- Shires Association Conference.
- Special "one-off" conferences called or sponsored by the LGA and/or ALGA on important issues.
- Annual conferences of the major Professions in Local Government.
- Australian Sister Cities Conferences.
- Regional Organisation of Councils Conferences.
- Conferences, which further training and development efforts of the Council and of Councillors, or which relate to or impact upon the Council's functions.
- Any Meetings or Conferences of organisations or bodies on which a Councillor of the Council may be elected, or appointed to be, a delegate or member of the Council or the L.G.A.

Other conferences that may be attended would include those listed in the report provided to Council (from time to time) adopting the delegates/duty delegates.

19.3 Registration

The Council will pay all normal registration costs which are charged by organisers, including the costs of related official luncheons, dinners and tours which are relevant to the interests of the Council or assist Councillors to discharge the functions of their civic office.

19.4 Expenses Incurred

Payment or reimbursement of expenses incurred or to be incurred shall be subject to the requirements that:

- (a) travel expenses relate to travel that is on Council business;
- (b) the travel being undertaken with all due expedition, and by the shortest practicable route;
- (c) only reasonable amounts are claimed or accepted towards necessary out-of-pocket expenses;
- (d) out-of-pocket expenses for which amounts are claimed relate only to the verified costs of refreshments, meals, travel, registration fees, accommodation, stationery and the like;

- (e) any time occupied or travel incurred in other than Council business is not included in the calculation of expenses to be paid; and
- (f) the claim is made not later than three (3) months after the expenses were incurred, and upon copies of all relevant dockets, receipts and the like being attached to a written claim for payment/reimbursement.

19.5 Categories of Payment or Reimbursement

The categories of payment or reimbursement are as follows:

(a) Travel

See Clause 15 of this policy

(b) Accommodation

Reasonable accommodation costs (including meals), including the night before and/or after the conference where this is necessary, will be met by the Council.

(c) Out-of-Pocket Expenses

Reasonable out-of-pocket or incidental expenses will be reimbursed for costs associated with attending the conference, including entertainment, but excluding expenses of a normal private nature. Incidental expenses are taken to include items such as:

- (i) hotel/motel charges other than accommodation;
- (ii) telephone or facsimile calls;
- (iii) refreshments/meals not included in the Registration fee;
- (iv) any optional activity in a Conference program;
- (v) taxi fares;
- (vi) parking fees.

19.6 Payment of Conference expenses

Councillors, from time to time, may find it necessary to pay day-to-day expenses out of their own pocket. Councillors must then submit a claim (on the claim form attached to this policy) for reimbursement of those expenses in accordance with this policy. Payment of incidental expenses will be limited to a maximum of \$100 per day.

The General Manager reserves the right to decline the reimbursement of any expenses he/she considers to be inappropriate or unreasonable and refer them for further consideration in accordance with the dispute procedures listed in this policy.

19.7 Spouse/Partner

Where the attendee is accompanied by his or her spouse/ partner the attendee will pay for any cost supplement involved in the accommodation. All costs for the spouse/partner (including travel and meals) are to be borne by the attendee.

Council will pay for the attendance by a spouse or partner of an attendee at the Local Government Association Conference and the Shires Association Conference. Payment of expenses in these instances will be limited to the cost of registration at the conference and the cost of the official conference dinner.

19.8 Reimbursement of Expenses

All claims for reimbursement of actual expenses incurred by a Councillor in the course of their official duties are to be made under the following conditions:

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- provision of appropriate tax invoices, receipts;
- submission of claim on the Council claim form provided at Annexure A;
- all claims being submitted within 3 months of the expenditure being incurred (except as otherwise specified in this policy);
- completion of a statutory declaration.

20. Overseas Travel

Council will pay the same expenses as detailed above (for conferences) for Councillors travelling overseas on Council business provided Council resolves that such travel be undertaken. Any proposal for overseas travel must be considered at an Open Council Meeting through a report from the General Manager or other appropriate staff member.

Reports are to indicate:

- Who is to take part in the travel;
- The objectives for undertaking the trip, including an explanation of the benefits that will accrue to the community/Council from taking the trip;
- The duration of the trip and general details of travel arrangements;
- The approximate cost of the trip, including accommodation and other expenses payable.

If the trip is to be sponsored by private enterprise, ICAC guidelines and reporting structures shall be followed.

For overseas travel, a daily meal and an incidental expenses allowance will be paid to each authorised attendee in accordance with the Australian Fringe Benefits Taxation guidelines, provided that such expenses are subject to a period of stay not exceeding the period for the conference or authorised business plus one day each way for travelling. Any such payment will be considered as a Payment in Advance and dealt with in accordance with the requirements of clause 15.2 Payment in Advance of this policy.

Where possible proposals for overseas travel by Councillors and staff on Council business should be included in the annual management plan to ensure community awareness.

21. Dispute Resolution -Payment of Expense Claims

Approval for expenses claimed as a result of attendance at a conference, seminar or function for which there is no formal Council resolution to attend will normally be made jointly by the General Manager and the Mayor (or if the claim is made by the Mayor, the General Manager and the Deputy Mayor or another Councillor). In the event of a dispute as to the payment of expenses claimed by a Councillor the General Manager will prepare a report for consideration at the ordinary monthly Council meeting and the report will be provided as part of the business paper for the meeting. The Council's decision will be final.

Overseas Visits

[Local Government Act 1993 - Section 428, Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 - Clause 217(1) (a1)]

Council has a sister city relationship with Ohkuma in Japan. During 2015/2016 Council undertook a trip to Aizuwakamatsu in Japan to visit our friends from Ohkuma who have been relocated out of Ohkuma since the tsunami in 2010.

The cost of the Council delegation to Aizuwakamatsu was \$23,372.

The Council delegation included the Mayor, one Councillor, the General Manager and an interpreter. Three members of the Bathurst Community also joined the Council delegation.

Senior Staff Remuneration

[Local Government Act 1993 - Section 428, Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 - Clause 217(1) (b)]

Five senior staff were employed by Council during 2015/2016: the General Manager; Director Corporate Services & Finance; Director Engineering Services; Director Environmental, Planning & Building Services and Director Cultural & Community Services.

The total expenditure for 2015/2016 in respect of employment of these senior staff, including salary, motor vehicle expenses, package benefits, fringe benefits tax, superannuation and provision for leave entitlements was \$1,514,492.

The annual remuneration paid to senior staff for year ended 30 June 2016 was as follows.

General Manager	\$320,153
Directors	\$1,194,339



Contracts for Goods and Services

[Local Government Act 1993 - Section 428, Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 - Clause 217(1) (a2)]

During the year Council awarded numerous contracts and tenders. The list of payments below shows all payments in excess of \$150,000 to a supplier. This will include all contracts and tenders but will also include a number of quotations, e.g., for car purchases.

Name	Goods/Service	Amount
Alleasing Pty Limited	Leasing of computer and office equipment	412,229.97
Alto Valves & Fittings	Water Pipes and Fittings	789,130.10
AusRoad Systems Pty Ltd	Purchase of Mack Metroliner 360 Daycab - 6x4 Bitumen Truck	433,486.01
Aussie Digger Bobcat Pty Ltd	Hire of Plant	197,102.13
AVESCO Events Unit Trust	Pre event Cleaning for Bathurst 1000	262,916.85
Banika Pty Ltd	Hire of Plant	175,806.66
Barlow Property Services	Property Maintenance Services	166,053.65
Bathurst Motors	Purchase of Cars and Servicing	279,571.59
Belgravia Health & Leisure Group	Management of Bathurst Aquatic Centre	788,554.66
Boulus Contructions Pty Ltd	Construction of Fire Control Centre	785,263.31
Bustin Free Earthworks	Sewer Carrier Main - Eglinton	331,675.95
Butlers Events & Staging Pty Ltd	Equipment Hire for various events	54,288.69
Caltex Australia Petroleum P/L	Petrol Products	227,675.92
CAMS Limited	Permit fees for Bathurst 12 Hour and Bathurst Motor Festival	196,763.45
Central West Civil Pty Limited	Construction of BMX Track at Bathurst Bike Park and Construction of Subdivision at Bathurst Aerodrome	2,391,285.59
Civica Pty Ltd	Maintenance of Computer Systems and Licencing	334,464.20
Clancy Motors	Purchase of Cars and Servicing	267,229.97
Computer Systems Australia P/L	Backup/Archiving & Disaster Recovery Solution	161,697.80
Degremont Pty Ltd	Manganese Removal from Water Pipes	198,000.00
Department of Justice	Fire & Rescue Contribution	869,882.36
Downer EDI Works Pty Ltd	Bituminous Surfacing Works	2,625,142.38
Eodo Pty Ltd	Construction of Water Reservoir & Water Pump Station at Kelso, Manganese Removal Project and various Hire of Plant	2,667,752.27
Epho Pty Ltd	Installation of 100kW solar array for the Wastewater Treatment Works	177,278.95
Essential Energy	Electricity & Street Lighting Charges	752,956.78
Ethan Group Pty Ltd	Various Electrical Works	55,833.5
Ever-Ready Concrete	Ready-Mix Concrete	390,656.42
Glenray Industries Ltd	Mowing Maintenance - 3 Year Contract	242,522.02
GYC Pty Ltd	Purchase of Groundmaster Lawnmower	84,69 .5
Hibbo Hire Pty Ltd	Hire of Plant	744,763.26
Hines Constructions Pty Ltd	Refurbishment of second floor at Post Office Building	403,742.20
Hothams Sand, Soil & Gravel Supplies Pty Ltd	Hire of Plant, Purhase of Turf Underlay, and other gravel products	56,405.33
Hutcheon and Pearce	Purchase of two John Deere Tractors	57,88 .00
Hynash Constructions Pty Ltd	Construction of Sewer Carrier Main at: - Eglinton Residential Estate Stage 100 - Rankin Street - Windradyne 1000 Subdivision	3,268,097.10
Inscape Projects Group	Art Gallery Refurbishment	293,865.40
lveco Trucks Australia Ltd	Purchase of Garbage Compactor	398,687.66
XOM Operations Pty Ltd	Water Treatment Chemicals	295,239.20
R Richards & Sons	Household Recycling Collection	1,370,504.38
C's Construction Pty Ltd	Supply and Install Guardrail of various lengths	207,621.10
E & SL Bennett Pty Ltd	Hire of Plant	336,395.75
Kone Elevators Pty Ltd	Replacement of Civic Centre Elevator	215,132.67

L Don Sporting Areas Pty Ltd	Repairs at John Matthew's Sporting Complex (Tennis Courts & Netball Courts) and Construction of Basketball Court at Eglinton	175,315.00
Land & Property Information	Printing and Title Searches	165,251.52
Lowes Petroleum Service	Diesel products	165,177.83
Macquarie Vale Pty Ltd	Purchase of Granite	439,573.92
Meek Design & Construction	Hire of Plant	502,045.15
Mr S Chidiac	Metal Fabrication	237,817.91
MRG Electrical Services	Electrical Services	885,241.70
Nick Harvey Constructions	Construction of Bathurst Bike Park Clubhouse and Mitchell & Mid- Western Hwy entrances	227,387.93
Nimdor Cleaning Services Pty Ltd	Cleaning of Public Buildings	5 ,094.6
Northern Contract Cleaning Pty Ltd	Cleaning of Public Buildings	211,738.73
NSW Department of Industry	Staff Training and Rural Stormwater Drainage works	211,199.19
NSW Public Works	Winburndale Dam Upgrade	304,501.37
NSW Public Works - Riverina- Western Region	Limekilns Road Reservior Design	174,157.50
Oilsplus	Petrol Products	489,475.07
Oliver Shoemark Tree Services Pty Ltd	Tree Removal and Maintenance Services	168,125.02
Omega Chemicals	Water Treatment Chemicals	469,167.26
Orange City Council	Contribution to Netwaste and Internal Auditor	59, 48.97
Origin Energy Electricity Limited	Electricity	2,607,052.34
P C Brunton Electrical	Electrical Services	328,535.48
Penrith District Rugby League	Contract payment - Bathurst NRL	330,000.00
PR Davis Refrigeration	Design & Installation of Air Conditioning System for Bathurst Regional Art Gallery & Library	487,790.60
Rocla Pipeline Products	Supply stormwater drainage pipes, headwalls, lintels	324,868.82
Shumack Engineering (NSW) Pty Ltd	Roof Replacement at Bathurst Memorial Entertainment Centre and civil, construction and engineering works	413,243.12
Skillset	Hire of Staff and Apprentices	220,794.70
Smith & Co Security	Security of Council Buildings	206,633.2
Soul Pattinson Telecommunications Pty Ltd	Provision of Wide Area Network and Data Services	256,712.28
Spirac Pty Ltd	Urgent repairs to Sewerage Works	162,535.45
SRS Roads Pty Ltd	Bituminous Surfacing Works	2,207,691.76
Stahl Construction Group	Construction of Stormwater Drainage - Lee Street, Kelso	319,718.78
StateCover Mutual Limited	Workers Compensation Insurance	598,666.99
Statewide Mutual	Insurance	1,187,420.53
Steele & Co	Legal Fees	153,013.32
Suez Recycling & Recovery Pty Ltd	Collection from Rural Transfer Stations	410,639.30
Tablelands Builders Pty Ltd	Demolition and Construction of Site Operations Office at Mount Panorama, Art Gallery/Library Forecourt Upgrade and Repairs to Machattie Park Ferney roof	244,832.04
Telstra	/ Telephone services	240,612.80
Terra Farma	Biosolids Reprocessing - 4 Year Contract	352,207.40
Tinbilla Pty Ltd	Hire of Plant	274,887.50
Tracserv Pty Ltd	Purchase or Isuzu Agitator Truck, Almighty Tipper Body and miscellaneous parts	550,648.75
Upper Macquarie County Council	Contribution for Control of Noxious Weeds	232,411.30
Viadux Pty Ltd	Water Pipes and Fittings	259,609.30
Webber Concrete Constructions	Construction of retaining wall at Ryan's Road, The Lagoon and perferred contractor for various concrete works	493,336.78
WesTrac Equipment Pty Ltd	Purchase of Land Fill Compactor and other miscellaneous parts	831,884.34
Work Control Pty Ltd	Hire of Plant	970,938.83

Donations Under Section 356

[Local Government Act 1993 - Section 428, Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 - Clause 217(1) (a5)]

During the year 2015/2016 Council donated a total of \$191,609 under Section 356 to a range of community groups.

General	\$113,416
BMEC Fee Waivers	\$65,271
Mount Panorama Fee Waivers	\$12,922

Human Resources

[Local Government Act 1993 - Section 428]

Council undertook the following human resource activities during 2015/2016:

- Continuation of financial and study leave support for a number of staff under Council's Staff Education Assistance Scheme.
- Continued working with other human resources staff from the Bathurst/Orange/Dubbo alliance to discuss projects focused on the ageing workforce and skills degradation within the local government sector.
- Ongoing involvement with the Reconciliation Action Plan Working Party to achieve the objectives set in the Reconciliation Action Plan.
- Launch and roll out of the Cultural Awareness e-learning module. In total 231 staff completed the module up until 30 June 2016.
- Large scale review undertaken on the HR Policy manual. In total 19 policies were reviewed.

Work Health and Safety

[Local Government Act 1993 - Section 428]

Major Work Health and Safety achievements include the following:

- In association with the Asset and Technical Services Sections, the inspection of 62 structures/buildings across 8 sites for asbestos using funds from the Statewide/Statecover incentive bonus were carried out with an ongoing plan to inspect every Council structure within the next four to eight years dependent on funding.
- A score of 100% for the StateWide Risk Management Action Plan (RMAP) Submission Assessment and 100% for the RMAP Achievement Assessment.
- The StateCover 2015/2016 WHS audit reported good improvements in the first aid and office safety elements reflecting well on the policy of steady and continuous improvement of lower risk categories.
- The 2015/2016 StateCover assessment also continues to put Council in front of the Office of Local Government all Councils average and regional average score on comparison by at least 5 points across all areas.
- As part of the Centroc Safety Induction Program 45 employees and 82 contractors were inducted in the 2015/2016 financial year.

- 103 random drug and alcohol tests were conducted in the 2015/2016 financial year. No positive results were returned.
- Extensive time and resources were also committed to sourcing and funding base line noise assessments of plant and workplaces to position Council for the introduction of mandatory testing of at risk workers which is scheduled to be introduced in December 2016.
- A total of 43 incidents were reported during the year. Of these, I I resulted in workers compensation claims being lodged and of these, 5 resulted in lost time to the Council. Of the reported injuries, 26 were sprains and strains, with the remainder being made up of various other injury types. The most common location of injury was the knee/leg and lower back.

Equal Employment Opportunity

[Local Government Act 1993 - Section 428, Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 - Clause 217(1) (a9)]

Bathurst Regional Council remained committed to the principles of Equal Employment Opportunity during 2015/2016. The Human Resources Section continues to provide information to new staff at the induction program on Council's Harassment and Grievance Procedures and on Council's Equal Employment Opportunity Policy. Staff are then required to complete a refresher module biannually via Council's e-learning system.

The Equal Employment Opportunity Management Plan was completely revised during 2015/2016. The plan identifies objectives Council wishes to achieve in four (4) key areas to ensure that Council is adhering to adopted Equal Employment Opportunity principles. The areas are: increased communication and awareness, HR management compliance, appropriate implementation and evaluation, and a workforce reflective of the community's diversity. The plan outlines strategies to facilitate achievement of each objective, assigns responsibility to Council officer/s for each strategy, and identifies Key Performance Indicators to allow assessment of whether the objectives are being achieved.

Employee Assistance Program

Council continued to provide access to free, confidential professional counselling services for staff and their family members during the year through the provision of the Employee Assistance Program. During the period 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016, 22 initial assessment sessions were conducted. A total of 92.75 hours of service activities took place during this period which resulted in an overall utilisation rate of 7.37% when family members are taken into account.



External Bodies Exercising Functions Delegated by Council

[Local Government Act 1993 - Section 428, Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 - Clause 217(1) (a6)]

During the 2015/2016 financial year the following external bodies exercised functions delegated by Council.

- Eglinton Hall and Park Committee Management of Eglinton Hall and Park
- Perthville Development Group Inc. Management of Perthville Hall
- Raglan Hall & Park Committee Management of Raglan Hall
 & Park
- Rockley Mill Museum Management Committee
- Sofala Showground Hall Committee Management of Showground facilities
- Trunkey Creek Recreation Reserve Management Committee
- Upper Macquarie County Council (noxious weeds) Operating with delegates from Bathurst Regional Council
- Wattle Flat Bronze Thong Committee Management of Racecourse
- Wattle Flat Recreation Ground Trust Management of Recreation Ground

Controlling Interest in Companies

[Local Government Act 1993 - Section 428, Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 - Clause 217(1) (a7]

Council had no controlling interest in any companies during the year.

Partnerships, Cooperatives and Joint Ventures (Consortium Agreements)

[Local Government Act 1993 - Section 428, Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 - Clause 217(1) (a8)]

- V8 Supercars Australia Organisation, management and conduct of motor racing events at Mount Panorama, (V8 Supercars – Supercheap Auto 1000 and Bathurst 12 Hour)
- Bathurst, Orange and Dubbo Alliance alliance between the three Councils to undertake environmental programs and internal audit program.
- Central Regional Organisation of Councils (Centroc) joint purchasing arrangements, joint training procurement, joint environmental programs.
- Country Mayors Association.
- Sydney Road Links Secretariat.
- Bells Line Expressway Group Secretariat and technical support.

- The Somerville Collection Ltd Council is a member of this company limited by guarantee with the Australian Museum, Charles Sturt University, Mr Warren Somerville AM and the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy. The Australian Fossil and Mineral Museum housing the Somerville Collection opened in June 2004.
- NetWaste regional collection of waste materials.
- Yeehah Events Pty Ltd conduct of Bathurst Motor Festival motor racing events.

Rates and Charges Written off

[Local Government Act 1993 - Section 428], Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 - Clause 132]

During the year Council abandoned \$1,316,914 in rates and charges (including postponed rates).

Pensioner rebate	\$1,178,412
Postponed rates	\$69,073
Other rates & charges	\$69,429

Access to Information

[Local Government Act 1993 - Section 428, Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 - Section 125(1), Government Information (Public Access) Regulation 2009 - Clause 13]

The Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 was introduced on 1 July 2010. As a result of the introduction of the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 Section 12 of the Local Government Act 1993 was repealed and also the Freedom of Information Act. The Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 provided a general "Right to Information" presumption that was not evident in previous legislation.

Methods of Accessing Council Information

The Council can make information available to the public in 4 different ways:

- I. Mandatory Release where Council is required under legislation to make information available free of charge to the public
- 2. Proactive Release Councils are encouraged to release as much other information as possible in an appropriate manner (though this may sometimes result in a cost)
- 3. Informal Release Councils are encouraged to release information in response to an informal request subject to reasonable conditions (e.g. may be copying charge involved)
- 4. Formal Release Councils may release information in response to a formal request. This is the last resort, if the information is not available in any other way. There is a fee associated with a formal application (currently \$30) and an application form is available on Council's website. Other processing charges may also apply in accordance with the Act.

Review of proactive release program - clause 7(a)

Section 7 of the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (GIPA Act) requires Council to undertake a review of the manner in which it releases government information to identify the kinds of information held by Council that should in the public interest be made publicly available and that can be made publicly available without imposing unreasonable cost on the agency.

Council has a website which is able to be accessed by members of the public at any time. Many of Council's publicly available documents are listed on this website and the majority are available for download.

During 2015/2016 financial year Council undertook a review of the documents that it makes publicly available and the methods by which it makes those documents available. In completing this review Council undertook a number of steps including:

- I. Council reviewed the documents provided previously as a legislative requirement and compared that to requirements under the GIPA Act.
- 2. Examined other documents that were publicly available and how they were made available to the public.
- 3. Investigated whether there were any new reporting requirements.
- 4. Identified training needs of staff members.
- 5. Following the review and as a result of ongoing monitoring new documents were added to the website during the year.

The review resulted in Council updating its website to facilitate the provision of information to the public. Council has a Public Documents section on its website that lists the documents that are available and in many instances makes them available for download at no cost. Should any document listed on the website be required they can be requested by contacting council. Depending upon the document required there may be some copying charges involved but all documents listed are available for viewing free of charge.

Proactive Release of Documents throughout the year

As part of its requirements under separate Integrated Planning and Reporting legislation Council has developed a Community Strategic Plan. There were a significant number of plans that informed the development of this document as well as significant public consultation. As part of its review under the GIPA Act Council decided in early 2014 to proactively release the majority of the strategic plans that were used to facilitate the development of the Community Strategic Plan. The documents are available for public access in the Public Documents section of the website.

Other documents developed throughout 2015/2016 have also been added to Council's public document section on the website.

Mandatory Release of Documents

The Council also developed a Publication Guide in accordance with the statutory requirements and this is also publicly available on the website. This document lists in detail the many methods by which residents and other interested parties are able to access Council information. It provides a detailed schedule of publicly available documents and the means by which they can be accessed.

Council also has its contracts register available for viewing on the Council website.

There are many other documents that Council must make available and these are listed on the website or in the Publication Guide together with methods by which they can be accessed.

Number of access applications received -Clause 7(b)

Council during the 2015/2016 financial year received 18 formal access applications under the Government Information (Public Access) Act. All 18 applications were accepted as valid applications and the information requested was either provided in full or part. A summary of the applications received is detailed in the table below which is in the format required under Schedule 2 of the Government Information (Public Access) Regulation 2009.

Number of refused applications for Schedule I information - Clause 7(c)

During the reporting period, our agency refused one formal access application because the information requested was information referred to in Schedule 1 to the GIPA Act.



Statistical information about access applications - Clause 7(d) and Schedule 2

Table A: Number	of applications by type of app	olicant and outcome*

Table A. Number of applications by type of applicant and outcome								
	Access granted in full	Access granted in part	Access refused in full	Information not held	Information already available	Refuse to deal with application	Refuse to confirm/ deny whether information is held	Application withdrawn
Media	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Members of Parliament	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Private sector business	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Not for profit organisations or community groups	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Members of the public (application by legal representative)	I	I	0	I	0	0	0	0
Members of the public (other)	5	5		I	0	0	0	0

*More than one decision can be made in respect of a particular access application. If so, a recording must be made in relation to each such decision. This also applies to Table B

Table B: Number of appl	Table B: Number of applications by type of application and outcome							
	Access granted in full	Access granted in part	Access refused in full	Information not held	Information already available	Refuse to deal with application	Refuse to confirm/ deny whether information is held	Application withdrawn
Personal information applications*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Access applications (other than personal information applications)	9	6		2	0	0	0	0
Access applications that are partly personal information applications and partly other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

*A **personal information application** is an access application for personal information (as defined in clause 4 of Schedule 4 to the Act) about the applicant (the applicant being an individual). The total number of decisions in Table B should be the same as Table A.

Table C: Invalid applications	
Reason for invalidity	Number of applications
Application does not comply with formal requirements (section 41 of the Act)	0
Application is for excluded information of the agency (section 43 of the Act)	0
Application contravenes restraint order (section 110 of the Act)	0
Total number of invalid applications received	0
Invalid applications that subsequently became valid applications	0

Table D: Conclusive presumption of overriding public interest against disclosure: matters listed in Schedule 1 of the Act			
	Number of times consideration used*		
Overriding secrecy laws	0		
Cabinet information	0		
Executive Council information	0		
Contempt	0		
Legal professional privilege	0		
Excluded information	0		
Documents affecting law enforcement and public safety	0		
Transport safety	0		
Adoption	0		
Care and protection of children	0		
Ministerial code of conduct	0		
Aboriginal and environmental heritage	0		

*More than one public interest consideration may apply in relation to a particular access application and, if so, each such consideration is to be recorded (but only once per application). This also applies in relation to Table E.

Table E: Other public interest considerations against disclosure: matters listed in table to section 14 of the Act

	Number of occasions when application not successful
Responsible and effective government	0
Law enforcement and security	0
Individual rights, judicial processes and natural justice	6
Business interests of agencies and other persons	I
Environment, culture, economy and general matters	0
Secrecy provisions	0
Exempt documents under interstate Freedom of Information legislation	0

Table F:Timeliness				
	Number of applications			
Decided within the statutory timeframe (20 days plus any extensions)	17			
Decided after 35 days (by agreement with applicant)	0			
Not decided within time (deemed refusal)	I			
Total	18			

Table G: Number of applications reviewed under Part 5 of the Act (by type of review and outcome)					
	Decision varied	Decision upheld	Total		
Internal review	0	0	0		
Review by Information Commissioner*	0	0	0		
Internal review following recommendation under section 93 of Act	0	0	0		
Review by ADT	0	0	0		
Total	0	3	3		

*The Information Commissioner does not have the authority to vary decisions, but can make recommendation to the original decisionmaker. The data in this case indicates that a recommendation to vary or uphold the original decision has been made.

Table H:Applications for review under Part 5 of the Act (by type of applicant)

	Number of applications for review
Applications by access applicants	3
Applications by persons to whom information the subject of access application relates (see section 54 of the Act)	0

Privacy Act

[Local Government Act 1993 - Section 428, NSW Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 - Section 33 (3)]

In complying with the requirements of the PPIP Act, Council has adopted the Model Privacy Management Plan developed by the Office of Local Government. Additionally, Council is subject to the Privacy Code of Practice for Local Government. Council's investigative functions are subject to further policies and procedures imposed by various government bodies.

Council was not required to undertake any review under Part 5 of the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act, 1998 during 2015/2016.

Access to Council

Council Meetings/Discussion Forums

Council meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 6.00 pm in the Council Chamber (except that the December meeting is held on the second Wednesday and the January meeting is held on the first Wednesday in February). There is a 15 minute question time for the public from 6.00 pm to 6.15 pm.

On the first Wednesday of each month, Council holds a Policy Committee Meeting and, when required, discussion forums on matters of interest to the community. This provides a platform where the community can readily access the decision-makers of Council. Seven discussion forums relating to Development Applications received by Council and three Discussion forums relating to consideration of the Bathurst Regional Local Environment Plan 2014 were held during the year

Council continued to hold monthly sessions whereby community groups and organisations met with Council to discuss issues of relevance.

The following groups attended sessions throughout the year:

- Essential Energy
- Bathurst Aero Club
- NSW Rural Fire Service
- Bathurst City Amateur Swimming Club
- Bathurst Neighbourhood Centre
- Heritage Reference Group
- Applicants Rezoning DA Lot 182 Sydney Road, Kelso
- Cultural Fund Frank Howarth
- AH&P Association 2016 Royal Bathurst Show
- Mitchell Conservatorium
- DB (Bathurst) Enterprises Ltd Kelso Community Centre Food Distribution
- CSU Regional Economic Analysis & Entrepreneurship Research
- Meals on Wheels Inc.
- Live Life Get Active
- White Rock Progress Association (Alec Lamberton Park)
- Bathurst Golf Club

In addition to the regular program, Council held community meetings at the following villages: Hill End, Sofala, Rockley, Yetholme, Trunkey Creek, Wattle Flat, Peel, Eglinton, Raglan, Perthville and Sunny Corner:

Council Business Papers

Council Business Papers are available on Council's website (www.bathurst.nsw.gov.au) for viewing or printing prior to each Council meeting. Council business papers can also be viewed at the Council foyer and the Library. Copies may be obtained from the Corporate Services Department, 1st Floor, Civic Centre, or at the Council or Committee meetings.

Management Plan

Council has a four year financial plan which establishes the framework for expenditure and services for the future. The plan is reviewed and updated every financial year. Before the plan is adopted each June, it is placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days. Comments are encouraged and considered prior to the final adoption of the Delivery Plan. Council's Delivery and Operating Plan is available on Council's website (www.bathurst.nsw.gov.au) in the public documents section.

Committee Membership

Council operates several committees that involve active representation from members of the community. Council representatives also participate in many community committees. This assists groups to access resources provided by Council and promotes close involvement in the decisionmaking processes of local government.

Council continued to nominate delegates to community organisations to assist in meeting community needs.

The following groups have delegates/duty delegates appointed:

- Accessible Living Options
- All Saints Cathedral Chapter
- Arts OutWest
- Australian Airport Owners Assoc.
- Bathurst Airport Users' Group
- Bathurst AH&P Association Inc.
- Bathurst & District Bicycle User Group
- Bathurst Arts Council
- Bathurst Business Chamber
- Bathurst City RSL Band
- Bathurst Community Climate Action Network Inc.
- Bathurst Community Interagency Group
- Bathurst Correctional Complex Community Consultative
 Committee
- Bathurst District Historical Society
- Bathurst District Sport and Recreation Council
- Bathurst Domestic Violence Liaison Committee
- Bathurst Education Advancement Group
- Bathurst Health Council
- Bathurst Information and Neighbourhood Centre
- Bathurst Liquor Accord
- Bathurst Meals on Wheels Service
- Bathurst Refugee Support Group
- Bathurst Regional Access Committee
- Bathurst Regional Art Gallery Society (BRAGS)
- Bathurst Regional Community Safety Committee
- Bathurst Regional Youth Council
- Bathurst Senior Citizens Management Committee
- Bathurst Seymour Centre
- Bathurst Town Square Working Party
- Bells Line Expressway Group
- Blayney to Bathurst (B2B) Cyclo Sportif Challenge Committee (Rotary Bathurst Daybreak)

- Boundary Road Nature Reserve Landcare Group
- Carillon Working Party
- Central West Heritage Network
- Central West Women's Health Centre
- Centroc
- Chifley Dam Catchment Steering Committee
- Combined Pensioners & Superannuants Assoc.
- Club Grants Committee
- Country Mayors Association
- Eglinton Hall & Park Committee
- Evans Arts Council
- Floodplain Management Authority
- Greening Bathurst
- Hill End & Tambaroora Progress Association
- Kelso Parish & Community Centre
- Local Emergency Management Committee Bathurst Regional
- Murray Darling Association
- National Trust of Australia Bathurst Branch
- NSW Rural Fire Service Chifley Zone Bushfire Liaison Committee
- NSW Rural Fire Service Chifley Bushfire Management Committee
- NSW Rural Fire Service Bathurst Senior Management Team
- NSW State Emergency Service Bathurst Unit
- Perthville Development Group Inc.
- Public Libraries Association
- Rail Action Group
- Skillset
- Somerville Collection Board of Directors
- Upper Macquarie County Council
- Wattle Flat (Bronze Thong) Racecourse Committee
- Wattle Flat Heritage Lands Trust
- Western Regional Access Committee
- White Rock Association

Press Announcements

Bathurst Regional Council actively promotes its facilities, services and activities to residents and other users across the Bathurst Region.

Events and a range of other Council activities are publicised to all sections of the local media through regular media releases, which are also made available on Council's website. Information about Council and upcoming events is also advertised regularly through a program of community service announcements on the Bathurst Region's main radio stations, Radio 2BS, B-Rock FM and 2MCE FM. Council also supports this with a range of paid radio ads to promote specific projects and activities.

Each week the local daily newspaper, the Western Advocate, carries a Mayor's Column which the Mayor uses to discuss issues, activities and events relating to Council. Regular weekly advertisements are also published in the Western Advocate promoting matters of relevance to the community.

In addition to these channels of communication, Council produces a Community Newsletter four times a year which is direct mailed to ratepayers and is made available at a number of Council facilities and on Council's website.

Council also provides a range of information on issues, events and activities on its Facebook, Twitter and Instagram accounts.

Public Interest Disclosures Act

[Local Government Act 1993 - Section 428, NSW Public Interest Disclosures Act Section 31 and Public Interest Disclosures Regulation 2011 Clause 4]

Council must report annually on its obligations under the Public Interest Disclosures Act 1994. The report for the year ended 30 June 2016 is detailed below.

Number of public officials who made public interest disclosures to your public authority	0
Number of public interest disclosures received by your public authority	0
Of public interest disclosures received, how many were primarily about:	
Corrupt conduct	0
Maladministration	0
Serious and substantial waste	0
Government information contravention	0
 Local Government pecuniary interest contravention 	0
Number of public interest disclosures (received since 1 January 2012) that have been finalised in this reporting period	0
Have you established an internal reporting policy?	Yes
Has the head of your public authority taken action to meet their staff awareness obligations?	Yes
If so, please select how staff have been made aware	
Training provided by the Ombudsman, training provided to	

Training provided by the Ombudsman, training provided to new staff during induction, Messages in staff newsletters



ENGINEERING SERVICES



The key to developing a sound foundation for growth and prosperity of the Bathurst Region is by ensuring infrastructure needs are keeping pace with demand. With a budget in excess of \$80m Council's Engineering Services Department has the responsibility to ensure the current needs of the community are met and the capacity exists to cater for future growth. A clean and safe water supply, a quality local road network, and environmentally responsible waste management systems are all high priorities for engineering the future of the Bathurst Region.

Indicates that objectives relate to Key Direction:

Economic Prosperity	Environmental Sustainability	iveable Communities Sound Leadership
Asset Management		
Improve pedestrian access within the	e urban area	
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	3, 6 13, 14	9 28
Completion of additional concrete footpaths/cycleways in accordance	500 lineal metres of footpath completed.	Evernden Road Drainage Reserve (1371m) – complete.
with the Strategic Access Plan.		Rocket Street – George to Rankin (200m) – complete.
		Esrom Street – Annesley to West Street (300m) – complete.
Monitor condition of footpaths.	Less than 60 public requests regarding	52 requests received.

Maintain and improve the existing road infrastructure consistently throughout the network		
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	6,7 8 22,24	29
Improvement of road infrastructure to further link the sealed network.	Reconstruction and reseal works as per Council's rolling works program. Completion of Roads to Recovery Plan.	Ophir Road reconstruction – 100% complete. College Road rehabilitation – 100% complete. Eleven Mile Drive – 100% complete. O'Regans Road reconstruction – 75% complete.
	Rural Road gravel resheeting program.	13.5km rural roads re-gravelled 2015/2016.
Greater than 90% of the urban road network remain in condition index 1, 2 or 3.	Undertake maintenance program in accordance with allocated budget.	Excellent = 29% Good = 42% Fair = 24% Poor = 3.7% Bad = 0.6%

trip defects on paved footpaths.

Protection of urban areas on the Bathurst Floodplain		
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	6,7 9	28
Continue the planning for construction of flood mitigation works	Construction of Perthville Levee.	Frog Study and Threatened species investigation completed.
as outlined in the Bathurst Flood Management Plan.		Upon approval from NSW Fisheries and Office of Environment and Heritage, tenders to be called.

Private Works

[Local Government Act 1993 - Section 428, Local Government (General) Regulation 2005-Clause 217(1) (a4)]

In accordance with Section 67 of the Local Government Act, 1993 Council from time to time carries out work on privately owned land in accordance with the fee structure adopted as part of the management plan at the beginning of the year. There were no works carried out during the year that required a resolution from Council (in accordance with Section 67 2(b) of the Local Government Act, 1993) to waive or reduce the fees charged under this section.

Stormwater Management

[Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 - Clause 217(1) (e)

Council does not levy a stormwater management charge, however, Council undertook the following stormwater management works as part of its 2015/2016 Management Plan.

Stormwater Drainage Construction	Estimated Cost
New Subdivisions	409,632
Rural drainage improvements	34,042
Urban drainage improvements	799
Dunkeld Road	314,988
Freemantle Road	92,335
Prince Street, Perthville	8,782
Raglan Creek at Lee Street	394,186
College Road, Rural Section	19,965
Eleven Mile Drive	10,303

Water, Sewer and Waste

Maintain and upgrade existing water and sewer infrastructure to meet the needs of all stakeholders into the future		
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	6 8, 12, 15 22	28, 29, 31
Operate, maintain, repair and upgrade Water Filtration Plant.	Meet the Australian Drinking Water Standards 99% of the time.	Water Filtration Plant operations are ongoing, with maintenance and repairs conducted as required.
		Training has been carried out and maintenance period commenced. The chemical dosing infrastructure for the Manganese Removal Project is complete, and has been commissioned.
Provide compliance reports to NSW Health as required.		Samples taken, testing completed and reports provided. 292 samples taken, 99.66% compliance.
Operate, maintain, repair and upgrade water distribution system.		Water distribution system operations are ongoing, with monitoring, maintenance and repairs conducted as required.
Respond effectively to discoloured water complaints within four hours.	-	Complaints regarding discoloured water are actioned within the required timeframe.
		Discoloured water calls for financial year 2015/2016 was 141.



Review, update and adhere to Drinking Water Management System.	Australian Drinking Water Guidelines compliance.	Consultants have been engaged, and an inception meeting has been held. Inspections and supply of data have commenced. Workshops have occurred. A Drinking Water Management System document has been completed and sent to NSW Health. A report to Council has provided further details.
		The Chifley Dam water supply system risk assessment workshop has been conducted and written up. This will be incorporated into the Drinking Water Management System.
		A review and update if the Drinking Water Management System documentation is underway following a risk management workshop that occurred in late November 2015.
Manganese Removal Project.	Project is completed.	The successful tenderer was EODO. Construction commenced during August 2014 and has been completed. Commissioning, testing and training are complete, with the project formally opened and commissioned in August 2015.
		A contract has been entered into for 15 days of ice-pigging, with work on several mains and areas now completed.
Eglinton Village extension.	Project advances.	Survey, investigation, liaison with owners and developers and design continues on the various stages of the project which includes additional water mains to supply the village from Bathurst, and sewer main installation.
		New sewer mains for east Eglinton have commenced but were placed on hold. These have gone out to tender. Tenders have closed and have been reported to Council in November 2015. Work is progressing well on site, and SafeWork NSW have inspected the site and are satisfied the contractor is complying with safety requirements. Rock was encountered and has since been removed. This work is 90% complete.
		Two stages of water main augmentation have been tendered. One is completed and the second is out to tender and closed recently. A tender report was prepared for the March 2016 Council meeting. Work has now commenced on site.
Review and update plans as required.	Best Practice Guidelines compliance.	Project scoping was undertaken to identify what updating is required, and what approach should be undertaken to completing the work. Have selected the Drought Contingency and Water Supply Emergency Management Plan and the Demand Management Plan. A Consultant has been appointed and work is complete. Reports have been presented to Council on the revised documents.
Investigate, review and undertake further initiatives in the Best Practice Guidelines.		This project is yet to be commenced.
Continue implementation of Trade Waste Policy.		Trade Waste Policy is current, has been approved by NSW Office of Water, and adopted by Council. There are 32.3 approvals in place, with 349 active businesses (93%).

Prepare plans and estimates for works highlighted in the computer models.	Review outcomes and opportunities from the water and sewer models and reports.	The water model has previously been reviewed, with several projects put into effect. The sewer model has been updated to include the expansion of Eglinton and Kelso. Work on comparing options to service the growth is well underway. Flow gauging is scheduled for late 2016.
Prepare reports and studies for Winburndale Dam and Chifley Dam.	NSW Dam Safety Committee requirements addressed.	The Winburndale Dam, Dam Safety Emergency Plan has been completed. Geological investigations, including core sampling and testing have been completed and a report on the assessment of foundation strength has been received by Council and NSW Public Works. This will enable upgrade designs to be progressed. Consultants have been engaged to complete the detailed design, which has been reviewed and forwarded to the Dam Safety Committee for comment. Staff are looking for grant funding opportunities. The annual surveillance report has been
		completed and recommendations will be actioned. The Chifley Dam Secure Yield Study (base case) has been completed, with the Climate Change (future scenario) study also underway.This
		report is now being reviewed. The Chifley Dam Dambreak Study has been completed and forwarded to the NSW Dam Safety Committee.
		The Chifley Dam Safety Emergency Plan is complete and in effect.
		The annual surveillance report has been completed and recommendations are being actioned.
Work with Centroc on Water Utilities Alliance goals.	Collaboration conducted.	Work is continuing, through meetings and projects. Alliance Business Plan has been developed and adopted. Bi-monthly meetings attended, with other projects and correspondence dealt with as required.
Operate, maintain, repair and upgrade Waste Water Treatment Works to meet or exceed licence conditions.	Operation of Waste Water Treatment Works in accordance with licence.	Waste Water Treatment Works operations are ongoing, with maintenance and repairs conducted as required. Plans for minor upgrades are underway. Daily and weekly sampling and monitoring of the plants performance are continuing. Construction of the belt press shed is complete.
		The construction at the onsite chlorination unit is completed and commissioning is complete.
Continue program of sewer main CCTV and lining.	Maintain sewer mains.	Identification of appropriate locations for CCTV is ongoing.
		Any issues found are scheduled for repair or replacement as required.
Identify, plan and undertake construction works.	Renew water and sewer mains adjacent to road works or large developments.	Liaison with Technical Services staff to obtain advice on road projects and / or developments is continuing.
		Liaison with Roads and Maritime Services and Burtons Contractors regarding water and sewer mains affected by the Kelso highway upgrade has been ongoing. Significant cut-ins and new water mains have been installed, along with replacement sewer mains.

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Maintain and upgrade existing waste infrastructure to meet stakeholder requirements		
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	6, 3, 6 22	29
Replace waste collection vehicles on a 4 yearly cycle.	Vehicle fleet is up to date and able to adequately cater for the city's needs.	The waste collection vehicle fleet is up to date.
Review Waste Management Centre fill plans & take necessary steps to ensure the optimum long term strategy is determined and enacted.	Monitor the existing air space and identify future land requirements.	This project recommenced in 2014/2015, after previously being completed in 2011/2012. An audit has been conducted by EPA staff. A review has been conducted by an independent consultant. The final report has been received and recommendations are being put into effect.

Reduce waste to landfill		
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	6, 8, 16 22	28, 29
Work with NetWaste on waste projects and opportunities.	Collaboration conducted.	Projects include the new Community Recycling Centre at the Waste Management Centre, a Love Food Hate Waste Cooking Demonstration and Organics Collection System – all of which have been EPA grant funded.
		The new recycling tender and organics collection was presented to Council in October 2014. Other Councils have finalized their response. The new service started in April 2016, with delivery of bins occurring in March 2016.
		The roll out of information and education has commenced and will continue throughout 2017.
		Close to 30,000 new recycling and food and garden waste bins have been delivered.
		Over 635 tonnes have been sent for composting in the first two and a half months. The new service has been well received.
Contractor to undertake as per contract. Council to continue education and promotion of appropriate behaviours.	Promote recycling to maximise collection volumes.	Recycling contract is continuing, with the contractor JR Richards providing the recycling collection service and transporting to the Orange MRF for sorting and further processing. 2904 tonnes of recycling collected during the year.
		Wastewise education works are continuing, and the recycling contract education strategies are also underway.
Identify, assess and implement appropriate diversion opportunities.	Opportunities considered.	Numerous diversions are already in place and working well. Further opportunities will be identified and assessed and implemented if appropriate to do so. New organics collection introduced.
Work with Central West Care	Monitor the operations of the Reuse and Recovery Centre.	Monitoring of the operations throughout the year is continuing as required.



National Competition Policy

[Local Government Act 1993 - Section 428]

Council has identified its water, sewer and waste activities as Category I business activities. Council has not identified any Category 2 businesses. A summary has been prepared in accordance with the NSW Government Policy Statement 'Application of National Competition Policy to Local Government' and the Office of Local Government guidelines 'Pricing & Costing for Council Businesses: A Guide to Competitive Neutrality'.

The summary is provided in the 'Notes 1, 2 & 3 Forming Part of the Special Purpose Financial Reports' and 'Income Statements' shown in the attached Special Purpose Financial Statement.

The following progress has been made on the implementation of competitive neutrality principles:

Category I businesses have:

- been identified
- had strategic Business Plans prepared
- been separated within Council's reporting system
- had competitive neutrality pricing requirements applied, including calculation of tax equivalents, debt guarantee fees and appropriate rates of return on capital.

The complaints handling system caters for recording competitive neutrality complaints. Council's system caters for the publication of complaints via the annual report. Complaints received are publicised through Council documents such as the Annual Report. During the 2015/2016 year, no such complaints were received.

Council has adopted a policy of actual cost when calculating Trade Waste Charges.

Plan for increasing population and ageing population in the provision of suitable recreational projects		
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	4, 6 8, 9, 10 17,	20, 21 28, 29
Construct additional facilities as per budgets.	Construction of new rugby league fields at Hereford Street in conjunction with a new clubhouse facility.	Contract awarded April 2016. Field contract works commenced in June 2016. Preparing final design of clubhouse in conjunction with stakeholders.
	Construction of a BMX track within the Bathurst Cycle Park precinct.	Track construction works completed. Lighting works and stage 2 development to be undertaken as resources permit.
Update sporting venues, including associated infrastructure as per budgets adopted in Annual Operating	Continuation of improvements & upgrades to existing sporting facilities as resources become available.	Nil resources in 2015/2016 Management Plan apart from Performance Measures listed below.
Plan.	Staged upgrade of Carrington Park sporting facility incorporating modification of change rooms and new toilet amenities.	Contract for new toilet block awarded in April 2016. Contractors commenced on site works June 2016. Design works currently in progress for upgrade to Carrington Park grandstand. Tender Documents being prepared for LED Score Board and Field Lighting Upgrade. Expect to call for Tenders in July 2016.
	Sand Slit Drainage Works to Carrington Park Playing Surface.	Works completed in 2015.
	Restoration of two netball courts, John Matthews Netball Complex.	Work Completed on the reconstruction of 2 Netball Courts.
	Replacement of synthetic grass surface of two tennis courts, John Matthews Tennis Centre.	Contract works completed on the replacement of synthetic turf surface for 2 tennis courts.
	General Field Improvements -Various	General aeration and soil improvement works undertaken to Bathurst Sportsground, Police Paddock, Proctor Park, Morse Park and Ann Ashwood Park.
	Installation of Goalposts at Eglinton Oval.	New soccer goal posts installed.
	Installation of Basketball Court – Eglinton Oval	Full size Basketball Court, Picnic Shelter and BBQ installed adjacent to the Children's Playground at Eglinton Oval in February 2016.

Recreation Services

Continue environmental programs identified within the Bathurst Vegetation Management Plan		
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	4 8, 9, 10, 13	23
Continue ongoing environmental and maintenance works as identified in the Bathurst Vegetation Management Plan to the Macquarie River and other areas, upon availability of resources.	Completion of specific projects as determined by contracts with the Central West Catchment Management Authority and other environmental bodies.	Maintenance & monitoring continuing on various projects, including: - Jacques Park - Browning Street Detention Basin - Reviving Raglan Creek sites.
	Planting of street trees Mid-Western & Mitchell Highway entrances to Bathurst.	Mid-Western and Mitchell Hwy Entrance tree Planting completed. Stage 1 of Durham Street Tree upgrade works commenced.
	Construction of detention basins at Blayney Road Common to improve the condition of Jordan Creek.	Design works to be completed in house prior to proceeding with project.
	Ongoing environmental management works to meet Environmental Trust funding obligations for Racing to Save the Mount Panorama Woodlands Project.	Contract for Stage 3 on ground works / maintenance activities completed. Follow up maintenance program ongoing. Final report to Environmental Trust due August 2016.
	Tree planting and volunteer engagement as part of monthly community planting days including National Tree Day.	Ongoing works to various sites being undertaken monthly by Council's Environmental Engagement Officer. Sites include:
		• Jacques Park
		• O'Keefe Park
		Boundary Road Reserve
		Blayney Road Common
		• Sections of the Macquarie River and Bathurst Bike Park.
		This position has also engaged school groups for education planting events. In addition, the position has assisted in Council's National Tree Day and World Environment Day.

Continue construction of new playgrounds in expanding residential areas and upgrade existing playgrounds and passive recreation areas

CSP 2036 Objective Reference	4 8, 9, 10, 13	17, 21, 22, 23
Plan for the construction of new playgrounds in expanding residential areas in conjunction with Annual Operating Plans.	Completion of new playgrounds as resources allow.	Nil funding for 2015/2016. The following upgrade works have been completed: • New picnic shelter – Berry Park • New shade sails – Adventure Playground.
Continue to upgrade existing playgrounds as resources become available.	Replacement of old and deteriorated playground equipment as resources permit.	Nil funding for new playgrounds in 2015/2016. The following maintenance works were completed:
		 Softfall & edging reinstatement to numerous playgrounds within Bathurst General upgrading of playground hardware including chains, seats, platforms etc.
Plan for and construct passive recreation areas as resources become available.	Consideration and implementation of passive recreation areas as resources allow.	Nil funding in 2015/2016.

Maintain existing and future recreational areas		
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	4 8, 1	1, 12 17, 20, 22, 26 30, 33
Maintain existing levels of service to all parks, reserves, open space areas and other recreational facilities.	Customer satisfaction levels are maintained.	Ongoing as part of adopted maintenance service levels and funding provisions. New areas incorporated into Council's ongoing mowing maintenance program in 2015/2016 include approximately 7 additional sites which total 4.68 Ha of land area added to Council's ongoing mowing maintenance program
Consider extending maintenance services to recreation areas within villages, subject to funding and other resources becoming available.		Nil funding in 2015/2016.







CULTURAL & COMMUNITY SERVICES





Bathurst Regional Council supports a vibrant culture and community. Lifestyle in the Bathurst Region is enriched by providing a diverse range of cultural facilities and programs and by promoting cultural diversity. Community well-being is promoted through social planning, community development and ensuring access to community services.

Indicates that objectives relate to Key Direction:

Economic Prosperity

c Prosperity Enviro

Environmental Sustainability

Liveable Communities



Cultural Services

Collections, Displays & Cultural Facility Management

To provide professional management, advice and quality facilities to ensure Council's collections are effectively managed

CSP 2036 Objective Reference	6 20	
Continue to progress the proposal for an archival and collection facility for the Bathurst Region.	Draft business plan developed. Continue liaison with the Reference Group and other identified partners.	Inclusion of Collections Facility under the Centroc Regional Priority Infrastructure Project (community tranche) matrix.
	Visit other relevant locations where successful facilities have been built in	Participation in and inclusion of Collections Facility in the development of the Cultural Plan.
	regional areas to understand lessons learned.	Budget submission in 2016/2017 budget to develop business plan and operating model.
Removal and installation of exhibitions.	Exhibits installed and removed.	July 2015 - BRAG Exhibition preparation and takedown Hill End.
		Mayoral portraits re-hung in Council Chamber.
		Exhibition install at Chifley Home & Education Centre (Behind the Lines).
		August 2015 - Chifley Home and Education Centre – Exhibition ''Between the Lines'' installed and dismounted during July.
		Installation of BRAG exhibition, 3-6 August.
		October 2015 - Prepare and store Supercroc at AFMM.
		November 2015 - BRAG: Installation of exhibitions.
		December 2015 - AFMM: Install Supercroc exhibition.
		AFMM: Investigate galvanised dinosaur loan for install in court yard.
		February 2016 - Take down of "Bathurst Faces" exhibition at Chifley Home.
		Arrival of 1951 Cooper MarkV Norton at NMRM. Built by Harry Hinton Senior.

		Return of Bowden's Johnny Ceccotto/ Roberto
		Ravagila BMW 635 (NMRM).
		March 2016 - Collection of Hill End art works, matting & Install of BRAG exhibitions (Rosemary Valadon and Sherfay Derz.
		Return of Chad Parrish Mazda Argo Le Mans Car.
		BRAG Collection works prepared for Orange Gallery Ioan.
		May 2016 - Installation of galvanised dinosaur at Australian Fossil and Mineral Museum.
		BRAG changeover May 2016.
		June 2016 - Travel to Hill End and Mandurama for exhibition works.
		BRAG changeover May 2016.
		Installation of galvanised dinosaur at Australian Fossil and Mineral Museum.
Responding to requests for professional advice.	Advice provided in a timely manner.	July 2015 - Re-commence collections software and assets procedure and policies.
		August 2015 - Rockley Mill and Stable Museum - completion of millstone permanent support and install into sheltered areas on fabricated steel pallets.
		Provision of NMRM images for Bathurst 200 illumination designers.
		Assist Bathurst Heritage Awards Dinner with 1974 BACSUP display.
		October 2016 - Provide AFMM Collection and Display advise to Geoscience Australia.
		November 2015 - Participate in CSU / BRC collaborative meeting.
		Program five CSU Information Studies students for 2016 Collections work.
		December 2015 - NMRM: Photo shoot of Wayne Gardner GP bike.
		BRAG: Planning for lighting upgrade.
		March 2016 - Ongoing assistance with Rail Museum.
		Liaison activities for BRAG capital works.
		Processing of BRAG Cultural gifts.
		April 2016 - Collection and acquisition of Hon. John Matthews portrait by Reg Campbell (BRAG).
		Final Chifley Home/Museum of Australian Democracy website content submitted.
		May 2016 - Discussions held with Bathurst District Historical Society regarding digitising photographs.
		Completion of collection valuations for asset purposes. Museum Collections Management Policy adopted by Council at Policy Meeting 4 May 2016 DCCS#1.

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June 2016 - 2x CSU information studies students on placement for three weeks. Activities have included finishing BRAG stocktake, identifying and cataloguing Mineral thumbnails and cataloguing and photographing un-entered Fossils (AFMM).
Provision of Heritage office DA submission material for train carriage and promotional activities (train). material for train carriage and promotional activities (train).

To provide professional management,	advice and quality facilities to ensure Co	ouncil's collections are effectively managed
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	20	
Draft Bathurst Regional Council Cultural Plan.	Draft Cultural Plan presented to Council for public exhibition purposes.	Appointment of Brecknock Consulting Pty Ltd as consultant for the Cultural Plan. Meetings held with councillors, staff and community during the year.
		Background and directions paper prepared, which assisted in developing final draft report, which is being reviewed as at June 2016.
Develop strategies to fund Bathurst	Source and apply for external funding.	Submission under the Regional Priority
Regional Council cultural facilities.	Review operations for cost effectiveness.	Infrastructure Project (community tranche) for Cultural Precinct.
		Background/development work commenced to establish Bathurst Cultural Fund. Working Party held with Councillors, with follow up in March and Council report to be provided.
		BRAG Curator Sarah Gurich awarded a bursary from the Art Craft Design Strategy (ACD) National Network to attend and present at the Museums Australia conference in Auckland New Zealand in May 2016. Additionally Bathurst Regional Art Gallery Society (BRAGS) provided funding for the Curator's air fare to attend the Conference.
		NSW Office of Environment & Heritage provided \$1,500 to fund the artists' fees for the BRAG's Artists from Hill End exhibition at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Hill End as part of the National Parks and Wildlife Service's The End Festival (23-25 April 2016).



Bathurst Regional Art Gallery (BRAG)

Provide a focus on the visual arts for the community by providing education and public programs, that challenge thinking and stimulate creativity, and to promote cultural enrichment through the development and care of the permanent collection, temporary exhibitions and research facilities

CSP 2036 Objective Reference	4 20, 23, 26, 27	
 Develop the number and quality of education and outreach programs at the gallery: The Greatest Wonder of the World: Holtermann Photographs Richard Bell: Imagining Victory Jonathon Jones Windradyne 	Number of visitations to the education and outreach programs. Number of schools, community groups and organisations accessing the Art in a Suitcase program.	 BRAG conducts an extensive educational and outreach program to benefit the Bathurst region community, including Generation Art and Art in a Suitcase. In 2015/2016 there were a total of 107 education and outreach programs with a total participation of 2,130.
Bicentennial Commission		Highlights of the year included:
 New Works from Old Ground: the Chinese Goldfields Legacy Rosemary Valadon: Survey Glass: Art, Design & Architecture 		<i>Richard Bell: Imaging Victory</i> workshop with 6 students from Bathurst High with leading Indigenous artist Richard Bell and 25 members of public attended a floor talk by Richard Bell in August 2015.
• Art in a Suitcase.		The Greatest Wonder of the World: Holtermann Photographs in the September education week 393 school children attended.
		In October, I5 members of the Bathurst Wiradjuri community attended the Stone tool Workshop facilitated by BRAG as part of the Jonathan Jones guwiinyguliya yirgabiyi ngay yuwin.gu gulbalangidyal ngunhi (they made a solitude and called it peace) exhibition.
		In November, 28 members of the Bathurst Wiradjuri community attended the Weaving Workshop facilitated by BRAG as part of the Jonathan Jones guwiinyguliya yirgabiyi ngay yuwin. gu gulbalangidyal ngunhi (they made a solitude and called it peace) exhibition.
		Generation Art
		Generation Art is a ground breaking pilot program developed by BRAG and Australian Catholic University (ACU) for youth audiences. Eleven year 10 students from five Bathurst High Schools over 13 weeks experience all aspects of working in a Gallery including contact with artists and interpreting the Collection. The program commenced on 27 April and students meet on a weekly basis. As part of the program the students will create video works based on BRAG's permanent collection culminating in an exhibition. The ACU research component of the program, the first of its kind, will measure program effectiveness, student engagement levels and aesthetic development.
		Art in a Suitcase
		Conceived by BRAG 9 years ago Art in a Suitcase is a free educational touring outreach program that makes art readily accessible to young people in the Bathurst Region often in isolated schools. In recent years the program has been extended to include early learning centres, vacation care services, community health and aged care facilities.

		In 2015/2016 the program toured to 6 venues and included 159 participants.
		The six venues were Hill End Public School (8 children), Kelso Nurture I Early Learning Centre (45 children), Millthorpe Public School (40 children), Capertee Public School (12 children), O'Connell Public School (40 students), Gemmalong Residential Care Village, Forbes (14 residents participated in an Arts & Dementia program using the suitcase).
 Develop community access and inclusion in the Gallery's exhibition program through the development of a series of community focused exhibition: Bathurst Beanies Schools' Exhibition to coincide with Holtermann exhibition Bathurst Art Fair Windradyne Project – targeting indigenous community Steve Kirby: Choice or Chance 	Staging of exhibition. Number of visitations.	 Both the Bathurst Beanies and Schools' Exhibition to coincide with Holtermann exhibition did not proceed as it was decided to expand the Holtermann exhibition meaning the gallery spaces that had been allocated for those two exhibitions were no longer available. The education week in September associated with the Holtermann exhibition was very successful and attracted 393 students. The Bathurst Art Fair held in September over its 3 day and one night run attracted 706 people. The Art Fair was coordinated by BRAGS (Bathurst Regional Art Gallery Society). The opening in September of the Indigenous exhibition Jonathan Jones guwiinyguliya yirgabiyi
		ngay yuwin.gu gulbalangidyal ngunhi (they made a solitude and called it peace) was attended by 130 members of the Bathurst Aboriginal community, VIP's and the general public. Steve Kirby: Choice or Chance opened on 13 May 2016 and closed on 26 June 2016, total attendance was 2,887.
Provide opportunities for the professional development of local based and locally connected artists	Production of an exhibition catalogue. Number of visitations.	A major survey of Hill End based artist, <i>Rosemary</i> <i>Valadon:A Sensual World</i> opened April and concluded 8 May.Total visitation was 3,779.
through an exhibition: • Rosemary Valedon • Lino Alvarez		The 'Artists from The End' exhibition in the Sacred Heart Church Hill End featured 14 Hill End artists and was developed in partnership with the Hill End Arts Council as part of 'The End' Festival developed by the Office of Environment and Heritage, National Parks and Wildlife Service (23- 24 April 2016). Total visitation: 4,500
		The exhibition by Hill End based ceramicist Lino Alvarez was postponed until 2017.
Develop community understanding of the achievements of the Hill End Artists in Residency Program through artists who have	Staging of Hill End Artists in Residency exhibitions. Number of visitations.	BRAG exhibits works from the Hill End Artists in Residence Program (HEARP) at the main gallery in Bathurst and at the Jean Bellette Gallery at the Visitor Information Centre in Hill End.
participated:		Main Gallery, Bathurst
 Guy Maestri, Ben Quilty & Luke Sciberras Arny Lee Sanford Arts in "New Works from Old 		The three exhibitions Guy Maestri, Ben Quilty & Luke Sciberras; Amy Lee Sanford; and New Works from Old Ground at BRAG (27 November 2015 - 24 January 2016) was seen by 3,072 people.
Ground" exhibition.		An additional exhibition related to HEARP was also exhibited at BRAG in 2015/2016:
		Shoufay Derz: 'The Wish' exhibited at BRAG. Shoufay Derz who participated in HEARP in 2014, opened on I April and concluded 8 May.Total visitation was 3,779.

		Jean Bellette Gallery, Hill End
		Hill End in Focus featured work by 4 artists who have participated in HEARP was exhibited at the Jean Bellette Gallery, Hill End, as part of <i>The End</i> <i>Festival</i> developed by the Office of Environment and Heritage, National Parks and Wildlife Service (23-24 April 2016). Total visitation: 4,500.
		Additionally <i>Kim Deacon's</i> : A <i>Storm at Sea</i> and <i>Ed Douglas: Prospects: Hill End in Focus</i> were also exhibited at the Jean Bellette Gallery in Hill End in 2015/2016.
Provide community access to exhibitions of contemporary art that have a wide community appeal:	Staging of community access exhibitions. Number of visitations.	Colours of Country III: Alice Springs Beanie Festival (7 August to 20 September) was seen by 3,535 people.
 Colours of Country III: Alice Springs Beanie Festival Jonathon Jones Windradyne Bicentennial Commission Hill End: Maestri, Quilty & Sciberras 		The Jonathan Jones guwiinyguliya yirgabiyi ngay yuwin.gu gulbalangidyal ngunhi (they made a solitude and called it peace) exhibition was seen by 3,049 people during its run from 2 October to 22 November 2015.
 Rosemary Valadon: Survey Robert Brain: Tapestries		<i>Guy Maestri, Ben Quilty & Luke Sciberras</i> exhibition (27 November 2015 - 24 January 2016) was seen by 3,072 people.
		Rosemary Valadon: A Sensual World (1 April - 8 May 2016) was seen by 3,779 people.
		Robert Brain: An Autobiographical Tapestry (13 May - 26 June 2016) was seen by 2,887 people.
Develop community access to the permanent collection by the development of three exhibitions for	Staging of three permanent collection exhibitions. Number of visitations.	Lloyd Rees Lithographs: from the permanent collection (19 June – 2 August 2015) was seen by 3,770 people.
the Rees Gallery.		Peter Cooley: from the permanent collection (7 August – 29 September 2015) was seen by 3,516 people.
		Hill End in Focus: video works from the permanent collection (27 November 2015 – 24 January 2016) was seen by 3,072 people.
		Joanna Logue: "where she was sleeping" works from the permanent collection (1 April - 8 May 2016) was seen by 3,779 people.

Commitment to the ongoing maintenance of the Bathurst Regional Gallery facility		
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	6 20, 22	29
Bathurst Regional Art Gallery general maintenance and facility upgrades.	he identification of general maintenance and facility upgrade requirements. The completion of identified general maintenance and facility upgrade requirements.	BRAG's air conditioning, climate control and lighting systems upgrade was completed at the end of March 2016. It should be noted that the Art Gallery was closed to the general public for February/March to undertake these works. The upgrade provides best industry practice air conditioning and climate control systems and a state of the art low energy LED lighting systems. In April reports on the operating of the new system started to be generated. Since the completion of the upgrade it has been identified that additional work needs to be undertaken to line and insulate the internal walls to protect the Gallery environment during winter and times of heavy frosts.

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In December the refurbishment and landscaping of Gallery/Library forecourt area in order to open it up to Keppel Street was completed.
Various maintenance works were undertaken during the period; security, electrical equipment and alarms.

Bathurst Memorial Entertainment Centre (BMEC)

Provide access to high quality performing arts, activities and events for the community as audiences and/or active participants through BMEC Programs

Utilise these programs to: challenge thinking; stimulate creativity; develop skills; strengthen networks; encourage engagement with the performing arts by young people and encourage their retained engagement into adulthood and old age; encourage familiarity with and fluency in performing arts genres; and to generally encourage a clear sense of community cultural identity

CSP 2036 Objective Reference	I, 3, 4 20	0, 23, 26, 27 30, 33
The presentation of a diverse and high quality Annual Season including connections to the development of local engagement and participation.	Successful staging of programed shows including attendance numbers, engagement activities and support for the development of local performing arts practice.	Four productions were successfully presented in June. Sugarland attended by 322 patrons and was accompanied by a workshop with Aboriginal young people at Kelso Community Centre. Let's Misbehave: A Cole Porter Soiree which included dinner and show and was attended by 260 patrons.
		Circa presented two shows <i>Carnival of the Animals</i> attended by 623 and Beyond attended by 287 patrons. The remainder of the BMEC Annual Season was successfully
		delivered as outlined in the BMEC Season brochures. Overall attendance at Season events in the financial year was 6,794.
Support of the <i>Local Stages</i> <i>Program</i> that assists and develops local artists across the performing arts.	Provision of Council support to the program to assist in the costs associated with the employment of the Local	<i>Local Stages</i> is the BMEC program which supports the engagement of people in the Bathurst Region in performing arts practice as active participants. In 2015/2016 activities consisted of:
	Stages Creative Producer, venue	Central West Short Play Festival
	hire and technical labour. Development of local and regional programs which offer participatory opportunities for	Performances of the Short Play Showcase "Snap Shorts" occurred in July 2015 with performances in Bathurst, Mudgee and Dubbo. Funded by the Regional Arts Fund and the Australia Council for the Arts Program – Presenters Funds.
	local and regional performing artists.	Workshops to encourage play writing were held in Bathurst (March) and Mudgee (May).
		Monthly Play readings are now taking place in Bathurst.
		Play readings were included in the Bathurst Writer's & Readers' Festival (May).
		Made in Bathurst projects are in development:
		The Tosca Project - Next draft of script is underway with a new writer on board (Cheryl Ward). Significant changes to the script were made in March during a week-long development at BMEC.The next draft with musical compositions is due mid-July.
		<i>This Land -</i> rewrite underway following successful consultation & development with Aboriginal Elders. Mentoring of writer Deb Cooke (Mudgee) was undertaken by writers Alex Broun and Timothy Daly.
		<i>The Jason Project</i> - Successful developments have occurred and Griffin Theatre may be interested in supporting this work. Seeking further funding in 2017.

Chad McLachlan – Residency week in May to develop a new work. Chad grew up in Bathurst and has recently graduated from the Victorian College of the Arts. Looking at opportunities to return to Bathurst.
Local Emerging Artists Program – (LEAP) at the Inland Sea Of Sound festival, I 7 young musicians performed in Cafes and wineries leading up to the inland Sea of Sound and had the opportunity to perform at ISOS.
Local Stages supported the Critical Path choreographic residency (ongoing).
Support was provided for a new work written by Melissa Docker with Bathurst Theatre Company (BTC), access to venue and promotional support, assisting BTC with social media.
Support was given to Brooke Murray with a new devised work ''Boats''. Access to venue, assistance with grant writing & financial support.
Support for Kathy Cameron with Fun Theatre for the Very Young – promotions and financial support.
Assistance provided to Kim Deacon to develop social media skills- Facebook pages and writing applications.
Workshops
4 x Kim Kelly Writing Workshops held in partnership with Bathurst Writers' and Readers' Festival.
2 × Play Writing Workshops held in Bathurst.
I x Play writing workshop held in Mudgee.
2×3 day long drama workshops for young people.
Carmen Sweet – Audience engagement with local dancers.
Kelly – QTC Drama Workshop.
Local Stages Presented at BMEC:
 SnapShorts. Short Play Showcase - July (also Dubbo and Mudgee).
• Cabaret Kite – December:
• Unsustainable Behaviour (Lingua Franca) - presented at BMEC in November and will be performed at Artlands in Dubbo in October 2016.
• Hello Stranger by the Paper Cut collective from Newcastle was presented in March.
Assistance for productions at other venues:
• Home Sweet Home – ongoing promotional support for Hill End artist Kim Deacon. Performances have been held at BRAG, Inland Sea of Sound Festival and Gulgong Henry Lawson Festival.
• Oh My God I've Been Kidnapped and Hate What I'm Wearing! The Musical with Kate Smith (originally developed in Bathurst through Local Stages performed at The Old 505 in Newtown in May.
Bathurst Writers' and Readers' Festival
Local Stages works with local partner Books Plus to curate and manage this event alongside the Sydney Writers Festival Streaming program.
All reports and acquittals for funding bodies have been submitted by the due date.

 The provision of other programs including: Program for Young People & Families and the Creative Learning Project Inland Sea of Sound Festival Aboriginal Performing Arts Program 	Type and number of programs, performances, workshops and associated activities including attendance numbers. Development of relationship with local Primary and High Schools and the Tertiary sector. Development of relationship with the local, regional and national Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities as it relates to local community identity and performing arts development. Sustained relationships with regional partners such as CSU,	 Creative Learning Project In July The Moon's A Balloon project with Patch Theatre involved performance intersects with the Mitchell Young Voices and CSU Theatre Media students. The result was observed by visitors from Kalamazoo, USA. Open Storybox workshops were provided in July for 14 Primary School teachers. Inland Sea of Sound Festival The festival made a successful move to Wahluu – Mount Panorama in November: Highlights included: an opening concert by Archie Roach preceded by an Aboriginal smoking ceremony; appearances by African troupe Medloko Merope and the Victor Valdes Trio. Catapult Festival The next Festival is planned for April 2018 and planning will
	Sustained relationships with regional partners such as CSU, Mitchell Conservatorium, and	
	others.	Aboriginal Performing Arts Program.
	Key state, national and international connections.	Activities targeting the Aboriginal community continue to be woven into numerous BMEC activities. Engagement in 2015/2016 occurred with the Inland Sea of Sound, the Regional Theatre Project with the Australian Theatre for Young People and the Blak Lines tours of Head Full of Love and Sugarland.

Utilise the BMEC 5/10/20 Year Masterplan as a basis to plan for building maintenance, upgrades and the integration of BMEC into the broader Bathurst Regional Council Cultural Plan.

CSP 2036 Objective Reference	6	20, 22 29
BMEC general maintenance and facility upgrades.	The identification of general maintenance and facility upgrade requirements. The completion of identified	 General maintenance and facility upgrades were conducted as planned and within budget. Highlights included: The construction of the City Hall piano store and mezzanine to accommodate the second hand Yamaha C7
	general maintenance and facility upgrade requirements.	 purchased by the Bathurst Eisteddfod. New hammers and shanks were fitted to the piano in June. The installation of the new City Hall PA System. The installation of a new fire and emergency control system. New carpet laid in the box office and administration offices. Some areas were repainted coinciding with this work.
		• The replacement of the entire set of theatre drapes.
Commence reviewing of the long term options of BMEC	Position paper developed.	The Bathurst Cultural Plan is in draft format pending formal adoption. It includes recommendations which are a prerequisite for a review of long term options for BMEC.



Bathurst Library

Provision of a public library space and related services that meets the needs of the community			
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	ce 20, 23, 2	6, 27 30	
Continue to promote and	Number of visitations.	In the 2015/2016 year, library statistics include the following:	
operate the Bathurst Library as a free and accessible	Special events held.	• 155,930 people 'through' the door	
space that services the	Promotional activities.	• 297,660 items being borrowed	
community.	Number of interest groups using the Library.	• 41,748 reference/research enquiries	
		• 31 events were held in the library which included:	
		lecture by State Library curator (56)	
		• book groups (151)	
		• book launches (232)	
		 Two special children's events "Andy Jones" and "Travel Bugs" brought in crowds totalling 102 	
		 102 children's programs with 5105 children attending 	
		• school holiday programs – (212)	
		• Storytime – (2976)	
		• New Kids on the Book – (1744)	
		• After School Club – (173)	
		• 1,259 children attended our Children's Book Week celebrations - a very special event on the library calendar. This year the library's special guest was Spot the Dog.	
		• The library's reading program, 'Booklink' continues to grow strongly with this year yielding the highest statistics with over 20,000 books read by 139 registered readers (children).	
		 Mobile library services made 48 visits to six remote schools Meadow Flat, Hill End, Wattle Flat, Sofala, Trunkey Creek and Rockley. 	
		• Housebound services continued to the 79 housebound clients which includes nine corporate clients who receive bulk loans for their residents.	
		Home library services included 102 runs.	
		ePlatforms continue to be strong with the following 2015/2016 statistics:	
		• ebooks – 484 subscribers 1874 downloads	
		• audiobooks – 316 subscribers 891 downloads	
		• information database use – 15,352 searches	
		On July 1, the library looks forward to a further eProduct being made available to the borrowing community – eMagazines.	
		The Library also extends promotional events to include the forecourt. Events in this space include Dog Expo, Artisans Markets, Book Sales, Harmony Day Celebrations.	
		Traditional library services continue to be strong –	
		Local/Family History research, children's services, internet services with many community groups taking the opportunity to use the library as a meeting/community hub.	
		Use of facilities by individuals and groups continue to be strong and varied. Groups include Bathurst Family History Group, Knitters Groups, Gamers, Mothers' Groups, U3A.	

		The library continues to promote itself through weekly newspaper column, weekly radio segment and social media. Currently the Library's Facebook page has 1,244 'likes'. The library's 'Twitter' page has 641 'followers'.
Investigate and develop plans for a refurbishment of the internal library public space.	Plan development for refurbishment.	 Consultants were engaged with regard to refurbishment and workshops held with staff. On receipt of the report: Grant submitted to the NSW State Library for refurbishment. The application was successful with \$200,000 awarded.
		 Design briefs have been requested from other libraries to gain insight into the process. Visits to other libraries are also being planned for visiting staff to get ideas and learn the refurbishment process.

Improve access to Local History	resources	
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	11	26
Provide training to staff in relation to location and access to Local History.	Number of staff and type of training undertaken.	A review of the Local History stack was carried out. Local and Family History continue to show themselves as developing/growing interests in the local, and not so local communities. We receive many visits and enquiries from NSW and nationally. Some enquiries have also been received from overseas. Enquiries come through walk-ins, telephone and email. New staff are trained in the use of Local History equipment and resources with individual refresher sessions as needed. The library has purchased a digital scanner to aid in the digitisation of rare local history publications.

Provide Outreach Library Service to the broader community		
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	17	20, 26
Provision of a range of outreach	Number of visits to rural	137 registered (remote) school users (6 schools).
services that target the rural	villages.	79 registered housebound (delivered) clients.
villages, isolated individuals and educational facilities.	Number of visits to isolated individuals.	48 visits to schools (remote services).
	Number of visits to schools and other educational facilities.	21 adult clients.



Australian Fossil & Mineral Museum (AFMM)

Support the operation of the Australian Fossil and Mineral Museum		
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	4, 5	20, 23, 26 30
Provision of operational	Number of visitations.	Total visitor numbers for 2015/2016 were 28,458.
support through the allocation of resources as well as actively	Number of staff and volunteers.	This number was made up of:
initiating programs and projects	Number and type of projects	• July 2,572
that encourage increase in	and programs undertaken	• August 2,506
visitor numbers.	including user numbers.	• September 3,120
	Number of board meetings and related activities/ meetings.	• October 3,109
	related activities/ rifectings.	November 2,471
		• December 1,726
		• January 2,773
		February 1,124March 3,115
		• April 3,158
		• May 1,160
		• June 1,529
		A total of 10,077 school students attended with 6,584 on site visits and 3,493 students participating in the video conferencing programs offered by the museum.
		Highlights of the year included:
		 Participation in Bathurst Winter Festival, displays and torchlight tours
		Annual Somerville Lecture 'Pluto Revealed' August
		• Just Add Science Festival – October
		Mayoral function SEGRA conference
		• Crocodile Day April
		Temporary Exhibition included:
		Discovering Gordo
		'Evolution'Town Square exhibition
		• Supercroc
		The Somerville Board met:
		18 November 2015
		• 23 June 2016

Commitment to the ongoing maintenance of the facility

CSP 2036 Objective Reference	6	20, 22 29
Australian Fossil and Mineral	The identification of general	Maintenance undertaken included:
Museum general maintenance and facility upgrades.	maintenance and facility upgrade requirements. The completion of identified general maintenance and facility upgrade requirements.	 Regular cleaning of pigeon waste from building Replacement and repair of lighting Plumbing repairs toilets Repair ceiling in exterior alcove Installation of metal dinosaur in courtyard

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National Motor Racing Museum

Development of broader visitor market to the National Motor Racing Museum		
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	4	20, 23, 26
Investigate and undertake	The identification of a range	Total visitor numbers for 2015/2016 were 30,471.
a range of promotional mechanism for NMRM.	of promotional options for the NMRM.	The following marketing and promotional activities were undertaken:
	The actual promotional mechanisms undertaken for NMRM. Develop and undertake methods to gauge the effectiveness of the promotions undertaken.	 Website upgrade to mobile/tablet friendly format Billboard on Great Western Highway outside Lithgow Museum promoted at annual Legendary moments dinner with Gary Rogers and Greg Murphy The following advertising occurred: V8 Magazine Australian Muscle Car Muscle Car Masters Program Muscle CarTrader
		 2BS V8 Supercar race program V8X Magazine Bathurst special edition advertisement Motorcycle Trader National School Road safety Program V8 Action Magazine
		Vehicles provided for special events included:
		• Alan Moffat car provided for V8 supercar media launch at Circular Quay
		George Reed Special for Sydney Weekender television program
		Holden Monaro for V8 Gala Ball
		VIP laps for Reliance Credit Union conference – Holden Monaro and George Reed Special
		Heritage hot laps for Campervan and Motorhome Club c Australia (CMCA) 30th Anniversary Rally, April/May 2016
		• Six cars and 5 bikes for the V8 Supercar display at Harris Park including the Moffat Falcon, 1967Falcon and 1963 Cortina

Development of broader visitor market to the National Motor Racing Museum

CSP 2036 Objective Reference	4, 5	20, 26
Develop temporary exhibition program for 2015/2016 to draw wider audience to NMRM.	Temporary exhibitions developed and opened 2015/2016.	Temporary exhibitions included Leo Geoghegan Exhibition items over Bathurst 1000 weekend included trophies and signs Leo Geoghegan cars 1968 Falcon XW, Lotus sports car, 1949 Holden FX car.
		Loans of display vehicles and other items have included:
		• MG Q speed car
		• Leo Geoghegan cars 1968 Falcon xw, Lotus sports car, 1949 Holden FX
		Pre-war MGQ loaned by John Lakey
		 1938 race car trophy (first ever car race on Mont Panorama)
		• 1940's Cooper Manx racing car
		Cornish Ariel/Norton Bike
		• 1980 Envoy Sports Car
		• 1981 JPS team BMW of Alan Grice
		Jack Brabham BT23 formula 2 race car

Commitment to the ongoing maintenance of the facility		
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	6	20, 22 29
NMRM general maintenance and facility upgrades.	The identification of general maintenance and facility upgrades. The completion of the identified general maintenance and facility upgrades.	 Maintenance undertaken included: New shop display cabinet unit installed. Museum lighting. Preparation and cleaning for race activities inside and outside. Water leak under slab of Brock Wing repaired. Replacement of air conditioner in Conference Room. Solar panels repaired. Broken glass window in back office fixed. Fire alarm detector in shop replaced.

Chifley Home

Implement recommendations in Chifley Home & Education Centre Strategic Management Plan		
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	6	11 20, 23
Strategic Management Plan developed, actions prioritised, costed and timelines provided.	The development of an action plan. Work completed in line with action plan and related timelines.	Total visitor numbers for 2015/2016 were 1,049. Total income for 2015/2016 \$12,492. Chifley has been included in the development of the Bathurst Regional Council's Cultural Plan.
Maintain heritage significance of Chifley Home		

CSP 2036 Objective Reference	6	20, 22
Identify and Implement	Preservation and conservation	Approval received from the Office of Environment and
preventative conservation	activities, general maintenance	Heritage under 557 (2) for maintenance works at Ben
activities.	and upgrades undertaken.	Chifley's home. Quotations are being sought for exterior
		painting.

Continue public engagement act	tivities to encourage new and ret	urning visitors
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	4,5	11 20
Temporary exhibitions program developed for 2015/2016.	Confirmation, development and installation of temporary exhibitions 2015/2016.	 Temporary exhibitions and events/activities included: Zenio Lapka exhibition 'Bathurst Faces'. Meeting with Toni Dam (Australian Prime Ministers Centre) to develop Chifley content for the National Online Project. Participation with Australian Prime Ministers Centre Round Table in Canberra with Sam Malloy as Council's representative. Anthony Albanese visited the Museum as part of the ''Light on the Hill'' activities. Pre booked Tours included Chifley College(Sydney), Australian Rotarians conference on 22 Oct and Federation of Australian Historical Societies AGM. Launch of Chifley Family book ''Remembering Ben Chifley''. Chifley Album photo exhibition. CMCA Tours with Morning Tea took place on 26, 27 and 28 April 2016 with a total of 31 in attendance.

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Bathurst Regional Art Gallery

Total attendance for Bathurst Regional Art Gallery (BRAG) exhibitions and programs including the main gallery (24,959), the Jean Bellette Gallery, Hill End (9,236), and BRAG touring exhibitions (37,641) was 71,836. Additionally 155,930 people saw BRAG foyer exhibitions in the Art Gallery/Library foyer display cases.

A major upgrade of the Gallery was completed, with a new air-conditioning system and a state-of-the-art LED track lighting system installed, bringing BRAG in-line with current best practice industry standards.

BRAG continued to produce innovative and regionally responsive exhibitions and programs in 2015/2016. Exhibition development focussed on BRAG curated programs responding to the B200, the artists of Hill End, and major survey exhibitions of regionally based artists.

Significant award-winning partnership projects were developed with community groups such as the Bathurst Wiradyuri and Aboriginal Elders to develop programs in conjunction with the B200 that celebrated the region's cultural diversity. Highlights included *Jonathan Jones: guwiinyguliya yirgabiyi ngay yuwin.gu gulbalangidyal ngunhi (they made a solitude and called it peace)* exhibition and community workshops, and *From Old Ground.*

BRAG received industry recognition for its B200 programs with Highly Commended Awards in both the 2016 Local Government Awards, and the 2016 MAGNA Awards.

BRAG's commitment to developing and delivering high quality education programs continued, with school group tours, the ongoing Art in a Suitcase outreach program, and the commencement of the ground-breaking Generation Art Project.

BRAGS Inc. continued to support the Gallery through its fundraising initiatives in 2015/2016, contributing \$5,455.00 towards the purchase of new acquisitions.

Eight Cultural Gifts comprising 38 works totalling \$135,000.00 entered BRAG's permanent collection, along with 13 donations of work valued at \$13,041.75, and 17 purchases valued at \$21,300.00.

In 2015/2016 BRAG implemented a new initiative to develop a range of shop merchandise based on BRAG's permanent collection and the cultural facilities of Bathurst. The product range included boxed card sets, greeting cards, note pads and ceramic plates.

The Hill End Artists in Residence Program attracted 26 artists from across Australia, and generated nine exhibitions for BRAG and the Bellette Gallery. BRAG also worked with the Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts to develop exhibitions and programs in conjunction with The End Festival.

Bathurst Memorial Entertainment Centre

Attendance at BMEC events from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016 was 49,080 compared to 47,791 in 2014/2015 and 48,195 in 2013/2014.

BMEC Annual Season

16 professional events were presented between July 2015 and June 2016. Genres represented included classical and contemporary drama, classical and contemporary dance and physical theatre, classical and contemporary music, theatre for young people and families and cabaret.

The season was accompanied by numerous community engagement activities including workshops and forums.

Local Stages

The Local Stages program supports the development of local performing arts practice and the collaboration and engagement of local artists with leading practitioners outside the region.

In 2015/2016 Local Stages projects included:

- Support for the Regional Theatre Project with Australian Theatre for Young People.
- Three Made in Bathurst commissioned projects.
- Workshops in: directing, writing, stagecraft, Shakespeare, dance, circus and acting.
- Support of three new local productions including *Unsustainable Behaviour* by Lingua Franca.

Creative Learning Project

In April 2016 work commenced on the integration of local young people into the Patch Theatre Company production *The Moon's a Balloon* which was performed in Bathurst in July 2015.

A program of workshops linked to this production, called the Open Storybox, aimed to assist teachers to use the experience of the performance as a springboard to use the arts as a tool to assist learning and creativity across the curriculum.

Aboriginal Performing Arts Program (APAP)

In 2015/2016 the focus of the Aboriginal Performing Arts Program included the development of the new Australian play *This Land* and the involvement of the local community in the opening ceremony for the Inland Sea of Sound in November 2015.

National Motor Racing Museum

In the 2015/2016 financial year a total of 22,558 individuals visited the National Motor Racing Museum with a turnover of \$522,477 through shop sales and admissions.

Functions continued to provide a strong source of income, as well as a positive tool to promote the museums profile. Twenty functions were hosted with 1,395 people in attendance. These included receptions for the Ariel Motorcycle Rally, Panthers Football Team and the Campervan & Motorhome Club of Australia. Total visitation also included 53 booked tours including 2,081 individuals.

Promotion of the museum was enhanced during this period utilising a range of approaches including the upgrade of the museum's website to a mobile/tablet friendly format, renewal of the billboard on the Great Western Highway and advertisements placed in print media and radio.

Australian Fossil And Mineral Museum - Home Of The Somerville Collection

In the 2015/2016 financial year a total of 28,458 individuals visited the Australian Fossil and Mineral Museum with a turnover of \$229,328 through shop sales and admission.

A total of 10,077 school students viewed the museum displays which was made up of 6,584 on site visits and 3,493 students participating in the video conferencing programs offered by the museum. Other highlights of the year included the Bathurst Winter Festival Torch Light Tours, annual Somerville Lecture, 'Pluto Revealed', Just Add Science Festival, Mayoral function, SEGRA conference and Crocodile Day.

Exhibitions held in the temporary gallery included Discovering Gordo, 'Evolution' Town Square exhibition and Supercroc from the Australian Museum.

Chifley Home And Education Centre (CHEC)

In the 2015/2016 financial year a total of 976 individuals visited Chifley Home and Education Centre with a turnover of \$12,492 through shop sales and admission. This figure included a total of 17 booked tours with 489 individuals.

Temporary exhibitions held included "Bathurst Faces" a photographic exhibition by Zenio Lapka and the Chifley Album photo exhibition. Other highlights included the development of Chifley content for the Australian Prime Ministers Centre online project, visit by Anthony Albenese MP as part of the "Light on the Hill" activities and the launch of the book "Remembering Ben Chifley".

Community Services

Provision of a range of Children.services)2. Family Day Care3. Vacation Care	/s Services that include:1.	Long Day Care (Scallywags and Little Scallywags Child Care
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	6	21, 23, 26 28, 30, 32
Provide an updated Children's Services Review 2015 that includes:	Children's Services Review completed.	The completed Children's Services Review was presented to Councillors in December 2015.
I. Overview of Children's Services sector across Bathurst.		Review of future direction and planning for Children's Services Report has commenced in June 2016.
2. Review of Bathurst Regional Council's Children's Services operations.		
Provide ongoing opportunities for professional development of	Types of professional development offered.	The following professional development was undertaken by Children's Services staff:
children's services staff.	Number of staff completing training.	Children Service staff across all sites participated in 31 Professional Development training events. This included face to face training, webinars, online learning, meetings and conferences.
		Children's Services staff attended various professional development training events through the year for the purpose of:
		• A requirement by legislation;
		• Qualification advancement;
		• Training was identified in individual training plans or
		• Training was role specific such as Educational Leader.
		Training events attended included Child Protection and First Aid, subject areas relating to the National Quality Framework, Program and Practice of Children's Health and Safety.
		Staff and Management identified training specific to individual needs, their roles and how the service would benefit from the information as resources.

nauonai Quaity Stanuards,	Resources obtained to reflect the requirements of the National Quality Standards.	All Child Care Services have purchased a range of educational resources and equipment to enhance the physical learning environments that are reflective of the recommendations outlined in the National Quality Framework. Items included: • Garden improvements; • Craft supplies; • Outdoor equipment eg trampoline; • Linen for cot rooms; • Multicultural resources including dolls and puppets; • Book literacy.
Provision of appropriate resources and learning environments that reflect the National Quality Standards.	Types of improvements undertaken to improve physical learning environments.	undertake free Child Protection Training during April 2016. The following improvements were made and resources purchased by Children's Services to improve the physical environment and reflect National Quality Standards.
		All Services have added Quality Area 6 Collaborative Partnerships to their QIP's to reflect the consultation and collaboration between the 4 services and the development of a Reconciliation Action Plan to effectively engage and recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait communities. Quality Area 2 – Children's Health and Safety was also noted on Family Day Care and Vacation Care's Service QIP's. Grants received through government initiatives allowed for 34 Educators and staff to undertake free Child Pertection Training April 2016
		Areas for continuous improvement included program and practices, community consultation and involvement.
3. Early Years Learning Framework Continue to review Quality Improvement Plans.		Quality Improvement Plans (QIP): Service Coordinators continue to review Service QIP's to align with new QIP guidelines introduced beginning of 2016. Scallywags and Family Day Care have completed Service QIP's. This new process highlights the strengths within Services whilst acknowledging areas of continuous improvement.
2. Education and Care Services National Regulations.		All services carried out a review and consultation process with service stakeholders in regards to individual service policies. This practice relates to the annual review process in all children's services.
I National Quality Standards for Early Childhood Education and Care and School Aged Children.	Quality Improvement Plans.	As required by legislation all Child Care services actively reviewed, consulted and developed policies as required reflecting legislative requirements and industry trends.
Update policies and procedures to ensure alignment with:	Number of updates undertaken and adopted. Work undertaken on	The following policies and procedures were updated including work on Quality Improvement Plans (QIP) by Children's Services: Policies and Procedures:
		training during the reporting period. Other professional development included sustainability, music for children, Munch and Moove, Nutrition and Menu Planning and Early Childhood conferences.
		Scallywags and Little Scallywags received Long Day Care Professional Development funding. All staff had the opportunity to attend centre specific training relating to meeting the National Quality Standards. All Children Services staff completed the required Council online
		Professional development was supported by Children's Services PEAK bodies including Community Child Care Cooperative.
		The Coordinator of Family Day Care completed an Advanced Diploma in Community Sector Management during the year. This course was facilitated by Child Care Community Cooperative under a government grant of \$4000 per participant.

		Refurbishment of Little Scallywags front garden created a Japanese Garden for children and families to engage and interactive with. Little Scallywags also purchased outdoor children's furniture for social interactions. September 2015 Scallywags purchased and planted fruit trees extending their edible garden within the Service. This was achieved
Promotion of Children's Services.	The identification of a range of promotional options for Children's Services. Promotional mechanisms undertaken for Children's Services. Develop and implement methods to gauge the effectiveness of the promotions undertaken.	 through the receipt of Council's sustainability grant. The following promotional activities identified, undertaken and effectiveness gauged by Children's Services: A review and development of the Children's Service website occurred towards the end of 2016 financial year. The portal for Family Day Care continues to be explored and established. Children's Services actively promoted their services throughout the Bathurst community. Promotion included: Family Day Care: FDC packages to be distributed through Council's Welcome Wagon initiative; Editorial in Council's ebusiness newsletter along with marketing materials distributed to local business and education facilities; Purchase of 2 sandwich boards which are placed outside Educator residences in high traffic areas advertising vacancies within the service; Promotional flyers developed and distributed throughout community; Children's craft activities at 'Christmas on Keppel', Vacation Care: promotion through local school newsletters and local radio and Council's telephone 'on hold' announcements. Children's craft activities at 'Christmas on Keppel'. Little Scallywags: promotional flyers developed, editorial designed for ratepayers newsletter; Scallywags: New signage at the front of the service was added along with the purchase of a promotional banner to be utilised at community events. All Children's Services attended Bathurst Family Fun Day in May 2016. All services engaged in community working parties including Kids At Play, Transition to School and the Child and Family Network.

ommitment to the ongoing maintenance of Children Services facilities		
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	6	20, 22 29
Children Services general maintenance and upgrading of facilities.	The identification of general maintenance and facility upgrades.	The following maintenance issues have been completed across Children's Services sites: Family Day Care/Vacation Care:
	The completion of general maintenance and upgrading of facilities.	 Replacement of children's toilet roof due to ongoing water leakage/damage; Manhole in playroom kitchen repaired; Installation of front door security system - visual monitor and audio system; Replacement of two air conditioning units.

Scallywags:
 Replacement of worn, damaged sun shades;
• Timber decks and paths sanded and re-oiled;
• Leak in laundry repaired;
Annual pest control carried out;
 Telephone connection disruption investigated;
Replacement of air conditioning units.
Little Scallywags:
• New shade sails added to the outdoor play area;
Annual pest control carried out;
• Solar panels retested and set due to ongoing tripping of circuit;
• Kitchen splashback re-grouted;
 Interior painting to children's playroom.

CSP 2036 Objective Reference	22	30
Continued support and administration of the Bathurst	Regular meetings with administration support	Bathurst Community Safety Committee held the following meetings in 2015/2016:
Regional Community Safety Committee.	provided to the Bathurst Regional Community Safety Committee.	• The Bathurst Community Safety Committee met four times, August, November, February & May with an average of 11 members in attendance.
	Support and resources provided for targeted actions	• The Domestic Violence Sub Committee met four times, with an average of 5 members in attendance.
	identified in the Bathurst Community Safety Plan 2015- 2019.	• The Break & Enter Sub Committee met four times, with an average of 5 members in attendance.
		The following support and resources were provided for targeted actions during 2015-2016:
		• The Domestic Violence campaign "Bathurst Says No to Domestic Violence" was established and launched in October 2015.
		 Campaign posters, postcards & stickers were produced and handed out to the community.
		• Pledge booths were carried out over a number of month at various locations; Council Chambers, Bathurst Library/ Gallery, Council Works Depot, Bathurst Liquor Accord Golf Day, Bathurst Women's Network, Jobs Expo, Kelso High School, Bathurst City Centre, CSU 'O'Week and Club Day and Stockland Bathurst.
		• To date there has been a total of 533 pledges from the community.
		• The Mayor, Gary Rush also became an accredited White Ribbon Ambassador.
		• The DV Facebook page www.facebook.com/bathurstsaysno has been very active since the campaign launch, with a reach of 40,990 people and 793 page likes. Pictures are posted after each pledge booth, along with articles posted and shared from other website and pages which relate to domestic violence issues and/or information.
		• The Home Safe Booklets were provided by NRMA, 5280 of these were distributed locally to various outlets including real estates, Department of Housing, Combined Pensioners & Superannuants (CPSA), Charles Sturt University, Shopping Centres, Mitre 10, Bunnings, and Bathurst Business Chamber.

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		Remaining collatoral from the Party Safe compaign was
		• Remaining collateral from the Party Safe campaign was distributed to four High Schools and Bathurst TAFE.
		• Drink coasters from the malicious damage campaign were distributed by Committee member, Liam O'Hara, throughout licenced premises in Bathurst.
		• The Break and Enter Sub-committee have expanded the scope of the group to also look at drug-related crimes. A research project is in the initial stages to gather some data.
		• This Sub-committee has planning underway to launch a personal safety campaign based on a campaign delivered by the Victorian Department of Justice. This campaign will be a call to action for all members of the community and encourage target hardening to prevent break and enter crimes.
Undertake a review and develop a framework for Bathurst Regional Council's Social Planning initiatives in	Develop a report reviewing Bathurst Regional Council's Social and Community Planning Delivery.	In reviewing and developing a report Bathurst Regional Council's Social Planning Delivery, engagement commenced for the consultation. Direct consultation has occurred through meetings with key community networks and groups.
relation to Council's Integrated Planning and reporting requirements.	Investigate and develop a project plan in relationship to the development of a Disability Inclusion Action Plan for Bathurst Regional Council.	The following tasks were undertaken in the development of a project plan for a Disability Inclusion Action Plan (DIAP):
		 Work was undertaken to develop consultation materials, including a survey.
		• Community Development Officer consulted with members of Bathurst Regional Access Committee (BRAC) to assist in establishing networks for feedback on survey.

The provision of the Kelso Community Centre as a safe community hub and venue for outreach service provision that meet the needs of the community

CSP 2036 Objective Reference	22 3	0
I. Undertake a review of the operations of Kelso Community Centre.	The development of a report that clarifies the current operations of the Kelso Community Centre including recommendations in relation to future management and service provision models.	In developing a report of current operations at Kelso Community Centre in 2015/ 2016, Community Services Staff meetings were held on a regular basis, at Kelso Community Centre throughout the year. Preparation of a report is being undertaken. The completed report will be presented to Council, when finalised.
2. Encourage and facilitate the use of the Kelso Community Centre by outside service providers to meet the needs of the community.	Number of external service providers using the facility including target audiences for the services provided.	 There were a number of external service providers at the Kelso Community Centre. Summary of external service providers in 2015/2016: Galloping Gumnuts provided a play group from Centre. The group held 11 sessions in total. Relationships Australia provided a women's group that gave women an opportunity to meet, support each other and undertake activities. The group met 43 sessions in total. Bathurst Young Mob delivered various activities and workshops throughout this period totalling 8 sessions. Young Life, mentoring for teenagers and young adults, facilitated 38 sessions in total. Building Strong Foundations (Child and Family Health) held 46 sessions in total. Birrang operated living skills workshops for community members affiliated with Wattle Tree House at the centre and delivered 13 workshops. Western Medicare Local provided the Indigenous Chronic Disease Clinic for 48 sessions in total.

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		 The following external service providers hired the Kelso Community Centre on a casual basis: Family and Community Services hired the facility in January for a public housing tenant's information session. Direct Solutions hired a consultation room on Tuesday 23 July 2015. The Benevolent Society provided a play group from Centre. The group held 9 sessions in total. Family and Community Services hired a consulting room for one session.
		 VERTO provided 4 sessions of the cooking program 'Healthy Food on a Budget'. The Presbyterian Reformed Church hired the hall on Sunday 21 November 2015 to provide a presentation.
		• Fairyland Photography hired the Hall for one photographic session on Sunday 21 February 2016.
		• Iglesia Ni Cristo (Church of Christ) hired the Centre for a total of four sessions.
3. Develop and provide programs and activities that meet the identified needs of	Provision and numbers utilising: • Kelso Breakfast Program	The following programs, activities, and celebrations were held at Kelso Community Centre throughout the year:
the community.	 Afterschool Program targeting Young People 	• The School Kids Breakfast Program operated for 131 days with an average attendance of 21.2 students each day.
	Holiday ActivitiesCommunity Celebrations	 School Holiday Activities were held during all school holidays catering to children young people and families. There were 7 school holiday activities held in total with an average attendance of 59 community members.

Commitment to the ongoing m	aintenance of Kelso Community	Centre
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	21, 23, 25, 26	33
Kelso Community Centre general maintenance and upgrading of facilities.	The identification of general maintenance and facility upgrades. The completion of general maintenance and facility upgrades.	 General maintenance and facility upgrades occurred in 2015/2016 including: Hot water system in the kitchen was replaced. A blocked toilet in the men's bathroom was repaired. Internet at the Centre had maintenance done on it to prevent regular drop out in connection. The CCTV system was serviced with cameras adjusted or replaced where required. Two new signage flags showcasing to the Community that Kelso Centre is open have been delivered and erected every morning. The signage promotes the service's presence and operating times. Fridges, previously used as part of a community garden were removed from the grounds of the Centre. The sharps needle disposal bin, was installed at the
		Community Centre's premises during June.



Value and support opportunities for young people to participate in local government decision making			
CSP 2036 Objective Reference 27 30, 33			
Providing support for the Bathurst Regional Youth Council and their related activities, programs and events.	Facilitation of Bathurst Regional Youth Council Meetings, including attendance numbers. Undertaking of youth initiatives, activities, programs and events including attendance numbers.	 The Youth Council held the following meetings during 2015/2016: Number of Youth Council meetings- 5. Average attendance of meetings – 16 Youth Council Members. Number of Youth Council working party meetings- 19. Average attendance at meetings 16 Youth Council Members. Youth initiatives, activities, programs and events which the Youth Council undertook during 2015/2016: Black Light Night Dance Party, Friday 24 July 2015. Attendance - 485. "You've Got This" campaign- rolled out, in collaboration with headspace Bathurst to Mackillop College. Attendance – 550. B200 Dye Hard Colour Run – 25 October 2015. A Bathurst 200 initiative in partnership with Bathurst Regional Council, Bathurst Regional Youth Council, Dye Hard Events, 2, 100 participated. Soundwaves Event held on Saturday 20 November 2015. Attendance – 250. National Youth Week Event – Special Screening of Disney's "The Jungle Book" at Metro Cinemas with 5 live music performances. Attendance 250. Flashback Friday Dance Party, Friday 24 June 2016. Attendance – 390. 	



Community Services

Community Service achievements included:

- Kelso Community Centre supported community services organisations to provide key services for the Kelso Community.
- Bathurst Social and Community Plan 2011/2016: Strategies and actions continued to be implemented.
- ClubGRANTS Scheme 2016: The provision of administrative assistance for the implementation of funding to local community groups and organisations.
- Community Safety Plan 2015 2019: Strategies and actions continue to be implemented.
- The provision of administrative support to the Bathurst Regional Community Safety Committee, Seniors Festival Organising Committee, and Bathurst Youth Network.
- The provision of support to the Bathurst Regional Youth Council and related youth activities.
- The coordination of public events, including Youth Week, Seniors Festival, Harmony Day, and International Women's Day.

Activities for Children

[Local Government Act 1993 - Section 428]

Council facilitated several programs specifically for children during the year. This included:

- Provision of Child Care Centres for children, birth to five years of age. Council has 61 Long Day Care places and 3 Occasional Care places. An average utilisation of 90.3% for both centres through year.
- Bathurst Family Day Care Scheme provided an average utilisation of 121 occupied places per week. Approximately 286 children are registered on a weekly basis with an average of 39 Educators.
- Bathurst Regional Council Vacation Care is licenced to provide care for 34 children from five to twelve years of age per day during school holidays. The average utilisation for the year was 33 children per day.
- Early Start Preschool provided an early education program from Lee Street Kelso to children who may be vulnerable or disadvantaged.
- Kelso Community Centre provided a range of activities for all children in the Kelso Community. Activities provided by Council Staff or engagement with services such as Bathurst Young Mob.
- Various school holiday programs were held at the Australian Fossil & Mineral Museum, Art Gallery and Bathurst Library.
- The Bathurst Library continues to provide rhyme time program "New Kids on the Book" for babies aged six months to two years, this program remains popular with attendance growing, averaging around 50 parents and children per session. The regular storytime sessions and Booklink program were also a great success complementing and completing a very vibrant children's program.



Activities for Young People

[Local Government Act 1993 - Section 428]

Council facilitated the Youth Council whose aim is to:

- Voice the opinions and concerns of young people in Bathurst to the Bathurst Regional Council, State and Commonwealth Governments and the wider community;
- To work with other youth agencies to develop and promote activities for and social interaction between the young people of Bathurst;
- To raise awareness of health, well-being and safety issues that affect the young people of Bathurst;
- To work with other youth agencies to improve co- ordination and consultation between youth services;
- To develop a sense of citizenship in the young people of Bathurst by developing an appreciation of Local, State and Commonwealth Government processes and through involvement in community projects.

Projects undertaken during this period included; Sound Waves music event at the Bathurst Aquatic Centre; Youth Week events, including a free movie screening and young musicians, the 'Flashback Friday' dance party; and the launch of the YJAM youth music project at the Bathurst Winter Festival.

Cultural and Linguistic Programs

[Local Government Act 1993 - Section 428]

Council operates the Kelso Community Centre and facilitates programs in partnership with a range of government and nongovernment agencies to support people from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) and Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) backgrounds.

Council continues to support and consult with the broader Wiradyuri community, the Bathurst Wiradyuri and Aboriginal Community Elders group and other Aboriginal organisations operating within Bathurst. NAIDOC week was marked by a flag raising ceremony and Mayoral reception in July 2015 and community celebrations in September 2015.

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Council maintains linkages and continues to support the CALD community through membership on the Bathurst Multicultural Reference Group. Celebrations around Harmony Day occurred in March 2016 with an event featuring a barbeque and entertainment in the forecourt of Bathurst Library.

The Bathurst Regional Council Reconciliation Action Plan 2015 - 2017 (RAP) was adopted by Council 20 May 2015. The plan continues to provide opportunities and direction to build relationships, understanding and respect between local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the broader community. The working group has worked through this period to guide the actions identified in the plan. A report was presented to Council in June 2016.

Council provides, through its Library, a free service providing books in languages other than English. This service operates from the State Library and covers most languages.

Sister City Relationship

Bathurst has had a sister city relationship with Ohkuma (Japan) since March 1991. Unfortunately in March 2011 Ohkuma was affected by the Japan earthquake and Tsunami. While the city itself was not damaged the nuclear power plant nearby was damaged and there was radioactive fallout resulting in the creation of an exclusion zone around the power plant. Ohkuma fell within the exclusion area and consequently the whole town was relocated to other parts of Japan. Many of the residents of Ohkuma were relocated to Aizu Wakamatsu, where schools have been set up for Ohkuma children and a housing area for residents.

The Tsunami has had an impact on the relationship between Bathurst and Ohkuma though mainly only in a physical way. The friendship between the two towns has not altered which is evidenced by the fundraising effort of the Bathurst community in the months after the tsunami.

Since March 2011 Ohkuma and Bathurst residents have continued their friendship via delegations of residents and officials travelling between Australia and Japan. Some Bathurst residents and a Bathurst Regional Council delegation visited our Ohkuma Friends in Aizu in April 2014. Officials from Ohkuma and residents visited Bathurst in May 2015 to help celebrate Bathurst's 200th Birthday. In April 2016 a delegation of the Mayor, a Councillor, the General Manager, an Interpreter and 3 community representatives again visited Aizu.

The relationship provides an opportunity for both Bathurst and Ohkuma residents to learn about each other's culture and language. As part of the relationship Council coordinates the Sister City Working Party. This group is made up of different community members who have an interest in Japan and further developing the strong relationship that already exists between Bathurst and Ohkuma.

Activities that have occurred throughout previous years have included:

- The Bathurst Regional Council Sister City Student Scholarship program. This was available to Bathurst Region high school students in years 10 or 11 currently studying Japanese. The program allowed for two students to travel to Bathurst's sister city, Okhuma, Japan, for four weeks where they were home hosted with local Japanese families and attended the local high school.
- Exchange students Two students from Ohkuma usually travelled to Bathurst in July/August where they spent 4-6

weeks being home hosted and attending local Bathurst high schools.

 'Wings of Hope' visit - takes place July/August most years. A group of students from Ohkuma travel to Bathurst with official delegates and teacher. Once here they attended English language courses at Charles Sturt University each morning and undertook sightseeing during the afternoon. The group usually stays for just over a week. In later years these visits have moved from CSU to local High Schools.

Access and Equity

[Local Government Act 1993 - Section 428]

Implementation of the actions identified in the Bathurst Social and Community Plan 2011 - 2016 is ongoing.

Council provides premises and ongoing maintenance at low cost rental for The Neighbourhood Centre (formerly Bathurst Information and Neighborhood Centre BINC), the Home and Community Care (HACC) Centre, the Senior Citizens Centre, the Bathurst Seymour Centre, West Bathurst Community House, Old Raglan School Hall and Kelso Community Centre. Council provides free or low cost fees for the usage of its facilities by various community groups.

Council makes places available within its Vacation Care program for children with disabilities and vulnerable children at risk of harm. Referrals are made through the local Support Agencies and the Department of Family and Community Services (FACS). Council also provides for children with disabilities within its Long Day Care Centre Scallywags, Little Scallywags and the Bathurst Family Day Care Scheme.

Council provides direct financial and/or infrastructure support to many community groups and non-profit organisations to assist the provision of community services. These groups include women's health groups, pre-schools, community transport groups, senior citizens groups, nursing homes and long day care centres, youth groups and church groups.

Council also administers the ClubGRANTS Local Committee, which distributes gaming revenue tax from local service clubs to community groups and non- profit organisations to improve access to a broad range of community services.

Other Access Activities

Cycleways

Council throughout the year has continued works on its cycleways to assist with access to the Central Business District and other key areas of town. Construction works undertaken in 2015/2016 include:

• Evernden Road to Eglinton Road – connecting to adjacent roads and existing cycleway networks – 1371 m.

Library Facilities

Council provides a modern public library service that is open seven days a week. The Library is now facilitating access to current eResources – databases, ebooks, audiobooks and the like.

Sunday opening remains very popular for those who work during the week and for families, who can attend together. Sunday now has the busiest hourly loan rate of any weekday. The children's area has been upgraded, with the introduction of mobile shelving, and with the fiction collection organised into nooks or browsing spaces creating a more inviting environment designed to facilitate browsing. It is planned to introduce this standard of shelving throughout the collection as we move towards refurbishment.

Booklink

The reading encouragement program Booklink continues to be a great success, attracting young readers to the Library with participation by children as young as six months with the oldest being 17 years. This year over 28,040 books were read, an increase on the previous year's total of 16,960 books. The program is run in cooperation with Books Plus book shop, AES booksellers and the Bathurst CWA.

Part of the library's outreach service delivers items to housebound residents, centres attended by the elderly, schools and villages.

Bathurst Family History Group provide a valuable service to the community by being on site each Tuesday afternoon to assist visitors in their family history research. The group also keeps their extensive collection of books and indexes on the library's open shelves allowing public access at anytime. Enquiries continue to increase by all methods of communication – in person, by telephone, email, website and post.

The Library provides 'reading' materials in a wide range of formats – books (standard and large print), graphic novels, magazines, newspapers, CDs, DVDs, books on MP3 and CD, ebooks and audiobooks. The library also has access to bulk loans of children's and adult books in other languages. A very popular service is Inter Library Loans where the library can borrow items from other libraries on behalf of Bathurst patrons.

Bathurst requests for books from other libraries = 351 Bathurst receiving books from other libraries = 345 Bathurst items supplied to Oberon = 180 Titles in other languages supplied to Bathurst = 800

Use of the Library in terms of individual visits has increased from 122,819 visits recorded in 2000/2001 to 155,930 in 2015/2016.



Bathurst has increased loans of library material from 220,363 in 2000/2001 to 297,660 in 2015/2016.

The Library continues to offer a wide range of events, programs and activities designed to hand back the Library space to the community. Community Groups are encouraged to find a space in the Library, some that have done so include, the Bathurst Family History Group, Multi-cultural Women's Group, the U3A Chess Club and the Bridge Club, a local board gamers club, the Bathurst Knitting Group and the Bathurst Writers Group.

The Library provides a rhymetime program delivering rhymes, songs and book reading designed to introduce younger children to a language rich environment. This program is aimed at children from six months to two years.

Bathurst Regional Access Committee

Council continued to support the activities of the Bathurst Regional Access Committee. The Committee meets monthly to promote awareness of the challenges faced by those with a disability in accessing local services and businesses. It participates in Council's development, planning and policy processes and also provides information on access issues and lobbies for improvement.

Council provides:

- A venue for the Committee to hold its meetings;
- Bathurst Small Business Access Improvement Grants totalling \$10,000 on an annual basis and administrative support for the grant;
- Assists the Committee with the provision of a Councillor delegate.

Seniors Week Organising Committee

The Seniors Week Organising Committee presented a full range of entertainment, social activities and educational opportunities during Seniors Week festival 2016. They included:

- A Seniors week concert, Health and Wellbeing River Walk, Multicultural Open Day at Seymour Centre, Metro Cinema Movie Day, Morning Tea at Miss Traills House and Young at Heart Film Festival.
- The highlight of the week was Council's "Healthy Eating for Successful Living" session that included an interactive information session, Tai Chi workshop and a healthy lunch.
- Long serving member of the Seniors Week Organising Committee, Betty McSpadden was nominated for a Senior of the Year Award for her service to the seniors community.

Kelso Community Centre

Kelso Community Centre, located in Bonnor Street continued to provide a community hub of services and activities for the Kelso community in 2015/2016.

Specialist activities provided at the centre included:

- Indigenous Chronic Disease Clinic run by Marathon Health.
- Building Strong Foundations run by Child and Family Health.
- Women's group hosted by Relationship Australia, Bathurst.
- Living skills workshops provided by Birrang on behalf of Wattle Tree House.
- Activities for young people provided by Young Life Central West and
- Galloping Gumnuts supported playgroup.

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The Kelso Community Centre partnered with Bathurst Young Mob and hosted a range of activities to engage the youth of the community and beyond in both afterschool and school holiday programs.

There has been an increase in service delivery and outreach services at the centre during this period, resulting in a higher number of individuals utilising programs and or presenting at the centre.

Community Safety

 The Bathurst Community Safety Plan 2015 – 2019 is still current and the Bathurst Regional Safety Committee is working on actions related to the identified crimes. The committee membership covers key stakeholders in relation to community safety including the Police, Liquor Accord, Bathurst Business Chamber, Charles Sturt University, Bathurst TAFE, headspace and the Neighbourhood Centre.

- Community safety initiatives undertaken in this period include;
- The Domestic Violence Subcommittee launched the Bathurst Says No to Domestic Violence campaign, including the pledge booth which encourages community members to take the pledge against domestic violence. To date there has been 672 pledges from a wide cross section of the community.
- The Break and Enter Subcommittee developed a new campaign called 'Don't Invite Crime'; this is to be launched late October, early November 2016. It will focus on encouraging the community to be more vigilant in home safety and vehicle safety. Giving tips and ideas on how to target harden these identified crimes of break and enter dwelling and steal from motor vehicle.
- Council implemented a CCTV grant program during the year to provide funding assistance to local businesses to install CCTV in and around their premises. Any surveillance footage must be made available to NSW Police if required.

Provide visitors and prospective visitors to the area with quality information, allowing them to plan, enjoy and extend their stay		
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	4 2	0
Develop the number, range and quality of information available that highlights and promotes the facilities, events and activities of the region.	Presentation of diverse and high quality information. Visitation numbers. Review of A5 information booklets.	 33 information sheets have had annual update. Accessible Bathurst booklet updated. New Bathurst City map. Reprinted Chinese Heritage brochures and assisted Rockley Mill Museum Management Committee with brochure production. Reviewed and reprinted Chifley Home flyer Annual visitation – 55,416 Regional Village booklet reprinted. All other booklet reviews to occur once merger issue finalised.
Develop accessible afterhours information.	Provide more effective and accessible after hours information board.	Street map and emergency contact numbers updated for external display. Out of hours brochure produced providing information accessible to visitors to collect when centre is closed.

Effectively promote and market the Bathurst Region, to motivate people to visit the area			
CSP 2036 Objective Reference 4, 5 20			
Develop and create regional marketing material.	Review and update current promotional material.	Investment with Central NSW Tourism has resulted in promotion/ publicity through these channels:	
	Consumer show attendance.	• Out and About with Kids	
	Cross promotion with Events	• The Land	
	Team.	• Daily Telegraph 'Best Weekend'	
		• Journalists' visits	
		Mindfood Magazine	
		Destination NSW Escapes E-newsletter	
		Represented Bathurst Region at Penrith Caravan and Camping Show September 2015 (attendance over 17,800); at Canberra, Lifestyle, Holiday and Camping show October 2015; Newcastle Caravan, Camping & Holiday Expo February 2016 (attendance 24,154).	

Tourism & Destination Management

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		Attended CMCA Rally in Albany (WA) October 2015 to promote 2016 Bathurst Rally over 600 vehicles and approx 1,000 participants.
		Sydney Cellar Door February 2016– worked with Bathurst Region Vignerons Association (BRVA) to create wine campaign 'Put Bathurst on your wine map' assisting with production of banners and advertising material.
		B2B – worked with Council's events team on external promotion for this event.
		Worked with events team to produce promotional material, promote the event and arrange tours for CMCA Rally participants. 428 bookings were made for various tours over four day period.
		Provided accommodation availabilities for 14 different events.
Promote BVIC resources and local tourism content to VFR market.	Newspaper and radio promotion. 2795 attendance, visitation and purchases.	Advertised local events and activities in Discover Central NSW magazine; Oberon Review; iMAg publication; Scots School Community calendar; Caravan & Camping with Kids; Western Magazine; Western Advocate.
		Promotion of Autumn Colours program through Western Advocate; Discover Central NSW; Bathurst Broadcasters.
		5,500 copies of Autumn Colours program distributed to local and regional outlets. 233 events included of which 24 were created by the Heritage Working Party that attracted 471 participants from Bathurst and other regions, including some from interstate.
		Visitation to centre: 55,416 with 658 recorded through register from 2795 postcode.
Develop the number and quality of advertising, marketing	Participation in regional and local campaigns.	Prepared 3,158 promotional packs for visiting groups, conferences and events.
and promotional opportunities.	Advertising medium.	Advertising and editorial mentioning the Bathurst region has been undertaken by CNSW Tourism in publications including Stanthorpe Border Post; Unearth CNSWT; The Chronicle Toowoomba; Daily Mercury Mackay; Fraser Coast Chronicle; Northern Star Lismore; Queensland Times Ipswich; Sunshine Coast Maroochydore; Sydney Morning Herald; The Saturday Age; Canberra Times; Sun Herald; South Burnett Times; The Saturday Age; Canberra Times; Traveller Newcrest Challenge; Australian Financial Review.
		Regional advertising and editorial including Go 55s; Fishing Monthly;The Wanderer, Caravanning Australia;The Senior Newspaper;The Link; 2CH radio; Blue Mountains Life; Hospital Patients' Guide; UBD touring map; CMCA Wanderer.

Utilise the Destination Management Plan as a basis for marketing, promotion and tourism development		
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	4, 5 2	0
Destination Management Plan	Number of actions undertaken.	Recruitment of Destination Development Manager undertaken and appointment commenced 22 February 2016. Expressions of Interest for Tourism Reference Group closed 23 October 2015. Applications were assessed prior to Council's consideration and endorsement of the membership for the Bathurst Region Tourism Reference Group at meeting held 9 December 2015 and the Tourism Reference Group appointed.

Utilise the Destination Management Plan	n as a basis for mar	keting, promotion and tourism development
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	4, 5	20
		First meeting of the Tourism Reference Group held 7 March 2016 The process of prioritisation of Destination Management Plan (DMP) actions underway with Tourism Reference Group.
		Second meeting of the Tourism Reference Group held 4 April 2016. The process of prioritisation of DMP actions continued with Tourism Reference Group.
		Third monthly meeting of the Tourism Reference Group held 9 May 2016. The process of prioritisation of DMP actions was undertaken and relevant actions included:
		Held brand leadership workshop 7 April
		 Developed EOI for visitor survey to measure expenditure & demographics for annual market research report
		• Meeting with industry groups, staff and sporting groups to form a coordinated and comprehensive approach to tracking events in the region
		• Meetings with Council's Events Team regarding the Winter Festival
		Visitor Economy Group meetings set up and attended monthly
		Mayoral leaders lunch
		CMCA Rally opening event and tourism forum
		Inaugural Regional Events Conference Wagga
		 Develop four Industry Development Programs - workshops for tourism operators May – July
		NPWS – attend Hill End event and follow up meeting for 2017
		• Famils – Miss Traills House, Wattle Flat.
		Host media : RM Williams Outback magazine, The Carousel to showcase Bathurst assets.
		Fourth monthly meeting of the Tourism Reference Group was held 6 June 2016. The process of prioritisation of DMP continues to be rolled out and actions included:
		 Industry Development Programme - workshops for tourism operators May – July
		• Held brand Social Media training course 30 May (25 attendees)
		Held Public Relations training course 29 June (20 attendees)
		Held Research and Data education workshop 2 June for Tourism Reference Group and key staff
		• Prepared Tourism Research Brief – Request for quotations for customised regional data to inform destination brand process
		• Meetings with Council's events team regarding Winter Festival
		Coordination of ten Winter Festival packages in collaboration with industry
		• Bathurst Regional Vignerons – meetings regarding collaborative approach to event participation
		 Participation Bathurst Cultural Fund – alignment and opportunities within Destination Management Plan
		Visitor Economy Group meetings set up and attended monthly
		 Famils – Abercrombie Caves, Mayfield Garden, Winter Winery Wander, Bathurst Goldfields.

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Visitors Information Centre

Bathurst Visitor Information Centre offers a wide range of services and products to visitors from all over the country as well as many from overseas.

- In 2015/2016 54,970 visitors came through the doors averaging 4,580 per month.
- 30,812 users visited the visitbathurst website.
- 6,282 phone enquiries were received.
- 25,575 Facebook likes, 133,918 people reached (reporting only commenced in August 2015).
- \$43, 574 worth of sales generated.
- Tourism partners for 2015/2016 totalled 132.
- Participated in promotional activities at Penrith Caravan, Camping & Holiday Expo, Canberra Lifestyle, Holiday and Camping Expo.
- Attended Campervan & Motorhome Club of Australia (CMCA) rally at Albany (WA) to promote the Bathurst Rally.
- Worked with Bathurst Region Vignerons Association to create campaign 'Put Bathurst on your wine map' promoting the local wine industry at Sydney Cellar Door Feb 2016.
- CMCA Rally held at Mount Panorama from 25 April

 I May. BVIC assisted with promotional material, tour arrangements and took bookings for 482 people over the 4 day period. Rally was attended by 960 vehicles with approx. I700 members.
- Autumn Colours program collated by BVIC with 6,000 copies of the program printed. 5,500 distributed to venues in Bathurst and the region. 233 events were listed with 24 of these created by the Heritage Working Party.
- Hosted international visits from Toyo High School group (141 students, 7 adults), sister City Ohkuma (6 students, 5 adults) and Seiritsu High School (68 students, 4 adults).
- Provided 3,185 information and promotional packs for 27 conferences and events held in Bathurst.

Destination Development

The Bathurst Region Destination Management Plan (DMP) was prepared for Council in response to Bathurst Regional Council's commitment to developing a focused and driven approach to increasing tourism investment in the Bathurst Region.

The Bathurst Region Destination Management Plan was endorsed at the 15 July 2015 meeting of council. At this meeting, council also resolved to:

- Adopt the draft charter for the Tourism Reference Group
- Seek expressions of interest for the Tourism Reference Group

Applications were sought through local media. 25 applications were received for the 12 member group.

Expressions of Interest for Tourism Reference Group closed 23 October 2015. Applications were assessed prior to Council's consideration and endorsement. Membership of the Bathurst Region Tourism Reference Group was confirmed at the Council Meeting held 9 December 2015. Recruitment of Destination Development Manager undertaken and successful applicant commenced on 22 February 2016.

First meeting of the Tourism Reference Group held 7 March 2016. The process of prioritisation of Destination Management Plan (DMP) actions was prioritised with the Tourism Reference Group.

Meetings with the Tourism Reference Group are held monthly.

Key outcomes achieved since the appointment of the Destination Development Manager:

- Tourism Reference Group chosen to be the first external group to pilot the use of Council's Communication Plan to assist with communication between council and industry.
- Take a three-phased approach to the implementation of the Destination Management Plan.
- Attend a brand leadership workshop with key council staff to educate members on the brand process.
- Maintain a focus on research and data collection to inform brand and marketing activities.
- Take a strategic approach to the collection and distribution of a comprehensive events calendar for the region and meet with relevant groups to implement.
- Tourism Reference Group launched and ran (link to DMP Strategy 7.3.1 'Everyone is a champion') Workshops with topics including: Social Media 30 May; Public Relations 27 June, Packaging Tourism Product planned for 12 July.
- Commission dedicated research about visitors' perception of the region and their intention/ motivation to choose Bathurst as a destination: use of facts and tangible evidence to determine competitive marketing edge.
- Three Industry Development Workshops to build industry capacity and improve skills in access, dispersal and participation in the Bathurst Region destination experience were held.
- Social Media training course 30 May (25 attendees).
- Public Relations training course 29 June (20 attendees).
- Research & Data education workshop 2 June.

Destination Development Manager appointed to Australian Regional Tourism Network (ARTN) Board of Directors as the NSW Local Government representative.



PLANNING





Council's Strategic Planning Section completed the following major studies/strategies in 2015/2016:

• Bathurst City Housing Strategy 2036: Stage 1 (visioning) consultation was completed including an outcomes report. It is envisaged the Strategy will be completed in 2016/17.

Local Environmental Plans Amendments completed in 2015/2016 included:

- Woodside Drive Reclassification
- Additional LEP clauses temporary land uses, subdivision along split zones, water catchment protection.
- Ophir Road rezoning boundary adjustments between the residential and recreation zonings.
- Sydney Road rezoning rezone Lot 182 Sydney Road from rural to residential (Did not proceed).
- Gateway Enterprise Park –Shopping Centre proposal (Did not proceed).

Local Environmental Plan Amendments underway (but yet to be finalised) in 2015/2016 included:

- Blueridge Extension amendment rezone land R5 Large Lot Residential.
- Alec Lamberton Park Rezoning and Reclassification (rezoning will not proceed).
- Eglinton Rezoning boundary adjustments between the residential, rural and recreation zonings.





- Heritage Planning Proposal update schedule 5 in relation to colonial building stock, natural environment, agricultural research station and railway precinct.
- Kelso Urban Release Area Remove the Kelso URA from the URA map.

Development Control Plan Amendments completed in 2015/2016 included:

• Bathurst Regional Development Control Plan amendment – Gateway Enterprise Park - Alter Map no. 8 to reduce riparian corridor within the Gateway Enterprise Park on Sydney Road.

Development Control Plan Amendments underway (but not yet finalised) in 2015/2016 included:

- Bathurst Regional Development Control Plan Eglinton adjust western boundary.
- Bathurst Regional Development Control Plan extension of Blueridge Estate.

Section 94 Plans amended or reviewed in 2015/2016 included:

- Roadworks New Residential Subdivisions (Amend No. 2) -Review of Plan in relation to state intersections at Kelso.
- Rural Roads Updated in relation to references to Mount Haven Estate.



Heritage Management

Council's Strategic Planning Section continued to implement the Bathurst Region Heritage Strategy 2014-2017.

Key projects and programs included:

- Interpretation Signage Machattie Park Cottage (yet to be installed); Renewal of Bathurst and Kelso Heritage Trail Signage; Commencement of the Surveyors Heritage Trail to be completed in 2016/2017.
- The additional of 8 new "Pillars" to the Pillars of Bathurst Cultural Heritage Garden during Proclamation Week including an update to the Pillars brochure.
- The Bathurst Region Local Heritage Fund a small grants program to encourage the maintenance and conservation of the built heritage of the Bathurst Region. Fifty four projects were completed in 2015/2016, with grants of \$58,150 offered and \$410,800 worth of works completed.
- Completion of age and significance mapping of the Bathurst Heritage Conservation Area.

Environmental Sustainability

Indicates that objectives relate to Key Direction:

Economic Prosperity

Strategic Planning

- The Bathurst Region Conservation and Interpretation Fund

 a small grants program to encourage the interpretation and promotion of the region's heritage. Nine projects were completed with grants of \$14,063 offered and \$102,581 value generated.
- Heritage Advisory service free advice to property owners to encourage the maintenance and conservation of the region's heritage 129 site visits undertaken in the year.
- Completion of an Aboriginal Heritage Study for the Bathurst Regional Local Government Area.
- Review of submissions received for the Wish Upon a Square Campaign in relation to the former Bathurst TAFE Conservation Management Plan and the Town Square.
- Funding applications prepared and submitted under the NSW Government's Heritage Near Me Program for interpretation of Kings Parade and the creation of a Bathurst Heritage Hub Website.

Liveable Communities

Sound Leadership

Prepare relevant planning propo	sals to ensure Council's planning contro	ls remain relevant and up to date.	
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	, 2, 3 8, 9, 10, 11	1, 12, 13 17, 18, 21, 24 28	
Prepare draft LEP and DCP	Planning proposals referred to NSW	Planning proposals underway:	
amendments.	Planning & Infrastructure for gazettal.	I. Blueridge Estate extension – Gateway Determination received. Heritage and contamination investigations received. On public exhibition.	
		2. Woodside Drive Reclassification – Gazetted.	
		3. Additional LEP clauses – Adopted by Council. Gazetted 26 February 2016.	
		4. Alec Lamberton Park Rezoning and Reclassification – Public Hearing held 18 February 2016.	
			5. Ophir Road rezoning – Gateway determination received. Public exhibition February 2016. Adopted by Council. Awaiting gazettal.
		6. Eglinton Residential/Recreation interface rezoning – Gateway Determination received. Public exhibition completed.	
		7. Sydney Road rezoning – Planning Proposal lodged. Awaiting Gateway determination.	
		8. Heritage item update – Awaiting Gateway Determination.	
		9. Gateway Enterprise Park – Neighbourhood Shopping Centre – Planning Proposal received. Consultants appointed to review Planning Proposal. Council did not support Planning Proposal.	
		10. Kelso Urban Release Area – State Contributions – Planning Proposal being prepared.	

Investigate the housing needs of the urban areas of the Bathurst Region			
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	1, 3 8, 9, 10, 12	2, 13	
Prepare the City of Bathurst	Study completed and adopted by	Project brief and outline development.	
Housing Strategy.	Council,	Discussion paper prepared.	
		Stage I Community Consultation completed.	
		Stage I Consultation report completed.	
		Draft strategy being prepared.	

Review and update Council's section 94 plans				
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	6 28, 29			
Revise existing or prepare new s94 Plans:	Draft plan ready for adoption by Council at the end of 2015/2016.	Draft stormwater plans prepared. Comments being sought from Engineering Department.		
- Stormwater drainage				

Implement the Bathurst Regional Heritage Strategy 2014-2017			
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	11		
Provide a Heritage Advisory Service.	Ongoing. Heritage Advisor available for on-site visits once a fortnight.	Statistics collated for 2015/2016 to date: 1.Total site visits – 143 2. Heritage/Urban Design advice – 79 3. Pre DA advice – 38 4. DA assessment advice - 67	
Provide funding to private property owners under the Bathurst Regional Heritage Fund 2015/2016.	Adequate funding is provided to approved projects and projects completed by 30 May 2016.	54 projects completed in 2015/2016 with grants of \$58,150 provided resulting in \$410,800 worth of works. Applications for 2016/2017 funding called.	
Provide funding to private property owners and community groups under the Bathurst Region Conservation and Interpretation Fund 2015/2016.	Adequate funding is provided to approved projects and projects completed by 30 June 2016.	Annual report for 2015/2016 prepared. 2015/2016 projects finalised. Funding provided in 2015/2016 was \$14,063 covering nine projects. Applications for 2016/2017 funding called.	
Prepare and implement projects for the interpretation and display of cultural heritage and history information.	New interpretative signage and brochures made available by end of 2015/2016, including: • Surveyors Heritage Trail • Pillars of Bathurst plaques	 Current projects: I. Surveyors Heritage Trail – project inception meeting held with historian and LPI representatives. Town Square Meridian signage and 1815 town plan marker posts being manufactured. Pillars of Bathurst Plaques – 2016 nominations finalised. 	
Prepare an Aboriginal Heritage Study for the Bathurst Region.	Consultants are appointed and study commenced.	Project underway. Consultation completed. Kelso foot survey completed. Draft report referred to Aboriginal groups. Final report received.	
History of the Bathurst Government Settlement – Outlying Establishments 1815-1840	History completed by the end of 2016.	Historian engaged. Project delayed due to commitments from historian.	
Bathurst Town Square Master Plan	Study is completed by end of 2016.	TAFE CMP adopted by Council. CMP released at Town Square Exhibition in September. Wish upon a Square submissions collated and reported to Council in March 2016. Town Square Main Street Review commenced.	
Hill End – Private Lands Archaeological Management Plan	Study is completed by end of 2015/2016.	Final report received.	

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Development Assessment

Ensure the assessment of development and other applications, in accordance with planning instruments, development control plans and policies, occurs within appropriate timeframes				
CSP 2036 Objective Reference I, 2, 3, 6, 7 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 17, 18, 19, 22 28, 29				
Process all development applications within statutory time frames set out in the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.	Reduce number of Development applications exceeding 40 days.	Figures for 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016 704 – No of applications (DA/CDC/MOD) received. 636 – No of applications determined 153 – No of determinations (gross) over 40 days (24.06%) 32.03 – Average approval time 39.83 – Average approval total time		

Environment

Meet Council's Responsibilities under the Companion Animals Act (1998) by continuing to provide education and community opportunities with regards to responsible pet ownership

CSP 2036 Objective Reference	21, 22, 23 30	
Complete Responsible Pet Ownership education programs.	Community Pet Desexing program conducted twice annually.	Completed 16 to 27 November 2015 with 110 dogs and cats desexed.
		Second program held 14-24 June 2016 with 109 dogs and cats desexed.
	Dog Expo completed by June 2016.	Held on 22 August 2015 in Library/Art Gallery courtyard with presentations by Dr Joanne Righetti. Approximately 200 people in attendance over the course of the day.
	Responsible pet ownership education campaign completed by June 2016.	Senior Ranger made presentations at two Bathurst Primary Schools in November 2015, with a total of 150 students attending.
		Seymour Centre visit 31 May 2016.
		Scouts visit February 2016 – 12 children attended.
Maintain and enhance areas for off- leash recreation of dogs.	Maintain the Kefford Street Off-leash area to current standards.	Contract in place, monitored weekly by Rangers.

Meet Council's Responsibilities under the Companion Animals Act (1998) and the Impounding Act (1993) by reducing the occurrence of stray companion animals and livestock; the holding of impounded livestock and abandoned vehicles; and, continuing to upgrade the Small Animal Pound to meet current and upcoming standards

CSP 2036 Objective Reference	22 30	
Maintenance of Small Animal Pound Facilities and improve security of impounding facilities.	Continue maintenance and progressing upgrade of security during 2015/2016.	Boundary fence improvement to make more stock proof.
Maintenance of Stock Impounding Facilities.	Maintain the stock impounding facilities and meet requirements of stock handling, transport and disposal.	Ongoing.

Environmental Management

Continue to improve the community's awareness and capacity with regards to environmental sustainability through the delivery of targeted education programs

CSP 2036 Objective Reference	1, 5, 6 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15	18, 22, 23, 27, 29 30, 33
Identify and conduct minor environmental projects.	Minor environmental projects completed by June 2016.	Weed control activities and chipping of woody weeds undertaken in Blayney Road Common in September 2015.
		Aussie Backyard Bird Count September 2015.
		Weed spraying at urban drainage reserves December 2015.
		Purchase of water trailer for project work.
Conduct community environmental education programs.	Complete ongoing community education programs including 'Enviro Mentors' and Youth Lead by June 2016.	First two weeks undertaken in October, with a further week in November 2015. "Lunches unwrapped" and "Catchment Action" programs presented.
Conduct the annual Sustainable Living	Conduct the annual Sustainable Living Expo in March 2016.	Monthly planning meetings.
Expo.		Event held 23 April 2016 with 24 exhibitors and special guests Jason Hodges and Shoalhaven Zoo.
Conduct the annual Bathurst Region schools 'Sustainable Schools' program.	Complete the annual 'Sustainable Schools' by June 2016.	Program launched in February 2016. Applications closed 8 April 2016.
		Sixteen grants awarded in May 2016.
Produce the 'Making a Difference' newsletter.	Produce the Making a Difference newsletter in Spring 2015 -	Spring 2015 edition was distributed in October 2015 with the rates notices.
	Autumn 2016.	Autumn 2016 edition distributed in April 2016 with rates notices.
program for builders. program	Conduct a targeted education program including Erosion and	Advisory letters were sent to all builders in September reminding them of their obligations.
	Sediment Control by June 2016.	Erosion and sediment control planned for 12 & 13 July 2016.
		Disposal of waste training workshops planning for October/November 2016.

Meet Council's statutory	roporting re	quiromonte	under the		overnment Act	(1993)
meet Council's statutor	reporting re	quirements	under the	LOCAL G	overnment Act	. (1773)

CSP 2036 Objective Reference	8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 16	30
Conduct appropriate research and data collection to complete the 2014/2015 State of the Environment	Complete the Bathurst 2015 State of Environment Report.	Report adopted by Council at its Ordinary Meeting in November 2015 and made available to the public on Council's website.
Reports.	Complete the 2015 Regional State of Environment by 30 November 2015.	Report adopted by Council at its Ordinary Meeting in November 2015 and made available to the public on Council's website.

Meet Council's obligations under the Local Government Act (1993) and community expectations to manage, develop, restore, enhance and conserve the environment

CSP 2036 Objective Reference	9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15	22 30
Implement the Urban Waterways Management Plan.	Implement priority project/s identified in the Urban Waterways Management Plan by June 2016.	Design works have commenced for fish passage structure in Sawpit Creek. Stage III rehabilitation of Hawthornden Creek is ongoing.
Support the Central West Salinity and Water Quality Alliance Project.	Support the Central West Salinity and Water Quality Alliance Project Support Officer in 2015/2016.	All meetings attended and funding support provided.

Improve the management of Bathurst Region road reserves by conducting a staged Roadside Vegetation Assessment.	Conduct Stage II Roadside Vegetation Assessment by June 2016.	Consultant completed field work for Stage III works in November 2015. Results submitted to Council in February 2016. Map layer to be produced.
Implement the Pest Bird Management Plan.	Implement priority project/s identified in the Pest Bird Management Plan by June 2016.	Control works undertaken at high priority Council facilities such as Australian Fossil and Mineral Museum and across the CBD in September:
		Control works in November 2015 resulted in the removal of 74 pigeons.
		Control works in February 2016 resulted in removal of 102 pigeons.
		Control works in June 2016 resulted in removal of 135 pigeons.
Implement the Biodiversity Management Plan.	Implement priority project/s identified in the Biodiversity Management Plan by June 2016.	Green Army has been undertaking approved project activities ranging from weed removal to tree planting on various sites.
		Plan of management being prepared for Jubilee Park, Ophir Road Reserve.
Conduct the annual Land Improvement Awards Grant Program.	Conduct Land Improvement Awards Grant Program and	1.2015 program awarded with three grant agreements signed and first payments approved.
monitor implementation of grant projects by June 2016.		 2. 2016 program launched in January 2016. Applications closed on 22 February 2016. Applications assessed. Projects awarded at Council's Ordinary meeting in April 2016.

Continue to evaluate, report and reduce energy demand and greenhouse gas emissions in Council operated facilities

CSP 2036 Objective Reference	8, 13	
Support the continuation of the Revolving Energy Fund.	Implement Revolving Energy Fund projects in 2015/2016.	Development Application for 100 kWh solar array at WWTW approved in November 2015. Tenders closed January 2016, awarded to Epho. Installation 2016.
		REF funding approved in January 2016 for upgrade of Art Gallery lighting - \$50,000 contribution. Works completed March 2016.
		REF funding approved for upgrade of Aerodrome Floodlights to LED technology - \$17,000. Completed.
Support the continuation of Energy Audits of Council facilities and	Conduct energy audits at priority Council facilities and implement	Display lighting at NMRM replaced with LED alternative July 2015.
implement simple and cost effective energy efficiency measures.	identified energy efficiency measures in 2015/2016.	Lighting retrofits EPBS kitchen and toilets.

Environmental Health Management

Meet Council's obligations as part of the Food Regulation Partnership, the Food Standards and the Public Health (Swimming Pools and Spa Pools) Regulation (2000)

CSP 2036 Objective Reference	22, 25, 26 30, 31	
Continue to improve Council and community knowledge with regards to		Fact sheet 2 was released and distributed in September 2015.
food health, public bathing areas and domestic wastewater disposal.	Environmental Health Seminars.	Fact sheet 3 was released and distributed in December 2015 with a ''Food Safety'' calendar.
		Fact sheet 4 was released and distributed in April 2016.
	Conduct monitoring of all Bathurst Region public swimming pools and spa pools by June 2016.	Commenced in November 2015.

Ensure Council's ability to meet the obligations as required under NSW Legislation.	Implement an Environmental Health Secondment program by June 2016.	Commenced in July 2015 however the officer resigned in November 2015. On hold at this time.
Continue to conduct a program of inspections of Food premises, B&B's, Home-based food premises, domestic waste water disposal units, and skin penetration premises to ensure compliance with regulations and educate the community about relevant regulations.	Conduct a program of inspections of food premises etc. during 2015/2016.	Ongoing.

Bushfire Control

[Local Government Act 1993 - Section 428]

Bushfire services within the Bathurst Regional Council area are now carried out in conjunction with NSW Rural Fire Service. Bathurst Regional Council is responsible for maintaining and housing bush fire equipment including trucks, pumps etc., and operations are carried out by the NSW Rural Fire Service, Chifley Zone. Council contributes to the Fire Fighting Fund for the provision of equipment and Rural Fire Service staff, planning and insurances. Financial contributions are also made to some brigades within Council's area through rent and service payments on premises. Council called tenders for the construction of a new Fire Control Centre valued at approximately \$3 million. Construction commenced in April 2016 and is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

Council regularly slashes/sprays reserves, parks, roadside verges and other vacant Council land as resources permit. Council notifies the Chifley Zone Office of any complaints received in relation to bush fire hazards, as they have been delegated the authority by Council to issue hazard reduction notices in the Council area. Notices were issued by NSW Rural Fire Service, Chifley Zone Office to occupiers and land owners where appropriate to reduce fire hazards. Council is a member of the local Chifley Bushfire Management Committee which coordinates the management of hazard reduction throughout the Bathurst Regional Council area and the Oberon Council area.

Environmental and Health Programs

Council actively engaged with the community in 2015/2016 through a range of environmental and health education programs. Council assists local food businesses through access to free online food handling training, advice on premises fit outs and the provision of quarterly educational newsletters. These activities are supported by routine inspections of food and skin penetration premises, and implementation of Council's Onsite Sewage Management Strategy. High risk septic systems within the water supply catchment area were also identified and assessed to reduce the risk on the drinking water quality.

Environmental Projects cover a broad range of issues from sustainability initiatives in the home to land rehabilitation works with local farmers. Key activities include the annual Sustainable Living Expo held on 23 April 2016 which was attended by nearly 4500 people, the distribution of the "Making a Difference" newsletter to more than 14000 ratepayers in the Bathurst Region and the Bathurst Backyard Bird Count- an interactive survey of local bird species held in October 2015. Council implemented a number of projects to address high priority actions which have been identified in Council's Pest Bird Management Plan, Urban Waterways Management Plan and Biodiversity Management Plan. In 2015/2016, natural environment activities focused on the catchment of Hawthornden Creek, Blayney Road Common and more recently, lower Sawpit Creek. Council also conducted the final assessment of roadside vegetation within the LGA – an important step in ensuring the appropriate management of linear reserves.

State of the Environment Report

[Local Government Act 1993 - Section 428A]

The 2015/2016 State of the Environment report provides Council and the community with a snapshot of the condition of the environment in the Bathurst Regional Council Local Government Area. The Integrated Planning and Reporting system requires that a State of the Environment report is produced every four years, rather than annually as previously required. The annual snapshot provides an update on trends under the themes of land, biodiversity, water and waterways, people and community, and towards sustainability. Data will continue to be collated on an annual basis.

Council will participate in the Regional State of Environment Report with 16 other Councils from the Greater Central West Region of NSW. This will report on regional trends in the above mentioned themes on a four yearly basis.

The 2014/2015 Bathurst State of Environment Report was available on Council's website from 30 November 2015.



Planning Agreements

[Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979 - Section 93g (5)]

Council agreed to enter into the following Voluntary Planning Agreements:

Development	Parties	Status
Seniors Living Development	Crighton Bathurst Pty Ltd	Development consent acted upon however agreement has not been formally entered into.
Crudine Ridge Wind Farm	Wind Prospects CWP Pty Ltd	Development consent granted by Department of Planning conditional upon a Voluntary Planning Agreement. Council has resolved to enter into agreement. However it has not yet been executed.

Companion Animals

[Local Government Act 1993 - Section 428, Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 - Clause 217(1) (f)]

Lodgement of Pound Data Collection Return

Council lodged its 2015/2016 Survey of Council seizure of cats and dogs with the Office of Local Government in July 2016.

Dog Attacks

Council, during 2015/2016 financial year notified the Office of Local Government of 27 dog attacks.

Companion Animals Management and Activities

Council's budgeted expenditure on Companion Animal management and activities for 2015/2016 was \$516,304. This includes all activities related to Companion Animals, impounding and regulatory control, necessary upgrades, maintenance and running of the animal pound, desexing programs and the provision of off leash areas.

Community Education - Companion Animals

Council's Senior Ranger presented educational programs to a range of audiences including senior citizens and many child care and primary school students across the Local Government Area. Council assisted the RSPCA with the Million Paws walk in Bathurst and conducted the Dog Expo in 2015.

Strategies to Promote and Assist the Desexing of Dogs and Cats

Council conducts a desexing program in conjunction with the RSPCA and local veterinary clinics which allows pensioners and health care card holders to have their dogs and cats desexed at a subsidised rate. Council contributed \$21,000 this year towards this program and encourages eligible residents with pets to take advantage of this opportunity. Council has allocated a further \$22,000 in the 2016/2017 Budget to continue this program.

Strategies as an alternative to Euthanasia

Council has in place the following strategies to reduce the need for euthanasia of impounded animals

- Two weekly radio segments which are utilised to advise the public of animals that are currently available at the pound.
- Desexing program
- Community Education Program
- Rehoming program with the RSPCA

Off-Leash Areas

Council currently has eleven off-leash dog exercise areas which are located throughout the City of Bathurst and the surrounding villages of Eglinton, Perthville and Raglan. A full list of off-leash areas is provided below:

- Centennial Park (Subject to exclusion of playground area and operating hours before 8am and after 5pm).
- Kefford Street (Fully fenced and with solar lighting to improve accessibility).
- The River Walk between the Evans and George Street Bridges subject to operating hours before 8am and after 5pm.
- Russell Street next to old dog pound, bounded by Vale Creek, Russell Street and 35 Russell Street.
- Eglinton Showground, at the rear of Cottonwood Drive.
- Kelso Reserve between McMenamin, Rivett and Bell Places.
- Perthville, Brian Booth Oval, Vale Creek side.
- Raglan, Lavis Park and the reserve between Napoleon Street and Adrienne Street.
- South Bathurst Jaques Park, bounded by Alma and Violet Streets.
- Hector Park and Rocket Street Reserve, adjacent to the Basketball Stadium.
- Windradyne Drainage reserve, corner of Bradwardine and Evernden Roads.

Companion Animals Fund Monies

Council received \$39,721 from the Companion Animals Fund. Activities where these funds were expended include:

Dog registration clerk salary	\$42,943
Dog Pound expenses	\$24,056
Dog Microchipping expenses	\$3,031
Dog Community Desexing program	\$20,467
Cat Impounding expenses	\$813



Parking Control

Meet Council's responsibilities under Road Rules (2008) and the Fines Act (1996) and reduce the amount of contestable penalty notices being issued

CSP 2036 Objective Reference	3	22	29, 30
Continue to monitor and enforce parking regulations and educate the community in relation to Parking Control.	Parking Control Educati completed by June 201	1 0	Monitoring occurring daily. New part time parking officer commenced in October 2015 and this has resulted in an increase in the frequency of patrols in off-street car parks.
			Part time officer appointed full time in March 2016.

Economic Development

Implementation of the Bathurst R	egion Economic Development Strat	egy 2011-2016 and associated strategies and actions
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	8, 11, 13, 16 28, 29, 30
Ensure appropriate training is identified, developed where	Continued development of Business Management Workshops. Promote training courses through Bathurst Region website, Business eNewsletter etc.	• 3 Business Management Workshops held in August 2015.
necessary and information disseminated to relevant industry		Promotion of BEC business workshops.
sectors.		 Partnership with AusIndustry for Lean Simulation Workshop.
		• 3 Business Management Workshops held in June 2016.
Facilitate contact between industry, developers, government,	Continued support and partnerships with the Business	• Partnership with the Business Chamber for Bizweek Campaign.
new business, relocators, training bodies and community groups	Chamber, AusIndustry, BEC, CSU, RDA and NSW Trade &	 New Bathurst Business Hub website launched in partnership with NSW Dept. of Industry.
where appropriate.	Investment.	 Student experience partnership programs with CSU – BizWeek, Jobs Expo & Bathurst Buy Local Gift Card.
Actively foster and support small,	Work with employment agencies	• 873 jobs uploaded year-to-date.
micro and home based business.	and business groups to grow	• Bathurst Jobs Expo held with 1,400 attendees.
	Evojobs & Jobs Expo. Develop an Online Business Hub and	• Bathurst Business Hub website launched.
	BizWeek.	• BizWeek held 17 – 25 September 2015.
		• TAFE Western & Skillset Jobs Expo sponsors 2015.
Host regular Mayoral Functions.	Host Business Leaders Lunch, Welcome Wagon, Business Chamber and other Mayoral business events.	Business After Hours hosted at Art Gallery.
		 Welcome Wagon held December 2015 and May 2016.
		• Mayoral Business Leaders Lunch held 28 April 2016.
Promote new and innovative practices within industry sectors.	Foster local business growth through campaigns and education to get businesses online including	• ''SEO for Small Business'' seminar held during BizWeek.
		• Bathurst Business Hub website launched.
	website development and social media engagement.	• ''Get online'' campaign – 2016.
Develop and review Signage Strategy for the Bathurst Region.	Continued roll-out of the Signage Strategy.	• Review of signage design underway.
Encourage business start-up, investment, business relocation and respond to all enquiries.	Prepare Relocation Prospectus' where necessary. Development of Business Incubators to develop business start-ups	 Discussion with CSU, VERTO, BEC and Reliance regarding business start-up hub.
Leverage key marketing programs that have the potential to attract	Evocities meetings attended and all enquiries responded to.	• Evocities Steering Committee meetings attended 29 July, 28 October, 25 February and 26 May.
investment.	Bathurst Region website updated on a monthly basis.	• Evocities Ops meeting attended 26 August, 24 February and 25 May.
		• 120 enquiries responded to year-to-date.

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Projects/Strategies	Outcomes
Sponsorship Program	 Sponsorship brochures designed for Business Management Workshops, Jobs Expo, Business eNewsletter, BizWeek Business Lunch and Get Online! Campaign
	• \$20,209 in sponsorship across 2015/2016 financial year.
	• Sponsors include TAFE, Rydges, VERTO, Oxygen Executive, Morse Group, Skillset, Website Software Solutions across a variety of business programs.
	Standardised Terms & Conditions created for use across Council.
Bathurst Buy Local Gift	• 125 businesses in the program.
Card	• I I load-up stores.
	• Over \$91,000 loaded in the program to June 2016.
	• 1,312 cards purchased.
	Over \$60,000 redeemed.
	• Continual marketing campaign across TV, radio, print media, business database, social media, digital advertising, cinema, flyers & ratepayers newsletter.
Business Database & eNewsletter	• 12 eNewsletters sent out (one for each month) and numerous business alerts to promote Council projects.
	Database maintenance.
BizWeek	Part of the Bathurst Buy Local Campaign brand.
	• Partnership with the Western Advocate, 2BS and the Business Chamber.
	• Held 17 – 25 September 2015.
	• 4 major events (plus Launch event at Books Plus); Crazy Day, "Lunch with Todd Sampson" (sold out event, 180 attendees), SEO for Small Business Seminar (50 attendees) and the Carillon Business Awards.
	Major marketing campaign across all marketing mediums.
	• 2016 planning underway, including "Lunch with Mark Bouris", Marketing Workshop, launch event, Crazy Day. Marketing campaign commenced.
Evocities	• 128 new resident enquiries responded to for 2015/2016.
	964 jobs loaded on Evojobs.
	New brand development and launch of new Evocities website.
	• Operations Group meetings and Steering Committee meetings attended (Sydney).
Evocities MTB (Mountain Bike) Series	Partnership between Council & Bathurst Mountain Biking Club to arrange event logistics, category prizes (paid for by Council), media etc.
,	 Promotional campaign through social media, flyers & business database.
	Event held 16 – 17 April 2016. 151 competitors.
New Bathurst Business	Central source of information for businesses in the Bathurst Region.
Hub website	New website fully designed and launched on 28 April 2016.
	Integration with eNewsletter and social media.
Bathurst Region Website	Regularly updated and refreshed with new information.
Business Management	August 2015, 3 Workshops held with approximately 250 attendees in total.
Workshops	• June 2016, 3 Workshops held with approximately 200 attendees in total.
	• Large scale marketing campaigns across the Business Database, social media, flyers, radio, Western Advocate.
Bathurst Jobs Expo	• Jobs Expo held 27 October 2015, 1,400 attendees (compared to 350 in 2014) and 41 exhibitors (compared to 24 in 2014).
	• Sponsorship secured with TAFE Western and Skillset. Partnership with Central Western Careers Advisors.
	• Planning for 2016 Jobs Expo. TAFE Western secured as Major Sponsor and Aussie Marketing Force as Satchel Sponsor. Partnership with Central Western Careers Advisors. 47 confirmed exhibitors.
	• Large scale marketing campaign across radio, television, social media, print media, flyers, posters & Evojobs.

Manufacturing Study	• Manufacturing Study completed by WRI July 2015 to assess the "state-of-play" in the manufacturing industry (following numerous redundancies and downsizing) and how Council may assist in future growth.
Filming	Approval/permits for 16 filming and photography projects.
	• Coordination and approval of major filming projects and photography in the Bathurst Region including car commercials, Sydney Weekender TV program, Fox Sports, Travel Oz, Audi TV commercial, Sydney Film School, New Delhi Television limited documentary and Porsche TV commercial.
New Business Attraction	• Responded to 21 new businesses enquiries in 2015/2016.
and Business Assistance	• 7 new businesses attracted/started due to Economic Development support.
	• Relocation prospectus prepared to promote land sales at the Aerodrome.
NBN, Telecommunications and	Coordination of community consultation with NBN – Business Chamber, Business Enterprise Centre & local telcos.
CBD Free Wi-Fi Project	• Provision of data for development of Location IDs, management of NBN agreements with Council.
	• Detailed Council submission created and supplied to NBN regarding fibre and fixed wireless access for Bathurst.
	• Submission created (audit of mobile black spots across Bathurst and identification of priority black spot concerns) and supplied to Telstra, Optus and Vodafone to support applications for Mobile Black Spots Programme Round 2 funding.
	• Quotations sought from local telcos for Free CBD Wi-Fi Project, in collaboration with Council's IT section.
Representation of	Presentation at SEGRA Conference 21 October 2015.
Council at Conferences and events (including	• Numerous presentations to groups of visiting Western Sydney University and University NSW students.
presentations)	• Representation of Council at numerous events including Bathurst Business Chamber After Hours, CSU functions and other industry events.
Hosting and organisation of Mayoral Events	• Welcome Wagon Mayoral Receptions held 14 December 2016 (40 attendees) and 25 April 2016 (45 attendees).
	Business Chamber After Hours Event.
	Mayoral Business Leaders Lunch organised and held 28 April 2016 at Rydges, 66 attendees.
Small Biz Bus – Office	Coordination and promotion of visit to Bathurst, 16 June 2015.
of the Small Business Commissioner	Coordination and promotion of July 2016 visit.
Get Online! Campaign	• Get Online! webpage developed.
	Sponsors secured; Website Software Solutions and Fairfax Marketing Services.
	Marketing campaign across print media, social media, radio and business database.
Bathurst Start-Up Hub	• Funding application completed for Round 3 Murray Darling Basin Economic Diversification Program (NSW Government).
	• Member of the Consultative Group (Council representation), along with Reliance Credit Union, Charles Sturt University, NSW Department of Industry and Centroc.
	Ongoing meetings with Reliance Credit Union.







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