



BATHURST REGIONAL COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT 2012-2013



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FROM THE MAYOR



During the last twelve months a new Council has been elected and hard working former Councillors, Ross Thompson, Tracey Carpenter and Paul Toole have retired. Council has benefited from the projects that these Councillors initiated particularly in relation to the environment and to our agricultural industry. Council continues to benefit from the support of Paul Toole in his role as Member for the Bathurst Electorate.

One of the first activities of the new Council was to revisit the Bathurst 2036 Community Strategic Plan. As part of this process Council consulted the community in order to ensure the vision, objectives and strategies of the first Community Strategic Plan remained relevant and to identify the community's key priorities with respect to the plans, objectives and strategies.

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.

Over the last year we have seen some major projects get underway, with others in the planning stage. The latest major development is on the old Dairy Farmers site at the corner of Howick and Bentinck Streets. The new complex, with 40 serviced apartments, large and small retail outlets and plenty of parking will be a great asset to the city. Conditions have been put on the construction so that any items of historical interest which are turned up in the excavation will be investigated for connection to the previous uses of the site, which include a convict hospital, a brewery, soap factory and dairy co-operative.

Other major projects which have commenced in the last 12 months are:

The Harness Racing Complex, off College Road. This will open up Bathurst to major regional events which could not be held at the old smaller track at the Showground;

The Masters Development on the Sydney Road, which will be one of NSW largest home improvement stores. There will also be additional retail outlets in the complex and parking for more than 400 cars;

Two new childcare centres, one in Stanley Street and the other in George Street. While families in Sydney are crying out for affordable childcare, we here in Bathurst will have access to a variety of facilities, including Family Day Care;

Increased and upgraded aged care facilities at the old St Vincent's Hospital, Cedar Creek Lifestyle Units and at Cheriton Village. At a time when the population is ageing, these are very welcome additions to our residential accommodation;

Rejuvenation of the former Waratah Hotel in George Street, which has attracted a new restaurant and shops;

Other exciting ventures are currently being considered – a Go Kart facility and a Speedway Track. Although both these are still in the early planning stages, it gives Council confidence in the future of Bathurst as a major hub for car racing. Combined with the latest work on Mount Panorama to upgrade the surface of the track and bring spectator facilities up to a new level of safety, Bathurst motor racing has a very secure future.

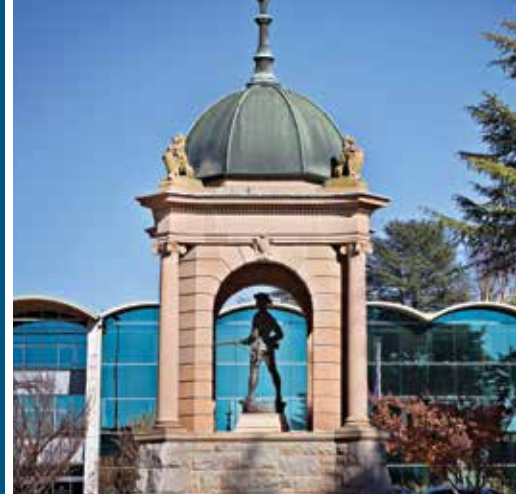
Additionally, with the repair and restoration of many heritage buildings, funded by Council's Heritage Fund, our city is looking very attractive and prosperous.

Council is looking forward to an exciting future for our great inland city and region.

Cr Monica Morse
30 June 2013



FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER



In the past year Council has continued to deliver on its commitment to a broad range of quality services to our community, despite some challenging financial conditions.

The opportunity to review the Council's first Community Strategic Plan came following the election of a new Council in September. The community consultation workshops and feedback from a community survey in December, assisted Council in re-affirming the goals and priorities of the plan adopted in 2011. The result was a clearer picture of what projects and priorities the community expected Council to focus on for the next four years.

A key to delivering on such plans is the ability to maintain a strong financial position. I am pleased to report that Council's surplus of \$10 million for 2012-2013 enables the Council to focus on some key projects and priorities such as construction of a new cycle park and velodrome; upgrades to water and sewer networks; the continuation of the Manganese removal project to assist in reducing the impact of discoloured water across the city; road resurface and safety upgrades at Mount Panorama; and to begin planning for rehabilitation works at the airport.

Working with the community in delivering quality recreation facilities has been a highlight for Council in recent years. In 2012 this program saw Council join with Bathurst Netball Association in the completion of a new clubhouse in Durham Street. Adding to the recently built clubhouse for the Bathurst Bushrangers AFL club, work began on new toilet and shower facilities at George Park providing a major boost to this sport.

As part of the partnership with local emergency services Council made a contribution of around \$500,000 to NSW Fire and Rescue, the Rural Fire Service and State Emergency Service (SES) operations.

The completion of the Council's comprehensive asset management plans during the year highlighted some challenges ahead in addressing the backlog in asset maintenance. This will be a priority for Council in coming years.

Council has been reviewing the method of delivery of services to see where efficiencies can be made. The review in recent years has included; the Bathurst Aerodrome, Indoor Sports Stadium, Weeds Management programs, museum operations and insurance cover policies. The reviews will help to ensure Council is a financially viable operation that is responsive to market needs and is able to meet its delivery goals and community expectation.


While challenges lay ahead as the State Government continues to review Local Government operations across the State through the Independent Local Government Review Panel, I am confident that the Bathurst Region is in a strong and secure financial position and will continue to meet its obligations to improve and enhance the quality of life here in the Bathurst Region.

David Sherley
30 June 2013





THE BATHURST 2036 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, strengthen and attract new economic development opportunities.
2. To encourage, promote and protect the region's primary resources.
3. To protect a vibrant CBD and support and grow retail diversity.
4. To market Bathurst as a great place to live, work, study, invest and play.
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.

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 2012-2016 and the Annual Operating Plan 2012/2013 (collectively known as the Bathurst 2016 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 2012/2013 spells out the details of the Delivery Plan, ie, the individual projects and activities that will be undertaken for the year to achieve the targets set in the Delivery Plan.

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.

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.

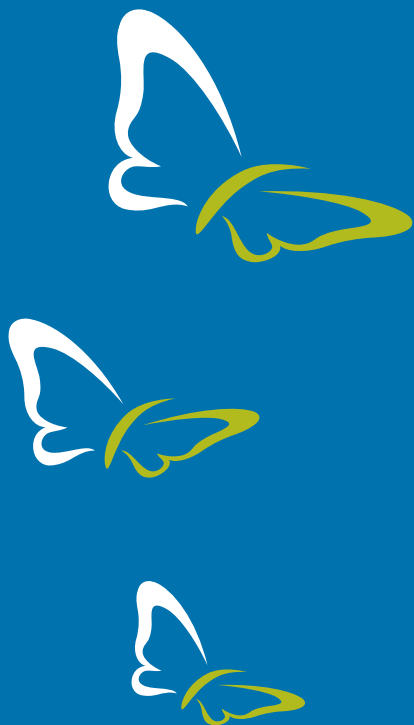


BATHURST SNAPSHOT



Bathurst is Australia's oldest inland 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 a steady annual growth rate of 1.2%.

Population	40,253	
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, mapping, timber, pet foods	





BATHURST REGIONAL COUNCIL – 2012/2013

Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors as at 30 June 2013.

Mayoral elections are held each September for Bathurst Regional Council. Note that the Mayoral and Deputy Mayoral positions listed on this page are the elected Mayor and Deputy Mayor at the end of the report period which is 30 June 2013.

MAYOR



CR MONICA MORSE

DEPUTY MAYOR



CR IAN NORTH

COUNCILLORS



CR WARREN AUBIN



CR BOBBY BOURKE



CR MICHAEL COOTE



CR GRAEME HANGER



CR JESS JENNINGS



CR GARY RUSH



CR GREG WESTMAN

COUNCIL STRUCTURE





CORPORATE SERVICES & FINANCE

Looking after its staff and ensuring open and transparent government is the main priority at Bathurst Regional Council. Council employs around 350 staff in 20 locations and attracting and keeping good people is our priority.

	Indicates that objectives relate to Key Direction: Economic Prosperity
	Indicates that objectives relate to Key Direction: Environmental Sustainability
	Indicates that objectives relate to Key Direction: Liveable Communities
	Indicates that objectives relate to Key Direction: Sound Leadership

HUMAN RESOURCES & RISK MANAGEMENT

Manage Council's Health and Safety.			
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	5	25	30,32,33
Train all staff in Manual Handling and; development of Local Government specific Manual Handling resources.	Less than 20 new Workers compensation claims during the year.	Claims lodged = 21, of these 18 resulted in lost time.	
Development of a driver safety policy and procedure.	New policy and procedure adopted before 30/06/2013.	Policy created and provided to management.	
Maintain and service effective Consultative and WHS Committees.	Develop and collect feedback from Committee members annually.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training for WHS Committee members occurred May 2013 to meet WorkCover requirements. Consultative Committee endorsed Constitution at June meeting. 	

Develop opportunities for apprentices and trainees within all areas of Council's workforce.			
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	5		
Actively promote trainee / apprenticeship opportunities to the youth of the region.	Deliver information session to a minimum of 5 institutions per year.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council's apprentices participated in the "Try a Trade" skills to schools roadshow during March 2013. Active involvement in 'Plan-It' Youth Mentoring Program for Year 10 Bathurst High School students - ongoing. 	

Provide for ongoing review of Council's Workforce Plan and staff engagement.			
CSP 2036 Objective Reference			30,32,33
Integrate the provisions of the Award with the objectives of Workforce Plan to ensure a suitably skilled and engaged workforce.	Formulate a mechanism to obtain constructive input by 30/06/2013.	Review of Workforce Plan completed.	

INFORMATION SERVICES

Manage Council's online presence.			
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	4,5,6	17,19,20,21,23,26,27	28,30
Ensure web sites remain up-to-date and contain accurate information.	Ongoing management of website content.	Web site status managed by departments. New BRC site under development. Completion date set to March 2014.	

FINANCIAL SERVICES

Ensure Council's long term financial sustainability.			
CSP 2036 Objective Reference			28,29,33
Review need for special variation in rate income.	Special variation application submitted.	Council determined not to apply for a Special Rate Variation for the 2013/2014 year.	
Improve Council's cash flows.	Rates and Charges Outstanding Ratio less than 10%.	Ratio as at 30 June 2013 = 8.47%.	
Ensure Council's level of debt is manageable.	Debt service ratio less than 10%.	Ratio as at 30 June 2013 = 6.27%.	
Maximise invested funds within prudential guidelines.	Outperform monthly 90 day bank bill swap rate.	At 30th June 2013: 90 day bank bill swap rate – 3.14% - Current earnings – 4.33%.	
Improve internal financial reporting to managers for sound cost control.	Review monthly and quarterly reporting process for internal customer satisfaction.	QBRS for Sep quarter reported to Nov meeting. QBRS for Dec 2012 presented at Feb meeting. QBRS for Mar 2013 presented to Council in May. Cost centre reports issued monthly.	

PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT

Manage the development of new residential land releases to ensure appropriate level of supply available.				
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	1,6			28
Development Avonlea stages 8 & 10.	Sold by 30 June 2013.		Contractor has commenced work. Completion now expected July 2013. Expect ballot release in July/August 2013.	
Development Avonlea stage 9.			Tender has been awarded. Expected completion by October 2013.	
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			28
Development in Bathurst Trade Centre and Kelso Industrial Park as required.	Provision of available land to meet demands.		Current supply of commercial/industrial land meets demand. 16 Industrial blocks currently available. 3 commercial blocks currently available.	

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.	All Council Business Papers provided within targeted timelines.		
Provide access to Council documents on website.	Review of documents on website.	Review of documents undertaken in June 2012. Further documents added throughout the year as adopted by Council. Majority of Council's major studies were added to the website in one location as part of the 2036 Plan process.		
Complete Annual Report to the community.	Completion by statutory deadline (30 November).	Annual Report submitted to Division of Local Government on 30 November 2012 in accordance with statutory requirement.		

Ensure Council policies reflect community needs and organisational requirements.

CSP 2036 Objective Reference				30,32,33
Review of Policy Manual.	Update Policy Manual – complete review of format and content.	Complete review of Policy Manual undertaken. Revamped Manual provided to Council at Policy Meeting 5th December 2012. New Manual adopted by Council, with copy provided to Councillors and available on Council's web-site.		
Monitor Policy Manual.	Individual Policies reviewed for relevance and compliance with statutory requirements.	Policies monitored and updated as required. Complete revision of Policy Manual presented to 2012 December Policy Meeting. Gifts and Benefits Policy and Code of Conduct updated December 2012.		
Community satisfaction with Council service levels.	Conduct Community Surveys.	Community survey results were presented to Council at April 2013 Policy Committee Meeting.		

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.	Contracts recorded on contracts register on website.		
Respond to requests for information under GIPA Act in timely manner.	Information requests (formal and informal) responded to in accordance with statutory guidelines.	13 requests received to date. Responses provided to 11 requests within statutory guidelines, 2 are still to be finished as only received in late June.		

REVIEW OF FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

[Local Government Act 1993 - Section 428]

REVENUE	ACTUAL 2012/2013 \$'000
Rates & annual charges	31,177
User charges & fees	21,273
Interest & investment revenue	3,605
Other Revenue	3,534
Grants & contributions – operating	14,779
Grants & contributions – capital	4,578
Net gains from disposal of assets	7,258
TOTAL INCOME	86,204
EXPENSES	ACTUAL 2012/2013 \$'000
Employee costs	27,078
Borrowing costs	1,182
Materials & contracts	21,835
Depreciation & amortisation	17,266
Other expenses	9,069
TOTAL EXPENSES	76,430
NET RESULT	9,774

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 \$9,774,000 (2012 - \$10,859,000). Some items of note in the operating statement include:

Revenue

- The operating surplus **before** capital amounts was \$5,196,000 (2012 - \$5,900,000).
- Council's revenue from rates and annual charges rose by \$1,105,000 from \$30,072,000 in 2012 to \$31,177,000 in 2013. Rates increased by \$942,000 (4.95%) which was the combined result of the approved rate pegging increase of 3.6% and normal additions to rateable land within the Council area through land developments.
- User charges and fees increased from \$20,066,000 in 2012 to \$21,183,000 in 2013 (increase of \$1,117,000).

Revenue from user charges for water supply rose by \$2,582,000 to \$8,705,000 (2012 - \$6,123,000). This was primarily the result of extended dry weather conditions which saw a significant increase in water consumption across the

Council area. This was offset by a decrease in revenue from the RMS of \$2,135,000 from \$4,590,000 in 2012 to \$2,455,000 in 2013. The 2011-'12 financial year saw a significant increase in maintenance requests by the RMS, partly due to the consistent periods of wet weather experienced in the Council area from November 2011 to March 2012 and the resultant work required to repair damaged roads. The 2012-'13 financial year saw much drier prevailing weather conditions, resulting in a decrease in requests by the RMS for this type of work.

- Operating grants and contributions for the year were \$14,670,000 compared to \$15,454,000 in 2012 (decrease of \$784,000).

Revenue from the Federal Financial Assistance Grant was \$1,705,000 lower than the 2011-'12 financial year due to the timing of advance payments under this program.

RMS contributions were \$1,165,000 higher than the 2011-'12 financial year due to additional funding from this source for work on Council owned roads. The 2012-'13 financial year included \$615,000 for work on Fremantle Road, \$400,000 for work on Sofala Road and \$350,000 for work on Rockley Road.

- Council's net gain from the disposal of assets for 2013 was \$7,258,000 (2012 - \$7,905,000). Gains on the sale of Council's real estate developments contributed \$7,267,000 (2012 - \$7,178,000) to Council's operating result.

Expenditure

- Total employee costs decreased by \$72,000 compared to the prior year. Salaries and wages costs increased by \$808,000 (4.5%) which is a combination of the annual Award increase and Council's annual performance and skills based increases.

Employee leave entitlements fell by \$1,309,000 due to changes in the discount rates applied to this calculation as a result of movements in prevailing interest rates. Council's liability for employee leave entitlements was also well controlled during the 2012-'13 financial year.

This was offset by an increase in workers compensation premiums of \$378,000, partly attributable to Council's claims history.

- Council's depreciation expense rose to \$17,266,000 for 2013 from \$16,230,000 in 2012 (increase of \$1,036,000). Depreciation on Council's water and sewerage networks increased by \$1,110,000 over the prior year. This was due to the full revaluation of these assets at 30 June 2012, which saw an increase in their values at that time, and a consequent increase in depreciation expense for 2012-'13.
- Other expenses increased from \$8,655,000 in 2012 to \$9,563,000 in 2013 (increase of \$908,000). The 2012-'13 financial year included \$212,000 of expenditure related to the Local Government elections (2012 – nil) and a combined increase in electricity, heating and street lighting costs to Council of \$530,000.

(b) Financial Position

The Balance Sheet discloses that for the year ended 30 June 2013 Council's net assets stood at \$1,019,696,000 (2012 – \$999,463,000) which represents an increase of \$20,233,000.

This increase is the combined effect of the surplus for the year after capital amounts of \$9,774,000, and the revaluation of Council's building and operational land and indexation of Council's water and sewerage assets which saw \$10,459,000 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.

At 30 June 2013 Council had a \$3,065,000 deficit (2012 – \$423,000 surplus) 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 2012-'13 revenues which alters the analysis significantly and does indicate the position is manageable within Council's resources.

As in previous years, a contributing factor to this issue is the amount held by Council as internal restrictions. This balance has increased by \$6,749,000 since the prior year. Council needs to recognise the fact that their ability to fund all internal restrictions in the present circumstances is not possible without the reliance on future revenues or loan funding.

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.

Note 6 to the financial statements discloses total cash and investments of \$74,613,000 (2012 – \$71,276,000).

Included in this total is an amount of \$55,298,000 (2012 – \$58,856,000) which is subject to external restrictions requiring Council to commit those funds to the purposes for which they were provided and \$18,693,000 (2012 – \$11,944,000) 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 \$622,000 (2012 – \$476,000) 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:

Unrestricted Current Ratio

The Unrestricted Current Ratio is a measure of Council's liquidity which demonstrates Council's ability to satisfy obligations out of short-term asset balances.

Council's ratio of 2.48:1 (2012 – 2.61:1) is comparable to the prior year and is considered acceptable. We stress the importance of considering this ratio in conjunction with other performance indicators and not in isolation. The fact that this ratio is based upon consolidated funds should also be kept in mind as the ratio for individual funds (i.e. General, Water, Sewer, etc.) may vary significantly.

Debt Service Ratio

The cost of repaying debt is reflected in the debt service ratio, which expresses that cost as a percentage of revenue from ordinary activities.

Whilst there is no definitive guide on what constitutes an acceptable ratio it is generally accepted that a ratio of up to 20% depending on the level of long-term development (infrastructure) plans, is considered acceptable. At 6.27% (2012 – 6.61%) Bathurst Regional Council's ratio is well within its financial capacity.

Rates and Annual Charges Coverage Ratio

The ability of Council to meet community expectations for the delivery of services and provision of facilities is directly influenced by the discretion it can exercise in the allocation of resources.

In relation to rates, a high level of dependency on rates income provides Council with a degree of flexibility in the nature and timing of how funds are spent.

Bathurst Regional Council's ratio of 36.26% (2012 – 35.26%) is consistent with the prior year. It is perhaps a little lower than other councils of comparable size due to the influence of the grants and contributions received, as well as significant proceeds from real estate sales.

Rates and Annual Charges Outstanding Ratio

The rates and annual charges outstanding percentage 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 8.47% (2012 – 8.94%) has improved over the prior year. It is also important to recognise the impact of the timing and quantum of year end water bills on this ratio. Note 13b to the financial statements provides an analysis of this ratio by fund.

Building and Infrastructure Renewals Ratio

The purpose of this ratio is to assess the rate at which infrastructure assets are being renewed against the rate at which they are depreciating.

Because the distinction between replacements, renewals and repairs is not well defined, it is difficult to make meaningful analysis from this ratio. Council's ratio at 30 June 2013 was 28.55% compared to 30.67 % in 2012 and 34.88% in 2011.

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 2013. Council has determined that it has three (3) business units within its operations: Water, Sewerage, and Waste.

The Division 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 2013 has been issued.

(d) Legislative Compliance

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

LEGAL EXPENSES

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

MATTER	DESCRIPTION	COST	STATUS
PLANNING	Parking Rangers	\$31,118	Ongoing
	Telstra Corporation Ltd Development Application	\$300	Ongoing
	Taylor Development Application	\$18,202	Completed
	Manning Development Application	\$84,443	Ongoing
	Betts Development Application	\$15,072	Ongoing
	TOTAL PLANNING LEGAL COSTS	\$149,135	
ADMINISTRATIVE	ICAC Inquiry	\$1,281	Completed
	Hereford St - Land	\$3,500	Completed
	Family Day Care	\$4,281	Ongoing
	LGFS Investment	\$23,230	Ongoing
	Code of Conduct	\$12,348	Ongoing
	Rental Premises	\$2,855	Completed
	Road Maintenance	\$4,629	Completed
	Mount Panorama Contract dispute	\$156,787	Ongoing
	Land Matters Search Fees	\$12,207	Completed
	General Advice	\$21,065	Completed
	Mount Pan. Joint Operating	\$19,987	Completed
	TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE LEGAL COSTS	\$262,170	
	TOTAL LEGAL COSTS	\$410,305	

COUNCILLORS' FEES AND EXPENSES

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

MONEY EXPENDED DURING THE 2012/2013 FINANCIAL YEAR ON:

Mayoral fees	\$37,230
Councillors' fees	\$150,507
Councillors' expenses	\$36,684
TOTAL	\$224,421

COUNCILLORS' EXPENSES LISTED ABOVE INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WHICH MUST BE SEPARATELY REPORTED:

Provision of dedicated office equipment allocated to Councillors	\$3,166
Telephone calls made by Councillors	\$4,495
Attendance of Councillors at conferences and seminars	\$12,694
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	Nil
Expenses of any spouse, partner or other person who accompanied a Councillor	Nil
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.

1. 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?

- (1) 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

- (1) 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.

- Division 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

· Division 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 (eg 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 Cottage and Interpretation 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.

9.1 Acquisition and Return of Council Equipment and Facilities by Councillors

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.

11. 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.
- (e) 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 Childcare

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 \$8.00 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 \$800.00 and thereafter an annual allowance for maintenance of a maximum \$200.00 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:-

- 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, however no visits to Ohkuma were undertaken during the

reporting period. No other overseas visits were undertaken.

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 2012/2013: the General Manager; Director Corporate Services & Finance; Director Engineering Services; Director Environmental, Planning & Building Services and Director Cultural & Community Services.

The total expenditure for 2012/2013 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 \$1,189,403.

The annual remuneration paid to senior staff for year ended 30 June 2013 was as follows.

General Manager	\$292,424
Directors	\$896,979

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, eg, for car purchases.

Alleasing Pty Limited	Leasing of Computer and Office Equipment	\$473,999
Alto Valves & Fittings	Water Pipes and Fittings	\$417,260
Aussie Digger Bobcat Pty Ltd	Hire of Plant	\$320,430
Banika Pty Ltd	Hire of Plant	\$342,004
Bathurst Automotive Group Pty Ltd	Purchase of Cars	\$230,101
Bathurst Holden	Purchase of Cars	\$166,321
Bathurst Toyota	Purchase of Cars	\$333,702
Belgravia Health & Leisure Group	Management of Aquatic Centre	\$753,976
Boral Construction Materials Group Limited	Supply of Emulsion	\$164,812
Bustin Free Earthworks	Hire of Plant Civil works at Avonlea Residential Estate stages 8 & 10	\$1,227,072
Caltex Australia Petroleum P/L	Petrol Products	\$310,787
Canon Finance Australia Ltd	Copier and Printer Maintenance	\$172,683
Case NSW	Purchase of Excavator	\$212,824
Central NSW Councils - Centroc	Provision of Training, Membership Contribution and Advocacy Services	\$167,728
Civica Pty Ltd	Maintenance of Computer Systems	\$152,738
D L Kane Pty Ltd	Hire of Plant	\$170,783
Downer EDI Works Pty Ltd	Supply, Delivery and Laying of Asphaltic Concrete Surfacing	\$3,620,544
Electoral Commission NSW	Conduct of 2012 Local Government Election	\$233,742
Eodo Pty Ltd	Construction of Passenger Elevator Pit Straight Construction of Velodrome at Bathurst Bike Park	\$886,980
Essential Energy	Electricity	\$960,929
Ethan Group Pty Ltd	Various Electrical Works	\$248,769
Ever-Ready Concrete	Supply of Concrete	\$161,384
Glenray Industries Ltd	Mowing Maintenance – 3 year contract	\$203,256
Hanson Construction Materials	Ready-mix concrete	\$172,059

Hibbo Hire Pty Ltd	Hire of Plant Restoration of Sludge Lagoon at the Water Filtration Plant	\$780,729
Hill & Co Mobil Distributors	Fuel	\$391,289
Hynash Constructions Pty Ltd	Drainage works at Joubert Drive, Llanarth Civil works at Avonlea stage 9 Construction of Carlingford Levee	\$1,919,772
Iveco Trucks Australia Ltd	Side loading Garbage Truck	\$382,834
Jardine Lloyd Thompson Pty Ltd	Various Insurances	\$260,753
JE & SL Bennett Pty Ltd	Hire of Plant	\$312,811
J E Thomson	Legal Services	\$177,337
J R Richards & Sons	Household Recycling Collection	\$1,080,437
Land & Property Information	Printing (maps/publications)	\$150,290
Lowes Petroleum Service	Petrol Products	\$428,166
MacDonald Johnston Engineering	Purchase of RT655 Series Truck Sweeper	\$338,554
Macquarie Vale Pty Ltd	Natural Gravel Quarry Access & Extraction	\$247,127
Max Hire Pty Ltd	Hire of Plant	\$473,853
McIntosh McPhillamy & Co	Legal Services	\$405,081
Mid-West Traffic Management (Orange) Pty Ltd	Traffic Control Services	\$786,023
Ministry for Police & Emergency Services	Contribution to Emergency Services	\$528,037
MRG Electrical Services	Electrical Services	\$743,134
Northern Contract Cleaning Pty Ltd	Cleaning of Public Buildings	\$204,218
NSW Public Works	Engineering Consultancy Various Works	\$559,766
Oberon Quarries Pty Ltd	Road Base Material	\$192,977
Omega Chemicals	Water treatment chemicals	\$415,378
On-Trac Ag Pty Limited	Purchase of Tractors	\$221,602
Origin Energy Electricity Limited	Supply of Electricity	\$3,363,733
Otis Elevator Company Pty Ltd	Post Office Elevator	\$209,041
P C Brunton Electrical	Electrical Services	\$182,723
Pentair Water Solutions	Water Pipes and Fittings	\$332,421
Precision Drill & Blast	Drill & Blast at Cockatoo Hill, Sofala	\$167,093
Redox Chemicals Pty Ltd	Water Treatment Chemicals	\$275,597
Regional Publishers Pty Ltd	Advertising and Promotions	\$165,249
Rocla Pipeline Products	Stormwater Drainage Pipes	\$190,407
Semco Equipment Sales	Purchase of Dyanpac Smooth drum roller	\$208,611
Shumack Engineering (NSW) Pty Ltd	Various road works	\$152,637
SITA Australia Pty Ltd	Rural Waste Collection	\$214,872
Skillset	Hire of Contract Staff and Apprentices	\$194,880
Smith & Co Security	Security Services	\$179,971
Stabiltrac Unit Trust	Road Stabilising Work	\$667,040
StateCover Mutual Limited	Workers Compensation Insurance	\$1,773,511
Statewide Mutual	Public Liability Insurance	\$1,531,815
Tablelands Builders Pty Ltd	Amenities block at George Park, Cubis Park and Stevens Park	\$578,129
Telstra	Telephone Services	\$156,468
Terra Farma	Biosolids Reprocessing – 4 year contract	\$368,254
Tinbilla Pty Ltd	Hire of Plant	\$245,098
Tracserv Pty Ltd	Purchase of Cab Tippers	\$180,717
Upper Macquarie County Council	Contribution for Control of Noxious Weeds	\$214,566

Volvo Group Australia Pty Ltd	Purchase of new Mack Matroliner 6x4	\$234,581
Webber Concrete Constructions	Construction of Off-line Wastewater Storage Tank	\$1,394,858
W P Engineering	Metal Fabrication	\$328,986
Yeehah Events Pty Ltd	Motor Racing Events	\$234,851

DONATIONS UNDER SECTION 356

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

During the year 2012/2013 Council donated a total of \$190,614 under Section 356 to a range of community groups.

General	\$105,392
BMEC Fee Waivers	\$68,665
Mount Panorama Fee Waivers	\$16,557

HUMAN RESOURCES

[Local Government Act 1993 - Section 428]

Council undertook the following human resource activities during 2012/2013:

- Provision of financial and study leave support for a number of staff under Council's Staff Education and Assistance Scheme.
- Introduction of an E-Learning platform to deliver training modules in the areas of: Alcohol & Other Drugs, Code of Conduct, Equal Employment Opportunity, Privacy, Work Health & Safety and Bullying & Harassment.
- Transition to new competency based assessments for load shifting machinery including undertaking onsite assessments to ensure compliance with the change in WorkCover licensing.
- Participated in a regional tender through Centroc for the supply of pre-employment medical services. A contract will come into effect on 1 July 2013.
- Opportunity for Council's mature aged workers to attend a Transition to Retirement workshop to explain options available to them under the Local Government (State) Award with regard to phased retirement.

WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY

[Local Government Act 1993 - Section 428]

Major Work Health and Safety achievements include the following.

- Major reduction in the workers compensation premium by over a third on the preceding financial year.
- 3 major investigations conducted by the WHS and Risk Coordinator in 2012/2013.
- The formal qualification of a Council employee in Cert IV in Government (Investigation) responsible for investigating breaches in policy, procedure, or legislation in regard to health and safety issues.

- The centralisation of all documents used by all Council Departments and Sections collated in the TRIM records system and made available on SMARTNET including safety documents.
- A score of 100% for the StateWide Risk Management Action Plan (RMAP) Submission Assessment and 84% in the Statewide Self Assessment Audit. The average group score for the CENTROC Group is 65% to 75%.
- Increases across the board in all major areas of the StateCover WHS Audit such as Combined Score, WHS Systems, and Specific Hazards.
- A total of 66 incidents were reported during the year. Of these, 21 resulted in workers compensation claims being lodged and of these, 18 resulted in lost time to the Council. Of the reported injuries, 26 were sprains and strains, 23 were hand/fingers/wrist injuries with the remainder being made up of various other injury types.

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 2012/2013. 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.

The Equal Employment Opportunity Management Plan identifies objectives Council wishes to achieve in ten (10) key areas to ensure that Council is adhering to adopted Equal Employment Opportunity principles. The areas are: Policies and Procedures, Communication and Awareness Raising, Data Collection, Recruitment and Selection Training and Development, Promotion/Transfer and Higher Duties, Conditions of Service, Harassment, Equal Employment Opportunity Target Groups and Implementation/Evaluation. 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 2012 to 30 June 2013, 11 initial assessment sessions were conducted. A total of 29.5 hours of service activities took place during this period which resulted in an overall utilisation rate of 3.36% 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 2012/2013 financial year the following external bodies exercised functions delegated by Council.

- CENTROC Weight of Loads Group
- 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
- Rockley Sports and Recreation Association Inc – Management of Rockley Sportsground Hall and Grounds
- 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
- West Bathurst Community House Committee – Management of House
- 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 a motor racing event at Mount Panorama, (V8 Supercars – Supercheap Auto 1000)

- Bathurst, Orange and Dubbo Alliance – alliance between the three Councils to undertake environmental programs and internal audit program.
- Central Region 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 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 and Bathurst 12 Hour 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 \$1,168,475 in rates and charges (including postponed rates).

Pensioner rebate	\$1,089,161
Postponed rates	\$79,314
Other rates	\$Nil

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:-

1. 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 the council's publicly available documents are listed on this website and the majority are available for download.

During 2012/2013 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:

1. Council identified the documents that it was required to provide 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

The review resulted in Council reviewing 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 would be 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 developed a Community Strategic Plan during the year. There was 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 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 on a section of the website related to the Community Strategic Plan.

Other documents developed throughout the year 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 on the website 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 2012/2013 financial year received ten (10) formal access applications under the Government Information (Public Access) Act. All of these 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 1 information - Clause 7(c)

During the reporting period, our agency did not refuse any formal access applications 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

	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	0	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)	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Members of the public (other)	2	2	0	0	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 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)	5	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
Access applications that are partly personal information applications and partly other	1	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	1
Business interests of agencies and other persons	0
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)	10
Decided after 35 days (by agreement with applicant)	0
Not decided within time (deemed refusal)	0
Total	0

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	0	0

*The Information Commissioner does not have the authority to vary decisions, but can make recommendation to the original decision-maker. 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	0
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 Division 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 2011/2012.

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 in December, 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. Several discussion forums relating to Development Applications received by Council were held during the year.

Council held three (3) Extraordinary Meetings and four (4) Ordinary Council Meetings following the Policy Committee.

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:

Argent Minerals
 Airport Users Group
 Bathurst Business Chamber
 Bathurst District Sport & Recreation Council
 Bathurst Eisteddfod Society
 Bathurst Go-Kart Track Steering Committee
 Bathurst Thoroughbred Racing
 Carillon City Community Club
 Carillon City Tennis Club

Central NSW Councils (CENTROC)

Complete Sports Marketing

Essential Energy

Evans Community Options Project

Flagstaff Working Group

Kelso Regeneration Program

Keppel Street Businesses

NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service

Rotary Club of Bathurst Daybreak

University of Western Sydney Rural Clinical School (Bathurst)

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.

OPERATIONAL PLAN

Council has a four year operational 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 Operational Plan. Council's Operational 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 decision-making 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:

All Saints Cathedral Chapter
 Arts OutWest
 Australian Airport Owners Assoc

Bathurst Aboriginal Community Working Party
 Bathurst Access Committee
 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 Meals on Wheels Service
 Bathurst Refugee Support Group
 Bathurst Regional Art Gallery Society (BRAGS)
 Bathurst Regional Community Safety Committee
 Bathurst Regional Youth Council
 Bathurst Senior Citizens
 Bathurst Seymour Centre
 Bathurst Tidy Towns
 Bathurst Town Square Working Party
 Bells Line Expressway Group
 Boundary Road Nature Reserve Landcare Group
 Bicycle Facilities Working Party
 Blayney to Bathurst (B2B Cyclo Sportif Challenge (Rotary Club of Bathurst Daybreak)
 Carillon Working Party
 Central NSW Tourism
 Central West Catchment Management Authority Focus Group
 Central West Group Apprentices Scheme (Skillset)
 Central West Heritage Network
 Central West Women's Health Centre
 CENTROC
 CEW Bean Memorial Working Group
 Chifley Dam Catchment Steering Committee
 Combined Pensioners & Superannuants Assoc
 Club Grants
 Country Mayors Association
 Eglinton Hall & Park Committee
 Evans Arts Council
 Evans Community Options
 Floodplain Management Authority
 Greening Bathurst
 Hill End & Tambaroora Progress Association
 International Friendship Group
 Kelso Parish & Community Centre
 Local Emergency Management Committee – Bathurst Region
 Murray Darling Association
 National Trust of Australia – Bathurst Branch
 NSW Rural Fire Service - Chifley Zone Bushfire Liaison Committee
 NSW Rural Fire Service - Bathurst Senior Management Team
 NSW State Emergency Services – Bathurst Unit
 Perthville Development Group Inc
 Public Libraries Association
 Rail Action Group
 Rockley Sports & Recreation Association Inc
 Somerville Collection Board of Directors
 Upper Macquarie Catchment Management Authority Local

Government Liaison Group
 Upper Macquarie County Council
 Water & Sewerage Augmentation Steering Committee
 Wattle Flat (Bronze Thong) Racecourse Committee
 Wattle Flat Heritage Lands Trust
 West Bathurst Community House Management Committee
 Western Regional Access Committee
 2015 Bicentenary Celebrations Committee

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.

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 each quarter which is distributed to all ratepayers with the rates notices, and is also made available at Council facilities. Some of these announcements are also distributed through council's facebook page.

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 2013 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 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 \$50m 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
	Indicates that objectives relate to Key Direction: Environmental Sustainability
	Indicates that objectives relate to Key Direction: Liveable Communities
	Indicates that objectives relate to Key Direction: Sound Leadership

ASSET MANAGEMENT

Improve pedestrian access within the urban area.				
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	3, 6	13, 14	19	28
Completion of additional concrete footpaths in accordance with the Strategic Access Plan.	500 lineal metres of footpath completed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Esrom St – 489m completed.• French Smith Place – 170m completed.• Lamont Place Eglinton – 320m completed.• Hope St – 215m completed.• Hereford St – 200m completed.• Hurley Close – 100m completed.• Rankens Bridge to Ophir Rd – 540m completed.• William/Russell Pram Ramps – completed.		
Monitor condition of footpaths.	Less than 60 public requests regarding trip defects on paved footpaths.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 41 public requests reported during year with 27 requiring attention.		
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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ophir Rd – 1km Completed.• Limekilns Rd – 1km Completed.• Box Ridge Rd – completed.• Hill End Rd – completed.• Urban Reseals – completed.• Rural Reseals - completed.• Bathampton Rd - completed.• Wambool Rd - completed.• Rockley Rd - Completed.• Sofala Rd - Completed.• Lachlan/Common Rd Intersection – Completed.		
Progressive renewal of gravel road surface throughout the network.	Rural Road gravel resheeting program.	Ongoing as per scheduled program and in accordance with budgetary constraints. Approximately 50,000m ² resheeted during the year		
Greater than 90% of the urban road network remain in condition index 1,2 or 3.	Undertake maintenance program in accordance with allocated budget.	100% of network assessed. 95.6% in condition index 1, 2 or 3.		

Protection of urban areas on the Bathurst Floodplain.				
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	6, 7	9	19	28
Continue the planning for construction of flood mitigation works as outlined in the Bathurst Flood Management Plan.	Construction of the Carlingford Street Levee Bank.		Practical Completion – Pump Station to be commissioned.	

CONDITION OF PUBLIC WORKS

[Local Government Act 1993 - Section 428]

The following table summarises the estimated costs to bring Council's public works assets to a satisfactory standard. It also provides a summary of estimated annual maintenance expenses and programmed maintenance works.

ASSET CLASS	Asset Category	Estimated cost to bring up to a satisfactory condition / standard ⁽¹⁾ \$'000	Required ⁽²⁾ Annual Maintenance \$'000	Current ⁽³⁾ Annual Maintenance \$'000
Buildings	Council Offices	-	\$98	\$62
	Council Works Depot	-	\$71	\$66
	Council Halls	-	\$145	\$10
	Rental Buildings	\$27	\$31	\$68
	Museum	\$211	\$60	\$30
	Library / Art Gallery	-	\$88	\$39
	Childcare Centre(s)	-	\$39	\$60
	Amenities / Toilets	-	\$14	\$43
	Other Sport & Rec	\$26	\$456	\$136
	Sporting Grounds	\$17	\$130	\$154
	Visitors Information Centre	-	\$20	\$5
	Other Buildings	\$95	\$150	\$96
	Aquatic Centre	-	\$136	-
	sub total	\$376	\$1,438	\$769
Other Structures	Assets not included in Buildings	\$294	\$176	\$118
	sub total	\$294	\$176	\$118
Public Roads	Unsealed Roads	\$5,874	\$2,228	\$619
	Sealed Rural Roads	\$5,999	\$5,598	\$957
	Urban Roads	\$6,839	\$2,845	\$2,755
	Bridges & Culverts	\$4,183	\$323	\$39
	Footpaths	\$53	\$146	\$288
	Parking Areas	\$5	\$10	\$25
	Bus Shelters	\$24	\$11	-
	Aerodrome	\$1,531	\$177	\$141
	sub total	\$24,508	\$11,338	\$4,824
Water	Treatment Plants	\$2,924	\$373	\$505
	Reservoirs	\$1,316	\$280	\$60
	Dams	\$1,608	\$978	\$153
	Hydrants / Valves / Pipelines	\$10,233	\$1,435	\$989
	Pump Station	\$445	\$55	\$2
	sub total	\$16,526	\$3,121	\$1,709
Sewerage	Pump Stations	\$ 455	\$244	\$107
	Pipes & Mains	\$12,456	\$1,894	\$474
	Treatment Works	\$4,712	\$429	\$495
	sub total	\$17,623	\$2,567	\$1,076
Drainage Works	All Drainage Structures	\$105	\$832	\$391
	sub total	\$105	\$832	\$391
	TOTAL - ALL ASSETS	\$59,432	\$19,472	\$8,887

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 proposed the following stormwater management works in its 2012/2013 Management Plan. During the year urgent stormwater works were identified and resulted in a change of priorities which are identified in the following table.

Stormwater Drainage Construction	Estimated Cost	Status
Rural Drainage Improvements	\$200,000	Completed
Eglinton Improvements	\$68,619	Completed
Peel St	\$100,000	Funds redirected to Joubert Drive
Hawthornden Creek	\$50,000	Funds redirected to Joubert Drive
Llanarth Improvements	\$100,000	Funds redirected to Joubert Drive
Llanarth Improvements - Joubert Drive	\$391,912	Completed

WATER, WASTE WATER & 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. Plans for minor upgrades are underway. Preliminary works for the Manganese Removal Project are underway, with a water corrosivity study completed. Scoping works and concept design works are well underway for Stage 3 of Manganese Removal.	
			Met Australian Drinking Water Standards 100% of the time during 2012/2013.	
Provide compliance reports to NSW Health as required.			Samples taken, testing completed and reports provided.	
Operate, maintain, repair and upgrade water distribution system.			Water distribution system operations are ongoing, with 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. The number of discoloured water complaints from 1 July 2012 - 30 June 2013 is 571 which were received and actioned. This includes all calls relating to discoloured water from water main breaks.	
Review gaps, engage consultant, investigate solutions and complete elements as required.	Australian Drinking Water Guidelines compliance.		This project is yet to be commenced. The guidelines from the Department of Health have been released and are yet to be reviewed. This project will now most likely occur in 2013/2014 if funds are provided.	

Review and update plans as required.	Best Practice Guidelines (BPG) compliance.	100% compliant with BPG. Plans are due to be reviewed and updated.
Investigate, review and undertake further initiatives in the BPG.		Project scoping has commenced 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. Consultant appointed and work is underway.
Continue implementation of Trade Waste Policy.		This project is yet to be commenced, as the relevant guidelines have not yet been released.
Prepare plans and estimates for works highlighted.	Review outcomes and opportunities from the water and sewer models and reports.	Trade Waste Policy is current, has been approved by NSW Office of Water, and adopted by Council. There are 315 approvals in place, with 345 active businesses.
Complete Construction of the Gilmour Sewer Pump Station off line Waste Water Storage tank.		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. Details have been prepared for capital works items for the budget.
Prepare reports and studies for Winburndale Dam and Chifley Dam.		The wastewater storage tank is practically completed and will provide minimum 8 hours dry weather storage flow thus meeting environmental licence requirement.
Work with CENTROC on Water Utilities Alliance goals.		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. The Chifley Dam Secure Yield Study (base case) has been completed, with the Climate Change (future scenario) study also completed. This report is yet to be reviewed. The Chifley Dam Dambreak Study has been completed and forwarded to the NSW Dam Safety Committee. The Chifley Dam Dam Safety Emergency Plan is underway, with a draft being reviewed.
		Work is continuing, through meetings and projects. Alliance Business Plan has been developed and adopted, and interviews conducted for a Centroc Project Officer. The position has been filled by Meredith McPherson. 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 has commenced, and is nearing completion. The polymer dosing plant is currently being augmented and is 80% complete. Design work to replace the belt press switchboard has been completed. Quote has been awarded and work is 20% complete.
Continue program of sewer main CCTV and lining.	Maintain sewer mains.	Identification of appropriate locations for CCTV has commenced. When a suitable quantity is reached, quotes will be called. A round of sewer cleaning and CCTV has been completed. Lining works or repairs or replacement can be subsequently arranged once the DVDs have been reviewed. Smoke testing for Eglinton has been completed. Over 600 properties have been tested and residents will be notified of defects to house drainage.
Identify, plan and undertake construction.	Renew water and sewer mains adjacent to road works or large developments.	This project has commenced for 2012/2013. Liaison with Technical Services staff to obtain advice on road projects and / or developments is continuing. Liaison with Roads and Maritime Services regarding water and sewer mains affected by the proposed highway upgrade has been ongoing.

Maintain and upgrade existing waste infrastructure to meet stakeholder requirements.				
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	6	13,16	22	28,29
Replace waste collection vehicles on a 4 yearly cycle.	Vehicle fleet is up to date and able to adequately undertake waste collection activities.		Tender specifications have been reviewed and updated. Tenders for replacement vehicle have been called and accepted and Council has now taken delivery.	
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.		The project was previously undertaken in 2011/2012. This project will recommence in 2013/2014.	
Investigate and review rural waste sites to identify any legacy issues. Develop and implement strategies to eliminate or minimise any issues found.	Review rural waste sites.		Review of rural waste sites has been conducted, with numerous legacy issues determined. Strategies have been developed and are being put into effect to address the issues found.	

Reduce waste to landfill.				
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	6	8,16	22	28,29
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. 5% of gross tonnes diverted from waste stream.		
Identify, assess and implement appropriate diversion opportunities.		Wastewise education works are continuing, and the recycling contract education strategies are also underway. A display was included in Council's Local Government Week display. Further projects were completed during March 2013, including the Sustainable Living Expo.		
Work with Central West Care to develop and implement strategies to enable the Centre to operate successfully.	Monitor the operations of the Community Recycling Centre.	Numerous diversions are already in place, and working well. Further opportunities will be identified and assessed and implemented if appropriate to do so. Projects are underway with NetWaste to look at organics processing options, as well as potential collection options for recycling and organics in the future.		
		Site meeting has been held with management staff and assistance has been provided where possible to ensure that the centre operates successfully.		
		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 1 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 Division 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 1 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 2012/2013 year, no such complaints were received.

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

RECREATION SERVICES

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.	Addition of facilities as provided for in the budget to compliment the Adventure Playground.	Nil funding identified for 2012/2013 and 2013/2014.		
Update sporting venues as per budgets adopted in Annual Management Plan.		Proctor Park old amenities block to be upgraded and storage shed under construction. 50% completed. Electricity supply to Proctor Park being upgraded.		
Construct new sporting venues as per budgets adopted in the Annual Management Plan.		Public amenities/change-rooms at Cubis Park - DA and CC approved. Contractor selected - works due to start imminently.		
Consider construction of, cycling venue, additional soccer fields.		New public amenities for George Park - DA & CC approved. Contractor selected and works due to start imminently.		

Installation of irrigation telemetry at specific sporting venues.		<p>Negotiations continuing to secure vacant land adjacent to Proctor Park for new sporting precinct. No action as yet.</p> <p>Negotiations continuing to secure vacant land adjacent to Hereford St to install a number of playing fields adjacent to Anne Ashwood Park.</p> <p>No new installations during year due to lack of funds.</p> <p>Maintenance of irrigation ongoing.</p>
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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.	Completion of specific projects as determined by contracts with CWCMA and other environmental bodies.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Browning St Reserve – rehabilitation completed with maintenance ongoing during 2012/13. Hawthornden Creek revegetation Stage 1 on CSU property completed to undertake further management activities of the Endangered Ecological Community of Mt Panorama and adjacent lands under Council's care and control. A 3 year program has been planned for these works. Maintenance ongoing during 2012/13. Council expects to receive grants from NSW Environment Trust in July 2013 to continue works on Hawthornden Creek. Christie St drainage reserve community days programmed using grant monies – ongoing maintenance. City entrances – Landscape design consultancy for the Mitchell & Mid Western Hwy entrances to Bathurst awarded to Gardenscape Design/ APS landscapes, April 2013. Anticipated completion of design 31 July 2013. 	
Sawpit Creek Rehabilitation Project ongoing maintenance.				Maintenance ongoing during 2012/2013.
Upper Jordan Creek Hector Park Rehabilitation Project ongoing maintenance.				Maintenance ongoing during 2012/2013.
Raglan Creek Rehabilitation ongoing maintenance.				Maintenance ongoing during 2012/2013.
Urban waterways project - Bathurst Urban drainage reserve vegetation link.				Maintenance ongoing during 2012/2013 period. Maintenance to all areas is now Council responsibility. Use of prison inmates where available.

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	28, 29, 30
Plan for the construction of new playgrounds in expanding residential areas in conjunction with Annual Management Plans.	Completion of new playgrounds as resources allow.		Playground construction as funding allows. Nil funding for 2012/2013 and 2013/2014.	
Continue to upgrade existing playgrounds as resources become available.	Continue to upgrade existing playgrounds.		Upgrade of Adventure Playground Stage II as per available funding. Planned funding identified for 2013/2014 Management Plan, not forth coming.	
Plan for and construct passive recreation areas as resources become available.	Consideration and implementation of passive recreation areas as resources allow.		As per available funding. Nil funding for 2013/2014. Report being prepared for Council working party to consider improvements to Centennial Park. Held 8 May 2013 – no firm outcome. To be considered further.	

Maintain existing and future recreational areas.

CSP 2036 Objective Reference	4	8,11,12	17,20,22,26	30,33
<p>Maintain existing levels of service to all parks, reserves, open space areas and other recreational facilities.</p> <p>Consider extending maintenance services to recreation areas within villages, subject to funding.</p>	Customer satisfaction levels are maintained.		<p>Limited funding available 2012/2013 and 2013/2014 to extend services to villages.</p> <p>Maintenance maintained at set levels throughout the year.</p> <p>Community survey satisfaction level 7.4 out of 10.</p>	



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
	Indicates that objectives relate to Key Direction: Environmental Sustainability
	Indicates that objectives relate to Key Direction: Liveable Communities
	Indicates that objectives relate to Key Direction: Sound Leadership

CULTURAL SERVICES

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		17,20,23,26,27
Develop the number and quality of education and outreach programs at the gallery: AES+F <i>The Feast of Trimalchio</i> , Yulyuyu Loner Fencer Napurrurla, Ros Auld & <i>Frock Stars</i> , <i>Art in a Suitcase</i> .	<p>Number of attendees & number of schools.</p> <p>Number of visits to schools.</p>	<p>Educational programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AES+F exhibition concluded on 5 August 2012, Yulyuyu Loner Fencer Napurrurla concluded on 18 November 2012, Ros Auld concluded on 18 November 2012, and Frock Stars concluded on 30 November 2012. <p>In conjunction with AES+F the Gallery presented an outreach program to High Schools, only one, Bathurst High, took up the offer and 12 students attended. In conjunction with this exhibition a series of primary school educational programs were held for the exhibitions <i>Colours of the Country II: Alice Springs Beanie Festival & Bathurst Beanie Competition</i> – eight school groups (315 students) attended this outreach.</p> <p>Three Groups of Pre-Service Primary Teachers (90 students) attended <i>Colours of the Country II: Alice Springs Beanie Festival & Bathurst Beanie Competition</i> as part of a BRAG outreach to CSU Education Department as part of BRAG's "Gallery as a Resource" Program.</p> <p>In conjunction with Yulyuyu Loner Fencer Napurrurla the Gallery presented an outreach program to Primary Schools, ten schools took up the offer and 289 students attended. Seven schools attended during Education Week, 23-26 October, and three schools attended outside this time. Indigenous Educator/Project Officer Aleisha Lonsdale presented the workshops in conjunction with BRAG's Education & Public Programs Officer.</p> <p>In conjunction with <i>Frock Stars</i> the Gallery presented an outreach program to 6 Secondary and 2 Primary Schools and 160 students attended. Schools came from as far away as Mudgee & Kandos. Additionally 21 children from the Kelso Vacation Care attended the education program in early January. Total attendance was 181 students.</p>

		<p><i>Art in a Suitcase</i> continues to tour on an as needs basis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In July 2012 it travelled to the Blackheath Public School and the Blue Gums Montessorri Kindergarten at Blackheath. • In September 2012 it travelled to Ilumba Gardens Nursing Home. • In November 2012 it appeared for a day at the <i>Bathurst Aged Care Expo</i> at BMEC which was attended by 300 people. • In February/March 2013 it travelled to the Sofala Primary School. • In April 2013 it travelled to Good Start Early Learning Bathurst • In May 2013 it travelled to Nurture One – Kelso Children's Centre
Develop community access to and understanding of international art through two major exhibitions: <i>Goya Los Caprichos</i> & <i>AES+F The Feast of Trimalchio</i> .	Number of visitations.	<p><i>Goya Los Caprichos</i> exhibition opening held on 27 March 2013 and ran until 12 May 2013. (Visitation 3,710).</p> <p>A total of 4,901 people visited <i>AES+F The Feast of Trimalchio</i>.</p>
Develop community access to and understanding of contemporary indigenous art through three exhibitions <i>Colours of the Country II: Alice Springs Beanie Festival</i> , <i>Yulyuyu Loner Fencer Napurrurla</i> & <i>Hermannsburg Potters: Celebrating 20 Years of a New Tradition</i> .	Number of visitations.	<p>A total of 4,901 people visited <i>Colours of the Country II: Alice Springs Beanie Festival & Bathurst Beanie Competition</i>.</p> <p>A total of 3,466 people visited <i>Yulyuyu Loner Fencer Napurrurla</i>.</p> <p>A total of 2,722 people visited <i>Hermannsburg Potters: Celebrating 20 Years of a New Tradition</i>.</p>
Provide opportunities for the professional development of local artists through a series of 4 project exhibitions: photographic artist <i>Nicole Welch</i> , ceramicist <i>Ros Auld</i> , painter <i>Luke Sciberras</i> & painter/printmaker <i>Tim Winters</i> .	<p>Number of catalogues published.</p> <p>Number of visitations.</p>	<p>Four Catalogues were published in 2012/2013:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Artist <i>Nicole Welch's</i> exhibition opened on 10 August 2012 (visitation 3,508). • Ceramicist, <i>Ros Auld's</i> exhibition opened on 28 September 2012 (visitation 3,156). • Painter <i>Luke Sciberras's</i> exhibition opened on 22 March 2013 (visitation 3,710). • Painter/printmaker <i>Tim Winters'</i> exhibition scheduled to open in May 2013 has been rescheduled to 25 September to 8 November 2015. <p>Catalogue 1 - Nicole Welch – print run 500 copies.</p> <p>Catalogue 2 – Ros Auld – print run 500 copies.</p> <p>Catalogue 3 – Luke Sciberras – print run 750 copies.</p> <p>Catalogue 4 – Tim Winters – due to proposed maintenance requirements exhibition has been rescheduled to 2015.</p>
Develop community understanding of the achievements of the Hill End Artists in Residency Program through exhibitions by 5 artists who have participated: Nigel Killalea, Virginia Cuppaidge, Susan Baird, Nathalie Hartog Guatier & Christopher Jones.	Number of visitations.	<p>Visitation to Nigel Killalea (22 November 2012 to 20 January 2013) was 3,568.</p> <p>Visitation to Christopher Jones (25 January to 17 March 2013) was 2,722.</p> <p>Visitation to Virginia Cuppaidge (22 March to 12 May 2013) was 3,710.</p> <p>Visitation to Susan Baird (22 March to 12 May 2013) was 3,710.</p> <p>Nathalie Hartog Guatier - rescheduled from May 2013 to 21 March to 1 June 2014 due to maintenance requirements.</p>
Provide community access to contemporary design exhibitions of a wide community appeal: <i>Frock Stars</i> .	Number of visitations.	<p>Visitation to <i>Frock Stars</i> (23 November 2012 to 20 January 2013) was 3,568.</p>

<p>Provide access to high quality performing arts activities and events for the community as audiences and/or active participants through BMEC Seasons and the Local Stages Program.</p> <p>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</p>				
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	3		20,21,23,26,27	30
<p>Development and presentation of the following programs:</p> <p>BMEC 2012 and 2013 Annual Season including Roadwork and NIT consortia.</p> <p>Local Stages at BMEC</p> <p>BMEC Program for Young People & Families.</p> <p>BMEC Daylight Program.</p> <p>BMEC Aboriginal Performing Arts Program.</p> <p>Catapult Festival 2012 and preparation for 2014.</p> <p>Inland Sea of Sound 2012 & 2013.</p>	<p>Successful presentation of annual season events including performances, workshops and associated activities.</p> <p>Successful acquittals to Arts NSW, Regional Arts NSW and the Theatre Board of the Australia Council for the Arts.</p> <p>Successful acquittal of project grants such as <i>Circus Mob</i> and <i>Merging Emerging Artists</i>.</p>		<p>BMEC programs occur on a calendar year basis. A financial year report may not provide a balanced reflection of their curation.</p> <p>BMEC Annual Season</p> <p>Productions presented between July 2012 and June 2013 as part of the BMEC Annual Season included:</p> <p>Me & My Shadow (Program for Young People & Families)</p> <p>BMEC presented three school holiday performances to 253 people.</p> <p>Biddies by Don Reid.</p> <p>293 people attended the three performances.</p> <p>Don Giovanni – Oz Opera.</p> <p>359 people attended the one performance.</p> <p>The Sydney International Piano Competition of Australia – Third placegetter Dmitry Onishchenko from the Ukraine</p> <p>Attended by an appreciative audience of 155.</p> <p>School For Wives – Bell Shakespeare</p> <p>356 people attended including 32 High School students.</p> <p>Mari Lourey – Writers Forum</p> <p>As part of the Roadwork initiative Mari Lourey, writer of <i>Bare Witness</i> presented a forum to 18 local writers and interested patrons.</p> <p>Bare Witness</p> <p>101 people attended this challenging but excellent new work.</p> <p>Rhonda Burchmore in Legs 11 (Daylight Program)</p> <p>An evening show and a daylight performance attended by a total of 434 patrons.</p> <p>The Idea of North</p> <p>In Cabaret in City Hall attended by 373 patrons.</p> <p>Of Earth & Sky</p> <p>Attended by 450 patrons, an increase on their first Bathurst appearance in 2009.</p> <p>2013 Season Launch</p> <p>Attended by approximately 350 patrons.</p> <p>Sticks, Stones, Broken Bones (Program for Young People & Families)</p> <p>The general public performance was attended by 151 people of all ages and the matinee was attended by 239 people, mainly primary and secondary students.</p> <p>Hymne A Piaf (Daylight Program)</p> <p>Starring Caroline Nin. With a capacity of 250 for cabaret in City Hall 247 people attended the evening performance. A further 106 people attended the matinee.</p> <p>Sundowner from Kage Physical Theatre</p> <p>274 patrons attended.</p> <p>The Prophet from the Song Company with Joseph Tawadros.</p> <p>189 attended.</p> <p>Moon</p> <p>A choral / theatre performance by the Australian Voices. The performance was accompanied by a choral workshop (attended by approximately 40 participants). 176 people attended the performance.</p>	

Some Enchanted Evening

Featuring Marina Prior and David Hobson. The concert was sold out with a waiting list and was extremely well received by the Bathurst audience.

Jack Charles V The Crown

Attendance 222.

***Frankenstein* by Nick Dear**

Based on the novel by Mary Shelly. 309 people attended.

Local Stages

Local Stages is the BMEC program which supports the engagement of people in the Bathurst Region in performing arts practice as active participants. In 2012/2013 activities consisted of:

Rachel Beck masterclasses

Leading Australian music theatre singer / actress conducted two weekend music theatre masterclasses for local performers. There were 15 people in each workshop.

Van Badham forum and mentoring. Local Stages partners with the CSU Theatre Media Visiting Artists Program each year. In July the program brought the Australian writer Van Badham to Bathurst.

Cabaret Kite – Come Fly With Me

Compered by Drew Fairley, providing local performing artists an opportunity to showcase their work.

Wattle Foyer Soiree

An "open mic" opportunity which provides an entry point to performance practice.

Departure Lounge

Providing performance opportunities for local musicians.

Regional Arts Australia National Conference

The Local Stages Creative Producer attended the National Regional Arts Australia Conference in Goolwa South Australia to present as part of a discussion panel about community Creative Hubs.

Workshops

Workshops coordinated have included:

- Dance workshops for local young people with Bangarra Dance theatre.
- Play writing workshops with Hilary Bell.
- In partnership with Patch Theatre Company on a Deep Community Engagement model, workshops to make JIRBs (Junk Integrated Recycled Birds) were conducted with local schools in May. It is proposed that the JIRBs will form a visual arts foyer installation to coincide with performance of *Theo and the Lion* at BMEC in September.
- Shadow puppetry workshops as a precursor to the *Sticks, Stones, Broken Bones* performances in February, 24 local young people attended.
- *Happy As Larry* digital dance project workshops (with schools).

Oh My God! I've Been Kidnapped and I Hate What I'm Wearing – the Musical

On Saturday 9 February there was a closed reading of the new work *Oh My God! I've Been Kidnapped and I Hate What I'm Wearing* which will premiere in the BMEC Season in December.

The Central West Short Play Festival

The inaugural Central West Short Play Festival was developed over 2012 /2013. In April 2013 nine works were presented. Students from CSU and Community members worked together on this inaugural "Made in Bathurst" festival.

1,142 audience members with 35 local cast, crew and writers. This festival received very positive feedback.

The Disappearances Project

Commissioned by Local Stages in 2011 the Disappearances Project achieved notable milestones in 2012/2013, including critical acclaim at the Brighton Festival in the UK, was selected by the ABC as their entry in the Prix Italia and was nominated for a Helpmann award for Best Regional Touring production.

SMASHED Arts.

In July 2012 the two year *Smashed Arts* program was launched. The program is supported by a \$495,000 grant from the Federal Department of Health and Ageing. It consists of innovative approaches to combating binge drinking in the Region through access to performing arts activities for young people aged 12 to 24 years.

August - The *Smashed Arts* program commenced regular separate workshops for Aboriginal Boys and Girls.

September - holiday workshops at BMEC and at the Kelso Community Centre. There were three strands to the program, an Aboriginal program in the mornings; general community program in the afternoon; and advanced workshops in the evening.

October/November - The *Smashed Arts* roving performance troupe continued rehearsals.

December - The *Smashed Arts* roving performance troupe held their first performances in Bathurst shopping Centres and Hotels. The performances were aimed at Party-safety and safe drinking awareness. The Smashing the Skate Park event was successfully held on December 8 with the Big Air School and approximately 80 local young people.

January - brochure and promotions with year activities including *Smashed Rovers*, booking artists and developing plans for school holiday workshops and *Circus Smash* – community circus.

March - working with Community Services to plan *Bathurst's Got Talent*. Brochures for *Smashed Arts* were created and delivered to all secondary schools in the region. 45 registrations were received for auditions for the *Smashed Arts* / National Youth Week Event – *Bathurst's Got Talent*.

Artists booked and plans were developed for upcoming school holiday workshops.

Circus Smash – community circus program commenced with Tuesday evening classes at PCYC.

Bathurst's Got Talent presented as Youth Week event. Attended by 370 young people, receiving positive Feedback.

June - school holidays. Circus and dance workshops were held.

The Inland Sea of Sound

The 2012 Inland Sea of Sound Festival featured artists including Jeff Lang, Rasa Duende, Fred Smith, Bandaluzia, Greg Sheehan, Kim Sanders & Friends, Kerriane Cox and numerous local musicians.

863 people attended the seven *Inland Sea of Sound* events which included magical performances in local backyards.

Aboriginal Performing Arts Program (APAP)

The second annual Gamarra (Awakening) exhibition of local Aboriginal art was held in the Wattle Foyer. A dozen artists were represented by 50 works of a very high standard.

November – APAP participants took part in workshops with Bangarra and also attended the performance.

School holiday workshops 16, 17 & 18 April were well attended. (30+ per day). Positive feedback was received. Lunch and buses were provided to support community attendance.

June school holiday program coordinated dance and circus events and workshops.

Acquittals

Acquittals for Arts NSW, the Theatre Board of the Australia Council and Regional Arts NSW for Local Stages have been submitted and accepted.

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 (BRC) Cultural Plan.			
CSP 2036 Objective Reference		19,26	
Inclusion of maintenance and upgrade requirements in the BRC Delivery Plan and Annual Operating Plan.	Maintenance and upgrades occur in a staged and premeditated manner.	<p>Urgent masterplan recommendations relating to maintenance and capital expenditure were included in the Management Plan for 2012/2013. A schedule for the implementation of these upgrades prepared and delivered.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full Rigging Inspection conducted 23 to 29 October. • Tab track for house curtain purchased and installed in time for the Eisteddfod. • The first stage of LED lighting was purchased in 2011/2012. • A grant application was successful to Arts NSW for \$96,203 to install a sprung floor in City Hall and to purchase a new wireless radio microphone system. This grant will be matched dollar for dollar by BRC. • January - Maintenance included: the cleaning of all chairs, carpets, windows; maintenance of sound and light equipment; testing and tagging of electrical equipment. • The roof of the Theatre auditorium is reaching the end of its serviceable life. It is expected replacement will be included in the 2013/2014 budget. • The new boiler was delivered in June and is awaiting installation. 	

Library & Australian Fossil & Mineral Museum (AFMM)

Encourage social spaces within community, such as the library.							
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	3,6		19,20,26				
Refurbish library areas.	New carpet and furniture and painting program commenced.	<p>Library meeting room refurbishment is underway. Painting has been completed with new carpet planned to be installed in July 2013.</p> <p>The library is successfully providing social spaces for individuals and groups in our community, new groups using the Library include the board game group and knitting group, a writers group, the U3A chess group, the Multicultural women's group and a U3A bridge group.</p> <p>Visitor numbers:</p> <table><tr><td>2011/2012</td><td>160,979</td></tr><tr><td>2012/2013</td><td>159,091</td></tr></table>		2011/2012	160,979	2012/2013	159,091
2011/2012	160,979						
2012/2013	159,091						

Continue to support and develop community, recreational and cultural infrastructure.			
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	3,6	19,20,26	
Air conditioning in Library refurbished.	New chiller and machinery.	A grant was submitted, however was unsuccessful. Council has not allocated funding outside grants for this project.	

Increase AFMM visitor numbers.			
CSP 2036 Objective Reference			20,21,23,26,27
Create new programs, activities to attract visitors.	Visitor number increase.	School holiday activities, torchlight tours held during July, September, December/January and March/April holidays. Visitor numbers showed a decrease: 2011/ 2012 26,228 2012/2013 21,919	

Identify, collect, manage and preserve moveable and intangible (oral history) heritage.		
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	11	
Recordings collection developed.	20 recordings.	Working with "Bathurst Remembers" team to develop a joint approach. Investigating new format in line with Bathurst Remembers plan to use video recordings as well as audio. 20 recordings have been delivered to date.

Lighting upgrade of Council Museums.		
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	6	21
Research technology and match to AFMM system. Seek prices to replace inefficient NMRM house lights. Identify technology and match to BRAG system.	Formal plans developed by 30 June 2013.	T5 LED fluorescent lights installed in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NMRM work areas and galleries. BRAG work areas. Formal Plans still to be prepared. Two quotes provided for BRAG lighting. NMRM display lights – grant identified for LED replacement. NMRM display LED trial unsuccessful. AFMM showcase LED trial successful, grant being pursued. Investigation of grants, in conjunction with Council's Environmental Section, for a complete upgrade of air-conditioning and lighting at BRAG.

Provide outreach Council services to village and rural settlements where appropriate (e.g. library services, artistic programs, subsidised transport for children).		
CSP 2036 Objective Reference		17,20,26
Services reviewed, children's outreach services provided by visits to schools and schools visiting Bathurst for programs.	Operations reviewed and plans for service developed.	Outreach services reviewed, report presented to Council July 2012. Children's outreach services provided by visits to schools and schools visiting the Bathurst Library for programs. A complete review of runs and depots was undertaken whilst service suspended for Christmas holidays.

Collections Manager

Raise profile of National Motor Racing Museum (NMRM) through development of new marketing program.		
CSP 2036 Objective Reference		20
Launch of new NMRM website.	Website operational.	New website went live on 24 July 2012. New NMRM brochure design completed in March 2013. Advertising undertaken in Bathurst 1000 and Bathurst 12 Hour race programs and V8 extra, Muscle Car magazine and Motor Sports magazine. Collection cars featured in BAM Media and V8 Supercar films. Featured in Australian Classic car magazine. Sydney Weekender feature screened 2 October 2012. Discover Australia television show filmed 9 October, screened 25 November. Five minute feature on Channel 7 TV held on Friday, 5 October (Race Week). New promotional banners were produced. Participated at Top Gear Festival at Eastern Creek 9-10 March. Museum and George Reed Special vehicle featured on Prime and WIN TV during coverage of Governor General's visit to Bathurst in May 2013. Museum featured in Muscle Car Magazine June issue.

Promote use of museum by wider range of visitor groups.			
CSP 2036 Objective Reference		26	
Develop temporary exhibition program to draw wider audience.	First temporary exhibition opened.	<p>Opening of "It's in the Blood", the first temporary exhibition at the Museum, by Grant Paterson and Zenio Lapka, held on 21 September 2012, 55 attendees.</p> <p>75th anniversary exhibition "Off the Track" opened on 30 March 2013, bust of Harry Hinton added to the collection.</p> <p>NSW Department of Education undertook on-line classroom activity at Museum on 9 October targeting technology and 3D design.</p> <p>Hosted NSW GT Club breakfast, 29 April 2013.</p> <p>Two Vale Circuit tours undertaken as part of Autumn Colours Festival, Museum included.</p> <p>National Party NSW Conference held in June with 280 participants.</p>	

Raise the operational standard of the NMRM Building.			
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	6		
External design of NMRM shop / foyer developed. Ongoing repairs to internal and external fabric.	Design prepared and actioned. Repairs completed for 2012 Bathurst 1000.	<p>Lining of verandahs completed.</p> <p>High level cleaning completed.</p> <p>Repairs to flooded gyprock areas completed.</p> <p>Flood damaged plinths have been replaced.</p> <p>Carpet replaced and glass door installed.</p>	

Chifley Home

Implement recommendations in Chifley Home & Education Centre Strategic Management Plan.			
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	4	20,21,26	
Strategic Management Plan developed, actions prioritised, costed and timelines provided.	Develop action plan.	<p>Draft Strategic Management Plan is currently being reviewed by stakeholders and Council.</p> <p>Action Plan suspended as staff member resigned.</p>	

Continue to develop engaging temporary exhibitions for Chifley Home Education Centre.			
CSP 2036 Objective Reference		20,21,26	
Liaise with exhibition curators and Australian cultural institutions that loan exhibitions.	Five (5) exhibitions to be held in 2012-2013.	<p>'A Social Documentary' Western Advocate photographers exhibition opened on 23 March until 20 September.</p> <p>'Ben Chifley and the FX Holden: Two Australian Icons' exhibition opened on 27 September until the end of January 2013.</p> <p>'Battle of Crete' exhibition installed in February and concluded on 18 March 2013.</p> <p>'The McKenzie Story' exhibition opened on 23 March 2013 and ran until end of June 2013. Two curator talks undertaken.</p> <p>'Behind the Lines' exhibition commenced on 29 June 2013.</p>	

CULTURAL SERVICES

BATHURST REGIONAL ART GALLERY

Visitation at the Bathurst Regional Art Gallery (BRAG) from 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013 was 23,338 (attendance in 2011/2012 was 23,687).

Additionally 9,591 people visited the Jean Bellette Gallery in Hill End, which is curated by BRAG, and 21,271 people visited the *Light Sensitive Material: works from the Verghis Collection* exhibition curated by BRAG and toured by Museums & Galleries NSW (M&GNSW) to 8 regional galleries.

Total attendance for BRAG exhibitions in 2012/2013 was 54,200 people.

Additionally 182,429 people saw five exhibitions in the Art Gallery/Library foyer display cases.

Self-Generated Contemporary Art Exhibitions

The Gallery generated a number of important and innovative contemporary art exhibitions in 2012/2013 including:

- *AES+F: The Feast of Trimalchio*;
- *David Aspdon Survey*;
- *Nicole Welch: New Works*;
- *Luke Sciberras: Tu-whit! Tu-whool*;
- *Ros Auld: Ceramics*; and
- *Janet Mansfield: A Life in Clay*.

Local Artist Project Exhibitions

The Gallery featured local artists Nicole Welch, Luke Sciberras and Ros Auld under its local artist project initiative.

Permanent Collection Exhibitions

The Gallery increased its focus on showcasing the permanent collection in 2012/2013:

- *Plan B: contemporary works from the permanent collection* filled the entire gallery and included major works acquired over the last eight years by artists including Deborah Kelly, Jonathan Jones, Danie Mellor, Nicole Welch, Richard Bell, Kirsteen Pieterse, Lionel Bawden, Mike Parr and Joan Ross.
- Additionally 11 focus exhibitions concentrating on paintings, prints, drawings, ceramics and sculptures from the permanent collection have been exhibited in the Lloyd Rees Reading Room (six exhibitions) and the gallery/library foyer (five exhibitions).

Partnerships & Touring Exhibitions

Partnerships

The Gallery continued its ongoing relationship with Sydney collector Dr Dick Quan with the exhibition *AES+F: The Feast of Trimalchio*. This exhibition by the highly acclaimed Moscow based art collective included the digital art work *The Feast of Trimalchio* in an 11 metre long three screen version as well as a series of large scale digital photographs. It was the first time an international exhibition had been seen in Bathurst. *The Feast of Trimalchio* was first exhibited at the Venice Biennale in 2009 and then at the Sydney Biennale in 2010, it was only the fourth time the work has been shown in Australia and the first regional venue in Australia.

BRAG first became involved with Dr Quan in 2006 when the Gallery showed *Home Goal: Diversity in Contemporary Australian Art from the Collection of Dr Dick Quan*. That exhibition looked at how the face of contemporary Australian art has been changed by the advent of multiculturalism.

Both *The Feast of Trimalchio* (4,876) and *Home Goal* (4,042) attracted good attendances in excess of average exhibition numbers, proving there is an audience for contemporary art.

Touring Exhibitions

In 2012 and 2013 BRAG toured, in conjunction with Museums & Galleries of NSW, *Light Sensitive Material: works from the Verghis Collection* to eight regional art galleries: in Lismore; Moree; Goulburn; Windsor; Port Macquarie; Tamworth; Grafton; and Nowra. A total of 21,271 people visited the exhibition. BRAG also created a digital interactive education kit for use with the tour.

Incoming Touring Exhibitions

BRAG toured a number of important exhibitions to the Gallery in the 2012/2013 period including:

- *Colours of the Country II: Alice Springs Beanie Festival*;
- *Yulyurlu Lorna Fencer Napurrurla Survey*;
- *Frock Stars: Inside Australian Fashion Week*;
- *Jasper Knight Survey*;
- *Hermannsburg Potters: Celebrating Twenty Years of a New Tradition*; and
- *Goya Los Caprichos*.

Education and Outreach Programs

Education Programs

The gallery continued its free educational outreach programs, including a transport scheme. In 2012/2013, 694 school children attended three major education weeks, together with 99 pre-service CSU Education Students attending in-service training.

The three education programs conducted in 2012/2013 were:

- *Colours of the Country II: Alice Springs Beanie Festival* which was attended by 311 primary school students, and 99 pre-service Education students from CSU also attended the education program as part of their training.
- *Yulyurlu Lorna Fencer Napurrurla* exhibition which was attended by 232 primary school students.
- *Frock Stars: Inside Fashion Week* which was attended by 136 high school students and 15 primary school students.

Art in a Suitcase

BRAG's Art in a Suitcase program toured to one school, one aged care facility and two Early Learning Centres in the period 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013.

Art and Alzheimers Project

Look Art Talk was the first *Art and Alzheimers Program* to be delivered in the Central West. It was an initiative funded by the Bathurst Regional Art Gallery (BRAG) and presented in partnership with Arts OutWest's Arts and Health Program and Western NSW Local Health District.

The project was awarded the *Excellence in Arts and Health in Regional and Rural Australia Award* at the Art of Good Health and Wellbeing International Arts and Health Conference, Fremantle in November 2012. The Awards recognise and acknowledge the outstanding and innovative contribution of individuals and organisations in the field of arts and health in Australia and internationally.

The *Look Art Talk* pilot project took place over a six week period and aimed to engage people with dementia and their caregivers through contact with art. Participants were sourced from several local care facilities: The Seymour Centre, Ilumba Gardens, Macquarie Care Centre and St Catherine's Aged Care. The residents undertook tours of the exhibitions and cultural activities providing social inclusion and intellectual stimulation which in turn act to promote wellbeing.

A small exhibition of works from BRAG's Permanent Collection were specially selected by presenters Adrian Symes, Cate McCarthy and project coordinator Christine McMillan and displayed in the Rees Reading Room. The art works in the *Look Art Talk* exhibition were chosen to facilitate discussion between care givers, people with dementia and the presenter by comparing and contrasting visual features and elements of design and creating links with the everyday through images that evoke story telling.

Look Art Talk was based on a program that was developed by the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA), New York in 2006. This MoMA program was later taken up by the National Gallery of Australia (NGA) in 2007 through its *Art and Alzheimers Program*.

The NGA subsequently provided an *Art and Alzheimers Program* professional development course at BRAG for Central West art and health workers on the 18 and 19 May 2011 as part of their *Art and Alzheimers Outreach Program*.

This program was extensively documented by the presenters resulting in the creation of a 30 second overview video and a two minute short film.

Hill End Artists in Residence Program & Jean Bellette Gallery

The Bathurst Regional Art Gallery's Hill End program focused on the following three themes in 2012/2013:

- The Hill End Artists in Residence Program saw 19 artists participate in the program, staying at either Murrays or Haefligers Cottages for a period of four weeks.
- Exhibitions at BRAG featuring work by artists arising out of their residencies and artists living in Hill End including:
 - Nigel Killalea
 - Christopher Jones
 - Virginia Cuppaidge
 - Susan Baird
 - Luke Sciberras
- BRAG curated exhibitions at the Jean Bellette Gallery by artists who have attended the Hill End residencies together with artists based in Hill End and works from BRAG's permanent collection relating to Hill End including:
 - Holtermann Photograph Collection
 - Hill End Arts Council
 - Janet Haslett
 - A Month in the Country: seven artists – Connie Anthes, Susan Baird, Julie Ryder, Liz Walker, Owen & Beth Norling and Dagmar Cyrulla
 - Ro Murray
 - Illumination: New Work by Nicole Welch
 - National Art School postgraduate drawing exhibition
 - Christopher Jones: Between the Hour and the Age

Acquisitions and the permanent collection

In 2012/2013, 91 works by 44 artists valued at \$460,761 came to the gallery by way of gift, bequest, donation and purchase.

Of special note is that during 2012/2013 eight works by Donald Friend valued at \$234,300 entered the permanent collection making a substantial contribution to the total holdings of that artist.

The Gallery purchased from Dennis Savill Gallery in Sydney the major 1948 work *Hill End* by Donald Friend at a total cost of \$33,000.

The Gallery received a major gift of six works by Donald Friend valued at \$52,250 from Mrs Jocelyn Towson under the Federal Government's Cultural Gifts Program.

Additionally the Art Gallery purchased in June 2013 from the Bonhams auction of *Important Australian Art from the Collection of Reg Grundy AC OBE and Joy Chambers-Grundy* the major 1949 Hill End painting by Donald Friend *Love Me Sailor* at a total cost of \$149,050.

Bathurst Regional Art Gallery Society

The Bathurst Regional Art Gallery Society has provided substantial funds of \$24,000 in 2012/2013 as a contribution to purchase two of the works by Donald Friend including the 1948 work *Hill End* (\$14,000) and the 1949 painting *Love Me Sailor* (\$10,000).

Awards

BRAG won three prestigious MAPDA (Museums Australia Multimedia & Publication Design Awards) design awards for its 2012 publications.

The MAPDA Awards recognise excellence in design and communication in the museum and collections sectors across Australia and New Zealand.

BRAG received a Highly Commended for its catalogue *Illumination: New Work by Nicole Welch* in the Exhibition Catalogue (Small) category and also took out the first prize in the same category with its catalogue *Technique: Contemporary Australian Jewellery*. There were seven catalogues shortlisted and BRAG took out both the First and Highly Commended Categories.

The third award was a Highly Commended for the invitation *Ros Auld and Yulyurlu Lorna Fencer Napurrurla* in the Invitations Category. There were 13 invitations shortlisted, with only a First and Highly Commended award given.

BATHURST MEMORIAL ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE

Attendances at Bathurst Memorial Entertainment Centre (BMEC) events from 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013 were 44,034 compared to 45,152 in 2011/2012 and 56,758 in 2010/2011.

BMEC Annual Season

The BMEC Annual Season is conducted on a calendar year timeframe. This report is based on events which occurred in the financial year period, 18 professional events were presented in this period including:

Me and My Shadow – Patch Theatre Company based in Adelaide South Australia. This production won the 2011 Helpmann Award for the Best Production for Children and the production that toured to Bathurst lived up to its reputation. BMEC presented three school holiday performances to 253 people. The Company conducted a workshop for local theatre makers during their visit.

Biddies - This sequel to *Codgers* saw six of Australia's finest senior female actresses treading the boards on our local stage, 293 people attended the three performances.

Don Giovanni – Oz Opera. With a touring company of thirty including a nine piece orchestra this production was one of the finest seen in Bathurst from Oz Opera. The standard of singing was extremely even across the cast and of a very high standard, 359 people attended the one performance.

Dmitry Onishchenko – The Sydney International Piano Competition. Dmitry presented a wonderful program of

Shostakovich, Schumann, Schubert, Chopin and Prokofiev to an extremely appreciative audience of 155.

The School For Wives – Bell Shakespeare presented a new Australian translation of the Moliere classic, 356 people attended including 32 High School students. A number of patrons have commented that it was the highlight of the year to date.

Mari Lourey – Writers Forum. As part of the Roadwork initiative Mari Lourey, writer of *Bare Witness* which was presented in September, visited Bathurst and presented a forum to 18 local writers and interested patrons. Mari returned in the week of the performance to conduct a playwriting workshop.

For the majority of September BMEC was fully occupied by the annual Bathurst Eisteddfod. The one Season production consisted of *Bare Witness* – Roadwork - a striking contemporary Australian theatre work that bravely 'strips bare' what it means to bear witness – the dilemmas war photographers face, the choices they make, and the impact this dangerous profession has on them personally.

Writer of *Bare Witness* Mari Lourey returned to follow up on contact made with local writers in August. Mari and the actors also conducted an informative Q & A in the *Departure Lounge* after the show.

BMEC Season events for October included Rhonda Burchmore in *Legs 11* and *The Inland Sea of Sound*. Both were extremely successful. Rhonda performed an evening show and a daylight performance to a total of 434 patrons. Eight hundred and sixty three (863) people attended the seven *Inland Sea of Sound* events which included magical performances in local backyards.

BMEC Season Events for November included: *The Idea of North* in Cabaret in City Hall attended by 373 patrons; Bangarra Dance Theatre attended by 450 patrons and the 2013 Season Launch attended by approximately 350 patrons. All events were extremely successful.

The BMEC 2013 Season commenced on 18 February with international performer Jeff Achtem presenting his award winning production *Sticks, Stones, Broken Bones*. This magical shadow puppetry production is a perfect way of demonstrating, in an engaging and entertaining manner, the power of theatre and the imagination. As Jeff's character Mr Bunk comments at the end of the performance "We are never too old to play!" The general public performance was attended by 151 people of all ages and the matinee was attended by 239 people, mainly primary and secondary students.

The second event in the BMEC 2013 Season *Hymne A Piaf*, was presented on 26 and 27 March starring the French Chanteuse and lead singer of the Lido in Paris, Caroline Nin. With a capacity of 250 for cabaret in City Hall 247 people attended the evening performance. A further 106 people attended the matinee which formed part of the BMEC Daylight program and was accompanied by afternoon tea. There has been considerable positive feedback from patrons about this production.

Season performances in April consisted of *Sundowner* from Kage Physical Theatre and *The Prophet* from the Song Company with Joseph Tawadros. Both performances were of an extremely high standard with numerous positive comments received from patrons. Two hundred and seventy four (274) patrons attended *Sundowner* and 189 attended *The Prophet*. The *Sundowner* matinee was followed by a public forum about Alzheimers syndrome in association with the BRAG / Arts Outwest art and health program, "Look Art Talk".

Season performances in May consisted of: *Moon* a choral/theatre performance by the Australian Voices, arguably Australia's finest choir. The performance was accompanied by

a choral workshop attended by approximately 40 participants ranging in age from 10 to 70. The participants joined the Australian Voices on stage for an item in the first half of the performance: *Some Enchanted Evening* featuring Marina Prior and David Hobson. The concert was sold out with a waiting list and was extremely well received by the Bathurst audience.

Jack Charles V The Crown, the Ilbjerri Theatre, presented to Bathurst patrons during June 2013. Uncle Jack Charles is an Australian legend: veteran actor, musician, Koori elder, activist and, until recently, heroin addict and cat-burglar. This is a show about his life – told by him. A spine-tingling new interpretation of the Mary Shelley classic, *Frankenstein*, by UK playwright Nick Dear also featured in June 2013. This Australian production was one of the national highlights of 2013 with a superb performance by Lee Jones as the Creature.

Local Stages

In the 2012/2013 financial year the BMEC Local Stages program continued to foster the development of live performing arts practice in the Central West. A highlight has been the creation of the Central West Short Playwriting Festival in collaboration with Bathurst Theatre Company. In the lead up to the Festival numerous workshops were held to assist and encourage local writers in their endeavours. The workshops were led by Rob Reid, Alex Broun and Hilary Bell. The Festival culminated in April 2013 with nine plays performed in rehearsed readings. The Festival attracted a paying audience of 1,142 people and included 35 locals as writers, cast and crew. One play has since received funding from Playwriting Australia for further development and the Festival is set to be an annual feature of the Local stages program. Other highlights were the development of local productions *Right Behind You* and *Oh My God! I've Been Kidnapped And I Hate What I'm Wearing - The Musical* to the point where they were deemed eligible for inclusion in the BMEC 2013 Annual Season.

Smashed Arts

In July 2012 the two year Smashed Arts program was launched. The program is supported by a \$495,000 grant from the Federal Department of Health and Ageing and consists of innovative approaches to combating binge drinking in the Region through access to performing arts activities for young people aged 12 to 24 years.

Over the year that followed Smashed Arts developed a wealth of projects which have planted the seeds for long term projects for young people. These projects have included: the development of a roving troupe of performers; numerous school holiday workshops programs; large scale Skate Park events; the *Bathurst's Got Talent* performance competition; and the inception of a new community youth circus in association with the PCYC.

Creative Learning Project

BMEC is working in partnership with Patch Theatre Company on a Deep Community Engagement model. Workshops to make JIRBs (Junk Integrated Recycled Birds) were conducted with local schools in May 2013. The workshops were led by South Australian visual artist Gus Clutterbuck. The JIRBs will form a visual arts foyer installation to coincide with performance of *Theo* and the *Lion* at BMEC in September 2013.

Aboriginal Performing Arts Program (APAP)

APAP commenced in 2010, fosters engagement with the Aboriginal community in the Bathurst Region. In 2012/2013 numerous activities developed through the Smashed Arts Program targeted this community with attendances sometimes proving almost too much to handle. In October 2012 APAP presented the second annual Gamarra (Awakening) exhibition of local Aboriginal art in the Wattle Foyer. A dozen artists were

represented by 50 works of a very high standard.

Masterplan

Urgent masterplan recommendations relating to maintenance and capital expenditure have been included in the Management Plan for 2012/2013. Projects included:

- tab track for house curtain
- rigging inspection
- fly line upgrades
- house maintenance (cleaning of all chairs, carpets, windows, maintenance of sound and light equipment, testing and tagging of electrical equipment)
- boiler replacement

Further, BMEC was successful in a grant application to Arts NSW for \$96,203 to install a sprung floor in City Hall and to purchase a new wireless radio microphone system. This grant will be matched dollar for dollar by Council.

NATIONAL MOTOR RACING MUSEUM

The Museum achieved an outstanding 2012/ 2013 in terms of a record annual turnover of \$619,000, together with achieving its highest ever visitor numbers of 30,538.

Functions continued to be a strong source of income as well as a good tool to promote the Museum's profile, 31 functions were hosted with 1,161 people attending and 2,361 people visited the Museum on 67 booked tours. Groups hosted over the year have included the FJ/FX, NSW GT, Cord/Duisenberg, Canberra VW, Purvis Eureka, Vintage Motorcycle and Jaguar drivers clubs.

A major highlight was the visit to the Museum by The Governor General Quentin Bryce in May. Her visit included a lap of the race circuit in the Museum's George Reed Special.

October 2012 was particularly busy with the running of the 50th Anniversary of Bathurst 1000. Museum vehicles on track driven by legends included: 1977 winning XC Falcon driven by Colin Bond, Tony Longhurst in 1988 winning Ford Sierra and Bob Holden driving the 1968 Monaro. The 1963 Cortina also featured in this parade driven by Tim Pike. NSW Department of Education and Communities used the Museum to run an online classroom over the event.

'75 years of racing on Mount Panorama' was celebrated with the development and opening of an exhibition in the Museum's First Hall. In a joint event with the unveiling of the Harry Hinton bust, over 100 guests including members of the Hinton family and leading motorcycling figures made their way to Bathurst on the Easter Saturday. Publicity included a front page spread on *The Western Times*. George Reed and 1963 Cortina replica led a car parade and joined the Harris Park display on the Easter Saturday.

The Museum participated in the 2013 Bathurst 12 Hour with the 1986 Toyota Corolla joining car clubs in Harris Park.

In March the Museum attended the "Top Gear Festival" at Sydney Motorsport Park with the running of the 1977 Moffat Falcon against Alan Jones 1980 World Championship winning Formula One car. A joint promotional display of Council cultural facilities was undertaken as part of the event.

Museum displays have been enhanced through the generosity of the following lenders:

- Greg Murphy 2003 winning Commodore
- Larry Perkins/Russell Ingall 1995 winning Commodore
- Peter Brock 1978 Bathurst winning Torana from the Bowden Collection
- Todd Martin 1970 Holden Torana XU-1
- Wayne Gardner Coca-Cola Commodore

- Mike Ryves 1964 Repco Brabham Climax "100 mile per hour car"
- Rodney Jane racing V8 ute

Gifts to the Museum include:

- CAMS Australia, 1960's photographs
- Pat Lawless, Canberra Sports Car Club trophies and touring car photos
- Jim Hudson, Rickshaw dragster photographs
- Don Halliday, Mount Druitt racing photos 1950's
- Bob Roberts, Race programs 1939-1959
- Kevin Griffey, films 1959 and 1960

Other media attention included; Moffat XC Falcon on-track filming for V8 Supercars, filming in the motorcycle gallery for Tim Tams, Discover Australia travel show, British motoring cable TV, Speedcafe, and V8 television. Local media has included Prime and WIN TV news, ABC radio, and two Western Advocate front page articles.

The appearance and functioning of the Museum has been greatly improved with the replacement of worn carpet in the foyer, offices and conference room.

AUSTRALIAN FOSSIL AND MINERAL MUSEUM - HOME OF THE SOMERVILLE COLLECTION

Visitation at the Australian Fossil and Mineral Museum – home of the Somerville Collection from 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013 was 21,919.

A range of public programs were provided by the Museum including:

- Dead Bones Society, a creative writing program for boys held in the Museum after school
- Holiday programs, exhibition openings and torchlight tours and lectures
- Scattered Bones, a virtual classroom program, which is broadcast from the Museum using video conferencing technology and reaches a wide range of schools throughout NSW

Other activities

- Guided and non-guided school tours are held for a range of ages from primary school to university
- Somerville Lecture with Dr Alex Ritchie and Tina and Gerbina Gordon

Temporary Exhibitions

Temporary Exhibitions during 2012/2013 included:

- Bathurst Arts Trail exhibition
- 150 years of Local Government in Bathurst - An exhibition of historic photographs and objects celebrating the 150 year history of Bathurst Council curated by Alan McRae
- Drawosaur dinosaur drawing competition

CHIFLEY HOME

Visitation

The Chifley Home and Education Centre welcomed 1,632 visitors in 2012/2013, with 22 separate tour groups contributing to this total.

Takings over the 2012/2013 year were \$9,303, which was well up from \$3,744 the previous financial year.

Exhibitions

Ben Chifley and the FX Holden: Two Australian Icons - 90 people attended the Official Opening on 27 September 2012 of the major exhibition devoted to Prime Minister Ben Chifley and the Holden Car. The exhibition "Ben Chifley and the FX Holden:

Two Australian Icons tells the story of the making and launch of Australia's "own car" in 1948.

This is the first time an exhibition has been staged in Australia that looks exclusively at the role that Prime Minister Chifley had in encouraging his government to approve a locally manufactured car. The exhibition was curated by Greg Absler, a Holden history enthusiast in Bathurst and drew on loan material from local collectors and the State Library of South Australia.

Battle of Greece and Crete Photographic exhibition - opened to public at Chifley Home Education Centre, 9 February 2013. Curated by the Joint Committee of the Battle of Crete and Greece, this photographic exhibition displayed 54 photographs taken in 1941 by Australian soldiers as they firstly met the Greek people and then as they were withdrawing from Greece to Crete and finally evacuating Crete.

The Mackenzie Story - March 2013 saw the opening of an exhibition focusing on Elizabeth Chifley and her parents, George and Elizabeth McKenzie. Material was supplied for the Exhibition from the National Museum of Australia and various local lenders. Curated by Sue Jones, the exhibition was able to expand the stories of the Chifley Home and establish a new avenue for the use of oral and photographic resources

Between the Lines 2012 - Opened to the public on 29 June 2013, this is a travelling exhibition of the best Australian political cartoons from 2012. It was developed by the Museum of Australian Democracy.

Education

Sam Malloy (CSU) ran an 'Australian History & Politics' class with Dr Dominic O'Sullivan in May 2013.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Provide a range of Children's Services that include:

1. Long Day Care (Sallywags and Little Sallywags Child Care services)
2. Family Day Care
3. Vacation Care

CSP 2036 Objective Reference		19,21,23,26	
Ensure that operations of the Bathurst Regional Council's Children's Services comply with:	Policies and procedures are updated to align with regulations.	Family Day Care policies and procedures are currently being reviewed and written by an early child care consultant and will be in draft from late July 2013. Sallywags policies and procedures required under the Education and Care National Regulations have been developed and reviewed within this reporting period meeting the requirements of the Assessment and Compliance process. Little Sallywags and Vacation Care continue to review current policies in preparation for the Assessment and Compliance process.	
1. National Quality Standards for Early Childhood Education and Care and School Aged Children. 2. Education and Care Services National Regulations. 3. Early Years Learning Framework.	Appropriate training is undertaken to facilitate up to date knowledge and compliance with legislative requirements.	All staff across Children's Services attended training as required under legislation in Asthma and Anaphylaxis, First Aid and Child Protection. Staff across the services have also attended various training events or conferences around the implementation of the National Quality Framework, identified in their individual training plans.	
	Accreditation for services is achieved.	Sallywags completed the Assessment and Compliance process which assessed the service against the National Quality Standards. The centre received an overall rating of Meeting the National Quality Standards (NQS) with two quality areas exceeding the standards. Service Approval was received for Vacation Care bringing the service in line with the current legislation and regulations. The service has submitted its Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) and is waiting for confirmation of an Assessment and Compliance Visit. Family Day Care and Little Sallywags have yet to be notified of the requirement to undergo the Assessment and Rating process.	

Work in partnership with community organisations and groups to administer and deliver targeted actions identified in the Bathurst Social and Community Plan 2011-2014.

CSP 2036 Objective Reference		17, 19, 20, 21,22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27	28
Undertake annual review of the Bathurst Community Safety Plan 2011 – 2014.	Annual review is completed and adopted by Council.	Bathurst Community Safety Plan 2011 – 2014 review undertaken and presented to September 2012 Council meeting.	

Work in partnership with key stakeholders to administer and deliver targeted actions identified in the Bathurst Community Safety Plan 2011 – 2014.

CSP 2036 Objective Reference		17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27	28
Facilitate the Bathurst Regional Community Safety Committee to deliver actions identified in the Bathurst Community Safety Plan 2011 – 2014.	The Bathurst Regional Community Safety Committee meet regularly, working parties are formed and targeted actions are achieved.	<p>The Bathurst Regional Community Safety Committee met 30 August 2012, 29 November 2012, 28 February 2013 and 30 May 2013.</p> <p>Working Parties for the identified actions contained in the Bathurst Community Safety Plan 2011-2014 were established with the following outcomes:</p> <p>Business Tip Sheet</p> <p>A Business Tip Sheet was developed that contained a range of strategies that could be implemented across local business to reduce the incidents of crime. The tip sheet was launched 22 August 2012 at Stockland Bathurst and distributed in person to local CBD business by members of the Committee including the Police. The tip sheets were also distributed through two business seminars conducted by Charles Sturt University through the Bathurst Business Chambers mailing list and website. The Tip Sheet is also available on Council's website.</p> <p>Partysafe</p> <p>A Partysafe kit has been developed in partnership with <i>Smashed Arts</i> initiative, which includes a range of resources that provide information to party goers, parents and individuals who are planning to have a party in their own homes. The kit was launched at the Youth Arts Awards 29 November 2013 at BMEC. The resource has been made available to other youth events including Bathurst's National Youth Week event "Bathurst's Got Talent" on 7 April 2013. Distribution of the resource has taken place through local youth organisations and schools. The Chifley Local Area Command Youth Liaison Officer will continue to use the resources in his work with local schools. The information is also available through Council, headspace and Bathurst Liquor Accord websites.</p> <p>Closed Circuit Television (CCTV)</p> <p>The CCTV Working Party was established to investigate the effectiveness of CCTV in preventing alcohol related incidents, malicious damage and non-domestic related violence in the Bathurst CBD. A discussion paper was presented to the Community Safety Committee meeting 29 November 2012. A media strategy has been developed and will be implemented in the second half of 2013.</p> <p>NSW Crime Prevention Grant</p> <p>The Bathurst Community Safety Committee were successful in gaining funding through the NSW Crime Prevention Grant in December 2012. A range of initiatives were identified including undertaking a lighting audit of targeting areas in the CBD, Kelso and West Bathurst, CPTED training, community awareness program regarding malicious damage, give Back program run by PCYC and the employment of a Community Safety Officer for two days a week.</p>	
Undertake annual review of the Bathurst Community Safety Plan 2011 – 2014.	Annual review is completed and adopted by Council.	Bathurst Community Safety Plan 2011 – 2014 review undertaken and presented to September 2012 Council meeting.	

Resource the Kelso Community Centre in its function as a safe community hub and venue for outreach service provision that meet the needs of the community.				
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	5		19,20,23,25,27	29,30
Actively seek partnerships and encourage outreach service provision that meet the needs of the community.	Partnerships developed and targeted outreach services are encouraged to operate from the Kelso Community Centre.		<p>Meeting held with State Member, Paul Toole MP, Director General Housing NSW and Community Services regarding Kelso.</p> <p>Interagency meetings occurred 3 September, 22 October 2012 and 4 March 2013. Discussion focussed on the Committee's purpose and possible Terms of Reference for the group. A three hour planning meeting was organised for February 2013 to develop future projects. This meeting was postponed to a date yet to be confirmed by NSW Premier's Department. No further progress has been made since the initial meeting. The meeting held in March with the NSW Premier's Department staff was held to progress the interagency, however this has failed to be actioned by the Department.</p> <p>Services operating from the Kelso Community Centre in the 2012/2013 financial year have included:</p> <p>Indigenous Chronic Disease clinic operating at the Centre every Thursday by Medicare Local.</p> <p>Needle and syringe program, Monday mornings.</p> <p>Baby health clinic, Tuesday mornings.</p> <p>Afterschool youth program operated by Young Life, Monday afternoons.</p> <p>Youth leaders group, Tuesday afternoons.</p> <p>Playgroup operated by the Benevolent Society, Wednesday mornings.</p> <p>Seniors Bingo, Monday mornings.</p> <p>Funding received from FaHCSIA "Keeping Our Young People and Community Safe" has been utilised to support programs including the Youth leaders group, senior bingo and playgroup. A part-time project officer has also been contracted for 12 months to coordinate activities and programs in partnership with external agencies as part of this funding.</p>	

Provide support, networking and opportunities for young people to participate in local government decision making.				
CSP 2036 Objective Reference			27	30,33
Facilitate Bathurst Regional Youth Council and support initiatives, events and activities coordinated by the group.	Formation and coordination of regular Bathurst Regional Youth Council meetings.		<p>Bathurst Regional Youth Council 2012 met 24 July, 18 September and 13 November. The group marked the end of year with a dinner on 29 November celebrating their achievements.</p> <p>The final event organised by the 2012 Bathurst Youth Council was the 24 Hour Short Film Competition and screening 3, 4 November 2012.</p> <p>Recruitment process for 2013 Youth Council began in February 2013 with the first meeting and training day held on 12 March 2013. The second meeting of the group took place 14 May 2013.</p> <p>Working Party meetings to organise future events and activities has taken place 25 March, 6 May, 20 May, 3 June (held at headspace), 17 June, 24 June and 26 June 2013.</p>	
	Support and facilitate Bathurst Regional Youth Council events and activities including National Youth Week.		<p>A number of working party meetings took place in the lead up to National Youth Week 2013. These meetings took place on 6 November 2012, 5 December 2012, 14 January, 13, 27 February, 5, 14, 20, 26 March and 2, 3 April 2013.</p> <p>Youth Week was celebrated with the "Bathurst's Got Talent" event held at BMEC on 7 April 2013. The event was very successful with ten final acts performing to an audience of over 350 people.</p>	

Coordinate regular Bathurst Youth Network Meetings.	Youth Network Meetings held, youth services information shared, partnerships developed and projects undertaken.	The Youth Network bi-monthly meeting 24 October 2012 did not proceed due to several apologies. An informal meeting was held at this time. Meeting of the Youth Network was held on 20 February 2013, 20 March 2013 and 19 June 2013.
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COMMUNITY SERVICES

Achievements included:

- Strategies and actions continued to be undertaken in line with the Bathurst Social and Community Plan 2011/2016.
- The provision of administrative assistance for the implementation of the ClubGRANTS scheme 2013 providing funding to local community groups and organisations.
- The provision of administrative support to the Bathurst Regional Access Committee, Seniors Week Committee and Bathurst Youth Network.
- The provision of support to the Bathurst Regional Youth Council and related Youth Activities.
- The commencement of actions identified in the Community Safety Plan 2011/2014 in partnership with the Bathurst Community Safety Committee and external stakeholders.
- The coordination of public events including Youth Week, Seniors Week, Harmony Day and International Women's Day.

ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN

[Local Government Act 1993 - Section 428]

- Little Scallywags Long Day Care Centre continues to provide twenty places per day to families of Council staff and the broader community with an average utilisation of 85%.
- Scallywags Long Day Care Centre continues to provide 41 places for children, birth to five (5) years, with an average utilisation of 99%.
- Kelso Community Centre continues to operate with supporting services such as Baby Health Clinic and Women's Health Nurse visits to support the Kelso Community.
- 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 held during the year.
- Bathurst Regional Council's Vacation Care program continues to operate during the school holiday periods in July 2012, September 2012, January 2013 and April 2013, providing a range of stimulating and fun activities for children ranging in age from five (5) to twelve (12) years of age.

Family Day Care

- Bathurst Regional Council continues to operate the Bathurst Family Day Care Scheme with an average utilisation of one hundred and eighty five (185) occupied places per week. This figure includes an average of thirty seven (37) full time and two hundred and fifty seven (257) part time child care places per week. Approximately four hundred and sixty (460) children were registered on a weekly basis with approximately forty one (41) Educators registered with the scheme during this period. The scheme experienced a drop in occupied places from December 2012 with the resignation of approximately fifteen (15) Educators from the Orange and Bathurst region. The recruitment of four (4) new Educators occurred in April 2013.
- Family Day Care staff attended the Lower Western Region, Regional Meetings throughout the year. Information discussed at these meetings is fed back through a representative to the NSW Peak body.
- The Scheme has adopted practices to meet the requirements of the Education and Care National Regulations. Educators registered with the Bathurst Family Day Care Scheme are provided with a range of educational opportunities and support to ensure high quality learning outcomes for the children in their care.
- The Scheme continues to provide a venue to EarlyStart Kelso, Preschool and Family Centre. Staff have established working relationships with the preschool to enable the service to continue to provide a preschool education to children who may not be able to access other child care services.
- The Scheme continues to network with various Government and Non-Government agencies. Staff have regularly attended the Child and Family Network committee to enable the service to continue to provide positive outcomes for children and their families. The scheme participated in the Bathurst Family Fun Day.

Vacation Care

Bathurst Regional Council's Vacation Care program is licensed for up to thirty four (34) children per day during school holidays. The service offers full day care for children from five (5) to twelve (12) years of age with an average utilisation of twenty six (26) children per day. The service has provided a range of fun based recreational experiences for the children within the services and out in the Bathurst community.

Vacation Care was granted its Services Approval under the Education and Care National Regulations. Vacation Care has adopted practices and policies to align the service with the regulations and the requirements for Education and Care Services.

ACTIVITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

[Local Government Act 1993 - Section 428]

Council resourced and coordinated the Bathurst Regional Youth Council throughout this period. The purpose of the group 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 the ongoing development of the Youth Council Website, 'Beauty and the Geek' dance party in August 2012, 24 Hour Film Competition in November 2012, 'Bathurst's Got Talent' Youth Week talent competition in April 2013, and the development of partnerships with local Youth Service Providers including OCTEC, headspace, Veritas House, Smashed Arts and Aftercare.

Coordination of the Bathurst Youth Network meetings was ongoing during this period. These meetings facilitate partnerships in relation to events and activities and a greater coordinated approach to youth service provision across the Bathurst Community.

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 non-government agencies to support people from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) and Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) backgrounds.

Council provides representation on the Bathurst Aboriginal Community Working Party supporting events to mark NAIDOC celebrations including a flag raising ceremony and Mayoral reception in July 2012 and community celebrations in September 2012. Consultation on matters pertaining to the Aboriginal community of Bathurst are facilitated through the Bathurst Community Working Party.

The Culturally Diverse Working Group is currently in recess. 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 2013 in partnership with the Bathurst Branch of the CWA by providing a free lunch, children activities and music at the CWA building in Russell Street.

Council makes available the DIMIA Telephone Interpreting Service to customers of culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

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 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 a severe 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.

Ohkuma residents have visited Bathurst on a few occasions since March 2011, however Bathurst residents have not been able to reciprocate at the present time. Bathurst Regional Council will explore the possibility of a delegation visiting our Ohkuma friends in Aizu early in 2014.

The relationship provides an opportunity for both Bathurst and Ohkuma residents to learn about each others culture and language.

As part of the relationship Council coordinated 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, Ohkuma, 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 - to take place late July. 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 sight seeing during the afternoon. The group usually stay 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 is ongoing.

Council provides premises and ongoing maintenance at low cost rental for the Bathurst Information and Neighborhood Centre (BINC), the Home and Community Care (HACC) Centre,

the Senior Citizens Centre and the Bathurst Seymour Centre (day care centre for frail aged and disabled), West Bathurst Community House 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 Disability Information and Advocacy Services (DIAS) 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, schools for children with disabilities, youth groups, church groups and Riding for the Disabled. 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 2012/2013 include:

- Gilmour Street – 35 m
- Trinity Heights – 390 m
- Elmo Lavis Park – 495 m
- Kath Knowles Pathway - Rankens Bridge (Eglinton Road) to Ophir Road - 540m

LIBRARY FACILITIES

Bathurst Regional Council provides a modern public library service open seven days a week. The library is now facilitating access to the most up to date eBook and Audio downloadable services.

Sunday opening is 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.

A mobile outreach service delivers items to housebound residents, centres attended by the elderly, schools and rural locations.

The Library provides large print books and books on MP3 and books on CD.

Use of the Library in terms of individual visits has increased from 122,819 visits recorded in 2000/2001 to 159,091 in 2012/2013. This is an increase of 29%.

Bathurst Library has increased loans of library material to record levels. Based on the total circulation for the year 2012/2013 of 320,323, the increase in annual circulation of all library material since 2000/2001 which recorded 220,363 has been 45%.

The Library provides a baby bounce program providing rhymes, songs and book reading designed to introduce younger children to a language rich environment. This program is aimed at children from 6 months to 2 years.

The Library has two book clubs, giving participants a greater choice of books and meeting times.

During 2012/2013 the Library held 269 events with a total number of attendees being 6,822. Events included story times, baby bounce, author visits, school holiday activities, to name a few.

Author Visits

A number of successful author visits were held including:

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| 25 January 2013 | Valerie Parv |
| 5 February 2013 | Sandy Brocking |
| 22 March 2013 | Malcolm Drinkwater |
| 17 May 2013 | Maggie Counihan |

Library Facebook Page

The Library Facebook page has been very successful in attracting members to join the page with some 265 members. There are regular updates regarding events held in the Library and discussions with members about library services

Twitter

The Library Twitter page was established and now has 286 followers.

Local History

The Library catalogue of the School of Arts Collection was reviewed with a complete check of the shelves to locate and re-catalogue all books.

In partnership with the Family History Group a new microfiche reader was purchased.

Booklink

The reading encouragement program Booklink continues to be a great success, attracting young readers to the library. This year over 9,380 books were read by children as young as six months, the oldest 17 years. The program is run in cooperation with Books Plus book shop AES booksellers and the Bathurst CWA.

BATHURST REGIONAL ACCESS COMMITTEE

Council continued to support the activities of the Bathurst Regional Access Committee through the provision of administrative assistance. 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:

- Works in partnership with the Committee to raise and address issues with access to the built environment
- Provides the Small Business and Non-Profit Organisation Disabled Access Fund of \$10,000 on an annual basis
- Assists the Committee with the provision of a Councillor delegate

SENIORS WEEK ORGANISING COMMITTEE

The Seniors Week Organising Committee presented a full and diverse program for Seniors Week 2013, offering various entertainment and social activities as well as educational opportunities. Highlights included a concert featuring comedian 'The Old Fella' and barbershop quartet 'Benchmark', the 'Never Too Old' Ball, Ten Pin Bowling and BBQ and 'Morning Tea with the Dinosaurs' at the Australian Fossil and Mineral Museum. There was also a host of other events held at the Seymour Centre, Miss Trails House, Metro 5 Cinema and the Bathurst Aquatic Centre.

KELSO COMMUNITY CENTRE

The Kelso Community Centre, located in Bonnor Street, operates as a safe community hub for many of its residents. A range of services and activities are available and have been well utilised by the community during 2012/2013.

Specialist services provided from the Kelso Community Centre throughout 2012/2013 include the Indigenous Chronic Disease Clinic run by Western NSW Medicare Local, and Community Health Workers providing Needle Syringe Program, Sexual Health, and Child and Family Health. Afternoon activities for young people have been provided at the Centre on Monday's by volunteer organization, Young Life.

As part of the Indigenous Coordination Centre 'Keeping Our Young People and Community Safe' grant a number of programs were established at the Centre. These include a group for young people that seeks to focus on strengths and leadership, a Play Group operated in partnership with the Benevolent Society, and activities for Seniors, People with Disabilities, and Carers in partnership with the Seymour Centre.

The Kelso Community Centre hosted a number of events during 2012/2013 including the annual Christmas Party in December, opening of the basketball courts, and activities during each school holiday period.

COMMUNITY SAFETY

The Bathurst Community Safety Committee continues to undertake actions identified in the Bathurst Community Safety Plan 2011/2014. The committee membership covers key stakeholders in relation to community safety including the Police, PCYC, Liquor Accord, Bathurst Business Chamber, Charles Stuart University, Bathurst TAFE, Community Health, headspace and BINC. Community safety initiatives undertaken in this period include:

- Development and distribution of the Bathurst Business Tip Sheet
- Development and distribution of Partysafe information
- Study into the effectiveness of CCTV as a crime prevention tool for the Bathurst CBD



PLANNING

Council is in the process of preparing a new comprehensive Local Environmental Plan (LEP) and Development Control Plan (DCP) for its local government area. These plans are based on the outcomes of the Bathurst Region Urban and Rural Strategies and the Bathurst Regional Heritage Study.

In February 2011, Council adopted the Bathurst Regional (Interim) DCP 2011 which implemented the majority of the recommendations of these strategies which did not rely on a new LEP.

On 13 May 2011, Amendment 4 to the Bathurst Regional (Interim) LEP 2005 was gazetted which implemented:

- 10 new heritage conservation areas
- 298 heritage items, as recommended by the Bathurst Regional Heritage Study.

On 8 February 2013, Amendment 7 to the Bathurst Regional (Interim) Local Environmental Plan 2005 was gazetted which allowed for the expansion of the village of Eglinton as recommended by the Urban Strategy.

In May 2013, the Department of Planning and Infrastructure endorsed the Bathurst Region Rural Strategy.

In July 2013, the Department of Planning and Infrastructure is expected to certify the draft Bathurst Regional Local Environmental Plan 2013 to enable its public exhibition.

The aim of the draft Bathurst Regional Local Environmental Plan 2013 is to update the existing planning controls in accordance with the State Government's Standard Instrument Local Environmental Plan and to implement the remaining recommendations of Council's landuse strategies.

The draft Bathurst Regional Local Environmental Plan 2013 and the draft Bathurst Regional Development Control Plan will be exhibited early in the next financial year. They are expected to come into force in early 2014.

	Indicates that objectives relate to Key Direction: Economic Prosperity
	Indicates that objectives relate to Key Direction: Environmental Sustainability
	Indicates that objectives relate to Key Direction: Liveable Communities
	Indicates that objectives relate to Key Direction: Sound Leadership

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Prepared comprehensive planning controls for the Local Government Area (LGA).				
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	1,2,3	8,9,10,11,12,13	17,18,21,24	28
Prepare draft LEP and DCP.	Draft plans referred to Department of Planning and Infrastructure seeking certification to place the LEP on public exhibition.		Draft LEP being finalised. Awaiting certification from the Department of Planning and Infrastructure for public exhibition.	

Prepare relevant planning proposals to enable the expansion of the urban areas of the City of Bathurst as an interim measure whilst awaiting completion of the Comprehensive Planning Controls.				
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	1,3	8,9,10,12,13	18,21,24	28
Prepare Eglinton Planning Proposal.	Planning proposal referred to Department of Planning and Infrastructure seeking gazettal of the plan.		The Planning Proposal was gazetted on 8 February 2013.	
Commence preparation of a Traffic study into the expansion of Kelso.	Consultants are appointed and study commenced.		Study underway. Draft report received.	

Review and update Council's section 94 plans.				
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	6			28,29
Prepare a new s94 plan for Eglinton open space and drainage.	Plan adopted by Council prior to gazettal of the Eglinton planning proposal.		Plan adopted by Council – 17 October 2012.	

Revise the existing s94 Plan "Roadworks – New Residential Subdivisions".	Plan adopted by Council prior to gazettal of the Eglinton planning proposal.	Plan adopted by Council – 17 October 2012.
Revise the existing s94 Plan "Rural Roads".	Draft plan ready for public exhibition at the end of 2012/2013.	Draft Plan prepared and being finalised for public exhibition.
Revise the existing s94 Plan "Community Services and Facilities".	Draft plan ready for public exhibition at the end of 2012/2013.	Draft Plan prepared and being finalised for public exhibition.

Implement the Bathurst Regional Heritage Strategy 2011/2012 to 2013/2014.		
CSP 2036 Objective Reference		11
Provide a Heritage Advisory Service.	Ongoing. Heritage Advisor available for on-site visits once a fortnight.	During 2012/2013 Council's Heritage Advisor provided advice on the following matters: 36 Development Applications 28 Pre-DA meetings 54 Heritage or Urban Design issues 80 Heritage site visits
Provide funding to private property owners under the Bathurst Regional Heritage Fund 2012/2013.	Adequate funding is provided to approved projects and projects completed by 30 May 2013.	2012/2013 fund completed. 80 applications for 2013/2014 fund received. Funding offers to be sent in July 2013.
Provide funding to private property owners and community groups under the Bathurst Region Conservation and Interpretation Fund 2012/2013.	Adequate funding is provided to approved projects and projects completed by 30 June 2013.	8 funding offers made. Projects underway.
Prepare and implement projects for the interpretation and display of cultural heritage and history information.	Pillars of Bathurst project completed by 30 June 2013. New interpretative signage and brochures made available by 30 June 2013.	Project underway. Sought funding from NSW Government. Application unsuccessful.
Prepare an Aboriginal Heritage Study for the Bathurst Region.	Consultants are appointed and study commenced.	No funding provided in the 2012/2013 budget. Project cannot proceed in 2012/2013. Seeking funding from Department of Planning & Infrastructure to partly fund the project under the Planning Reform Fund in 2013/2014.

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 2013.	Installation of nest boxes at Macquarie River July 2012, and at Vittoria in March 2013. Biodiversity Seminar December 2012. Sustainable Lifestyle House virtual tour. Woody weed removal in Blayney Road Common in April 2013.		
Conduct community environmental education programs.	Complete ongoing community education programs including 'Enviro Mentors' by June 2013.	Enviromentors program ran in 11 primary schools in September 2012. Two modules were offered: 'Let's Do it Now' and 'Compost Critters'. Open Days at Sustainable Lifestyle House conducted once per month. Open day held on 9 September in association with National Sustainable House Day which attracted 80 visitors. Rural Living Handbook launched. Approximately 400 copies distributed to date.		

Conduct the annual Sustainable Living Expo.	Conduct the fifth annual Sustainable Living Expo in March 2013.	Event held 23 March in association with Bathurst Farmers Market. Presenters included Angus Stewart from Gardening Australia, a cooking demonstration from local chef Paul Coopes and wildlife displays from Shoalhaven Zoo.
Conduct the annual Bathurst Region schools 'Go Green Challenge' program.	Complete the 2013 Go Green Challenge by June 2013.	The projects from the 2012 program are now complete. The 2013 program was launched in March with 11 schools/childcare facilities awarded funding in April 2013.
Implement the Kindy Kits program and produce the 'Making a Difference' newsletter.	Conduct the annual Kindy Kits program in February / March 2013 and produce the Making a Difference newsletter in Spring 2012 and Autumn 2013.	The Spring 2012 edition of the 'Making a Difference Newsletter' was distributed with the October rates notices. The Autumn 2013 edition was distributed in April rates notices.
Implement the 2012/2013 Woodsmoke Reduction Program.	Complete the 2012/2013 Woodheater Rebate Program by June 2013.	Ten residents registered for the 2012/2013 program and six rebates were paid.
Implement the AAA rated showerhead and water savings education program.	Complete the AAA rated showerhead rebate and water savings education program by June 2013.	44 shower heads exchanged in the 2012/2013 program.
Develop and coordinate a targeted erosion and sediment control education program.	Conduct an Erosion and Sediment Control program by June 2013.	Education through compliance checks and follow up on complaints ongoing. Education seminar for Council staff completed on 10 April 2013.

Meet Council's statutory reporting requirements under the Local Government Act (1993).				
CSP 2036 Objective Reference		8,9,10,12,13,16		30
Conduct appropriate research and data collection to complete the 2013 State of the Environment Reports.	Complete the 2013 State of Environment Report and submit to the Division of Local Government by 30 November 2013. Complete the 2013 Regional State of Environment Report and submit to the Division of Local Government by 30 November 2013.	Data collection ongoing for 2013 report. 2012 report adopted by Council at its ordinary meeting on 21 November 2012, and forwarded to DLG. Consultant engaged to review and compare current indicator set with CSP environmental objectives across the 17 participating Councils. Framework for future reporting finalised. Consultant has been engaged by Catchment Management Authority to manage data collection and reporting for next four years.		

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, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15	20,22	30
Implement the Urban Waterways Management Plan.	Implement priority project/s identified in the Urban Waterways Management Plan by June 2013.	The Tender for Stage II Hawthornden Creek rehabilitation works was awarded at the Council meeting in June 2013. The project inception meeting was held on 28 June 2013. Jordan Creek – Browning Street Reserve – ongoing planting and maintenance works. Funding of \$100,000 was granted by the NSW Environmental Trust for Stage III Hawthornden Creek works in June 2013.		
Support the Central West Salinity and Water Quality Alliance Project.	Support the Central West Salinity and Water Quality Alliance Project Support Officer in June 2012/13.	Council staff attended various meetings of Central West Salinity and Water Quality Alliance. Funds allocated in 2012/2013 management plan for BRC's contribution to Project Support Officer.		
Meet Council's obligations under the Former Bathurst Gasworks Voluntary Remedial Agreement.	Set aside \$100,000 to meet the obligations of the upcoming Voluntary Remedial Agreement.	Council waiting on feedback from the Environment Protection Authority as to next steps required.		

Implement the Biodiversity Management Plan.	Implement priority project/s identified in the Biodiversity Management Plan by June 2013.	Plan of Management for Blayney Road Common has been adopted by Council. Environmental Trust funded project currently underway to protect and restore Box Gum Woodland within the Blayney Road Common. NSW Environmental Trust awarded \$72,000 for protection/rehabilitation of Box-Gum woodland in lower Mt Panorama Precinct in June 2013 (Engineering).
Improve the management of Bathurst Region road reserves by conducting a Roadside Vegetation Assessment.	Conduct the Roadside Vegetation Assessment by June 2013.	Quotation brief released in June 2013 for assessment of vegetation in the northern part of the LGA.
Implement the Pest Bird Management Plan.	Implement priority project/s identified in the Pest Bird Management Plan by June 2013.	Pest Bird Management Plan adopted as a working document at Council's July 2012 meeting. Implementation program developed with Council's facility managers and interested businesses. Program commenced in February with trapping ongoing throughout March, April, May and June 2013.
Support the application of external grant programs.	Provide \$50,000 in 2012/2013 to allow for the application of external grant funding.	This item was below the line in the 2012/2013 Management Plan however grant opportunities are being pursued where matching funds are not required. Two successful grant applications submitted as outlined above.

Meet Council's reporting requirements under the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Scheme and continue to reduce current energy demand in Council operated facilities.

CSP 2036 Objective Reference		8,13		
Support the continuation of the Revolving Energy Fund.	Implement Revolving Energy Fund projects in 2012/2013.	Depot lighting retrofit project completed in July 2012. Project awarded for the installation of a 27kW Solar Panel system at the Depot.		
Support the continuation of Energy Audits of Council facilities.	Conduct energy audits at priority Council facilities in 2012/2013.	Ongoing. Additional 4.2 kW of solar panels installed at Bathurst Visitor Information Centre in September 2012. Quotations brief released for Energy Audit at Depot; awarded to CHD with works to commence early in 2013/2014.		

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 food health, public bathing areas and domestic wastewater disposal.	Develop and distribute Environmental Health Fact Sheets. Attend Environmental Health Seminars.	Inspections of premises ongoing. Fact sheets have been developed and are distributed to proprietors as deemed appropriate. Environmental Health Officers attended Public Health Act and Public Health Regulations workshop in September 2012. Environmental Development & Allied Professionals (EDAP) meetings attended. Assisting with planning of EDAP trainers meeting in Dubbo in November 2012.		
	Conduct monitoring of all Bathurst Region public swimming pools and spa pools by June 2013.	Not commenced.		
Ensure Council's ability to meet the obligations as required under NSW Legislation.	Advertise and recruit a Trainee Environmental Health Officer by June 2013.	No funds allocated in budget.		
	Implement an Environmental Health Secondment program by June 2013.	Succession plans including secondment programs are included in Operating Plan submission for 2013/2014 budget.		

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	1,2,3,6,7	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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report presented to Council Monthly on Development Applications in excess of 40 days. 89 applications over 40 days. Report presented to Council Monthly on all outstanding Development Applications. 		

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 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 Shire Council area.

STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT REPORT

[Local Government Act 1993 - Section 428A]

The 2012/2013 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 2013 Bathurst State of Environment Report will be available on Council's website from 1 December 2013.

PLANNING AGREEMENTS

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

Council agreed to enter into a Planning Agreement with Crighton Bathurst Pty Ltd during 2008/2009 for a contribution to community facilities conditional upon development consent being granted. Consent was duly granted to the application on 24 December 2008. The applicant is required to make financial contributions to Community Facilities at various stages of construction. The development consent has not yet been acted upon and at 30 June 2013 there are no conditions in the agreement that required compliance. The development consent will lapse on 24 December 2013 unless physically commenced.

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 2012-2013 Survey of Council seizure of cats and dogs with the Division of Local Government in July 2013.

Dog Attacks

Council, during 2012-2013 financial year notified the Division of 20 dog attacks.

Companion Animals Management and Activities

Council's budgeted expenditure on Companion Animal management and activities for 2012-/2013 was \$476,953. This includes all activities related to Companion Animals, impounding and regulatory control, 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 childcare and primary school students across the Local Government Area. Council also hosted a Dog Expo in April 2013 which included educational presentations on dog behaviour and provided a forum for pet owners to speak to local vets and service providers. Council assisted the RSPCA with the Million Paws walk in Bathurst.

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 \$20,000 this year towards this program and encourages eligible residents with pets to take advantage of this opportunity. Council has allocated a further \$20,000 in the 2013-2014 Management Plan 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 \$37,608 from the Companion Animals Fund. Activities where these funds were expended include:

Dog registration clerk salary	\$37,710
Dog Pound expenses	\$8,313
Dog Microchipping expenses	\$3,916
Dog Community Desexing program	\$18,182
Cat Impounding expenses	\$336

Animal Control

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 in July 2012 & February 2013. "Safe Pets Out There" (SPOT) program conducted in 2012/2013. Responsible pet ownership education campaign completed by June 2013.	Programs completed in November 2012 and May 2013 with a total of 220 animals desexed. Dog Expo was held on 20 April 2013 in the Library forecourt with approximately 200 people attending across the day. Senior Ranger conducts education sessions at Bathurst primary schools, day care centres and the Seymour Centre. These are programmed as requested. In August the Senior Ranger presented to: Girl Guides – 20 children. Barkbusters Conference – 80 people. All Saints Career Night.
Maintain and enhance areas for off-leash recreation of dogs.	Maintain the Kefford St Off-leash area to current standards. Install additional lighting at the Kefford St Off-leash area.	Maintenance works at Kefford St conducted each month in 2012 and 2013. Not funded in the 2012/2013 Management Plan.

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
Complete Small Animal Pound Maintenance & Upgrade.	Install new security fence and after hours animal drop off gate by December 2012. Set aside \$50,000 in the 2012/2013 year to meet expected new standards.	Ongoing. Complaints regarding straying and nuisance animals responded to within service standard requirements. Security fencing of western portion of fence complete. Modification to after hours pen completed in September 2012. Funding not provided in 2012/2013 Management Plan.		
Maintenance of Stock Impounding Facilities.	Maintain the stock impounding facilities and meet requirements of stock handling, transport and disposal.	Site preparation works have been undertaken in order to move the stock impounding yards from the former saleyards site to the small animal pound. Cattle crush installed at small animal pound in May 2013.		

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
Implement Parking Control Education Program.	Parking Control Education program completed by June 2013.	Patrolling of on-street parking and contracted car parks ongoing. Targeted education program not commenced. Council's Road Safety Officer is preparing media releases relating to parking issues in Keppel Street.		

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Implementation of the Bathurst Region Economic Development Strategy 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
Facilitate and manage hard infrastructure that enables efficient access to the Region.	Noted in any Parliamentary Enquiries, funding submissions etc completed by Economic Development Manager (EDM). EDM single point of contact for NBN Co and attends meetings as part of Evocities.	Ongoing. Bells Line of Road Committee meetings attended. Evocities monthly meeting attended. Submissions completed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Standing Committee Social & Economic Development. – Decentralisation Taskforce x 2. – Local Government Panel Review. – Central NSW Regional Development Australia Regional Plan. – Centroc population projections. – Reviewed Regional Development Australia Central West (RDACW) Transport Study import/export study briefs. – Submission of data RDACW Opportunity Assessment. 		

Ensure that the Regions Strategic planning accommodates long term business and industry needs.	Comments on planning documents, noted in Regional planning strategic documents (eg RDA).	Ongoing. Submission completed for LG Panel Review. Commentary provided, into the Regional Development Australia – Central West Regional Plan (RDACW). Reviewed Central West and Centroc Economic profile 2012. Centroc population projections. Reviewed ABS statistical adjustments. Bathurst Region profile update. Signage Strategy adopted Council meeting 19 June 2013.
Ensure appropriate training is identified, developed where necessary and information disseminated to relevant industry sectors.	Promote training courses through Bathurst Region website, newsletter etc. Sponsorship of individual training offered by third parties to be assessed on as needs basis.	3 business seminars held in partnership with CSU. Business survey developed and distributed to over 300 businesses. Promotion of local and regional provider workshops.
Coordinate with industry and educational providers to ensure a skilled workforce.	Arrange meetings with Bathurst health care providers. Promote CENTROC initiatives. Host Mayoral forum with key employers.	Mayoral Forum not held, however several meetings were held with individual key employers. Review of educational stats with Department Employment & Workplace Relations.
Develop specific industry cluster groups.	Industry Alliance Group formed.	9 meetings held with large manufacturers – formally adopted and formed Central NSW Innovation forum. Drafted Strategic Plan. \$5,000 funding received from NSW Trade & Investment. Energy Forum held. Workplace Forum held. Development ongoing. Central NSW Innovation Network (CNIN) & Renweld (Orange cluster to meet). CNIN March meeting attended. Review of industry precincts. Agenda/minutes prepared for all meetings.
Support business chamber meetings.	Council host one meeting per year.	Business After Hours event hosted by Council on 10 July 2012. Business Chamber June Business Expo attended.
Host Mayoral Industry Function.	Economic Development Forum hosted.	Mayoral forum not held, however several meetings were held with various bodies to discuss economic development options.
Building Bathurst Business Newsletter.	Newsletter developed and distributed bi monthly.	Bathurst Business You Tube launched. 51 businesses participated to date. Australian Business Register (ABR) data training undertaken. Enewsletter in development (investigating online).
Develop and refine investment marketing material.	Reprint of lifestyle/ investment books and update on release of Census Data when released.	11 sponsors in Investment Attraction program. Copy reviewed. New images. Review of economic profile completed. Investment/lifestyle books in redesign stage. Redesign of Bathurst Region site. Cumulus purchased. 1500 images uploaded.
Develop and implement investment and lifestyle DVD.	Sponsorship obtained from private sector, DVD produced.	Filming completed. Trade & Investment funding acquittal completed. Social Media Strategy prepared.

Develop and review signage strategy for Bathurst Region.	Signage Strategy adopted by Council.	Designs completed. Signage Strategy completed.
Facilitate and lead the development of ASCTEI.	Apply for funding to Trade and Investment for a review of the ASCTEI project proposal and demand study.	Land acquisition. Brief for demand study being prepared. Wollongong StartPad incubator visited, iaccelerate program reviewed. Promoted as opportunity.
Develop a digital strategy for the Region that maximizes and identifies new broadband applications.	Digital Strategy developed.	Attentive Consulting appointed. 11 Workshops held 24-28 June. Internal meetings. Engagement Strategy deployed. Survey to public/business.
Undertake an audit of major export products from the Region.	Identification database of products exported from the Region and synergies.	Import/Export Study by RDACW.
Strategic 'relationship' management with relocation, investment and startup business enquiries.	Enquiries responded to and information provided in a timely manner.	17 new business enquiries responded to. Ongoing. Business Chamber promoted. Referrals to relevant funding programs. Facilitated AusIndustry regular visits to Region. Start Up business kit developed. Building Bathurst business program.
Management of major marketing programs.	Evocities enquiries responded to within 24 hours. Case studies identified. Bathurst Region website updated on a monthly basis.	All Evocities steering committee meetings attended. Business plan adopted. Attended Country and Regional Living Expo event. Media releases distributed. Marketing and Communications Strategy reviewed. Bathurst Region Website: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Home and landing pages being redesigned. - Integration of tourism site to Bathurst region site. - Mobile friendly conversion completed. New billboards. Over 800 direct enquiries. Over 600 jobs posted on Evojobs. 15 new case studies identified. Group meetings held with real estate agents/employment agencies.

TOURISM

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	20	
Facilitate and manage the conversion of the current tourist drive to a new route more suitable to the traffic flow.	Signage erected to indicate new route and promotional material available.	Suitable route has been established and promotional material has been completed. Liaised with Engineers Department to manage placement of signage. Report submitted to Traffic Committee for approval then put on agenda for June council meeting where it was approved. Signage installation in progress.	
Research and create a tourism smart phone application for the Bathurst Region.	Smart phone application available for download.	BVIC has signed up to be part of the Accredited Visitor Information Centre network phone app - appngo. App is now available. Further updates in progress.	

Effectively promote and market the Bathurst Region, to motivate people to visit the area and to develop tourism product.		
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	1,4	
Create a brief for the research and draft of a tourism strategy for the Bathurst Region. Employ the services of a consultant to research and create a tourism strategy.	Formal tourism strategy developed.	Brief complete and with Director Environmental Planning and Building Services.
Produce a marketing tool that is relevant to the Japanese market.	Creation of a marketing tool. Delivery to the Japanese Inbound Market.	Due to change in staff at BVIC this will not occur.

Point of sale system upgrade for Visitor Information Centre.		
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	4	20
Research & identify technology and match to other BRC systems. Seek prices to replace Point of Sale system.	Purchase and install system and start producing reports that identify postcode research.	Point of Sale system has been purchased and installed. Stock details have been transferred to new system and register is in use.

BATHURST VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE

- 62,702 visitors through the doors, averaging 5,225 per month.
- Centre received 14,166 phone calls and had over 74,317 website visits for the period.
- 4,170 visitors passed through BVIC during race week (29 September to 18 October), selling \$11,247 in souvenirs.
- Rented out 134 houses during V8 race week which accommodated 761 people.
- Sold 125 camping sites at the Sportsground during race week accommodating 383 people. This year Carrington Park was also opened for camping with 123 sites being sold and accommodating 303 people.
- Held the successful Autumn Colours Program that was available both electronically and hard copy.
- Participated in promotional opportunity with Lithgow and Oberon and attended both the Sydney Caravan, Camping & 4WD Supershow, Canberra Home, Leisure and Lifestyle show with a combined stand. This year also attending camping consumer shows at Newcastle and Bateman's Bay. Working with Lithgow a new villages brochure has been produced including the villages of Lithgow City Council.
- Produced new Mount Panorama guide.

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