







ANNUAL REPORT 2013-2014

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FROM THE MAYOR









Over the 2013/2014 year Council has made significant decisions that are focussing on our clear direction to continue to see this community grow and develop.

The Bathurst Region is one of the fastest growing centres in regional Australia and there is a strong level of confidence in what we have to offer as a location for investment, relocation and visitors.

This Council has taken a leading role in identifying key plans and projects that it will focus on working closely with the community to highlight areas where new opportunities could be developed to enhance, protect and better promote this wonderful region

Intensive community consultation around the development of the region's first Destination Management Plan was a breakthrough process in the development of shared objectives and creative ideas for tourism development for Bathurst. The plan is expected to be adopted by Council in December.

The creation of the city's first Heritage Week featuring over 70 events and tours dedicated to sharing the rich history of the area was another successful Council and community collaboration and example of what can be achieved through a shared vision.

This Council has built a solid reputation for sound financial management over a long period of time, placing us in an enviable position in terms of having an ability to be able to implement projects and continue to deliver major improvements to services and amenities across the region.

Over the last year we have committed to delivering \$26 million in capital works projects including a major upgrade to the water filtration plant for manganese removal which will improve water quality into the future. The completion of the Bike Park on the Vale Road and continued upgrade works at Mount Panorama will enable Council to continue to build on the reputation the city has as a major sporting hub. Completion of the resurfacing of Mount Panorama allowed us to maintain the circuit at its world class standard which is integral to ensuring we continue to develop business opportunities at the circuit into the future.

Plans for the Bathurst200 bicentenary in 2015 are well underway. These celebrations will be a highlight and will attract national attention to the Bathurst Region and increase our visitor experience during this very special year-long event and into the future.

I thank the Councillors for their support and clear decision making over the past 12 months and look forward to sharing the excitement and events that our Bathurst200 bicentenary celebrations will bring in 2015.

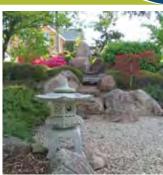
Cr Rush 30 June 2014



FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER







Bathurst Regional Council is committed to continuing its path to delivering high quality service to the people of the Bathurst Region.

In 2013/2014 the Council undertook to develop a planned approach to reviewing its services thus ensuring that we would continue to be able to maintain the high level of service standards expected by our community. In reviewing services across a number of areas we have been able to reduce some operating costs and improve efficiencies to make sure the core business is operating at its best level.

Council was a willing participant in the NSW Government's Local Government Review Panel discussions and is preparing in the next year, to respond to priorities the State outlines in response to the report of the Independent Review Panel into Local Government. As an organisation we are committed to seeing the Region continue to grow and prosper.

Good results in land development and property management areas, where Council increased income by \$2 million, along with reviews of operations such as the Bathurst Aerodrome put Council in a strong financial position at the end of the financial year. As such over the last year we have returned a very positive financial result recording a surplus of \$13.9 million which puts us in a good position to continue to grow and develop services for the Region.

Moving into the final stages of approval for the new LEP for the Bathurst Region was a considerable achievement for the organisation, that will ensure a sound platform for future development and growth. At the same time continuing to reduce the backlog on asset maintenance through the implementation of a regime of Asset Management Plans adopted in 2010, is assisting to ensure the long term viability of the Council's \$1 Billion in net assets.

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

David Sherley 30 June 2014

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;
- environmental sustainability;
- liveable communities; 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

- I. To attract employment, generate investment, and attract new economic development opportunities.
- 2. To encourage the dynamic and innovative development and growth of the region's primary resources.
- 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, play and visit.
- 5. To facilitate and foster partnerships, networks and infrastructure to support and attract knowledge, innovation and research.
- 6. To support infrastructure development necessary to enhance Bathurst's lifestyle and industry development.
- 7. To support integrated transport infrastructure development.

Environmental Sustainability

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

Liveable Communities

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









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

Sound Leadership

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

Council's Vision

A vibrant regional centre that enjoys a rural lifestyle, the Bathurst Region achieves health and well-being through strengthening economic opportunities, planning for sustainable growth, protection and enhancing our assets, and encouraging a supportive and inclusive community. A Region full of community spirit and shared prosperity.

The Bathurst 2036 Plan proposes a list of strategies or actions that Council will implement to realise the community's vision.

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

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

Implementation of the Bathurst 2036 Community Strategic Plan

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

To implement the CSP, Council in 2013/2014 also developed two other plans; The Delivery Plan 2013-2017 and the Annual Operating Plan 2013/2014 (collectively known as the Bathurst 2017 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 2013/2014 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 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 41,051

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 AREA MAP



BATHURST REGIONAL COUNCIL 2013/2014

MAYOR, DEPUTY MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS AS AT 30 JUNE 2014



















COUNCIL STRUCTURE

MAYOR/ COUNCIL

COUNCIL COMMITTEES



GENERAL MANAGER



DIRECTOR Corporate Services and Finance **BOB ROACH**

Payroll Administration Governance Stores/Purchasing Information Services Geographic Information System Records Human Resources Risk Management/Insurance Rates Creditors/debtors **Business Papers** Government Information (Public Access) Public Interest Disclosures Work, Health & Safety Internal Audit Annual Report Delivery & Operating Plan Financial Management Committee Secretariat Switchboard Customer Request Management System Customer Service

State Emergency Service

Emergency Management Marketing/Communications

Property Development &

Mount Panorama Business

Conferencing & Events

Rural Fire Service

Management

Sister City







DIRECTOR Environmental, Planning and Building Services **DAVID SHAW**

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



ACTING DIRECTOR **JANELLE MIDDLETON**

Art Gallery Library Chifley Cottage Somerville Collection Bathurst Memorial Entertainment Centre Scallywags Childcare Family Day Care Vacation Care Community Services Cultural Planning Community Social Planning Community Development Historical Society Youth Council Crime Prevention Community Facilities Community Halls/Groups

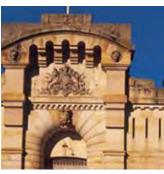
- Eglinton
- Raglan
- Perthville

Community Organisations

- Rockley
- Hill End
- Sofala
- Eglinton
- Wattle Flat • Trunkey Creek
- Bathurst Information &
- Neighbourhood Centre • Home & Community
- Care Centre
- Kelso Community Centre Club Grants Community Interagencies Senior Citizen Centre National Motor Racing Museum

CORPORATE SERVICES AND FINANCE









Looking after its staff and ensuring open and transparent government is the main priority at Bathurst Regional Council. Council employs around 370 staff in 20 locations and attracting and keeping good people is our priority. For the fourth year in succession, in the annual Employee Opinion Survey, Council rated above the Australian Local Government Industry Standard for employee satisfaction.

Indicates that objectives relate to Key Direction:

Economic Prosperity Environmental Sustainability Liveable Communities

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:	I new workers compensation claim in June. Total of 15 workers compensation claims for the year to 30 June 2014. Manual Handling training was conducted during June with approximately 240 staff now being trained for year ended 30 June	
Maintain and service effective Consultative and WHS Committees.	Develop and collect feedback from Committee members annually.	Committees meet bi-monthly Human Resources Section provides support and advice to these committees.	

Provision of a range of education and training opportunities for Council's workforce			
CSP 2036 Objective Reference:	5 25		
Monitor State and Federal Government resources to assist with resourcing the educational and training needs of the workforce.	Applications for Government funding are made for trainees when applicable.	Documentation for establishment of new traineeships is completed and lodged within specified timeframes. Incentive claims for Government funding are processed within timeframes.	

Develop opportunities for apprentices, trainees and work experience within all areas of Council's workforce		
CSP 2036 Objective Reference:	5 25	
Actively promote trainee / apprenticeship and work experience opportunities to the youth of the region.	Deliver and/or distribute information a minimum of six occasions per year.	Information regarding work experience opportunities is contained on Council's website.

Information Services

Manage Council's online presence			
CSP 2036 Objective Reference:	4, 5, 6 17, 19, 20, 21, 23	, 26, 27	
Ensure web sites remain upto-date and contain accurate information.	Ongoing management of website content.	Completed for the year ended 30 June 2014.	

Replace desktop workstations		
CSP 2036 Objective Reference:	4, 5, 6 17, 19, 20, 21, 23	, 26, 27
Replace all desktops/workstations with new units.	Staff utilisation in up-to-date software.	Completed November 2013

Financial Services

Ensure Council's long terms financial sustainability		
CSP 2036 Objective Reference:	28, 29, 33	
Review need for special variation in rate income.	Special variation application submitted if required.	Council considered and declined to apply for a special rate variation in operating/delivery plan.
Improve Council's cash flows.	Rates and Charges Outstanding Ratio less than 10%.	As per 2012/2013 Financial Statements achieved 8.47%.
Ensure Council's level of debt is manageable.	Debt service ratio less than 10%.	As per 2012/2013 Financial Statements achieved 6.27%.
Maximise invested funds within prudential guidelines.	Outperform monthly 90 day bank bill swap rate.	At 30 June 2014: • 90 day bank bill swap – 2.64% • Current earnings – 3.86%
Improve internal financial reporting to managers for sound cost control.	Review monthly and quarterly reporting process for internal customer satisfaction.	3rd QBRS for 2013/2014 year reported to Council at May Ordinary Council meeting 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 stage 9 - due for completion end of	Sold by June 2014.	Avonlea Stage 9, 17 lots sold in April. Settlement by 30 June.
February 2014.		Windy 1000 going to tender in June 2014.
		Eglinton 100 going to tender July 2014.

Manage the development of no new businesses	ew commercial and industrial land r	eleases as required to meet the needs of
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. Council has a stock of developed land and undeveloped land for trade & industrial use.	12 lots currently available in Kelso Estate. Last 2 lots in Irving place, Bathurst Trade Centre will settle in July 2014.

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 Three days before each meeting. Council Business Papers to date have been on a timely basis. provided within target timelines. Provide access to Council Review of documents on website. Council's major policies; the Bathurst 2017 Plan, the 2036 Community Strategic Plan and many documents on website. other Council strategic documents are available on Council's website. 2012-2013 Annual Report sent to Division of Complete Annual Report to the Completion by statutory deadline community. (30 November) Local Government 26 November 2013.

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.	Policy manual up to date. Latest update provided during September 2013.
Monitor Policy Manual.	Individual Policies reviewed for relevance and compliance with statutory requirements.	Policies are monitored and updated as required.
Community satisfaction with Council service levels.	Conduct Community Surveys.	Last Community Survey 2012/2013. Next Survey due 2014/2015.

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 are recorded on contracts register on Council's 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 formal requests received during year – all were processed. 4 informal requests received – 4 completed. Total to 30 June 2014 = 17 requests.

Review of Financial Accounts

[Local Government Act 1993 - Section 428]

Revenue	Actual 2013/2014 \$'000
Rates & annual charges	32,874
User charges & fees	23,980
Interest & investment revenue	3,246
Other Revenue	4,144
Grants & contributions – operating	9,208
Grants & contributions – capital	8,797
Net gains from disposal of assets	9,452
TOTAL INCOME	91,701

Expenses	Actual 2013/2014 \$'000
Employee costs	26,705
Borrowing costs	1,549
Materials & contracts	23,106
Depreciation & amortisation	17,600
Other expenses	8,810
TOTAL EXPENSES	77,770
NET RESULT	13,931

Review of Financial Results

The following information on Council's financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2014 has been provided by Council's Auditor, Intentus Chartered Accountants.

(a) Operating Result

As disclosed in Council's Income Statement the year's operations resulted in a surplus after capital amounts of \$13,931,000 (2013 - \$9,774,000). Some items of note in the income statement include:

Revenue

- The operating surplus *before* capital amounts was \$5,134,000 (2013 \$5,196,000).
- Council's revenue from rates and annual charges rose by \$1,697,000 from \$31,177,000 in 2013 to \$32,874,000 in 2014.
- Rates increased by \$891,000 (4.47%) which was the combined result of the approved rate pegging increase of 2.3% and normal additions to rateable land within the Council area through land developments.
- User charges and fees increased from \$21,221,000 in 2013 to \$23,980,000 in 2014 (increase of \$2,759,000).
- Revenue from user charges for water supply rose by \$1,263,000 to \$9,968,000 (2013 - \$8,705,000). This was primarily the result of an increase in the per kilolitre amount charged for water usage by Council.
- Revenue from the RMS for works on State Roads increased from \$2,455,000 in 2013 to \$3,608,000 in 2014 (increase of \$1,153,000). Funds totaling \$895,000 were received by Council from the RMS during the year ended 30 June 2014 for works at McGeorges Creek, and a further \$960,000 for rehabilitation works at Abercrombie.
- Other revenues increase by \$508,000 to \$4,144,000 (2013 \$3,636,000). The year ended 30 June 2014 included \$652,000 (2013 nil) related to the recovery of legal fees from the settlement of Council's successful litigation of Local Government Financial Services (LGFS) in relation to a failed investment product.
- Operating grants and contributions for the year were \$9,208,000 compared to \$14,504,000 in 2013 (decrease of \$5,296,000).
 - Receipts under the Federal Financial Assistance Grant (FAG) program were \$3,043,000 lower than in the prior year due to a change in the timing of the payments received under this program. In addition, operating contributions from the RMS totaled \$3,580,000 in 2013 compared to \$905,000 in 2014 (decrease of \$2,675,000). The 2012-2013 financial year included \$1,442,000 in funding for works on flood damaged roads throughout the Council area, as well as funding for additional works such as Sofala Road, Fremantle Road and Rockley Road. No funds for these projects were received during 2013-2014.
- Grants and contributions received for capital purposes for the 2013-2014 financial year totalled \$8,797,000 compared to just \$4,578,000 for 2012-2013 (increase of \$4,219,000).

Council received \$2,822,000 during the year ended 30 June 2014 to undertake asphalting works on the Mount Panorama circuit. Only \$149,000 was received for works within the Mount Panorama precinct during the year ended 30 June 2013.

At \$3,325,000, contributions from developers under Council's Section 94 and Section 64 plans were \$1,866,000 higher than receipts of this nature in 2012-2013. This was the result of an increased level of activity by local developers during the period.

 Council's net gain from the disposal of assets for 2014 was \$9,452,000 (2013 - \$7,258,000). Gains on the sale of Council's real estate developments contributed \$9,459,000 (2013 - \$7,267,000) to Council's operating result.

Expenditure

- Total employee costs decreased by \$185,000 compared to the prior year. Salaries and wages costs increased by just \$336,000 (1.79%).
- Council's workers compensation expense for the year ended 30 June 2014 was significantly lower than the prior year at \$225,000 (2013 \$1,602,000). Whilst Council's workers compensation premium was lower than the prior year due to an improvement in Council's claims history, Council also received an unanticipated \$598,000 premium adjustment for the 2012-2013 financial year during the year ended 30 June 2014.
- Council's materials and contracts expense rose by \$1,807,000 to \$23,106,000 (2013 - \$21,299,000).
- The main contributor to this was an increase in legal expenses incurred by Council in defending litigation claims of \$740,000. This was offset by the recovery of legal fees of \$652,000 which has been disclosed as other revenue, as outlined earlier in this report.

(b) Financial Position

The Statement of Financial Position discloses that for the year ended 30 June 2014 Council's net assets stood at \$1,040,200,000 (2013 - \$1,019,696,000) which represents an increase of \$20,504,000.

This increase is the combined effect of the surplus for the year after capital amounts of \$13,931,000 and the indexation of Council's water and sewerage assets which saw \$6,573,000 directly recognised in the asset revaluation reserve within Council's Statement of Changes in Equity and Statement of Comprehensive Income.

Liquidity

Note 6 to the financial statements discloses total cash and investments of \$87,009,000 (2013 - \$74,613,000).

Included in this total is an amount of \$60,251,000 (2013 - \$55,298,000) which is subject to external restrictions requiring Council to commit those funds to the purposes for which they were provided and \$26,170,000 (2013 - \$18,693,000) 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 \$588,000 (2013 - \$622,000) represents funds available to cover non-budgeted discretionary expenditure and short-term cash flow requirements.

(c) Performance Indicators

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

Operating Performance

This is the first of a number of new performance measures required to be reported for the first time in the 2013-2014 financial year and is intended to measure whether Council has contained its operating expenditure within its operating revenue.

The current year result of (6.29%) is below the benchmark indicated by the Office of Local Government of greater than 0%.

Whilst the current year indicator has been impacted by the timing of receipts under the Federal Financial Assistance Grant program, the most significant figure impacting on the calculation of this ratio for Bathurst Regional Council is Council's net gain on the disposal of real estate assets. This revenue source is regarded as being non-recurring and is therefore excluded from Council's revenue for the purposes of determining this ratio.

This figure is also excluded from the calculation of the Own Source Operating Revenue Ratio and Debt Service Cover Ratio.

During the year ended 30 June 2014, Council generated \$9,459,000 from the sale of its real estate assets (2013 - \$7,267,000). If this figure was included in the calculation of this ratio, Bathurst Regional Council's ratio would be more in the vicinity of 5.87%.

Own Source Operating Revenue

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

At 78.03% (2013 – 75.66%) Bathurst Regional Council's result indicates a degree of financial flexibility which exceeds the benchmark of greater than 60% determined by the Office of Local Government.

Unrestricted Current Ratio

The Unrestricted Current Ratio is a measure of Council's liquidity that demonstrates its ability to satisfy obligations out of short-term and immediate asset balances. Council's ratio of $3.91:1\ (2013-2.48:1)$ indicates that it is comfortably able to settle its debts as and when they fall due.

Debt Service Cover Ratio

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

At 3.27 times (2013 - 3.97) Bathurst Regional Council's ratio indicates that Council can meet its current levels of debt

Rates & Annual Charges, Interest & Extra Charges Outstanding Ratio

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

Bathurst Regional Council's rates and annual charges outstanding percentage of 8.00% (2013-8.47%) has continued to improve. 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 provide an analysis of this ratio by fund.

Cash Expense Cover Ratio

Another new performance measure, the purpose of this ratio is to indicate the number of months a Council can continue paying for its immediate expenses without additional cash inflow. The benchmark is greater than three (3) months.

We suspect that this is a ratio that may vary considerably from year-to-year depending on the timing of payments for materials and contract which is the component in the denominator most susceptible to fluctuation on a yearly basis. Bathurst Regional Council's ratio for the year ended 30 June 2014 was 13.67 months (2013 – 11.57 months) and is above the benchmark recommended by the Office of Local Government.

(d) 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 2014. Council has determined that it has three (3) business units within its operations: Water, Sewerage, and Waste.

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

An unqualified audit report on the special purpose reports for the year ended 30 June 2014 has been issued.

(e) 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	General Advice / Miscellaneous Matters	\$4,327	Ongoing
	Taylor: Development Application	\$1,155	Completed
	Manning: Development Application	\$54,352	Ongoing
	Cox: Development Application	\$735	Ongoing
	Sufong: Development Application	\$875	Ongoing
	TOTAL PLANNING LEGAL COSTS	\$61,444	
ADMINISTRATIVE	Unfair Dismissal	\$9,944	Completed
	Hereford St - Land	\$7,120	Completed
	LGFS	\$221,993	Ongoing
	Investment		
	Mount Panorama Contract dispute	\$741,867	Ongoing
	Land Matters	\$17,529	Completed
	Search Fees		
	General Advice	\$22,238	Completed
	Mount Panorama Contract Preparation	\$12,007	Completed
	TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE LEGAL COSTS	\$1,032,698	
DEBT RECOVERY	Debt Recovery Services	\$3,322	Completed
TOTAL LEGAL COSTS		\$1,097,464	
COSTS RECEIVED	LGFS	\$651,790	Completed

Councillors' Fees and Expenses

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

Money Expended during the 2013/2014 Financial Year on:		
Mayoral fees	\$38,160	
Councillors' fees	\$157,410	
Councillors' expenses	\$48,360	
TOTAL	\$243,930	

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	\$20,701	
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.

I. PURPOSE

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

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

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

2. OBJECTIVE

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

3. STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

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

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

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



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

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

4. LEGISLATIVE & LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The Local Government Act 1993 states:

248 Fixing and payment of annual fees for Councillors

- (1) A Council must pay each Councillor an annual fee.
- (2) A Council may fix the annual fee and, if it does so, it must fix the annual fee in accordance with the appropriate determination of the Remuneration Tribunal.
- (3) The annual fee so fixed must be the same for each Councillor.
- (4) A Council that does not fix the annual fee must pay the appropriate minimum fee determined by the Remuneration Tribunal.

249 Fixing and payment of annual fees for the Mayor

- (I) 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?

- (I) 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
- (I) A Council must adopt a policy concerning the payment of expenses incurred or to be incurred by, and the



provision of facilities to, the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor (if there is one) and the other Councillors in relation to discharging the functions of civic office.

(2) The policy may provide for fees payable under this Division to be reduced by an amount representing the private benefit to the Mayor or a Councillor of a facility provided by the Council to the Mayor or Councillor.

253 Public notice of proposed policy concerning expenses and facilities

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

254 Decision to be made in open meeting – Section 254

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

The Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 states: 404 Circumstances in which Councillors' annual fees may be reduced or not paid.

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

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

5. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

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

6. OTHER GOVERNMENT POLICY PROVISIONS

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

- Department of Local Government Guidelines for Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities to Mayors and Councillors - October 2009.
- Division of Local Government Circulars (issued from time to time) including but not limited to:
- 04/04 Appropriate Controls on the use of Council Credit Cards
- 5/08 Legal Assistance for Councillors and Council Employees
- 08/24 Misuse of Council Resources
- 08/37 Council decision making prior to ordinary elections
- Department of Local Government Model Code of Conduct – June 2008
- Council's Adopted Code of Conduct
- Various ICAC Publications.

7. ANNUAL FEE

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

8. ACCESS AND USE OF FACILITIES/ EQUIPMENT

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

- (i) A room suitably furnished for use by all Councillors;
- (ii) Access to a motor vehicle if available, or alternative arrangement (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.

II. TRAINING

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

12. INSURANCE

Council will provide appropriate insurance for Councillors including insurance against personal injury whether fatal or

not, arising out of, or in the course of carrying out duties, or the performance by such Councillor at functions in his/her capacity as a member of Council.

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

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

13. SUSTENANCE/MEALS

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

14. LEGAL

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

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

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

 the enquiry, investigation, hearing or proceedings relate to conduct arising out of or in connection with a Councillor's performance of his or her civic



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

Note: Council cannot pay any legal expenses for

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

15. EXPENSES

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

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

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

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

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

- to and from Council meetings;
- to and from Committee meetings, Working Parties etc of which the Councillor is a member;
- to and from meetings of external bodies to which the Councillor is an approved delegate;
- inspections within the area of the Council where such inspections have been arranged by a resolution of



Council, or by Mayoral approval;

- to and from the periodical conferences, training courses and seminars of Local Government related organisations at which attendance has been approved by a resolution of Council or by Mayoral approval;
- to and from public meetings where such meetings have been arranged by a resolution of Council or by Mayoral approval.

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

Payment is subject to:

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

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

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

15.1 Payment of expenses for spouses, partners and accompanying persons

Council will pay the cost of attendance of a spouse, partner or accompanying person at an official function of the Council (which includes BMECTheatre 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 I 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.

19.2What 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.

19.3Registration

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.

19.4Expenses 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.

19.6Payment 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.

19.7Spouse/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:

19.8Reimbursement 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. During 2013/2014 Council undertook a trip to Aizuwakamatsu in Japan to visit our friends from Ohkuma who have been relocated out of Ohkuma since the tsunami in 2010.

The cost of the Council delegation to Aizuwakamatsu was \$17.857.

The Council delegation included the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, General Manager and an interpreter. Six members of the Bathurst Community also joined the Council delegation.

Council also authorised a trip for one councillor to the Malaysian Grand Prix to talk to car owners about competing in the Bathurst 12 Hour Motor Racing Event. The cost of this trip was \$2,844.

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 2013/2014: the General Manager; Director Corporate Services & Finance; Director Engineering Services; Director Environmental, Planning & Building Services and Director Cultural & Community Services.

The total expenditure for 2013/2014 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 \$1,231,030.

The annual remuneration paid to senior staff for year ended 30 June 2014 was as follows.

General Manager \$302,658 Directors \$928,372

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.

Name	Goods/Services	Α	mount
360 Engineering	Design & Installation of Telemetry System	\$	825,687
Alleasing Pty Limited	Leasing of Computer and Office Equipment	\$	489,895
Alto Valves & Fittings	Water Pipes and Fittings	\$	809,217
Aussie Digger Bobcat Pty Ltd	Hire of Plant	\$	391,840
Banika Pty Ltd	Hire of Trucks / Watercarts	\$	164,597
Bathurst Automotive Group Pty Ltd	Purchase of Cars	\$	233,433
Bathurst Motors	Purchase of Cars	\$	381,763
Belgravia Health & Leisure Group	Management of Bathurst Aquatic Centre	\$	785,636
Boral Construction Materials Group Limited	Supply of Emulsion Vertical Tank (CENTROC Tender)	\$	262,888
Bustin Free Earthworks	Hire of Plant, Installation of Duplicate Eglinton Water Main	\$	473,630
Caltex Australia Petroleum P/L	Petrol Products	\$	345,348
Canon Finance Australia Ltd	Copier and Printer Maintenance	\$	203,260
Castlereagh Construction Group Pty Ltd	Construction of Amenities Block at George and Cubis Parks	\$	438,130
Central NSW Councils - CENTROC	Provision of Training, Membership Contribution and Advocacy Services	\$	196,202
Central West Civil Pty Ltd	Hawthornden Creek (Stage 3) Stablisation Works	\$	151,294
Central West Civil Pty Ltd	Hire of Plant/Trucks	\$	70,000
Central West Civil Pty Ltd	Hawthornden Creek Regrading and Stabilisation Works	\$	244,860
Centrel Pty Ltd - Reliance Petroleum	Supply and Delivery of Fuel (CENTROC tender)	\$	191,610
Civica Pty Ltd	Maintenance of Computer Systems and licensing	\$	288,456
Clancy Motors	Purchase of Cars	\$	352,912
Downer EDI Works Pty Ltd	Sprayed Bituminous Surfacing Works	\$	437,400
Dubbo Traffic Control	Provision of Traffic Control Services	\$	947,149
Eodo Pty Ltd	Design Development & Construction of Caustic Soda and Sodium Hypochlorite Dosing Plants and Associated Works at Water Filtration Plant	\$	3,781,335
Essential Energy	Electricity	\$	539,173
Ethan Group Pty Ltd	Various Electrical Works	\$	178,875
Fulton Hogan Industries Pty Ltd	Supply, Delivery and Placement of Sprayed Bituminous Surfacing	\$	2,020,468
Glenray Industries Ltd	Mowing Maintenace - 3 year contract	\$	225,002
Hanson Construction Materials	Ready-mix Concrete	\$	218,045
Hibbo Hire Pty Ltd	Hire of Trucks / Watercarts	\$	560,382
Hibbo Hire Pty Ltd	Restoration of Sludge Lagoon No I Water Filtration Plant	\$	144,861
Hitachi Construction Machinery	John Deere 770GP Grader	\$	409,860
Hitachi Construction Machinery	John Deere 644K Loader	\$	338,800
Hynash Constructions Pty Ltd	Carlingford Street Levy Progress Payments	\$	194,580
Hynash Constructions Pty Ltd	Gilmour Flood Pump and Sewer Main	\$	701,410
Integra Wastewater Solutions	Water and Wastewater services	\$	153,831
Iveco Trucks Australia Ltd	Supply Iveco Acco truck with garbage Compactor	\$	385,138
J EThomson	Legal Services	\$	264,137

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J R Richards & Sons	Household Recycling Collection	\$	996,594
Komatsu Australia Pty Ltd	Supply Bulldozer	\$	584,623
Lumax Engineering Co. Pty Ltd	Debris Fencing at Mount Panorama	\$	149,721
Lumax Engineering Co. Pty Ltd	Debris Fencing, Pit Straight, Mount Panorama	\$	107,250
McIntosh McPhillamy & Co	Legal Services	\$	258,434
Mid-West Traffic Management (Orange) Pty Ltd	Traffic Control Services	\$	242,988
Ministry for Police & Emergency Services	Contribution to Emergency Services – State Emergency Service, Fire and Rescue and Rural Fire Service	\$	525,915
MRG Electrical Services	Electrical Services	\$	625,274
Northern Contract Cleaning Pty Ltd	Cleaning of Public Buildings	\$	176,263
NSW Office of Water	Unregulated Water Usage and Access Charges	\$	209,884
NSW Public Works	Engineering Consultancy - Various Works	\$	648,001
Oberon Quarries Pty Ltd	Supply & delivery of road base	\$	276,304
Oilsplus Pty Ltd	Supply and Delivery of Fuel (CENTROC tender)	\$	579,919
Omega Chemicals	Water Treatment Chemicals	\$	407,174
Origin Energy Electricity Limited	Supply of Electricity	\$	3,248,449
P C Brunton Electrical	Electrical Services	\$	182,606
Pentair Water Solutions	Supply of Water Pipes and Fittings	\$	872,428
Redox Chemicals Pty Ltd	WaterTreatment Chemicals	\$	315,221
SITA Australia Pty Ltd	Rural Waste Collection	\$	279,167
Skillset	Hire of Staff and Apprentices	\$	207,593
Smith & Co Security	Security of Council Buildings	\$	159,538
SRS Roads Pty Ltd	Asphaltic Concrete Resurfacing of Mount Panorama Racing Circuit	\$	2,205,020
Stabilfix	Road Stabilising Works, Heavy patching State Roads	\$	593,919
StateCover Mutual Limited	Workers Compensation Insurance	\$	895,923
Statewide Mutual	Public Liability Insurance	\$	1,188,547
Telstra	Telephone Services	\$	215,102
Terra Farma	Biosolids Reprocessing - 4 year contract	\$	372,012
The Oxford Bathurst	Catering Services for Bathurst Memorial Entertainment Centre	\$	154,474
Tinbilla Pty Ltd	Hire of Plant	\$	172,711
Upper Macquarie County Council	Contribution for Control of Noxious Weeds	\$	221,861
Volvo Group Australia Pty Ltd	Supply Mack Metro Liner 6x4 Water Truck	\$	281,838
W P Engineering	Metal Fabrication	\$	185,800
Webber Concrete Constructions	various concrete works	\$	360,598
WesTrac Equipment Pty Ltd	Purchase of Skid Steer Loader	\$	119,900







Donations Under Section 356

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

During the year 2013/2014 Council donated a total of \$162,354 under Section 356 to a range of community groups.

General	\$97,156
BMEC Fee Waivers	\$55,943
Mount Panorama Fee Waivers	\$9,255

Human Resources

[Local Government Act 1993 - Section 428]

Council undertook the following human resource activities during 2013/2014:

- Continuation of financial and study leave support for a number of staff under Council's Staff Education and Assistance Scheme.
- Sourced and refurbished a Council owned facility for the purposes of a designated staff training room.
- Worked with other human resources staff from the Bathurst / Orange / Dubbo alliance to discuss projects focused on the ageing workforce and skills degradation within the local government sector. A project plan has been prepared for consideration by the General Managers.
- Secured a grant through Council's workers compensation insurer to conduct training for supervisory staff linked to psychological injury prevention and in particular focusing on managing depression, suicide risk, anxiety disorders and workplace trauma, substance misuse and workplace intervention.
- Development and implementation of a staff exiting process to ensure Council's assets are recovered upon the resignation of employees.
- Co-ordinated the biannual Employee Opinion Survey.

Work Health and Safety

[Local Government Act 1993 - Section 428]

Major Work Health and Safety achievements include the following:

- The final result on Council's actual workers compensation premium paid for 2013/2014 saw a 12% reduction on the original estimate for the year.
- 26 major investigations conducted by the WHS and Risk Coordinator since 2005.
- In association with the Asset and Technical Services Sections, the inspection of 101 structures for asbestos was carried out with an ongoing plan to inspect every Council structure within the next four to eight years dependent on funding.
- A score of 100% for the StateWide Risk Management Action Plan (RMAP) Submission Assessment and 100% for the RMAP Achievement Assessment.

- Steady increases of approximately five to ten points each year for the past three years across the three assessed categories in the StateCover Audit.
- The 2013/2014 StateCover assessment result puts Bathurst Regional Council ahead in the All Council Average, DLG Group Average and Regional Average across the three assessed areas which are Combined Score, WHS Systems, and Specific Hazards.
- Since the commencement of the Centroc General Induction Model in 2003, 1,785 contractors and employees have been inducted under this program. Bathurst Regional Council remains the leader in the induction process within the Centroc Group of councils.

A total of 55 incidents were reported during the year. Of these, 13 resulted in workers compensation claims being lodged and of these, 11 resulted in lost time to the Council. Of the reported injuries, 27 were sprains and strains, 12 were contusion injuries with the remainder being made up of various other injury types. The most common location of injury was the lower back.

Equal Opportunity Employment

[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 2013/2014. The Human Resources Section continues to provide information to new staff at the induction program on Council's Harassment and Grievance Procedures and on Council's Equal Employment Opportunity Policy. Staff are then required to complete a refresher module biannually via Council's e-learning system.

The Equal Employment Opportunity Management Plan 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 I July 2013 to 30 June 2014, II initial assessment sessions were conducted. A total of 47.5 hours of service activities took place during this period which resulted in an overall utilisation rate of 3.61% 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 2013/2014 financial year the following external bodies exercised functions delegated by Council.

- Eglinton Hall and Park Committee Management of Eglinton Hall and Park
- Perthville Development Group Inc Management of Perthville Hall
- Raglan Hall & Park Committee Management of Raglan Hall & Park
- Rockley Mill Museum Management Committee
- 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
- Centroc Water Utilities Alliance joint programs on Water and Sewer issues

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 \$1,210,869 in rates and charges (including postponed rates).

Pensioner rebate	\$1,115,065
Postponed rates	\$70,667
Other rates & charges	\$25,137

Access To Information

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

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

Methods of Accessing Council Information

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

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

Review of proactive release program - clause 7(a)

Section 7 of the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (GIPA Act) requires Council to undertake a review of the manner in which it releases government information to identify the kinds of information held by Council that should in the public interest be made publicly

available and that can be made publicly available without imposing unreasonable cost on the agency.

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

During 2013/2014 financial year Council undertook a review of the documents that it makes publicly available and the methods by which it makes those documents available. In completing this review Council undertook a number of steps including:

- I. Council 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 updating its website to facilitate the provision of information to the public. Council has a Public Documents section on its website that lists the documents that are available and in many instances makes them available for download at no cost. Should any document listed on the website be required they can be requested by contacting council. Depending upon the document required there may be some copying charges involved but all documents listed 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 has developed a Community Strategic Plan. There were a significant number of plans that informed the development of this document as well as significant public consultation. As part of its review under the GIPA Act Council decided to proactively release the majority of

the strategic plans that were used to facilitate the development of the Community Strategic Plan. The documents are available for public access in the Public Documents section of the website.

Other documents developed throughout 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 the 2013/2014 financial year received 13 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. One application was refused because the applicant did not pay the advanced deposit.

Number of refused applications for Schedule I 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

Table A: Number of applications by type of applicant and outcome*								
	Access granted in full	Access granted in part	Access refused in full	Information not held	Information already available	Refuse to deal with application	Refuse to confirm/deny whether information is held	Application withdrawn
Media	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Members of Parliament	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Private sector business	2	I	0	I	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)	2	2	I	0	0	0	0	0
Members of the public (other)	I	I	0	2	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	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		3	0	0	0	0	
Access applications that are partly personal information applications and partly other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

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

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

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

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

Table E: Other public interest considerations against disclosure: matters listed in table to section 14 of the Act				
	Number of occasions when application not successful			
Responsible and effective government	0			
Law enforcement and security	0			
Individual rights, judicial processes and natural justice	0			
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:Timelines	
	Number of applications
Decided within the statutory timeframe (20 days plus any extensions)	13
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 Department 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 2013/2014.

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 two (2) Extraordinary Meetings.

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:

- A H & P Association Royal Bathurst Show
- Arts OutWest Arts & Health Program (Bathurst Health Service)
- Bathurst 2036 Heritage Action Network
- Bathurst Community Alliance
- Bathurst Correctional Centre
- Bathurst Men's Shed Inc
- Bathurst Remembers Project
- Bathurst Refugees Support Group
- Bathurst Seymour Centre
- Centacare Child and Family Network
- Central Tablelands Rowing Club
- Forestry Corporation
- Focus Development Planning Proposed Motorsport Speedway
- Greening Bathurst
- Greater Western Area Health Service
- Norwood Park (Bathurst Cemetery)
- NSW Fire & Rescue
- Roads and Maritime Services Great Western Highway Upgrade
- Rotary Club of Bathurst Daybreak Inc B2B Organising Committee
- St Pats Rugby League Football Club
- Simplot Australia
- TAFE Western
- Western NSW Medicare Local

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

Council Business Papers

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

Management Plan

Council has a four year financial plan which establishes the framework for expenditure and services for the future. The plan is reviewed and updated every financial year. Before the plan is adopted each June, it is placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days. Comments are encouraged and considered prior to the final adoption of the Management Plan. Council's Management 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 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 Committeee
- Bathurst Education Advancement Group
- Bathurst Health Council
- Bathurst Information and Neighbourhood Centre
- Bathurst Liquor Accord
- Bathurst Meals on Wheels Service
- Bathurst Refugee Support Group
- Bathurst Regional Access Committee
- Bathurst Regional Art Gallery Society (BRAGS)
- Bathurst Regional Community Safety Committeee
- Bathurst Regional Youth Council

- Bathurst Senior Citizens
- Bathurst Seymour Centre
- Bathurst Tidy Towns
- Bathurst Town Square Working Party
- Bells Line Expressway Group
- Blayney to Bathurst (B2B) Cyclo Sportif Challenge Committee (Rotary Bathurst Daybreak)
- Boundary Road Nature Reserve Landcare Group
- Bicycle Facilities Working Party
- Carillon Working Party
- 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 Committee
- Country Mayors Association
- Eglinton Hall & Park Committee
- Evans Arts Council
- Evans Community Options
- Floodplain Management Authority
- Greening Bathurst
- Hill End & Tambaroora Progress Association
- 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 Chifley Bushfire Management 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
- White Rock Association
- 2015 Bicentenary Celebrations

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 2014 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 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
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Staff have been made aware of their obligations through training provided by the Ombudsman, training provided to new staff during induction, messages in staff newsletters

ENGINEERING SERVICES









The key to developing a sound foundation for growth and prosperity of the Bathurst Region is by ensuring infrastructure needs are keeping pace with demand. With a budget in excess of \$80m Council's Engineering Services Department has the responsibility to ensure the current needs of the community are met and the capacity exists to

cater for future growth. A clean and safe water supply, a quality local road network, and environmentally responsible waste management systems are all high priorities for engineering the future of the Bathurst Region.

Indicates that objectives relate to Key Direction: Liveable Communities Sound Leadership **Economic Prosperity** Environmental Sustainability **Asset Management** Improve pedestrian access within the urban area 19 CSP 2036 Objective Reference: 13, 14 28 3, 6 Completion of additional 500 lineal metres of footpath - Approximately 500m completed on concrete footpaths/cycleways in completed. Bradwardine Road to Mitchell Highway cycleway. accordance with the Strategic - 150m — Havannah St — Lloyds Rd to Vine St. Access Plan. - 500m - Ilumba Way to Birch Close. Monitor condition of footpaths. Less than 60 public requests regarding 41 requests received, 35 finalised. trip defects on paved footpaths.

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.	- Yarras Lane – Complete. - Bridle Track Shoulder widening – Complete. - Abercrombie Stage IV - Complete.					
Progressive renewal of gravel road surface throughout the network.	Rural Road gravel resheeting program.	Maintenance grading as required.					
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.	Construct	ion of Pert	hville Levee.	Not	Started. Land acquisitions underway.		

Private Works

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

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

Stormwater Management

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

Council does not levy a stormwater management charge, however, Council undertook the following stormwater management works as part of its 2013/2014 Management Plan.

Stormwater Drainage Construction	Estimated Cost
New Subdivisions	\$343,016
Rural Drainage Improvements	\$74,162
Eglinton Improvements	\$3,661
Jordan Creek Improvements	\$67,054
Gilmour Street Retention Basin	\$59,960
Windsock Way	\$60,679
Wembley Place Rehabilitation	\$13,460

Water, Sewer and Waste

Maintain and upgrade existing water and sewer infrastructure to meet the needs of all stakeholders into the future				
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. Detailed design works for the Manganese Removal Project are underway, and tender document preparation has been completed. A mandatory tender meeting was held in Bathurst on the 14 November 2013. Tenders were called and closed on 17 December 2013. Tender assessments are complete, with a report considered at the 19 February 2014 Council Meeting. A contractor has been appointed in accordance with Council's resolution. A project inception meeting has been held and the contractor is developing their documentation and design. A Construction Hazard Assessment Implication Review meeting has been held.		
		Detailed design is now 95% complete and the contractor is on site commencing set up work. Drinking water supply is sampled at 16 sites in accordance with Australian Drinking Water Guidelines and tested at NSW Health Laboratories. Results maintained on the Department's website.		
		100% compliant in meeting Australian Drinking Water Standards.		
Provide compliance reports to NSW Health as required.		Samples taken, testing completed and reports provided.		
		Drinking Water Management Plan underway. It has been reported to NSW Health via inclusive risk assessment workshops. Due for completion in September 2014.		
Operate, maintain, repair and upgrade water distribution system.		Water distribution system operations are ongoing, with maintenance and repair 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 for 2013/2014 was 538, which were received and actioned. This includes 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.	Funds are now available and this project has commenced.		
		Consultants have been engaged, and an inception meeting has been held. Inspections and supply of data have commenced. Workshops have occurred, and further are being planned. Work is advancing, and is on track to meet the September 2014 deadline.		

Povious and undate	Post Practice	Council is suggestly 100% compliant with Post Practice Management
Review and update plans as required.	Best Practice Guidelines compliance.	Council is currently 100% compliant with Best Practice Management.
		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 and the Demand Management Plan. A Consultant has been appointed and work is underway. A first draft has been reviewed. A second draft is now being reviewed.
Investigate, review and undertake further initiatives in the Best Practice Guidelines.		This project is yet to be commenced, as the relevant guidelines have not yet been released.
Continue implementation of Trade Waste Policy.		Trade Waste Policy is current, has been approved by NSW Office of Water, and adopted by Council. There are 312 approvals in place, with 338 active businesses (92%).
Prepare plans	Review outcomes and opportunities from the water	The water model has previously been reviewed, with several projects put into effect.
and estimates for		The sewer model has been updated to include the expansion of Eglinton.
works highlighted.		Work on comparing options to service the growth is underway.
Prepare reports and studies for Winburndale Dam and Chifley Dam. Work with	and sewer models and reports.	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. A draft concept design report has been received by Council and is being reviewed. A proposal for detailed design has been received and reported to Council. A project inception meeting has taken place and a works program provided indicating 40 weeks required to complete design and documentation. Dam surveillance for Winburndale and Chifley Dams will be carried out in July 2014. The Chifley Dam Secure Yield Study (base case) has been completed, with the Climate Change (future scenario) study also underway. This report is now being reviewed. The Chifley Dam Dambreak Study has been completed and forwarded to the NSW Dam Safety Committee. The Chifley Dam Safety Emergency Plan is underway, with a draft being reviewed. This has been forwarded to SES for another review, and will then be sent to the Dams Safety Committee for approval. This is now complete and in effect. Work is continuing, through meetings and projects. Alliance Business Plan has been developed and adopted. Bit monthly meetings attended with other
CENTROC on Water Utilities		has been developed and adopted. Bi-monthly meetings attended, with other projects and correspondence dealt with as required. The Regional Utilities on
Alliance goals.	On a west to a contract to the	Track Conference was very successful, with positive media coverage.
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.	In 2013/2014 Council complied with all waste water treatment licence conditions. Waste Water Treatment Works (WWTW) 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 practically complete. The polymer dosing plant has completed commissioning. Design work to replace the belt press switchboard has been completed. Quote has been awarded and work is underway. Work is about 95% complete. Work has commenced on the on-site chlorination unit at the WWTW to disinfect reuse water for on-site use.
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. Lining works or repairs or replacement can be subsequently arranged once the DVDs have been reviewed.
Identify, plan and undertake construction.	Renew water and sewer mains adjacent to road works or large developments.	Liaison with Technical Services staff to obtain advice on road projects and/or developments are continuing. Stage I of the Eglinton water upgrade is completed. Stage 2 is underway. 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	CSP 2036 Objective Reference: 6 I 3, I 6 22 29				
Replace waste collection vehicles on a 4 yearly cycle.	Vehicle fleet is up to date and able to adequately undertake waste collection activities.	One waste collection vehicle was replaced in March 2014 after a tender process. A further vehicle will be replaced in the 2014/2015 financial year.			
Review Waste Management Centre fill plans & take necessary steps to ensure the optimum long term strategy is determined and enacted.	Monitor the existing air space and identify future land requirements.	This project will recommence later in 2013/2014, after previous review completed in 2011/2012. An audit has been conducted by EPA staff. A review has been conducted by an independent consultant, and draft report received. Survey is complete and consultant is currently producing a cell plan to address long term strategy.			

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	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 Material Recovery Facility for sorting and further processing.	
behaviours.		Wastewise education works are continuing, and the recycling contract education strategies are also underway.	
Identify, assess and implement appropriate diversion opportunities.		Current diversions in place for E-Waste, oil, oil containers, Drum Muster, green waste, batteries, scrap metal, and gas cylinders.	
		Further opportunities will be identified, 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 in the form of a tender for recycling and organics into the future.	
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.	Monitoring of the operations throughout the year is continuing as required.	

National Competition Policy

[Local Government Act 1993 - Section 428]

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

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

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

Category I businesses have:

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

The complaints handling system caters for recording competitive neutrality complaints. Council's system caters for the publication of complaints via the annual report. Complaints received are publicised through Council documents such as the Annual Report. During the 2013/2014 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 Operating Plan.	Continuation of improvements & upgrades to existing	Proctor Park completed. Electricity supply to Proctor Park being upgraded. 99% completed. Waiting for Essential Energy to sign off metering requirements.
	sporting facilities as resources become available.	Public amenities/change-rooms at Cubis Park 90% completed. Currently in negotiations with contractors over performance & completion issues
		New public amenities for George Park – 95% completed. Currently in negotiations with contractors over performance & completion issues
Construct new sporting venues as per budgets adopted in the Annual Operating Plan. Development of Bathurst Cycle Park.		Construction of Velodrome complete. Bathurst Mountain Bike group have installed a variety of tracks on the College Road side of the precinct. Access road works commenced. Tenders for the club house and BMX track expected to be called by end of July 2014. Kermese and Criterium course still being designed. An incorporated body has been established by all user groups associated with the Bike Park Precinct, called the Bathurst Bicycle Park Inc.
Consider construction of additional soccer fields.		Negotiations continuing to secure vacant land adjacent to Proctor Park for new sporting precinct. Discussions with Catholic Trustees ongoing.
Secure vacant land in Hereford Street for additional playing fields.		Vacant land in Hereford St secured. Planning underway for installation of a number of playing fields adjacent to Anne Ashwood Park. Project dependent upon available funding.
Installation of irrigation to Eglinton Oval.		Irrigation system installed and operational.
Installation of irrigation telemetry at specific sporting venues.		Further irrigation installations to be undertaken as and when funding is secured. Maintenance of existing telemetry irrigation systems is ongoing.

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.	Maintenance to all areas is now Council responsibility and will be ongoing as funding permits. Inmates program being coordinated by Council's Planning Section.	
Bathurst Urban drainage reserve vegetation link			
Browning Street Reserve		Rehabilitation completed with maintenance ongoing during 2013/2014.	

Mt Panorama	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 2013/14.
	Council received a grant from NSW Environment Trust in July 2013 to undertake works on the Grassy Box woodlands. Year I works almost complete.
Christie St Raglan	Complete.
City entrances	Landscape design consultancy for the Mitchell & Mid Western Hwy entrances to Bathurst awarded to Gardenscape Design/APS Landscapes, April 2013. Preliminary design adopted by Council on 19 March 2014. Design contract specifications to be developed in readiness to go out to tender / quotation in July 2014, upon available funding.
Sawpit Creek Rehabilitation Project ongoing maintenance	Maintenance ongoing during 2013/2014. Contract for noxious weed spraying awarded and spraying works completed December 2013.
Upper Jordan Creek Hector Park Rehabilitation Project	Maintenance ongoing during 2013/2014.
Raglan Creek Rehabilitation ongoing maintenance	Maintenance ongoing during 2013/2014.

passive recreation areas	4 001013	20 20 20
CSP 2036 Objective Reference:	4 8, 9, 10, 13	17, 21, 22, 23 28, 29, 30
Plan for the construction of	Completion of	Playground construction as funding allows.
new playgrounds in expanding residential areas in conjunction with Annual Operating Plans.	new playgrounds as resources allow.	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 bicycle education venue adjacent to the Adventure Playground is being formulated. Design works awarded to Ric Machonaghy Pty Ltd. \$100,000 in current Management Plan. Anticipate tenders to be called July 2014.
Plan for and construct passive	Consideration and	As per available funding.
recreation areas as resources become available.	implementation of passive recreation areas as resources allow.	Nil funding for 2013/2014. No further action at this time.

Maintain existing and future recreational areas				
CSP 2036 Objective Reference:	4 8, 11, 12	17, 20, 22, 26 30, 33		
Maintain existing levels of service to all parks, reserves, open space areas and other recreational facilities.	Customer satisfaction levels are maintained.	Ongoing but limited funding available 2012/2013 and 2013/2014.		
Consider extending maintenance services to recreation areas within villages, subject to funding and other resources becoming available.		Considerable ongoing and start-up funding will be required if this issue is to be taken on.		

CULTURAL AND 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

Environmental Sustainability

Liveable Communities

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:

- 2013 Archibald Prize
- Wood: Art Design Architecture
- Isabel & Alfredo Aquilizan: Inhabit: project Another Country
- Metal: Steel Sculpture
- Art in a Suitcase

Number of attendees & number of schools.

Total attendance for the 2013/2014 Art Gallery's education and public outreach was 2,557 from schools, community groups and workshops, included in this number are 1,839 school children from 66 schools.

These figures are made up in the following way:

Total attendance at 2013 Archibald Prize was 7,712. Included in this figure are 851 school children from 23 schools.

Total attendance at *Wood: Art Design Architecture* was 2,416. Included in this figure are 20 school children from 2 schools.

Total attendance at the *Isabel & Alfredo Aquilizan: In-habit: Project Another Country* was 2,923. Included in this figure are 330 school children from 8 schools and 42 people attended the 2 weekend workshop with the artists.

Total attendance for the education program for the *Metal: Steel Sculpture* was 182 schoolchildren from 5 schools.

Additionally, 456 school children from 28 schools came to the art gallery outside the various educational program weeks to visit exhibitions.

Also during 2013/2014, the Art Gallery conducted 22 school holiday workshops at which 276 children and young people attended

Number of visits to schools.

Art in a Suitcase has been to nine (9) venues in 2013/2014 including three aged care facilities, two community groups, two early learning centres and two primary schools. Total attendance was 400, including 100 school children.

Develop community access and inclusion in the Gallery's exhibition program through two community exhibitions: • BRAGS Art Fair • Bx School Archies	Number of visitations.	Total attendance at the BRAGS Art Fair for the opening night and three days was 525. Total attendance at Bx School Archies was 7,712. Included in this figure are 851 school children from 23 schools.
Provide opportunities for the professional development of local based or locally connected artists through a series of four project exhibitions: • Bradley Hammond • Merrick Fry • Tony Lennon	Number of catalogues published. Number of visitations.	A total of three catalogues were published in 2013/2014, which included: Bradley Hammond – 500 copies Merrick Fry – 500 copies Richard Goodwin – 1,000 copies Tony Lennon – no catalogue published as final exhibition was not of a size to warrant production. Visitation for Bradley, Hammond, Merrick Fry and Tony Lennon exhibitions (12 July to 25 August) was 4,169.
Richard Goodwin	VISITATIONS.	Visitation for Richard Goodwin exhibition (13 December 2013 to 26 January 2014) was 4,335.
Develop community understanding of the achievements of the Hill End Artists in Residency Program through exhibitions by two artists who have participated: • Kurt Sorensen • Nathalie Hartog-Guatier:	Number of visitations.	Total attendance at Kurt Sorensen exhibition was 2,416. Included in this figure are 20 school children from two schools. Total attendance at Natalie Hartog-Gautier exhibition was 4,073.
Provide community access to contemporary design exhibitions of a wide community appeal: • Wood: Art Design Architecture • 2013 Australian Institute of Architects Regional Design Awards • Roman Colosseum	Number of visitations.	Total attendance at Wood: Art Design Architecture and 2013 Australian Institute of Architects Regional Design Awards was 2,416. Included in this figure are 20 school children from two schools. Visitation for the Roman Colosseum exhibition (13 December 2013 to 26 January 2014) was 4,335.









Bathurst Memorial Entertainment Centre (BMEC)

Provide access to high quality performing arts activities and events for the community as audiences and/or active participants through BMEC Seasons and the Local Stages Program.

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

CSP 2036 Objective Reference:



20, 23, 26, 27



30, 33

Local Stages Program

Continued support of the BMEC Local Stages Program through the provision of venue hire (in kind), technical labour and a contribution towards the salary of the Local Stages Creative Producer Successful presentation of Local Stages events including performances, workshops and associated activities.

Successful acquittals to funding bodies including Arts NSW and the Australia Council for the Arts. The BMEC Annual Season was successfully delivered as outlined in the BMEC Season brochure.

PowerPAC Workshop

The PowerPAC guide was commissioned by the Australia Council for the Arts and the Australian Performing Arts Centres Association to assist Performing Arts Centres to become producers and facilitators of local professional performing arts events.

BMEC's Local Stages Program is used as an example of best practice in the guide and the workshop on 26 July 2013 was an opportunity to share an understanding of the potential role of a Performing Arts Centre.

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 2013/2014 activities consisted of:

Workshops

Workshops coordinated, with links to BMEC Annual Season, including:

- Master Class with Kate Champion
- Directing with Chris Bendall
- Central West Short Play Festival
- Kate Gaul (director) ran a weekend train the director to train workshop in February 2014.
- Mari Lourey (writer) facilitated workshops in Bathurst and Mudgee.

Two Local Stages developed works have featured in the BMEC Annual Season over the last 12 months. This is an exciting development as this work has strong local connections and is almost entirely "Made in Bathurst".

Oh My God! I've Been Kidnapped and I Hate What I'm Wearing — the Musical (May 2014)

This new work, developed 2011-2013, was performed at BMEC in May. The performances were well received with audience attendance of 293 over four performances. Canberra Theatre is interested in presenting this work in 2015, further venues are being negotiated.

Right Behind You - Lingua Franca (August 2013)

Local physical theatre company Lingua Franca (Alison Plevey and Adam Deusien) have been supported by Local Stages over the last three years.

- Arts NSW Annual Program 2015 application completed in June 2014.
- Planning for the 2015 program underway.

SMASHED Arts
The SMASHED Arts project was completed in June 2014.
The Inland Sea of Sound
The 2013 Inland Sea of Sound Festival featured artists including: Siskin River, The Volatinsky Trio, Guy Strazz Trio, Gamarra, Keyim Ba, Minh Ha Patmore Quartet
The Local Emerging Artists Program (LEAP) linked local artists with café and winery venues building ongoing links for artists and businesses locally.
Acquittals
Acquittals for Arts NSW are completed. All reporting for Australia

Council for the Arts theatre board is up to date.

Utilise the BMEC 5/10/20 Year Masterplan as a basis to plan for building maintenance, upgrades and the integration of BMEC into the broader Bathurst Regional Council Cultural Plan. CSP 2036 Objective Reference: 20.22 29 **BMEC** General Funds are adequate Maintenance for 2013/2014 included: Maintenance to cope with basic • A full rigging inspection of the venue's fly system, chain motors and day to venue rigging equipment was undertaken in the last week of June 2014. and equipment 20 of the 21 hauling lines have been replaced. maintenance • A new boiler was installed and a new circulation pump was installed and replacement in July 2013. • Stage two of the phased upgrade of the theatre lighting has been separate to large capital items. completed. • Purchase of a new radio mic system has been completed. • Installation of a permanent sprung floor with professional dance quality vinyl cover was carried out in January 2014. • The simplex evacuation panel was replaced with a new Notifier panel. • A new point of sale system (Red Cat) has been installed into the three bars at BMEC. • A new compressor was installed on the roof of BMEC in June 2014, which was part of the air-conditioning for the upstairs foyer. • A new security system has been purchased and is awaiting installation. Presentation of BMEC Masterplan is Draft Masterplan received and being utilised to inform future actions. Masterplan to Council presented to for formal adoption and Council for formal public discussion by ARUP adoption. Theatre Consultant. Bar Point of Sale (POS) The point of sale system (Red Cat) has been purchased and installed Successful implementation of in the three bars at BMEC. system. new POS system Ongoing maintenance of Staggered, scheduled A full rigging inspection of the venue's fly system, chain motors and Fly System. maintenance of Fly rigging equipment was undertaken in the last week of June 2014. System occurs. Commission biennial Biennial report external rigging received and inspection and implement recommendations recommendations. implemented.

Stage two of phased upgrade of BMEC Theatre Lights.	Lights purchased and installed.	Stage two of the phased upgrade of the theatre lighting has been completed, including: • 20 LED 18 watt RGBW parcans • 1 unique 2.1 haze machine • 1 12 channel lighting dimmer • 8 Source four 575 watt profiles • 1 Strand ML250 lighting console • 2 mirror balls with motors • 1 Selecon 80 volt complete follow spot.
Purchase of replacement furniture for Conferences, meeting and social events.	Furniture purchased and installed.	22 tables and a table trolley have been purchased.

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

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

CSP 2036 Objective Reference:



20, 23, 26



27.33

2014 Catapult Festival

Successful staging of the 2014 Catapult Festival with national representation.

Successful execution of the Catapult Festival 2014 (8-13 April): Opening performance at the Wambool River involved over 50 members of the Aboriginal Community with a smoking ceremony, dancing, stilt walking, music and storytelling. Dancers involved came from Bathurst, Cowra, Dubbo and the Blue Mountains. 150 delegates from across Australia attended with another 200 members of the general public. The Mayor made a welcoming speech. The Welcome performance was followed by performances by Flying Trapeze Australia and Casus. Over the week of the Festival there were 23 CSU interns and 25 volunteers, 50 students from Theatre/Media and Journalism courses helping to ensure that all events ran smoothly.

The internationally acclaimed company CIRCA was in residence for the week conducting workshops and presenting performances.

The final day of the Festival included a partnership between the Youth Council and Catapult to develop Catapult Festival meets Youth Week at the River on Saturday 12 April 2014, attended by approximately 200 people. This event included a free performance of 46 Circus Acts in 45 Minutes by Circa, which was moved indoors due to inclement weather. This performance attracted an audience of 360 people.

Library & Australian Fossil & Mineral Museum (AFMM)

Encourage social spaces within community, such as the library

CSP 2036 Objective Reference:

20, 26

Refurbish library areas.

New carpet and furniture and painting program commenced. Painting was completed and carpet was installed in December 2013.

Increase delivery of formats

CSP 2036 Objective Reference:

Establish eBook platform.



eBooks in use, utilisation by users increasing on

During 2013/2014 eBooks and one click digital have been growing in use with the following statistics: eBooks users 332 with 1966 loans.

monthly basis.

one click digital with 219 users and 761 loans.

Increase AFMM visitor numbers			
CSP 2036 Objective Reference:	20		
Create new programs, activities to attract visitors. Scattered Bones broadcasts continued.	3 new activities or programs to promote the Museum. Existing Programs continued.	Billboard program new concept "The Beasts of Bathurst" design has been created. Further investigation required for implementation. A new Scattered Bones program was developed in 2013 with the first program broadcast in February 2014. This program is now broadcast to schools throughout the State. Total attendance of 2,290 (included Scattered Bones Program attendance of 1,103, and Hectic History-Bathurst 1815 attendance of 1,187).	

Identify, collect, manage and preserve moveable and intangible (oral video history) heritage			
CSP 2036 Objective Reference:	26		
Recordings collection developed. Video format to be introduced	20 recordings.	Some 20 recordings have been made to date. New technology, in the form of DVD recording, will be developed in 2015.	
Lighting upgrade of Council Museums			

Lighting upgrade of Council Museums		
CSP 2036 Objective Reference: 20		
Research technology and match to AFMM system. Seek prices to replace inefficient NMRM house lights.	Formal plans developed by 30 June 2013.	AFMM showcase lighting installation by "Be-efficient" was installed in September 2013. NMRM were to have "Be-efficient" supply and install overhead lighting, contractor unable to supply material, project has been placed on hold until 2014/2015.

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:	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.	Operations reviewed and plans for service developed and put into practice. Hill End Library depot in shop closed due to remodelling of shop. Hill End School offered space and depot at School re-opened in February with launch undertaken on 3 April 2014.

Collections Manager (National Motor Racing Museum & Collections)

Raise profile of NMRM through development of new marketing program			
CSP 2036 Objective Reference:	20		
Funding committed in 2013-2017 management plan.	Quotes sought and graphic designer engaged in July 2013. Branding agreed to and signed off. September 2013. Newly branded banners and pamphlets produced and internet and print advertising updated.	No funding committed 2013-2014.	
Develop social media policy.			
Designer to develop new branding.	New museum sign installed road entrance pre 2013 Bathurst 1000.	Draft road sign design has been developed to be funded from 2014/2015 funds.	

Promote use of museum by wider range of visitor groups CSP 2036 Objective Reference: 6 20 Develop temporary exhibition Three temporary One temporary exhibition was developed for 2013/2014. The program for 2013-2014 to draw "Hot Rod" exhibition, which included documents and images exhibitions wider audience to NMRM. developed and provided by Mr Merrick Fry, was installed in March 2014. opened 2013-No other temporary exhibitions occurred due to lack of 2014. resources and funding.

Raise the operational standard of the NMRM building		
CSP 2036 Objective Reference:	6 20	
Funding committed in 2013-2017 management plan	Staff consultation, design and drawings prepared by external retail designer in July 2013. Fabrication, cabling and installation by May 2014.	No funding committed 2013/2014.
External design of NMRM shop foyer developed.		
Construction and installation of new or upgraded furniture		

Replacement of NMRM utility with van				
CSP 2036 Objective Reference:	6 29			
Funding committed in 2013-2017 management plan. Acquisition of enclosed van and fit-out for Collection activities.	New van acquired and fitted out for movement of artworks July 2013.	Ford transit van delivered in March 2014.		

Plan press at BRAG for housing of paper collection			
CSP 2036 Objective Reference:	11 29		
Funding committed in 2013-2017 management plan. Purchase and install 2 plan presses.	Purchase and install 2 plan presses. BRAG paper collection rehoused and locations updated May 2014.	Brownbuilt racking ordered and installed. BRAG paper collection rehoused and locations updated.	

Replace high level façade lightin	ng NMRM	
CSP 2036 Objective Reference:	13 29	
Funding committed in 2013-2017 plan. Lower level uplights to replace existing high level, inefficient lights.	Removal of existing high level lights. Sourcing and install July 2013.	No funding committed 2013/2014

NMRM floor repair		
CSP 2036 Objective Reference:	6 20	
Funding committed in 2013-2017 plan. Damaged floor surface ground, cleaned and repainted.	Quotes sought September 2013. First hall Vehicles moved, floor ground and acid cleaned, repainting Week November 4 2013 Second hall Vehicles moved, floor ground and acid cleaned, repainting Week November 11 2013.	No funding committed 2013/2014

New display and jack storage cabinet NMRM CSP 2036 Objective Reference: 6 20 29 Funding committed in 2013-2017 plan. Fabricate cabinet. Design unit and obtain quotes for fabrication, September 2013. Install November 2013. Install November 2013. Construction of new storage area in Peter Brock wing was completed in August 2013. Racking for storage was ordered and installed. Storeroom completed in September 2013 and remains operational.

Continue existing advertising budget			
CSP 2036 Objective Reference	: 6 20		
Maintain existing advertising budget in 2013-2017 plan	Continue advertising with motoring clubs, V8 and sporting car magazines as well as regional and local media	Advertising for 2013/2014 included Nextmedia, Bam-media, Erebus, ABC Orange and MotorTrend (USA) promoting Museum. B-Rock FM has been engaged in radio promotion. Other activities included photo shoot of Bluebird on Track with Nissan V8 vehicles and filming and interview with Caravan and RV cable TV show, promotion at Solar Expo Saturday 22 March. Regular print advertising undertaken throughout year.	

Upgrade NMRM IDEALPOS retail system		
CSP 2036 Objective Reference:	6 20	
Funding committed in 2013-2017 plan.	Obtain quotes and commission July 2013. Install August 2013.	Regional Tele-communications upgrade completed and postcode software installed in February 2014.

Chifley Home

Reinstate exhibitions budget for Chifley Home Education Centre CSP 2036 Objective Reference: 20		
Exhibitions budget restored into 2013-2017 plan.	Confirmation, development and installation of 5 temporary exhibitions 2013-2014.	 The following temporary exhibition program occurred in 2013/2014: CSU ALTC Exhibition <i>Distant Connections</i> opened Saturday, 20 September 2013 and ran until January 2014. Exhibition <i>Devotion</i> sourced from Lithgow City Council commenced 18 January 2014 of Prime Minister Joseph Cook and ran until 30 March 2014. Exhibition <i>The Mackenzie Story</i> commenced 12 April 2014 and ran until 2 June 2014. Exhibition <i>Chifley Photo Album</i> commenced 2 June 204 and ran until 30 June 2014.

Bathurst Regional Art Gallery

Visitation at the Bathurst Regional Art Gallery (BRAG) from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014 was 28,460 (attendance in 2012/2013 was 23,338).

Additionally 9,542 people visited the Jean Bellette Gallery in Hill End, which is curated by BRAG, and 1,340 people visited the *Refiguring Dystopia: Richard Goodwin 1991-2012* exhibition curated by Gavin Wilson for BRAG that toured to the College of Fine Arts, University of NSW, Sydney.

Total attendance for BRAG exhibitions in 2013/2014 was 39,342 people.

Additionally 165,633 people saw our four 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 2013/2014 including: Deborah Kelly: The Miracles; Kim Ho: The Language Of Love; Merrick Fry: A Life Looked At; Refiguring Dystopia: Richard Goodwin 1991-2012; Tessa Morrison: Isaac Newton And The Temple Of Solomon; Tony Lennon Vanitas Stilleven; Bradley Hammond: Gosling Creek Drawings; In-Between Regional Architecture; Selby Warren: Trunkey's Tribe Of One; AES+F: Last Riot And Other Contemporary International Works From The Collection of Dr Dick Quan.

Local Artist Project Exhibitions

The Gallery featured local artists Bradley Hammond, Merrick Fry, Tony Lennon, Lino Alvarez, Kurt Sorensen under its local artist project initiative.

Permanent Collection Exhibitions

The Gallery continued its focus on showcasing the permanent collection in 2013/2014:

- Merrick Fry:A Life Looked At Based on the extensive holdings (33 works) of the artist's drawings, paintings and sculptures from the early 70s to present in the Permanent Collection.
- Heavy Metal: Sculpture from the Permanent Collection an exhibition of metal sculpture drawn entirely from the Gallery's permanent collection featuring work by leading Australian sculptors such as Margel Hinder, lan Mackay, and Paul Selwood. This exhibition coincided with the unveiling of Philip Spelman's redjar redbottle in the Gallery forecourt.

Additionally six exhibitions concentrating on paintings, prints, drawings, ceramics and sculptures from the permanent collection have been exhibited; two in the Lloyd Rees Reading Room and four in the Gallery/Library foyer display cabinets.

Partnerships & Touring Exhibitions

Partnerships

The Gallery continued its ongoing relationship with Sydney collector Dr Dick Quan.

Touring Exhibitions

In 2014 BRAG toured the *Refiguring Dystopia: Richard Goodwin 1991-2012* exhibition curated by Gavin Wilson for BRAG to COFA Galleries University of NSW, Sydney. A total of 1,340 visited the exhibition.

Incoming Touring Exhibitions

BRAG toured a number of important exhibitions to the Gallery in the 2013/2014 period including:

- After Five: Fashion From The Darnell Collection (Hazelhurst Regional Art Gallery Touring exhibition in partnership with Bathurst Regional Art Gallery)
- Roman Colosseum (A Nicholson Museum touring exhibition curated by Dr Michael Turner)
- Archibald Prize 2013 Regional Tour (Art Gallery of NSW exhibition toured by Museums and Galleries NSW)
- Wood: Art Design Architecture (Co-presented by JamFactory and the Botanic Gardens of Adelaide Museum of Economic Botany)
- In-habit: Project Another Country (Sherman Contemporary Art Foundation commissioned project, toured by Museums & Galleries of NSW)
- Striking Contrasts (dLux MediaArts, toured by Museums & Galleries of NSW)
- ACO VIRTUAL (Australian Chamber Orchestra)
- True Self: David Rosetzky Selected Works (Centre for Contemporary Photography exhibition toured by NETS Victoria)

Community and Education Outreach Exhibitions

A focus on community engagement and accessibility continued to be an important focus for BRAG, with a number of important programs and exhibitions developed in 2013/14 including:

- The Street Dreams Project: a short film created by local Bathurst youth as part of a week-long professional development project facilitated by BRAG
- Bx Schools Archies: An exhibition of portraits by students from Bathurst and surrounding districts
- Girrawaa Creative Arts Centre: Sandblasted glass works by inmates of the Bathurst Correctional Centre
- Brags Art Fair #4: A community fundraising exhibition for the Bathurst Regional Art Gallery Society Inc.
- Once In A Lifetime: Brags Fundraising Exhibition: A community fundraising exhibition for the Bathurst Regional Art Gallery Society Inc.

Education and Outreach Programs

The gallery continued its educational outreach programs, provided at no cost to schools, including a free transport scheme. In 2013/2014 1,209 school children attended our three major education weeks. As well 35 pre-service CSU Education Students did in-service training.

Education Programs

The three education programs conducted in 2013/2014 were:

- 2013 Archibald Prize Regional Tour education week was attended by a total of 952 school students, and 35 preservice Education students from CSU.
- In-Habit: Project Another Country education week was attended by 109 primary school students. Additionally, 4 outreach workshops were delivered to local Vacation Care providers which benefited 76 students.
- HEAVY METAL: Sculpture from the Permanent Collection education week was attended by 72 primary students.

Art in a Suitcase

Additionally BRAG's Art in a Suitcase program toured to three early learning centres with 209 students, one primary school with seven students, three aged care centres with 74 participants and four Community Groups with 54 participants in the period 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014.

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 2013/2014:

Studio Residencies: The Hill End Artists in Residence Program saw 24 artists participate in the program, staying at either Murrays or Haefligers Cottages for a period of four weeks.

Hill End Exhibitions at BRAG: Exhibitions at BRAG featuring work by artists arising out of their residencies and artists living in Hill End including: Lino Alvarez, Kurt Sorensen, Kim Anderson and Nathalie Hartog-Gautier:

Jean Bellette Gallery Exhibitions: BRAG curated exhibitions at the Jean Bellette Gallery, Hill End, by artists who have had residencies, artists based in Hill End and works from BRAG's permanent collection relating to Hill End including: Christopher Jones: Between The Hour And The Age; Kim Anderson: Ghosts; From The Studio: HEAC Artists; Reward: Steven Cavanagh; Kurt Sorensen: Into the Unknown; Hung, Drawn and Quartered NAS Honours drawing students' exhibition; Renuka Fernando: Disturbing the Surface; Christopher Jones: Between the Hour and the Age.

Acquisitions and the Permanent Collection

In 2013/2014, 33 works by 17 artists valued at \$235,912 came to the gallery by way of gift, bequest, donation and purchase.

Included in these acquisitions were a number of works by regional artists including:

- Leura-based Peter Cooley's ceramic work *Lumholtz Tree Kangaroos* 2012/2013;
- Orange-based Brad Hammond's painting Bulldozed Orchard Off Pinnacle Road 2013.

Additionally, BRAG was the successful inaugural recipient of the NSW Government's Sculpture by the Sea Regional NSW Sculpture Acquisition Program. The work selected from the 2013 Sculpture by the Sea to be part of the Permanent Collection was a major large-scale works by Philip Spelman entitled *redjar redbottle* that has been placed in the Art Gallery/Library forecourt.

Bathurst Regional Art Gallery Society

The Bathurst Regional Art Gallery Society (BRAGS) has provided substantial funds over the years to purchase works of art for the Permanent Collection. However in 2013/2014 BRAG did not request any funds from BRAGS to purchase any works of art.

Awards

Bathurst Regional Art Gallery's Look Art Talk: Art & Alzheimers Program was a winner at the 2013 Museum & Galleries of NSW's IMAGinE Awards when it took out the award in the Education & Audience Development category (3-20 staff). There were 11 entries in this category.

Bathurst Memorial Entertainment Centre

Attendance at BMEC events from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2104 was 48,195 compared to 44,034 in 2012/2013 and 45.152 in 2011/2012.

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, 15 professional events were presented in this period including:

- The Tjintu Desert Band (from the Northern Territory)
- Happy as Larry (Shaun Parker & Company contemporary dance)
- The Table of Knowledge (Version 1.0)
- Right Behind You (Lingua Franca)
- Theo and the Lion (Patch Theatre)
- Frank A Life in Song (Tom Burlinson)
- The Ten Sopranos
- Tashi (Imaginary Theatre)
- This Girl (Rachael Beck)
- Avan Yu (Sydney International Piano Competition)
- Wulamanayuwi and the Seven Pamanui (Blak Lines)
- 'S' (Circa)
- Oh My God! I've Been Kidnapped And I Hate What I'm Wearing – the musical (Local Stages)
- ACO²
- If There Was A Colour Darker Than Black I'd Wear It (Smashed Arts).

Local Stages

The Local Stages program supports the development of local performing arts practice and the collaboration and engagement of local artists with leading practitioners outside the region. In 2013/2014 Local Stages secured triennial funding from the Australia Council for the Arts and maintained Annual Funding from Arts NSW. Financial support from Bathurst Regional Council underpins this external funding and is augmented with project funding from a variety of sources.

In 2013/2014 Local Stages projects included:

Workshops

Mari Lourey - writing (Bathurst and Mudgee); Chris Bendall – Directing; Vanessa Bates – Writing; Ursula Yovich – Storytelling; Kate Champion - Devising Physical theatre; Alex Broun - Writing (Bathurst, Dubbo, Parkes); Kate Gaul – Directing; Scott Witt - Stagefighting workshop.

Total workshop attendance 78.

Central West Short Play Festival

Partnerships developed with Orana Arts (Mudgee, Dubbo) and organisations in Parkes/Forbes, Lachlan Shire to grow the festival as a broad regional event.

Presentations in Dubbo, Mudgee, Canowindra, Forbes

Productions/Performance

- Right Behind You, attendance 231.
- Oh My God! I've Been Kidnapped and I Hate What I'm Wearing The Musical, attendance 408.

Script Development

- 419 by Maryanne Jaques, based on the "Nigerian" spam by that name.
- Made in Bathurst residency project, The Tosca Project, based on a production of Tosca at the Bathurst Immigration Camp following World War II.

Support for the Local Emerging Artists Program

Local musicians involvement in the Inland Sea of Sound Festival.

Support for the Emerging Artists Program (Catapult Festival)

Young, emerging circus and physical theatre performers mentored by leading professionals.

Smashed Arts

The two year Smashed Arts program culminated in June 2014. The aim of the program was to provide performing arts related activities for young people as an alternative to binge drinking. As the program has now concluded it seems appropriate in this report to give an overview of activity undertaken over the full two year period to provide a full context. Over the two year life of the program it delivered the following projects:

Workshops

- Three school holiday programs in 2013/2014.
- Four specialised workshops in 2013/2014:
- Tjintu Band workshops;
- Train the trainers;
- Creating Catapult Opening workshops; and
- Catapult Festival workshops
- Regular Social Circus workshops. Social Circus refers to the growing movement toward the use of circus arts as mediums for social justice and social good.

Events

Six events were held in 2013/2014:

- Tjintu Band;
- Youth Council Dance Party;
- Smashing the Skate Park 2013;
- Youth Arts Awards 2013;
- Catapult The National Youth Circus and Physical Theatre Festival; and
- If There Was A Colour Darker Than Black I'd Wear It

Multiple Roving performances by the Smashed Rovers

Thirteen performances were held in 2013/2014:

- Youth Council Dance Party;
- The Great Race Street Fair;
- Wellbeing and Kindness BBQ at Kelso Community Centre:
- Bathurst Be Kind for Mental Health Month;
- Smashing the Skate Park;
- Youth Arts Awards 2013;
- Kelso Community Centre Christmas Party 2013;
- Kelso Community Centre School Holiday Event;
- Eglinton Country Fair;
- O-Week Entertainment CSU Library Lawn;
- Catapult Welcome Dinner;
- Catapult Meets Youth Week at the River; and
- Family Fun Day

Develop a Safe Party Kit

The PartySafe mocktails, recipe book, information for parents and for partygoers has been distributed at the following events: Youth Council Dance Party; The Great Race Street Fair; Beyond The Rainbow; Bathurst Be Kind for Mental Health Month; Summersault Youth Music Festival; Kelso Community Centre Youth Week; Catapult Meets Youth Week at the River.

Creative Learning Project

The Creative Learning Project continued in association with Patch Theatre based in Adelaide, South Australia, two CSU Schools (Communication & Creative Industries and Teacher Education) and Regional Primary Schools. The aim of this project is to engage young people as active participants in the creative processes that lead to performance and to assist teachers to use the performing arts as a learning tool across the curriculum. Projects included The Flight of the JIRBS — linked to *Theo and the Lion*; and Manipulation of objects as storytelling — linked to *Mr McGee and the Biting Flea*.

The Inland Sea of Sound

The fourth Inland Sea of Sound Festival was held between 23 and 27 October 2013. It included performances in local cafes, at the Festival Club at BMEC and in local backyards. Local musicians appeared alongside some of the finest Australian performers.

Local Artists (emerging young local musicians) included: Vindalu, Abby Smith, Ryan Sanders, Lueth Ajak, Rocket Street, Kiss Me Kate, Tash Steger, Gabbi Bolt, Abby Smith and The Vale Creek Trio.

Featured and external artists included: Siskin River, The Volatinsky Trio, Amber Captive, Guy Strazz Trio, Gamarra, Minh ha Patmore Group, Keyim Ba.

Catapult

From 8–13 April 2014 the fifth biennial Catapult Festival was held. Catapult is the national festival of youth circus and physical theatre and is the meeting point between young aspiring performers and established, high level professionals. Sites included BMEC, the Wambool River Stage, CSU and the PCYC. There were 170 youth participants, 40 volunteers and 10 staff. The festival attracted an audience of 1,601.

Professional artists appearing included: Circa, Casus and Stalker Stilt Theatre.

Four supporting emerging artists appearing were: Abby Kelso, Cecilia Martin, Jordan Twartz, Jordan Wong

Six Performances (including four public performances)

- Catapult Welcome Performance
- Night Antics, including the Catapult Fire Show
- 'S' by Circa (public)
- Catapult Trebuchet Gala (public)
- 46 Circus Acts in 45 Minutes (public)
- Catapult Ballista Gala (public)

Think Tanks

Twelve think tanks were held where current burning issues were debated including sessions on: a national circus strategy, marketing, within and beyond funding structures, trainer accreditation and partnerships.

Skills Workshops

Fifty-two skills workshops were held and were attended by the 170 delegates. Skills shared included: handstands, tumbling, flying trapeze, contortion, tissu, breakdance, director for circus, acro-balance, lyra, juggling and clowning.

Aboriginal Performing Arts Program (APAP)

The central focus of APAP for 2013/2014 was the development of a stilt, dance, music and storytelling Welcome to Country for Catapult. Over many months David Clarkson, Artistic Director of Stalker, engaged with the local Aboriginal Performing Arts Program (APAP) to create a dance and stilt piece in collaboration with Wiradjuri choreographer Jo Clancy and local Elders. It was performed by 50 local aboriginal young people as the 'Welcome to Country' for the opening performance of Catapult 2014 on Tuesday 8 April 2014.

Masterplan

The BMEC Masterplan continues to provide a guiding document for maintenance and/or improvements for the venue. The areas of most concern and cost in 2013/2014 have been the maintenance and/or replacement of: air conditioning, facilities roof, fire emergency panel and security system

National Motor Racing Museum

2013/2014 was a solid year for the museum with it turning over \$493,500 through shop sales and admissions and achieving visitor numbers of 27,102.

Functions continued to provide a strong source of income as well as be a positive tool to promote the museum's profile. 25 functions were hosted with 804 people attending and a record 2,678 people visited the museum on 81 booked tours.

Many clubs used the museum as a base for their annual tours. The HSV club, Hillman Club of Australia, Triumph register, Prewar MG,T Series Ford and Riviera owners club were some of those welcomed through the museum before heading off to explore the Bathurst region.

Two lighthearted activities were the launch of the video racing game Gran Turismo 6 by the Mayor Gary Rush and actor Shane Jacobson and the visit to the museum by the Earl and Lady Bathurst. Their visit included a lap of the race circuit in the museum's George Reed special and in the Monaro GTS.

The Bathurst 1000 in October 2013 saw the museum's Nissan Bluebird on track for Nissan motorsport promotions while the 1963 Firth/Jane Cortina was

driven by Lee Holdsworth and Craig Baird for Erebus motorsport publicity in the race build up. Also the museum collaborated with the Hansford family and Jack Perkins in displaying the Gregg Hansford GP winning 650cc Yamaha for media.

The museum's public activities included participation in the 2014 Bathurst 12 Hour with the 1986 Toyota Corolla and 1966 Mini Cooper joining car clubs displaying in Harris Park. In March the museum participated in the Bathurst Environmental Expo at the Bathurst Showground. It displayed the early 1990s national solar car race entrant Sunswift II alongside the 2013 entrant from the University of NSW School of Engineering.

Inside the museum's first hall an exhibition was created in March that related the story of local amateur Hot Roder Merrick Fry, who won a national custom car title beating much larger business-backed entrants.

A joint promotional display of Council cultural facilities was undertaken as part of the Local Government Week with three local primary schools participating.

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

- Chad Parrish continues to be a strong supporter with his Repco-Brabham Formula 2 car driven by Jack Brabham
 - in 1967 the feature display. He also loaned the 1963 Shelby Mustang.
- Mike Ryves Studebaker Lark from 1966 presented a very rare form of early American V8 race car for visitors.
- Peter Scales Charger was on hand for the Supercheap 1000 race
- 3 x 1950s Speedway Cars were provided by Don Halliday and Brian Linnegan.

Acquisitions into the museum collection included:

- Rob Hodgkinson: 6 x Trophies, Barry Hodgkinson racing career, 1949 to 1954
- Ross Gallagher; 14 x Colour stereoscopic aerial photo prints, Bathurst 1973
- \bullet Kevin Griffey; 3 \times 8mm film rolls of racing at Catalina Park and Bathurst c.1960
- Paul Hingston; Trophies & plaques, Australian Sporting Car club, 1950s to 70s
- Geoff James; Collection of Motorcycle speedway racing clothing, helmet, boots and photographs. Representing racing career of Geoff James.

A new collaborative promotion saw the NMRM and AFMM join in a program that tapped into the large travelling visitor market of the Taronga/Western Plains Zoo that pass through Bathurst en-route to Dubbo. Central to this was a uniquely painted rhino on display in both museum foyers.

The other promotional feature was the museum as host to the Legends of Motor Sport Television show. The show, which screened nationally, saw the Brock wing turned into a full TV studio with live audience and three Legends, Alan Moffat, Colin Bond and Allan Grice provided the entertainment.

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 2013 to 30 June 2014 was 22,843, an increase over the previous year's figure of 21,919.

A range of regular public programs were provided by the museum including:

Education Program

- Guided and non-guided school tours are held for a range of ages from infants, primary and secondary schools to university.
- Prehistoric Preschool guided museum tours are designed specifically for preschool audiences.
- The Lifelong Learning Program included a range of guided tours for adult audiences.
- Scattered Bones, a virtual classroom program was broadcast from the Museum using video conferencing technology that reached a wide range of schools throughout NSW in partnership with the Department of Education and Communities. In addition to ongoing programs such as *T.rex VS NAPLAN* and *Dinosaur Slam*, the museum also developed modules in preparation for the Bathurst Bicentenary, which focus on the history of European settlement in Bathurst. These include:
 - Clash of Cultures: Video Conference. A Bathurst History forum designed for high school students to re-examine the history of Australia's first Inland settlement, Bathurst, in 1815.
 - Hectic History Bathurst 1815: A three week role-play history module designed for primary school students to re-examine the history of Australia's first Inland settlement, Bathurst, in 1815.

Other Activities and Events

- Wild! Rhino Trail A range of artists were commissioned to paint a number of Rhinoceros sculptures to be exhibited as part of the Taronga and Taronga Western Plains Zoo artist trail. The Australian Fossil and Mineral Museum was selected to participate in this project, which was a NSW Tourism event that provided incentives for tourists to visit each Rhino on the way from Sydney Taronga Park Zoo to Dubbo Western Plains Zoo. The Museum was also included in promotion through Sunrise, Taronga Zoo, Sunday Telegraph, Prime and WIN Television. 2BS and Western Advocate.
- The museum participated in the Central Tablelands Science Festival at Charles Sturt University in March 2014 by providing a stall and educational activities.
- A successful launch of the Geological Survey Metallogenic map held at the Museum in partnership with the Department of Primary Industries took place in March 2014.
- The museum was successful in receiving funding of \$7,000 from NSW Regional Science Grant for the development and coordination of a Central Tablelands Science Hub. The money will be used to fund a science fair in the 2014/2015 financial year.
- Ongoing school holiday programs with a range of

- activities that have an earth and general science focus were provided during this period.
- The Friends of the Australian Fossil and Mineral Museum continued work on their publication *The Somerville Collection:The life and work of Warren Somerville AM*. The group have also coordinated a series of guest lectures that have included: *Discussion on Caves* by Ernest Holland, 23 people attending; *Broken Hill Minerals* by Ernest Holland, 19 people attending; *Broken Hill Railways* by Colin Ellis, 30 people attending.

Temporary Exhibitions

Temporary Exhibitions during 2013-2014 included: *Drawo-Draw* exhibition and Dino play; *Wild! Rhino* – An in-house exhibition was curated by the Museum, which explained Rhinoceros evolution and conservation to compliment the Wild Rino! Trail program; Bathurst Arts Trail exhibition featured the artists of Bathurst represented in media such as painting, drawing and sculpture.

Chifley Home

Visitation

1,199 visitors went through the Chifley Home and Education Centre in 2013/2014, with 26 separate tour groups contributing to this total. The visitation highlight was the visit by the 9th Earl of Bathurst and Countess Bathurst on Friday 24 January 2014. Also, on Sunday 29 June 2014, the Chifley Home played host to the Australian Apostolic Nuncio Archbishop Gallagher.

Takings over the 2013/2014 year were \$10,728.65, which was up from \$9,303.15 the previous financial year.

Exhibitions

Between the Lines 2012: a travelling exhibition of the best Australian political cartoons from 2012.

Chifley in an Album: The exhibition focused on numerous official and informal images of Ben Chifley from a photograph album belonging to the Chifley Home collection.

Distant Connections the Chifley Home and Education Centre has been collaborating with Charles Sturt University (CSU) – Education Faculty since late in 2011 as part of an Office of Learning and Teaching Innovation and Development Research grant, 'Learning and Teaching in Public Spaces 2011-2013.

Joseph Cook - Devotion: This exhibition told the story of Lithgow's little known Prime Minister Joseph Cook.

The McKenzie Story: Exhibition was reshown from Saturday, 23 March 2014 until the end of June 2014.

Promotion

Roger Nuttall inspected the Chifley Home and Education Centre as part of the *Amazing Bathurst* tourism promotion in August 2013. Roger is an experienced tourism correspondent from Canberra. Also Tony Robinson's filming for the *Homefront* series on the History Channel helped to raise the facility's profile.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Provide a range of Children/s Services that include: Long Day Care (Scallywags and Little Scallywags Child Care services), Family Day Care, Vacation Care

CSP 2036 Objective Reference:	21, 26 28, 30	0, 32
Increase staffing hours across Bathurst Long Day Care in compliance with current legislative requirements regarding child/staff ratios.	Increase in staff allocation to comply with National Regulations for Children Services and the National Quality Framework.	Staff: child ratios have continued to be maintained throughout the year as required by the regulations. Recruitment has occurred for Scallywags and Little Scallywags Child Care to maintain the required staffing specification of the Children's Services Organisational Chart. A review of Early Childhood Educator position descriptions took place late in 2013. Position descriptions were reviewed and brought in line with requirements of the legislation in relation to qualifications. The allocation of an additional 15 hours per week for an Early Childhood Educator was approved by the Consultative Committee. The increase is to ensure ratios are maintained and to promote quality. The hours of an existing Early Childhood Educator were increased from 15 hours per week to 30 hours per week.
Training Children Services Staff.	Extra training undertaken by Children Services Staff to comply with National Regulations for Children Services, implementation of National Quality Framework, implementation of regulations to OSHC (Outside School Hours Care) and implementation of My Time Our Place School Aged Framework.	Staff attended training in Asthma and Anaphylaxis, First Aid and Child Protection. Staff attended various training events or conferences if relevant or if identified in their individual training calendars. Professional development opportunities continue to relate to aspects of the National Quality Framework or specific areas relating to the framework such as the role of Educational Leader, Sustainability in Child Care and changes to the Working with Children Check procedures.
Children Services Website	The provision of a Children's Services website that encompasses all of Bathurst Regional Council's services including Family Day Care, Scallywags and Little Scallywags Long Day Care and Vacation Care.	The construction and content development for the Children's Services website occurred between September 2013 and June 2014. Prior to this the process involved internal liaison with Children Service's staff to develop ideas for the layout and design for the website. The Children's Services website is in the final stages of development and going live in early July 2014. New logos were developed for the Children's Services section and each individual service. The new logos have been developed for the website and other documents to give the section a clear identity.

Resources Little Scallywags.	The provision of a range of age appropriate resources that meet the needs of the children and reflect the new National Regulations for Children Services.	Little Scallywags purchased material and equipment to extend the provision of a play based program. The resources purchased were reflective of the children's needs and interests. These resources included wooden easels, dramatic play resources, and outdoor equipment, such as bikes and climbing equipment. Where possible Little Scallywags has attempted to purchase equipment that utilised natural resources, such as the wooden materials. This assists to enhance the natural elements at the centre.
Vacation Care Resources.	The provision of a range of age appropriate resources that meet the needs of the children and reflect the OSHC (Outside School Hours Care) and implementation of My Time Our Place School Aged Framework.	Vacation Care purchased a range of resources that are reflective of the needs and interests of the children. This included art and craft materials, which were utilised throughout each holiday period, and outdoor equipment, such as tents and outdoor seating. The service purchased three android tablets to be used by the children and extend their interest in technology. Tactile resources were purchased over the year such as beading, loom bands, and weaving devices. These resources encourage children to be creative with their hands. The equipment is reflective of the themes that exist with school age children, yet still meets the quality standard relating to planning a play-based program.
TV and radio promotion.	Provision of a range of TV and radio promotion to recruit Family Day Care Educator and families across all of Children Services.	Family Day Care used various forms of advertising to promote the recruitment of Prospective Educators and families. Radio advertising with 2BS was consistent throughout the year. It was a successful form of advertising as the service attracted interest from both Prospective Educators and families. Distributed 10,500 flyers, via mail box drop, targeting families living in Bathurst and surrounds. The service also participated in various newspaper editorials, which appeared in the Western Advocate. Television advertising was not utilised in 2013-2014. The Service undertook more cost effective forms of advertising and promotion through community events, such as the Family Fun Day and stall at Bunnings. Council's Ratepayers newsletter was also used.
Oven.	Provision of an oven for the Family Day Care Kitchen for use by Vacation Care and playgroups.	The oven was installed and has been utilised by Vacation Care, Early Start Preschool and Family Day Care. The oven meets the needs of all the services. It is used for cooking experiences and in the preparation of afternoon tea for the Vacation Care program.





Work in partnership with community organisations and groups to administer and deliver targeted actions identified in the Bathurst Social and Community Plan 2011-2016.			
CSP 2036 Objective Reference:	19, 21, 23		
Maintenance HACC/Seymour Centre.	Painting interior and exterior areas of the HACC meeting room and building.	Maintenance for the HACC/Seymour Centre included: Replacement of carpet in office area Repairs to plumbing and electrical items Repair to vinyl floor and exterior door in kitchen Removal of branches and tree trimming Internal painting undertaken in Unit 4 (no cost to Council) Light replaced in Seymour Centre Recycle and garbage bins provided as requested	
Maintenance BINC.	Sound proofing and office reorganisation at BINC.	Maintenance for BINC included: Carpark/disabled zones repainted and sign posted. Repairs to toilets and electrical switches Extra garbage bin provided Graffiti removed Additional fire extinguisher and fire blanket installed at western end of building (DIAS)	
Operating Costs West Bathurst Community Centre.	Ensure that all operating costs are meet including: Insurance Utilities Cleaning	Monitoring of the operating costs for West Bathurst Community House was undertaken by the Manager Community Services.	

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:

22

Project funding – Summer Night Shuttle Bus.

Investigate the feasibility to provide a Summer Night Shuttle Bus as identified in the Bathurst Community Safety Plan.

The Bathurst Community Safety Committee reprioritised the Summer Night Shuttle Bus initiative. The initiative was removed from the current Safety Committee agenda and opportunities will be explored in the future. This decision was made as a result of a lack of a model or funding for the initiative.

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:

21, 23, 25, 26



Kelso Community Centre Breakfast Program.

The provision of a sustainable Breakfast Program for school aged children (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday) from the Kelso Community Centre.

The breakfast program was held Monday to Wednesday from 8:00am to 9:00am with the exception of school holidays, pupil free days, and public holidays.

The breakfast program operated a total 119 sessions and had an average daily attendance of 19.8 school aged children.

Kelso Community Centre User Group.	The facilitation of regular gathers of Kelso Community Centre user groups – Seniors, Men, Women or Young People.	There were a number of regular gatherings of user groups at the Kelso Community Centre, including women and young people. Summary of user group gatherings:
		Tuesday Group is a group of young people and children who meet weekly at the Centre to undertake a range of activities. They have had 33 sessions with an average attendance of 9.7 per session.
	,	Bathurst Seymour Centre operated a group providing activities to seniors, people with a disability, and carers. The group met monthly until March 2014, as which time they started meeting on a weekly basis. They operated a total of 15 sessions.
		The Benevolence Society provided a play group from the Centre. The group held 30 sessions and achieved a strong weekly attendance.
		Relationships Australia provided a women's group that gave women an opportunity to meet, support each other, and undertake activities. The group met 25 times in total.
		The Western NSW Health District provided the Marang Dhali Eating Well Program at the Centre during term 4, 2013. The program ran for 6 sessions.
		OCTEC – Youth Connections provided a learning centre throughout term I in 2014. The program aims to support II – 19 year olds make the transition through school and onto further education and training. The program held 9 sessions from the Centre.
Youth Activities – school holiday activities.	'	15 school holiday activities were held. There was a variety of different activities catering to children, young people, families, and the community from the Kelso area.
		Summary of school holiday activities:
		• 2 activities held in July 2013, including circus activities and a movie afternoon.
		6 activities held in September/October 2013, including a Celebration of Indigenous Culture and a day of activities run by Smashed Arts.
		4 activities held in January 2014, including a science demonstration and a day of summer themed activities.
		3 activities held in April 2014, including a talent show, an Easter egg hunt, and a sports day.

Provide support, networking and opportunities for young people to participate in local government decision making.			
CSP 2036 Objective Refere	nce: 27, 30, 33		
24 hour film competition.	The staging of Bathurst	The Bathurst Regional Youth Council decided not to stage the 24 hour film competition in 2013/2014 and opted for a different type of event.	
	24 – short film competition.	The Youth Council considered a number of options and decided to hold an outdoor music event in Machattie Park in November 2013. Planning for this event started in September 2013.	
		The event was called 'Summersault – Roll into Summer' and was held on 30 November 2013. Several hundred people attended the event; they enjoyed a range of activities and music performances by local young people.	
Alcohol Free Event.	The staging of a Alcohol Free Event for the young people of Bathurst.	Planning was undertaken in July 2013 for the 'Spectrum Dance Party' that was held at BMEC on 3 August 2013. Approximately 375 young people attended the event and no significant issues occurred.	

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 2014 providing funding to local community groups and organisations.
- The provision of administrative support to the Bathurst Community Safety Committee, Seniors Week Committee, and Bathurst Youth Network.
- The provision of support to the Bathurst Regional Youth Council and related Youth Activities.
- The continuation 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 92.5%.

Scallywags Long Day Care Centre continues to provide 41 places for children, birth to five years, with an average utilisation of 98.3%.

Kelso Community Centre continues to operate and provide support to organisations that provide services for the Kelso Community, such as the weekly Child and Family Health Clinic provided by Bathurst Community Health Centre.

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 providing a range of stimulating and fun activities for children ranging in age from five to twelve years of age.

Family Day Care

Bathurst Regional Council continues to operate the Bathurst Family Day Care Scheme with an average utilisation of 129 occupied places per week.

The Scheme has adopted practices and policies that 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 Early Start Kelso, Preschool and Family Centre. Staff have established working relationships with the preschool to enable the service to provide a preschool education to children who may not be able to access other child care services

Vacation Care

Bathurst Regional Council's Vacation Care program is licensed for up to 34 children per day during school holidays. The service offers full day care for children from five to twelve years of age with an average utilisation of 26 children per day. The service has provided a range of centre based recreational experiences and excursions for the children in the Bathurst community.

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 coordination 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 taking five delegates to the Youth Council Conference in Dubbo, 'Spectrum' dance party, 'Summersault – Rolling into

Summer' youth music event in Machattie Park, and Catapult Festival Meets Youth Week At The River.

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 continues to support the Bathurst Aboriginal Community Working Party, the Elders Group and other Aboriginal organisations operating within Bathurst. NAIDOC week was marked by a flag raising ceremony and Mayoral reception in July 2013 and community celebrations in September 2013. Consultation on matters pertaining to the Aboriginal community of Bathurst are facilitated through the Bathurst Aboriginal Community Working Party, the Elders Group and other relevant Aboriginal organisations.

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 2014 with a morning tea and entertainment in the forecourt of Bathurst Library.

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. In 2013/2014 Bathurst residents were able to reciprocate with Bathurst Regional Council sending a delegation to visit our Ohkuma friends in Aizu in April 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.

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, 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 Support Agencies and the Department of Family and Community Services (FACS). Council also provides for children with disabilities within its Long Day Care Centre Scallywags, Little Scallywags and the Bathurst Family Day Care Scheme.

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

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

Other Access Activities

Cycleways

Council throughout the year has continued works on its cycleways to assist with access to the Central Business District and other key areas of town. Construction works undertaken in 2013/2014 include:

Bradwardine Road – Mitchell Highway / Suttor St – 686m Rosemont Avenue Reserve – Trinity Heights – 592 m

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.

The Library was nominated for Australia's favourite library competition in 2014. This is run by the Library Association of Australia. Bathurst came a creditable seventh Australia wide and second in NSW.

A Library user survey was conducted in early 2014 with 98.97% of clients awarding the Library an "excellent/good" rating for the service overall and 98.95% for customer service satisfaction questions.

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.

The children's area has been upgraded, with the introduction of mobile shelving, and with the fiction collection organised into nooks or browsing spaces creating a more inviting environment designed to facilitate browsing.

A mobile outreach service delivers items to housebound residents, centres attended by the elderly, schools and rural locations. A new library depot was opened at Hill End Primary School on 3 April 2014.

Tech Savvy is a Library program for seniors teaching them to use mobile, devices eg tablets, smart phones.

The Library provides ebooks, large print books, magazines, newspapers, DVDs, 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 165,633 in 2013/2014. This is an increase of 34%.

Bathurst has increased loans of library material from 220,363 in 2000/2001 to 315,643 in 2013/2014. This is an increase of approximately 43%.

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

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

Historic photographs of Bathurst are also posted weekly on the library Facebook page, with an amazing 'viewing' result, which confirms a growing interest in Bathurst history and the willingness of past residents to reminisce.

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

The Library organised the 'Christmas on Keppel' fair in the Library forecourt. It featured some 24 stalls and attracted over 2,000 people to Keppel Street.

The Library, in cooperation with the Bathurst Chess Club, organised a chess tournament open to all ages. Some 50 local people attended with the youngest participant being five and the oldest in his eighties.

School holiday activities included a range of options suitable for all ages, featuring activities such as kite making, beading and finger painting.

ABC Open have conducted three workshops at the library which involved aligning past photographs with present buildings "Now & Then", digital photography and produced a documentary entitled "Catherine, Mobile Library Van Driver".

During 2013/2014 the Library held 497 events with the total number of attendees being 13,374. Events included story times, baby bounce, author visits, school holiday activities, to name a few.

The State Librarian Dr Alex Byrne visited the Bathurst Library in June. He spent a day in the Library met staff and was particularly pleased to be given the chance to meet with a group of Library patrons who had been invited.

The Library took part in the national simultaneous Storytime, this is an initiative where libraries, schools and children's centers across the country read a selected children's picture book at the same time and date. A considerable amount of attention is thereby focused on reading for children and on Australian authors.

Author Visits

A number of successful author visits were held including:

- Fleur McDonald
- Judy Nunn
- Paul Stafford
- Jennifer Smart
- Michael Rowbotham

Library Facebook Page

The Library Facebook page has been very successful in attracting members and currently totals 615. There are regular updates regarding events held in the Library and discussions with members about library services, as well as historic photographs of Bathurst.

Twitter

The Library Twitter page now has 457 followers.

Booklink

The reading encouragement program Booklink continues to be a great success, attracting young readers to the Library with participation by children as young as six months and the oldest 17 years. This year over 10,320 books were read, an increase on the previous year's total of 9,380 books. 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. The Committee meets monthly to promote awareness of the challenges faced by those with a disability in accessing local services and businesses. It participates in Council's development, planning and policy processes and also provides information on access issues and lobbies for improvement.

Council:

- Provides a space for the committee to hold its meetings
- Provides the Bathurst Disability Access Grants of \$10,000 on an annual basis and administrative support for the grant
- Assists the Committee with the provision of a Councillor delegate

Seniors Week Organising Committee

The Seniors Week Organising Committee presented a full and diverse program for Seniors Week 2014, offering various entertainment and social activities as well as educational opportunities. Highlights included the 'Never Too Old Ball' and the launch of the Seniors Safety Tip Sheet at Chifley Home. There was also a host of other events held at the Seymour Centre, Miss Traill's House and Metro 5 Cinema.

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 2013/2014.

Specialist services provided from the Kelso Community Centre throughout 2013/2014 include the Indigenous Chronic Disease Clinic run by Western NSW Medicare Local and Child and Family Health. Afternoon activities for young people have been provided at the Centre on Mondays by volunteer organisation, 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 focusing on strengths and leadership, a Play Group operated in partnership with the Benevolent Society, a Women's Group operated in partnership with Relationships Australia, 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 2013/2014 including the annual Christmas Party in December 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, 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 Senior Safety Tip Sheet
- Development and distribution of a public awareness campaign encouraging people in the community to report malicious damage and discourage those who may engage in malicious damage activities
- Completed lighting safety audit of the CBD, West Bathurst and Kelso.

Consultation was undertaken for the development of the Bathurst Community Safety Plan 2015–2019. This included a survey available in hardcopy and online, engaging with the community at public events and in places where people congregate, and workshops with key groups and networks.

PLANNING









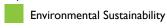
Council adopted a comprehensive new Local Environmental Plan and Development Control Plan on 16 December 2013. The plans will come into effect upon the gazettal of the Bathurst Regional LEP 2014, expected in October 2014.

Consultants were engaged to investigate the transport network required for an expanded Kelso residential area proposed by the Bathurst Regional LEP 2014. The Kelso Traffic Study has informed the preparation of an updated section 94 plan for new residential roads with the inclusion of a schedule of works for the new Kelso catchment.

Council has reviewed and exhibited new/updated section 94 plans for community services and facilities, rural roads, traffic generation, open space and CBD carparking. The updated plans will come into effect upon gazettal of the Bathurst Regional LEP 2014 and will ensure developer contributions can be collected to assist the funding of infrastructure requirements as the region grows.

Indicates that objectives relate to Key Direction:









HERITAGE MANAGEMENT

Council engaged consultants to complete an Archaeological Management Plan including a detailed history of the early settlement area of the city of Bathurst from 1815 to 1840. Council received grant funding from the Federal Government to interpret the Plan. Council is working towards the creation of a new interpretative heritage trail – A Delightful Spot – a heritage trail of the early government settlement area.

Council engaged consultants to commence the preparation of an updated conservation management plan for the former Bathurst TAFE site in William St. The plan will include consideration of the Bathurst Town Square curtilage.

Fifty projects for maintenance and conservation of the older building stock in the Bathurst Region received funding under the Bathurst Regional Local Heritage Fund 2013/14. The total value of works undertaken was approximately \$400,000.

Eight projects for interpreting the region's history and heritage received funding support under the Bathurst Region Conservation and Interpretation Fund 2013/14. The total value of the projects was approximately \$60,000.

Council completed and adopted a new Bathurst Regional Heritage Strategy for the period 2013/14 to 2016/17. The Strategy will see the continuation of Council's key heritage management programs such as its heritage advisory service and heritage incentive funds.

Strategic Planning

Prepared comprehensive planning controls for the LGA			
CSP 2036 Objective Reference:	1, 2, 3 8, 9, 10, 1	1, 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 Plans adopted by Council on 16 December 2013. Draft LEP forwarded to Department of Planning & Infrastructure for gazettal.	

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	
Preparation of a Traffic study into the expansion of Kelso.	Study completed and adopted by Council.	Study underway. Comments on draft report back to consultant.	
Prepare Bulky Goods, Sydney Road Planning Proposal.	Planning Proposal Referred to DOP&I	Planning proposal rolled into the comprehensive draft LEP.	
Prepare Kelso Planning Proposal.	seeking gazettal of plan.	Incorporated as part of the comprehensive draft LEP.	
Bathurst City CBD Traffic Study.	Consultants are appointed and Study commenced.	Study not able to proceed as no funding provided in 2013/14 Management Plan.	

Review and update Council's section 94 plans			
CSP 2036 Objective Reference:	6 28, 29		
Revise the existing s94 Plan "Rural Roads".	Draft plan ready for adoption by Council at	Preparation of draft plan underway.	
Revise the existing s94 Plan "Community Services and Facilities".	the end of 2013/14.		

CSP 2036 Objective Reference:	11	
Provide a Heritage Advisory Service.	Ongoing. Heritage Advisor available for on-site visits once a fortnight.	Ongoing. 98 site visits undertaken (private property owners). Total expenditure \$18,660.
Provide funding to private property owners under the Bathurst Regional Heritage Fund 2013/14.	Adequate funding is provided to approved projects and projects completed by 30 May 2014.	50 projects completed. Total project cost: \$402,337 Total funding offered: \$52,700 Final report prepared for NSW Office of Environment & Heritage and Council.
Provide funding to private property owners and community groups under the Bathurst Region Conservation and Interpretation Fund 2013/14.		8 projects completed. Total project cost: \$61,789 Total funding offered: \$16,773
Prepare and implement projects for the interpretation and display of cultural heritage and history	Pillars of Bathurst project completed by 31 December 2014.	Project underway.
information.	New interpretative signage and brochures made available by 31 December 2014.	
Prepare an Aboriginal Heritage Study for the Bathurst Region.	Consultants are appointed and study commenced.	Draft brief prepared. External funding being sourced.
Prepare an Archaeological Management Plan for the early settlement area of the City of Bathurst.	Study completed by the end of 2013/14.	Project completed.
Prepare and implement a new heritage trail for the early settlement era of the City of Bathurst.	Project to commence when AMP completed. Project to be finalised before 2015 bicentenary.	External funding sourced. Project underway. Historian engaged to prepare text for signs. Signage company engaged to design and manufacture signage.

Environmental Management

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

through the delivery of targeted education programs			
CSP 2036 Objective Reference:	1, 5, 6 8, 9, 12, 1	3, 14, 15	
Identify and conduct minor environmental projects.	Minor environmental projects completed by June 2014.	Various activities conducted as the need arises.	
		Update of threatened species database March 2014. Follow-up Willow Control Sawpit Creek April 2014.	
		Web hosting of Sustainable Lifestyle House virtual tour.	
Conduct community environmental education programs.	Complete ongoing community education programs including Enviro Mentors' by June 2014.	Enviro Mentors completed in November 2013. 11 schools are participating with 2 modules "Catchment Action" and "School Yard Harvest" presented to the students.	
Conduct the annual Sustainable Living Expo.	Conduct the 6th annual Sustainable Living Expo in March 2014.	Expo held on 22 March 2014 in conjunction with Bathurst Farmers Markets. 22 exhibitors, 5 workshops, estimated 3500 people through the gate.	
Conduct the annual Bathurst Region schools 'Go Green Challenge' program.	Complete the 2014 Go Green Challenge by June 2014.	2014 program – 18 applications received. 11 grants of \$400 and one of \$250 awarded to local preschools and primary schools. \$1,000 prize to be awarded to the project judged best overall.	
Produce the 'Making a Difference' newsletter.	Produce the Making a Difference newsletter in Spring 2013 - Autumn 2014.	Spring edition sent with October rates notices. Autumn edition sent with April rates notices.	
Implement the 2013/14 Woodsmoke Reduction Program.	Complete the 2013/14 Woodheater Rebate Program by June 2014.	I 6 rebates paid to date. Funding received from NSW EPA to run 2014 program. Project officer employed to run program 2 days per week. 4 Woodsmoke Workshops run in June 2014.	
Implement the 2013/14 High School Biodiversity Program	Complete the 2013/14 High School Biodiversity Program by June 2014.	Not yet commenced.	
Develop and coordinate a targeted erosion and sediment control education program.	Conduct an Erosion and Sediment Control program by June 2014.	Erosion and Sediment control workshops for builders and contractors to be conducted July 2014. Resident brochure under development.	

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 Environment Report	Completed and reported to Council in February 2014.	
complete the 2013 State of the Environment Reports.	Complete the 2014 Regional State of Environment Report and submit to the Department of Local Government by 30 November 2014.	Data collection for 2014 report commenced. 2013 report complete and was presented to Council at its Ordinary Meeting in November 2013.	

Meet Council's obligations und develop, restore, enhance and		ct (1993) and community expectations to manage,
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 2014.	Hawthornden Creek Stage III implemented in 2013/14. \$100,000 in funding received from the NSW Environmental Trust to support the project. Monitoring and evaluation plan has been approved by the Environmental Trust. Construction tender awarded to Central West Civil in February 2014. On ground works to commence June 2014. Expected completion.
Support the Central West Salinity and Water Quality Alliance Project.	Support the Central West Salinity and Water Quality Alliance Project Support Officer in June 2013/14.	Funding provided in 2013/14 operating plan. All meetings attended.
Improve the management of Bathurst Region road reserves by conducting a Roadside Vegetation Assessment.	Conduct the Roadside Vegetation Assessment by June 2013.	Consultant engaged and on ground works commenced in October 2013. Field report received in November 2013. Data to be uploaded to GIS.
Implement the Pest Bird Management Plan.	Implement priority project/s identified in the Pest Bird Management Plan by June 2013.	Report on removal works in CBD received in August 2013. Machattie Park pigeon trapping April 2014. Further trapping in CBD commenced in June 2014.
Support the application of external grant programs.	Provide \$50,000 in 2013/14 to allow for the application of external grant funding.	Not funded in 2013/14 operating plan. Nonetheless external grant funding is sought as opportunities arise. Strengthening Basin Communities funding received \$10,000 for Blayney Road Common.

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 2013/14. Solar project at Small Animal Pound comple September 2013 with a 5.23kW system inst Quotations sought for 50kw Solar at Water Plant in May 2014. Awarded to Solgen Energestimated completion September 2014.				
Support the continuation of Energy Audits of Council facilities.	Conduct energy audits at priority Council facilities in 2013/14.	Consultant completed site audit of the Depot in September 2013. Final report submitted March 2014.		



Environmental Health Management

Health (Swimming Pools and S		rartnership, the rood Standards and the Public
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.	Newsletters distributed quarterly.
	Conduct monitoring of all Bathurst Region public swimming pools and spa pools by June 2014.	Equipment purchased. Commence monitoring Spring 2014.
Ensure Council's ability to meet the obligations as required under NSW Legislation.	Implement an Environmental Health Secondment program by June 2014.	Program planned for rest of 2013, one officer up to 2 days per week, depending on resources in other areas. On hold due to extended leave taken by seconded officer.

Development Assessment

Ensure the assessment of development and other applications, in accordance with planning instruments, development control plans and policies, occurs within appropriate timeframes

	• •	•
Process all development	Reduce number of	750 – No. of applications (DA/CDC/MOD) received.
applications within statutory	Development applications	729 – No. of applications approved.
time frames set out in the	exceeding 40 days.	153 – No. of approvals (gross) over 40 days (21%).
Environmental Planning and		21 – Average approval time.
Assessment Act 1979.		33 – Average approval total time.

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 2013/2014 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 is available on Council's website

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 developer is required to make financial contributions to Community Facilities at various stages of construction. The development consent has been physically commenced and remains active however at 30 June 2014 there were no conditions in the agreement that required compliance.

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 2013-14 Survey of Council seizure of cats and dogs with the Department of Local Government in July 2014.

Dog Attacks

Council, during 2013-14 financial year notified the Department of 26 dog attacks.

Companion Animals Management and Activities

Council's budgeted expenditure on Companion Animal management and activities for 2013-14 was \$482,128. 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 March 2014 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 2014-15 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 \$37,832 from the Companion Animals Fund Activities. Where these funds were expended include:

Dog registration clerk salary	\$38,854	
Dog Pound expenses	\$16,028	
Dog Microchipping expenses	\$3,916	
Dog Community Desexing program	\$18,182	
Cat Impounding expenses	\$736	

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			
Complete Responsible Pet Ownership education programs.	Community Pet Desexing program conducted twice annually.	Program completed 18-29 November 2013 with 100 animals desexed. Program completed 19-26 May 2014 with approximately 100 animals desexed.		
	"Safe Pets Out There" (SPOT) program conducted in 2013/14.	Programs conducted as requested by schools. Dog Expo with Joanne Reghetti conducted March 2014		
	Responsible pet ownership education campaign completed by June 2014.	Weekly radio interviews ongoing.		
Maintain and enhance areas for off-leash recreation of dogs.	Maintain the Kefford St Off-leash area to current standards.	Contractor engaged for maintenance in 2013/14. Weed spraying conducted in October 2013. Monitored weekly by Rangers.		
	Install additional lighting at the Kefford St Off-leash area.	Installation completed June 2014.		

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. Continue progressive upgrade Security fencing upgrade now complete ar operational. Additional security fencing instance the rear of the pound building in April 201			
Maintenance of Stock Impounding Facilities.	Maintain the stock impounding facilities and meet requirements of stock handling, transport and disposal.	Facility being relocated to small animal pound site.	

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 2014.	To be integrated into Council's overall promotion of parking restrictions as a part of the implementation of Licence Plate Recognition technology. Communications Strategy has been developed and is currently being implemented. Licence Plate Recognition (LPR) commenced March 2014.		

Economic Development

Implementation of the Bathurst Region Economic Development Strategy 2011-2016 and associated strategies and actions

strategies and actions			
CSP 2036 Objective Reference:	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	1, 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 MED. MED single point of contact for NBN Co and attends meetings as part of Evocities.	Ongoing. Bells Line of Road Committee meetings attended. 10 submissions completed.	
Ensure that the Regions Strategic planning accommodates long terms business and industry needs.	Comments on planning documents, noted in Regional planning strategic documents (eg RDA).	Ongoing. Signage Strategy adopted. Reviewed RDA Opportunity Assessment Study. RDA Freight Study underway – meetings attended. RDA Import/Export Study underway – meetings attended.	
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.	Ongoing. Partnership with the Business Enterprise Centre for the rollout of Cert IV OHS and Cert III Micro Business Operations (branded under the BizStart Program). Skilled Migration Workshop. 3 Business Management seminars held in October/ November 2013 in partnership with the Business Chamber. 3 Business Management Workshops held in May 2014.	
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.	Ongoing. Meetings with Bathurst Health Service regarding development of promotional booklet. Mayoral Business Leaders Lunch held on the 23 May 2014.	
Develop specific industry cluster groups.	Industry Alliance Group formed.	Ongoing. Central NSW Innovation Network (CNIN) meetings ongoing.	
Support business chamber meetings.	Council host one meeting per year.	Meeting held 10 June 2014 National Motor Racing Museum.	
Host Mayoral Industry Function.	Economic Development Forum hosted.	Mayoral Business Leaders Lunch held May 2014.	
Building Bathurst Business Newsletter:	Newsletter developed and distributed bi monthly.	Ongoing. ENewsletter in development (investigating online). Database expansion project underway to reach 1,500 contacts.	
Develop and refine investment marketing material.	Reprint of lifestyle/investment books and update on release of Census Data when released.		
Develop and implement investment and lifestyle DVD.	Sponsorship obtained from private sector, DVD produced.	Completed. DVD launched July 2013. DVD uploaded onto YouTube channel and Bathurst Region website.	
Develop and review signage strategy for Bathurst Region.	Signage Strategy adopted by Council.	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 completed. Demand Study moved to 2014/15 financial year.	
Develop a digital strategy for the Region that maximizes and identifies new broadband applications.	Digital Strategy developed.	Completed. Selected sections of Study to be rolled out in 2014/15.	
Undertake an audit of major export products from the Region.	Identification database of products exported from the Region and synergies.	Ongoing. Freight Study and Import/Export Studies by RDACW underway.	
Strategic 'relationship' management with relocation, investment and startup business enquiries.	Enquiries responded to and information provided in a timely manner.	Ongoing. 33 new business enquiries responded to during year.	
Management of major marketing programs.	Evocities enquiries responded to within 24 hours. Case studies identified. Bathurst Region website updated on a monthly basis.	Ongoing. All new Evocities enquiries responded to. All Evocities Operations Committee meetings attended.	

Tourism

Provide visitors and prospective visitors to the area with quality information, allowing them to plan, enjoy and extend their stay

and extend their stay				
CSP 2036 Objective Reference: 4 20				
Prepare Lithgow Oberon & Bathurst (LOB) Regional marketing material.	Review and update current LOB tourist drives. Create regional tourism map.	The Villages booklet has been printed and is being distributed from both Bathurst and Lithgow visitor centres and consumer shows. Attended the South Coast Caravan and Camping Show (Nov 8-10) with Lithgow.— 11,712 attended the show and the stand received good response from attendees. Over 150 Bathurst visitor guides and over 180 villages booklets were distributed. Attended Newcastle Caravan & Camping Show (7-9 Feb) with Lithgow.— 25,944 attended this show and the stand was well received. 294 Bathurst visitor guides, 370 Villages booklet and 834 making tracks maps were distributed. Attended Sydney Caravan, Camping & 4WD Supershow (26 April.— 4 May). Created new Lithgow, Oberon & Bathurst promotional tool.— fold up frisbee. This will be distributed from Sydney show and both Visitor Information Centres.		
A5 booklet – '200 years of Bathurst'.	Content determined. Research undertaken. Draft booklet prepared.	Discussions are underway on the content of the book. Looking at 200 interesting facts rather than a chronological story. Also exploring as a phone and tablet application.		

Effectively promote and market tourism product	t the Bathurst Region, to mo	otivate people to visit the area and to develop
CSP 2036 Objective Reference:	4, 5	
Prepare and conduct Bathurst Region Tourism Survey.	Consultants are appointed, survey completed and results report prepared.	The Destination Management Plan is underway. 2nd meeting of project reference group was held in June. Draft reports for visitor survey, research survey and desktop research have been completed.
		Results will be reported back through the DMP report.
Produce a marketing tool specific to attracting the Japanese market.	Creation of a marketing tool in Japanese.	The booklet has been translated and is currently being formatted by Bathurst Regional Council marketing and
	Delivery to the Japanese Inbound Market.	events team. A promotional video targeting the Japanese market has been created. Copies of this booklet have been sent to Seiritsu High School representatives.

Visitors Information Centre

- 57,187 visitors through the doors, averaging 4,765 per month.
- Centre received 7,860 phone calls and had over 75,567 website visits for the period.
- 2,672 visitors passed through BVIC during race week (Saturday 5 to Monday 14), selling \$5,764.05 in souvenirs.
- Sold 97 camping sites at the Sportsground during race week accommodating 260 people and at Carrington Park 58 sites accommodating 138 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 the Sydney Caravan, Camping & 4WD Supershow, Canberra Home, Leisure and Lifestyle show, Newcastle Caravan, Boat and Fishing show and Batemans Bay Caravan, Camping & 4WD show with a combined stand.
- Produced a new motivational and attractions guide.

















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