



# NAMBUCCA VALLEY COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT

2023-2024



# GIINAGAY

Giinagay (said: 'ginn-a-gay') = welcome. From the local indigenous/ Gumbaynggirr language.

We acknowledge and extend our appreciation to the Traditional Owners of the land, the Gumbaynggirr people, on which the Nambucca Valley is located and the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we work, play and live.

We pay respect to their ancient and continuing cultures, their connections to the land, and to the Elders, past, present and emerging.



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# FOREWORD

I'm excited to present this Annual Report for the 2023/2024 financial year. Excited because the general fund delivered an operating surplus of \$272,000, the water fund operating surplus was \$383,000 and the sewer fund surplus was \$559,000, the first time in eight years all three funds were in surplus in the same year. This places Nambucca Valley Council in a strong and robust financial position to deliver on our mission, to value and protect the natural environment, maintain our assets and infrastructure and develop opportunities for our people.

The past twelve months has seen an increased effort by Council to address the backlog of grant funded projects that arose following the natural disasters and COVID-19. The delivery of a significant capital works program of \$26.5 million in 2023/24 demonstrates the ongoing investment in the infrastructure and facilities required by communities and visitors alike across the Nambucca Valley.

Some examples of significant projects delivered in the last twelve months include;

- Bridge renewals including Dyers bridge, Sandys Crossing bridge, Frank Partridge bridge
- Nambucca River boardwalk – Visitor Information centre to Bellwood
- Macksville CBD road reconstruction
- Main Beach car park reconstruction, Nambucca Heads
- Marion Woods netball court resurfacing
- EJ Biffin sporting fields oval lighting and subsoil drainage
- Nambucca Heads Seawall Project
- Upgrades to Wilson Rd
- Alexander Drive Upgrades, Nambucca Heads
- Nambucca Heads Waste Depot, Cell 4A creation
- Utungun Hall capital work upgrades
- Completion of Giinagay Cycleway, Macksville to Nambucca Heads
- Water Treatment Plant, UV Chlorination implementation



To deliver the expected \$90 million in funding for the permanent restoration of essential public infrastructure damaged in the recent flood events, a dedicated Disaster Recovery Projects team has been created. This team currently consists of five staff and will be resourced as necessary to deliver the recovery program in the required timeframe. This has increased our effective fulltime staff numbers to 157. Ranger activities has also increased with an additional Ranger employed to focus on dogs, parking and illegal camping.

Council received 283 development applications which is lower than average, which mirrors the broader economy. The average approval time of 7 days is an outstanding result and is in the top ten best Councils in the state.

Council has now commenced the development of a new Community Strategic Plan and will now engage with the community to develop Council's strategies for the valley for the next ten years.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bede Spannagle'.

Bede Spannagle  
**GENERAL MANAGER**

# MAP OF COUNCIL AREA

The Nambucca Valley Local Government Area (LGA) is located between Kempsey and Bellingen Shire Councils on the Mid North Coast of NSW, approximately 500km north of Sydney and 480km south of Brisbane. It is 1492.8 km<sup>2</sup> and is situated between 30.030'S and 30.056'S and 152.018'E and 153.001'E. The terrain is steep and intersected by small streams nestled between the foothills of the Great Dividing Range and the coastline of the Pacific Ocean. The rugged topography of the eastern edge of the New England plateau in the western part of the valley is dominated by steep slopes and valleys, while the eastern portion of the valley is characterised by the gentle slopes of the river floodplains.

The Nambucca River drains the valley and is 47km long. Nambucca Valley Council has two National Parks, eight local nature reserves and 25km of coastline.

**52 years**  
Median age

**8%**  
of our population  
identify as Aboriginal  
or Torres Strait  
Islander  
NSW Average 3.4%

**2 Towns**  
With population  
greater than 5000  
(Macksville &  
Nambucca Heads)



**20,774**  
Estimated residential  
population (ERP) 2023

**13.92**  
Population density\*

**730 km**  
of road

\* Population density based on ERP 13.92 persons per square km (NSW 10.41 per square km)

The main localities include Nambucca Heads, Macksville, Bowraville, Valla Beach and Scotts Head with many smaller villages and rural settlements. The LGA has a population density of 13.92 people per km<sup>2</sup> based on the ABS Estimated Residential Population (ERP) 2023.

The below table is based on ERP's. The ERP is the ABS official population figure for all Local Government Areas (LGAs) - but is subject to review after the next Census release. For areas smaller than LGAs, the ERP is derived from SA1 geographies based on population distribution from the previous Census. As such, these smaller geographies are subject to a greater level of revision each Census due to the change in actual numbers and in population distributions.

Populations are counted and estimated in various ways. The most comprehensive population count available in Australia is derived from the Census of Population and Housing conducted by the ABS every five years. However, the Census count is generally an under-estimate of the actual population, due to people missed in the Census and people overseas on Census night. To provide a more accurate population figure more frequently, the ABS also produces ERP numbers.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people make up about 8% of the population compared to the national average of 3.2% and their living culture is an integral part of the Valley's society.

|                             | 2017         | 2019         | 2021         | 2023         |
|-----------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Bowraville & surrounds      | 2569         | 2595         | 2627         | 2696         |
| Macksville & surrounds      | 5891         | 5988         | 6042         | 6170         |
| Nambucca Heads -Hyland Park | 6928         | 7022         | 7116         | 7153         |
| Scotts Head - Way Way       | 1180         | 1238         | 1252         | 1302         |
| Valla - Valla Beach         | 2304         | 2408         | 2469         | 2565         |
| Rural West                  | 915          | 899          | 877          | 888          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                | <b>19789</b> | <b>20150</b> | <b>20383</b> | <b>20774</b> |

Source: <https://profile.id.com.au/nambucca/about>

The Nambucca Valley is rapidly becoming a desirable destination for lifestyle sea and tree changers and the Pacific Highway upgrade has made it an easy commute to the regional centre of Coffs Harbour.

Traditional industries of dairying, timber, grazing, and horticulture have been supplemented by aquaculture and crops such as macadamias and blueberries. Service industries, in particular tourism, aged care and health services are important and growing sources of employment.



Being strategically located between Sydney and Brisbane with easy access via the North Coast rail and the Pacific Highway, the Nambucca Valley is a natural location for logistics hubs and warehousing operations but has also enticed major manufacturers to relocate and expand in the Valley.

Council is awaiting the outcome of an application for a further multi-million dollar grant to construct the Valla Urban Growth Area over the next few years and this will create jobs and prosperity.

Nambucca Valley Council has a full range of Local Government operations and is responsible for maintaining a wide range of infrastructure including roads, bridges, parks and gardens, footpaths, an aquatic centre, libraries, stormwater drainage, water pump stations and reservoirs, sewer pump stations and treatment plants.

The Valley is lush and beautiful with high rainfall, extensive coastline, river frontage and rugged terrain, however these same attributes also make it difficult and expensive to build and maintain infrastructure assets. Given the Valley's limited resources, priorities need to be constantly reassessed and the Council has to be open to new and better ways of doing things.



# AUDITED FINANCIAL REPORTS AND INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Council's audited financial reports for the year ended 30 June 2024 are available to the public at Council's Administration Centre (44 Princess Street, Macksville) and on Council's website at:

<https://www.nambucca.nsw.gov.au/files/assets/public/v/1/council/complianceformspolicies-amp-reporting/financial-reports/2024/audited-annual-financial-statements-2023-24.pdf>

## RATES AND CHARGES WRITTEN OFF CLAUSE 132 OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT (GENERAL) REGULATION 2021

| <b>ORDINARY RATES</b>                  |              |                     |
|--|--------------|---------------------|
| Pensioners write off (Section 575)     | \$388,107.35 |                     |
| Other                                  | \$ 11,419.26 |                     |
|  |              | \$399,526.61        |
| <b>WATER ACCESS AND SUPPLY CHARGES</b> |              |                     |
| Pensioners write off (Section 575)     | \$144,911.06 |                     |
| Other                                  | \$ 89,957.51 |                     |
|  |              | \$235,868.57        |
| <b>SEWER ACCESS AND SUPPLY CHARGES</b> |              |                     |
| Pensioners write off (Section 575)     | \$132,005.71 |                     |
| Other                                  | \$ 25,720.38 |                     |
|  |              | \$157,726.09        |
| <b>WASTE MANAGEMENT CHARGES</b>        |              |                     |
| Pensioners write off (Section 575)     | \$194,158.89 |                     |
| Other                                  | \$ 267.75    |                     |
|  |              | \$194,426.64        |
| <b>TOTAL AMOUNTS WRITTEN OFF</b>       |              | <b>\$987,547.91</b> |



# ACHIEVEMENTS IN IMPLEMENTING THE COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

## REVIEW OF DELIVERY PROGRAM AND OPERATIONAL PLAN

### INTRODUCTION

The intention of this section is to document Council's progress and the effectiveness of Council activities as it strives to implement its stated strategies under each of the eleven (11) Key Strategic Directions outlined in its Community Strategic Plan during the 2023/24 financial year.

### THE 11 KEY STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS ARE:

The 11 Key Strategic Directions are:

1. Civic Leadership and Administration
2. Public Order and Safety
3. Public Health
4. Community Support and Education
5. Environmental Planning
6. Building Regulation
7. Environmental Services and Community Amenities
8. Recreation and Culture
9. Transport
10. Local Economy
11. Water Cycle

This section should be read in conjunction with Council's Quarterly Operational Budget Reviews which outline how Council is tracking against allocated budgets.

Under Council's Community Strategic Plan, the 11 Key Strategic Directions are embellished with 31 Objectives, which are subsequently supported by some 58 Strategies. The 58 Strategies are carried through into the 4 year Delivery Plan and allocated across the organisation with specific tasks, programs or actions for which their progress is reported on through a 6 monthly review report.

The Operational Plan and 4 Year Delivery Program can be found on Council's website at:

- 2022/23 to 2025/26 Delivery Program: <https://www.nambucca.nsw.gov.au/delivery-program-2022-23-2025-26>
- 2023/24 Operational Plan and 2023/24 to 2032/33 Long Term Financial Plan: <https://www.nambucca.nsw.gov.au/files/assets/public/v/4/council/complianceformspolicies-amp-reporting/integrated-planning-amp-reporting/operational-plan-delivery-program-and-long-term-financial-plan-2023-2024-to-2032-2033.pdf>

## HOW TO USE THE DELIVERY PROGRAM

The Delivery Program is built on the 4 themes that are the foundation of the Community Strategic Plan (CSP) – from these themes key strategic directions have been identified to deliver the CSP objectives. Each of these strategic directions is supported by Council programs that are detailed in the Delivery Program (this document) and funded through the Operational Plan (budget).



### CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

- Civic Leadership and Administration
- Risk Management
- Sustainable Energy Use
- Public Order and Safety - Community Safety
- Companion Animal Welfare
- Public Health - Safe Food
- Public Health - Clean Water
- Personal Health & Wellbeing



### CARING FOR OUR ENVIRONMENT

- Well Planned Communities
- Building Regulation
- Environmental Services & Community Amenities:
  - Waste Management
  - Environmental Protection
  - Cemeteries
  - Biodiversity



### LIVING WELL

- Recreation & Culture:
  - Culture, Arts & Heritage
  - Meeting Places
  - Active Recreation
- Community Sport & Education:
  - A Connected Community
  - Engaged Youth
- Healthy Ageing
- Cultural Diversity & Indigenous Culture



### PROMOTING PROSPERITY

- Local Economy
- Transport Accessibility
- Public Transport
- A Sustainable Water Cycle:
  - Water Management
  - Sewerage Services



# THEME ONE

## CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

*Our community will be  
a safe, healthy place to  
live where everyone is  
valued.*



# NAMBUCCA VALLEY DELIVERY PROGRAM 2022/2023 – 2025/2026

## THEME 1 - CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

**OBJECTIVE - OUR COMMUNITY WILL BE A SAFE, HEALTHY PLACE WHERE EVERYONE IS VALUED**

| PROGRAMS & RELATED STRATEGIES   |
|---|
| <b>Civic Leadership and administration</b> - Council engages the community in the process of open government. Public participation is encouraged not only in policy development and major decisions, but in the day to day operations of the Council.               |
| <b>Sustainable Delivery of Services</b> - Council delivers services that reflect the priorities of the community and makes best use of the available resources.   |
| <b>Risk Management</b> - Council will identify and manage risks likely to have a material impact on the organisation's ability to achieve its mission and objectives.   |
| <b>Sustainable Energy Use</b> - Nambucca Valley Council will provide community leadership in sustainable energy use.  |
| <b>Public order and Safety - Community Safety</b> - The Nambucca Valley shall foster communities where people feel safe and secure.   |
| <b>Companion Animal Welfare</b> - Companion Animals will be proactively managed to ensure the community's safety and high standard of animal welfare.   |
| <b>Public Health - Safe Food</b> - The Nambucca Valley Council will guard against illness caused by unhealthy food by promoting and enforcing food hygiene standards  |
| <b>Public Health - Clean Water</b> - Council will improve healthy waterways though promoting and implementing where possible the protection of riparian areas and minimising pollution sources.   |
| <b>Personal Health and Wellbeing</b> - Council will seek to improve the overall health and wellbeing of the community of the Nambucca Valley by supporting public health initiatives, and advocating for improved health services and supporting age care services. |

| Civic Leadership and Administration - Actions  | Lead Responsibility  | Success Measure  | Status as at 30 June 2024   |
|--|--|--|---|
| <p>CC1<br/>Using a variety of tools, engage with the community in ways that are accessible and transparent</p> | <p>General Manager<br/>Directors<br/>Councillors<br/>Community Development Officer</p> | <p>Continue to liaise with Council Advisory Committees and Section 355 committees to provide advice on policy areas and attend their meetings when required.</p> | <p>Attendance by staff and Councillors at S355 AGM's and when required at other meetings. Volunteer engagement session held 23.10.23</p>  |
|  | <p>Director Corporate Services</p>   | <p>Public forums and delegations are utilised by residents at Council meetings.</p>  | <p>Delegations attended and public forums held at Council meetings.</p>   |
|  | <p>Director Corporate Services</p>   | <p>Council meetings held throughout the Valley subject to COVID and Webcast restrictions.</p>  | <p>Meetings in 2023/24 were held at Valla Rural Community Hall, Girralong Fire Shed, Eungai Soldier's Memorial Hall, Utungun Community Hall, and Scotts Head Surf Life Saving Club.</p> |
|  | <p>Manager ICT</p>   | <p>Open access to information held by Council is provided annually.</p>  | <p>Information provided to community members during the year.</p>   |
|  | <p>Director Corporate Services</p>   | <p>Bi-ennial independent Community Satisfaction Surveys are undertaken.</p>  | <p>Community Satisfaction Survey undertaken in February 2024.</p>   |
|  | <p>Manager ICT</p>   | <p>Increase in the number of persons accessing Council's Facebook, Instagram and Antenno sites.</p>  | <p>Facebook/Instagram Page visits increased by 35% for 12 months ending 30.6.24.<br/><br/>Antenno App users increased from 187 to 577 in 2023-2024</p>                                  |

| Civic Leadership and Administration - Actions   | Lead Responsibility   | Success Measure   | Status as at 30 June 2024   |
|---|---|---|---|
| CC2 Use information from the community in decision making                             | <p>General Manager<br/>Directors</p> <p>Director Corporate Services</p> | <p>Submissions on DA's, Strategies, Plans, Policies etc. are reported to Council.</p> <p>A presentation is made to Council on the results of the Community Satisfaction Survey.</p> | <p>DAs with submissions are reported to each Council meeting; with submissions relating to other matters reported when being dealt with.</p> <p>Survey results presented to Council at the 16 May 2024 Council meeting.</p>   |
| CC3 - Keep the community informed of the decisions, key issues and actions of Council | General Manager<br>Directors  | Council's website, media opportunities, newsletters and direct personal communications are utilised to inform stakeholders and the community.                                       | <p>Council reports and minutes of meetings posted on website. Webcast of meetings placed on website, agenda for next Council meeting placed on Facebook, and Council meeting announcements on Antenno mobile app. Council Facebook/Instagram page and Antenno mobile app updated with regular articles.</p> <p>Media releases on website and distributed to media outlets. Various television, radio and newspaper articles on Council activities occurred throughout the year. Maintenance grading and other construction activities being communicated on Antenno</p> |



| Civic Leadership and Administration - Actions | Lead Responsibility  | Success Measure   | Status as at 30 June 2024   |
|---|--|---|---|
| CC4 Maintain an effective governance regime   | <p>General Manager<br/>Directors<br/>Chief Financial Officer<br/>Manager Human Resources</p> <p>Manager Development &amp; Environment</p> <p>Director Corporate Services</p> | <p>Integrated Planning and Reporting requirements met including Community Strategic Plan, Asset Management Plans, Long Term Financial Plan and Workforce Management Strategy.</p> <p>Policies are reviewed on a regular basis and advertised for community comment where required.</p> <p>An effective Internal Audit Function is Maintained.</p> | <p>All requirements met.</p> <p>2023/24 reviewed policies include; Social Media, Privacy Management Plan, and Liquid Trade Waste. New policies: Data Breach, Public Interest Disclosures, and Land Acquisition policies.</p> <p>Internal audit function operating with three independent members. Review of contract management, project management, grants management and records management undertaken in 2023/24. Enterprise Risk Management plan updated for Cabomba Weed risk, Heavy Vehicle National Law requirements, Verification of Competency requirements, and Artificial Intelligence Risk. Internal Audit Charter and Revised Terms of Reference adopted to comply with new OLG requirements. 2024 Audit Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) Work Plan adopted to comply with new OLG requirements</p> |

| Civic Leadership and Administration - Actions | Lead Responsibility | Success Measure | Status as at 30 June 2024   |
|---|---------------------|-----------------|---|
|   |                     |                 | 2024 Audit Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) Work Plan adopted to comply with new OLG requirements. Asset Management Framework reviewed. Information and Communication Technology Incident reviews undertaken. Review of Council's Statement of Business Ethics, Investment Policy and Investment Strategy undertaken. Audit Risk and Improvement Committee 4-year ARIC Work Plan 2024 to 2027 adopted. |

| Sustainable Service Delivery - Actions  | Lead Responsibility                                     | Success Measure   | Status as at 30 June 2024   |
|---|---|---|---|
| CC5<br>Identify and implement initiatives to improve financial sustainability | General Manager<br>Directors<br>Chief Financial Officer | Operational Revenue increases – new avenues to raise revenue are developed. | Funding from grants continues to be successful. Council has applied for major funding from TfNSW for natural disasters and has with linked this funding to Councils renewal program to improve long term asset performance. Council has completed work with banking institutions to terminate low yielding investments. All low yielding investments that can be redeemed, have been and are now reinvested gaining higher yields and assisting with investment revenue |

| Sustainable Service Delivery - Actions            | Lead Responsibility | Success Measure   | Status as at 30 June 2024   |
|---|---------------------|---|---|
|   |                     | <p>Financial sustainability indicators are met, including minimum Working Funds level.</p> <p>Initiatives identified to reduce operational costs</p>  | <p>Funding from grants continues to be successful. Council has applied for major funding from TfNSW for natural disasters and has with linked this funding to Councils renewal program to improve long term asset performance. Council has completed work with banking institutions to terminate low yielding investments. All low yielding investments that can be redeemed, have been and are now reinvested gaining higher yields and assisting with investment revenue</p> <p>Initiatives identified to reduce operational costs. Council has implemented a new Budgeting tool that has improved the financial management of Councils income and expenditure.</p> |
| CC6 - Use of effective asset management practices | Manager Assets      | <p>Periodic review of the Asset Management Policy and Strategy to ensure the objectives still align with Council's asset management practices.</p> <p>Maintaining the currency and improving the accuracy of Council's information on assets.</p> <p>Development and periodic review of Asset Management Plans with outputs to be considered in Council's Long-Term Financial Plan.</p> | <p>Allocation in 2024/25 budget to outsource the development of Councils Asset Management plans.</p> <p>Draft Asset Management Policy has been developed for Council Approval</p>   |

| Sustainable Service Delivery - Actions   | Lead Responsibility  | Success Measure  | Status as at 30 June 2024  |
|--|--|--|--|
| <p>CC7<br/>Embrace a culture of continuous improvement including the best utilisation of the human resources, reviews of what and how services are delivered with a view to improvement of processes and the embracing of new technologies</p> | <p>General Manager<br/>Directors<br/>Manager Human Resources<br/>Manager Development &amp; Environment</p> | <p>Innovation Register is maintained and staff initiatives are investigated and considered.</p> <p>Service level reviews are undertaken each year.<br/>2022-23 – Roads, Town Planning, Libraries<br/>2023-24 – Biosecurity, Public Toilets, Animal Control<br/>2024-25 – Sporting Grounds, Parks &amp; Gardens, Public Halls, Environmental Protection<br/>2025-26 – Ancillary Roadworks (Kerb &amp; Gutter, Stormwater drainage, Parking Control, Street Lighting, Traffic Facilities), Footpaths &amp; Cycleways, Aged &amp; Disabled.</p> | <p>Innovation Register (CM10 29851/2019) updates are a standing agenda item on Management monthly meetings. Register updated for Use of StarLink for internet access at Nambucca Heads STP, Gumma Reserve and Bowraville Dam where internet access is not available via normal services and updated Beach Permits System. Implementation of application forms online embedded process where payment is taken on submission for Building records searches, GIPA and animal adoptions this results in reduced staff time for processing.</p> <p>Service Reviews undertaken on Roads, Town Planning, and Libraries by Morrison Low consultants. Report on recommendations from review presented to 24 November 2022 Council meeting. Managements response to recommendations presented to 23 February 2023 Council meeting. 2023/24 Service Reviews awarded to Centium Pty Ltd. Report on recommendations from review presented to 30 May 2024 Council meeting. Managements response to recommendations including progress updates presented to 29 August 2024 Council meeting.</p> |



| Sustainable Service Delivery - Actions | Lead Responsibility                               | Success Measure  | Status as at 30 June 2024  |
|--|---|--|--|
|  | <p>Manager Human Resources</p> <p>Manager ICT</p> | <p>Workforce development and redesign processes reviewed and improved</p> <p>New technology adopted.</p> | <p>Revised organisation structure adopted 15 December 2023.</p> <p>Electronic timesheets fully implemented. Combination of new laptops and desktops with improved capabilities. Moving to cloud-based email for improved functionality and reduce on-premises server requirements. Upgrade to latest version of ERP has led to reduced issues. Updated Trapeze (pdf manager/viewer), InfoCouncil (Council reports software). Rebuild of Waste Transfer IT system. New wireless bridge link to Pound. Fibre to new Nambucca Heads Library. Council UHF replacement completed. Dam and Gumma Reserve Trail Cam for security installed. Authority Contract Management Module implemented. Staged replacement of monitors occurring. Starlink internet at Nambucca Heads STP for improved access during bad weather implemented.</p> |



| Risk Management - Actions   | Lead Responsibility  | Success Measure   | Status as at 30 June 2024   |
|---|--|---|---|
| CC10 - Implement technologies and make decisions to reduce Council's greenhouse gas emissions | General Manager<br>Directors<br>Manager<br>Development and Environment | Initiatives implemented that reduce Council's carbon footprint.   | Councils Renewable Energy Action Plan is being implemented. Hybrid vehicles are now available for Council purchase and staff leaseback through the Approved Vehicle List. |
| CC11<br>Make information available to the community to help reduce energy use                 | Manager<br>Development and Environment                                 | Provide links on Council's website to reputable websites that provide information on sustainable energy use and Government objectives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. | Links are on website.   |

| Community Safety - Actions                           | Lead Responsibility                              | Success Measure   | Status as at 30 June 2024   |
|--|--|---|---|
| CC12<br>Provide support for local emergency services | General Manager<br>Director Engineering Services | <p>Maintain an effective Local Emergency Management Committee.</p> <p>Provide a presence at the Regional Emergency Management Committee.</p> <p>Maintain the Emergency Management Plan and Sub Plans</p> <p>Continue to lobby for the construction of a flood free Emergency Operations Centre.</p> | <p>Committee formed and is operating.</p> <p>A major review of the EMPlan and Consequence Management Guides have commenced.</p> <p>Budget allocated to undertake scoping study for a proposed new site.</p> |

| Community Safety - Actions                       | Lead Responsibility           | Success Measure  | Status as at 30 June 2024   |
|--|-------------------------------|--|---|
| CC13<br>Rural Fire Service (RFS) operations      | Director Engineering Services | <p>Maintain an effective RFS Liaison Committee.</p> <p>Fire Trails are funded through the RFS and included in the annual budget</p>  | <p>Quarterly meetings are held.</p> <p>Trails and APZs managed as required.</p>   |
| CC14<br>Beach safety                             | Director Engineering Services | <p>Contract is managed for Lifeguard services and funded for the December to January Christmas holiday period.</p> <p>Provide effective Ranger Services to regulate use of beaches by 4WD's.</p>   | <p>Lifeguard services have been provided as per contract and a new contract awarded to January 2026.</p> <p>Rangers undertake regular patrols of beaches.</p>   |
| CC15<br>Provide leadership on safety initiatives | Manager Technical Services    | <p>Road safety improvements recommended through the Local Traffic Advisory Committee.</p> <p>Installation of reduced speed zones in high pedestrian areas such as shopping precincts, in addition to high pedestrian "40" areas within the CBDs of Nambucca Heads and Macksville.</p> <p>Installation of traffic calming devices where traffic speeds are too high for the road classification.</p> <p>Construction of off-road footpaths linking schools and destinations for vulnerable pedestrians to the existing footpath networks.</p> | <p>Ongoing through bi monthly Traffic Committee meetings</p> <p>Additional 10km/h shared zone has been installed along Wallace Lane, Macksville.</p> <p>Ongoing on an as needs basis and where existing measures have been removed for road rehab/maintenance.</p> <p>Rolling program through the School Zone Infrastructure Program, additional paths in Scotts Head and Macksville have been installed near schools. Ongoing footpath widening and boardwalk replacement program along the Nambucca River foreshore</p> |



| <b>Community Safety - Actions</b>                    | <b>Lead Responsibility</b>   | <b>Success Measure</b>  | <b>Status as at 30 June 2024</b>   |
|--|--|---|--|
|  | Manager<br>Development &<br>Environment  | In collaboration with the Local Police District, review Section 644 Alcohol Free Zones before their expiry: in Nambucca Heads CBD by 10 January 2027 and Bowraville CBD by 1 June 2025. | Nambucca Heads AFZ review was completed and the Zone was re-established by the due date. Review of the Bowraville AFZ will not commence until early 2025.  |
| CC16<br>Provide leadership on the safety of children | General Manager<br>Directors<br>Manager Human Resources<br>Community Development Officer | Implement the NSW Child Safe Standards  | Reports to Managers forum and Council introducing the Standards have been completed. A Self-Assessment has been done and a plan to implement is being developed in collaboration with the Office of the Children's Guardian. |

| <b>Companion Animal Welfare - Actions</b>  | <b>Lead Responsibility</b>             | <b>Success Measure</b>   | <b>Status as at 30 June 2024</b>  |
|--|--|--|---|
| CC17<br>Manage Companion Animals to ensure the community's safety and improve animal welfare | Manager<br>Development and Environment | Maintain an animal rehoming program.<br><br>Responsible Pet Ownership programs run to assist disadvantaged groups with desexing and registration costs.<br><br>Maintain 'doggy bags and bins" program for the responsible disposal of dog faeces | Animals in Councils pound continue to be rehomed where possible.<br><br>Desexing program run annually<br><br>Provision of doggy bags at popular areas and beaches is ongoing. |
| CC18<br>Provide open spaces where dogs can be exercised                                      | Manager<br>Development and Environment | Maintain and police dog walking and off leash areas  | Rangers undertake regular patrols.  |

| <b>Public Health, Safe Food- Actions</b>  | <b>Lead Responsibility</b>             | <b>Success Measure</b>   | <b>Status as at 30 June 2024</b>  |
|---|--|--|---|
| CC19<br>Effectively license and regulate premises that handle food for public consumption   | Manager<br>Development and Environment | All required premises licenced and routine Inspections completed.<br><br>Effective response to complaints.<br><br>Reduction in warnings, infringements and reported cases of illness caused by unsafe food.  | All premises inspected during prescribed period.<br><br>Nil   |
| <b>Public Health, Clean Water - Actions</b>   | <b>Lead Responsibility</b>             | <b>Success Measure</b>   | <b>Status as at 30 June 2024</b>  |
| CC20<br>Ensure Nambucca waterways will not be contaminated by on-site sewerage systems. This will be achieved by efficient licensing and monitoring regime and effective enforcement of the current standards | Manager<br>Development and Environment | All required on-site sewerage systems licensed/approved.<br><br>All routine Inspections completed.<br><br>Effective response to complaints.<br><br>Reduction in warnings, infringements and reported cases of pollution from on-site sewerage systems. | Approval process through an application.<br><br>Inspection program is ongoing, with failing systems issued prevention notices.<br><br>Nil |
| CC21<br>Protection and restoration of riparian areas as prioritised in the Nambucca Coastal Management Program  | Manager<br>Development and Environment | Depending on grant funding and funding from the Environmental Levy: Projects from the Nambucca Coastal Management Program completed.   | Projects are ongoing and are being completed.   |

| Personal Health and Wellbeing - Actions  | Lead Responsibility                      | Success Measure   | Status as at 30 June 2024   |
|--|--|---|---|
| <p>CC22<br/>Support existing and initiate new public health activities. Specifically advocate to the State Government for improved health services</p> | <p>Council<br/>General Manager</p>       | <p>Effective advocacy for improvements to health facilities and activities.</p> <p>CT scanner at Macksville Hospital is provided.</p> | <p>Breast Screen NSW and Services Australia touring vans used Council roads for community health and communication services.</p> <p>Advised by Mid North Coast Local Health District that the project is currently on the detailed design phase, with an expected completion date of June 2024. Construction is anticipated to be between October 2024 and June 2025.</p> |
| <p>CC23<br/>Work with schools to assist them to deliver health programs to children</p>  | <p>Community<br/>Development Officer</p> | <p>Assist with transport of the Life Education Van.</p> <p>The van is transported in accordance with the school schedule.</p>         | <p>One trip was made in July 2023 to tow the vehicle to Eungai Public School</p>  |

# THEME TWO

## CARING FOR OUR ENVIRONMENT

*Our community values our natural environment and seeks a safe, liveable, sustainable built environment that is adaptive to change.*



## THEME 2 - CARING FOR OUR ENVIRONMENT

**OBJECTIVE - OUR COMMUNITY VALUES OUR NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND SEEKS A SAFE, LIVEABLE, SUSTAINABLE BUILT ENVIRONMENT THAT IS ADAPTIVE TO CHANGE.**

### PROGRAMS & RELATED STRATEGIES

**Well Planned Communities** - Housing across the Nambucca Valley provides choice to its residents.

**Building Regulation (Safe Buildings and Pools)** - Building and swimming pool certification will be achieved in an accurate and timely manner. An effective risk based compliance program for building fire safety and pool safety is maintained.

**Environmental Services and Community Amenities (Waste Management)** - The natural environment will be protected through ensuring cost effective and environmentally responsible management of solid waste.

**Environmental Services and Community Amenities (Environmental Protection)** - Council will seek to protect our natural environment by strategically managing operations and development and regulating activities with environmental impacts

**Environmental Services and Community Amenities (Cemeteries)** - Well maintained cemeteries shall be provided across the Valley.

**Environmental Services and Community Amenities (Biodiversity)** - The biodiversity of the Nambucca Valley will be protected and enhanced.





| Housing - Actions   | Lead Responsibility                    | Success Measure   | Status as at 30 June 2024   |
|---|--|---|---|
| CE1<br>Provide diverse, sustainable, adaptable and affordable housing options through effective land use planning | Manager<br>Development and Environment | There is adequate vacant residential land stock.<br><br>Support for low cost housing. | There remains substantial appropriately zoned land for housing. Contributions are waived for secondary dwellings. |

| Safe Building & Pools- Actions  | Lead Responsibility                    | Success Measure  | Status as at 30 June 2024  |
|---|--|--|--|
| CE2<br>Ensure private pools are of a safe standard  | Manager<br>Development and Environment | All pools in the Valley are certified as complying - building and swimming pool certification will be achieved in an accurate and timely manner.<br><br>An effective risk based compliance program for building fire safety and pool safety is maintained. | Inspections undertaken as part of sale of house and every three years where there is more than one occupancy on the land |
| CE3<br>Ensure private infrastructure and buildings comply with relevant standards and codes | Manager<br>Development and Environment | Council offers a competitive certification service.<br><br>Council maintains an effective compliance program.  | Council provides a competitive certification service, with the compliance program ongoing.                               |
| CE4<br>Ensure Fire Safety regulations are enforced  | Manager<br>Development and Environment | A risk based compliance program for building fire safety is conducted.   | Fire safety certificates policed annually.   |

| Safe Building & Pools-Actions  | Lead Responsibility  | Success Measure  | Status as at 30 June 2024  |
|--|--|--|--|
| <p>CE5<br/>Promote sustainable building practices including energy and water efficiency</p>                    | <p>Manager Development and Environment<br/><br/>Manager Water and Sewerage</p> | <p>Information and assistance on sustainable building practices is made available.<br/><br/>Council subsidises the installation of water tanks.</p>  | <p>BASIX and Part J requirements are mandatory as part of the building process, with information online.<br/><br/>Water tank subsidies are still on offer, with sustainable measures available on Council website.</p>   |
| <p>CE6<br/>Provide an efficient and effective waste management facility that meets environmental standards</p> | <p>Waste Services Coordinator</p>  | <p>Undertake groundwater and surface water testing to meet licensing requirements.<br/><br/>Undertake pollution studies, reduction programs and necessary actions to meet licensing requirements.</p>  | <p>Groundwater and surface water monitoring and testing are undertaken monthly, quarterly and during rain events to meet EPA licensing requirements.<br/><br/>Pollution reduction programs are undertaken as required to meet EPA licensing requirements.</p>  |
| <p>CE7<br/>Plan the future extension of the waste facility</p>   | <p>Waste Services Coordinator</p>  | <p>Additional adjoining Forestry land is secured for the future expansion of the facility.<br/><br/>Plan for the future extension of waste cells within the existing facility and have plans prepared for the construction and rehabilitation of landfill cells in accordance with EPA guidelines.</p> | <p>Unable to secure adjoining Forestry land due to environmental factors.<br/><br/>Design plans for the construction and rehabilitation of new and completed landfill cells are current and approvals sought from the EPA in accordance with licensing requirements and are executed as planned.</p> |

| Safe Building & Pools-<br>Actions  | Lead Responsibility                 | Success Measure   | Status as at 30 June 2024   |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| CE8<br>Provide kerbside collection of separated domestic mixed waste materials | Waste Services Coordinator          | Management of the kerbside waste collection contract to provide a cost effective and reliable kerbside collection of waste. | 3 bin (red/yellow/green) kerbside collection is provided to domestic properties located on the collection route.<br><br>Annual scheduled collection of kerbside bulky goods for domestic properties located on the collection route.<br><br>Tipping voucher provided to domestic properties located beyond the kerbside collection route. |
| CE9<br>Implement waste minimisation strategies                                 | Waste Services Coordinator          | Waste minimisation education program delivered to encourage waste separation at the residence.                              | Source separation of waste enforced.<br><br>Waste minimisation Education Programs delivered via domestic collection contract and Midwaste<br><br>Advanced waste processing to minimise amount of waste going to landfill.   |
| CE10<br>Minimise illegal dumping of waste                                      | Manager Development and Environment | Reduced instances of illegal dumping.<br><br>Successful prosecution of illegal dumping offenders.                           | Continual occurrences become evident which are investigated.<br><br>Fines are issued where offender is identified.  |

| Environmental Protection - Actions  | Lead Responsibility  | Success Measure   | Status as at 30 June 2024   |
|---|--|---|---|
| CE11<br>Protect against deliberate damage on public land                              | Manager Assets   | Tree protection policy enforced.  | Provisions of the Tree Vandalism Policy have not been required to be enforced. No active investigations.  |
| CE12<br>Support community organisations undertaking natural resource management       | Engineering services<br>Grants & Contributions Officer<br>Environmental Project Officer<br>Green Space Coordinator | Support Landcare, Dunecare and wetlands projects.<br><br>Co-ordinated projects with North Coast Local Land Services and NSW Department of Primary Industries.   | The identification and control of the Tropical Soda Apple and Parthenium Weed is continuing with use of the funding obtained, in addition to post flood weed management activities in the riparian zones.                           |
| CE13<br>Develop management plans for environmentally sensitive areas                  | Environmental Project Officer  | Certification of Coastal Management Program.<br><br>Lodgement of grant applications for funding actions listed in the Coastal Management Program.<br><br>Implementation of actions in certified Coastal Management Program. | CMP is now certified.<br><br>Grant funding applications have been successful to implement some actions from the CMP.  |
| CE14<br>Floodplain management – Develop grant applications and manage funded programs | Environmental Project Officer  | Manage Voluntary House Raising projects as funding becomes available.   | Grant funding not obtained for program under previous application.<br><br>Council has a list of properties who have expressed interest in being part of a Voluntary House Raising program ready for when funding becomes available. |

| Biodiversity - Actions  | Lead Responsibility                  | Success Measure  | Status as at 30 June 2024  |
|---|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| <p>CE15<br/>Monitor, inspect and control invasive Plant Species as per the Biosecurity Act requirements</p> | <p>Green Space Coordinator</p>       | <p>Control of invasive plant species according to the regional weeds management plan requirements and other environmentally hazardous invasive plant species.</p> <p>Education program on noxious weeds.</p> | <p>Ongoing invasive plant identification and control in place on both public and private lands. High priority weed species under active management including Tropical Soda Apple, Water Lettuce and Parthenium Weed infestations, to contain and prevent spread.</p> <p>Education and awareness programs in place, including calendar distribution and fact sheet distribution when performing private land inspections. Working cooperatively with the NSW DPI, NCLLS, National Parks and Forest NSW in the management of invasive plant species, including the procurement and distribution of approved biological control agents for some invasive species.</p> |
| <p>CE16<br/>Deliver projects funded under the Environmental Levy and related environmental grants</p>       | <p>Environmental Project Officer</p> | <p>Implementation of projects including:<br/>Water quality monitoring</p> <p>Indian Myna bird eradication</p>  | <p>Water quality monitoring program is being developed with assistance from EPA to take a catchment scale approach and test for Pesticides in surface waters</p> <p>Indian Myna Bird Program was being run by Nambucca Valley Landcare (NVL) but has been handed back to Council. Contractor engaged to make traps for the program that Council can lend to willing members of the community. Currently three traps have been lent out and 5 more requests to fill.</p>  |

| Biodiversity - Actions | Lead Responsibility | Success Measure  | Status as at 30 June 2024  |
|------------------------|---------------------|--|--|
|                        |                     | Riverbank erosion rehabilitation                         | Council has two funded projects to implement, co-funding one with NVL. Liaising with DPI to secure funds for other priority sites.   |
|                        |                     | Heritage assistance                                      | Projects allocated and funded in accordance with funding guidelines.   |
|                        |                     | CBD and public reserve<br>Landscaping and revitalisation | Public reserves are maintained on a regular basis.   |
|                        |                     | Climate change adaption planning and implementation      | Solar being installed at Nambucca Heads Sewer Treatment Plant, research into EV chargers as resolved by Council and backed by Clean Energy Committee meetings.   |
|                        |                     | Flying Fox camp management                               | Continuing through control of invasive weeds that emerge in understory due to tree canopy destruction by Flying Fox's. Trees near to urban area at Taylors Arm Flying Fox colony were removed due to drinking water concerns. Flying Foxes have returned further away from town. |
|                        |                     | Bird control at Dawkins lake                             | Land bridge constructed and trees removed to minimise water quality impacts.   |



| Biodiversity - Actions | Lead Responsibility | Success Measure         | Status as at 30 June 2024  |
|------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|--|
|                        |                     | Noxious weed control    | Being undertaken and a percentage used as in-kind to Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water grant for bush regeneration in coastal reserves \$218,000 project over 3 years. |
|                        |                     | De-sexing cats and dogs | Desexing program undertaken within budget allocation.  |

| Cemeteries - Actions  | Lead Responsibility                 | Success Measure   | Status as at 30 June 2024   |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| CE17 Effectively and efficiently manage, maintain and administer cemeteries across the Valley | Manager Development and Environment | Affordable and efficient interment administrative services provided.<br><br>Cemeteries respectfully maintained.<br><br>Plan of management implemented for each cemetery | Cemeteries are regularly maintained through mowing, brush-cutting and rubbish collection. |

| Public Conveniences - Actions   | Lead Responsibility | Success Measure   | Status as at 30 June 2024  |
|---|---------------------|---|--|
| CE18 Maintain and clean public toilets  | Manager Assets      | Contractor is fulfilling their obligations.                                 | New Cleaning Of Public Amenities contract established. Ongoing monitoring of cleaning, plumbing, electrical and vandalism trades and associated works. |
| CE19 Complaints about public toilets are managed through Council's Datascape Customer Relationship System | Manager Assets      | An annual report is prepared to identify locations with frequent complaints | Service requests are attended in accordance with risk management protocols, financial allocations and service response times.                          |

# THEME THREE LIVING WELL

*We will support one  
another for the wellbeing  
of our community.*



### THEME 3 - LIVING WELL

#### OBJECTIVE - WE WILL SUPPORT ONE ANOTHER FOR THE WELLBEING OF OUR COMMUNITY

##### PROGRAMS & RELATED STRATEGIES

**Recreation and Culture** - Nambucca Valley Council will actively support cultural services, the arts and the preservation of our local heritage

**Recreation and Culture** - Meeting Places will be provided across the Valley to support an inclusive community.

**Recreation and Culture** - The Nambucca Valley will have a variety of safe and well-maintained sporting fields, recreational areas and facilities to meet needs of all age groups in the community.

**Community support and education** - Council will seek to foster a community that is mutually self-supporting and proud of its identity and will regularly engage with all segments of the community across the Valley

**Healthy Ageing** - The Nambucca community will seek to support healthy ageing both physical and psychological.

**Community support and education** - The Nambucca Valley will promote an understanding and respect for the Valley's Indigenous Culture and Heritage



| Cultural Activities - Actions                                  | Lead Responsibility                  | Success Measure  | Status as at 30 June 2024   |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| <p>LW1<br/>Continued involvement with Arts Mid North Coast</p> | <p>Community Development Officer</p> | <p>Council representation on the Board of Arts Mid North Coast.</p> <p>Programs delivered by the Arts Mid North Coast in the Valley.</p> | <p>Cr Jenvey continues to represent Council.</p> <p>The Community Development Officer will continue to attend meetings and work with Arts Mid North Coast to identify opportunities for collaboration for stakeholders in the Nambucca Valley. Director Corporate Services (DCS) in May 2024 attended the ASYIK Indonesian Arts &amp; Cultural Festival at Scotts Head which Arts Mid North Coast were involved in delivering. DCS also met with Art Mid North Coast in August 2023 to discuss the impacts of the NSW Cultural Policy and attended the Arts Mid North Coast hosted Creative Futures- Networking Event in Coffs Harbour in April 2024.</p> |
| <p>LW2<br/>Support Local museums</p>                           | <p>Community Development Officer</p> | <p>Museums continue to operate successfully.</p> <p>Attract new volunteers and visitors.</p>   | <p>Council participates in the Museum Advisor Program which is co-funded with Museums &amp; Galleries NSW. Monthly visits by the Advisor have taken place (except for December 2022). Local operators like the Frank Partridge VC Military Museum and Mary Boulton Pioneer Cottage and Museum report that the program is very worthwhile and beneficial</p>   |

| Cultural Activities - Actions                          | Lead Responsibility           | Success Measure   | Status as at 30 June 2024   |
|--|-------------------------------|---|---|
| LW3<br>Investigate / Promote public art and street art | Community Development Officer | Public art and street art incorporated into redevelopment of commercial areas                         | <p>The main focus on public art is through the Nambucca Heads river foreshore project. The Council has received \$2.450m from the Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund (BLERF) for a range of projects to upgrade and activate the iconic foreshore walk from the Visitor Information Centre to the eastern extent of the V-Wall. This project includes funding for art and place making.</p> <p>The project is progressing under the guidance of the Public Art Advisory Panel. A Department of Regional NSW Officer walked the footpaths to view art installations pre 30 June 2024.</p> |
| LW4<br>Implement the Library Strategy                  | Senior Librarian              | Review progress on the Library Strategic Plan implementation and provide an annual report to Council. | A review was provided to council on the final year of the library strategic plan. The plan ran from 2018-2022 and we are now working toward a new strategic plan for the library  |

| Meeting Places - Actions  | Lead Responsibility | Success Measure   | Status as at 30 June 2024   |
|---|---------------------|---|---|
| LW5<br>Maintain public buildings where justified by community use | Manager Assets      | Public buildings are safe, clean and fit for purpose and serve to support community health and wellbeing. | Ongoing liaison with Section 355 Committees to both maintain and enhance community buildings.<br><br>Annual fire and pest inspections completed.<br><br>Bi-ennial Safe Working at Heights inspections e.g. anchor points completed. |

| Active Recreational Activities- Actions  | Lead Responsibility   | Success Measure  | Status as at 30 June 2024   |
|--|---|--|---|
| LW6<br>Maintain Sporting Facilities – Ovals, skate parks, tennis courts, netball courts, basketball courts, fitness trails | Community Development Officer<br><br>Manager Assets Grants & Contributions Officer<br><br>Facilities Co-ordinator | Section 355 Committee's established to assist Council in managing sporting facilities.<br><br>Community sport, play and health is supported through a well-maintained network of recreation and sporting facilities. | There has been no change to the management of Sporting Facilities, although all Council netball and tennis courts are now under licence with incorporated associations managing them. A Plan of Management is in development for the Taylors Arm Sports Precinct.<br><br>Sport, Recreation and Leisure Grant opportunities are regularly applied for and works completed when funding becomes available. Safety and maintenance inspection program implemented. |



| Active Recreational Activities- Actions  | Lead Responsibility                             | Success Measure   | Status as at 30 June 2024  |
|--|---|---|--|
| <p>LW7<br/>Provide an aquatic and fitness centre for the community's benefit</p> | <p>Manager Economic Development and Tourism</p> | <p>Work with Contract operator of Macksville Memorial Aquatic and Fitness Centre (MMAFC) to deliver affordable and popular gym and swimming programs.<br/>Effectively manage and maintain the Centre within the agreed budget.<br/>Work with the contractor to implement grant funded upgrades.<br/>Prepare tender documents by December 2022.</p> <p>A new contract will commence July 2023.</p> | <p>New contract for management of the MMAFC commenced 1 July 2023 and expires 30 June 2028. Various meetings post 1 July 2023 have been held with the contractor to ensure that both Council and the contractor are performing according to contract requirements.</p> <p>No work had commenced on the Community Assets Program grant funded works for MMAFC Roof Replacement as at 30 June 2024</p> |
| <p>LW8<br/>Provide a primitive campground at Gumma Reserve</p>                   | <p>Manager Economic Development and Tourism</p> | <p>Manage contract caretaker.</p> <p>Manage and maintain the asset.</p> <p>An annual increase in income (subject to natural disasters and the pandemic).</p>  | <p>New caretaker contract awarded in March 2024 for 12 month period.</p> <p>Busy Christmas holiday period with no extensive rain periods. Cameras have been installed to control bad conduct by campers. New WIFI aerial installed to allow for fee collection via EFTPOS.</p> <p>Fees and charges for 2024/25 adopted increases to Gumma Fees.</p>  |

| Active Recreational Activities- Actions | Lead Responsibility     | Success Measure   | Status as at 30 June 2024   |
|---|-------------------------|---|---|
| LW9<br>Operate and Maintain Open Spaces | Green Space Coordinator | <p>Open Spaces effectively and efficiency maintained to service levels agreed with the community.</p> <p>Work with and support community volunteers and community work schemes to maintain and improve open spaces.</p> | <p>Mowing and maintenance activities tailored to user groups of open spaces, wherever possible including cricket, touch football, soccer, AFL, athletics and other sporting groups.</p> <p>Constantly working with voluntary committees and individual volunteers to improve open space facilities for user groups.</p> |

| Connected Communities - Actions  | Lead Responsibility   | Success Measure   | Status as at 30 June 2024  |
|--|---|---|--|
| LW10<br>Work with S355 Committees to deliver social and community infrastructure | General Manager<br>Director Corporate Services<br>Community Development Officer | <p>S355 committees operating successfully and fulfilling their charters.</p> <p>Projects and events delivered in co-operation with S355 committees.</p> | <p>Committees operating within their Charter. Incorporated Associations provided with licences to manage and maintain facilities in lieu of Section 355 Committee status.</p> <p>Community events supported through Section 355's include - monthly Valla Beach markets, monthly art and craft workshops-Utungun/South Arm Halls, weekly farmers markets-Eungai Hall.</p> <p>Council actively delivers both administrative and professional development support for its s355 Committees.</p> |

| Connected Communities<br>- Actions  | Lead Responsibility                       | Success Measure   | Status as at 30 June 2024  |
|---|---|---|--|
| <p>LW11<br/>Auspice Grant Funding and provide grant writing support</p>                     | <p>Grants &amp; Contributions Officer</p> | <p>Grant funds obtained.<br/><br/>Grants auspiced on behalf of community organisations as required</p>  | <p>Numerous grants have been obtained for upgrades at community centres, halls and facilities. Some have been obtained as part of Council submitted grants, and other small from organisations such as Foundation for Regional and Rural Renewal (FRRR) and Museums and Galleries NSW.</p> <p>Committees of Management (CoM's) such as Taylors Arm Hall; Unkya Reserve; Valla Beach Community Association; Utungun Hall, and Headland Museum have been successful, to name a few.</p> <p>Worked with several CoM's and community groups in submission of grant applications and provided letters of support.</p> |
| <p>LW12<br/>Promote social equity with equal opportunities for access and participation</p> | <p>Community Development Officer</p>      | <p>The Access Committee functions effectively and recommendations are passed to Council.</p> <p>An annual report on implementation of the Disability Inclusion Action Plan is completed and submitted with the Annual Report.</p> | <p>The Access Committee met in August, September, November 2023 and then February, April and June 2024.</p> <p>A new DIAP for 2022-2026 was submitted with the Annual Report by the required deadline. A review of the 2022-2026 DIAP has been completed</p>   |

| Connected Communities<br>- Actions   | Lead Responsibility                               | Success Measure   | Status as at 30 June 2024  |
|--|---|---|--|
| LW13<br>Volunteers in the community are recognised and encouraged.   | Community Development Officer<br>Senior Librarian | Successful volunteers program in Libraries and Museums.   | Whilst a formal volunteer program is not being conducted, support for new and existing volunteers occurs through the Museum Advisor Program. Council is actively delivering Safety Training for management committees and the volunteers. Library volunteers are rewarded for their efforts with an annual thank you lunch or breakfast.   |
| LW14<br>Provide opportunities at local libraries to showcase local creative talent e.g. art displays, supporting author talks and live entertainment | Senior Librarian                                  | <p>Number of author talks and events facilitated.</p> <p>Number of participants.</p> <p>Number of arts displays hosted.</p> | <p>In 2023/24 there were 4 author information talks, 1 workshop and 6 Seniors events and info sessions, 7 e-safety webinars, 13 children and family events and 8 general library events.</p> <p>In 2023/24 there were 435 participants.</p> <p>In 2023/24 there were 2 Art and craft displays from local craft group. The craft group have a regular display at Nambucca and Macksville Libraries which is refreshed periodically.</p> |
| LW15<br>Provide online access through library services by utilizing current and emerging technologies  | Senior Librarian                                  | <p>Number of Internet sessions</p> <p>Number of Wi-Fi sessions</p>  | <p>4,775 for year 2023/2024</p> <p>2,265 for year 2023/2024</p>  |

| Connected Communities<br>- Actions   | Lead Responsibility                                      | Success Measure   | Status as at 30 June 2024  |
|--|--|---|--|
| <p>LW16<br/>Enhance access to the library collections and maintain its relevance</p>   | <p>Senior Librarian</p>                                  | <p>Number of new items purchased</p> <p>Age of the collection</p> <p>Number of library loans</p> <p>Number of library visits</p>  | <p>2,865 for year 2023/2024</p> <p>As at 30 June 2024 - 41.7% acquired in the last five years, 78.43% acquired in the last ten years.</p> <p>65,675 (all formats) for year 2023/2024</p> <p>63,662 for year 2023/2024</p>  |
| <p>LW17<br/>Work with telecommunications providers to improve mobile phone and internet availability in rural and remote areas</p> | <p>Manager Information and Communications Technology</p> | <p>Installation of a Macro telecommunications tower at South Arm.</p> <p>Installation of pole antennas at Burrapine Hall and in Valla Beach.</p> <p>Installation of the NBN at Girralong RFS, Taylors Arm RFS, South Arm Hall and Burrapine Hall.</p> | <p>Completed and tower activated by due date for completion;</p> <p>Valla beach completed June 2024. Burrapine no construction date scheduled as yet.</p> <p>All NBN installations completed 2022. Additional Wi-Fi calling functionality installed at Girralong RFS June 2024</p> |



| Engaged Youth - Actions   | Lead Responsibility                  | Success Measure   | Status as at 30 June 2024   |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| <p>LW18<br/>Providing support for young people throughout the Valley</p>  | <p>Community Development Officer</p> | <p>Youth Week is supported.</p> <p>Provide learning or social development activities for young people during school holidays.</p> | <p>Youth Week was held 11 to 21 April 2024 with 10 activities being directly supported with Youth Week funding run over the Autumn School Holidays.</p> <p>Council attends a number of regular forums who support youth across the Valley. For example, Coffs Coast Action Group aims to provide post invention support for those impacted by suicide. Work commenced on the possibility of forming a Youth Council. Regular attendance at Youth Interagency meetings occurring. Preparation works commenced for the Youth Speak Forum to be held in July 2024.</p> |
| <p>LW19<br/>Develop and deliver a program of library events targeted at young people to meet their leisure, learning and social interaction needs</p> | <p>Senior Librarian</p>              | <p>Number of events held.</p> <p>Attendance at events.</p>  | <p>In 2023/24 there were 13 School holiday events for young people. Regular story-times at both libraries</p> <p>In 2023/24 there were 315 event attendees and 238 story-time attendees.</p>  |

| Healthy Ageing - Actions                                    | Lead Responsibility                                       | Success Measure   | Status as at 30 June 2024  |
|---|---|---|--|
| <p>LW20<br/>Provide services to seniors and the elderly</p> | <p>Community Development Officer<br/>Senior Librarian</p> | <p>Seniors Week is supported.</p> <p>Number of items held in the Library large print and audio book collections.</p> <p>Provision of technology workshops and learning opportunities for seniors.</p> <p>Number of seniors assisted by the Home Library Service</p> | <p>Council's annual Seniors Week luncheon was held Tuesday 19 March 2024 and was well attended. There were information tables promoting various government, leisure, transport and care services. Planning is underway for Seniors Week in 2025.</p> <p>At 30 June 2024 there are 5274 items in Large Print and Audio Book collections, as well as e-Books and e-Audio books on three platforms.</p> <p>Library holds tech help sessions for seniors run with the support of TAFE technology teachers at both branches.</p> <p>A Home Library Service is delivered monthly to 51 housebound members.</p> |

| Cultural Diversity - Actions  | Lead Responsibility  | Success Measure  | Status as at 30 June 2024   |
|---|--|--|---|
| <p>LW21<br/>Promote an understanding and respect for the Valley's Indigenous Culture and Heritage</p> | <p>General Manager<br/>Director Corporate Services<br/>Community Development Officer</p> | <p>Engage in consultation on culturally sensitive issues.</p> <p>Assistance is given for the establishment of an Aboriginal Keeping Place.</p> | <p>The Local Aboriginal Community is well represented with two Gumbaynggirr Councillors serving on Council as at 30.6.24</p> <p>Council has contributed the land for the Aboriginal Keeping Place in Dawkins Park Macksville.</p> |

| Cultural Diversity - Actions | Lead Responsibility | Success Measure  | Status as at 30 June 2024  |
|------------------------------|---------------------|--|--|
|                              |                     | <p>21 Riverside Drive is reinstated as a cultural site of significance.</p> <p>Saltwater Freshwater Festival is held within the Nambucca Valley.</p> <p>The Bellwood sacred site is declared and an Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA) entered into.</p> <p>An Aboriginal Liaison Committee is established to facilitate communication between Council and the Local Aboriginal Land Councils on health, housing and employment.</p> | <p>The plaques and stone work have all been completed at 21 Riverside Drive. The next stage will be Aboriginal murals on the boundary fence.</p> <p>The Salt Water Fresh Water Festival last run in the local government area in 2022.</p> <p>Several meetings have been had with Local Aboriginal Elders regarding the Bellwood sacred site.</p> <p>Council resolved at the 29 June 2023 Council meeting to convene a meeting of Council's Aboriginal Advisory Committee and extend Council's stakeholder engagement if necessary to produce a Reconciliation Plan to be linked to Council's Community Strategic Plan. Work is ongoing in seeking to establish an Aboriginal Liaison Committee.</p> |

# THEME FOUR PROMOTING PROSPERITY

*Promote, support and  
plan opportunities for new  
and existing businesses  
to sustain a vibrant local  
economy*



## THEME 4 - PROMOTING PROSPERITY

**OBJECTIVE - PROMOTE, SUPPORT AND PLAN OPPORTUNITIES FOR NEW AND EXISTING BUSINESSES TO SUSTAIN A VIBRANT LOCAL ECONOMY.**

### PROGRAMS & RELATED STRATEGIES

**Local economy** - Nambucca Valley Council will foster local employment opportunities and economic self-sufficiency through promotion, lobbying and direct action.

**Transport Accessibility** - Nambucca Valley Residents will be able to get where they need to go in a way that is safe, efficient and affordable.

**Public Transport** - Nambucca Valley Council will lobby for the maintenance and improvement of public transport services provided by private bus companies, community transport and the north coast rail

**A Sustainable Water Cycle (Water Management)** - Council will work with the community to ensure the water resources of the Nambucca Valley are used in a sustainable way.

**A Sustainable Water Cycle (Sewerage Services)** - The Capacity of the Nambucca Valley's sewerage services will service current and future demand and outflow quality will exceed regulated requirements.



| Economic Activity and Employment - Actions   | Lead Responsibility  | Success Measure  | Status as at 30 June 2024   |
|--|--|--|---|
| <p>PP1<br/>Foster development opportunities</p>  | <p>Manager Economic Development and Tourism<br/>Property Officer</p> | <p>Seek out and respond to potential business investment enquiries.</p> <p>Provide professional development industry training programs for local industries.</p> <p>Provide future employment land for business and industry growth.</p> | <p>Application submitted for additional funding for land development at Valla. Progressing Land Development in preparation for sale at Warrell Creek. Land holding at North Macksville to be developed for sale in 2024/25 financial year.</p>  |
| <p>PP2<br/>Liaise with local business and State and Federal Government agencies to promote economic and regional development</p> | <p>Manager Economic Development and Tourism</p>                      | <p>Funding and training opportunities for local businesses identified.</p> <p>Participation in Regional Development opportunities.</p> <p>Working partnerships with Regional Development Australia Mid North Coast.</p>                  | <p>Preparation work for combined Economic Development and Tourism Strategy commenced.</p> <p>Attendance at RDA event in February 2024 'Ignite Mini' which discussed the Regional Investment Fund, Workforce/Childcare/ Migration issues.</p> <p>Attended in May 2024 RDA run event in Port Macquarie regarding the Western City Parkland Authority, who have been delivering the pilot program of the New England Training Model (NETM) and are looking to bring the program to a regional area and RDAMNC have been in discussions with WCPA, Industry Mid North Coast and AusIndustry to advocate for this program to be brought to the Mid North Coast as a trial site in the regions.</p> |



| Economic Activity and Employment - Actions | Lead Responsibility | Success Measure  | Status as at 30 June 2024   |
|--|---------------------|--|---|
|  |                     | <p>Meet existing businesses to disseminate information and build networks.</p> | <p>Communications with local Chambers of Commerce undertaken.</p> <p>Liaised with ShoreTrack to discuss how their programs working with disadvantaged and marginalised youth in the Nambucca Valley can assist local businesses. Supported ShoreTrack's visit to Canberra for the Sustainable Economic Growth for Regional Australia (SEGRA) drop-in session at Parliament House, to highlight positive, practical and specific solutions from across regional Australia that will improve living and working in regional, rural and remote communities.</p> <p>Commenced meeting with local businesses to discover the issues both strategic and short-term opportunities and challenges facing them by asking</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the big strategic questions keeping you awake at night?</li> <li>• What are your short-term challenges ("hot buttons")?</li> <li>• What should Council be doing to support business employment and investment?</li> <li>• To listen to what they consider Council's role to be</li> <li>• What are the best forums and formats for this interaction?</li> </ul> |

| Economic Activity and Employment - Actions  | Lead Responsibility                      | Success Measure  | Status as at 30 June 2024   |
|---|--|--|---|
| PP3<br>Participate in local and regional marketing events to promote the Valley   | Manager Economic Development and Tourism | Valley profile raised and local advantages promoted to attract business and industry to the Valley through marketing and events.                       | Review of appropriate marketing material to be undertaken by new Manager Economic Development and Tourism .   |
| PP4<br>Investment prospectus, marketing and promotional material produced and distributed to potential investors        | Manager Economic Development and Tourism | The Valley's opportunities are highlighted to potential investors.   | Information packages are provided for enquiries specific to their requests.   |
| PP5<br>Land Development – Develop commercial and industrial land to ensure an adequate supply                           | Property Officer                         | Valla Growth Area to be developed, subject to funding availability.<br><br>Promote the opportunity to invest in industrial and commercial land (VUGA). | Application for additional funding under the Regional Precincts and Partnership Program lodged in 2023/24 to open up large new residential area. Advised by funding body outcome will be known by October 2024. |
| PP6<br>Land Development – research and analysis of potential land purchases from Transport for NSW old highway corridor | Property Officer                         | Increased income to Council from land sales acquired by Council under the NSW Government's Community Use Policy (CUP)                                  | North Macksville land purchase under CUP in 2022/23 and being investigated for subdivision and sale.  |
| PP7<br>Market Council's surplus operational land to the community's best advantage                                      | Property Officer                         | Realising the best price for Council's surplus operational land.   | 9 new residential lot subdivision being assessed at Warrell Creek.<br><br>Land at Grassy Road, Bowraville being investigated for sale.<br><br>Sale of closed Road Reserves occurred.                            |

| Land Management - Actions   | Lead Responsibility                      | Success Measure   | Status as at 30 June 2024  |
|---|--|---|--|
| PP8<br>Implement the Native Title Act 1996  | Property Officer                         | <p>Identification of Native Title issues prior to any works on Crown Land (Future Acts).</p> <p>Extinguish Native Title (Past Acts).</p> <p>A Native Title report is produced for all Crown Land Plans of Management.</p> | <p>Native Title training for property officer completed.</p> <p>Native title reports have been provided for Plans of management to date 1 adopted.</p> <p>LANDSAS has been engaged to complete generic plans of management.</p>  |
| PP9<br>Manage Crown Land Plans of Management  | Property Officer                         | <p>Review Crown Land Plans of Management.</p> <p>Licences are renewed and issued initially for 12 months and then for 5 years when a Plan of Management is adopted.</p>   | <p>Nambucca River Foreshore/Gordon Park and Wellington Park Plans of Management were adopted by Council.</p> <p>All licences have been upgraded 12 month short term licences issued while Plans of Management (PoM) are being prepared.</p>  |
| Tourism - Actions   | Lead Responsibility                      | Success Measure   | Status as at 30 June 2024  |
| PP10<br>Support the local tourism industry in partnership with the Nambucca Valley Tourism Association (NVTA) | Manager Economic Development and Tourism | <p>Review of the Licence Agreement with NVTA by June 2025.</p> <p>Quarterly reporting to Council by the NVTA on its activities.</p>   | <p>Licence agreement with NVTA terminated on 2 April 2024 with Council operating the Visitor Information Centre and tourism marketing of the local government area post that date.</p> <p>Three progress reports were received from the NVTA in 2023/24: for June 2023 Quarter, September 2023 Quarter, and December 2023 Quarter.</p> |

| Transport Accessibility - Actions   | Lead Responsibility                  | Success Measure  | Status as at 30 June 2024   |
|---|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| <p>PP11<br/>Maintain and construct road network to the level of service agreed with the community</p> | <p>Director Engineering Services</p> | <p>Undertake a Service Level Review of the road network including classification of roads, by 30 June 2023.</p> <p>Annual capital works program endorsed by Council and works completed at 30 June.</p> <p>Maintenance grading program funded by Council.</p> <p>Road inspection undertaken in accordance with the inspection program.</p> <p>Review of Asset Management Plans (AMP) includes the level of service that is able to be funded by Council.</p> | <p>Service level review received by consultants and is being addressed by staff.</p> <p>Completion of the capital works and maintenance programs is ongoing, with inspections done accordingly.</p> <p>Road condition assessment and service review road assets currently being carried out.</p> <p>Asset Inspector position has been added to the structure to focus on asset inspections.</p> <p>AMP's need to be reviewed and approved by Council by 30 June 2024.</p> |
| <p>PP12<br/>Maintain and construct bridges to the level of service agreed with the community</p>      | <p>Director Engineering Services</p> | <p>Rolling bridge inspection program undertaken across the network and identified repairs undertaken.</p> <p>New bridges constructed as per the delivery program.</p> <p>Reduction in the number of load limited bridges.</p>  | <p>New bridges are being constructed as part of the Fixing Country Bridges Program and Regional Roads and Transport Recovery Package which will expand longevity of Councils bridge assets.</p> <p>Bridge replacement program is progressing</p> <p>Council is in consultation with TfNSW and ARTC to upgrade load limited bridge.</p>  |

| Transport Accessibility - Actions  | Lead Responsibility  | Success Measure  | Status as at 30 June 2024   |
|--|--|--|---|
| <p>PP13<br/>Maintain and construct footpath and cycle ways to the level of service agreed with the community</p>   | <p>Director Engineering Services</p>                             | <p>Kingsworth Estate to Macksville cycle way will be completed.</p> <p>Council seeks funding from relevant grant streams to fund a plan for, and estimate the cost of a cycle way, linking Hyland Park and Mann Street Nambucca Heads.</p> <p>Footpath Inspection program conducted.<br/>Trip hazards identified and programmed in accordance with risk.</p> <p>New and replacement footpaths and cycle ways completed as per Pedestrian Access Management Plans (PAMP).</p> | <p>Completed the Kingsworth Estate to Nursery Road cycleway.</p> <p>Funding applications successful with TfNSW to develop a detailed design of Hyland Park Road Cycleway to support future funding applications, and for pathways in South Valla Beach.</p> <p>Inspections of footpath and highlighting or repair of uneven surfaces is ongoing</p> <p>Develop PAMPs for Valla Beach and Scotts Head, Scotts Head PAMP is completed</p> |
| <p>PP14<br/>Maintain and construct car parking to the level of service agreed with the community</p>               | <p>Director Engineering Services</p>                             | <p>New car parking constructed as per the delivery program.</p>  | <p>No additional car parking constructed.</p>   |
| <p>PP15<br/>Continue to support the work of the State and Federal governments in upgrading the Pacific Highway</p> | <p>Council General Manager<br/>Director Engineering Services</p> | <p>Support community consultation on Pacific Highway upgrades.</p> <p>Negotiate handover of ex-highway assets to Council on acceptable terms.</p>  | <p>Awaiting responses from the state government re their timeline for highway handover.</p>   |

| <b>Transport Accessibility - Actions</b>  | <b>Lead Responsibility</b>    | <b>Success Measure</b>  | <b>Status as at 30 June 2024</b>  |
|---|-------------------------------|---|---|
| PP16<br>Maintain and construct boat ramps and boat access points to the level of service agreed with the community  | Director Engineering Services | Regular inspection and cleaning program implemented.<br><br>Maintain and construct new works as per the delivery program. | Boat ramps regularly inspected and pressure cleaned by Green Space Team, planned around low tide events – boat ramps cleaned approximately 4-5 week intervals.  |
| <b>Public Transport - Actions</b>   | <b>Lead Responsibility</b>    | <b>Success Measure</b>  | <b>Status as at 30 June 2024</b>  |
| PP17<br>Install bus shelters at high use bus stops  | Director Engineering Services | Investigate requests and implement as required.   | Grant funding received under Country Passenger Transport Infrastructure Grant Scheme for installation of an additional 5 bus stops and replaced 4.  |
| <b>Water Management - Actions</b>   | <b>Lead Responsibility</b>    | <b>Success Measure</b>  | <b>Status as at 30 June 2024</b>  |
| PP18<br>Council will document and implement an Integrated Water Cycle Management Strategy (IWCM) for the efficient use of its water and waste water resources | Manager Water and Sewerage    | IWCM has been reviewed and implemented.   | Recent increases in the rate of development in growth areas in Nambucca Heads and Macksville and the potential for development in Scotts Head have highlighted a need to review the current IWCM. This will include an update of the capital works program and financial model.<br><br>Council engaged Public Works to develop the IWCM during 2023-2024.<br><br>A draft IWCMs and 30-year Long-Term Financial Plan will be available during December 2024. |



| Water Management - Actions   | Lead Responsibility               | Success Measure  | Status as at 30 June 2024  |
|--|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| <p>PP19<br/>Ensure the supply of potable water to the reticulated network in the Nambucca Valley</p> | <p>Manager Water and Sewerage</p> | <p>Provision of a reliable potable supply that meets public health standards.</p> <p>Regular water testing is conducted with samples complying with Australian Drinking Water Guidelines.</p> <p>Any breach of required standards is reported to relevant authorities.</p> <p>Completion of government funded UV and Chlorination project.</p> | <p>Council's testing regime in partnership with NSW Health confirms that water supplied by Council complies with the Australian Drinking Water Guideline.</p> <p>The government funded project to improve the chlorination dosing system at the water supply headworks an additional treatment barrier in the form of a UV dosing system has been completed.</p>   |
| <p>PP20<br/>Operate the Bowra Dam to ensure water security for the Nambucca Valley</p>               | <p>Manager Water and Sewerage</p> | <p>Dam is maintained and operated according to the Dam Safety NSW requirements.</p> <p>Completion of Bubble Plume Aeration project.</p>  | <p>An audit of Bowra Dam operation and maintenance systems has confirmed that they are generally complying with Dam Safety NSW requirements. Council has engaged a suitably qualified dam engineer to carry out an intermediate (5-yearly) inspection and prepare a surveillance report for submission to Dams Safety NSW as required by legislation.</p> <p>A bubble plume aeration system has been installed and Council is working with DPIE Water to refine operating procedures to address existing water quality issues associated with high iron concentrations in the dam water.</p> |

| Water Management - Actions   | Lead Responsibility               | Success Measure  | Status as at 30 June 2024   |
|--|-----------------------------------|--|---|
|  |                                   | <p>Operate and maintain the Borefield supply system that provides water for the Dam.</p> <p>Maintain water levels in the Dam that will protect water security for the Valley.</p>  | <p>The dam is currently full and is operated to remain full during times when pumping to the dam is permitted</p>   |
| <p>PP21<br/>Efficiently maintain, augment and operate the reticulation of potable water, the Bowra Borefields and treatment network.</p> | <p>Manager Water and Sewerage</p> | <p>Asset Management Plan developed and implemented.</p> <p>Asset renewals are completed in a timely manner so that there is no failure of the water supply system.</p> <p>Complete design and construction of sewerage infrastructure for Valla Growth area.</p> | <p>Draft Asset Management Plans have been prepared.</p> <p>Designs for water supply and sewerage reticulation infrastructure to service the initial stage of development of the Valla Growth Area have been completed. Designs to supply water supply and sewerage services to the precinct from the Nambucca District Water Supply and the Nambucca Heads Sewerage scheme are substantially completed.</p> |

| Sewerage Services - Actions   | Lead Responsibility               | Success Measure  | Status as at 30 June 2024   |
|---|-----------------------------------|--|---|
| <p>PP22<br/>Council will document and implement the Integrated Water Cycle Management Strategy for the efficient use of its water and waste water resources</p> | <p>Manager Water and Sewerage</p> | <p>IWCM reviewed and implemented.</p>  | <p>Recent increases in the rate of development in growth areas in Nambucca Heads and Macksville and the potential for development in Scotts Head have highlighted a need to review the current IWCM. This will include an update of the capital works program and financial model.<br/>Council has engaged Public Works to develop the IWCM during 2023-2024. This will include the modelling of sewer systems in Macksville, Nambucca Heads and Scotts Head. A draft IWCM and 30-year Long-Term Financial Plan will be available during December 2024.</p> |
| <p>PP23<br/>Ensure compliance with EPA License requirements for all sewerage systems</p>  | <p>Manager Water and Sewerage</p> | <p>Provision of a reliable reticulation system and treatment of sewerage to meet public health standards.</p> <p>Regular outflow testing is conducted with samples complying with Australian Standards.</p> <p>Any breach of required standards is reported to relevant authorities.</p> | <p>Annual Licence Returns are submitted to EPA in a timely manner providing relevant information on the performance of the sewerage systems.</p> <p>Testing is carried out in accordance with licence requirements and results placed on Council's website.</p> <p>Any sewage surcharges are reported to the EPA in accordance with legislative requirements</p>  |

| Sewerage Services - Actions  | Lead Responsibility               | Success Measure  | Status as at 30 June 2024   |
|--|-----------------------------------|--|---|
| <p>PP24<br/>Efficiently maintain, augment and operate the sewerage reticulation and treatment network.</p> | <p>Manager Water and Sewerage</p> | <p>Asset Management Plan developed and implemented.</p> <p>Design and construction of upgrades to Macksville Sewerage System to cater for development in South Macksville.</p> | <p>Draft Asset Management Plans have been prepared.</p> <p>Modelling of sewerage systems and options assessment for sewerage upgrades in Nambucca Heads, Macksville and Scotts Head are included as part of the IWCM project. These will be used to complete concept designs and detailed designs for construction works.</p> <p>They will also focus on determining the additional costs involved in providing infrastructure to minimise sewage overflows in Macksville for various higher intensity rainfall events.</p> <p>Designs for water supply and sewerage reticulation infrastructure to service the initial stage of development of the Valla Growth Area have been completed. Designs to supply water supply and sewerage services to the precinct from the Nambucca District Water Supply and the Nambucca Heads Sewerage scheme are substantially completed.</p> |



## ACRONYMS

|             |                                    |             |                                   |
|-------------|------------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>CBD</b>  | Central Business District          | <b>NVTA</b> | Nambucca Valley Tourism Inc       |
| <b>CSP</b>  | Community Strategic Plan           | <b>PAMP</b> | Pedestrian Access Management Plan |
| <b>DA</b>   | Development Application            | <b>RFS</b>  | Rural Fire Service                |
| <b>EPA</b>  | Environmental Protection Authority | <b>VUGA</b> | Valla Urban Growth Area           |
| <b>IWCM</b> | Integrated Water Cycle Management  | <b>WHS</b>  | Work Health and Safety            |
| <b>NBN</b>  | National Broadband Network         |             |                                   |



# GOVERNANCE MATTERS

## SUMMARY OF LEGAL PROCEEDINGS DURING 2023/2024

In accordance with the Local Government Regulation 2021 cl217(1)(a3), the Annual Report must include "a summary of the amounts incurred by the council during the year in relation to legal proceedings taken by or against the council (including amounts, costs and expenses paid or received by way of out of court settlements, other than those the terms of which are not to be disclosed) and a summary of the state of progress of each legal proceeding and (if it has been finalised) the result". In 2023/24 Council incurred \$28,290 in legal expenses in relation to proceedings taken against or by Council. These proceedings are detailed below:

| Matter                          | Nature of Proceeding  | Costs    | Status   | Result   |
|---------------------------------|---|----------|----------|--|
| Congarinni North Pty Ltd vs NVC | Development application for seniors housing development on land at 24 Coronation Rd, Congarinni North | \$26,290 | Complete | Council successful. DA refused.  |
| Todd Phillips vs NVC            | Appeal against decision of Council to declare dogs as dangerous                                       | \$2,000  | Complete | Dangerous dog declaration withdrawn. Court order issued listing a range of conditions to the appellant in relation to the keeping of the dogs in question. |
| Total                           |   | \$28,290 |          |  |

## ENVIRONMENTAL UPGRADE AGREEMENTS ENTERED INTO

There were no Environmental Upgrade Agreements entered into during 2023/2024.

## INTERSTATE VISITS

There were no interstate visits by any Councillors during 2023/2024

## OVERSEAS VISITS

There were no overseas visits by any Councillors during 2023/2024



# COUNCILLORS' PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

| COUNCILLOR         | TRAINING   | DATES                    | COST (\$) |
|--------------------|--|--------------------------|-----------|
| HOBAN OAM, R       | LGNSW Country Wide Conference – Registration & Accommodation   | 12-14/11/2023            | \$1,360   |
|                    | LGNSW Webinar - First Nations Voice to Parliament  | 6/7/2023                 | \$0       |
|                    | Sustaining a healthy relationship with the executive team.   | 27/7/2023                | \$0       |
|                    | NSW Water Strategic planning webinar   | Online webinar recording | \$0       |
|                    | Locale Learning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaborating with your councillor colleagues</li> <li>• Cultivating connection with your community</li> <li>• Find out your conflict management style</li> <li>• Knowing your options to address dysfunctional behaviour</li> <li>• Mastering your mindset in the midst of dysfunction</li> <li>• Sustaining a healthy relationship with the executive team</li> <li>• Unlocking the opportunities of social media</li> </ul> | March 2024               | \$0       |
| ANGEL, J           | LGNSW Country Wide Conference – Registration & Accommodation   | 12-14/11/2023            | \$1,658   |
|                    | IPWEA Infrastructure AMP for Elected Members Online Learning Course  | Online webinar recording | \$329     |
| BALLANGARRY OAM, M | Nil  |                          |           |
| BALLANGARRY, T     | Nil  |                          |           |
| BUCHANAN, R        | Nil  |                          |           |

| COUNCILLOR | TRAINING   | DATES         | COST (\$) |
|------------|--|---------------|-----------|
| JENVEY, S  | LGNSW Country Wide Conference – Registration & Accommodation | 12-14/11/2023 | \$1,419   |
| JONES, D   | Nil  |               |           |
| VANCE, T   | LGNSW Country Wide Conference – Registration & Accommodation | 12-14/11/2023 | \$1,259   |
| WILSON, J  | Nil  |               |           |

## COUNCILLORS' EXPENSES 2023/2024 CL 217 (1) (A1)

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| • Mayoral fee   | \$ 47,420 |
| • Councillors' fees   | \$189,485 |
| • Provision of dedicated office equipment allocated to Councillors  | Nil       |
| • Telephone calls made by Councillors   | 235       |
| • Communication Expenses  | \$8,085   |
| • Conference's & Seminars   | \$5,697   |
| • Travel meals & accommodation  | \$2,409   |
| • Vehicle Costs – Mayor   | \$13,300  |
| • Other sundry expenses   | \$3,308   |
| • Expenses of any spouse, partner or other person who accompanied a Councillor in the performance of his or her civic functions | Nil       |
| • Expenses involved in the provision of care for a child of, or an immediate family Member of, a Councillor                     | Nil       |

## SENIOR STAFF REMUNERATION CL 217 (1) (C)

|                                | General Manager  | Two Directors    |
|--------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Salary                         | \$ 321,191       | \$368,493        |
| Employer Superannuation        | \$34,017         | \$40,949         |
| Reportable Fringe Benefits Tax | \$0              | \$0              |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>\$355,208</b> | <b>\$409,442</b> |

# TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS WHO PERFORMED PAID WORK ON 14 FEBRUARY 2024 CL 217 (1) (D)

The total number of persons who performed paid work on Wednesday 14 February 2024 is reported below:

| <b>The number of persons directly employed by the council</b>   |            |
|---|------------|
| on a permanent full-time basis  | 99         |
| on a permanent part-time basis  | 8          |
| on a casual basis   | 3          |
| under a fixed-term contract   | 11         |
| the number of persons employed by the council who are "senior staff" for the purposes of the Local Government Act 1993  | 2          |
| the number of persons engaged by the council, under a contract or other arrangement with the person's employer, that is wholly or principally for the labour of the person, and | 6          |
| the number of persons supplied to the council, under a contract or other arrangement with the person's employer, as an apprentice or trainee                                    | Nil        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>129</b> |

Credit: News of the Area - [Main Beach Nambucca Heads Seawall](#)





## STATEMENT ON STORMWATER MANAGEMENT SERVICES CL 217 (1) (E)

Council raised \$152,605 from its Storm Water Management levy during the year.  
Drainage works that were undertaken in the period included:

- Macksville CBD Drainage Upgrades
- EJ Biffin Drainage Works
- Gordon Park Drainage Works

## COMPANION ANIMALS

Council lodged its annual return to the Office of Local Government with regards to pound data, with dog attacks reported on the companion animal register.

Council undertakes a rehoming program from Council's pound in an effort to reduce the number of animals that are euthanised. Currently only dangerous/menacing dogs and feral cats are being euthanised.

In addition to this, Council allocated \$10,000 for a desexing program which was carried out throughout the year. No external fund money was received to assist managing and controlling companion animals in the area.

Council has off leash areas in Valla Beach, Nambucca Heads, and Scotts Head.

## CAPITAL EXPENDITURE REVIEWS

There were no capital expenditure reviews submitted during the period



# CONTRACTS AWARDED DURING THE YEAR IN EXCESS OF \$150,000

| NAME OF CONTRACTOR                | DESCRIPTION OF GOODS  | ESTIMATED TOTAL PAYABLE |
|-----------------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| AJ Civil Projects                 | Supply and installation of 2 sewerage overflow tanks - Macksville                                   | \$456,739               |
| Community Aquatics Pty Ltd        | Operations and management of the Macksville Memorial Aquatic Fitness Centre. 1/7/2023 to 30/06/2028 | \$1,665,000             |
| Level Projects Pty Ltd            | Rural Fire Service - Building project at Valla and Newee Creek                                      | \$2,103,040             |
| MCTrucks Pty Ltd                  | Supply and delivery of 1 11T GVM dual cab tipper truck  | \$210,813               |
| Surf Life Saving Services Pty Ltd | Lifesaving services - 1/12/2023 to 31/12/2025   | \$388,931               |
| Trazilbat Pty Ltd                 | Realignment of truck main at waste facility   | \$151,030               |
| Trazilbat Pty Ltd                 | Reconstruction of Alexandra Drive Nambucca Heads  | \$942,099               |
| Treadwell Group Pty Ltd           | Reconstruction of the Marine Rescue Boardwalk - Nambucca Heads                                      | \$183,144               |
| Treadwell Group Pty Ltd           | Design and supply of materials for the reconstruction of the Deep Creek pedestrian footbridge       | \$369,400               |
| Turf Drain Australia              | Installation of subsoil drainage to 5 sporting fields - various locations                           | \$762,165               |
| Westrac Equipment Pty Ltd         | Supply and delivery of 2 motor graders  | \$1,072,500             |

## BUSHFIRE HAZARD REDUCTION ACTIVITIES

Council undertakes hazard reduction works in the urban areas twice a year. This involves expenditure up to \$25,000 with work being on Crown Land, State Forest and road reserves.

The works are programmed for September/October and again in February/March. Such work is generally slashing of the ground cover to reduce the fuel load. Occasionally it is necessary to remove tree branches to ensure minimum clearances are maintained.

The sites regularly maintained are:

Valla Beach

- Environment Park
- Lions Park
- Ocean View Drive

## Hyland Park

- Eastern side of Banyandah Road

## Macksville

- Industrial Estate

## Eungai Creek

- Hazel Lane

## Nambucca Heads

- Industrial Estate
- Glen Sheather
- Palmer Street
- Forest Road
- Merry Park
- Rock Street
- Loftus Street
- Short Street Reserve
- Lee/Short Streets
- Eichman Street
- Small/Lackey Streets
- Nambucca Holiday Park boundary
- Headland
- Pacific Street and drain
- Pilot Street
- Off Newry Street
- Reedy Street Reserve
- Bank Street near Pre-School
- Marshall Way
- Bellwood Road
- Myall Street Reserve

During the year Council worked with the Rural Fire Service to review the adequacy of the existing fire buffers for width, re-growth and compliance with standards.





# ACCESS AND EQUITY ACTIVITY REPORT

## **ACCESS AND EQUITY ACTIVITIES AND INITIATIVES ASSIST COUNCIL TO:**

- Promote fairness in the distribution of resources, particularly to those most in need
- 
- Recognise and promote people's rights and improve the accountability of decision makers
- 
- Ensure that people have fairer access to the economic resources and services essential to meeting their basic needs and improving their quality of life and
- 
- Give people better opportunities for genuine participation and consultation about decisions affecting their lives.

Council's Annual Report contains information at various points regarding Council's achievements and future plans which promote access and equity, with specific reference to sections on Human Resource Activities, Equal Employment Opportunities and Section 355 Committees of Management.

## PROVIDE FOR THE NEEDS OF CHILDREN/YOUNG PEOPLE/WOMEN/ OLDER PEOPLE/PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

### **ACHIEVEMENTS IN CHILDREN'S SERVICES**

Our libraries continue to be the main space where Council provides activities and support for children, they do this work through:

- Hosting regular Storytime, including the National Simultaneous Storytime that took place in May.
- Workshops including beat making and electronic music, t-shirt design, and craft.
- Educational talks to assist parents, such as navigating the challenges of online behaviour.
- The VR and Gaming room and school holiday activities such as Laser Tag, Wildlife Show, and Summer Reading Challenge

### **ACHIEVEMENTS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE**

Council was successful in obtaining a small grant for Youth Week 2024 from Department of Communities and Justice, from which it contributed to Uniting's Becoming U program to initiate the YOUth Speak project. They held activities across the geographic area of the Nambucca Valley including special Youth Week events in each of the 3 main centres of Nambucca Heads, Bowraville and Macksville, partnering with Nambucca Valley Phoenix and other services.

## ACHIEVEMENTS IN SERVICES FOR OLDER PEOPLE

- Council hosted Seniors Week event at Macksville RSL, inviting services to attend and share information and putting on a morning tea and lunch for local residents.
- Council supported other organisations through donations to deliver informational workshops, such as Power of Attorney, scam awareness, and knowing your aged care advocacy and rights.
- Improvements in accessibility implemented under Nambucca Valley's Disability Inclusion Action Plan also benefit senior residents, with installation of more pathways, kerbside access at Bowraville Pharmacy, and improvements in accessible amenities.

## SERVICES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

- Ongoing support for the Councils Access Committee through secretariat duties and provision of accessible meeting venue. The Access Committee provides recommendations to Council on the needs of people with disabilities.
- Year 2 Progress Report on the Disability Inclusion Action Plan includes progress on a number of infrastructure initiatives involving connecting pathways and improving public amenities and Councils steps towards more accessible services and employment.
- Council collaborated with Nambucca Valley Rotary, Lions Club of Nambucca Head, Macleay Options, physiotherapist Bec Dalzell, and the Macksville Memorial Aquatic and Fitness Centre to provide a mobile change table to enable people with disability to change before and after a swim.

The Disability Inclusion Action Plan (2022-2026) was adopted 23 June 2022.

The Nambucca Valley Council Disability Inclusion Action Plan progress report to 30 June 2024 was adopted by Council 14 November 2024 and is located on Council's website: <https://www.nambucca.nsw.gov.au/Council/Strategic-Direction-Guiding-Documents/Disability-Inclusion-Action-Plan>

A report will also be submitted to the NSW Minister for Disability Inclusion via the Department of Communities and Justice.

Credit: News of the Area - [Community Collaboration To Support People With Disabilities In the Nambucca Valley](#)



# CULTURAL SERVICES

## ACHIEVEMENTS IN ABORIGINAL SERVICES

- Completion of Nyambaga Bindarray (Nambucca River) Public Art Trail that has various works from local and Indigenous artists.
- Initiated efforts to reinvigorate an Aboriginal Advisory Committee.

| Year | Male | Female | Total | Proportion of Total Population % |
|------|------|--------|-------|----------------------------------|
| 2001 | 463  | 491    | 954   | 5.4                              |
| 2006 | 489  | 536    | 1,025 | 5.7                              |
| 2011 | 661  | 698    | 1,359 | 7.3                              |
| 2016 | 702  | 761    | 1,463 | 7.6                              |
| 2021 | 803  | 829    | 1,632 | 8.0                              |

Source: ABS Statistics - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples

# SERVICES/ACCESS TO SERVICES FOR PEOPLE WITH DIVERSE CULTURAL AND LINGUISTIC BACKGROUNDS

## ACHIEVEMENTS IN MULTICULTURAL SERVICES

Nambucca Valley has a very small population of people with a non-English speaking background. This makes provision of CALD services limited.

Our Nambucca Valley Libraries do provide the ability to borrow books in diverse languages through a program with the State Library.

# PRIVATE WORKS

Council sets hourly rates for the private hire of plant and equipment. This is done in conjunction with the adoption of the Fees and Charges within the Community Strategic Plan. The rates in the 2023/24 Fees and Charges are used for all private works.

Works undertaken during 2023/24 included such things as street sweeping for another Council, and driveway works.

There were no subsidised works undertaken during the period.

# 2023/24 SERVICE REVIEWS

Per the Delivery Program the areas selected for the 2023/24 financial year service reviews were:

- Animal Control
- Public Toilets
- Biosecurity (Noxious Plants)

Council engaged Centium through a Request for Quotation process to undertake the 2023/24 Service Reviews.

The Service Reviews made the following maturity assessments on each of the review recommendations:

- Low maturity – Services are reactive and only basic management processes are in place
- Medium maturity – Services are partly proactive, and implement consistent management processes
- High maturity – Services are of high quality, and innovations drive customer value and loyalty

The outcome of the reviews are as follows:

## ANIMAL CONTROL

### *Dangerous and menacing dogs*

**Finding:** Once a dog has been declared as dangerous or menacing under the Companion Animals Act 1998, owners have defined responsibilities for managing the animal. Rangers need to check periodically to ensure that these responsibilities are maintained.

Recommendation 1.1 - medium maturity - develop systems and processes requiring Rangers to develop and maintain a schedule of checking on dangerous and menacing dogs in accordance with the Companion Animals Act 1998.

Management response – an internal compliance list is being prepared and will be implemented.

### *Registration of companion animals*

**Finding:** Recommendation 2.1 – low maturity - utilise opportunities provided by community events such as local markets and festivals to promote registration and microchipping.

Management response – agreed to be implemented when resources permit.

Recommendation 2.2 - low maturity - develop a campaign to regularly remind residents to keep their details up to date on the pet register.

Management response – reminders sent out with rates notices.

### *Pound Operations*

**Finding:** Animal welfare measures at the pound are outlined in procedure documents and result in healthy outcomes. While workplace safety measures at the pound are improving, additional work is required to support implementation.

Recommendation 3.1 - medium maturity - reconstruct the dog pens and move the cameras to allow for safe animal handling.

Management response – front section of the pound has been upgraded, the back section of pound is to be completed in the coming months.

Recommendation 3.2 - medium maturity - undertake regular monitoring and spot checks to ensure pound attendants wear lone worker device.

Management response – the history of use of lone worker devices is reviewed regularly and raised with staff if there is a lack of use.

### *Animal rehoming*

**Finding:** Incoming telephone enquiries to rehome impounded animals are resource intensive.

Recommendation 4.1 - high maturity - introduce an online application process to receive enquiries to rehome impounded animals.

Management response – an application form is in the process of being developed.

### *Off-leash dog areas*

**Finding:** The Companion Animals Policy 2019 and associated website brochure need updating to refresh the details of on-leash and off-leash areas and their management.

Recommendation 5.1 – low maturity - update the Companion Animals Policy to refresh and review the content.

Management response – a review will be undertaken to address the matters raised this financial year.

Recommendation 5.2 - low maturity - consider other promotional materials to refresh and clarify the descriptions of prohibited, on-leash and off-leash areas.

Management response – this will be considered as part of the Companion Animals Policy review.

### *Signage regarding dogs*

**Finding:** Newer signage is comprehensive and clear; however, not all signs have been upgraded.

Recommendation 6.1 - medium maturity - replace the off-leash dog area sign at Hyland Park and conduct a rolling upgrade of dog area signs to ensure a consistent standard.



Management response – the sign at Hyland Park has been relocated and dog signs throughout the valley are regularly monitored and upgraded.

### *Straying stock*

**Finding:** The infrequent occurrence of straying stock is adequately addressed in the current Ranger Services Procedures Manual. There were no findings for this scope item.

Recommendation - There were no recommendations for this scope item.

### *Availability of resources*

**Finding:** Council progress to implement additional ranger resources within the 2024/2025 budget allocation. The current staff allocation of one and a shared position has several risks i.e. safety issues, lack of coverage, limited capacity to follow up in some areas addressed by this report including dangerous dogs, and immediate responses to urgent requests more difficult with only one staff member.

Recommendation 8.1 - medium maturity - proceed with funding a second ranger position in the 2024/2025 budget to ensure levels of service and employee safety.

Management response – a second Ranger has now been employed.

## **PUBLIC TOILETS**

### *Develop a Public Toilet Strategy for the rationalisation and location of public toilets*

**Finding:** There is no formalised, publicly available strategy that outlines Council's approach towards managing public toilet facilities.

Asset management plans are general and while they do not specifically address public toilet facilities, condition assessments can help to inform rationalisation, upgrade or maintenance strategies

Recommendation 1.1 – low maturity - develop a Public Toilet Strategy through public consultation that takes into account the recent community feedback and creates a framework for future rationalisation and utilisation strategies.

Management response – Agreed that development of a Public Toilet Strategy would assist in the future decision making around Public Toilets however would be subject to budget allocation.

Recommendation 1.2 - low maturity - complete a condition assessment of all facilities as part of the development of a public toilet strategy. This will provide a starting point for understanding the current position to then work towards formulating future needs. It also helps to inform budget and resourcing considerations.

Management response - Agreed that condition assessments would be needed to inform the way forward in the Public Toilet Strategy.

### *Review of opening hours for vandalism prevention/security matters*

**Finding:** The current opening hours of public toilets should be reviewed as part of a strategy development and alignment with community expectations.

Recommendation 2.1 – medium maturity - consider reviewing opening hours of each facility through a classification as part of the strategy development.

Management response - Agree that reviewing opening hours of each facility will be an outcome/recommendation of the Public Toilet Strategy

### *Consistency of specifications (design features)*

**Finding:** As Council upgrades facilities and toilets, consistent specifications should be considered.

Recommendation 3.1 – medium maturity - as part of the development of a strategy and classifications, develop and document design specifications for all toilets in the LGA.

Management response - Agree that the development and documentation of design specifications for all toilets in the Local Government Area (LGA) will be an outcome/recommendation of the Public Toilet Strategy.

### *Potential for accessible toilets with extra features and more space to meet the needs of people with disability and their carers*

**Finding:** Design and/or Assets staff are currently not involved with Council's Access Committee.

Recommendation 4.1 – high maturity - arrange for a Design/Assets or other suitable staff representative to attend future Access Committee meetings with an agenda item to include updates on projects that are underway or planned. In turn there is an opportunity for members to provide feedback to Council's Assets Section.

Management response - Partly agree as with limited resources staff should only attend as required. Reporting and updates on projects will be via Council reports.

### *Contract Management*

**Finding:** Fit for purpose service contract documentation should be developed whenever a long-term contract with extensive service requirements is entered into. Council's expectations of vendors should be clearly documented and monitored throughout the life of the contract.

Recommendation 5.1 - low maturity - utilise a contract template that is fit for purpose for cleaning services and if necessary, ensure that the provisions are reviewed by Council's legal advisor before being executed.

Recommendation 5.2 - low maturity - ensure that future contracts contain provisions that refer to regular vendor performance reviews to enforce required service standards and if they fail to be met then they can be enforced.

Recommendation 5.3 - low maturity - to ensure that expectations are met with future vendors and to improve overall contract management, introduce a formal and regular monitoring.



program that includes regular (at least monthly) vendor performance meetings.

Recommendation 5.4 - low maturity - outcomes from the performance discussions and actions agreed upon by both parties should be documented and filed in Council's Records Management System.

Management response to recommendations - Agreed, performance measures are to be developed as part of the contract.

#### *Analysis & Reporting of Management Information*

**Finding:** There is a need to review operational and maintenance costings and budgets to help inform the development of a public toilet strategy. Customer requests should be regularly reviewed to understand number/types, and reports provided to management with recommendations for improvement.

Recommendation 5.5 - low maturity - analyse the number and type of customer complaints/ requests received that ties in with cleaning performance to assist with monitoring and identification of trends.

Management response to recommendations – Agreed, performance measures are to be developed as part of the contract.

Recommendation 5.6 - low maturity - review budgets and expenditure as part of the development of the Public Toilet Strategy aimed at working towards creating efficiencies and improving community satisfaction.

Management response - Agree that reviewing budgets and expenditure will be an outcome/ recommendation of the Public Toilet Strategy.

Recommendation 5.7 - low maturity - develop quarterly reports identifying complaint and customer request trends and recommendations for improvement. The management reports should be aligned to the policy in a format and frequency that meets the requirements of management, the Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee and Council.

Management response - partially agree, metrics will form part of the contract key performance indicators.

## **BIOSECURITY (NOXIOUS PLANTS)**

### *Regional Committee*

**Finding:** New funding allocation methodology provides an opportunity to apply for funding for new projects.

Recommendation 1.1 - high maturity - build on successes in local weed management to apply for and manage new weed control projects.

Management response – agreed, this is already a practice of Council.

## *Strategic Plan*

**Finding:** Monthly reporting on progress towards implementing the regional strategic management plan is sent to the Department of Primary Industries (DPI). It is suggested that this information would also be of interest to Council and the local community.

Recommendation 2.1 - medium maturity - present a summary of weed infestations, weed inspections and weed compliance actions in Council's Annual Report.

Management response – Partially agree, as whilst communication of the actions undertaken is important, this action will likely stretch the already limited resources in the weeds area and be lost in a large Annual Report. Instead a one-off communications piece for Council in another forum is preferred.

## *Roadside Management*

**Finding:** The Roadside Vegetation Management Policy 2019 sets up an alternate management framework for property owners. An evaluation is required to test the operations of this provision.

Recommendation 3.1 - medium maturity - evaluate the implementation of the current Roadside Vegetation Management Policy 2019 to assess its effectiveness and identify potential legal and safety risks

Management response – Agreed, evaluation will be undertaken when the policy is updated.

## *Aquatic Weeds*

**Finding:** Aquatic weeds are not currently a problem in Council-managed water bodies. However, there is still a high risk of infestation that requires monitoring.

Recommendation 4.1 - high maturity - record the possible risk of infestation of Cabomba weed into the off-stream water storage dam in Council's Risk Register.

Management response – Agreed, the risk has already been added to the Enterprise Risk Management Plan.

Recommendation 4.2 - high maturity - develop a monitoring, reporting and response plan for the infestation of Cabomba weed in Nambucca Valley.

Management response – Agreed, development of plan is important to the management of Cabomba

## *Cooperative Arrangements*

**Finding:** There were no findings for this scope item as the Regional Weeds Committee is an effective vehicle for developing and maintaining productive and cooperative arrangements with neighbouring Councils, Local Land Services and the DPI.

Recommendation: There were no recommendations for this scope item.

### *Routine Inspections*

**Finding:** New technologies are available to support Council in conducting routine inspections that assist with weed control.

Recommendation 6.1 - medium maturity - implement Chartis software to monitor and track weed infestations and inspections.

Management response – Agreed, Council is already looking to implement this software.

Recommendation 6.2 - medium maturity - research and explore the use of drones to support weed inspections.

Management response – Agreed, the use of drones will be investigated.

### *Availability of resources*

**Finding:** An additional biosecurity officer is required to meet the workload and address recent staff losses in the team.

Recommendation 7.1 - medium maturity - consider appointing a second Biosecurity Officer on a contract basis to conduct and follow up on weed inspections.

Management response – Agree, consideration will be given in the 2025-26 budget discussion as it requires a budget allocation and consideration of a wholistic approach to Council resources.



# DONATIONS UNDER SECTION 356

Council made the following donations during 2023/24:

| Account No     | Organisation  | \$ Donation |
|----------------|---|-------------|
| 160.2024.351.1 | Donation to Animal Rescue Cooperative - Report to Council meeting on 27/06/2024 - APPROVED MINUTE #203/24   | 500.00      |
| 160.2024.350.1 | Donations Program 2023/2024 - LATE Application - Nambucca Valley Phoenix - Report to Council meeting on 24/04/2024 - APPROVED MINUTE #129/24          | 500.00      |
| 160.2024.349.1 | Donations Program 2023/2024 - LATE Application - Scotts Head Community Group - Report to Council meeting on 24/04/2024 - APPROVED MINUTE #129/24      | 500.00      |
| 160.2024.348.1 | Donations Program 2023/2024 - LATE Application - Nambucca Valley Art and Craft Inc - Report to Council meeting on 28/03/2024 - APPROVED MINUTE #92/24 | 230.00      |
| 160.2024.347.1 | Donations Program 2023/2024 - LATE Application - Loggerheads Malibu Club - Report to Council meeting on 28/03/2024 - APPROVED MINUTE #92/24           | 500.00      |
| 160.2024.346.1 | Donations Program 2023/2024 - Rivers Netball Club - Report to Council meeting on 14/03/2024 - APPROVED MINUTE #73/24                                  | 500.00      |
| 160.2024.345.1 | Donations Program 2023/2024 - Lions Club of Macksville - Report to Council meeting on 14/03/2024 - APPROVED MINUTE #73/24                             | 500.00      |
| 160.2024.344.1 | Donations Program 2023/2024 - Utungun Community Hall Committee - Report to Council meeting on 14/03/2024 - APPROVED MINUTE #73/24                     | 500.00      |
| 160.2024.343.1 | Donations Program 2023/2024 - Wyz Wimmin & Friends Theatre Company Inc - Report to Council meeting on 14/03/2024 - APPROVED MINUTE #73/24             | 500.00      |
| 160.2024.342.1 | Donations Program 2023/2024 - Macksville Park & Sports Committee - Report to Council meeting on 14/03/2024 - APPROVED MINUTE #73/24                   | 500.00      |
| 160.2024.341.1 | Donations Program 2023/2024 - Valla Beach Tennis Club - Report to Council meeting on 14/03/2024 - APPROVED MINUTE #73/24                              | 500.00      |
| 160.2024.340.1 | Donations Program 2023/2024 - Valla Voices - Report to Council meeting on 14/03/2024 - APPROVED MINUTE #73/24 - Auspicor - Alithia Inc.               | 500.00      |
| 160.2024.339.1 | Donations Program 2023/2024 - Midcoast Mower Racing Club - Report to Council meeting on 14/03/2024 - APPROVED MINUTE #73/24                           | 500.00      |



| <b>Account No</b> | <b>Organisation</b>   | <b>\$ Donation</b> |
|-------------------|---|--------------------|
| 160.2024.338.1    | Donations Program 2023/2024 - Nambucca Roosters Rugby League Football Club - Report to Council meeting on 14/03/2024 - APPROVED MINUTE #73/24 | 500.00             |
| 160.2024.337.1    | Donations Program 2023/2024 - Nambucca Valley Cycle Club - Report to Council meeting on 14/03/2024 - APPROVED MINUTE #73/24                   | 500.00             |
| 160.2024.336.1    | Donations Program 2023/2024 - Mary Boulton Pioneer Cottage & Museum - Report to Council meeting on 14/03/2024 - APPROVED MINUTE #73/24        | 500.00             |
| 160.2024.335.1    | Donations Program 2023/2024 - Scotts Head Sports Fields Committee - Report to Council meeting on 14/03/2024 - APPROVED MINUTE #73/24          | 440.00             |
| 160.2024.334.1    | Donations Program 2023/2024 -Valla Beach Community Association - Report to Council meeting on 14/03/2024 - APPROVED MINUTE #73/24             | 500.00             |
| 160.2024.333.1    | Donations Program 2023/2024 - Nambucca District Historical Society - Report to Council meeting on 14/03/2024 - APPROVED MINUTE #73/24         | 500.00             |
| 160.2024.332.1    | Donations Program 2023/2024 -WIRES Mid North Coast - Report to Council meeting on 14/03/2024 - APPROVED MINUTE #73/24                         | 500.00             |
| 160.2024.331.1    | Donations Program 2023/2024 -Nambucca Valley Evening Branch CWA - Report to Council meeting on 14/03/2024 - APPROVED MINUTE #73/24            | 500.00             |
| 160.2024.330.1    | Donations Program 2023/2024 -Scotts Head Tennis Club - Report to Council meeting on 14/03/2024 - APPROVED MINUTE #73/24                       | 500.00             |
| 160.2024.329.1    | Donations Program 2023/2024 -Nambucca River Pony Club - Report to Council meeting on 14/03/2024 - APPROVED MINUTE #73/24                      | 500.00             |
| 160.2024.328.1    | Donations Program 2023/2024 -Radio Nambucca Inc (2NVR) - Report to Council meeting on 14/03/2024 - APPROVED MINUTE #73/24                     | 500.00             |
| 160.2024.327.1    | Donations Program 2023/2024 -Missabotti Community Centre Hall Committee - Report to Council meeting on 14/03/2024 - APPROVED MINUTE #73/24    | 500.00             |
| 160.2024.326.1    | Donations Program 2023/2024 -Valla Beach Residents Social Group - Report to Council meeting on 14/03/2024 - APPROVED MINUTE #73/24            | 500.00             |
| 160.2024.325.1    | Donations Program 2023/2024 -Nambucca Riverwatch - Report to Council meeting on 14/03/2024 - APPROVED MINUTE #73/24                           | 500.00             |
| 160.2024.324.1    | Donations Program 2023/2024 -Scotts Head Sharks Soccer Club - Report to Council meeting on 14/03/2024 - APPROVED MINUTE #73/24                | 500.00             |

| Account No     | Organisation  | \$ Donation |
|----------------|---|-------------|
| 160.2024.323.1 | Donations Program 2023/2024 -We're Here Committee<br>- Report to Council meeting on 14/03/2024 - APPROVED<br>MINUTE #73/24            | 500.00      |
| 160.2023.322.1 | Donation for Assessment #11144854 - Nambucca<br>River District Ag Assoc. Ltd (MINUTE #207/23) - TOTAL<br>DONATION: \$8,570.23         | 4342.00     |
| 160.2023.322.1 | Donation for Assessment #11144854 - Nambucca<br>River District Ag Assoc. Ltd (MINUTE #207/23) - TOTAL<br>DONATION: \$8,570.23         | 349.00      |
| 160.2023.322.1 | Donation for Assessment #11144854 - Nambucca<br>River District Ag Assoc. Ltd (MINUTE #207/23) - TOTAL<br>DONATION: \$8,570.23         | 166.00      |
| 160.2023.322.1 | Donation for Assessment #11144854 - Nambucca<br>River District Ag Assoc. Ltd (MINUTE #207/23) - TOTAL<br>DONATION: \$8,570.23         | 3713.23     |
| 160.2023.321.1 | Lions Club of Bowraville - Donation towards Bowraville<br>Christmas Festival on 15/12/2023 - APPROVED - MINUTE<br>#432/23             | 500.00      |
| 160.2023.320.1 | MAYORAL MINUTE on 26/10/2023 - Donation to Wurinda<br>Gill as NV Ambassador Tidy Towns Awards in Scone -<br>APPROVED - MINUTE #390/23 | 400.00      |
| 160.2023.319.1 | NOTICE of MOTION to Council on 28/09/2023 - Donation<br>to ShoreTrack - APPROVED MINUTE #351/23                                       | 500.00      |
| 1602023.318.1  | Council Resolution - annual donation to Talarm Hall CoM<br>- 2023/24  | 500.00      |
| 160.2023.317.1 | Annual Donation to NV schools - Tallwood Steiner<br>School - 2023/24  | 100.00      |
| 160.2023.316.1 | Annual Donation to NV schools - St Patrick's Primary<br>School - 2023/24  | 100.00      |
| 160.2023.315.1 | Annual Donation to NV schools - St Mary's Primary<br>School - 2023/24   | 100.00      |
| 160.2023.314.1 | Annual Donation to NV schools - Scotts Head Public<br>School - 2023/24  | 100.00      |
| 160.2023.313.1 | Annual Donation to NV schools - NVCC School - 2023/24   | 100.00      |
| 160.2023.312.1 | Annual Donation to NV schools - Nambucca Heads Public<br>School - 2023/24   | 100.00      |
| 160.2023.311.1 | Annual Donation to NV schools - Nambucca Heads High<br>School - 2023/24   | 100.00      |
| 160.2023.310.1 | Annual Donation to NV Schools - Medlow Public School -<br>2023/24   | 100.00      |
| 160.2023.309.1 | Annual Donation to NV schools - Macksville Public School<br>- 2023/24   | 100.00      |

| Account No             | Organisation  | \$ Donation        |
|------------------------|---|--------------------|
| 160.2023.308.1         | Annual Donation to NV schools - Macksville High School - 2023/24  | 100.00             |
| 160.2023.307.1         | Annual Donation to NV schools - Frank Partridge VC School - 2023/24   | 100.00             |
| 160.2023.306.1         | Annual Donation to NV schools - Eungai Public School - 2023/24  | 100.00             |
| 160.2023.305.1         | Annual Donation to NV schools -Bowraville Central School - 2023/24  | 100.00             |
| 160.2023.304.1         | St Jimmy's Christmas Day Luncheon Group - Donation to support Community Christmas Day Luncheon 2023 - Report to Council on 31/08/2023 - APPROVED MINUTE #324/23 | 500.00             |
| 160.2023.303.1         | BCDAI - Donation for assistance to host an Environmental Exhibition on 2/09/2023 - Report to Council on 17/08/2023 - APPROVED MINUTE #294/23                    | 500.00             |
| 160.2023.302.1         | Warrell Creek Hall CoM - Donation for materials to paint hall interior - Report to Council on 27/07/2023 - APPROVED MINUTE #263/23                              | 500.00             |
| 160.2023.301.1         | Time2Talk NV - Veterans trip to Canberra War Memorial - Report to Council on 27/07/2023 - APPROVED MINUTE #262/23   | 500.00             |
| <b>TOTAL DONATIONS</b> |   | <b>\$27,940.23</b> |







## EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY (EEO)

Council is committed to providing, modelling and encouraging a workplace free from all forms of discrimination, harassment, bullying and victimisation.

During 2023/24, in support of this philosophy and in alignment with the relevant legislation, we:

- continued to support our Australian Defence Force (ADF) veterans find meaningful employment through the NSW Government Veterans Employment Program and 'We're Here' program
- assisted employees returning to work from both work-related and non-work related illness or injury by engaging the services of qualified rehabilitation providers;
- provided ongoing support for mental health through the Employee Assistance Program and events such as RUOK? Day
- purchased specialised equipment for employees with special needs such as stand-up desks, gel floor mats, document holders, mouse pads, hearing protection and eye protection;
- continued to provide flexible work practices including hybrid working arrangements, part-time work, flexible hours and nine-day fortnight, which enhance our ability to support employees with carer and family responsibilities.

# DEVELOPER CONTRIBUTIONS

Development contributions and development levies have been used or expended on the following works:

The total value of all contributions and levies received during the year were:

- Section 7.11 Developer Contributions Under a Plan \$28,000
- Section 7.12 Developer Levies Under a Plan \$741,000
- Section 64 Water & Sewer Developer Contributions \$1,360,000

The total value of all contributions and levies expended during the year were:

- Section 7.11 Developer Contributions Under a Plan \$7,000
- Section 7.12 Developer Levies Under a Plan \$1,122,000
- Section 64 Water & Sewer Developer Contributions \$296,000

Expenditure of developer contributions during 2023/24 was as follows:

- Section 7.11 - Casuarina Footpaths \$6,993
- Section 7.12 - \$1,122,615:
  - Alexandra Drive – Rehabilitation Stage 1 \$765,500
  - Nambucca Foreshore works \$220,812
  - Newman St, Nambucca Rehabilitation \$ 7,638
  - River St Macksville \$27,000
  - Principal repayment for loan 436 Warrell Creek Bridge \$ 86,219
  - Banksia Crescent to McMorrin drainage \$1,201
  - Farrington Village, Nambucca Heads \$6,019
  - Failed drain from Hibiscus Dr, Valla Beach \$4,504
  - Sauls Dairy culvert \$2,956
  - Scotts Head tennis drainage \$717
  - Visa Way (Stormwater) Scotts Head \$50
- Section 64 Water – Headworks Lime Solo Capital Works \$291,290
- Section 64 Sewer - Valla Growth Area Capital Works \$4,640



# SECTION 355 COMMITTEES OF MANAGEMENT

| BODY  | FUNCTION   |
|---|--|
| Argents Hill Hall                             | Care, control and management of Argents Hill Hall  |
| Bowraville Sports Ground                      | Care, control and management of Bowraville Sportsground  |
| Burratine Public Hall                         | Care, control and management of Burratine Public Hall  |
| Coronation Park                               | Care, control and management of Coronation Park  |
| E J Biffin Playing Fields                     | Care, control and management of E J Biffin Playing Fields  |
| Eungai District Memorial Hall                 | Care, control and management of Eungai District Soldiers' Memorial Hall  |
| Local Disaster Recovery Committee             | Advise Council on the distribution of donations and funds raised.  |
| Macksville Park and Sports                    | Care, control and management of Macksville Park and Sports grounds   |
| Mary Bolton Pioneer Cottage & Museum          | Care control and management of Pioneer Cottage Macksville  |
| Missabotti Community Centre                   | Care, control and management of Missabotti Community Centre  |
| Nambucca Community and Arts Centre            | Care, control and management of Nambucca Community and Arts Centre   |
| Nambucca District Band                        | Support and acquisition of instruments for the Nambucca District Band  |
| Nambucca District Historical Society & Museum | Care, control and management of the Headland Museum  |
| National Celebration Day Committee            | The objectives of the Committee are to consider nominations; select annual award recipients and facilitate celebratory events such as Australia Day. |
| North Macksville Playing Fields               | Care, control and management of North Macksville Playing Fields  |
| Scotts Head Sports Fields                     | Care, control and management of Scotts Head Sports Fields  |
| South Arm Hall                                | Care, control and management of South Arm Hall   |
| Talarm Hall                                   | Care, control and management of Talarm Hall  |



| BODY                              | FUNCTION  |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Taylors Arm Hall                  | Care, control and management of Taylors Arm Hall                                    |
| Taylors Arm Sports Reserve        | Care, control and management of Taylors Arm Sports Reserve                          |
| Unkya Reserve                     | Care, control and management of Unkya Reserve                                       |
| Utungun Community Centre          | Care, control and management of Utungun Community Centre                            |
| Valla Beach Community Association | Care, control and management of Valla Beach Urban area and Hall                     |
| Valla Public Hall                 | Care, control and management of Valla Public Hall                                   |
| Warrell Creek Public Hall         | Care, control and management of Warrell Creek Public Hall                           |
| We're Here                        | Promote Nambucca Valley to former military personnel as a place to work and reside. |

## COMPANIES IN WHICH COUNCIL HELD A CONTROLLING INTEREST

Council did not hold any controlling interests in any companies during 2023/24.

## EXTERNAL BODIES THAT EXERCISED FUNCTIONS DELEGATED BY COUNCIL

Council did not have any external bodies that exercised functions delegated by council during 2023/24.



# PARTNERSHIPS, CO-OPERATIVES OR OTHER JOINT VENTURES TO WHICH COUNCIL WAS A PARTY

Council is involved with the following organisations:

| NAME   | PURPOSE  |
|--|--|
| Statewide (Local Government) Mutual Liability Scheme | Provides insurance coverage to Council as required by the Local Government Act. Most councils in NSW are members.        |
| Statecover Mutual Limited                            | Provides Workers Compensation Insurance to Council. Most councils in NSW are Members.                                    |
| Coffs Coast Waste Services                           | Waste Processing and Resource Recovery Facility for City of Coffs Harbour, Bellingen Shire and Nambucca Valley Councils. |

## ENVIRONMENTAL LEVY

The Minister for Local Government approved the introduction of an environmental levy as part of a special general-purpose rate variation in 2003/2005.

The Minister approved an extension of the levy for a further five years from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2010.

Then a further two years from 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2012. In the year 2012/2013 approval was given for the levy to continue on an ongoing basis and become part of the overall rate base.

Projects funded by the Environmental Levy in the financial year 2023/2024 are listed below:

| 2023/24 Expenditure Activities                                | 2023/24 Actuals \$ |
|---|--------------------|
| Restoration & Rehabilitation                                  | 853                |
| Dog/ Cat Desexing   | 6,856              |
| Noxious Weed Control  | 62,305             |
| Dawkins Park Macksville                                       | 71,071             |
| Indian Myna bird management                                   | 1,052              |
| Levy Overheads  | 97,700             |
| Natural Resource Officer                                      | 39,127             |
| Nambucca Foreshore  | 18,000             |
| Environmental Levy - Estuary/ Coastal Management Plan Actions | 52,629             |
| Water Quality Monitoring                                      | 6,215              |

| 2023/24 Expenditure Activities                | 2023/24 Actuals \$ |
|---|--------------------|
| Our Living Coast                              | 1,364              |
| Plans & Studies                               | 600                |
| Bank Stabilisation                            | 68,683             |
| Gross Pollutant Trap Maintenance              | 6,215              |
| <b>Total 2023/24 Expenditure</b>              | <b>432,670</b>     |
| <b>Total 2023/24 Revenue</b>                  | <b>485,167</b>     |
| <b>Transfer to Environmental Levy Reserve</b> | <b>52,497</b>      |

## INSPECTION OF PRIVATE SWIMMING POOLS

Details of inspections of private swimming pools in 2023/2024 include:

- Number of inspections of tourist and visitor accommodation 1
- Number of inspections of premises with more than 2 dwellings 0
- Number of inspections that resulted in issuance a certificate of compliance under s22D of the SP Act 34
- Number of inspections that resulted in issuance a certificate of non-compliance under cl21 of the SP Reg

## PRIVACY AND PERSONAL INFORMATION PROTECTION ACT 1998

The Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 (PPIPA) provides for the protection of personal information and for the protection of the privacy of individuals generally.

Council's Privacy Management Plan and Policy was adopted 24 April 2013 and has been revised along with changes to the Act (last reviewed October 2022). The policy is available on Council's website at <https://www.nambucca.nsw.gov.au/files/assets/public/v/6/council/complianceformspolicies-amp-reporting/policies/corporate-services/50043-2023-cs-06-privacy-management-plan-revised-september-2023.pdf>

Council complies with the requirements of the PPIPA and access to private or personal information held by Council has only been given in accordance with PPIPA, the provisions of the Local Government Act and, the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009.

The main provisions of the PPIPA are:

The Act applies to Councillors, Council employees, consultants and contractors of Council, Council owned businesses, Council committees including Committees of Management and Council volunteers.



Personal information is defined to mean information or an opinion about an individual whose identity is apparent or can reasonably be ascertained from the information or opinion.

Personal information does not include information about an individual that is contained in a publicly available publication.

The Act refers to personal information held by Council in public registers, which are rate records, records of approvals and consents, licences, building certificates etc. Council must not disclose personal information from a public register unless satisfied it relates to the purpose for which the record is kept and is an appropriate and legitimate use.

Council must be aware of those accessing records within the definition of public registers and for what purpose.

For the period to 30 June 2024 there has been no reviews conducted by Council under Part 5 (Review of certain conduct of an agency) of the PPIPA.

## GOVERNMENT INFORMATION (PUBLIC ACCESS) ACT 2009

Obligations under the GIPA Act – Reporting year 2023/2024

### **1 - REVIEW OF PROACTIVE RELEASE PROGRAM**

Under section 7 of the GIPA Act, agencies must review their program for the release of government information to identify the kinds of information that can be made publicly available. This review must be undertaken at least once every 12 months.

Review was undertaken by Managers and Executive Leadership Team forum during monthly meetings.

The following information was made publicly available through various means such as Council's remodelled website, Facebook page, libraries, local newspapers, newsletters, distribution lists, community engagement platform (Antenno App), media releases or through the provision of hard or electronic copies:

- Council meeting agendas/times/locations;
- Sewage overflow assessments and plans for improvement;
- Updated Plans of Management for public reserves and Crown managed land
- Community Strategic Plan – design and input
- Proposed off-leash dog area plans
- Public art project – v-wall pelican sculpture
- Integrated planning and reporting information
- Amendments to LEP – numbers 36 and 37
- New local road names
- Recent tenders list
- Waste Management information;
- 4WD Beach Permits program;
- Citizenship days;

- Natural Celebration Day Awards;
- Library activities and updates to library collections;
- Road grading schedules;
- Water outages and upgrade schedules;
- Caravan, Camping, Overnight stays locations in the valley;
- Grant Funding Opportunities for Council Committees and other Community Groups.
- Closure of Council facilities;

## 2 - NUMBER OF ACCESS APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

During the reporting period, Council received a total of seven (7) formal access applications (including withdrawn applications but not invalid applications).

## 3 - NUMBER OF REFUSED APPLICATIONS FOR SCHEDULE 1 INFORMATION

The total number of access applications received during the reporting year that Council refused either wholly or partly, because the application was for the disclosure of information referred to in Schedule 1 to the Act (information for which there is conclusive presumption of overriding public interest against disclosure):

| Number of Applications Refused | Wholly | Partly | Total |
|--------------------------------|--------|--------|-------|
|                                | 0      | 1      | 1     |
| % of Total                     | 0%     | 100%   |       |



## 2023/24 STATISTICAL INFORMATION ABOUT ACCESS APPLICATIONS

**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 | Total     | % Of Total |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|-----------------------|-----------|------------|
| Media  | 0                      | 0                      | 0                      | 0                    | 0                             | 0                               | 0  | 0                     | 0         | 0%         |
| Members of Parliament                            | 0                      | 0                      | 0                      | 0                    | 0                             | 0                               | 0  | 0                     | 0         | 0%         |
| Private sector business                          | 0                      | 0                      | 0                      | 0                    | 0                             | 0                               | 0  | 0                     | 0         | 0%         |
| Not for profit organisations or community groups | 0                      | 1                      | 0                      | 0                    | 1                             | 0                               | 0  | 0                     | 2         | 11.76%     |
| Members of the public (by legal representative)  | 1                      | 2                      | 0                      | 1                    | 0                             | 0                               | 0  | 0                     | 4         | 23.53%     |
| Members of the public (other)                    | 4                      | 4                      | 1                      | 0                    | 2                             | 0                               | 0  | 0                     | 11        | 64.71%     |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                     | <b>5</b>               | <b>7</b>               | <b>1</b>               | <b>1</b>             | <b>3</b>                      | <b>0</b>                        | <b>0</b>   | <b>0</b>              | <b>17</b> |            |
| <b>% OF TOTAL</b>                                | <b>29.41%</b>          | <b>41.18%</b>          | <b>5.88%</b>           | <b>5.88%</b>         | <b>17.65%</b>                 | <b>0%</b>                       | <b>0%</b>  | <b>0%</b>             |           |            |

\* 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 decision. This also applies to Table B.

**TABLE B: 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 | Total | % of Total |
|---|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|-----------------------|-------|------------|
| Personal information applications                                       | 0                      | 0                      | 0                      | 0                    | 0                             | 0                               | 0  | 0                     | 0     | 0%         |
| Access applications (other than personal information applications)      | 4                      | 6                      | 1                      | 1                    | 3                             | 0                               | 0  | 0                     | 15    | 88.24%     |
| Access applications that are partly personal information & partly other | 1                      | 1                      | 0                      | 0                    | 0                             | 0                               | 0  | 0                     | 2     | 11.76%     |
| TOTAL   | 5                      | 7                      | 1                      | 1                    | 3                             | 0                               | 0  | 0                     | 17    |            |
| % OF TOTAL  | 29.41%                 | 41.18%                 | 5.88%                  | 5.88%                | 17.65%                        | 0%                              | 0%   | 0%                    |       |            |

**TABLE C: INVALID APPLICATIONS**

| <b>Reason for invalidity</b>  | <b>No of applications</b> | <b>% of Total</b> |
|---|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Application does not comply with formal requirements (section 41 of the Act)  | 0                         | 0%                |
| Application is for excluded information of the agency (section 43 of the Act) | 0                         | 0%                |
| Application contravenes restraint order (section 110 of the Act)              | 0                         | 0%                |
| Total number of invalid applications received                                 | 0                         | 0%                |
| Invalid applications that subsequently became valid applications              | 0                         | 0%                |

**TABLE D: CONCLUSIVE PRESUMPTION OF OVERRIDING PUBLIC INTEREST AGAINST DISCLOSURE: MATTERS LISTED IN SCHEDULE 1 TO ACT**

|   | <b>Number of times consideration used*</b> | <b>% of Total</b> |
|---|--|-------------------|
| Overriding secrecy laws                               | 0  | 0%                |
| Cabinet information                                   | 0  | 0%                |
| Executive Council information                         | 0  | 0%                |
| Contempt  | 0  | 0%                |
| Legal professional privilege                          | 1  | 100%              |
| Excluded information                                  | 0  | 0%                |
| Documents affecting law enforcement and public safety | 0  | 0%                |
| Transport safety                                      | 0  | 0%                |
| Adoption  | 0  | 0%                |
| Care and protection of children                       | 0  | 0%                |
| Ministerial code of conduct                           | 0  | 0%                |
| Aboriginal and environmental heritage                 | 0  | 0%                |
| TOTAL   | 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 ACT**

|  | <b>Number of times consideration used*</b> | <b>% of Total</b> |
|--|--|-------------------|
| Responsible and effective government                                 | 1  | 7.69%             |
| Law enforcement and security   | 1  | 7.69%             |
| Individual rights, judicial process and natural justice              | 7  | 53.85%            |
| Business interests of agencies and other persons                     | 4  | 30.77%            |
| Environment, culture, economy and general matters                    | 0  | 0%                |
| Secrecy provisions   | 0  | 0%                |
| Exempt documents under interstate Freedom of Information legislation | 0  | 0%                |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   | <b>13</b>                                  |                   |

**TABLE F: TIMELINES**

|  | <b>Number of applications</b> | <b>% of Total</b> |
|--|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Decided within the statutory timeframe (20 days plus any extension)  | 7                             | 100%              |
| Decided after 35 days (by agreement with applicant)                  | 0                             | 0%                |
| Not decided within time (deemed refusal)                             | 0                             | 0%                |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   | <b>7</b>                      |                   |
| Environment, culture, economy and general matters                    | 0                             | 0%                |
| Secrecy provisions   | 0                             | 0%                |
| Exempt documents under interstate Freedom of Information legislation | 0                             | 0%                |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   | <b>13</b>                     |                   |

**TABLE G: NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS REVIEWED UNDER PART 5 OF THE ACT (BY TYPE OF REVIEW AND OUTCOME)**

|   | <b>Decision varied</b> | <b>Decision upheld</b> | <b>Total</b> | <b>% of Total</b> |
|---|------------------------|------------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| Internal review   | 0                      | 0                      | 0            | 0%                |
| Review by Information Commissioner                                | 0                      | 0                      | 0            | 0%                |
| Internal review following recommendations under section 93 of Act | 0                      | 0                      | 0            | 0%                |
| Review by NCAT  | 0                      | 0                      | 0            | 0%                |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>0</b>               | <b>0</b>               | <b>0</b>     |                   |



**TABLE H: APPLICATIONS FOR REVIEW UNDER PART 5 OF THE ACT (BY TYPE OF APPLICANT)**

|   | <b>Number of applications for review</b> | <b>% of Total</b> | <b>Total</b> | <b>% of Total</b> |
|---|--|-------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| Applications by access applicants   | 0  | 0%                | 0            | 0%                |
| Applications by persons to whom information the subject of access application relates (see section 54 of the Act) | 0  | 0%                | 0            | 0%                |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>0</b>                                 |                   | <b>0</b>     | <b>0%</b>         |

**TABLE I: APPLICATIONS TRANSFERRED TO OTHER AGENCIES**

|                               | <b>Number of applications for review</b> | <b>% of Total</b> | <b>Total</b> | <b>% of Total</b> |
|-------------------------------|--|-------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| Agency initiated Transfers    | 0  | 0%                | 0            | 0%                |
| Applicant initiated Transfers | 0  | 0%                | 0            | 0%                |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                  | <b>0</b>                                 |                   | <b>0</b>     | <b>0%</b>         |

**2023/24 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON PROACTIVE RELEASE**

**Did Council publish a register of the information that it makes publicly available as a result of its annual review.**

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| <b>Yes</b> |   |
| <b>No</b>  | X |

**Did Council take any of the following steps as part of its annual review? (more than one answer permitted)**

|  |   |
|--|---|
|  | Establish a working group to identify additional information that could be proactively released                                     |
|  | Undertake a survey of staff to identify additional information that could be proactively released                                   |
|  | Analyse Council data on applications for access to information, to identify trends and documents that could be released proactively |

| Did Council take any of the following steps as part of its annual review? (more than one answer permitted) |   |
|--|---|
|  | Engage with stakeholders to establish information release priorities (e.g. through community surveys, workshops and consultation processes) |
|  | Attestations by team leaders that they reviewed information in their area that may be suitable for proactive release                        |
|  | A briefing to the chief executive and/or executive leadership team recommending   |
|  | What, if any, additional information be proactively released  |
|  | Follow a policy/procedure on how your proactive release program is reviewed   |
| <b>X</b>   | None of the above   |

| Were any of the following kinds of government information proactively released as a result of Council's annual review? (more than one answer permitted) |   |
|---|---|
|   | Information about the use or planned use of artificial intelligence by Council  |
|   | Information about the use or planned use of automated decision making by Council  |
|   | Additional information about how members of the public could participate in the formulation of Council's policy and the exercise of Council's functions |
| <b>X</b>  | None of the above   |

Council's proactive release program is reviewed by MANEX and Executive Leadership Team (ELT) at monthly meetings as required.

| Number of Informal Access Requests                   |   |
|--|---|
| Received by the Agency in the Reporting Period       | 5 |
| Decided by the Agency in the Reporting Period        | 5 |
| Decided within 20 business days of receipt           | 5 |
| Decided and notice in writing given to the applicant | 5 |

| <b>Number of Information Access Requests Decided by Outcome</b> |   |
|---|---|
| Access granted in full  | 2 |
| Access granted in part  | 3 |
| Access refused in full  | 0 |
| Referred to a formal access application                         | 0 |
| Conditions imposed  | 0 |

| <b>Number of Information Access Requests by Information Type</b> |   |
|--|---|
| Personal information of the requestor                            | 2 |
| Personal information of another person                           | 0 |
| Business information   | 2 |
| Financial information  | 0 |
| Other  | 1 |

| <b>Number of Information Access Requests by Type of Condition Imposed</b> |   |
|---|---|
| Period of time to access information condition                            | 0 |
| View Access only condition  | 0 |
| Limitation on use of information condition                                | 0 |
| Other   | 0 |

| <b>Number of Instances</b>  |   |
|---|---|
| Information released informally was then proactively released publicly by Council | 0 |

# DETAILS OF COMPLIANCE WITH NATIONAL COMPETITION POLICY PRINCIPLES

Council has classified the Business Activities of Water Supply and Sewerage Services as Category 1 Business Activities.

Council does not have any other activities that are of a nature as to be classified as Category 2 Businesses.

Council's audited financial reports include Special Purpose Financial Reports for the two Category 1 business activities.

These special purpose financial reports have been prepared in accordance with the principles of the June 1996 NSW Government Policy Statement "Application of National Competition Policy to Local Government" and the then Department of Local Government's July 1997 guidelines "Pricing and Costing for Council Businesses: a Guide to Competitive Neutrality".

Council operates the Water Supply and Sewerage Services as separate activities for financial and organisational purposes. These activities have separate internal accounting systems and full costs are allocated to each activity, directly and also as corporate overheads.

A summary of these Special Purpose Financial Reports for the year ended 30 June 2024 is below:

| FINANCIAL POSITION            | WATER SUPPLIES<br>\$,000's | SEWERAGE SERVICES<br>\$,000's |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| \$,000's                      | 0                          |                               |
| Total Current Assets          | 19,605                     | 11,720                        |
| Total Current Liabilities     | 1,179                      | 1,162                         |
| Total Non-Current Assets      | 119,423                    | 102,465                       |
| Total Non-Current Liabilities | 19,503                     | 5,600                         |
| Total Equity                  | 118,346                    | 107,423                       |

## WATER AND SEWERAGE SERVICES

Council manages its Water Supply and Sewerage Services in compliance with the Guidelines for Best Practice Management of Water Supply and Sewerage issued by the NSW Department of Planning and environment.

Council has currently engaged NSW Public Works to review and update its Integrated Water Cycle Management (IWCM) Plan in light of the increased rate of development and construction costs that have been evident since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic. This

Plan documents the most cost effective means of continuing to provide water and sewerage services into the future and details a capital works program for the next 30 years along with a financial model to determine the fees and charges required to fund it.

Water Supply and Sewerage Asset Management Plans have also been documented to assist Council in the programming of ongoing maintenance and renewal of the water supply and sewerage infrastructure so that appropriate service levels can be maintained in future years.

## BRIDGE AND ROAD RENEWAL PROGRAM FUNDED FROM SPECIAL RATE VARIATIONS

Nambucca Valley Council received approval for a series of three special rate variations commencing 2014/2015.

| Year    | Approved increase to rate income |
|---------|----------------------------------|
| 2014-15 | 3.8%                             |
| 2015-16 | 5.0%                             |
| 2016-17 | 5.5%                             |

The 2016/17 special rate increase has funded 25 bridge replacements. Council will continue to use the additional funds for bridge and road upgrades and for the repayment of loans that were borrowed to fund road and bridge renewals.

The bridges replaced so far are:

|                       |                      |                 |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| Bakers Creek          | Degraas              | Sinclair No. 1  |
| Boat Harbour          | Factory              | Swans           |
| Jack Ryall            | Garretts No. 2       | Top Bridge      |
| Purcells              | Jack Gorleys         | Touts           |
| Browns Bridge         | Little Broughys      | Fischers        |
| Browns Crossing No. 2 | Lovedays             | Lanes           |
| Colemans              | McHughes Creek No. 2 | Youngs          |
| Coulters              | Menzies              | Allgomera 2     |
| Murrays               | Proctors             | Shorts          |
| Helliwells            | Partridges           | Frank Partridge |
| Buttsworth No. 1      | Buttsworth No. 2     | Chas Welsh      |
| Valla                 | Elliots Road No. 2   | Rod Laverty's   |
| Morrisons             | Deans                | Peterkins       |
| Talarm                | Sandy's Crossing     | Grants          |
| Dyers                 |                      |                 |



This program is still on track with the last two bridges nearing completion. Concrete bridges have replaced the existing timber and timber composite bridges. Council’s bridge program has received a boost in funding through the Fixing Country Bridges Program and the Bridges Renewal Program.

Grant funding has been awarded under Fixing Country Bridges (FCB) 2B and Regional Roads and Transport Recovery Package (RRTRP) Betterment Programs with the following Bridges Funded.

| FCB 2B            | RRTRP Betterment             |
|-------------------|------------------------------|
| Bill Ryans Bridge | Cassidys Bridge              |
| Tom Ryans Bridge  | Little Motleys Bridge        |
| Foxes Bridge      | Sullivans Bridge             |
| Mitchells Bridge  | Browns Crossing No. 1 Bridge |
|                   | Way Bridge                   |
|                   | Roberts Bridge               |





# PUBLIC INTEREST DISCLOSURES

The current Public Interest Disclosures Act 2022 (2022 PID Act) does not have an equivalent provision to Section 31 under the former Public Interest Disclosures Act 1994 (1994 PID Act) which required public authorities to prepare an annual report on their obligations under the Act for submission to the responsible Minister. However Section 31 reporting under the former 1994 PID Act is a consideration for the Council to report on for the period 1 July to 30 September 2023. Therefore per Section 31 of the 1994 PID Act Council's are required to disclose the below statistics on Public Interest Disclosures (PIDs) to Council for the period 1 July to 30 September 2023:

| Category  | Made by public officials performing their day to day functions | Under a statutory or other legal obligation | All other PIDs |
|---|--|---|----------------|
| Number of public officials who made PIDs directly | 0  | 0   | 0              |
| Number of PIDs received                           | 0  | 0   | 0              |
| Of PIDs received, number primarily about:         |  |   |                |
| Corrupt conduct                                   | 0  | 0   | 0              |
| Maladministration                                 | 0  | 0   | 0              |
| Serious and substantial waste                     | 0  | 0   | 0              |
| Government information contravention              | 0  | 0   | 0              |
| Local government pecuniary interest contravention | 0  | 0   | 0              |
| Number of PIDs received and finalised             | 0  |   |                |



# STATE OF OUR VALLEY REPORT

JANUARY 2022 - SEPTEMBER 2024

**PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING THE NAMBUCCA  
VALLEY COUNCIL COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN  
2022/23 TO 2031/32**

# GIINAGAY

Giinagay (said: 'ginn-a-gay') =  
welcome. From the local indigenous/  
Gumbaynggirr language.

Nambucca Valley Council acknowledges the  
Gumbaynggirr people as the traditional owners of the  
land on which we work and play. We pay our respects  
to Elders past, present and emerging.





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# A MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

I'm excited to present the Nambucca Valley Council's 2022-2024 State of the Valley report which details the Council's progress and achievements delivering the goals and aspirations set out in the Community Strategic Plan, which is a ten year vision and delivery strategy for the Nambucca Valley.

A prominent feature of this Council term has been the focus on recovery from the 2019 bushfire and 2022 and 2023 floods, and the restoration of the community's confidence and resilience, in addition to delivering the usual services the community expects.

On top of Council's day to day core business, significant grant funding was received from both the State and Federal Governments to stimulate the economy following the natural disasters and COVID-19 pandemic. These 193 additional grant funded projects both small and large have made a significant difference to the amenity of our towns and villages.

Some examples of the significant capital works projects that benefited from grant funding, along with Council contributions are;

- Macksville CBD reconstruction.
- Main Beach Nambucca Heads, Seawall project, bleachers and car park reconstruction. (pictured)
- Nambucca river foreshore art project
- Marion Woods netball court resurfacing
- Nambucca River & Valla Beach boardwalk renewal
- Dawkins park island connection
- Nambucca Heads Library extension and refurbishment
- Completion of the Macksville to Nambucca Heads cycleway
- Replacement of 23 timber bridges under the Bridges Renewal and Fixing Country Bridges programs.
- EJ Biffin sports oval lighting and subsoil drainage





The expected natural disaster repair bill for assets damaged during the recent floods will exceed \$90 million. This large volume of work has required the creation of a Natural Disasters Project Team who will deliver the reconstruction program over the next 3 years. This brings Council's fulltime equivalent employee numbers to 156.

During the floods and a number of other intensive rainfall events, Council's sewerage systems surcharged into the Nambucca River triggering an EPA response to close the river to oyster harvesting for 21 days. This is particularly damaging if the event occurs during peak times prior to Christmas and Easter. To mitigate the damage from these events, Council has undertaken a number of proactive measures including smoke testing and inspections to identify illegal property stormwater connections, employing a second water jetter to clear sewerage mains of debris causing blockages and capital upgrades to two high risk pump stations.

These significant capital improvements included the installation of offset detention tanks on the two pump stations, telemetry flow monitors and AI software. The AI software will continue to build a database of flowrates verses rainfall volume and intensity, and will predict significant sewerage flow events against pump station capacity. This technology will allow faster intervention to prevent sewerage surcharges and subsequent overflows into the Nambucca river. This project will deliver a significant environmental improvement to our river health which allows better recreational use and industry benefits such as direct harvest for the oyster growers delivering significant cost savings for the industry.







In the water supply area, the water treatment plant received a new ultra violet disinfection system at a cost of approx \$1 million that provides an important third barrier of protection in the treatment process, to ensure safe drinking water into the future.

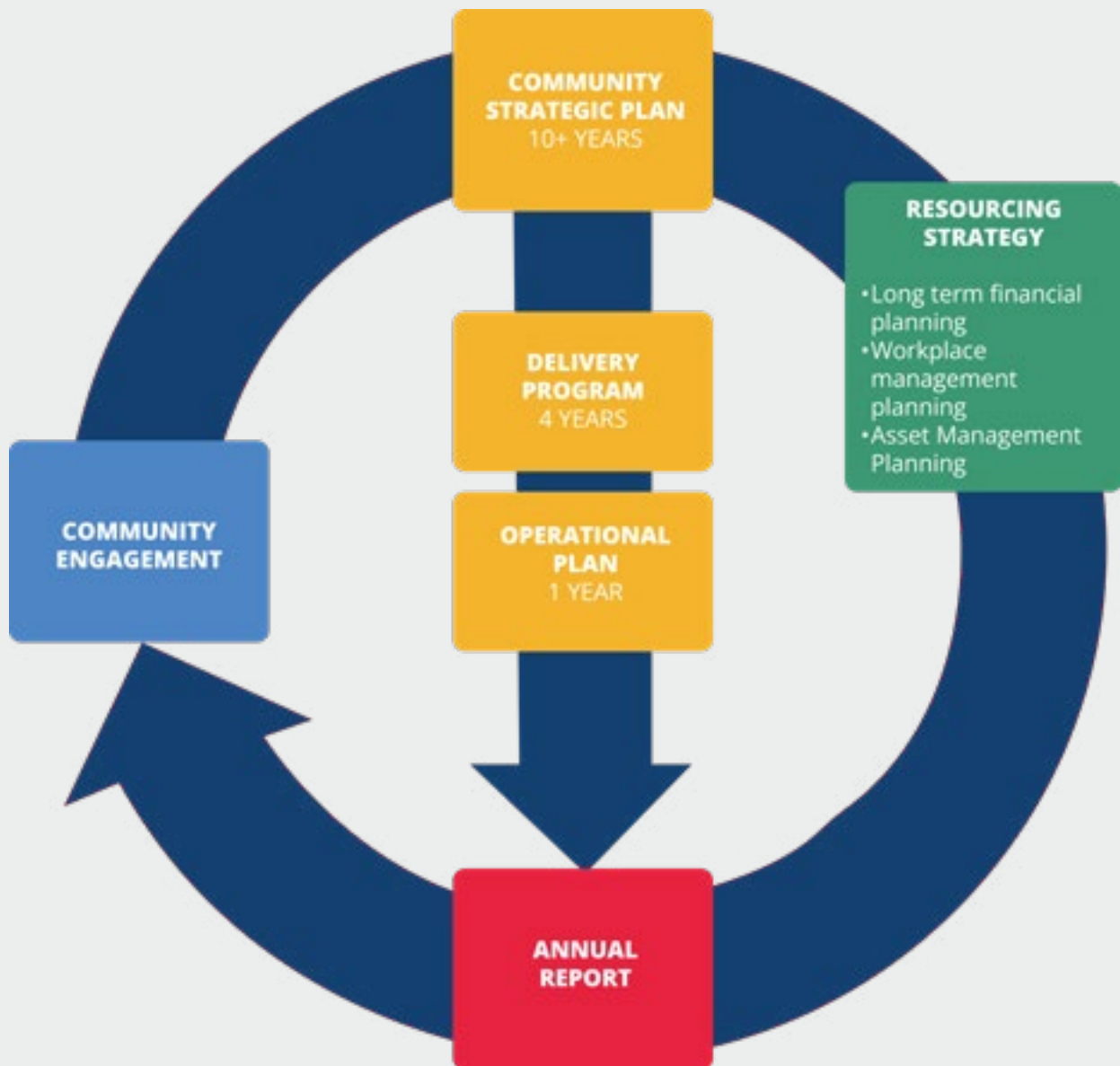
Council has maintained sufficient landfill capacity within the Nambucca Waste Management Facility, with kerbside waste from both Nambucca Valley Council and Bellingen Shire Council being landfilled at the facility. A new cell was constructed at a cost of approximately \$800,000 and has commenced use with an expected lifespan of seven years. Planning has commended on the development of the next cell so that it can be constructed and ready for use once the current cell reaches capacity. Council has also continued to operate the community recycling centre at the waste management facility which diverts hazardous waste from landfill.

The next four year term of Council will see the development of a new community strategic plan to guide the delivery of the goals and aspirations of the community. At the same time, we'll be delivering the restoration of essential public infrastructure damaged during the recent natural disasters and the resilience and confidence of our community.

Bede Spannagle  
**GENERAL MANAGER**

# FOREWORD

NSW Local Government uses a legislated Integrated Planning and Reporting Cycle commonly known as I P and R. It is based on a 10-year Community Strategic Plan, a 10-year Resourcing Strategy, a 4-year Delivery Program (that reflects the term of each Council) and annual Operational Plan which contains detailed budgets.



A report on the progress on implementation of the Community Strategic Plan must be presented to and endorsed at the second meeting of a newly elected council. This report also informs the incoming Council who must review the Community Strategic Plan prior to the next Budget.

This is a report on the implementation of the Nambucca Valley Community Strategic Plan 2022/23 to 2031/32 and it highlights the notable achievements of the Nambucca Valley Council 2022-2024. Delivery Program 2022/2023 to 2025/2026 action codes are listed in this report to show progress against the Community Strategic Plan i.e. Identify and implement initiatives to improve financial sustainability (CC5).

# STRATEGIC PLAN

## THEMES AND DIRECTIONS



### CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

- Civic Leadership and Administration
- Public Order and Safety
- Public Health



### CARING FOR OUR ENVIRONMENT

- Well Planned Communities
- Building Regulation
- Environmental Services and Community Amenities



### LIVING WELL

- Recreation and Culture
- Community Support and Education



### PROMOTING PROSPERITY

- Local Economy

# COMMUNITY OVERVIEW

The Nambucca Valley Local Government Area (LGA) is located between Kempsey and Bellingen Shire Councils on the Mid North Coast of NSW, approximately 500km north of Sydney and 480km south of Brisbane. It is 1492.8 km<sup>2</sup> and is situated between 3.0030'S and 3.0056'S and 15.2018'E and 15.3001'E. The terrain is steep and intersected by small streams nestled between the foothills of the Great Dividing Range and the coastline of the Pacific Ocean. The rugged topography of the eastern edge of the New England plateau in the western part of the valley is dominated by steep slopes and valleys, while the eastern portion of the valley is characterised by the gentle slopes of the river floodplains.

The Nambucca River drains the valley and is 47km long. Nambucca Valley Council has two National Parks, eight local nature reserves and 25km of coastline.

**52 years**  
Median age

**8%**  
of our population  
identify as Aboriginal  
or Torres Straight  
Islander  
NSW Average 3.4%

**2 Towns**  
With population  
greater than 5000  
(Macksville &  
Nambucca Heads)



**20,774**  
Estimated residential  
population (ERP) 2023

**13.92**  
Population density\*

**730 km**  
of road

\* Population density based on ERP 13.92 persons per square km (NSW 10.41 per square km)



# NAMBUCCA VALLEY POPULATION SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS

|                         | 2016   | 2021   | CHANGE  |
|-------------------------|--------|--------|---------|
| Total persons           | 19,212 | 20,407 | +5.86%  |
| Aged 14 years and under | 3,196  | 3,207  | +1.34%  |
| Aged 65 years and over  | 5,306  | 6,132  | +13.47% |
| Born overseas           | 3,558  | 3,890  | +8.53%  |
| Median age              | 51     | 52     | +1 Yr   |
| Unemployment rate       | 9.4%   | 6.8%   | -2.6%   |

[Source: ABS](#)

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people make up about 8% of the population per the 2021 census (7.6% 2016), nearly treble the national average and their living culture is an integral part of the Valley's society.





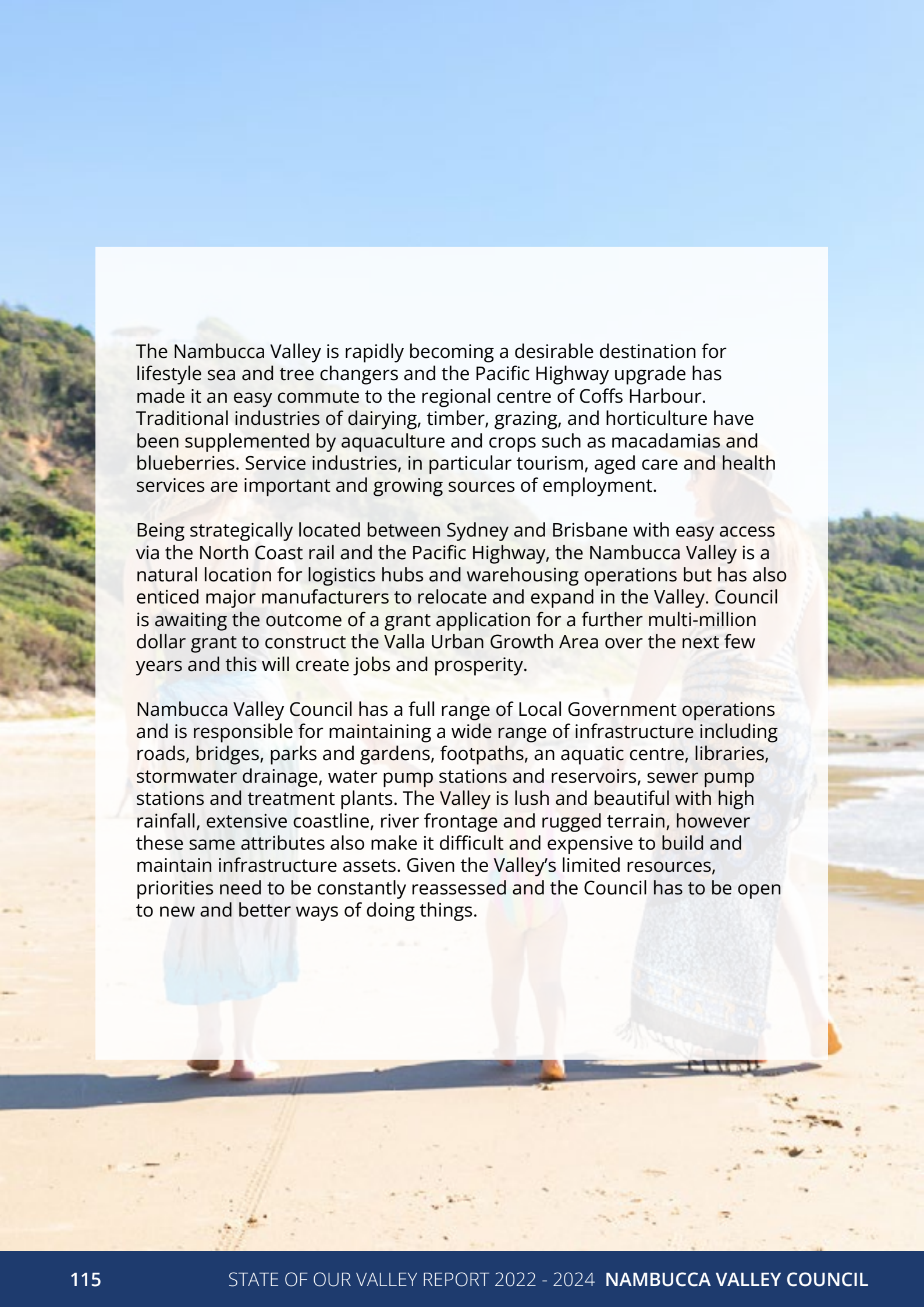
# TOWNS, VILLAGES & RURAL POPULATION

The main localities include Nambucca Heads, Macksville, Bowraville, Valla Beach and Scotts Head with many smaller villages and rural settlements. The LGA has a population density of 13.92 people per km<sup>2</sup> based on the ABS Estimated Residential Population (ERP) 2023. The below table is based on ERP's. The ERP is the ABS official population figure for all Local Government Areas (LGAs) - but is subject to review after the next Census release. For areas smaller than LGAs, the ERP is derived from SA1 geographies based on population distribution from the previous Census. As such, these smaller geographies are subject to a greater level of revision each Census due to the change in actual numbers and in population distributions.

Populations are counted and estimated in various ways. The most comprehensive population count available in Australia is derived from the Census of Population and Housing conducted by the ABS every five years. However, the Census count is generally an under-estimate of the actual population, due to people missed in the Census and people overseas on Census night. To provide a more accurate population figure more frequently, the ABS also produces ERP numbers.

|                              | 2017          | 2019          | 2021          | 2023          |
|------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Bowraville & surrounds       | 2,569         | 2,595         | 2,627         | 2,696         |
| Macksville & surrounds       | 5,891         | 5,988         | 6,042         | 6,170         |
| Nambucca Heads - Hyland Park | 6,928         | 7,022         | 7,116         | 7,153         |
| Scotts Head - Way Way        | 1,180         | 1,238         | 1,252         | 1,302         |
| Valla - Valla Beach          | 2,304         | 2,408         | 2,469         | 2,565         |
| Rural West                   | 915           | 899           | 877           | 888           |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                 | <b>19,787</b> | <b>20,150</b> | <b>20,383</b> | <b>20,774</b> |

[Source: ID Community](#)



The Nambucca Valley is rapidly becoming a desirable destination for lifestyle sea and tree changers and the Pacific Highway upgrade has made it an easy commute to the regional centre of Coffs Harbour. Traditional industries of dairying, timber, grazing, and horticulture have been supplemented by aquaculture and crops such as macadamias and blueberries. Service industries, in particular tourism, aged care and health services are important and growing sources of employment.

Being strategically located between Sydney and Brisbane with easy access via the North Coast rail and the Pacific Highway, the Nambucca Valley is a natural location for logistics hubs and warehousing operations but has also enticed major manufacturers to relocate and expand in the Valley. Council is awaiting the outcome of a grant application for a further multi-million dollar grant to construct the Valla Urban Growth Area over the next few years and this will create jobs and prosperity.

Nambucca Valley Council has a full range of Local Government operations and is responsible for maintaining a wide range of infrastructure including roads, bridges, parks and gardens, footpaths, an aquatic centre, libraries, stormwater drainage, water pump stations and reservoirs, sewer pump stations and treatment plants. The Valley is lush and beautiful with high rainfall, extensive coastline, river frontage and rugged terrain, however these same attributes also make it difficult and expensive to build and maintain infrastructure assets. Given the Valley's limited resources, priorities need to be constantly reassessed and the Council has to be open to new and better ways of doing things.

# THEME ONE

## CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

*Our community will be  
a safe, healthy place to  
live where everyone is  
valued.*



## CIVIC LEADERSHIP AND ENGAGEMENT

Citizen engagement:

*Council engages the community in the process of open government and public participation is encouraged not only in policy development and major decisions, but in the day to day operations of the Council (CC1).*

### Achievements:

- Councillors and Senior Staff attend Section 355 Committee Annual General Meetings and minutes are reported to Council.
- A centralised web page provides Committees with easily accessible information: Volunteer application form, Handbook and Safety Handbook; Guidelines to Operate; and Codes of Conduct and Meeting Practice.
- A volunteer engagement session was held 23.10.23.
- Council continued to conduct 'away' meetings in villages and outlying rural areas. Residents addressed Council via delegations and public forums at Council meetings.
- Facebook/Instagram Page visits increased by 35% for 12 months ending 30.6.24 and the Antenna App (Council's community engagement platform mobile app) users increased from 187 to 577 in 2023-2024

*Use information from the community in decision making by reporting submissions and community comments to Council; and undertaking regular Community Satisfaction Surveys (CC2)*

### Achievements:

- Numerous plans and documents were exhibited over the period using Council's website and physical displays in the Administration Centre and libraries.
- A Community Satisfaction Survey of 400 residents was undertaken by Taverner Research in 2024. Survey results are used to inform Council strategic and corporate planning such as the upcoming review of the Community Strategic Plan.





*Keep the community informed of the decisions, key issues and actions of Council by using Council's website, media opportunities, newsletters and direct personal communications to inform stakeholders and the community (CC3)*

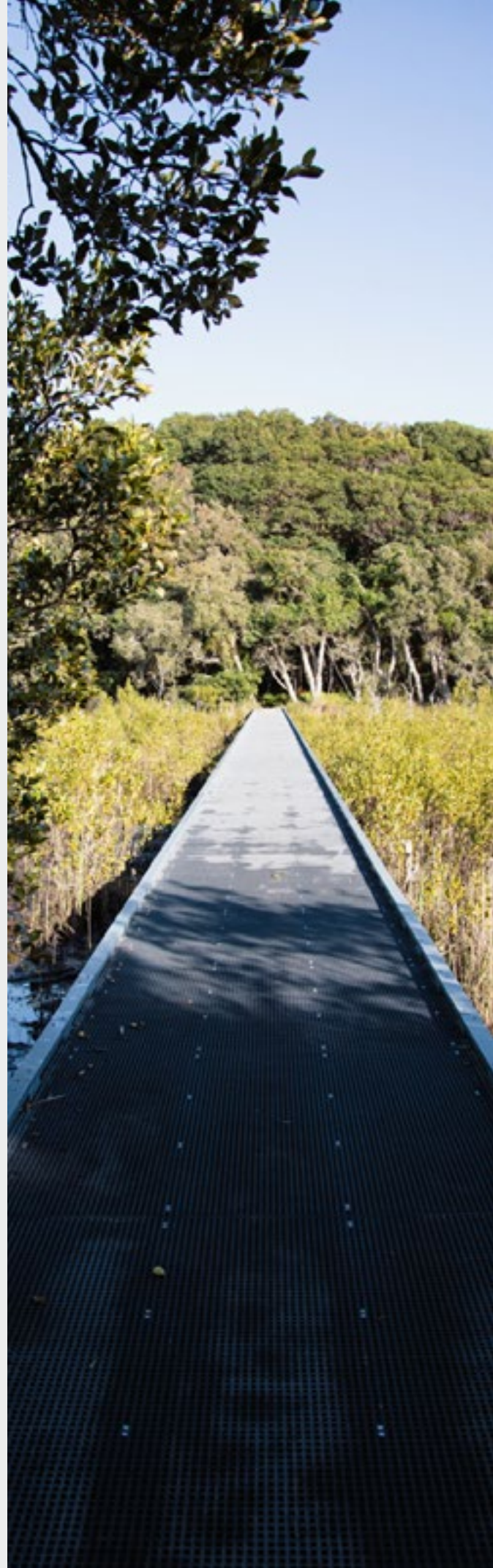
### **Achievements:**

- Council reports and minutes of meetings posted on website including webcasts of meetings.
- Council became more proactive with the use of Social Media resulting in increased visits.
- Council meeting agenda published on Social Media.
- Implementation of Antenno Community Engagement Platform mobile app.
- Media releases distributed and various television, Antenno, radio and newspaper articles on Council activities occurred during the term.
- Encouraging use of media releases instead of paid advertisements to reduce cost and increase reach. Paid advertisements used only where there is a statutory or other requirement.

*Maintain an effective governance by meeting and maintaining IP&R requirements and have an effective Internal Audit function (CC4)*

### **Achievements:**

- All IP&R documents updated in accordance with legislated requirements.
- Internal audit plan reviews have been undertaken:
  - contract management
  - project management
  - grants management
  - records management
  - Purchasing Cards use
  - Plant Hire Management and Plant Hire Rates
- Work force planning review and Cyber Security and Data Protection Review scheduled for July 2024 postponed until February 2025 in order to action outstanding findings from previous internal audits.
- New Audit Risk and Improvement Committee appointed that complies with the requirements of the OLG Guidelines for Risk Management and Internal Audit for Local Government in NSW.
- Council will be implementing a strategy hierarchy and Integrated Planning and Reporting software in 2024/25 to improve efficiency and effectiveness around the Integrated Planning and Reporting process.





## SUSTAINABLE DELIVERY OF SERVICES

Council delivers services that reflect the priorities of the community and makes best use of the available resources.

*Identify and implement initiatives to improve financial sustainability (CC5)*

### **Achievements:**

- Council has reviewed the Fees and Charges and have increased some fees and charges due to increased cost pressures.
- Water and Sewer Fees and Charges were increased by 10% in 2023/24.
- Council has reviewed the all investments and where there were low yielding interest rates locked in for term deposits, those investments were broken and new investments taken with increased rates.

*Use of effective asset management practices (CC6)*

### **Achievements:**

- Revaluation of Council's:
  - Roads, bridges, footpaths, drainage, bulk earthworks
  - Community Land, Other Assets & Land Improvements
  - Water & Sewer Assets
  - Property, Plant & Equipment, Operational Land and Buildings
- Preliminary review and update of Asset Management Plans (AMP's) for Carparks, Open Space and Recreation, Sealed Roads, Swimming Pool, Unsealed Roads, Other Structures and Other Infrastructure, Kerb and Gutter, Footpaths, Bridges, Stormwater, Transport - Other Assets, Water Supply, Sewerage, and Buildings with the view to progressively refine and consolidate AMP's through more accurate and comprehensive data obtained through Council's Corporate Revaluation Cycle.
- Preparation of base data to support the Annual Capitalisations of Council's as constructed assets across all Asset Classes
- Ongoing maintenance and update of Council's asset registers





*Embrace a culture of continuous improvement including the best utilisation of the human resources, reviews of what and how services are delivered with a view to improvement of processes and the embracing of new technologies (CC7)*

#### **Achievements:**

- Innovations include;
  - use of StarLink for internet access at Nambucca Heads Sewer Treatment Plant (for improved access during bad weather), Gumma Reserve and Bowraville Dam where internet access is not available via normal services
  - Updated Beach Permits System leading to an improved external customer experience.
  - Implementation of application forms online embedded process where payment is taken on submission for Building records searches, GIPA and animal adoptions which results in reduced staff time for processing.
  - Electronic timesheets fully implemented.
  - Combination of new laptops and desktops with improved capabilities.
  - Moving to cloud based email for improved functionality and reduce on-premises server requirements.
  - Rebuild of Waste Transfer IT system.
  - New wireless bridge link to Pound.
  - Fibre to new Nambucca Heads Library.
  - Council UHF replacement completed.
  - Dam and Gumma Reserve Trail Cams for security installed.
  - Authority Contract Management Module implemented.
- Revised organisation structure adopted 15 December 2023.
- Service reviews in 2022/23 undertaken on Libraries/Roads/Town Planning and in 2023/24 on Biosecurity/Animal Control/Public Amenities. Service reviews planned for 2024/25 include Sporting Grounds, Parks & Gardens, Public Halls, and Environmental Protection (includes areas such as Riverbank Stabilisations, Estuary/Coastal Management Plans, Climate Change Adaptation works etc.).
- New Customer Relationship Management application implemented in 2022/23 with Antenna app to allow Council to post information and receive issues electronically.



## RISK MANAGEMENT

Council will identify and manage risks likely to have a material impact on the organisation's ability to achieve its mission and objectives.

*Integrate effective risk management practices across the organisation (CC8)*

### **Achievements:**

- Strategic Risk Register reviewed monthly at Managers meetings and quarterly at Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meetings and updates made as required.
- Council report format added risk analysis as additional information required.
- Statewide Mutual Continuous Improvement Pathway (CIP's) self-assessments undertaken were:
  - 2021/22 – Claims Management, Stormwater Management, Trees & Tree Roots.
  - 2022/23 – Procurement & Contractor Management, Roads, Signs as Remote Supervision, Fire Management & Waste Facilities.
  - 2023/24 – Building Assets, Playgrounds, Business Continuity Planning
  - 2024/25 CIP's to be completed – Swimming Pools, Footpaths, Enterprise Risk Management.
- Statewide Mutual Board Initiatives undertaken include:
  - 2023 – Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) Foundations Training
  - 2024 – Business Continuity Scenario (ransomware) based exercise
  - 2025 - ERM Maturity Review scheduled for May 2025
- Insurance through Statewide and Statecover.
- Register of instances maintained.
- Creation of a Volunteer Committee Safe Work Guide.
- Modern Slavery supplier risk assessments undertaken.
- Green Space team continue to plant out embankments to reduce manual maintenance and reduce WHS (Work Health and Safety) issues.

*Instil a culture of safe work practices across the organisation (CC9).*

### **Achievements:**

- Implementation of WHS action plan with regular audits.
- Reduction in the number of work related claims or reported incidents.
- Enhanced reporting of work related claims and reported incidents to Managers Forum and to Council in closed meeting.
- Council work teams continue to use "Vault" for electronic capture of incidents, tool box talks and incident reporting.





## SUSTAINABLE ENERGY USE

Nambucca Valley Council will provide community leadership in sustainable energy use.

*Implement technologies and make decisions to reduce Council's greenhouse gas emissions and reduce Council's carbon footprint (CC10).*

### **Achievements:**

- Conversion of street lights to LED has been completed.
- Implementation of Council's Renewable Energy Action Plan.
- Investigation of opportunities to transition Council's Light Fleet to energy efficient vehicles.
- Council is a member of two state government programs to support sustainability initiatives and funding is provided from Environmental Levy to implement actions.
- Investigation undertaken on hybrid and electric vehicles.

*Make information available to the community to help them reduce energy (CC11).*

### **Achievements:**

- Links on Council's website provided to reputable websites with information on sustainable energy use and Government objectives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

## PUBLIC ORDER AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

The Nambucca Valley shall foster communities where people feel safe and secure.

*Provide support for local emergency services, rural fire services and beach safety operations (CC12, CC13, CC14).*

### **Achievements:**

- Bush fire mitigation and trail maintenance was undertaken in accordance with the approved plans, and fire mitigation orders issued by the Rural Fire Service were complied with.
- All Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC) members were involved with the floods.
- Three LEMC meetings are held annually.
- The Emergency Management Plan (EMPLAN) was reviewed and endorsed by the North Coast Regional Emergency Management Committee (REMC).
- Council has maintained an attendance at REMC meetings.
- Ranger services monitoring vehicles on the beaches, Honorary Rangers continue to monitor and report any issues to the Rangers.
- Lifeguard services funded by Council for the Christmas period.

*Provide leadership on safety initiatives (CC15).*

### **Achievements:**

- Recommendations of Local Traffic Advisory Committee are reported to Council and implemented.
- Ongoing through bi monthly Traffic Committee meetings held.
- Additional 10km/h shared zone has been installed along Wallace Lane, Macksville.
- Rolling program through the School Zone Infrastructure Program, additional paths in Scotts Head and Macksville have been installed near schools.
- Ongoing footpath widening and boardwalk replacement program along the Nambucca River foreshore.
- Nambucca Heads Alcohol Free Zone (AFZ) review was completed and the Zone was re-established by the due date. Review of the Bowraville AFZ will not commence until early 2025

*Provide leadership on the safety of children (CC16).*

### **Achievements:**

- Working With Children Checks undertaken on all staff.
- Compliance with Child Safe Standards included in Council's Strategic Risk Register.
- Draft Child Safe Policy developed.
- Child Safe Standards Action report developed based off a self-assessment tool.



## COMPANION ANIMAL WELFARE

Companion Animals will be proactively managed to ensure the community's safety and high standard of animal welfare.

*Manage Companion Animals to ensure the community's safety and improve animal welfare (CC17).*

### Achievements:

- Council aimed to reduce the number of impounded and euthanised animals and increase the number of impounded animals which are rehomed.
- Desexing programs were run to assist reduce the number of feral animals and animals within Councils pound.
- The number of animals rehomed has increased significantly over recent years due to Council actively working with rescue groups. The only animals destroyed have been those that legally have to be under the Companion Animals Act.
- Maintained 'doggy bags and bins' program for the responsible disposal of dog faeces.

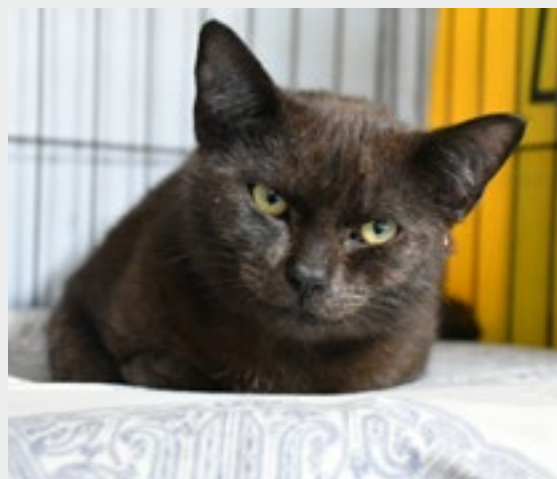
Number of Dogs and Cats Euthanised reported to Office of Local Government annually:

|      | 2021/22                                      | 2022/23  | 2023/24                  |
|------|--|--|--------------------------|
| Cats | 1  | 1 (at owners request)                            | 3 (unsuitable to rehome) |
| Dogs | 10 (8 declared dangerous, 2 injured/illness) | 2 (1 unsuitable to rehome, 1 declared dangerous) | 1 (unsuitable to rehome) |

*Provide open spaces where dogs can be exercised (CC18).*

### Achievements:

- Council's Rangers have been undertaking regular patrols.
- Additional signs erected in response to complaints.



## PUBLIC HEALTH - SAFE FOOD

Nambucca Valley Council will guard against illness caused by unhealthy food by promoting and enforcing food hygiene Standards.

*Effectively license and regulated premises that handle food for public consumption (CC19).*

### Achievements:

- All food premises inspected within reporting period.

## PUBLIC HEALTH - CLEAN WATER

Council will ensure Nambucca waterways will not be contaminated by on-site sewerage systems. This will be achieved by an efficient monitoring regime and effective enforcement of the current Standards.

*Ensure Nambucca waterways will not be contaminated by on-site sewerage management (OSSM) by requiring on-site sewerage systems to licensed, completing routine inspections, and effectively responding to complaints (CC20).*

### Achievements:

- Councils OSSM inspection program for the approximately 3,500 septic systems in the valley has been operating as scheduled, with any identified failing systems actively rectified through compliance action.

*Protection and restoration of riparian areas as prioritised in the Nambucca Coastal Management Plan (CC21).*

### Achievements:

- Improvements to Bellwood Foreshore.
- River Bank Stabilisation Works completed at Grassy Park, Scotts Head (Warrell Creek) and Gumma Dock Reserve





- Boating Facility improvements at Gumma Reserve including a new amenity building, lighting, parking refinements and bank stabilisation.
- Boating Facility improvements at Weir Reserve including amenities renovations, boat ramp improvements, parking and access improvements and protection of surrounding reserve from ad hoc vehicle movements.
- Boating facility improvements at Devil's Elbow and Grassy Park to support Passive Craft launching and the development of a Kayak Trail which highlights local infrastructure and promotes exploration of our waterways.
- Fish cleaning tables upgraded at Gordon Park and Stuart Island.
- V-wall Revitalisation and interpretative space.

## **PUBLIC HEALTH - PERSONAL HEALTH & WELLBEING**

Council will seek to improve the overall health and wellbeing of the community by supporting public health initiatives, and advocating for improved aged care and health services.

*Support existing and initiate new public health activities and advocate to the State Government for improved health services (CC22)*

### **Achievements:**

- Assistance in the establishment of a new HealthOne facility in Bowraville.

*Work with schools to assist them to deliver health programs (CC23).*

### **Achievements:**

- 2022/23 - Four trips were made to tow the Life Education Van to Scotts Head Primary School, Medlow Public School at Taylors Arm, St Mary's Primary School and the Central School in Bowraville.
- 2023/24 - One trip was made in July 2023 to tow the van to Eungai Public School.



# THEME TWO

## CARING FOR OUR ENVIRONMENT

*Our community values our natural environment and seeks a safe, liveable, sustainable built environment that is adaptive to change.*



## HOUSING

Housing across the Nambucca Valley provides choice to its residents.

*Provide diverse, sustainable, adaptable and affordable housing options through effective land use planning (CE1).*

### **Achievements:**

- While there has been growth in the take up of vacant residential land, there are still considerable areas of growth available under the current planning instruments.

## BUILDING REGULATION - SAFE BUILDINGS & POOLS

Building and swimming certification will be achieved in an accurate and timely manner. An effective risk based compliance program for fire and pool safety will be maintained.

*Ensure private pools are of a safe standard (CE2).*

### **Achievements:**

- Following a blitz of inspections with the introduction of new legislation, inspections have slowed in line with the program and available resources. Pools have been inspected as a result of property transfer, requests for certificates of compliance, and those used as part of tourist and visitor accommodation or on properties which contain multi dwelling housing. There are more than 800 swimming pools in the Valley.

*Ensure private infrastructure and buildings comply with relevant standards and codes (CE3).*

### **Achievements:**

- Council has maintained an increased compliance presence within the land use space.

*Ensure Fire Safety regulations are enforced (CE4).*

### **Achievements:**

- Fire safety statement audits are ongoing on an annual basis.

*Promote sustainable building practices including energy and water efficiency (CE5).*

### **Achievements:**

- Energy efficient measures are required as part of any habitable building. Council has also continued to offer water tank subsidies.



## ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES AND COMMUNITY AMENITIES - WASTE MANAGEMENT

The natural environment will be protected through ensuring cost effective and environmentally responsible management of solid waste.

*Provide an efficient and effective waste management facility that meets environmental standards (CE6).*

### **Achievements:**

- Nambucca Waste Management Facility is available to the public all year (except public holidays).
- Ratepayers without kerbside collection have access to a 3m<sup>3</sup> tipping voucher.
- Plans for the construction and rehabilitation of landfill cells are kept current and are executed as required.
- Groundwater and surface water monitoring and testing meets licensing requirements. Surface water sampling and testing were undertaken after each rainfall event and EPA annual returns were completed in accordance with licensing requirements.

*Plan the future extension of the waste facility (CE7).*

### **Achievements:**

- Cell 4a has been constructed and is now in operation. It has an expected capacity of 7 years. Planning is underway for the design of the next cell as well as the expansion of the approved capacity of the landfill site.

*Provide kerbside collection of separated domestic mixed waste materials (CE8).*

### **Achievements:**

- The new kerbside waste collection and recycling processing contract commenced on the 5 March 2018 with expiry due 5 March 2027.
- The processing of organic materials (food/green waste) recycling (yellow bin) continues with the contract expiry being March 2027.

*Implement waste minimisation strategies (CE9).*

### **Achievements:**

- A Waste Education Officer is employed to run educational programs as part of the Coffs Coast Waste Services contract.
- Council is also a member of MidWaste which run a range of waste education and reduction programs.

*Minimise illegal dumping of waste (CE10).*

### **Achievements:**

- The installation of hidden cameras to catch and penalise those dumping in hotspots has been ongoing particularly around the kerbside bulky goods collection times when illegal dumping increases.

## ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES AND COMMUNITY AMENITIES – ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Council will seek to protect our natural environment by strategically managing operations and development and regulating activities which have environmental impacts.

*Protect against deliberate damage on public land (CE11)*

### **Achievements:**

- The standard protocol for vandalism of tree damage is to investigate after each incident by the Green Space Coordinator, report the matter to the Police and followed up with a media release.

*Support community organisations undertaking natural resource management (CE12)*

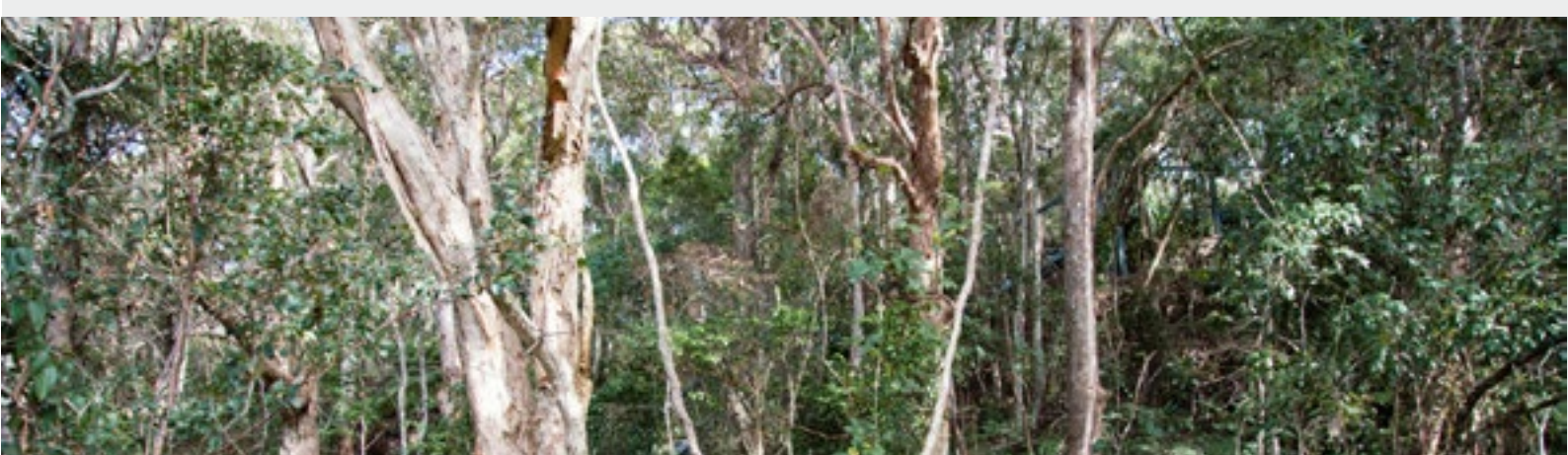
### **Achievements:**

- Hennessey Tape Riparian Improvements;
- Bank Stabilisation Works and Fish Habitat improvements at Wilson Road and Welshs Pioneer Park, Talarm,
- Bank Stabilisation work at Bellwood Park and Gumma Reserve
- Fish Habitat Flagship program at Bowraville
- Significant Partnership established with Federal Government Fish habitat program, Local Land Services and Landcare to deliver bank stabilisation projects in Nambucca River and the Taylors Arm.
- Partnership established with Landcare to assist with the delivery of vegetation Koala restoration activities.
- Management of environmental weeds on Council and Council-managed Crown land in conjunction with NSW and Federal Governments, Local Land Services, Office of Environment and Heritage and Landcare.

*Develop management plans for environmentally sensitive areas (CE13)*

### **Achievements:**

- Coastal Management Program certified.
- Koala Management Strategy drafted.
- Awaiting State Government to finalise policy direction prior to commencing comprehensive Koala Management Plan.



**Achievements:**

- Council has been successful with a number of grant applications to supplement funding for environmental levy projects including riverbank protection, coastal access, flying fox management, heritage, and fish habitat.

*Monitor, inspect and control invasive plant Species as per the Biosecurity Act requirements (CE15)*

**Achievements:**

- In the past 5 years Council has performed ongoing inspections of all lands (tenure neutral) to identify high priority invasive plant species. Councils Biosecurity Officer has identified various infestations of high priority weed species including Parthenium Weed, Tropical Soda Apple, Water Lettuce and Mysore Thorn.
- Department of Primary Industries have provided funding for the engagement of trained sniffer dogs to identify individual Parthenium Weed infestations.
- Tropical soda apple infestations are high priority for containment, with the goal of eradication (proving difficult) through the amount of seed produced by each Tropical Soda Apple plant.
- Council has continued tenure neutral property inspections throughout the entire Nambucca Local Government Area for declared pest plant species under the NSW Biosecurity Act 2015.
- Council's authorised officers have taken part in the creation of the North Coast Strategic Weed Management plan which outlines priorities of weed control of the whole North Coast as a region.
- Many media releases, field days, participation in the development of yearly calendars and awareness signage installed in strategic locations throughout the Nambucca Valley.
- Biosecurity staff have teamed with the Rates Department to deliver high priority weeds information to all land holders through the annual rates mail out. Plant identification and management advice is offered to all land holders by Council Biosecurity staff. The inspection program has been possible due to the continuation of the NSW Weeds Action Program (WAP) which is State grant fund delivering financial and administration assistance to all LGA's on the North Coast. The newly secured WAP program extends to 2025 and will help with the management of pest plant species through the Nambucca Valley.
- Developed a road side high priority grass weeds control programme using red guideposts to delineate areas of infestation that are not to be mown to prevent spread of these high priority grass weed species.
- Identification and management of Grader Grass (originates from India) introduced to new M1 Motorway corridor by interstate contractor's machinery.
- Worked with researchers to release numerous bio-control agents for Salvinia, Cats Claw Creeper, Parramatta Grass and Sagitaria.
- The first Parthenium weed infestation to be located on the North Coast of NSW in the Missabotti reach has required ongoing re-inspections to ensure its control and prevent spread throughout the Valley – a highly invasive and toxic plant.





*Deliver projects funded under the Environmental Levy and related environmental grants (CE16).*

**Achievements:**

The following projects were undertaken or continued during the reporting period with funding from the Environmental Levy or other sources:

- Public Reserves Revegetation and Restoration.
- Koala feed tree restoration project underway in partnership with Landcare.
- Dawkins Park Management and establishment of an Environmental and Cultural Learning Space.
- Fish Habitat and Bank Stabilisation at Wilson Road and Welsh's Pioneer Park Talarm.
- Indian Myna Bird Management Program.
- Noxious weed management.
- Coastal Endangered Ecological Communities and Endangered Species habitat Management Scotts Head.
- River Bank and Riparian Restoration projects.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES AND COMMUNITY AMENITIES – CEMETERIES**

Well maintained cemeteries shall be provided across the Valley.

*Effectively, efficiently and respectfully manage, maintain and administer cemeteries across the Valley (CE17)*

**Achievements:**

- Affordable and efficient interment services are provided.
- Council has a maintenance program which considers days of significance and therefore potentially higher visitation.
- A Plan of Management is implemented for each cemetery.

## PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

*Maintain and clean public toilets (CE18).*

### **Achievements:**

- Refurbishment of Scotts Head public amenities.
- Construction of two new public amenities - Hennessey Tape Bowraville and Nambucca Heads Library.
- Contract management of amenities cleaning contract and ongoing maintenance.

*Complaints about public toilets are managed through Council's Customer Relationship System (CE19)*

### **Achievements:**

- Complaints are being managed in a timely manner in accordance with Council's standards.





# THEME THREE LIVING WELL

*We will support one  
another for the wellbeing  
of our community.*



## RECREATION AND CULTURE - CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Nambucca Valley Council will actively support cultural services, the arts and the preservation of our local heritage.

*Continued involvement with Arts Mid North Coast (LW1).*

### **Achievements:**

- Council annually elects a Councillor delegate to the Board of Management. The Arts Mid North Coast regular newsletter keeps Council and community informed about opportunities and events.
- Council promoting the work of local artists and offers professional development and access to grants programs.

*Support local museums (LW2)*

### **Achievements:**

- Volunteer numbers at Museums steady with growing members at Mary Boulton Pioneer Cottage and Museum.
- Council participates in the Museum Advisor Program which is co-funded with Museums & Galleries NSW. Monthly visits by the Advisor have taken place (except for December 2022). Local operators like the Frank Partridge VC Military Museum and Mary Boulton Pioneer Cottage and Museum report that the program is very worthwhile and beneficial. A report on outcomes for 2022 was presented to Council 19 January 2023.

*Investigate and promote public art and street art (LW3).*

### **Achievements:**

- An increase in public art, most notably in Wallace Lane, Macksville, completed by school students, business owners, and community.
- Development of a public arts precinct with the Nyambaga Bindarray (Nambucca River) Public Art Trail commenced in June 2023 and has seen contributions from local artists including Gumbaynggirr artists, and celebrates our culture and wildlife. This project was developed with funding from the Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund
- Council has commissioned local artists to complete works in public spaces such as bus stops and public toilets (Macksville Pool), and underpasses/footbridges.



## *Implement the Library Strategy (LW4)*

### **Achievements:**

- Completion of the Nambucca Heads Library extension and small hall refurbishment project.
- Continued participation in the e-smart technology for seniors' classes in conjunction with TAFE at both Macksville and Nambucca Heads Libraries.
- Author visits and school holiday activities undertaken e.g. STEM kit building, Laser tag, craft activities and live entertainment.
- Weekly Children's Story Time implemented.
- Development of the library's Social Media pages.
- Addition of meeting rooms and gaming room
- Added gaming consoles, gaming PC and virtual reality equipment to the library collection
- Developed a seed library, sustained by donations of seeds from members of the public and assisted by the local community garden groups.
- Developed a meeting room booking system and event booking system
- The home library service continues to be supported by our local Lions and Rotary Clubs.

## **MEETING PLACES**

Meeting places will be provided across the Valley to support an inclusive community

### *Maintain public buildings where justified by community use (LW5)*

### **Achievements:**

- Work with section 355 committees responsible for the buildings.
- All fire, pest, and roof anchor inspections of halls were completed in accordance with the legislative requirements.
- Delivery of grant funded Capital projects – Structural refurbishment of Utungun Hall, re-cladding of Argents Hill Hall, insulation of septic tank Taylors Arm Hall ,solar and battery insulation Burrapine Hall, Taylors Arm Hall, South Arm Hall, Eungai Hall and Argents Hill Hall.
- Administration of Council's Streetlighting network.
- Management and delivery of Rural Fire Services capital projects.





## RECREATION AND CULTURE - RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

The Nambucca Valley will have a variety of safe and well maintained sporting fields, recreational areas and facilities to meet the needs of all age groups in the community.

*Maintain Sporting Facilities – Ovals, skate parks, tennis courts, netball courts, basketball courts, fitness trails (LW6).*

### **Achievements:**

- Lighting upgrades to Macksville, Nambucca Heads, Valla Beach, E.J Biffin sporting facilities.
- Surface upgrades of Nambucca Valley Netball.
- Drainage upgrades to E.J Biffin and Macksville sporting fields.
- Grants Officer works with Committees of Management to seek funding for projects.
- Sporting Facilities have been maintained to ensure the provision of a variety of sports to the wider community, fostering a sense of being welcome, and encouraging broad participation.
- Identified facilities are managed either under licence or lease with the relevant incorporated body, or by Section 355 committees.
- Council staff work in conjunction with the facility manager where appropriate to assist with maintenance services such as mowing, weed control and cleaning, and pest control and structural repair.
- Future projects for updating facilities with infrastructure are guided by planning documents for facilities.

*Provide an aquatic and fitness centre for the community's benefit (LW7)*

### **Achievements:**

- New 5 year contract for management of the Macksville Memorial Aquatic and Fitness Centre (MMAFC) commenced 1 July 2023
- Various meetings post 1 July 2023 have been held with the contractor to ensure that both Council and the contractor are performing according to contract requirements.
- Installation of solar cells to reduce electricity costs



*Provide a primitive campground at Gumma Reserve (LW8).*

**Achievements:**

- New caretaker contract awarded in March 2024 for 12 month period.
- Cameras have been installed to control bad conduct by campers.
- New WIFI aerial installed to allow for fee collection via EFTPOS

*Operate and Maintain Open Space Spaces (LW9).*

**Achievements:**

- Open Spaces effectively and efficiency maintained to service levels agreed with the community.
- Work with and support community volunteers and community work schemes to maintain and improve open spaces.
- Playing field maintenance was undertaken by aeration, fertilisation and topdressing on high use sporting ovals.
- Sub-soil drainage was installed in Willis Street, Macksville Park, Hennessey Tape and EJ Biffin fields and is proving to be effective in draining fields in a short window of time after high rainfall events.
- Many more trees and plants were established within public reserves for shade, shelter and habitat.
- Normal slashing, mowing and brush-cutting was completed across the open space areas. Council continued with the philosophy of planting out high bank areas using mulch, native trees and shrubs to minimise maintenance and WHS issues.





## CONNECTED COMMUNITY

Council will seek to foster a community that is mutually self-supporting and proud of its identity and will regularly engage with segments of the community across the Valley.

*Work with Section 355 Committees to deliver social and community infrastructure projects (LW10)*

### Achievements:

- A revised Guideline of Operations has been circulated to Section 355 Committees.
- A list of current Committees and their functions is as follows:

| COMMITTEE   | FUNCTION  |
|---|---|
| Argents Hill Hall Committee of Management                                 | Care, control and management of Argents Hill Hall                       |
| Bowraville Sports Ground Committee of Management                          | Care, control and management of Bowraville Sportsground                 |
| Burrapine Public Hall Committee of Management                             | Care, control and management of Burrapine Public Hall                   |
| Coronation Park Committee of Management                                   | Care, control and management of Coronation Park                         |
| E J Biffin Playing Fields Committee of Management                         | Care, control and management of E J Biffin Playing Fields               |
| Eungai District Community Council Committee of Management (Memorial Hall) | Care, control and management of Eungai District Soldiers' Memorial Hall |
| Macksville Park and Sports Committee of Management                        | Care, control and management of Macksville Park and Sports grounds      |
| Mary Bolton Pioneer Cottage & Museum Committee of Management              | Care control and management of Pioneer Cottage Macksville               |
| Missabotti Community Centre Committee of Management                       | Care, control and management of Missabotti Community Centre             |
| Nambucca Community and Arts Centre Committee of Management                | Care, control and management of Nambucca Community and Arts Centre      |
| Nambucca District Band Committee of Management                            | Support and acquisition of instruments for the Nambucca District Band   |
| North Macksville Playing Fields Committee of Management                   | Care, control and management of North Macksville Playing Fields         |
| Scotts Head Sports Fields Committee of Management                         | Care, control and management of Scotts Head Sports Fields               |
| South Arm Community Hall Committee of Management                          | Care, control and management of South Arm Hall                          |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Talarm Hall and Welsh Pioneer Park Committee of Management | Care, control and management of Talarm Hall                     |
| Taylor's Arm Hall Committee of Management                  | Care, control and management of Taylor's Arm Hall               |
| Taylor's Arm Sports Reserve Committee of Management        | Care, control and management of Taylor's Arm Sports Reserve     |
| Unkya Reserve Committee of Management                      | Care, control and management of Unkya Reserve                   |
| Utungun Community Centre Committee of Management           | Care, control and management of Utungun Community Centre        |
| Valla Beach Community Association                          | Care, control and management of Valla Beach Urban area and Hall |
| Valla Public Hall Committee of Management                  | Care, control and management of Valla Public Hall               |
| Warrell Creek Public Hall Committee of Management          | Care, control and management of Warrell Creek Public Hall       |
| We're Here Committee of Management                         | We're Here Committee of Management                              |

*Auspice Grant Funding and provide grant writing support (LW11)*

### **Achievements:**

- Council staff work closely with Committees of Management and community groups to submit grant applications for funding to support the community, including sporting upgrades, equipment, museum improvements, delivery of programs and upgrades of facilities.

Some successful community projects include:

- Community Building Partnership (CBP) funding for the addition of a Research Room at Mary Boulton Pioneer Cottage Museum.
- CBP funding for Improvements to Unkya Reserve – playground and shelters.
- CBP funding towards Construction of a stage at Valla Beach Reserve.
- CBP funding for Upgrade of Electricity at Taylor's Arm Hall.
- CBP funding towards "Bridging the Courts" for the Nambucca Valley Croquet Club.
- CBP funding towards additional equipment for the newly upgraded Utungun Hall kitchen.
- RASF funding for Unkya Reserve CoM to replace contents of shed that burnt down.
- FRRR funding for Valla Hall – upgrade of internal amenities.
- FRRR funding for a kitchen upgrade and internal painting for Taylor's Arm Hall.
- MGNSW grant for Headland Museum – assistance with operating costs for electricity.
- RAHS Cultural grant for Nambucca District Historical Society for "Nambucca Stories".
- CHART grant for Mary Boulton Museum for interpretive signage.

Council also led delivery of several community grant programs after the Black Summer Bushfires to support community recovery. One of the programs was the “Moving Forward Community Grants Program”. Council managed the program and saw the successful delivery of over eighteen (18) events – both large and small – in the Nambucca Valley. This program was funded under the Bushfire Community Resilience and Recovery Fund (BCRRF) jointly funded by Commonwealth and State Governments.

Another program was the Community Events Program, funded by the NSW Government, to assist communities to “come out and move forward” after the COVID-19 pandemic. There were seven (7) community events, or workshop programs, delivered by local organisations utilising this funding. Some of those were the Community Arts Workshops – Summer, and Winter series of programs – delivered by Nambucca Valley Phoenix and the Bowraville Theatre Series that saw eight inclusive and engaging shows staged at the historical Bowraville Theatre. This was a very successful program and Council was congratulated by the NSW State government on the outcomes.

Successful projects were for infrastructure, social and environmental works for the benefit of our community.

Council has been successful in securing funding over many years from programs managed by the NSW State Government under programs such as Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund (BLERF), Community Local Infrastructure Recovery Program (CLIRP), Community Assets Program (CAP) and Crown Lands Flood Recovery Program (CLFRP), just to name some.

Council has also been successful in securing Commonwealth Funding under many programs during this period also. Programs such as the Local Regional Community Infrastructure Program, (LRCI), up to Phase 4 now and the Black Summer Bushfire Recovery Program (BSBR).



A table of comparative awarded grant funding from 2021/22 to 2023/2024 is below, identifying the increase in grant funding success for Nambucca Valley Council over this period of time.

| FINANCIAL YEAR | TOTAL \$        |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 2021/2022      | \$15,185,576.46 |
| 2022/2023      | \$9,630,256.50  |
| 2023/2024      | \$17,842,260.19 |



*Promote social equity with equal opportunities for access and participation (LW12)*

**Achievements:**

- Council’s Access Committee consisting of members of the community with lived experience, carers, and service providers continues operating. The Access Committee meets bi-monthly to advise Council on the needs of people with disability in our community and help council promote positive attitudes.
- Review of disability parking across the Valley
- New or renovated toilet facilities at Bellwood Park, Gordon Park, Scotts Head (weir) Reserve and Valla Beach. Further toilets for consideration in Disability Inclusion Action Plan.
- Council is progressing the Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2022 – 2026 with achievements including:
  - Completion of all footpaths in the Disability Inclusion Action Plan across Macksville, Scotts Head, Nambucca Heads, and Bowraville.
  - Review of Pedestrian Access Management Plans (PAMP) and a new PAMP for Scotts Head
  - Replacing the boardwalk from the Visitor Information Centre and Bellwood Park, Nambucca Heads.
  - Progressing design and seeking funding for projects such pedestrian access to Shelly Beach and improving accessible toilet facilities at V-Wall.

Many of these improvements provide benefit to the whole of community, improving access and safety for older residents, parents, and children.

*Volunteers in the community are recognised and encouraged (LW13)*

**Achievements:**

- Council has been improving the safety of volunteers through WH&S audits and training and will continue to support volunteers to work safely through Child Safe standards.
- Volunteer Handbook and Volunteer Safety handbook distributed to new volunteers.
- 9 volunteers at our Libraries - on the job training conducted throughout the year and an Annual Thank You Breakfast/Lunch
- Volunteer numbers at museums are increasing and receiving additional support through the NSW Museum Advisor Program, co-funded by Council, which volunteers have reported as very beneficial.
- Recognition through National Celebration Day awards.
- Council has recently gained more resources to enable further support of volunteers through training, improved processes, and attracting more volunteers

*Provide opportunities at local libraries to showcase local creative talent e.g. arts displays, supporting author talks and live entertainment (LW14)*

**Achievements:**

- The number of author talks facilitated totalled 2 for the period 1 January 2022 to June 2024 and the number of events facilitated was 47 for the same period.
- The number of participants in the author talks was 32 and the number of participants in the events was 710
- Number of arts displays hosted was 1.

*Provide online access through library services by utilizing current and emerging technologies (LW15)*

**Achievements:**

- The number of Internet sessions was 10,177 for the period 1 January 2022 to 30 June 2024.
- The number of Wi-Fi sessions was 3875 for the period 1 January 2022 to 30 June 2024.

*Enhance access to the library collections and maintain its relevance (LW16).*

**Achievements:**

- Number of new items purchased was 6804 for period 1 January 2022 to 30 June 2024.

*Work with telecommunications providers to improve mobile phone and internet availability in rural and remote areas (LW17)*

**Achievements:**

- Installation of a Macro telecommunications tower at South Arm.
- Installation of pole antennas at Burrupine Hall and in Valla Beach.
- Installation of the NBN at Girralong RFS, Taylors Arm RFS, South Arm Hall and Burrupine Hall.





## ENGAGED YOUTH

Nambucca Valley Council will foster the social well-being of the Valley's youth by prioritising and supporting their needs.

*Providing support for young people throughout the valley (LW18).*

### **Achievements:**

- After changes to NSW Government funding and program models in 2018, Council's provision of programs for young people such as after school and holiday programs, referral services, advocacy and planning was reduced. This service delivery was picked up by external organisations in our community.
- Council continues its contribution to youth activities through funding support and events for Youth Week, through Library activities, and providing support where ever possible to organisations delivering direct services to young people.
- Council has sponsored the YOUthSpeak project and is implementing recommendations from young people, including the upcoming youth-led Nambucca Valley Open Streets Festival. Council looks forward to increasing youth support and representation.

*Develop and deliver a program of library events targeted at young people to meet their leisure, learning and social interaction needs (LW19).*

### **Achievements:**

- The number of events held for young people was 35 library events and 218 story-time sessions for the period 1 January 2022 to 30 June 2024.
- The attendance for Library hosted events was 932 for the period 1 January 2022 to 30 June 2024.

## HEALTHY AGEING

The Nambucca community will seek to support healthy ageing both physical and psychological .

*Council will provide services to seniors and the elderly (LW20).*

### **Achievements:**

- Achievements in this area are focused around being active in the community. Major projects to support healthy ageing include the construction of the Macksville to Nambucca Heads cycle way and new and wider riverside boardwalks in Nambucca Heads to also promote activity.
- Seniors Week is supported by Council's annual Seniors Week luncheon was held Thursday 23 February 2023 and was attended by 193 people. There were 12 information tables promoting various government, leisure, transport and care services including the library kiosk.
- A successful Seniors Week took place on 19 March 2024 in Macksville, adopting the same format as 2023.
- The number of items held in the Library large print and audio book collections is 5288.
- The provision of technology workshops and learning opportunities for seniors was undertaken by TAFE NSW in partnership with the libraries. One on one tech help sessions for Senior's each week during school term at both Macksville and Nambucca Heads Libraries.
- Number of seniors assisted by the Home Library Service in 2024 was 51.

## CULTURAL DIVERSITY AND INDIGENOUS CULTURE

*Promote an understanding and respect for the Valley's Indigenous Culture and Heritage (LW21)*

### **Achievements:**

- Through consultation with Gumbaynggirr representatives and community leaders, Council has reinstated a number of culturally significant sites, including sites in Bellwood and Riverside, with acknowledgement plaques and artworks celebrating culture.
- Contributed the land for the Aboriginal Keeping Place in Dawkins Park, Macksville.
- Nambucca Valley hosted and supported the Saltwater Freshwater Festival in Eungai Creek 2022.
- Council has included Gumbaynggirr art and language in promotional materials including our Tourism marketing and is incorporating Gumbaynggirr culture, with permission, in local projects where possible, such as the Nyambaga Bindarray (Nambucca River) Public Art Trail and place, street and road names.
- Council resolved in June 2023 to reinvigorate and reconvene the Aboriginal Advisory Committee and embark on a process of reconciliation and ongoing meaningful consultation. Resources within Council have been put in place to begin this journey in the second half of 2024.

# THEME FOUR PROMOTING PROSPERITY

*Promote, support and  
plan opportunities for new  
and existing businesses  
to sustain a vibrant local  
economy*



## LOCAL ECONOMY - ECONOMIC ACTIVITY & EMPLOYMENT

Nambucca Valley Council will foster local employment opportunities and economic self-sufficiency through promotion, lobbying and direct action.

*Foster development opportunities (PP1)*

### **Achievements:**

- Application submitted for additional funding for land development at Valla Urban Growth Area.
- Distributed tender packages to local industry suppliers for Coffs Harbour bypass Industry Capability Network (ICN) training.
- Implemented Aboriginal procurement policy with Express coach builders to support future tenders.
- Developed marketing material to support investment attraction.
- Attended business networking events, trade show and industry events and provided information.
- Sought enquiries and expressions of interest for Valla Urban Growth Area.

*Liaise with local business and State and Federal Government agencies to promote economic and regional development (PP2)*

### **Achievements:**

- Preparation work for combined Economic Development and Tourism Strategy commenced in 2024.
- Attendance at Regional Development Australia (RDA) event in February 2024 'Ignite Mini' which discussed the Regional Investment Fund, Workforce/Childcare/Migration issues.
- Attended in May 2024 Regional Development Australia (RDA) run event in Port Macquarie regarding the Western City Parkland Authority, who have been delivering the pilot program of the New England Training Model (NETM) and are looking to bring the program to a regional area and RDAMNC have been in discussions with West Parkland City Authority, Industry Mid North Coast and AusIndustry to advocate for this program to be brought to the Mid North Coast as a trial site in the regions.
- Communications with local Chambers of Commerce undertaken.
- Liaised with Shore Track to discuss how their programs working with disadvantaged and marginalised youth in the Nambucca Valley can assist local businesses. Supported ShoreTrack's visit to Canberra in 2024 for the Sustainable Economic Growth for Regional Australia (SEGRA) drop-in session at Parliament House, to highlight positive, practical and specific solutions from across regional Australia that will improve living and working in regional, rural and remote communities.
- Worked with State and Federal government agencies to disseminate business development and grant funding opportunities.
- Attended targeted business and industry events manufacturing week and other trade shows in Sydney to attract investment.
- Held Industry networking functions in Council.
- Assisted with the application for September 2022 Grant to apply for \$844,000 to provide plant & equipment for training regional youth from NSW State Government for CAD and infrastructure investment for Shore Track in Macksville industrial estate.
- Assist with grant application for Local Land Services grant September 2022 for fencing.



*Participate in local and regional marketing events to promote the valley (PP3)*

**Achievements:**

- Developed and supported promotion of agribusiness and manufacturing via regional events that were funded and delivered.
- Attended regional food, manufacturing and retail development events.
- Promoted Council land that is ready for sale.

*Investment prospectus, marketing and promotional material produced and distributed to potential investors (PP4)*

**Achievements:**

- Information packages are provided for enquiries specific to their requests.
- TV and YouTube videos and commercial developed to promote the Valley.
- Sought opportunities to sell Council land and attract investment.

*Develop commercial and industrial land to ensure an adequate supply and market Council's surplus operational land to the community's best advantage (PP5 & PP7)*

**Achievements:**

- Valla Urban Growth Area development continues:
  - Project manager engaged to deliver 7.74 ha industrial land at Valla Urban Growth Area
  - Funding being sourced to open large new residential area at Valla Urban Growth Area
- 9 new residential lot subdivision being assessed at Warrell Creek
- Land at North Macksville being investigated for subdivision and sale
- Land at Grassy Road, Bowraville being investigated for sale
- Sale of closed Road Reserves
- Transfer of land for newly constructed Sports Hub, Bowraville







*Land Development – research and analysis of potential land purchases from Transport for NSW old highway corridor (PP6).*

**Achievements:**

- There were no instances of increased income to Council from land sales acquired by Council under the NSW Government’s Community Use Policy.

*Manage Crown land in accordance with the Native Title Act 1996 (PP8).*

**Achievements:**

Native Title was considered and advice provided for the following projects:

- Shared Pathway Project - Valla Beach Road – Crown Reserve 82967
- Splash Waterpark Project – Gordon Park, Nambucca Heads – Reserve 140524
- Bank Stabilisation Project – Nambucca Headlands Reserve 63811
- Rats of Tobruk Pathway and Lighting Project – Gordon Park, Nambucca Heads – Reserve 140524
- Valla Stage Project – Devolved Crown Reserve 90906
- Footpath Project – Captain Cook Lookout Reserves 47599 & 81262
- Sculpture installation Project – Bellwood Park Reserve 77534

*Manage Crown Land Plans of Management (PP9).*

The following Crown Land Plans of Management were prepared for review:

- Bowraville Racecourse Reserve 540002
- Swimming Creek Reserve 81006

The following licences were reviewed and/or renewed:

- Tasman Tourism Pty Ltd ATF Tasman Tourism Trust T/A Tasman Holiday Parks – Cabin encroachments – R88941
- Tasman Tourism Pty Ltd ATF Tasman Tourism Trust T/A Tasman Holiday Parks – part bridge/access – R88941
- Nambucca Heads Surf Lifesaving Club – Surf clubhouse – R81006
- Nambucca Heads Surf Lifesaving Club – Boat Shed – R77566
- Foreshore Caravan Park Pty Ltd – Cabin encroachments – R89734
- INA Operations Pty Ltd ATF INA Subsidiary Trust No 3 – Holiday Park improvements, pontoon sign – R81262
- Jane Smith – Farmers/Growers’ markets – R88151
- Ruby Gerhard T/A Bodhi Tree - coffee cart – R47599
- Nambucca RSL Club Limited – Carpark/food kiosk/ outdoor dining/ boat hire and public recreation – R85113
- Nambucca Heads Tennis Club Inc – Management and operation of NH Tennis Courts – R88151
- Valla Beach Tennis Club Inc – Management and operation of VB Tennis Courts – R82967
- Barry J Parsons T/A Associated Sound Newcastle P/L – Radio antenna on light pole – R82967
- Nambucca River Jockey Club Ltd – Bowraville Racecourse – R5490002
- Nambucca Valley Radio Inc – Management and operation of Tewinga Community Centre – R90895

The following new Plans of Management were adopted for significant Council managed Crown land reserves:

- Nambucca River Foreshore Gordon Park Reserve 88151
- Wellington Park Reserve 81262

*Support the local tourism industry in partnership with the Nambucca Valley Tourism Association (NVTA) (PP10)*

### **Achievements:**

- Licence agreement with NVTA terminated on 2 April 2024 with Council operating the Visitor Information Centre and tourism marketing of the local government area post that date.
- All quarterly progress reports were received from the NVTA.
- Promotional exercise to attract more volunteers for the Visitor Information Centre was undertaken.

## LOCAL ECONOMY - PRIVATE TRANSPORT ACCESSIBILITY

Nambucca Valley Residents will be able to get where they need to go in a way that is safe, efficient and affordable.

*Maintain and construct road network to the level of service agreed with the community (PP11)*

### **Achievements:**

- Classification of roads was undertaken by 30 June 2023.
- Maintenance grading program funded by Council.
- Road inspections were undertaken by the Asset Engineer in accordance with the inspection program and work tickets raised to have defects attended to in a timely manner.
- Review of Asset Management Plans undertaken.

*Maintain and construct bridges to the level of service agreed with the community (PP12)*

### **Achievements:**

- Completed a rolling bridge inspection program and identified repairs undertaken.
- Maintain, replace and constructed new bridges as per the delivery program.
- Emergency repairs have been conducted.
- Number of load limited bridges reduced.

*Maintain and construct footpath and cycle ways to the level of service agreed with the community (PP13)*

### **Achievements:**

- Kingsworth Estate to Macksville cycle way completed.
- Council sought funding from relevant grant streams to fund a plan for, and estimate the cost of a cycle way, linking Hyland Park and Mann Street Nambucca Heads.
- Footpath inspection program conducted.
- Trip hazards identified and programmed in accordance with risk.
- New and replacement footpaths and cycle ways completed as per Pedestrian Access Management Plans (PAMP).
- PAMPs for Scotts Head developed.
- School zone infrastructure program completed.







*Maintain and construct car parking to the level of service agreed with the community (PP14)*

**Achievements:**

- Inspection program completed.
- Landscape and weeding completed as required.
- Line marking completed as required.
- Nelson Street Carpark, Nambucca Heads works undertaken.

*Continue to support the work of the State and Federal governments in upgrading the Pacific Highway (PP15).*

**Achievements:**

- The highway upgrade has been completed, however there has been no agreement reached on the handover of the old highway. In February 2019, the Government announced that up to 15,000 kilometres of council owned roads would be returned to State management as part of a broader package of support for local councils to better manage and maintain the rural road network. This announcement effectively ceased any further negotiation pertaining to the Old Pacific Highway ownership of assets, classification and compensation. A joint submission with Bellingen Shire Council was uploaded to the TFNSW web portal on Friday 14 August 2020 seeking a priority review for the road reclassification.

*Maintain and construct boat ramps and boat access points to the level of service agreed with the community (PP16)*

**Achievements:**

- Regular inspection and pressure cleaning program completed.
- Maintained and constructed new works as per the delivery program.

*Install bus shelters at high use bus stops (PP17)*

**Achievements:**

- There has been on average two new bus shelters installed each year during the reporting period.
- Normal maintenance of existing shelters undertaken as required.

## LOCAL ECONOMY - WATER MANAGEMENT

Council will work with the community to ensure the water resources of the Nambucca Valley are used in a sustainable way.

*Council will document the Integrated Water Cycle Management Strategy (IWCM) for the efficient use of its water and waste water resources (PP18)*

### **Achievements:**

- Integrated Water Cycle Management Strategy is under review.

*Ensure the supply of potable water to the reticulated network in the Nambucca Valley (PP19)*

### **Achievements:**

- Reliable potable supply that meets public health standards.
- Regular water testing is conducted with samples complying with Australian Drinking Water Guidelines.
- Completion of government funded UV and Chlorination project occurred June 2024.

*Operate the Bowra Dam to ensure water security for the Nambucca Valley (PP20)*

### **Achievements:**

- The dam is maintained and operated according to the Dam Operation Manual.
- Operated and maintained the rising main network from the Bowra Bore fields.
- Water levels in the Dam were maintained that will protect water security for the Valley.

*Efficiently maintain, augment and operate the potable water reticulation system, the Bowra Bore fields and treatment network (PP21)*

### **Achievements:**

- Asset Management Plan was reviewed in 2022 included the water and sewerage revaluation of assets.
- Asset renewals were completed in a timely manner so that there was no failure of the water supply system.





## LOCAL ECONOMY - SEWERAGE SERVICES

Council has adopted an Integrated Water Cycle Management Strategy to document the capital works and renewals required to ensure the Sewage Infrastructure meets the current and future demands.

*Council will document and implement the Integrated Water Cycle Management Strategy for the efficient use of its water and waste water resources (PP22)*

### **Achievements:**

- Integrated Water Cycle Management Strategy is under review.

*Ensure compliance with EPA Licence requirements for all sewerage systems (PP23)*

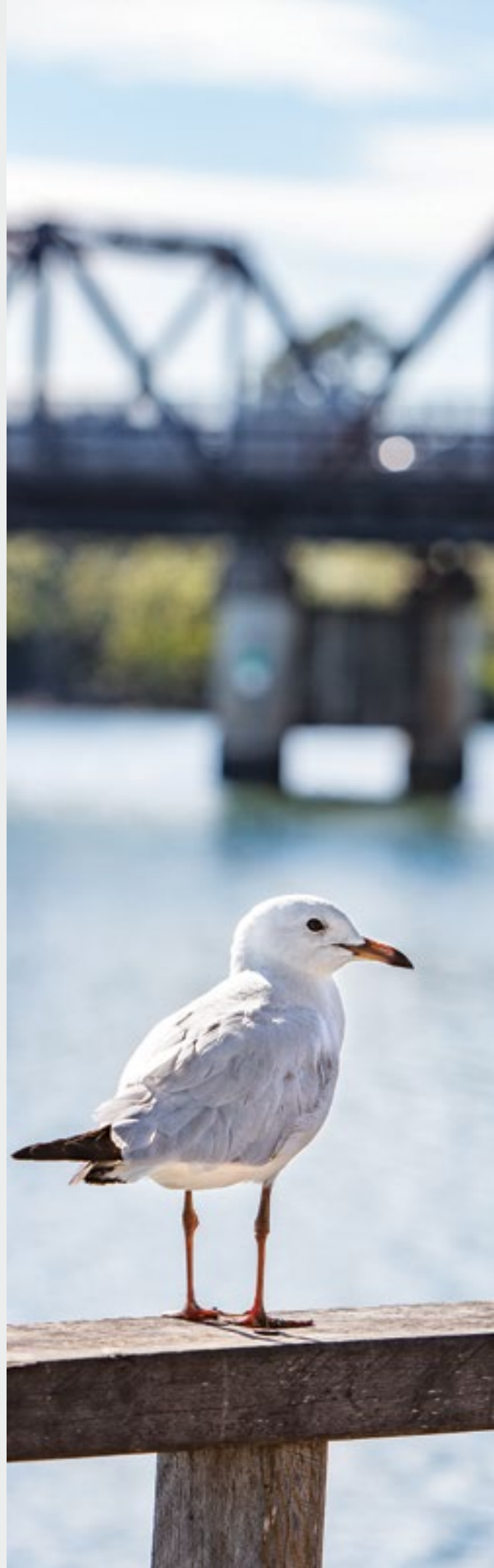
### **Achievements:**

- Any breach of required standards is reported.
- Regular outflow testing is conducted.
- Reliable reticulation and treatment of sewerage that meets public health standards.
- Annual licence reports submitted to EPA.
- Pollution incidents reported to EPA in accordance with legislative requirements.
- A report on strategies for managing sewerage overflows was developed and is being implemented.
- 2 x 130,000 litre overflow emergency storage tanks installed in Macksville.
- Currently undertaking a program of investigations to identify sources of stormwater inflow into the sewerage system including from private property and eliminating them where possible.

*Efficiently maintain, augment and operate the sewerage reticulation and treatment network (PP23)*

### **Achievements:**

- Asset Management Plan developed in 2022.
- Modelling complete for upgrades to Macksville Sewerage System to cater for development in South Macksville.
- Modelling complete for sewerage upgrades to cater for development at Scotts Head.
- Investigation and concept design of sewerage infrastructure for Valla Urban Growth Area undertaken.



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# AUDIT, RISK, IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE 2023/24 ANNUAL REPORT

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