



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 versus 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.

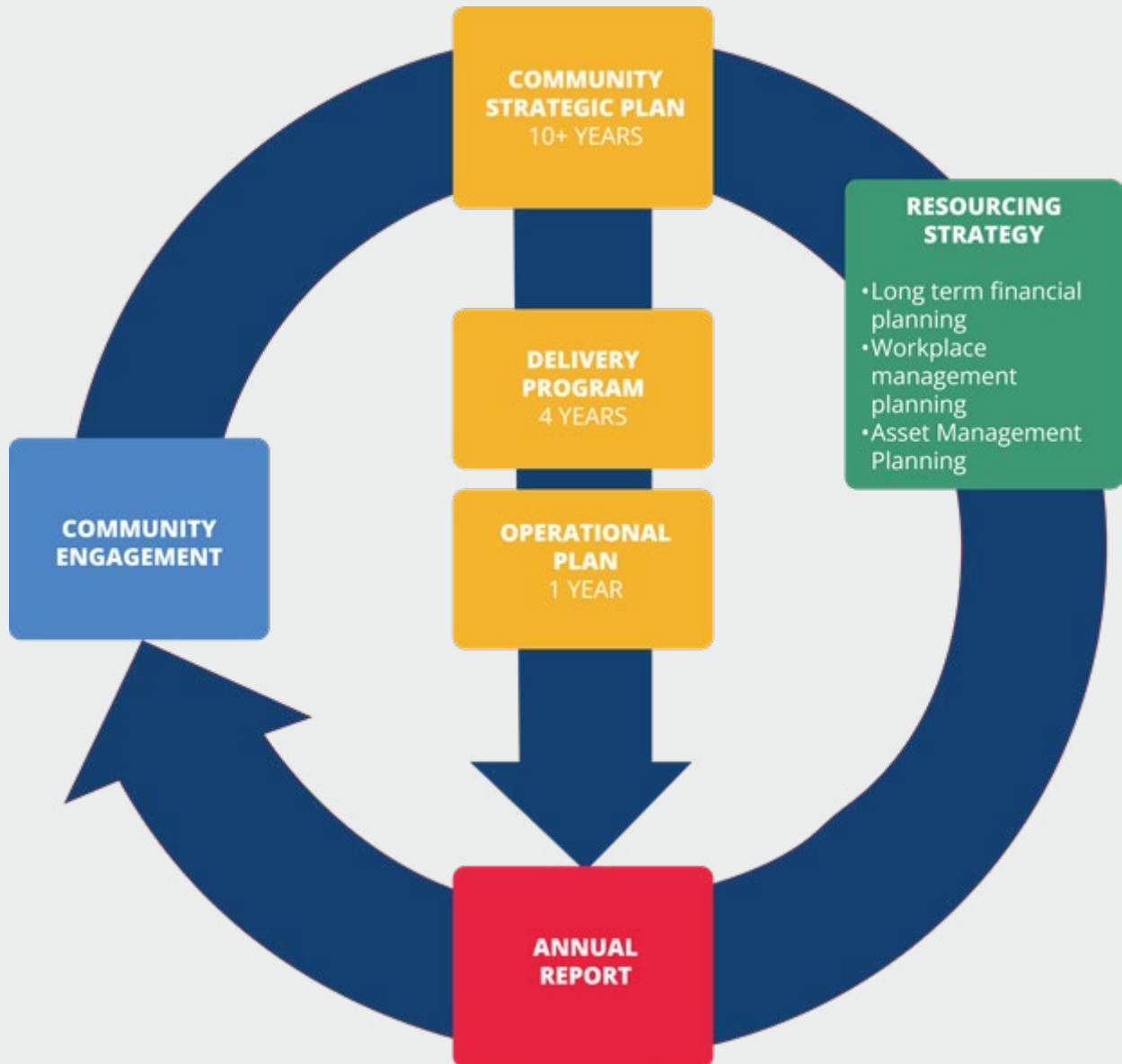
Council has maintained sufficient landfill capacity within the Nambucca Waste Management Facility, with kerbside waste from both Nambucca Valley Council and Bellingen Shire Council being landfilled at the facility. A new cell was constructed at a cost of approximately \$800,000 and has commenced use 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 km² 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 km² 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
TOTAL	19,787	20,150	20,383	20,774

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)

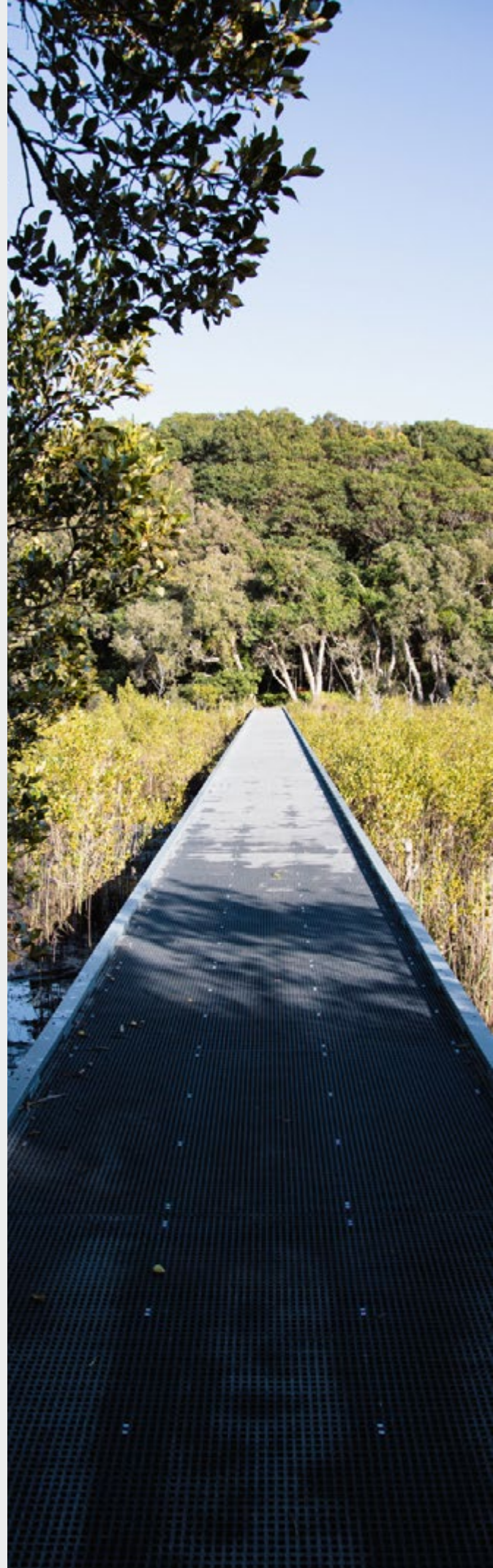
Achievements:

- 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.

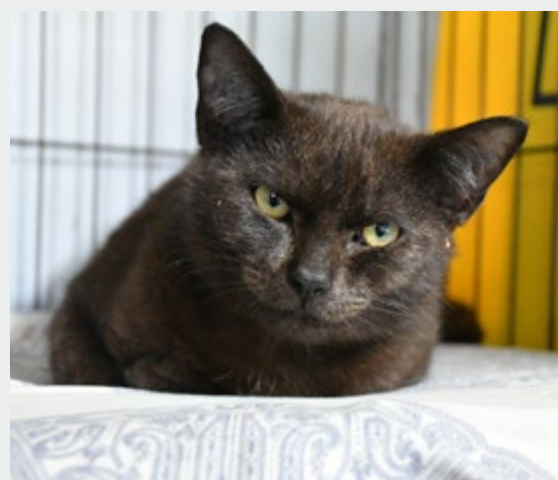
Number of Dogs and Cats Euthanised reported to Office of Local Government annually:

	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 3m³ 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)

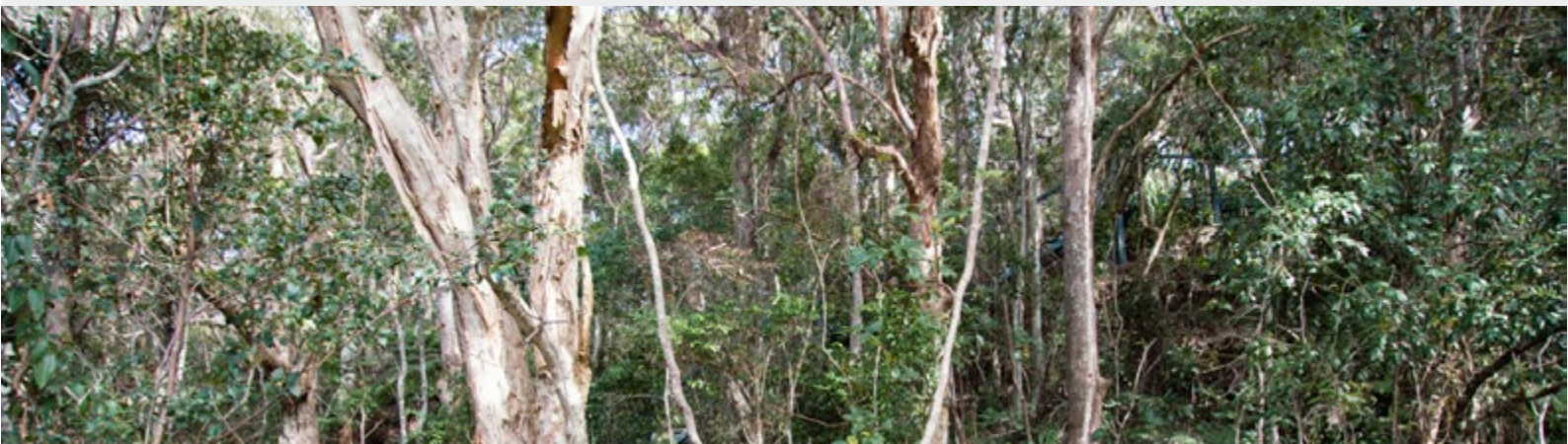
Achievements:

- 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)

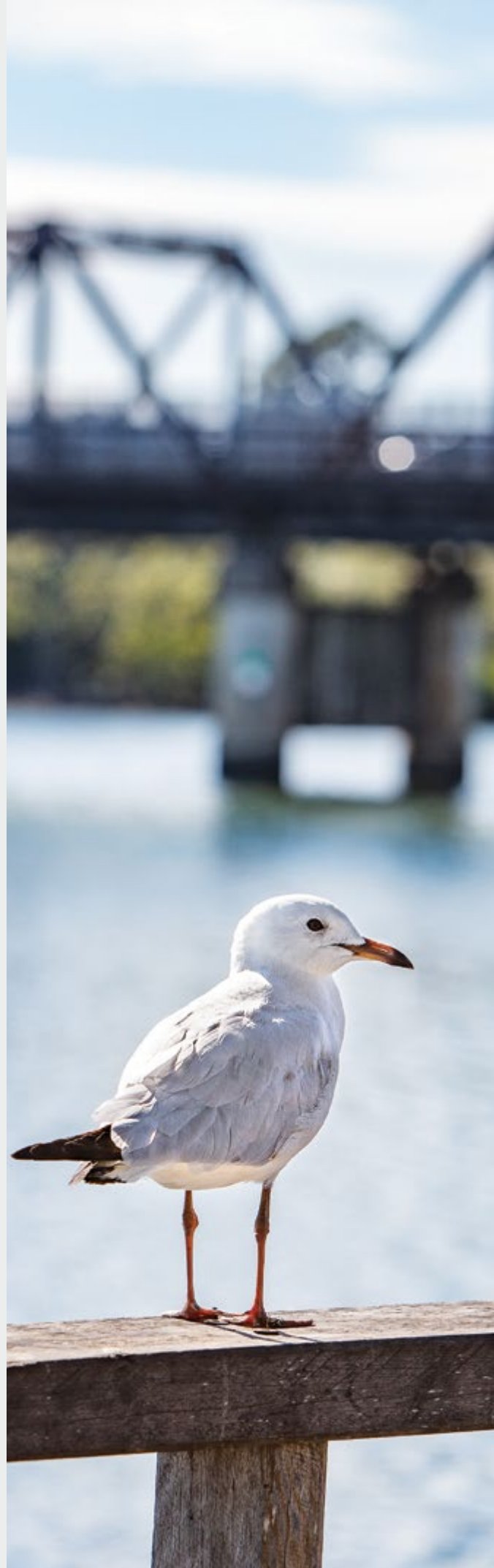
Achievements:

- 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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