



ANNUAL REPORT 2015/16
Mid-Western Regional Council



MID-WESTERN REGIONAL COUNCIL

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Mayor Des Kennedy
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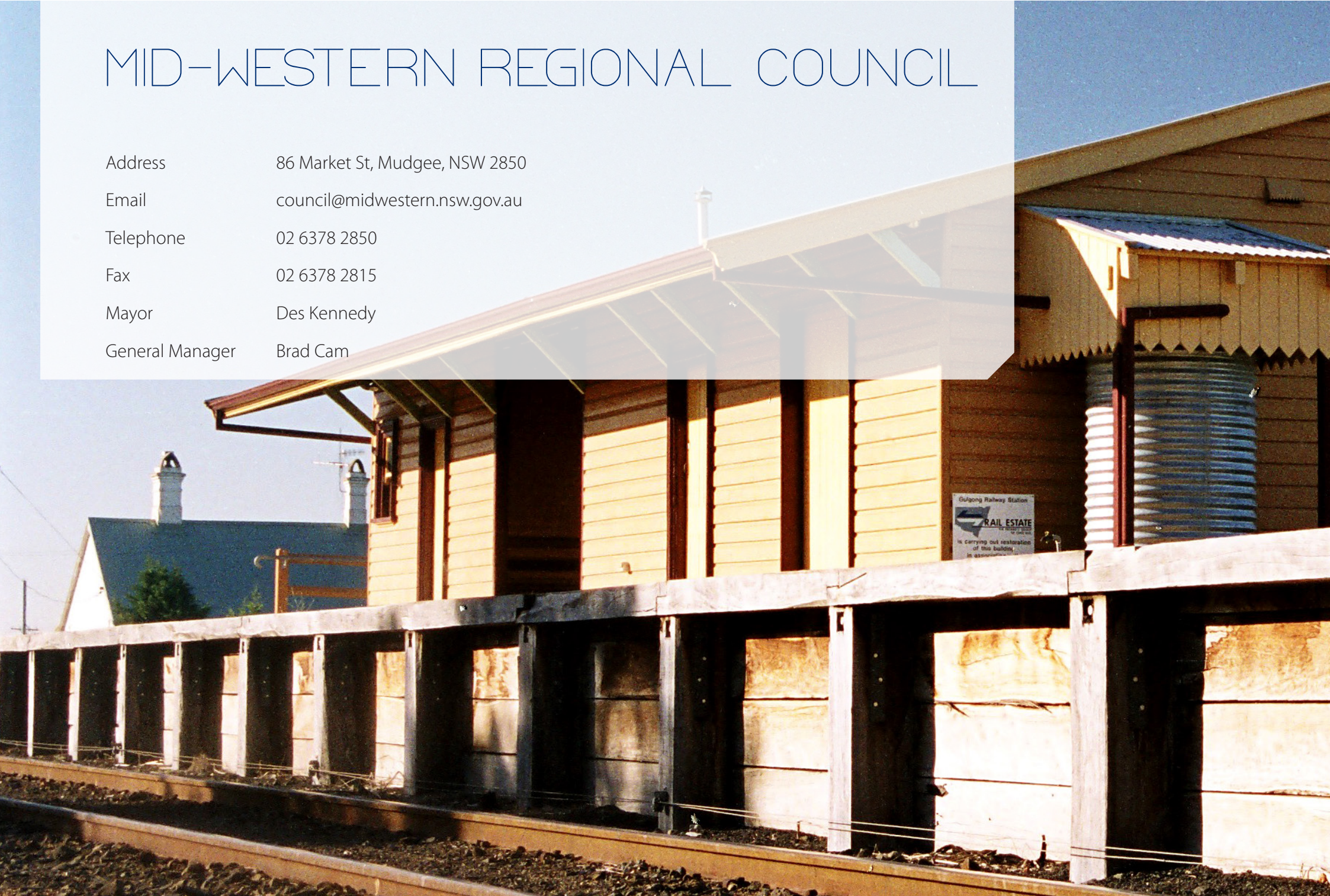


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MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

The 2015/16 year has been another very busy and productive one for Council. This year we adopted the 2016/17 Operational Plan which reflects our priorities in our Community Plan, Delivery Program and Long Term Financial Plan.

Continued focus on asset management will ensure benefits from Council's strong capital expenditure program are maximised throughout the long term.

These plans provide direction for staff and are focused on 5 key themes:

- Looking after our community
- Protecting our natural environment
- Building a strong local economy
- Connecting our region
- Good government

BRAD CAM
GENERAL MANAGER

The 2015/16 Annual Report demonstrates Council's strong financial performance. We've responsibly planned for the future through investment and prudent financial management, delivering debt-free budgets and a substantial capital works program.

Council persists to work towards Fit for the Future targets, and has continued to move towards a sustainable long term future.

Council also continues to work closely with State and Federal Governments, government agencies, local business groups and organisations to anticipate the growth needs of the community and ensure community expectations are realised.

Major upgrades to Ulan Road continue as Cope Road upgrades and Fairydale Lane upgrades are nearing completion. Council has also extended water and sewer network links to development growth areas in the region. Work continues to maintain and upgrade public halls, parks and reserves, including completion of the Red Hill mine shaft experience.





MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

I am consistently proud of the progress and projects of Council. This Annual Report is a summary of the efforts and achievements made in the last financial year.

I thank fellow Councillors for their leadership and representation, Council staff for their hard work and commitment, and every member of the community who has provided feedback and participated in consultation opportunities. It is only with this collaborative process that Council can ensure the best possible outcomes are delivered and community priorities are recognised.

We continue to be successful in securing millions of dollars of grant funding, easing the burden on ratepayers and allowing us to complete major infrastructure projects. This grant funding is integral to the future growth of the region and encouragement of ongoing investment.

We've completed street upgrades, undertaken major road improvements, cultivated more engagement with businesses and ratepayers, and maintained beautiful community facilities.

Some of the work I'm most proud of includes major upgrades to Ulan Road, Cope Road, Fairydale Lane and Saleyards Lane, the replacement of three timber bridges on key transport routes, the extension to our Airport facilities, the Flavours of Mudgee street festival, and our continual improvement towards Fit for the Future sustainability.

In the next twelve months, major roads projects will continue and construction of the \$15 million upgrade to Wollar Road will commence. Council will also develop a revised Community Plan after completion of strong community consultation with residents and ratepayers across the region.

The best possible outcome for each resident is always front of mind for Council. We work hard to make sure there

are opportunities for residents to have a say and it's very rewarding when residents take up these opportunities and get involved in the decision making process at Council.

I encourage you to continue to play an active role in Council operations and help us continue to make our region a wonderful place to live, work, invest and visit.

DES KENNEDY
MAYOR



YOUR COUNCIL

Mid-Western Regional Council is represented by nine Councillors including a Mayor elected annually from within.

Councillors are elected to a four year term, with the most recent elections occurring in September 2012. That election saw 42 candidates nominated to serve the Mid-Western Region, with Councillors Paul Cavalier, Des Kennedy, Esme Martens, Peter Shelley, Percy Thompson, Max Walker, John Webb, John Weatherley, and Lucy White elected.

Council elected Clr Kennedy as Mayor, and Clr Cavalier as Deputy Mayor for the period September 2015 through to September 2016.

The most recent round of Local Government elections occurred in September 2016.



MAYOR
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DEPUTY MAYOR
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Councillor Lucy White

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CIVIC LEADERSHIP

THE ROLE OF COUNCIL

The Mid-Western Regional Council exists as a body politic under the NSW Local Government Act 1993. It consists of nine Councillors with the Mayor elected annually from within. Together, the Councillors as 'Council', form the governing body of the Mid-Western Regional Council.

The role of Council is to make policies on the Region's direction, funding, expenditure, investment, strategic development and growth.

The elected Council considers issues facing the Region to ensure ratepayers' money is allocated to priority areas and spent in the most effective way. This means balancing the needs of the community against the needs of individuals, and carefully considering the long and short term implications of decisions.

Day to day operations are delegated to the General Manager. Corporate performance is monitored by regular reports to Council, and this Annual Report.

COUNCIL DECISIONS

Council is recognised as a single entity and Councillors only have the authority to make decisions as a group, when they are acting as Council, that is, in Council meetings.

Council meetings are held at the Chambers of the Mudgee Administration Centre on the third Wednesday of every month except for January (no meeting). Occasionally Council holds extraordinary meetings. These are Council meetings held outside the normal meeting cycle, most often to consider matters of an urgent nature.

Meetings are open to the public, and residents and businesses are actively encouraged to attend and participate in the decision making process. Prior to the commencement of the formal Council meeting, Open Day is held. Open Day is an opportunity for members of the public to address Council on any issue of relevance to the Council.

Council also has advisory committees comprised of Councillors, members of the public and staff of the Council. These committees, focused on specific narrow areas of expertise, make recommendations for consideration by the Council.

CODE OF CONDUCT

Councillors and staff are bound by a Code of Conduct, which sets the standards for ethical behaviour and decision making.

The Code states Councillor and staff roles and responsibilities and outlines steps to be followed when making and investigating allegations of breaches of the Code.

During 2015/16, there were two Code of Conduct complaints made against Councillors.

Code of Conduct matters are dealt with via the following means:

- Referred to a Conduct reviewer
- Referred to the various legislative authorities where required (Office of Local Government, Independent Commission Against Corruption)
- Resolved in accordance with Council's Procedures for the Administration of the Code of Conduct

HAVING YOUR SAY

There are many ways for residents to have a say on the governing of the Mid-Western Region.

- Vote for Councillors every four years through the Local Government election for Mid-Western Regional Council
- Arrange to speak at Open Day
- Write to or telephone elected members of the Council
- Get social and connect with Council on social media, including Facebook, Twitter and Instagram
- Make a submission on Council's four year Delivery Plan including the one year Operational Plan when on exhibition each year, or the ten year Community Strategic Plan when reviewed every four years
- Make submissions on other major projects of notified consents that are consulted or advertised throughout the year

Mid-Western Regional Council is committed to engaging its residents, stakeholders and staff in the development of policies and plans and the delivery of services for the community. Council's Community Engagement Policy recognises that community information sharing, consultation and participation are vital for effective decision making.

COUNCILLORS' FEES AND EXPENSES

The Local Government Remuneration Tribunal is constituted under Sections 239 and 241 of the Local Government Act 1993 and is responsible for categorising Councils, County Councils and Mayoral Offices to determine the amounts of fees to be paid to Councillors, members of County Councils and Mayors in each category.

The Mayor and Councillors receive an annual fee established by Council and set within the approved range by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal.

The Mayor and Councillors also receive reimbursement of expenses relating to their roles as detailed in the approved Councillor Expenses Policy. Information relating to these expenses in 2015/16 can be found in Statutory Information on page 22.

The Mayor's Fee for 2015/16 was \$24,030 plus a Councillor Fee of \$11,010.

The Councillor's Fee for 2015/16 was \$11,010 for each Councillor.

COUNCILLOR ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS AND WORKSHOPS

17 Ordinary Council Meetings were held between 1 July 2015 and 30 June 2016.

DELEGATING DECISION MAKING

As provided for in the Local Government Act, the Council can delegate some of its decision making authority to the General Manager, allowing a more efficient operation in several areas such as enforcement of Council regulations and finalising or negotiating various matters within parameters set by Council.

ELECTED MEMBER	ORDINARY MEETINGS ATTENDED	
	NUMBER	%
Clr Des Kennedy - Mayor	12/12	100
Clr Paul Cavalier - Deputy Mayor	11/12	92
Clr Esme Martens	10/12	84
Clr Peter Shelley	9/12	76
Clr Percy Thompson	11/12	92
Clr Max Walker	12/12	100
Clr John Weatherley	12/12	100
Clr John Webb	12/12	100
Clr Lucy White	10/12	84

COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

The Towards 2030 Community Plan sets out the community vision for the future - where we are, where we want to be, how we will get there and how we know that we are there. The plan represents an opportunity for Mid-Western Regional Council and the community to strategically create and foster sustainable communities that reflect local values and aspirations. It allows the community to define and reconcile the economic, social, cultural and environmental priorities for the Region.

The Towards 2030 Community Plan was developed following an extensive consultation process that more than 3,000 residents participated in using varying forms. The key strategies and priorities identified are outlined below.

Theme 1:

Looking After Our Community

- 1.1 A safe and healthy community
- 1.2 Vibrant towns and villages
- 1.3 Effective and efficient delivery of infrastructure
- 1.4 Meet the diverse needs of the community and create a sense of belonging

Theme 2:

Protecting Our Natural Environment

- 2.1 Protect and enhance our natural environment
- 2.2 Provide total water cycle management
- 2.3 Live in a clean and environmentally sustainable way

Theme 3:

Building A Strong Local Economy

- 3.1 A prosperous and diversified economy
- 3.2 An attractive business and economic environment
- 3.3 High quality sustainable development
- 3.4 A range of rewarding and fulfilling career opportunities to attract and retain residents

Theme 4:

Connecting Our Region

- 4.1 High quality road network that is safe and efficient
- 4.2 Efficient connection of the region to major towns and cities

Theme 5:

Good Government

- 5.1 Strong civic leadership
- 5.2 Good communications and engagement
- 5.3 An effective and efficient organisation





ABOUT THE MID-WESTERN REGION

More than 24,000 people call the Mid-Western Region home.

One of regional NSW's fastest growing areas, the Region is the gateway to the Central West and Far West regions of the State. Just over 3 hours' drive from Sydney and Newcastle, it is easily accessible and centrally located to other major regional centres.

Gulgong, Kandos, Mudgee and Rylstone townships are alive with visitors and families. The Region has open spaces, parks and sporting facilities for activities and a large number of events held each year. Local markets celebrate culture by way of local produce and artisan creativity.

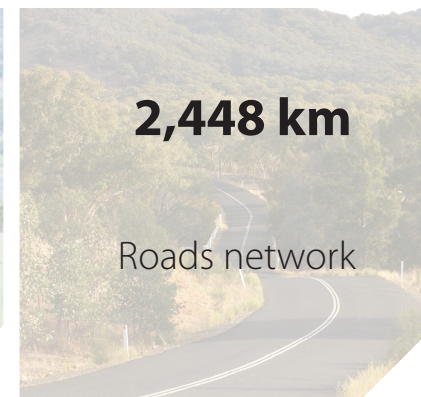
A key feature of the Region's economy is its diversity. Business and investment is driven by four major industry sectors – agriculture, viticulture, tourism and mining.

Each of these industries continues to provide job opportunities. The quality and diversity of the local labour force provides the Region with a competitive edge.

Whilst the current labour force provides access to a wide range of skills and education levels, the future growth expected in the Region will continue to increase the demand for new skills and qualifications.

Skilled workers such as engineers, builders, tradespeople, childcare and health professionals are likely to be in highest demand in the next three to five years.

Visitors to the Region experience a real country community with heart, soul and spirit. Locals love the place they call home and are happy to share the surroundings with almost 500,000 visitors each year.



Fast Facts

Major Towns and Centres

Mudgee, Gulgong, Kandos and Rylstone

Major Industries

Agriculture, Mining, Tourism, Viticulture

Competitive Advantages

- Diverse and growing economic base
- Centrally located to Sydney and Newcastle and major regional centres in NSW
- Transport links - daily coach & flight services
- Skilled workforce
- Strong business services sector
- Great lifestyle benefits
- Thriving tourism, arts and cultural sectors
- Adequate water supply



PROGRESS ON THE OPERATIONAL PLAN AND DELIVERY PROGRAM 2015/16

We manage

\$852 m

of property, infrastructure
and plant

We raised

\$27 m

of rates and
annual charges

We invested

\$32 m

into new and
renewed assets

We achieved

\$18 m

of capital grants and
contributions

We donated

\$111,000

to our community as grants
and in-kind support

We spent

\$31 m

on roads, bridges and
footpaths

MANAGING THE MONEY

Mid-Western Regional Council receives money in the form of rates on residential, business, mining and farmland properties; interest on investments; government grants and subsidies; contributions from major industry; annual charges for services like water, sewer and waste; and user charges and fees.

Major cash outflows include construction of new assets and renewal of existing infrastructure; labour; materials and contractor payments; insurances; and contributions to local and regional bodies.

The following information provides a brief summary of Council's 2015/16 financial statements in a format that is readily understood by the community, customers, employees and other stakeholders.

INCOME

This year, Council's primary source of income was from Rates and Annual Charges of \$27 million or 34.8% of total income (2014/15: \$26 million or 33.7%).

Council generates a significant portion of revenue from fees and charges associated with provision of services and facilities such as swimming pools; contract works; planning and building regulation; water consumption; and waste management. This amounted to \$15.6 million or 20% in 2015/16 (2014/15: \$18.2 million or 24%).

Grants and contributions from Government and Industry continue to be an important funding source for provision of services to, and maintenance and construction of infrastructure for the community. Council received a total of \$30.5 million or 39.8% in grants and contributions in 2015/16 (2014/15: \$28.7 million or 37%).

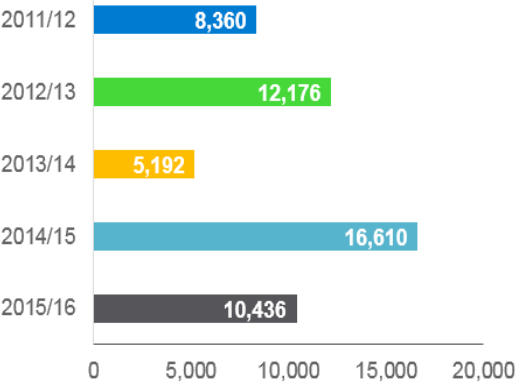
This demonstrates Council's day-to-day costs are greater than the total revenue stream, which impacts Council's ability to undertake capital works.

2015/16 Total Income \$77m

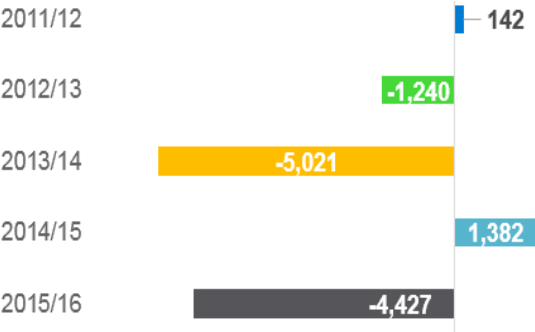
- Rates & Annual Charges
- User Charges Fees
- Interest & Investment Revenue
- Other Revenues
- Grants & Contributions - Operating



Operating Result (\$'000s)



Operating Result before Capital (\$'000s)



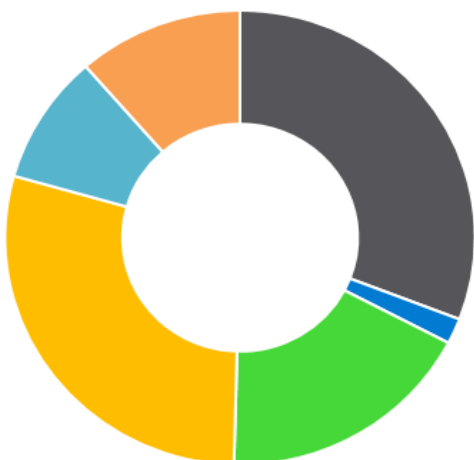
EXPENDITURE

Council continues to invest as much money as possible into the renewal of existing infrastructure to ensure it is in a satisfactory and serviceable condition.

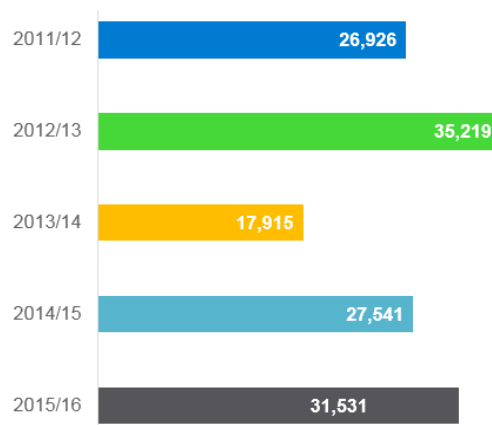
Council also continues to invest in new infrastructure to meet the demands of a growing community. Council delivered \$31.5 million of capital expenditure this year (2014/15: \$27million).

2015/16 Total Expenditure \$66m

- Employee Costs
- Borrowing Costs
- Materials & Contracts
- Depreciation & Amortisation
- Other Expenses
- Loss on Disposal of Assets



Capital Expenditure (\$'000s)

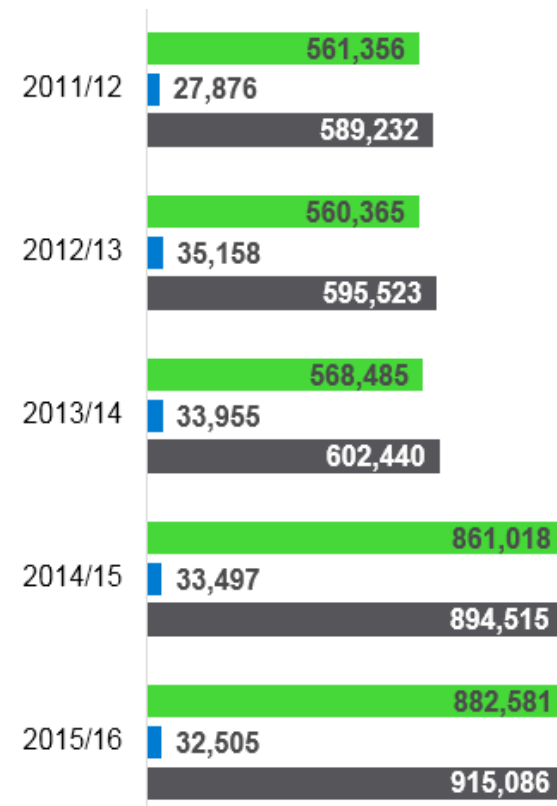


NET WORTH

The following graph compares Council's net accumulated financial worth as at 30 June 2016 to the previous four years.

Net Worth (\$'000s)

- Equity
- Liabilities
- Assets



ASSET MANAGEMENT

Council owns and maintains over half a billion dollars' worth of infrastructure including roads, parks, buildings, swimming pools, sports grounds, stormwater drainage, water and sewer networks, footpaths, buildings, and waste management facilities. These assets, which are used by the community every day, deteriorate over time, and require ongoing maintenance and renewal or replacement to keep them in a satisfactory condition.

Deteriorating infrastructure is a major issue for the majority of councils across Australia. Economic and legislative constraints such as rate pegging, service cost shifting from other levels of government plus increasing costs for materials and utilities further restricts Council's ability to meet existing or emerging community priorities with respect to asset management.

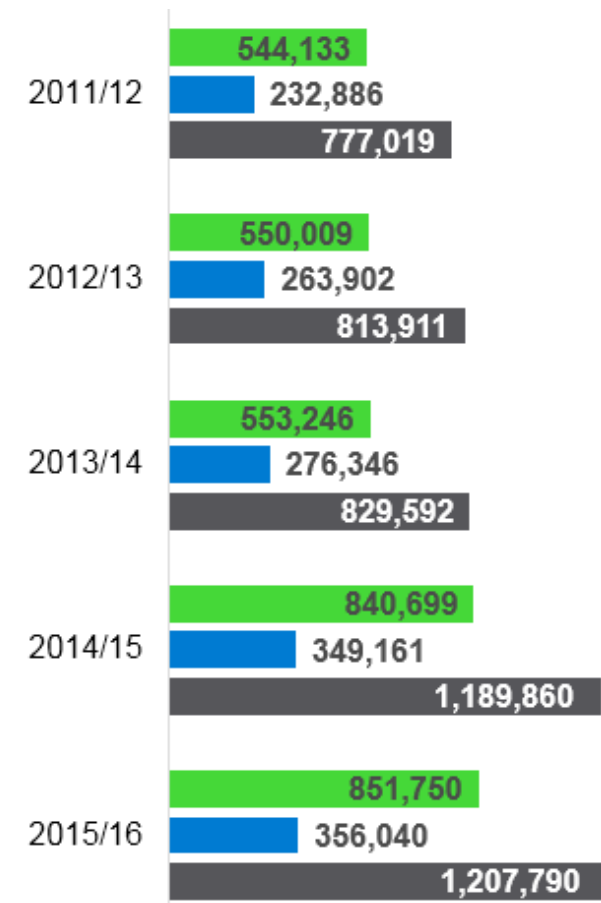
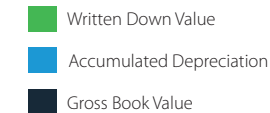
As the local population grows, so does the demand for services and the use and impact on assets. Unfortunately, the pool of money available to Council to maintain these assets simply does not keep pace with increased costs. The result is a funding gap, which contributes to a backlog of works and deteriorating assets.

The age of Council's assets and the increasing demand levels, means Council must continue to invest as much as possible in renewal programs to ensure assets meet community needs. Failure to renew assets at key points across their useful life will result in a higher backlog into the future. The money spent today on renewing assets will greatly reduce the cost to completely replace assets in years to come.

Council's current asset data requires continual improvement. Council is committed to improving asset knowledge so that data accurately records the asset inventory, how assets are performing and when assets are not able to provide the required service levels. Council also seeks to improve efficiency in operating, maintaining, renewing and replacing existing assets to optimise life cycle costs.

It is important to consider trade-offs between service levels and costs to ensure that the community receives the best return from infrastructure. This may include identifying assets surplus to needs for disposal in order to make savings in future operations and maintenance costs.

Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment (\$'000s)



PERFORMANCE MEASURES - FIT FOR THE FUTURE

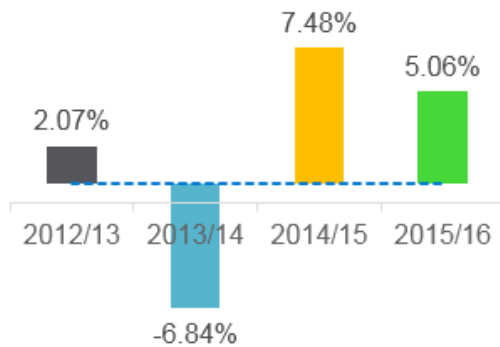
Consolidated (all funds)

SUSTAINABILITY

Operating performance ratio

This ratio measures operating expenditure against operating revenue. It is important to distinguish that this ratio is focusing on operating performance and hence capital grants and contributions, fair value adjustments and reversal of revaluation decrements are excluded.

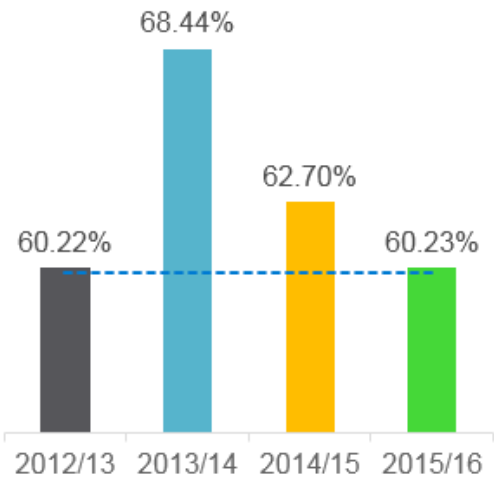
The benchmark operating performance ratio is greater than 0%.



Own source operating revenue

This ratio measures fiscal flexibility. It is the degree of reliance on external funding sources such as operating grants and contributions. Council's financial flexibility is improved by a higher level of own source revenue.

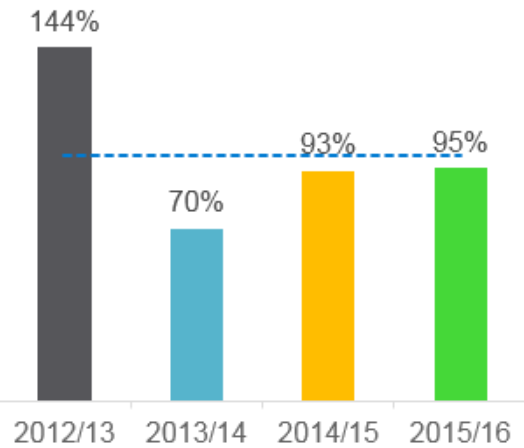
The benchmark own source operating revenue percentage is equal to or greater than 60%.



Buildings and infrastructure asset renewal ratio

This ratio assesses the rate at which assets are being renewed against the rate at which they are depreciating.

The benchmark buildings and infrastructure asset renewal ratio is 100%.

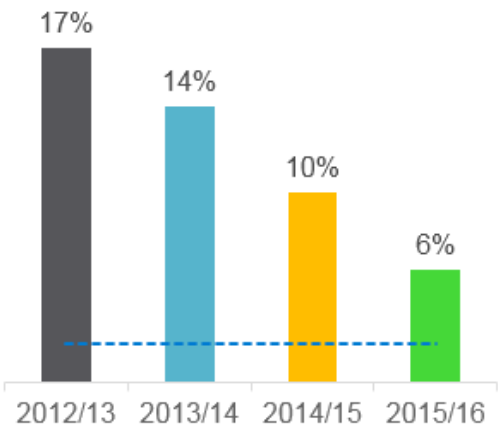


EFFECTIVE INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICE MANAGEMENT

Infrastructure backlog ratio

This ratio shows the backlog proportion against the total value of Council's infrastructure.

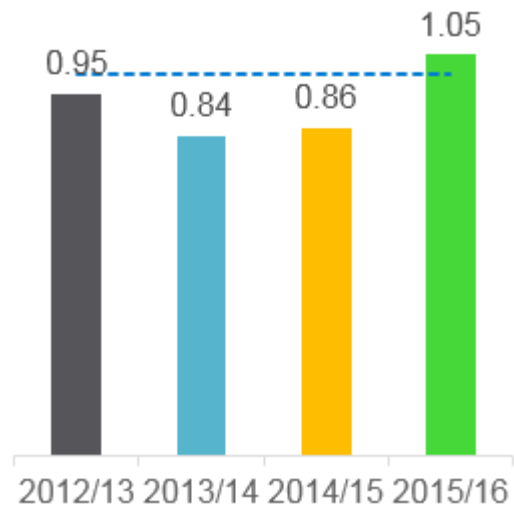
A benchmark of 2% was indicated as part of the Fit for the Future self-assessment tool, however there remains significant contention across the local government industry concerning both the benchmark being too low and the use of written-down value in the calculation itself.



Asset maintenance ratio

This ratio compares actual versus required annual asset maintenance. A ratio above 1.0 indicates that Council is investing enough funds within the year to stop the infrastructure backlog from growing.

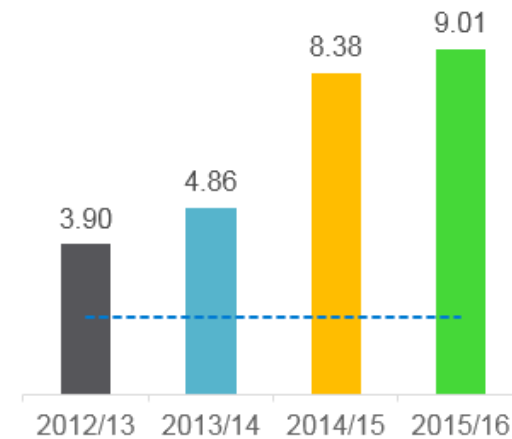
The benchmark asset maintenance ratio is equal to or greater than 1.0.



Debt service cover ratio

This ratio measures the availability of operating cash to service debt including interest, principal and lease payments. This measure replaces the debt service ratio.

The benchmark debt service cover ratio is greater than 2.0.



PROGRESS AGAINST DELIVERY PROGRAM TARGETS

Theme	No. of actions	100% complete	%
1. Looking after our community	74	71	96%
2. Protecting our natural environment	47	37	79%
3. Building a strong local economy	25	23	92%
4. Connecting our region	23	20	87%
5. Good Government	60	54	84%
Total	233	205	88%

A detailed review of the Delivery Program results is included in the End of Term Report, provided as an attachment to this report.



STATUTORY INFORMATION

ANNUAL CHARGES

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

Council has not levied an annual charge for stormwater management services during the year.

COASTAL PROTECTION SERVICES

Council has not levied an annual charge for coastal protection services during the year.

COMPANION ANIMALS

Council undertakes companion animal management functions and activities in accordance with the Companion Animals Act 1998 and the associated Regulations.

EXPENDITURE

During 2015/16, Council spent \$176,000 on companion animal management activities. Council employs three full time Law Enforcement Officers to enforce the provisions of the Companion Animal legislation. These Law Enforcement Officers also attend to after-hours stock impounding. As part of running an animal pound facility, Council utilises additional staff resources to ensure 7 day a week animal care and coverage.

The Office of Local Government provided \$9,700 of revenue to Council in 2015/16 for Animal Management Services plus an additional \$5,500 Responsible Pet Ownership grant.

A further \$37,600 was received from stock impounding fees, animal release fees, fines, animal sales and other related revenue, helping to partially offset the total cost of companion animal management to the Mid-Western Region community.

REGISTRATION AND REHOMING

Council strongly encourages residents to have their dogs and cats micro-chipped. Micro-chipping is quick, painless and easy. It is the easiest way a pet can be returned home, so it should be top priority for every pet owner.

Council has a micro-chipping service, and charged \$33 for the service in 2015/16. Mid-Western Regional Council will be holding free micro-chipping days within the region in the coming weeks.

In addition, Council works with the local branch of the RSPCA regarding foster care and advertising of impounded animals. The Mid-Western Regional Council website always has a current listing of animals in the pound that are lost or looking for a new home. Across 2015/16, Council compiled Pound Data Collection Returns for the Office of Local Government. 520 animals were seized. Fortunately, 354 of those animals were able to be returned to their owners or Council successfully rehomed them.

A total of 82 animals were required to be euthanased as they were either unsuitable or unable to be rehomed. 301 companion animals were registered through Council.

DOG ATTACKS AND DANGEROUS DOGS

Data relating to dog attacks is required to be lodged by Council with the Office of Local Government.

During the 2015/16 period, there have been 72 separate dog attack incidents in the Mid-Western Region, with a number of animal (primarily stock) and human victims.

Actions taken following dog attacks can include infringement notices, animal seizure, police action, and euthanasia of the attacking dog.

OTHER COMPANION ANIMAL ACTIVITIES

Council has three off-leash areas for companion dogs, located at Glen Willow Sports Complex in Mudgee, Peoples Park in Gulgong, and the Rylstone Showground.

COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL AND DELEGATIONS TO EXTERNAL BODIES

A range of committees conduct functions on behalf of Council. There are a number of different committee types including advisory committees, management committees, and appointments to external committees.

ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Advisory committees help Council stay connected with the views of our local citizens. Comprising of local community members and Council representatives, these committees provide advice and feedback to Council on key issues.

For 2015/16 there were 18 Advisory Committees and Reference Groups operating within the Mid-Western Region. Further information on these committees, including minutes and terms of reference, can be found on our website.

MUDGEES SHOWGROUND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Councillor Representative: Cllr Webb

The Mudgee Showground Management Committee assists Council to manage the showground facility.

GULGONG MEMORIAL HALL COMMITTEE

Councillor Representatives: Cllr Thompson

The Gulgong Memorial Hall Committee assists Council with the management and promotion of the Gulgong Memorial Hall.

RED HILL RESERVE WORKING PARTY

Councillor Representative: Cllr Cavalier and Cllr Thompson

The Red Hill Reserve Working Party provides advice to Council on the development of a precinct master plan, and management of the site.

MID-WESTERN REGIONAL COUNCIL PEAK SPORTS COUNCIL

Councillor Representative: Cllr Weatherley

The Peak Sports Council coordinates the activities of the three Sports Sub Committees for Mudgee, Gulgong, and Rylstone.

MUDGEES SPORTS COUNCIL SUB COMMITTEE

Councillor Representative: Cllr Weatherley

The Mudgee Sports Council Sub Committee assists Council to manage active recreational facilities in Mudgee.

GULGONG SPORTS COUNCIL SUB COMMITTEE

Councillor Representative: Cllr Thompson

The Gulgong Sports Council Sub Committee assists Council to manage active recreational facilities in Gulgong.

RYLSTONE SPORTS COUNCIL SUB COMMITTEE

Councillor Representative: Cllr Shelley

The Rylstone Sports Council Sub Committee assists Council to manage active recreational facilities in Rylstone/Kandos.

MID-WESTERN REGIONAL COUNCIL HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Councillor Representative: Cllr White

The Heritage Committee advises Council about the preservation and enhancement of items and places within the Mid-Western Region that are of heritage significance.

MUDGEES AND GULGONG ACCESS COMMITTEE

Councillor Representative: Cllr Shelley, Alternate Cllr Webb

The Mudgee & Gulgong Access Committee provides advice to Council on matters relating to accessibility in the Mudgee and Gulgong areas.

RYLSTONE AND KANDOS ACCESS COMMITTEE

Councillor Representative: Cllr Martens

The Rylstone & Kandos Access Committee provides advice to Council on matters relating to accessibility in the Rylstone and Kandos areas.

MID-WESTERN REGIONAL CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Councillor Representative: Cllr White

The Cultural Development Committee provides advice to Council on the implementation of recommendations from the Cultural Plan.

AUSTRALIA DAY SELECTION COMMITTEE

Councillor Representative: Cllr Kennedy, Cllr Cavalier, Cllr Webb, Cllr Thompson

The Australia Day Selection Committee selects the recipients of Council's annual Australia Day Awards.

MUDGEES REGIONAL SALEYARDS COMMITTEE

Councillor Representative: Cllr Weatherley, Cllr Webb

The Mudgee Regional Saleyards Committee provides advice to Council on the operation of and improvements to the Saleyards complex.

MID-WESTERN REGIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL

Councillor Representative: Cllr Kennedy, Cllr Cavalier

The Mid-Western Regional Youth Council provides consultation with and advocacy for youth.

COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE

Councillor Representative: Cllr Kennedy, Cllr Weatherley

The Community Safety Committee provides advice to Council on the need for a Community Crime Prevention Plan.

NOXIOUS WEEDS CONTROL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Councillor Representative: Cllr Webb

The Noxious Weeds Control Advisory Committee provides advice to Council on weed control in the local government area.

INTEGRATED WATER CYCLE MANAGEMENT PROJECT REFERENCE GROUP

Councillor Representative: Cllr Cavalier, Cllr Weatherley

The Integrated Water Cycle Management (IWCM) Project Reference Group provides advice to Council on IWCM issues, including required levels of service and assessment of the social, environmental and economic impacts that would result from any adopted IWCM strategy.

PUBLIC ART ADVISORY PANEL

Councillor Representative: Cllr Kennedy, Cllr White

The Public Art Advisory Panel provides advice to Council on the commissioning, selection, maintenance, protection and deaccessioning of public art works and programmes.

EXTERNAL BODIES

In 2015/16, Council did not delegate any of its functions to external bodies such as County Councils.

However Council has appointed delegates to a number of external organisations and committees. These are:

- Bushfire Management Committee
- Rural Fire Service District Liaison Committee
- Mudgee Region Tourism Inc
- Ulan Coal Mine Community Consultative Committee
- Wilpinjong Community Consultative Committee
- Charbon Community Consultative Committee
- Moolarben Community Consultative Committee
- Inglenook Exploration Community Consultative Committee
- Bells Line Expressway Group
- Macquarie Valley Weeds Advisory Committee
- Joint Regional Planning Panel
- Botobolar Community Committee
- Goolma Amenities Committee
- Murray Darling Association



PARTNERSHIPS, COOPERATIVES AND JOINT VENTURES

CENTRAL WEST NSW COUNCILS (CENTROC)

Council became a full member of Central NSW Councils (Centroc) on 27th November 2014, at its Annual General Meeting.

Centroc is a voluntary regional collaboration of councils in Central NSW. It exists to advocate for and improve operational efficiencies of its member councils - Bathurst, Blayney, Boorowa, Cabonne, Cowra, Forbes, Lachlan, Lithgow, Mid Western Regional Council, Oberon, Orange, Parkes, Upper Lachlan, Weddin, Young and Central Tablelands Water. Key areas of Centroc advocacy include improving transport infrastructure such as the Bells Line of Expressway, expanding telecommunications, increasing regional health workforce, ensuring water security and stimulating regional development.

Council ceased membership with Centroc as at 30 June 2016. As a part of the State Governments Local Government Reform, a recommendation for Mid-Western Regional Council to join the Orana Joint Organisation was made, and Council will be looking to support that recommendation due to the closer region alliances with the Orana district.

HUNTER COUNCILS LIMITED

Council is an associate member of Hunter Councils Limited along with the other full member Councils of Hunter Councils, being Cessnock, Dungog, Gloucester, Great Lakes, Lake Macquarie, Maitland, Muswellbrook, Newcastle, Port Stephens, Singleton and Upper Hunter. The activities of the organisation are not controlled by any one council.

Hunter Councils Limited was established to improve the quality and efficiency of local government across the Hunter Region. The organisation has several business units providing specialist services to member and non member councils including Regional Procurement, Local Government Training Institute, Hunter Records Storage, Screen Hunter Central Coast, Environment Division and Local Government Legal.

Hunter Councils Limited was established in January 2003 after receiving Minister's consent, pursuant to section 358(1)(a) of the Local Government Act 1993. Council became an associate member of Hunter Councils Limited in 2011.

STATECOVER MUTUAL LIMITED

Council is a member of StateCover Mutual Limited and holds a partly paid share in the entity. StateCover is a company providing workers compensation insurance cover to the NSW Local government Industry, and specifically, Council.

Council has a contingent liability to contribute further equity in the event of the erosion of the Company's capital base as a result of the company's past performance and/or claims experience or as a result of any increased prudential requirements from Australian Prudential Regulation Authority. These future equity contributions would be required to maintain the company's minimum level of Net Assets in accordance with its licence requirements.

MUDGEES REGION TOURISM INC.

Mudgee Region Tourism Inc (MRTI) is a not-for-profit independent incorporated tourism body funded by Council and its members. The region encompasses the towns of Mudgee, Gulgong, Rylstone and Kandos (and small villages in between).

Council and MRTI have just completed a three year contract, from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2016 whereby Council contributed a set monthly rate, increased by CPI. Members of MRTI also provide financial support through membership payments. Losses of the entity would be borne by the entity or its members, with no set agreement in place for Council to fund losses.

The current intention is to continue to support MRTI with monthly contributions to promote tourism within the LGA, and Council has again entered a contract, this time with a one year term to 30 June 2017.

FLYPELICAN

FlyPelican is a regional airline and aircraft charter company based in Newcastle on the east coast of Australia operating a fleet of 19 seat British Aerospace Jetstream 32 aircraft.

Council has a contract in place to provide initial support to FlyPelican to re-establish an airline service between Mudgee and Sydney. This contract agreement includes initial start up support of \$195,000; monthly support payments of \$15,000 per month for the first 12 months of operation; provision of ground handling staff; marketing and advertising (in-house) and waiver of landing fees for 12 - 24 months.

Any losses of the company would be borne by FlyPelican and there is no agreement in place for Council to provide additional support or cover any amount of loss from providing the airline service from Mudgee. There is an ongoing risk that the company may be unsuccessful or the service may be discontinued for financial reasons, but if this occurs contributions to the service from Council will be withdrawn. Council intends to continue to support FlyPelican through the terms of the contract only, which expires in June 2017.

Further information on financial support provided to Mudgee Region Tourism Inc and FlyPelican is provided under Note 19 of the 2015/16 Financial Statements.



CONTRACTS AWARDED

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 and our own Procurement Policy, Council calls for tenders for the supply of various goods and services where the estimated spend under that contract exceeds \$150,000. The requirement to tender excludes the purchase or sale of land; purchases at public auction; contracts for employees of Council; purchase of goods and services under State Government or Commonwealth procurement contracts; emergency contracts; or where because of extenuating circumstances, remoteness of locality or the unavailability of competitive or reliable tenderers, Council decides by resolution (which states the reasons for the decision) that a satisfactory result would not be achieved by inviting tenders.

The following contracts were awarded during 2015/16:

CONTRACTOR	CONTRACT AWARDED	NATURE OF GOODS & SERVICES	CONTRACT AMOUNT (EX GST) \$
Forpark	16th November 2015	Supply and Install playground at Bellevue	\$173,942
Iveco Trucks Australia Ltd	2nd December 2015	Supply of Superior Pak Iveco garbage compactor	\$389,283
Tutt Bryant Equipment	8th December 2015	Supply of three Bomag smooth drum rollers	\$510,675
Murray Construction PL	30th November 2015	Design and Construct 4 Bridges. Stoney Creek Bridge, McDonalds Creek Bridge, Butter factory Bridge and Green Gully Bridge	\$1,589,600
Local Government Engineering Services	13th November 2015	Design and project management of Wollar Road upgrade	\$639,260
Waste Initiatives	26th November 2015	Waste Initiatives Waste Initiatives Waste Initiatives	\$180,166
Ixom Operations Pty Ltd, Sibelco Australia Pty Ltd, Air Liquide	1st January 2016	Supply & Delivery of Bulk Water Treatment Chemicals	\$400,000
Australia Limited, Omega Chemicals	1st January 2016	Supply & Delivery of Bulk Water Treatment Chemicals	\$400,000
Fulton Hogan	1st January 2016	Supply & Deliver Emulsion	\$187,000
Tracserv P/L	15th March 2016	Supply Isuzu Trucks - Roads Maintenance	\$474,840
Poonindie Pty Ltd	26th February 2016	Construct sewage pumping station	\$582,249
Fulton Hogan	3rd June 2016	Bitumen, Emulsions and Asphalt Materials and Services - (RFQ 2016/04 – Bitumen Spray Seal)	\$2,247,405
Fulton Hogan Industries Pty Ltd	1st January 2016	Supply and Delivery of Bitumen Emulsion	\$187,000
A1 Earthworx Civil and Mining	1st October 2016	Construction of the Horatio St Detention Basin	>\$150k
Ixom Operations Pty Ltd, Sibelco Australia Pty Ltd, Consolidated Chemicals Co., Air Liquide Australia Limited, Omega Chemicals	16th December 2015	Supply & Delivery of Bulk Water Treatment Chemicals	>\$150k

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Council has a program of financial assistance, as set out in the Financial Assistance and Event Management Policies, for organisations, groups and individuals that meet the goals and strategies as set out in Councils Community Plan 2030. In doing so, Council seeks to support a wide range of community and cultural services; an increase in community spirit and cohesion; effective, inclusive and equitable services within the community; and projects with a high level of community support and ownership.

Council regularly gives donations to local schools for award nights; village subsidies to progress associations for maintenance of local facilities; rates refunds to charitable and sporting organisations; sports people representing the region at a state, national or international event; tourism events; town Christmas parties; and Seniors Week activities.

During the 2015/16 financial year, Council provided total grants of financial assistance of \$110,573 to local and regional organisations, and individuals; and a further \$57,699 in events assistance. Material donations and contributions (over \$5,000 inclusive of GST if any) provided during the year were:

RECIPIENT	AMOUNT	PURPOSE
Kandos Rylstone Community Radio Inc (Community Capers)	\$11,000.00	Kandos Rylstone Community Capers publication
Gulgong Chamber of Commerce Inc	\$12,000.00	Business development
Christmas Party Mudgee - Rotary	\$8,688.00	Local event assistance

Please see page 27 for additional amounts contributed to local business, Flypelican.

CONDITION OF PUBLIC WORKS

Council is the custodian of a substantial portfolio of community infrastructure, property, plant and equipment with a fair value of \$1.19 billion. Council manages infrastructure assets with a fair value of \$1.1 billion (written down value \$764 million) on behalf of the Mid-Western Region community. It is Council's role to ensure the right level of assets are maintained in a satisfactory condition, in a long-term sustainable manner.

A detailed report is set out in Special Schedule No. 7 - Condition of Public Works in the 2015/16 Financial Reports.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Council expended \$276,058 on legal costs during 2015/16.

Of that amount, \$138,903 related to the cost of obtaining legal advice or opinion in relation to various matters and not in relation to legal proceedings taken by or against the Council.

In addition, Council expended \$137,155 during the period in recovering outstanding rates and charges. These costs are debited as a charge against individual rate assessments. Council recovered \$137,431 of such costs during the period.

No legal proceedings were taken by or against Council in 2015/16.



MAYORAL AND COUNCILLOR FEES AND EXPENSES

COUNCILLOR FEES PAID AND EXPENSES PAID OR REIMBURSED AS AT 30 JUNE 2016											
	GENERAL OPERATIONS	CR CAVALIER	CR KENNEDY	CR MARTENS	CR SHELLEY	CR THOMPSON	CR WALKER	CR WEATHERLEY	CR WEBB	CR WHITE	TOTAL \$'S
Councillor Fees	-	11,010	11,010	11,010	11,010	11,010	11,010	11,010	11,010	11,010	99,090.00
Mayoral Fees	-	-	24,030.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24,030.00
Council Meeting Expenses (accommodation, travel and meals)	5,082.68	-	-	2,737.46	1,188.84	2,294.00	-	69.56	2792.76	103.70	14,269.00
Councillor Representational/Lobbying Expenses (accommodation, travel and meals)	-	-	2,495.52	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,044.54	3,540.06
Provision of Vehicle	8,356.96	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,356.96
Memberships and Subscriptions	77,666.76	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	77,666.76
Miscellaneous Expenses (meals, sundries, stationery) but not associated with conferences, seminars and training	944.81	-	10.95	456.36	1,277.05	61.36	202.73	-	225.45	-	3,178.71
Provision of office equipment such as laptop, computers mobile telephones, landline telephones and facsimile machines installed in Councillor homes (equipment and line rental costs and internet access costs but not including all costs)	879.27	3,197.20	2,166.63	1,112.59	2,185.06	-	2,113.01	698.40	3,255.02	1,755.83	17,362.98
Total \$'s	92,930.48	14,207.20	39,713.10	15,316.41	15,660.95	13,365.36	13,325.74	11,777.96	17,283.23	13,914.07	247,494.50

No expenses were incurred for provision of care for a child, or an immediate family member of a Councillor to allow the Councillor to undertake his or her civic functions.

OVERSEAS AND INTERSTATE VISITS

Council is required to disclose details of any interstate visits undertaken by elected members in relation to Council business, along with details of any overseas visits undertaken by any Council officers including Councillors and staff.

No overseas or interstate visits were undertaken by elected members or staff in 2015/16.

PRIVATE WORKS

Council undertook private works in 2015/16 to the value of \$494,000, resulting in a profit of \$18,000.

This represents a profit margin of 16.5%. No subsidies were provided, and all work was intended to be carried out on a for profit basis in accordance with Council's Private Works Policy.

RATES AND CHARGES WRITTEN OFF

During 2015/16, \$10,778 of Rates and Annual Charges were written-off as a result of postponement of rates and charges.

Council also wrote off a further \$714,384 as Pensioner Rate Rebates in accordance with Council's Pensioner Concession Policy.

SENIOR STAFF

Council started the 2015/16 year with five Senior Staff positions in its organisation structure. Those positions were:

- General Manager
- Director Community
- Director Corporate
- Director Development
- Director Operations

There was a new structure in place by October 2015 which included four Senior Staff positions:

- General Manager
- Director Community
- Director Development
- Director Operations

The remuneration package for the General Manager totalled \$277,454, and included:

Salary component - \$221,895
Bonuses - NIL
Superannuation component - \$22,734
Non-cash benefits - \$24,524
Fringe Benefits Tax on non-cash benefits - \$8,301

The combined remuneration packages for all Directors for 2015/16 totalled \$501,187, and included:

Salary component - \$407,489
Bonuses - NIL
Superannuation component - \$59,328
Non-cash benefits - \$29,398
Fringe Benefits Tax on non-cash benefits - \$4,972

PLANNING AGREEMENTS

COMPANY	EFFECTIVE	PURPOSE	AMOUNT	DUE DATE	PAID
Wilpinjong Coal	March 2006	Lump Sum - Coal Shipment	\$450,000	Payable prior to the first shipment of coal from the land	Yes
		Annual Contribution - Community Infrastructure	\$800,000	40,000 per annum for 20 years, with the first instalment due on the anniversary of the first loading and dispatch of coal.	8 of 20
		Annual Contribution - Road Maintenance	\$30,000 per annum	\$30,000 per annum for the life of the mining operation, with the first instalment due on the anniversary of the first loading and dispatch of coal.	8 of life
		Annual Contribution - Bus Routes	\$60,000	\$20,000 per annum for three years	Yes
Moolarben Coal Stage 1	February 2008	Lump Sum - Open Cut Coal	\$1,000,000	Payable in three equal annual instalments, with the first payment due within 7 days of first loading and dispatch of coal produced from the open cut operation.	Yes
		Lump Sum - Underground Coal	\$300,000	Payable in three equal annual instalments, with the first payment due within 7 days of first loading and dispatch of coal produced from the underground operation.	No
		Lump Sum - Road Maintenance	\$1,000,000	Payable in three equal annual instalments, with the first payment due within 7 days of the commencement of construction.	Yes

COMPANY	EFFECTIVE	PURPOSE	AMOUNT	DUE DATE	PAID
		Annual Contribution - Road Maintenance	\$1,250,000	\$62,500 per annum for 20 years, with the first instalment due on the anniversary of the first loading and dispatch of coal.	6 of 20
		Annual Contribution - Community Infrastructure	\$1,000,000	\$100,000 per annum for 10 years, with the first instalment due on the anniversary of the first loading and dispatch of coal.	6 of 10
Xstrata	March 2011	Lump Sum - Community Infrastructure	\$3,475,000	\$2 million to be paid within 30 days of date of agreement. Balance of \$1.475 million to be paid within a year of the date of the first contribution.	Yes
		Annual Contribution - Road Maintenance Cope Road	\$1,050,000	\$50,000 per annum for 21 years, with the first instalment due within 30 days of date of agreement. Subsequent annual payments due on anniversary date of first contribution.	5 of 21
Charbon Coal	September 2010	Annual Contribution - Road Maintenance	\$0.05 per tonne per kilometre	Due by 31 July each year for coal hauled in previous year	4 of life
		Annual Contribution - Road Maintenance	\$0.77 per tonne	\$75,000 paid as bond. To be charged with calculated contribution on an annual basis until \$75,000 exhausted. A further \$75,000 shall then be paid to Council, with annual charges payable whilst mining continues.	Yes
		Lump Sum - Carwell Creek Bridge Upgrade	\$210,000	\$210,000 due within 30 days of commencement of construction works by Council	Yes
		Annual Contribution - Community Facilities	\$0.01 per Run of Mine tonnes per annum	Due by 31 July each year for coal hauled in previous year	4 of life

COMPANY	EFFECTIVE	PURPOSE	AMOUNT	DUE DATE	PAID
		Lump Sum - Community Facilities	\$50,000	\$50,000 payable within one month of receipt of project approval for a community project in Rylstone, Kandos, Charbon and/or Clandulla	Yes
Wilpinjong Coal	January 2011	Lump Sum - Ulan-Wollar Road	\$50,000	Non cash contribution of \$50,000 of gravel to be used for upgrading of the Ulan-Wollar Road	Yes
		Lump Sum - Ulan-Wollar Road Upgrade	\$600,000	\$600,000 payable by instalments within 14 days of invoices as issued by Council at each stage of the primary road works	Yes
		Annual Contribution - Community Infrastructure	\$600 per annum per permanent employee contractor in excess of 100 for 20 year consent period	\$235,774 paid in 2014/15	3 of 20
Caerleon	September 2013	Fairydale Lane Contribution	\$500,000	Lump sum payment on connection of Fairydale Lane to the spine road, based on \$500 per lot of registered plans for the subdivision. Thereafter a per lot contribution upon registration.	No
		DSP Charges (water)	\$7,837 per ET water	On delivery of relevant infrastructure, per a project schedule	No
		DSP Charges (sewer)	\$3,558 per ET sewer	On delivery of relevant infrastructure, per a project schedule	No
		Community Open Space Network	Land for parks, recreation, stormwater and sewer	As stages are released	No

COMPANY	EFFECTIVE	PURPOSE	AMOUNT	DUE DATE	PAID
Cobbora	November 2013	Construction Personnel Contribution	\$250 per employee per annum	Minimum \$100,000 per annum, payable for construction phase	No
		Operational Personnel Contribution	\$150 per employee per annum, plus \$400 per employee living in the LGA per annum	Minimum \$60,000 per annum, payable for operational phase	No
		Rehabilitation Personnel Contribution	\$250 employee per annum	Payable for rehabilitation phase	No
		Road contributions - Laheys Creek Road	Contribution to works	Payable on approval of the Portion Works Plan by the Developer	No



EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Mid-Western Regional Council (MWRC) aims to provide an environment where employees and others in the workplace are treated fairly and with respect, and are free from unlawful discrimination, harassment, vilification and bullying.

The Council aims to ensure that when employment decisions are made, they are based on merit, not on irrelevant attributes or characteristics that an individual may possess. The Council also aims to create a work environment which promotes good working relationships.

In order to achieve our objective, Mid-Western Regional Council will:

- Develop and implement an Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Management Plan;
- Incorporate Council's core values of respect, integrity and recognition and the principles of diversity, equality and merit into all relevant policies and procedures;
- Base all selection decisions on merit and the individual's ability to meet the requirements of the position;
- Provide training and development that is consistent with the principles of equity and that supports Council's EEO objectives;
- Provide a workplace free from bullying, harassment and discrimination;
- Promote EEO and workplace diversity throughout Council to ensure that every employee is aware of and understands Council's policies on EEO related matters;
- Provide those who work at Council with the Anti-Discrimination and Equal Employment Opportunity Policy and the Workplace Bullying Policy which provides guidance on what is acceptable behaviour and establishes what may constitute discrimination, vilification, harassment and bullying at work; and
- Provide effective mechanisms to resolve complaints.

During 2015/2016 Council completed a number of EEO related initiatives including:

Communication and Awareness Raising

The Anti-Discrimination and Equal Employment Opportunity Policy, Workplace Bullying Policy, Workplace Environment Statement and Code of Conduct were accessible on Council's Intranet and were included in Council's Induction and Orientation practices.

Training on Anti-Discrimination, Equal Employment Opportunity, Merit Based Selection and Workplace Bullying was carried out for Managers and Supervisors in June 2016.

An overview of Council's EEO Management Plan is included in Council's induction Program.

Recruitment and Selection

Council's recruitment procedures were reviewed and updated with an increased focus on ensuring that all recruitment decisions are merit based.

Ongoing interviewing and selection mentoring was provided to ensure compliance with EEO principles.

Leadership

In addition to the training in June 2016, all new Managers and Supervisors were given a copy of the Anti-Discrimination and Equal Employment Opportunity Policy and Workplace Bullying Policy and briefed on their responsibilities during the induction.

Flexible Working Arrangements

Council continued to offer assistance with flexible working arrangements for employees with family and carer's responsibilities whilst ensuring we continue to meet our operational, customer and employee requirements.



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

A copy of Council's audited financial statements is available at <http://www.midwestern.nsw.gov.au/council/Reports--Statements/>
Hard copies of financial statements are available from Council upon request.



STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT REPORT

A Regional State of Environment report has been prepared in partnership with the Central West Catchment Management Authority through the Central West Local Government Reference Group, which comprises the 16 Local Government Areas within the Central West Catchment area.

This report covers the entire catchment, not just individual Councils. The report contains information about environmental issues across the catchment, ranging from water quality, air quality, noise pollution to bio-diversity.



2015-2016 STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT – SNAPSHOT

A State of the Environment (SoE) Report is an important management tool which aims to provide the community and Local Council with information on the condition of the environment in the local area to assist in decision-making.

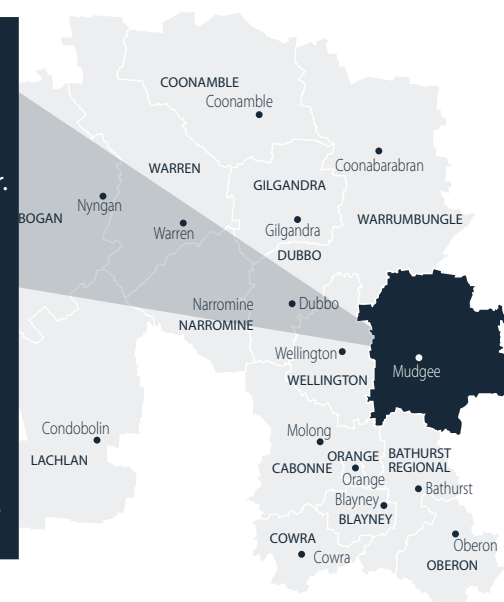
Since 2007, the Councils of the Greater Central West Region of NSW (see map) have joined to produce Regional SoE Reports as part of Council reporting requirements.

Recent changes to NSW legislation mean that Councils are no longer required to produce SoE Reports each year, but only once every four years, in the year of the Council election (which will next be in 2016). However, the participating Councils have decided to continue reporting on an annual basis so that they can provide a detailed Regional SoE report in 2016 that covers trends in the intervening years.

This is a brief snapshot of data for the Mid-Western Local Government Area in 2015-16 across a range of environmental indicators as shown in the tables below. The tables provide an understanding of trends by comparing this year's data with an average of previous years. The Council snapshot report should be read in conjunction with the 2015-16 Regional SoE snapshot report.

2015-2016 HIGHLIGHTS

- ▲ The area covered by mining and exploration titles decreased significantly from last year.
- ▼ The number of native fish species restocked decreased from last year.
- ▲ The number of drinking water complaints decreased from last year.
- ▼ There was a decrease in the number of hours that environmental volunteers worked on public open space.
- ▼ The amount of material recycled per person has decreased over the past three years.



LAND

▲ Improved ► No or little change ▼ Worsening Trend

ISSUE	INDICATOR	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	TREND
Contamination	Contaminated land sites - Contaminated Land Register	1	1	1	1	►
	Contaminated land sites - potentially contaminated sites	29	29	29	31	▼
	Contaminated sites rehabilitated	2	0	0	0	▼
Erosion	Erosion affected land rehabilitated (ha)	0	1	0	0	▼
Land use planning and management	Number of development consents and building approvals	456	431	376	343	▲
	Landuse conflict complaints	10	12	28	20	▼
	Loss of primary agricultural land through rezoning (ha)	612	19	0	0	▲
Minerals & petroleum	Number of mining and exploration titles	158	166	160	152	▲
	Area covered by mining and petroleum exploration titles (ha)	974,000	1,010,000	739,000	480,000	▲

Note: the trend is based on comparing the average of the previous three years of reporting with 2014-15

BIODIVERSITY

ISSUE	INDICATOR	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	TREND
Habitat Loss	Total area protected under voluntary conservation agreements and property agreements (ha)	1,349	1,381	1,381	1,384	▲
	Total area protected in Wildlife Refuges (ha)	7,652	7,652	5,689	5,689	▼
	Proportion of Council reserves that is bushland/remnant vegetation	39%	71%	73%	75%	▲
	Habitat areas revegetated (ha)	10	1	5	1	▶
	Roadside vegetation management plan	1	1	1	1	▶
Threatened Species	Threatened species actions implemented (e.g. PAS, recovery plans)	0	0	3	1	▶
	Fish restocking activities: native species	92,213	87,155	146,000	125,000	▲
Noxious weeds and feral animals	Invasive species (listed noxious or WONS) under active management	24	27	27	30	▲
	Number of declared noxious weeds	112	118	132	132	▼
	Fish restocking activities: non-native species	41,000	39,000	41,000	42,332	▼

WATER AND WATERWAYS

ISSUE	INDICATOR	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	TREND
Surface & Ground Water Quality	Average salinity levels in selected streams (EC)	515	536	587	559	▼
	<i>E.coli</i> remote from wastewater treatment plants	0	0	2	0	▲
Riparian	Riparian vegetation recovery actions	3	2	3	0	▼
	Riparian vegetation recovery area (ha)	6	2	7	0	▼
Industrial/ Agricultural Pollution	Load Based Licencing volume (kg)	78,467	79,379	15,144	11,130	▲
	Exceedances of license discharge consent recorded	11	3	0	1	▲
	Erosion & Sediment Control complaints received by Council	3	3	1	3	▼
Stormwater Pollution	Number of gross pollutant traps installed	4	4	4	4	▶
	Total catchment area of GPTs (ha)	118	118	118	118	▶
	Water pollution complaints	2	0	0	3	▼
Dam Levels	Average dam levels	58.0%	52.9%	46.5%	41.4%	▼
Water extraction	Number of Water Supply Work Approvals from surface water sources		325	325	304	▲
	Volume of surface water permissible for extraction under licences (GL)		36	38	38	▼
	Number of Water Supply Work Approvals from groundwater resources	3,247	2,239	2,346	2279	▲
	Volume of groundwater permissible for extraction under licences (GL)	33	31	33	32	▲

ISSUE	INDICATOR	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	TREND
Council water consumption	Area of irrigated council managed parks, sportsgrounds, public open space (ha)	69	70	70	70	▼
	Water used by council for irrigation (including treated and untreated) (ML)	215	109	138	146	▲
Town water consumption	Annual metered supply (ML)	1,828	2,023	1,945	1,949	▼
	Annual consumption (Total from WTP) (ML)	2,362	2,505	2,384	2,320	▲
	Average annual household mains potable water usage (kL/household)	202.7	221.0	200.2	200.3	▲
	Level of water restrictions implemented	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	▶
	Number of water conservation programs	0.0	0.0	0	0	▶
Town Water Quality	Number of instances drinking water guidelines not met	112	74	138	149	▼
	Number of drinking water complaints	32	61	100	48	▲

TOWARDS SUSTAINABILITY

ISSUE	INDICATOR	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	TREND
Waste Generation	Total waste entombed at primary landfill (tonnes)	26,394	22,811	26,711	28,568	▼
	Total waste entombed at other landfills (exc recyclables) (tonnes)	0	0	0	0	▶
	Average total waste generated per person (tonnes)	1	1.85	1.11	1.18	▼
	Average cost of waste service per residential household	\$343	\$349	\$289	\$364	▼
Hazardous/Liquid Waste	Farm chemical drums collected through DrumMaster collections	1,599	1,164	52	0	▼
	Household Hazardous Wastes collected (kg)	2,471	4,216	3,935	4,333	▲
Reduce	Garden organics collected (diverted from landfill) (tonnes)	2,122	3,388	2,603	2,484	▼
	E-Waste collected (diverted from landfill) (tonnes)	6	0	0	14	▲
Recycle	Amount of material recycled (tonnes)	4,288	4,014	2,886	2,518	▼
	Amount of material recycled per person (kg)	183	168	120	104	▼
Littering and illegal dumping	Number of illegal waste disposal complaints to Council	6	14	32	11	▲
Engineering, Infrastructure and Civil Works	New road construction (km)	0	1	1	2	▼
	Road upgrades (km)	32	51	74	95	▼
Risk Management	Increase in area covered by flood management plans / flood mapping	0	0	0	0	▶
	Hazard reduction burns	14	9	6	19	▼

ISSUE	INDICATOR	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	TREND
Climate Change Mitigation	Office paper used by Council (reams)	2,282	1,984	2,023	2,176	▼
	Council sustainability initiatives	1	0	1	1	▲
	Council mitigation initiatives	0	0	0	1	▲
Council Greenhouse Gas Emissions	Annual electricity consumption for Council controlled facilities (MWh)	4,083	5,248	6,136	6,156	▼
	Annual natural gas consumption for Council controlled facilities (Gj)		0	0	0	▶
	Annual bottled gas consumption for Council controlled facilities (L)	15,563	10,752	10,752	5,313	▲
	Total fuel consumption (KL)	1,516	1,020	1,132	975	▲
	Council total operational greenhouse gas emissions (tCO ² -e/year)	24,099	21,594	22,132	21,803	▲
Community Greenhouse Gas Emissions	Small scale renewable energy uptake (kW)	993	1,022	995	1,264	▲
	Number of solar water heaters and heat pumps installed	65	41	31	49	▲

PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES

ISSUE	INDICATOR	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	TREND
Active community involvement	Environmental volunteers working on public open space (hrs)	400	150	420	70	▼
	Number of environmental community engagement programs	4		5	5	▶
	Number of growers markets/local food retailers specialising in local food operating within LGA	3	2	3	3	▲
Indigenous Heritage	Number of Indigenous sites on AHIMS register		3,613	4,162	4,302	▲
	Inclusion in DCPs and rural strategies	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	▶
	Extent of liaison with Indigenous communities (self-assessed from 0 = none to 3 = high)	3.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	▼
	Development on listed Indigenous sites	3	0	6	4	▼
	Actions to protect Indigenous heritage (including management plans)	2	4	0	1	▼
Non-Indigenous Heritage	NSW Heritage Inventory items	13	13	13	13	▶
	Locally listed heritage items	526	526	526	526	▶
	Actions to protect non-Indigenous heritage (including management plans)	1	0	1	1	▲
	Heritage buildings on statutory heritage lists demolished/degraded in past year	0	0	1	0	▲
	Heritage buildings on statutory heritage lists renovated/improved in past year	3	4	9	6	▲

END OF TERM REPORT

A copy of Council's End of Term Report is available at <http://www.midwestern.nsw.gov.au/council/Reports--Statements/>
Hard copies of the End of Term Report are available from Council upon request.





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