

COMMUNITY NEWS



JUNE, 2025

\$73M CAPITAL BUDGET



Council will deliver \$73 million in capital works and projects as part of the draft 2025/26 budget.

The budget, along with other financial reporting documents, can be found in the 2025/26 Operational Plan on Council's website. The Operational Plan outlines upcoming projects for the next financial year, including roads, bridges, walking tracks and sewerage networks.

Residents were asked to submit their ideas as part of the development of this year's plan. There were 128 proposals submitted, many of which have been adopted. These include diving board replacements at Mudgee and Gulgong Pools and the installation of a shade sail and agility equipment at Gulgong Dog Park following

12 separate submissions. Council has also committed to the following projects: \$242,000 for the replacement of public toilets at Lawson Park, including scoping to investigate the possibility of incorporating adult disability accessible bathroom facilities; \$171,000 for playground equipment upgrades at Coomber Park Kandos; \$80,000 for the Gulgong Memorial Hall including upgrades to change rooms and internal painting; \$61,000 for the Mudgee Showground Woodworkers roof replacement and air-conditioning.

Roads continue to be a major priority for Council with \$19.2 million allocated towards road projects, including \$1.36 million on Lue Road improvements across three locations.

\$73m capital expenditure

\$19.2m allocated to roads projects in 2025/26

2,460 kilometres of roads to maintain throughout the region

128 submissions to the Operational Plan from the community

26,214 total population of the region

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

I would like to extend a warm welcome to the 15 new Australian citizens who attended the most recent citizenship ceremony at Council in April. It was wonderful to personally meet residents of our region who come from 10 countries, including Kenya, Burkina Faso, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Malaysia, Philippines, Vietnam, United Kingdom, India and Germany.

Council will host its annual business event, the Mudgee Region Business Masterclass, on 5 June. There's a great lineup of guest speakers and a valuable workshop on creating engaging social media content for

business. Read more about this great event inside.

As you'll read, Council has prepared its Delivery Program 2025-29 and Operational Plan 2025/26, which itemises Council spending on all projects and activities across the next financial year. This is a noticeably conservative budget as we make our best efforts to reserve expenditure for existing services. We will continue to source funding wherever we can for roads and infrastructure, however to ensure our sustainability, we're being dynamic and diversifying our income streams to ensure we do not rely on a single source.

Mayor Des Kennedy

AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT GRANTS ANNOUNCED \$3.3M FOR INFRASTRUCTURE



Proposed site of the Mortimer Street Precinct development

The region is set to benefit from \$3.3 million in federal grants recently announced. Council has secured \$220,000 through the Regional Airports Program for improvements to the Mudgee Regional Airport runway and open drainage system, to ensure continued delivery of critical medical and bushfire fighting services.

Council will also receive \$2 million for the development of the Mortimer Street Precinct as part of the Regional Precincts and Partnerships Program. This grant will be used to prepare plans and a development application for the project that will revitalise part of Mudgee's town centre.

Four battery energy storage systems will be installed at water treatment facilities across the region with \$1.1 million announced via the Community Energy Updates Fund Round 1. This project will enable Council to supply 100 per cent renewable energy for internal operations and reduce the water facilities' grid consumption by around 50 per cent.

PANTHERS V RAIDERS IN MUDGEE: FRIDAY, 22 AUGUST

Four-time premiership winners, Penrith Panthers, will go head-to-head with the Canberra Raiders at 6pm on Friday, 22 August for the NRL Telstra Premiership Round 25 clash at Glen Willow.

Penrith Captain Isaah Yeo was welcomed on a tour of the stadium with Mayor Des Kennedy last month.

"It was a real treat to have Isaah come and look at our fantastic facility and I know he was impressed by the quality of the venue," Cr Kennedy said.

"We can't wait to welcome back Isaah and the rest of the team as well as the Raiders in August.

"Bringing elite-level rugby league to our backyard is not just exciting for fans, it's a massive boost for the local economy.

"If you're thinking of heading along I would snap up your tickets because this game will be very well attended."

The two NRL heavyweights will face off at Glen Willow Stadium, Mudgee, on Friday, 22 August, with kick-off scheduled for 6pm.

Tickets to the game start at \$30 for adult general admission, \$20 for concession card holders, and \$20 for children. Tickets available at [123tix.com.au](https://www.123tix.com.au)



NEWS IN BRIEF

PLASTIC FREE JULY TAKE THE CHALLENGE

Are you ready to take the Plastic Free July challenge? Plastic Free July is a global movement that helps millions of people be part of the solution to plastic pollution. It provides resources and ideas to help you reduce single-use plastic waste every day at home, work, school, and even at your local cafe. Take the challenge here: plasticfreejuly.org/take-the-challenge/.

MOBILE AND HOME LIBRARY

Do you know that Council operates a Mobile Library? The van visits aged care facilities, primary schools, housebound residents and outlying villages across the region regularly for those who may have difficulty accessing one of the four local branches. To find out more, visit midwestern.nsw.gov.au/Community/Libraries/Mobile-Library.

NO ASH IN KERBSIDE BINS

Now that winter has arrived residents are reminded not to put ash in any kerbside bin. Please place ash from fires in the garden. A container of ash may feel cold on the outside, but the centre is often warm enough that when disposed of reignites and causes a fire in your bin, or even waste trucks and waste facilities. For more information, please consult the Waste Guide on Council's website midwestern.nsw.gov.au/.

BUILD YOUR DIGITAL SKILLS AT THE MUDGEE REGION BUSINESS MASTERCLASS

Join the Mudgee Region Business Masterclass on Thursday 5 June for an inspirational and practical day of business learning, networking, and skill building. Small business owners can learn from leading experts how to build mental resilience, enhance their wellbeing, and create engaging social media content.

Former NRL player Dan Hunt will share his powerful journey from professional athlete to business founder, highlighting the vital role of mental health and resilience in achieving success beyond the sporting field. Angus and Alicia from Breath Body Balance will reveal the science and

benefits of breathwork to enhance mental clarity, reduce stress and rest your mindset.

In a three-hour interactive workshop with The Digital Picnic, participants will learn hands-on skills to confidently film, edit and share high-quality videos on social media using just a phone.

Council is proud to deliver this event in the all-new Mudgee Team Training Village seminar rooms (off Putta Bucca Road) on Thursday, 5 June, from 9am to 4.30pm. Tickets are \$60 per person at 123tix.com.au and include morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea.

Dan Hunt
Mental Health Movement



Angus and Alicia Berry
Breath Body Balance



Stephanie Clifford
The Digital Picnic



**Mudgee Region
BUSINESS
MASTERCLASS**

Thursday, 5 June
9am - 4.30pm



CUC Board Member, Caren Harrison, CUC Board Chair, Brad Cam and Student Ambassador, Jessica Dryburgh

COUNTRY UNIVERSITIES CENTRE FIRST YEAR

In March, the Country Universities Centre celebrated its 12-month anniversary. The celebration was attended by more than 50 guests, including Mayor Des Kennedy, Chairman of the CUC Board, Brad Cam, students and community members.

Since opening its doors just over a year ago in 2024, 187 students from 43 different institutions have been registered at the facility. 50 per cent are the first in their family to study, highlighting the role the institution plays in helping regional students access tertiary education. Students are enrolled in 15 different areas of study, including education, health, psychology and architecture.

For more information on how to register, visit cuc.edu.au.

RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERSHIP KEEP DOGS ON A LEAD

Council has seen an increase in reports of owners walking their dogs without leashes. Pet owners are reminded that unless in an off-leash dog park, dogs must be on a lead and under effective control at all times.

To ensure the safety of everyone, there are four designated areas in our region for dogs to run without a leash under owner supervision. Dog parks are located in Mudgee (Jennie Blackman

Dog Park, Glen Willow), Rylstone (behind Rylstone Showground), Kandos (Darton Park), and Gulgong (The People's Park).

If caught walking your dog without a lead, you may receive an on-the-spot fine of \$330.

Please respect the parks and other users, and clean up after your dog using the bags and bins provided. For more information on these locations visit Council's website.



DRIVING IN WINTER

Driving conditions can change with the colder weather. Remember to take extra care with rain, ice, fog and snow. Stay safe with these tips for travelling in slippery conditions: reduce your speed, turn low beam headlights on (even during the day), allow extra space between you and the vehicle in front of you, follow warning signs, accelerate smoothly and break gently.

COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

Mudgee Community Transport is a service for eligible seniors, pensioners, those with accessibility needs or those who have limited access to public transport. It is designed to help you get to medical appointments, participate in social activities, do your shopping and maintain independent living at home. For more information visit midwestern.nsw.gov.au/Community/Community-Services/Community-Transport.

REPORT A PROBLEM

The best way to let Council know about a problem or request is to report a problem online. Simply follow the link to report a problem on Council's home page. Your request will be referred to the relevant Council department, and our Customer Service Team will contact you to advise the outcome of your report.

WOOD HEATER SMOKE

Smoke from wood heaters can be a major source of air pollution at this time of year. There are some simple ways to help reduce your heater's impact on the environment. Always burn small, aged logs of dry hardwood. Never burn treated wood or household rubbish, and regularly check your chimney for smoke. By reducing smoke from wood heaters, we can all stay warm and breathe easy.

YOUR COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

midwestern.nsw.gov.au



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EVENTS CALENDAR



5
JUN

Mudgee Region Business Masterclass

Mudgee Team Training Village

One-day professional development event for business owners. Tickets at 123tix.com.au.



6
JUN

Wirimbili Community Garden Gathering

Wirimbili, 28 Angus Avenue, Kandos

Free event on the first Friday of each month from 4pm-6pm. Visit midwestern.nsw.gov.au.



6-8
JUN

Town Hall Cinema

Town Hall Mudgee

Adults \$15, children/concession \$10 and children under 5 enter free. Bookings and screenings midwestern.nsw.gov.au.

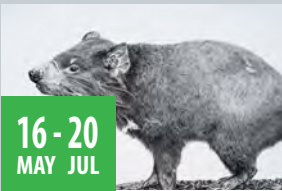


6-9
JUN

Gulgong Henry Lawson Heritage Festival

Various locations in Gulgong

facebook.com/gulgonghenrylawsonheritagefestival/



16-20
MAY JUL

ARTEXPRESS 2025

Mudgee Arts Precinct, Mudgee

Outstanding student artworks from the 2024 HSC Visual Arts examination. Visit mudgeeartsprecinct.com.au



18
JUN

Mid-Western Regional Council Meeting

Council Chambers, Market Street, Mudgee. From 5.30pm

midwestern.nsw.gov.au.

Live.

Upgrades have recently been completed at Kandos Rotary Park playground. As part of Council's commitment to creating engaging, safe, and accessible play areas for families across the region, a brand-new climbing structure and flying fox have been added, transforming the playground into a fun and safe space for kids to enjoy. The improvements are part of works started in May 2024, with a new climbing tower and sky rider zip line introduced. The addition of extra seating and expanded impact-absorbing material continues to prioritise both safety and comfort for all park visitors.

Work.

Mid-Western Regional Council is an award winning organisation offering a range of career opportunities in areas such as admin, planning and development, water supply, parks and gardens, libraries, operations and community services. Council is an equal opportunity employer and values diversity in its people. For current positions vacant, go to 'Careers' on Council's website.

Invest.

Council's 'Choose Mudgee Region' website now features a new page on Renewable Energy Opportunities. It provides key information on the Central-West Orana Renewable Energy Zone, why to invest in the region, current opportunities, and how to get involved. Learn more at choosেমudgeeregion.com.au/renewable-energy-opportunities/.

Visit.

Travel back in time at the Gulgong Henry Lawson Heritage Festival from Friday 6 to Monday 9 June. Each year during the June long weekend the picturesque town of Gulgong comes alive in celebration of the legendary poet with a range of family friendly activities and performances. This year the festival will feature parades, poetry, live performances, free kids activities, a brand-new after dark ghost tour and more. Visit facebook.com/gulgonghenrylawsonheritagefestival/.

All information correct at the time of publication. Events may be subject to change. Please contact event organisers for further details.



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