

Wingecarribee Shire Council Annual Report

2016/17



www.wsc.nsw.gov.au



CONTENTS

Introduction	4
Community Vision	5
Mayor's Message	6
General Manager's Foreword	7
Council Information	8
Shire Information	10
Our Staff	14
Integrated Planning and Reporting	16
Achievements	16
Leadership	17
People	25
Places	35
Environment	41
Economy	50
Statutory Information	56
Annexures	75
1. Council's Audited Financial Statements	

Acknowledgement of Country

The Wingecarribee Shire acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of this land and we pay our respects to Elders both past and present. We would also like to acknowledge our young leaders who are the Elders of today, tomorrow and our future.

INTRODUCTION

The Annual Report has been developed to provide our community, councillors and staff with a comprehensive account of Council's achievements and challenges during the year. The report details our performance against commitments set out in our *Delivery Program 2013-17* and *Operational Plan 2016/17*. It demonstrates the diversity of services and operations delivered to the community and provides insight into our financial position and decision making processes.

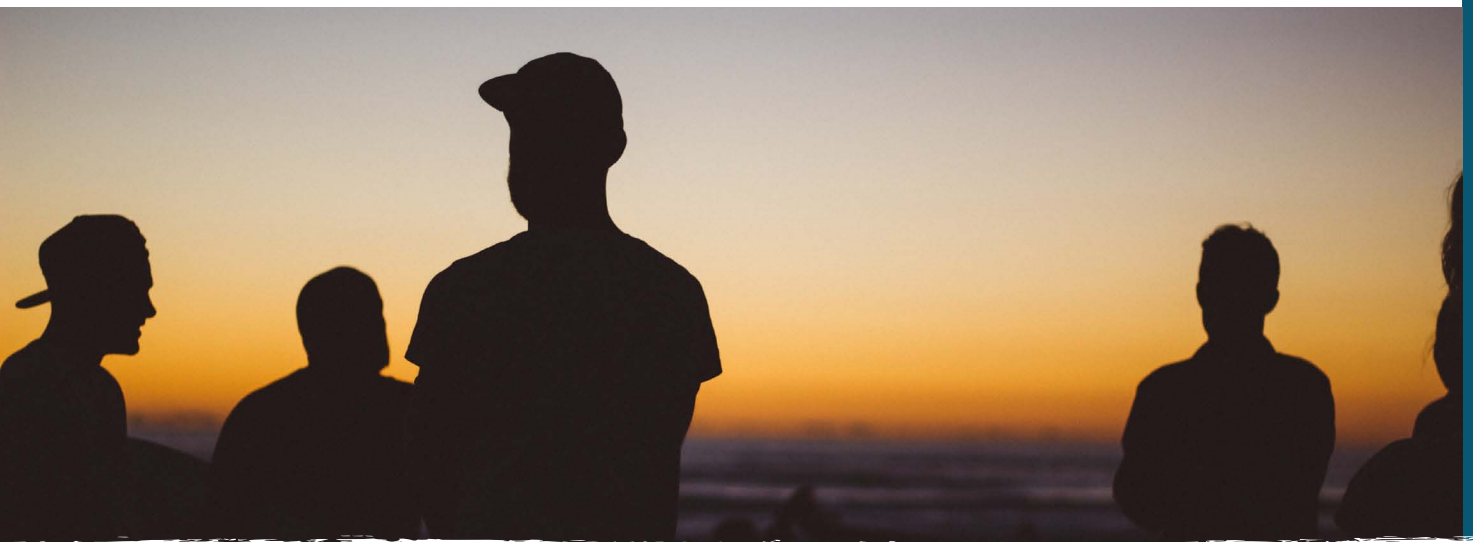
The report is prepared in compliance with the *Local Government Act 1993*.

OUR COMMUNITY VISION

In late 2016, Council hosted a range of community engagement activities to review the full suite of Integrated Planning and Reporting documents. As part of this process, our community vision statement was also reflected upon to ensure it remained true to our community's aspirations.

In 2031 we will be...

“A healthy and productive community, learning and living in harmony, proud of our heritage and nurturing our environment.”



Mayor's Message

It gives me great pleasure to present to you Wingecaribee Shire's Council's Annual Report for 2016/17.

I proudly do so as Mayor for the first year of this current Council's four-year term.

The past twelve months has been very busy for Council. Not only did we have a new team of councillors sworn in but we also saw the introduction of our Investing in our Future Special Rate Variation (SRV) program.

The SRV was approved by the previous Council in an effort to tackle the backlog of asset renewals and secure our Shire's future.

Over the coming decade Council will embark on one of the largest public infrastructure improvement programs this Shire has ever witnessed.

Importantly, the implementation of the SRV program also means that Council's award-winning Environment Levy will be retained in perpetuity. Each and every year more than \$1.1 million will continue to be directed towards local environmental and community projects such as our *Southern Highlands Koala Conservation Project*. This will ensure the great environmental conservation work that has been undertaken over the past 15 years will be carried on for many, many years to come.

I believe the commitment of these funds towards our infrastructure and environment will ensure our Shire becomes an even more enviable place in which to live.

Another reason our Shire remains such a desirable destination is because of its generous citizens, who give their time to support numerous community events helping foster the Shire's community spirit.

The Council-managed Tulip Time celebrations held in September 2016 for example attracted a record 40,000 visitors through our garden gates.

Another great success was the launch of the Shire's inaugural Pie Time Festival which brought thousands of visitors to the Shire over the course of the month-long event.

In closing I would thank the councillors for their efforts since taking office and the commitment they make to our Shire and its citizens.

Councillor Ken Halstead
Wingecaribee Shire Mayor

General Manager's Message

The 2016/17 financial year will be remembered as a watershed year for Council.

Council implemented the first year of our Investing in our Future Special Rate Variation (SRV) program.

Over the next 10 years an additional \$98.1 million will be spent on essential infrastructure across the Shire.

Roads, stormwater, drainage, parks and community facilities will all receive essential funding bringing them to a standard that is expected of our community.

The year also saw Council revise its suite of Integrated Planning and Reporting documents including the Community Strategic Plan, Resourcing Strategy, Delivery Program and Operational Plan.

The subsequent adoption of these documents provided a green light for Council to embark on a record four-year \$187 million infrastructure renewal and improvement program. \$26 million of these works will be funded through the SRV.

Notwithstanding this record investment, I am pleased to report that Council remains on track to meet all remaining benchmarks set by the State Government under the NSW *Fit for the Future* reform agenda.

In addition to listing the physical jobs that Council has committed to undertaking, the Delivery Program also details the seven strategic priorities this Council has committed to, providing the Shire with a long-term vision and goals.

These priorities will be delivered over the life of our four-year Delivery Program and will be a key driver of decision-making during this term of Council.

However the year was not without its challenges.

July saw Council continue repairs to public infrastructure damaged as a result of the 2016 *East Coast Low* storm event. The final damage bill amounted to \$3.60 million with the cost to repair our roads, bridges and drains alone amounting to \$2.10 million. One of the most significant public facilities impacted was the newly refurbished Mittagong Swimming Pool which sustained an estimated \$1 million in damages.

Despite these hurdles, it was business as usual as Council met to decide on a range of infrastructure, economic, social and environmental issues. This was achieved through 22 Council Meetings and more than 120 Councillor Briefing sessions.

I am confident that we will not only meet the challenges of the year ahead but we will deliver even greater outcomes for our Shire.

Ann Prendergast
General Manager

COUNCIL INFORMATION

Wingecarribee Shire Council consists of nine councillors who are elected by the residents of the Shire every four years. The next election is scheduled for September 2020.

Our Elected Council



Clr Ken Halstead (Mayor)



Clr Ian Scandrett (Deputy Mayor)



Clr Grahame Andrews



Clr Duncan Gair



Clr Gordon Markwart



Clr Graham McLaughlin



Clr Peter Nelson



Clr Garry Turland



Clr Larry Whipper



Decision making and Council meetings information

Council Meetings occur twice each month, on the second and fourth Wednesdays, except in December and January. Council's decision making processes are conducted through these meetings.

The General Manager has extensive statutory and operational delegations. The General Manager is responsible for implementing the decisions of Council and is responsible for the day to day management of the organisation.

The community provides input into Council decision making through advisory committees and community engagement activities where focus groups are developed to provide input to decisions on specific projects.

Council also undertakes statistically representative surveys and invites public comment on draft documents and project specific information.

At its meeting on 23 November 2016, Council adopted the committee governance structure for the 2016-2020 term. The structure includes:

- Council committees
- Advisory committees
- Community reference groups
- Sunset working groups
- External committees

Governance of these committees is supported by the *Committee Manual 2016-2020*, which was adopted by Council in February 2017.

For more information on Council committees, visit Councils website www.wsc.nsw.gov.au/council-committees.

SHIRE INFORMATION

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians

The Shire's whole eastern district was known as the 'Yarrowa Brush' by early settlers. For at least 40,000 years it was inhabited by Aboriginal people. These were either the Gundungarra or Wodi Wodi, or both, as it is impossible to ascertain exact boundaries.

The Dharawal people, who also had an association with the district, may have travelled through the area.

Gundungarra lands extended from the Wingecarribee/Wollondilly Rivers to Camden in the north, Goulburn in the south, and west to the Blue Mountains. The Wodi Wodi people occupied the Illawarra region and it is believed they lived on the coastal plain when fish and other seafood were in abundance and climbed the escarpment to the highlands at other times to trade and socialise.

Council acknowledges the shared responsibility of all Australians to respect and encourage the development of awareness and appreciation of each other's heritage and origin. Council recognises and respects the heritage, culture, sacred sites and special places of Aboriginal people.

Settlement

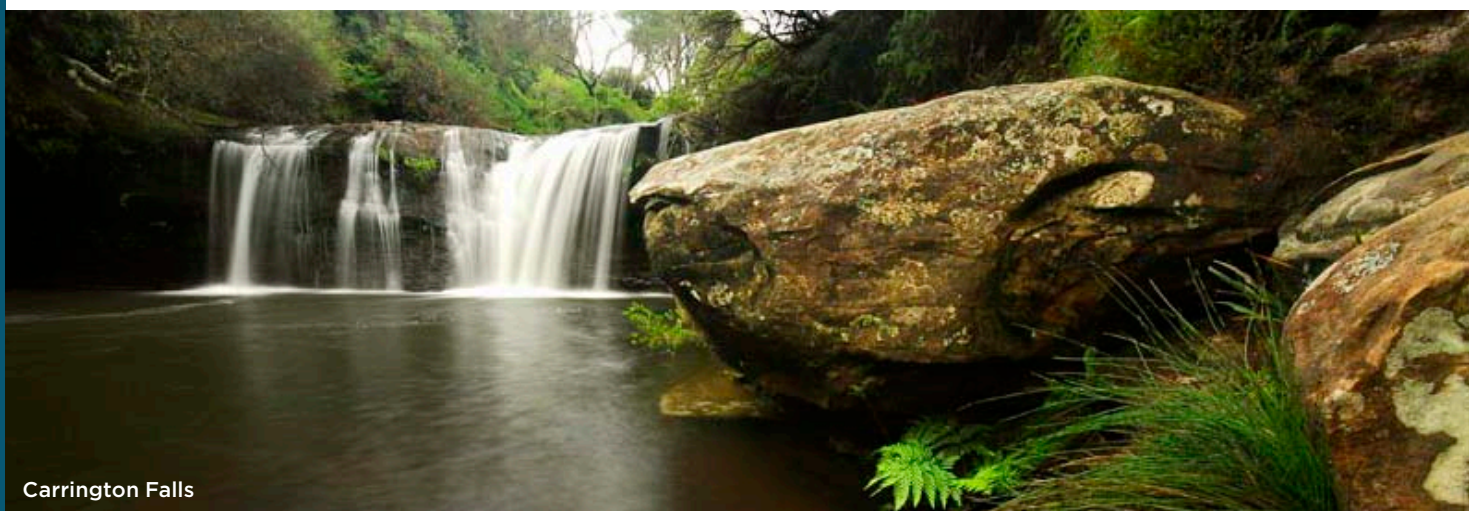
European settlement dates back to the early 1800s with first contact between Aboriginal people and Europeans occurring in 1798. Settlement followed in 1821 at Bong Bong. Urban settlement is concentrated in the Shire's three main towns of Bowral, Mittagong and Moss Vale which lie in close proximity along the main north-south road network.

Villages to the north include Balmoral, Hill Top, Colo Vale and Yerrinbool; Berrima and New Berrima are located to the west of Moss Vale, Bundanoon, Penrose and Wingello to the south and Burrawang and Robertson to the east.

Location

Wingecarribee Shire is located 75 kilometres from the south western fringe of Sydney and 110 kilometres from Sydney's central business district.

The Shire lies within the Sydney - Canberra - Melbourne transport corridor on the main Southern Rail Line and Hume Highway. The M31 provides rapid access north to Campbelltown, Liverpool and other key metropolitan centres within Sydney and south to Canberra.



Carrington Falls

Community

The Wingecarribee Shire currently has a population of 49,070.

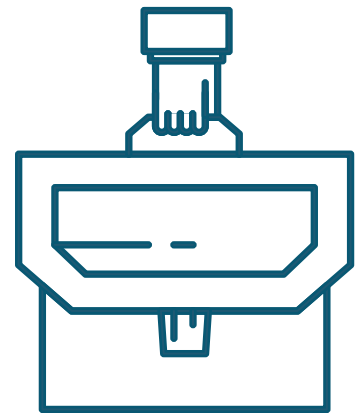
Our community enjoys a comprehensive choice of health and education services, and largely choose to live in separate houses of low density. The following statistics also apply:

- 52.2% of the population are female, and 47.8% are male
- The median age of residents is 47 years (NSW median is 38 years)
- The median weekly household income is \$1,334 (national median is \$1,431)
- 46% aged 50 years or older
- 15.8% born overseas
- 6% speak a language other than English at home
- 23% of the population reported participation in voluntary work
- 56.4% of households have access to two or more motor vehicles
- 26% of households are made up of couples with children
- 5.6% report needing assistance in their day to day life due to disability
- 46% of people aged 15 years and over have completed year 12 level of schooling.

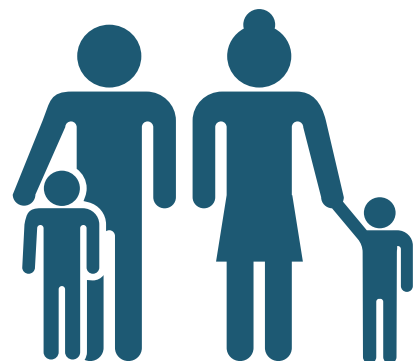
(Source 2016 Census)



46% of residents are aged 50 years +



23% participated in voluntary work



26% of households are made up of couples with children

Industry

Since the mid 1980s, population growth, urbanisation and other changes have led to declining numbers of persons working in primary industry and to the development of secondary and tertiary industries. More recently there has been more of a trend towards trade, manufacturing, health care and social assistance, construction, education and training and accommodation and food services.

Due to the Shire's numerous attractions, tourism continues to offer prospects for economic growth. The level of tourism expenditure is one of the highest of any non-coastal local government area in NSW.

Anticipated population growth within the Sydney to Canberra corridor up to 2031 will present significant opportunities for future economic development and employment creation in the area.

Transportation

The Shire's towns are linked by bus and rail services.

Sydney Trains services link Yerrinbool, Mittagong, Bowral, Burradoo, Moss Vale and Bundanoon offering access to and from Sydney.

NSW Trainlink operates daily to and from Sydney, Canberra and Melbourne.

Buses operate to and from Moss Vale to Nowra and Wollongong and link Colo Vale and Hill Top to Sydney Train services at Picton.

Environment

Wingecarribee Shire is rich in biodiversity with large areas of high conservation value including part of the World Heritage Greater Blue Mountains area and two declared wilderness areas.

Environmental features include cold climatic conditions, rugged topography and significant areas of state forest, national park and other protected lands that form part of the Sydney Water Catchment area.

Eastern parts of the Shire are bounded by the Illawarra Escarpment and Morton National Park. The north abuts Nepean and Avon dam catchments and is comprised of rugged eucalypt bushland. In the west, the Wollondilly and Wingecarribee rivers flow through deep sandstone valleys which form part of the Warragamba dam catchment. Southern reaches of the Shire are bounded by Uringalla Creek and comprise sandstone plateau dissected by deep gorges.

The Southern Highlands is a biodiversity hotspot, with 1,558 native plant species and 374 native animal species identified within the Shire. Of those species, 40 of the plant species and 42 of the fauna species have been classified as endangered or threatened.

The Southern Highlands is also home to the largest koala population in southern NSW.





Field Officer Lachlan Wilmott releasing a koala in East Kangaloon

OUR STAFF

Workforce Demographics

Council continues to ensure that a skilled and professional workforce is employed to support the achievement of its operational and strategic goals. During 2016/17, Council completed a review of its *Workforce Management Plan* as part of the review of all Integrated Planning and Reporting documents. The new *Workforce Management Plan* ensures that Council is well placed to achieve the desired outcomes articulated by the community.

The representation of women within the workforce is currently at 40 per cent, and 60 per cent for males.

Like most NSW Councils, Wingecarribee Shire Council has an ageing workforce, with those aged 45 to 54 years making up the largest percentage of employees.

As at 30 June 2017, Wingecarribee Council had 407 full time equivalent employees.



Council Recognition

Wingecarribee Shire Council was highly commended at the second annual 'Keep NSW Beautiful' Regional Blue Star Sustainability Awards at a ceremony held in Orange in November 2016.

Keep NSW Beautiful (KNSWB) is the state's premier organisation for litter reduction and environmental sustainability.

In the category of *Habitat and Wildlife Guardianship*, Council was recognised for their *Partnering for Conservation* wildlife and community engagement programs which assist private land holders to achieve conservation outcomes on their land.

In November 2016, Council's Southern Highlands Welcome Centre was recognised at the annual *NSW Tourism Awards*.

The Welcome Centre won the award in the *Visitor Information Services* category. More than 160 visitor centres across the State were eligible for entry into the category at this year's awards.

The result is attributed to refurbishments of the facility and rebranding of the service.

The Welcome Centre is now a 'Destination Hub' for information on events, services, products and experiences in the Southern Highlands.



Bushland Project Officer Karen Guymer with Managing Director of BioBag Brian Johnston at the Keep NSW Beautiful Awards



Manager Tourism and Events Steve Rosa and Tourism Consultant Jennifer White at the NSW Tourism Awards

Integrated Planning and Reporting

All councils in New South Wales work within the Integrated Planning and Reporting framework. Council's framework is shown in Figure 1. The framework recognises that Council plans and policies should not exist in isolation and are strategically linked to the aspirations of the community.

The framework ensures that Council, in partnership with the community articulates the aspirations of the community within a Community Strategic Plan (CSP) which provides a 10 year outlook.

The CSP is then supported by a four year Delivery Program that outlines the actions Council will undertake to achieve the goals of the CSP. A one year Operational Plan is also developed to specifically detail the activities to be performed in that specific financial year and the associated budget. A resourcing strategy is also developed to demonstrate how council will manage its workforce, finances and assets to achieve the aspirations and issues identified in the CSP.

Wingecarribee 2031+ was Council's CSP throughout the 2016/17 reporting period. It outlines five key themes that are underpinned by strategies that support the achievement of the community's long term goals and aspirations. These themes are:

1. Leadership
2. People
3. Places
4. Environment
5. Economy



Figure 1. Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

Achievements

The annual report outlines Council's achievement of the strategies outlined in the 2013-2017 *Delivery Program*.

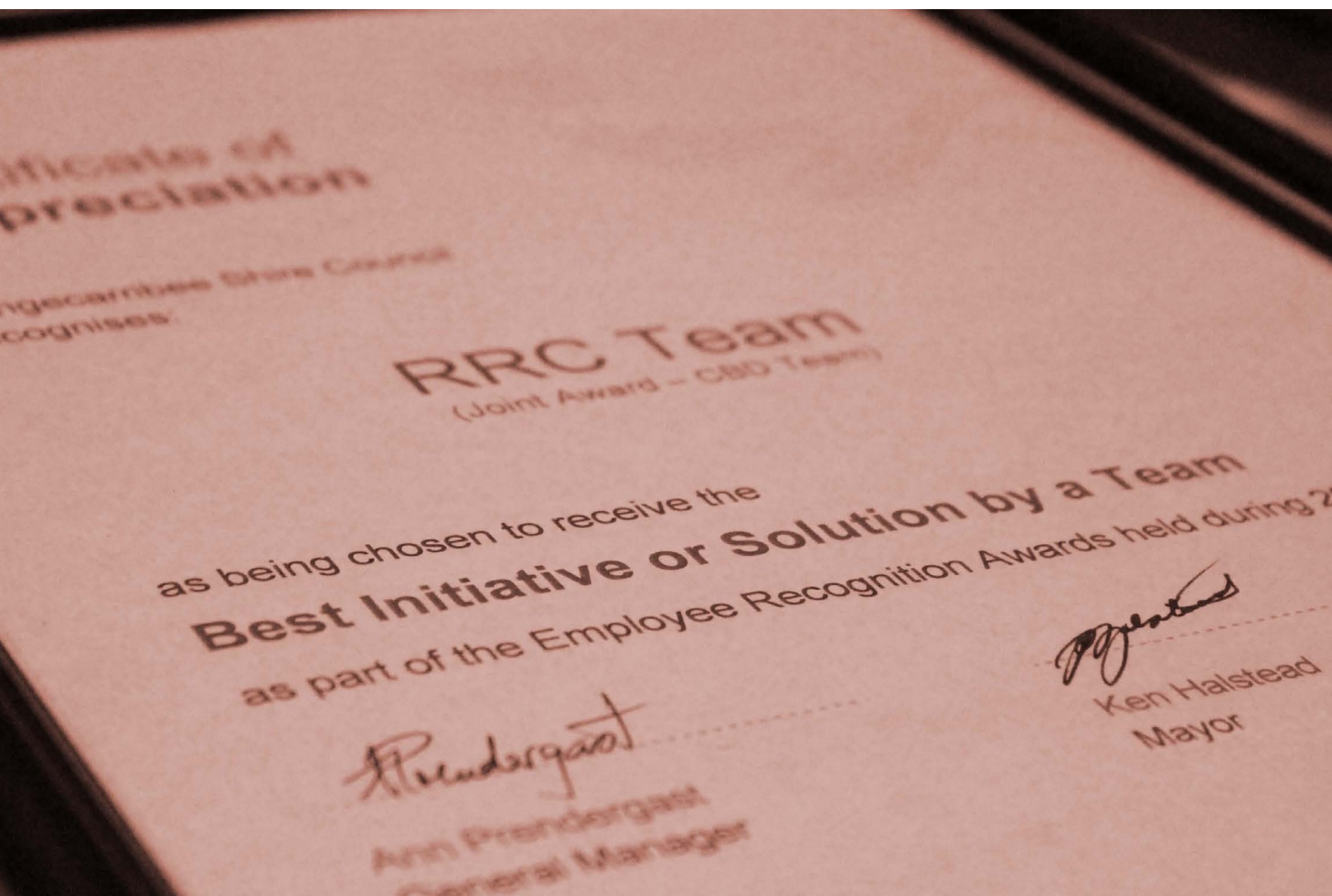
The achievement of these strategies ensures that Council is working towards the long term vision for our community articulated in the CSP.

Council's achievements are outlined within each of the key themes of the CSP and the relevant *Delivery Program* strategies are listed numerically, for example DP01.

This is the final Annual Report focussing on the achievements in implementing the 2013-2017 *Delivery Program*.

Subsequent Annual Reports for the remainder of the Council term will focus on the 2017-2021 *Delivery Program* and the effectiveness of the principal activities undertaken in achieving the objectives in the revised CSP.

To view Council's current plans and documents visit www.wsc.nsw.gov.au/integrated-planning-and-reporting.



LEADERSHIP

Leadership Activities:

- Corporate Governance and Support
- Corporate Strategy and Improvement
- Financial Services
- Organisational Development
- Information Services
- Community Engagement, Communication and Customer Service

Highlights and Special Projects:

- Development of the new Community Strategic Plan, *Wingecarribee 2031*.
- Councillors develop seven key priorities for the Shire
- Commitment to funding capital works over the Council term
- Council set to continue to meet *Fit for the Future* benchmarks
- Unqualified audit opinion issued by the NSW Audit Office for Council financial reports for the year ended 30 June 2017

Leadership Indicators

Leadership Indicators	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Formal Government Information Public Access (GIPA) requests processed within 20 working days	17	32	48	33
Hours lost due to workplace injury	7,607	2,121	860	2,275

DP01 Continue a focus on community engagement by ensuring participation in decision making

Council engagement activities continued to build on relationships with key audiences and improve the consistency of communication with internal and external stakeholders. The major focus for this reporting period has been the provision of support and guidance for construction projects and the review of the Shire’s *Community Strategic Plan Wingecarribee 2031+*.

Council, the community and other stakeholders worked together in 2016/17 to review the Community Strategic Plan (CSP). This extensive community engagement process was undertaken to ensure that the new CSP captured the sentiment of the community as well as the aspirations of residents, business owners, local community groups and organisations. A community reference panel was recruited, telephone and online surveys were conducted, as well as staff workshops and community workshops.

The result of the sustained nine month period of engagement was the development a raft of strategies which clearly articulate the community’s aspirations for the future. *Wingecarribee 2031*, the new CSP articulates these aspirations. A new four year Delivery Program and the *2017/18 Operational Plan* were also developed and were adopted by Council in June 2017.

The adoption of these documents now lays a solid platform for Council, in conjunction with our community and other agencies, to deliver on a host of agreed priorities. Importantly, they also detail what financial, physical and human resources will be needed to meet these projects and priorities.

Other significant corporate projects involving community engagement during the period include:

- Youth Strategy
- Pool satisfaction surveys
- Urban Backyard Burning Policy
- Disability Inclusion Action Plan
- Public Toilet Strategy.



DP02 Ensure timely, accurate and open communications

Throughout 2016/17, Council continued to ensure timely, accurate and open communications were delivered to the community.

News items were proactively sought from throughout the organisation via a range of mediums, and newsworthy items promptly issued via a range of communications channels including media releases, quarterly community publications of *Wingecarribee Today*, radio and television interviews, staff newsletters and via social media.

A total of 188 media releases and four issues of *Wingecarribee Today* were distributed in 2016/17.

DP03 Undertake responsible financial management focussing on long term sustainability

Council's Auditor, the NSW Audit Office issued an independent auditor's report stating that Council's financial records and statements are fairly and appropriately presented.

All other statutory financial reports have been completed on time and in accordance with relevant legislation and standards.

During the course of the 2016/17 financial year Council has considered variations to the budget on a quarterly basis in accordance with section 203 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*.

The year end result for the 2016/17 financial year was a surplus of \$970,960. The surplus was allocated to the Capital Projects Reserve, Property Development Reserve and Cemetery Reserve.

In line with Integrated Planning and Reporting requirements, Council has completed a review of the 2017/18

Budget and Long Term Financial Plan, which were formally adopted by Council in June 2017.

Council continues to demonstrate its commitment to strong financial management by adopting a four-year balanced budget.

The adopted 2017/18 Budget includes funding for an unprecedented level of capital works over the next four years, with \$187 million of infrastructure renewal and improvement projects to be undertaken, this includes:

- \$95 million will be directed to water and sewer infrastructure improvements, comprising \$48 million towards the upgrading of Bowral and Moss Vale Treatment plants
- \$46 million is allocated towards roads, bridges and footpaths
- \$17.1 million has been allocated towards community buildings and recreation areas, and
- \$12.6 million has been allocated towards stormwater drainage works.

Funding has also been allocated to undertake essential rectification works at the Moss Vale Civic Centre, the redevelopment of Bowral Memorial Hall, additional resources for Development and Planning services and a range of business improvement initiatives aimed at enhancing customer service.

Council has recovered a further \$4.756 million from its collateralised debt obligations (CDO) Investments losses during the 2016/17 financial year. This comes after Council instigated legal action against Lehman Brothers Australia in December 2016.

Council has now recovered a total of \$9.730 million of its total audited losses of \$11.098 million. Recovered funds have been allocated to the reserves on the basis of where the initial investment write-downs were drawn from.

DP04 Our leadership is based on open, transparent and ethical governance

The poll for the September 2016 quadrennial election was declared on 19 September 2016. The newly elected Council will guide the Shire from 2016 to 2020. A successful councillor induction program was facilitated for the newly elected Councillors, and work commenced quickly on establishing key priorities.

As part of the adoption of the Integrated Planning and Reporting documents, Council developed seven priorities for the current term. The seven strategic priorities provide a policy position that continues Council's journey from the *Fit for the Future* local government reform agenda to ensure Wingecarribee Shire is a better place to live, work and visit. These priorities will guide decision making over the life of Council's 2017-2021 *Delivery Program* and will be a key driver of decision making during this council term.

The seven Council strategic priorities are:

1. Responsible financial management

Council acknowledges it is the custodian of public funds and the community's assets. We are committed to ensuring finances are managed responsibly. This means we will prudently allocate funds to ensure a balanced budget is maintained both short and long term. We will actively pursue opportunities to diversify and maximise revenue streams to deliver services and community infrastructure. We are committed to ensuring that where key community infrastructure is constructed all funding options will be considered.

2. Improving our community assets

Improving the standard of our community assets, such as roads, buildings, drainage and parks is a key focus for Council. This means investing more money into asset renewal and maintenance of our community assets over the Council term to better meet the expectations of our community. In 2016 Council adopted its Investing in our Future program which paved the way for a long term funding model which will address an \$8 million shortfall annually in funding asset renewal and maintenance. We will deliver a number of signature road renewal projects including sections of Old South Road, Wilson Drive, Throsby Street, Exeter Road, Merrigang Street and Church Street (Burrawang).

3. Protecting our natural environment

Council is dedicated to protecting our unique environment through its Environment Levy to ensure that projects and programs are implemented that protect and enhance our natural environment.

4. Delivery of significant infrastructure projects

We have committed to delivering key infrastructure projects for the community. This includes rectification works at Mittagong Pool, a major redevelopment of Bowral Memorial Hall, essential rectification works for Council's Civic Centre, major upgrades to the Shire's Sewer Treatment Plants and transport upgrades including Station Street, Bowral and Berrima Road deviation.

5. Better service alignment and delivery

To ensure we deliver services which are in line with community expectations a comprehensive review of all Council services will be undertaken. A detailed business analysis and a broad community engagement program will underpin the services review program.

6. Business transformation

We recognise that the community has an expectation that the way we interact with them should reflect modern business processes utilising modern technologies. We are committed to ensuring the systems and process that support service delivery and the way we interact with our customers is responsive and provides a variety of methods for interaction.

7. Community Wellbeing

We are committed to promoting and supporting initiatives that enhance our community's wellbeing. We will achieve this by strengthening partnerships with State and Federal agencies, and community organisations to ensure community services and employment opportunities are enhanced and provided locally. Further, we are dedicated to fostering community spirit, inclusiveness and participation in community life by providing and working collaboratively with others to deliver a range of programs, events, festivals and community celebrations.

Council and the administrative body work closely to make decisions on a range of issues including the Shire's infrastructure, economy, social and environmental needs. This is achieved through a program of Council Meetings and Briefings.

In 2016/17, 22 Council Meetings and 129 individual briefing sessions were held with the Councillors.



Council's governance frameworks continued to mature over the year. Work on a new committee structure was completed with Council adopting the new committee governance framework in November 2016.

The new structure includes:

- **Council Committees**
Committees established under clause 260 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005* and are comprised of only councillors, and may have delegated authority to make decisions in relation to their stated objective(s) and role(s).
- **Advisory Committees**
Committees which include representatives of the community, other stakeholders or agencies. These committees provide advice to Council on a range of issues as specified in the committee's terms of reference.
- **Community Reference Groups**
Groups established to support the functions of an advisory committee. These groups include Council staff and community representatives. Generally, there are no councillor representatives.
- **Sunset Working Groups**
Groups established for a limited term for a specific purpose or to provide input on a specific project. They include representatives of the community, other stakeholders or agencies. These committees provide advice to Council on a range of issues as specified in the group's terms of reference.
- **External Committees**
Committees established by an external body and requiring a council delegate.

Following the adoption of the committee structure, Council commenced an extensive campaign for nominations from the community for representation on advisory committees and reference groups from 28 November 2016 until 15 January 2017.

Council adopted the revised Terms of Reference for committees and appointed community representatives at its meeting on 8 February 2017.

Further details on Council's committee structure can be found at www.wsc.nsw.gov.au/council-committees.

The organisation's Business Continuity Plan was revised in a bid to be better prepared for unplanned business disruptions. Council continued work on and adopted the new Strategic Internal Audit Plan. In 2016/17, audits were completed on Council's:

- Contract Management
- Government Information Public Access (GIPA)

Council's draft *CCTV and Portable Surveillance Cameras Policy* was formally adopted following unanimous support by Councillors in June 2017.

The policy details the use of CCTV cameras for general security and monitoring purposes across Council managed facilities including the Moss Vale Civic Centre, Southern Regional Livestock Exchange and Resource Recovery Centre. There are occasions where the cameras will also be used for monitoring of wildlife and to deter illegal dumpers.

DP05 Develop a strategic position to industry change

Council continued to play an active role in response to the State Government imposed Local Government reform.

Changes brought about through changes to the *Local Government Act 1993* were implemented, while the organisation maintains a 'watching brief' on the progress of the proposed Joint Organisations Governance Framework.

Between 9 January to 10 March 2017, the NSW Department of Planning and Environment provided all NSW Councils with the opportunity to provide feedback on the Draft *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 Amendment Bill*. Wingecarribee Shire Council made a submission. The *Environmental Planning and Assessment Amendment Bill 2017* is expected to be introduced into Parliament towards the end of 2017.

Significant work has been undertaken in planning the comprehensive service review program in a bid to better align service delivery with community expectations. The review program is due to commence in 2017/18 with a review of the Southern Region Livestock Exchange (SRLX) approved as a pilot project.

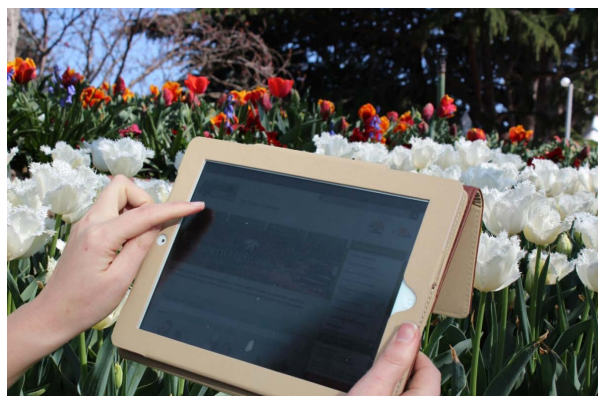
DP06 Develop and maintain an engaged and safe workforce to meet the objectives of Council

Council continued to implement Work Health Safety (WHS) initiatives to ensure the safety of its workforce. This included the development of several General Manager Practice Notes (internal policies) and associated procedures directly related to reducing workplace injuries. Focus areas during the reporting period included:

- Hazardous chemicals
- Working in confined spaces
- Managing WHS risks
- Working at heights
- Safe systems of work

Council staff also attended targeted training sessions to increase individual skills, knowledge and competence. The training has assisted staff to manage workplace hazards and work towards reducing the number of workplace incidents.

DP07 Information and communication technology that provides contemporary business solutions



Council has continued to assess the direction of its Information and Communication Technology (ICT) business solutions.

During 2016/17, Council's corporate business systems were subject to an external review. The outcome of the review will enable Council to better focus its ICT resources to ensure business is conducted efficiently and effectively.

A number of ICT improvements have been implemented during the reporting period to ensure Council's operations continue to be reliable, accessible, secure and cost effective. Initiatives included an upgrade of the power system at Council's disaster recovery centre.

Customers of Wingecarribee Shire Council can now choose to have their Rates Notices and Water and Sewerage Accounts delivered directly to their e-mail. For some time, customers have been telling Council they wanted greater choice and convenience.

In response Council now offers e-billing and BPAY View for both rates notices and water and sewerage accounts.

Residents wishing to receive their notices via email can register for e-Billing at www.wsc.nsw.gov.au/eBilling. Online or mobile bank customers can also sign up for BPAY View.

DP08 Undertake a program of continuous improvement to deliver public value

The community engagement process undertaken to review the full suite of Integrated Planning and Reporting documents has validated the shared long term vision for the Shire. This process will ensure ongoing public value over the term of the current Council, with the new four year Delivery Program and the *2017/18 Operational Plan* developed in line with the strategic direction of the Community Strategic Plan, *Wingecarribee 2031*.

Preliminary work on development of an organisational development strategy has laid a solid platform for Council's Business Transformation Program (BTP).

The BTP aims to re-focus Council's corporate systems and process to reduce duplication and provide an enhanced customer experience. The BTP will build on a number of internal reviews which considered Council's systems, processes and culture.

Recent changes to the *Local Government Act* now mean that the Internal Audit Committee will take action in overseeing continuous improvement.



PEOPLE

People Activities:

- Community Planning and Development
- Library Services
- Children's Services
- Community Facilities
- Parks and Open Space Maintenance and Improvement
- Community Events and Festivals

Highlights and Special Projects:

- Development of a new Youth Strategy
- Children's Services exceeds the National Quality Standard
- Community Assistance Scheme Grants support 55 initiatives
- Consultation on a number of concept designs for parks and playgrounds
- Community events

Library Statistics

Library Statistics	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Library Loans	335,270	305,314	252,866	248,195
Library Visits	200,102	208,511	170,176	167,225
New library memberships	1,394	1,438	1,376	1,406
Internet Sessions	N/A	14,506	17,997	16,786
e book downloads	N/A	5,685	6,241	6,991
e audio downloads	N/A	1,899	2,783	2,824

People Indicators

People Indicators	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Plans of Management (Reviewed)	0	0	1	0
Plans of Management (Developed)	2	14	2	1
Area of sports fields per 1,000 residents (hectares)	2.52	2.52	2.2*	2.4
Operating cost of actively maintained land per hectare (\$)	6,437	6,437	10,237*	12,702
Actively maintained land per 1,000 residents (hectares)	6.99	6.99	6.2*	6.3
Provision of Playgrounds per 1,000 residents	6.9	6.9	6.3*	5.7

*Note: Council implemented a Parks and Open Space Strategy in 2015/16 which is being used to inform decision making on the provision of parks and associated levels of service. In developing this strategy, Council reviewed its baseline data (in conjunction with industry benchmarks) and as such, the information in 2015/16 was updated to reflect this data.

Swimming Pool Attendance

Attendance per pool (during season/ annually)	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Bowral	39,200	50,090	36,341	47,965
Bundanoon	7,200	5,150	5,314	6,146
Mittagong	34,150	CLOSED	17,287*	CLOSED
Moss Vale War Memorial Aquatic Centre opened 30/11/2013	82,757**	145,126	164,584	166,144

*Note: Mittagong Pool was closed for refurbishment during a significant period of the 2015/16 swimming season and only open to the public between 9 January and 3 April 2016.

** Moss Vale War Memorial Aquatic Centre opened part way through the 2013/14 year and attendance numbers reflect this.



DP09 Facilitate and enable community development, with particular focus on targeted community groups such as young people, seniors, aboriginal people and people with a disability

Council has continued to undertake a significant body of work to gain a more strategic focus on key target areas within the community.

Following an extensive consultation program and consideration of community feedback Council adopted its *Youth Strategy and Action Plan* in December 2016. The Youth Strategy focuses on the key areas of concern for the youth population with the aim to prioritise areas for action that will build a better community for and with young people living in the Southern Highlands.

Youth week kicked off in March 2017 with a skate competition held at Bowral Skate Park. Run by Highlands Community Centre, the competition featured free giveaways, prizes, music and a barbeque lunch.

The program continued in April with the annual *Triple Zero Cricket Challenge*. The event was staged at Bradman Oval and featured staff from a variety of emergency services organisations and students from local primary and high schools.

Throughout the year, Council continued to deliver on its commitment to develop an inclusive community.

All Councils were required to develop a *Disability Inclusion Action Plan* (DIAP) by 30 June 2017.

A consultation plan was finalised and implemented in February 2017. The consultation process included staff and community surveys as well as forums and workshops with community and other stakeholders. The feedback led to the development of a DIAP focusing on the following four themes:



1. Developing positive community attitudes and behaviours.
2. Creating liveable communities.
3. Supporting access to meaningful employment.
4. Improving access to services through better systems and processes.

The DIAP identifies priority areas and specific strategies to make the Wingecarribee Shire an accessible and age-friendly community.

The DIAP was adopted by Council at its meeting on 28 June 2017. In addition, Council continued to deliver on its commitment to a raft of actions from the *Positive Ageing Strategy*, the *Arts and Culture Strategic Plan* and the *Wingecarribee Aboriginal Cluster Group Action Plan*.

Council continued to provide financial support to community initiatives through the 2016/17 Community Assistance Scheme grants.

Fifty five local community projects were approved to receive funding. A total of \$117,200 has been provided for projects which include:

- Technology training for seniors
- Equipment for sporting groups
- Painting, repairs and equipment for community halls and facilities
- Art and history projects
- Environment and sustainability projects for schools.

Wingecarribee Shire Council and the local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community invited the community to join them as they celebrated *NAIDOC* Week activities in July 2016.

Celebrations started with the raising of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags at the Civic Centre. The theme of celebration was 'Songlines –The living narrative of our nation' which highlighted the importance of Songlines to the existence of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

In 1967 Australians voted overwhelmingly to amend the constitution to include Aboriginal people in the Census.



Wingecarribee Reconciliation Group
Community Art Project

To celebrate the 50th anniversary of this historic occasion, Wingecarribee Shire Council and the *Wingecarribee Reconciliation Group Inc.* hosted a Community Art Project. The art project intended to both commemorate this landmark decision but also celebrate the progress made since that historic milestone.

Council also ran a project called Mijurung Kookuna, (meaning hanging around for a feed in a safe place). The *Wingecarribee Cluster's Implantation Plan* identified the need to address health issues for Aboriginal people in the Wingecarribee Shire. South Western Sydney Local Health District, Primary Health Network and Wingecarribee Shire Council partnered to deliver subsidised fruit and vegetable boxes to families on a fortnightly basis.

The project objective was designed to create a culture of improved lifestyle choices including, increased fruit and vegetable consumption, increased physical activity participation, and increased engagement in early intervention and preventative health strategies.



Fortnightly fruit and vegetable box deliveries

DP10 Provide and plan for community services and facilities to suit community needs, including family day care, libraries and pools

Council continues to deliver a broad suite of community services and facilities including children's services, libraries and pools.

Children's Services

Council's *Family Day Care* and *Out of School Care* continued to provide a valuable community service with flexibility in operating hours to meet the needs of local families. On 27 July 2016, Council was notified it had received a quality rating of "Exceeding" the National Quality Standards from the *Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority* (ACECQA). Of the seven National Standards, the service was found to be exceeding in four areas including Staffing Arrangements, Relationships with Children, Leadership and Service Management and Collaborative partnerships with Families and Community.

Council hosted a conference for the community in the 2016/17 period, specifically targeting other educators in the industry and parents raising young children and adolescents. The training was presented by the well-known parenting and educational expert Maggie Dent with approximately 400 people attending the three sessions.

Council completed a review of its trial Before School Care Program which was introduced in March 2016. The review demonstrated strong attendance at the program, which exceeded the original projection of eight children per day. As a result of the successful trial, Council will continue to offer a Before School Care Service to the community from Mittagong Public School under the banner of Wingecarribee Out of School Hours Care.

Libraries

Council's library service continues to be a highly valued community service. The libraries continue to run popular activities such as National Simultaneous Storytime, school holiday activities, Southern Highlands schools gifted children's classes, HSC Seminars, Coding Club, Paws 'n' Tales assisted reading classes, paint the town REaD and author readings.

This year Council received a donation from State Records NSW of Bundanoon Public School's records 1872-1961 which include the School's Register of Admissions, Progress and Withdrawal, Visitors Book, Observation Book, Class Roll Books and Punishment Book. This is a valuable addition to the Local Studies Collection.

Wingecarribee Public Libraries are committed to helping local young people with a range of study events. Council hosted the fifth annual HSC Night Shift study lock-in during October 2016 at Bowral Library to help students prepare for their final exams. Year 12 students had exclusive after-hours access to the library from 6.30pm until the lock-in concluded at 10pm.



HSC lock-in at Bowral Library



Swimming Pools

In December 2016, Council made a decision regarding *Mittagong Swimming Centre* repair options following the devastation caused by the *East Coast Low* storm event in June 2016. It was resolved that a detailed design was to be completed and presented to Council for their consideration. Council sought tenders for repairs to Mittagong Pool, however the pool will not be open for the 2017/18 swim season.

The *Moss Vale War Memorial Aquatic Centre* had its 3rd Birthday party in November 2016. This was a successful community day with over 700 people attending.

The Aquatic Centre Health Club introduced new program opportunities for members and seniors in November 2016. Grant funding from the Aquatic Recreation Institute was given to the Centre based on a submission for the need for senior programs in the local area. New programs/opportunities included; six week challenge, Aqua Zumba, staying Active and Stay on your Feet Program. Membership numbers in the Health Club are at the highest since the Centre opened.

A survey to determine satisfaction with outdoor swimming pools and the Moss Vale War Memorial Aquatic Centre was undertaken. Overall satisfaction rates for Council's outdoor pools is 82 per cent compared to 87 per cent for Moss Vale War Memorial Aquatic Centre.

A number of improvements are planned based on the feedback received from the survey.

Overall satisfaction rates for Council's outdoor pools is 82 per cent compared to 87 per cent for Moss Vale War Memorial Aquatic Centre

DP11 Foster, support and encourage arts and culture

Council hosted a number of exhibitions from local artists in the Foyer Gallery during this reporting period including:

- Southern Highlands Textile and Fibre Network
- Virginia Boyle
- Mirjana Psakis
- Amnesty International
- Anne O'Toole
- Southern Highland Woodies Inc.
- A taste of the Art Studio Trail
- Students from the Bowral District Arts Society workshops
- Berrima District Hospital Society (items from collection),
- A selection of miniatures from All Things Great Are Small exhibition
- Anita Parker and Margii Ramon
- Country Women's Association Moss Vale

Council in partnership with *Ngaran Ngaran Culture Awareness* held Culture and Community Responsive Training workshops. The workshops aimed to increase awareness of cultural differences and ensure effective working relationships. A workshop was held for community organisations and volunteers and another was held for Council staff. Both workshops were well attended.

The *Southern Highlands Art Studio Trail*, a once a year opportunity to see beyond the studio door of some of our local artists, was held again during November 2016. The Art Trail is the feature event of the month-long Southern Highlands Arts Festival. The festival features exhibitions, workshops, film screenings, theatre and music performances, as well as the *Art Studio Trail* which runs over the first two weekends of November.

Over 30 studios featuring the works of more than 60 artists opened their doors as part of the festival. Mediums on display included both traditional and contemporary painting, ceramics, jewellery, woodwork, textiles, art conservation, photography, mosaics, sculpture, printmaking, leatherwork and botanical art.

Council celebrated the end of *Children's Week* by hosting an event showcasing the artwork created by children enrolled in Council's Family Day Care and Out of School Hours facilities. The month-long exhibition coincided with national Children's Week which fell on 22 to 30 October 2016. The exhibition showcased and celebrated the wonderful talent and creativity of children from across the Shire. During the month, Council's Moss Vale Civic Centre Foyer Gallery was transformed with the artworks created by the children. Mediums on display included wood and wire sculptures, collage, finger-painting, bubbling, string and large brush painting.



Marijke Bird, Jean McKern and Neil Boughton from Potters Lane Studio in Robertson, 2016

DP12 Provide and maintain parks, sports facilities and open spaces that meet the needs of our community

Key design projects completed during the year include:

- Alexandra Square Park, Mittagong including off-leash-area fencing, tree planting and irrigation design
- Lions Park, Bowral - design
- Children’s Playground Renewals - Hoddle Street Park Burrawang - concept design
- Refurbishment of Works Depot Nursery and Irrigation System - design.

Council delivers construction of open space related capital projects as well as a range of maintenance activities including the mowing of all green space, maintenance of floral parks (Corbett Gardens, Leighton Gardens, Winifred West Park), sporting fields maintenance, playground maintenance, Tulip Time bulb planting, bush care, CBD maintenance (including high pressure cleaning of outdoor dining areas), public amenities cleaning, street sweeping, street rubbish collection, roadside mowing, rural roadside vegetation management, urban street tree maintenance and parks tree management.

Council’s parks network comprises a total of 3,036 hectares (ha) of land, which equates to just over 68 ha per 1,000 residents. Most of this area is Bushland Reserve, which has relatively low asset development and maintenance requirements.

Council’s parks network comprises a total of 3,036 hectares of land



The area of actively maintained parkland (predominately urban parks) is substantially lower at a total of 299 ha, which equates to more than 6 ha/1,000 residents.

The network is further broken into the following types of parks:

Parks Category	Hectares	ha per Capita
Sports Parks	105.2	2.4
Community Parks	64.3	1.4
Linear Parks	127.4	2.9
Premier Parks	2.1	0.1
Bushland Reserves	2,736.9	61.6

DP13 Continue to support and develop community events

Council delivered, and worked with local agencies to support delivery of a range of important community events during the year. The numerous events were tailored to meet the diverse needs of our community and support agreed community strategies. Some of these events include:

- *Wingecarribee Community Services Forum Expo* held at Bowral Memorial Hall in October 2016
- *PCYC Colour Run* held at Iron Mines Oval Mittagong in December 2016 - 500 people of all ages attended
- *Disability Services Australia Ability Walk* at Lake Alexandra in December 2016 in celebration of International Day of People with Disability.

In July 2016, Council agreed to support the 2017 *Bundanoon Highland Gathering* with a \$10,000 sponsorship. The celebration is one of our Shire's largest annual tourism events and Council is proud to have supported their 40th anniversary event. For decades the Bundanoon Highland Gathering Committee has worked hard to promote the event which has brought thousands of tourists from all over the globe to the Shire. Each year, surplus monies from the event have been disbursed amongst local charities and volunteer groups.

Council celebrated the festive season with a tree lighting ceremony on Saturday 26 November 2016 in Bowral's Corbett Plaza.

The seven metre high tree was the result of a collaborative community effort between numerous local authorities and community groups, including volunteers from Fire and Rescue NSW, the State Emergency Service, NSW Police and the Rural Fire Service.

Tireless Southern Highland volunteer Dr Allan Beavis (OAM) was named Wingecarribee Shire's 2017 *Australia Day Citizen of the Year*. The former Headmaster and now Musical Director of St Jude's Anglican Church and the Bowral Autumn Musical Festival is also a Board Member



Three year old Alexia at the Christmas Tree lighting



Australia Day Award winners Zoe Brain and Dr Allan Beavis

of the Southern Highlands Symphony Orchestra. In 2013 Dr Beavis received an Order of Australia Medal (OAM) for his services to music and education. Dr Beavis cites the fostering of musical development in young people as a major passion.

Young Citizen of the Year was awarded to Zoe Brain. The 13 year old Oxley student was also nominated for her volunteerism and leadership qualities that belie her young age.

Zoe is the creator and founder of *Gorilla Girlz* which seeks to raise money for critically endangered gorillas.



PLACES

Places Activities:

- Community Regulation
- Asset Management
- Construction and Maintenance of Infrastructure
- Depot Administration and Fleet Management
- Infrastructure Design and Support
- Development and Building Services
- Community and Corporate Buildings
- Strategic Planning
- Heritage

Highlights and Special Projects:

- Local Planning Strategy endorsement from the State Government to protect the character of the Shire
- More than \$12.9 million spent on road improvement projects across the Shire
- Refurbishments completed at Exeter Hall

Places Indicators

Places Indicators	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Construction Certificates Approved	585	547	406	521
Development Applications Approved	435	779	697	934
Sub-division Certificates Approved	34	52	41	79
Sealed road network re-sealed annually (%)	4.1	4.55	9.7	7.9
Unsealed road network re-sheeted (%)	9.9	20.8*	19.3*	5
Unsealed road network maintained (maintenance grade) (kms)	200	205	224	207
Footpath maintained annually (carriageway kms)	N/A	5.3	8.84	10.08
Shared paths and cycle paths repaired (lineal metres)	N/A	505	100	260
Footpath installed annually (lineal metres)	1,415	615	1,980	1,420
Shared paths and cycle paths installed annually (lineal metres)	265	953	236	450

*Note: The unsealed road network was subject to increased resheeting works in 2014/15 and 2015/16 due to Local Infrastructure Renewal Scheme (LIRS) funding available during this period.

DP14 Maintain rural landscape and separation distance between towns and villages

Council received endorsement for its *Local Planning Strategy* by the *Department of Planning and Environment* with the exception of its housing supply chapter which will require further investigation. The plan provides a strategic framework for ensuring that separation distances are maintained between towns and villages and provides direction on proposed future urban release precincts.

Council commenced a review of its development control plans including Ecological Sustainable Development, Signage and also Residential Development which will ensure that appropriate controls are in place to maintain and promote the Shire's rural landscape and separation distances between the Shire's towns and villages.

DP15 Retain, revitalise and strengthen special qualities of towns and villages

Council finalised the Planning Proposal to include 90 new Local Items of Heritage in Council's Local Environment Plan. Council has a commitment to promote local heritage in towns and villages. The heritage grants program continues to strengthen local heritage throughout the Shire and following the allocation of grants in 2016, the funding is translating to 'roots level' improved outcomes in heritage management and preservation of local items of heritage.

DP16 Plan and prioritise appropriate transport, traffic management and car parking solutions for the Shire

Updating of the Shire wide road network traffic model is set to occur after an extensive process of data collection was conducted during the year. This will include parking modelling that provides the ability to evaluate additional parking supply, demand and management changes within the Mittagong, Bowral, Moss Vale and Bundanoon town centres.

The model rebuild will also include a deficiency report which will identify road infrastructure capacity limitations at a strategic level and will allow Council to prioritise capacity improvements. The outputs from the model will also support future grant applications.

Council has analysed short term and long term transport and traffic requirements for the Shire. The information has informed Council's Asset Management Plans.

DP17 Ensure appropriate development that suits the character and demographics of the Shire

Council continues to consistently apply its statutory controls and also Development Control Plan guidelines to ensure that the local character of the area is preserved. The finalisation of the Local Planning Strategy and also partial completion of the Development Control Plan review has further aided appropriate development within the shire.

Council has been involved in a number of NSW Land and Environment court cases in 2016/17 at a cost of in excess of \$250,000 to ensure that local amenity is preserved and that appropriate development that suits the character and demographics of the Shire is maintained.



DP18 Provide efficient and safe roads, shared, cycle and foot pathways and drainage networks

Design and Construction

Council has continued to deliver roads, bridges, traffic facilities, paths and stormwater drainage and bridge capital works projects and road safety programs during 2016/17.

During the reporting period, a large number of significant design and construction projects were achieved through the delivery of the following programs:

- Kerb and guttering and ramp renewal program
- Local roads asphalt sealing program
- Local roads heavy patching program
- Local roads resealing program
- Minor stormwater capital improvements program
- Regional roads resealing program
- Signage replacement and improvement program
- Storm damage remedial works program.

Key projects achieved under these programs include:

- Belanglo Road, Belanglo - causeway replacement
- Belmore Falls Road, Robertson - Johnstons Creek Bridge replacement
- Bendooley Street, Bowral - Wingecaribee Street roundabout construction
- Bowral Street, Bowral - pedestrian refuges construction
- Colo Street, Mittagong - Nattai River Bridge realignment
- Drapers Road, Colo Vale - road widening Improvements
- Erith Street, Bundanoon - reconstruction
- Lyell Street and Cook Street, Mittagong - drainage upgrade
- Old Hume Highway, Mittagong - Lyell Street, Owen Street roundabout construction
- Rush Lane, Braemar - drainage improvements
- Sheffield Road, Bowral - rehabilitation drainage improvements
- Stanley Street, Hill Top - road construction and sealing
- Wilson Drive, Balmoral - widening and bus bay improvements
- Railway Terrace Bridge - construction

Council was successful in obtaining a \$416,000 grant for condition assessment and load testing of bridge structures from the *Australian Government Fixing Country Roads Program*. The works will be undertaken in the 2017/18 financial year.

The Nattai Ponds flood study, Robertson overland flow study and Nattai River flood risk management study and plan were adopted, and the Wembley Road and Farnborough Drive Catchment (Moss Vale) overland flow study was completed and exhibited.

Road Maintenance

Council continues to deliver urban and rural road and drainage maintenance services across the Shire. Maintenance services include planned and reactive maintenance with the latter generated by customer and emergency services requests as well as severe weather events.

A full cycle of unsealed road maintenance on Council's local and regional roads came to completion in 2016/17. The benefits of implementing a proactive rural drain cleaning program alongside the grading program have been demonstrated. It has been observed over the last 24 months that the road surface exposed to rain and traffic was in better condition compared to previous years, before the implementation of the rural drain cleaning program.

Following the declared natural disaster storm event (*East Coast Low*) on 4 and 5 June 2016, Council was granted over \$2.1 million from the *Federal Natural Disaster Assistance Fund* to repair 170 roads damaged by the storm and to inspect several bridges for damage. Work is progressing steadily using external contractors to satisfy the strict grant funding conditions.



Storm damage: Vandemburgh Road, Robertson

Road Safety

The Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) motorcycle hazard identification event was held with the *Classic and Enthusiast Motorcycle Club* in Moss Vale on 10 October 2016. The event specifically targeted and documented high risk crash locations and hazards within the Shire.

Council continued its commitment to ensuring learner drivers and their families are safe by offering the Graduated Licencing Scheme (GLS) *Learner Driver Workshops* throughout the year. The 2016 *U Turn the Wheel* program also provided support and education to young drivers and was attended by 170 Year 11 students from Chevalier College on 26 October 2016.

A child restraint checking day was held on 12 November 2016 at Highlands Market Place. RMS authorised fitters from Highlands Pitlane correctly fitted and/or checked 36 child restraints.

The *Cycle for Active Transport* event was held in November 2016. The event rewarded participants for wearing their helmets and making four local trips, collecting stamps for a chance to win prizes.

Free Cycle Workshops were held on 24 November and 1 December 2016, presented by *Rideability Cycle Education*. The workshops provided education for cyclists to encourage safe cycling and awareness of the dangers cyclists should avoid. Cycling workshops were also held for seniors.

Speedbusters variable speed display signs were operational at Erith Street Bundanoon, Emily Circuit Bowral and Lytton Road Moss Vale throughout the year. The speed management program aims to improve driver behaviour and reduce speeding on local streets.

Council introduced *Look out before you step out* footpath stickers in 2016/17. The stickers are designed to remind pedestrians to be vigilant when crossing the road and reduce the number of pedestrian related incidents.

The *Fatality Free Friday* safety initiative was again held in 2017. The campaign aims to encourage drivers to think consciously about their actions every time they get behind the wheel.



Council's Road Safety Officer displays the *Look out before you step out* stickers in Moss Vale



DP19 Ensure appropriate regulation and animal control throughout the Shire

Council has continued to make solid progress in ensuring that environmental compliance is achieved through On Site Sewer Management (OSSM) with the completion of approximately 360 OSSM inspections during the year. Council continues to work with operators that have defective systems to ensure that catchment health and public safety is maintained. Council achieved a compliance rate of 80 per cent at the end of the year.

A higher level of parking turnover in the CBD areas has continued due to the success of the parking compliance program. The program has been expanded to school zones and also residential nature strip parking in high complaint areas.

Council's *Scores on Doors* Program continues to be well received from food operators and is promoting food safety awareness throughout the shire. More than 200 food premises were inspected throughout the year.

During the reporting period Council expanded its *Mossy Moggies Desexing and Microchipping Program* targeted at socially disadvantaged groups. The program is aimed at ensuring a reduction in cat litters and feral cats entering Council's impound facilities and also raising community awareness about responsible pet ownership.

While the program was initially aimed at disadvantaged groups, this has now been expanded to include pensioners throughout the Shire. The program is funded by the Office of Local Government.

DP20 Provide and maintain community and council buildings

Council owns and maintains a large number of community and Council buildings and it is important to confirm utilisation rates associated to these assets to ensure they are effectively managed.

One of the most significant projects undertaken during the reporting period was the refurbishment of Exeter Hall. The \$1.3 million upgrade included a new commercial kitchen and hall space, internal toilets, external public toilets and sports change rooms. A new audio system has been installed and the car park was also upgraded. Since the upgrades, the number of people using the hall has increased by 89 per cent.

Works were also completed at Loseby Park Community Hall, Bowral. Additional toilets were installed and the existing toilets were refurbished for the Youth Hub. A total of \$87,000 was spent on this project.

Council staff continue to assess Council buildings to ensure planned maintenance, renewals and capital works are undertaken in an efficient and cost effective manner.





ENVIRONMENT

Environment Activities:

- Environmental Management
- Water Management
- Sewer Management
- Waste Management

Highlights and Special Projects:

- Volunteers make *National Tree Day* a huge success
- More than \$290,000 of grant funds received from Rural Fire Service in late 2016 were used to complete urgent fire trail restoration works by Soil Conservation Services
- The six week *Bush Fire Get Ready Challenge* is taken up by residents
- Audit shows nearly two-thirds of all waste generated by residents is being recycled
- A public speaking competition for secondary school students called *Speaking 4 the Planet* showcases our youth's passion for environmental issues

Environment Indicators

Environment Indicators	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Bushcare and Landcare participants (groups)	15	15	15	17
Community volunteers environmental work (hours)	3,517	3,260	3,279	3,237
Native trees and shrubs planted on public land and established native plant species	11,886	11,576	11,020	14,712
Workshops	3	2	5	1
Bushcare Group Work Sessions	N/A	180	181	179
Threatened Ecological communities	5	5	5	15*
Domestic recycling diverted from landfill (tonnes)	5,013	4,721	5,060	5,345
Putrescible Total (tonnes)	7,371	8,793	10,365	12,284
Green waste (tonnes)	7,000	9,593	9,120	9,256
Onsite sewerage management system inspections	300	300	300	350
Notices/infringements issued	31	22	26	21
Food shops inspections annually	452	463	383	409
Known cooling towers inspected annually (%)	100	100	17	100
Properties inspected for noxious weeds	47	162	266	533
Section 18 (noxious weeds) improvement/infringements notices issued	0	36	25	39

*Note: A new fine detail mapping project has identified a number of new threatened ecological communities present in the Shire.



Mittagong Creek Rehabilitation



National Tree Day

DP21 Protect and enhance our natural environment

Council has undertaken a number of projects and programs aimed to protect and enhance the natural environment. Environment Levy funds have been used to fund a number of these projects, including the *Protect and Grow* program.

Environmental weed management on Council owned/managed land continues to be successfully implemented by contractors and Council's Bushcare Team.

Environmental weed management works within several reserves has been implemented including:

- Berrima - Berrima Weir Reserve
- Berrima - Goanna Falls Reserve
- Berrima - Stonequarry Walk
- Bowral/Mittagong - Mount Gibraltar Reserve
- Bundanoon - Glow Worm Glen
- Burrawang - George Street Wetland
- Bowral - Hammock Hill
- Bowral - Mansfield Reserve
- East Kangaloon Roadsides (RVIP Grant Project Maintenance)
- Hill Top - Boronia Park
- Mittagong - Iron Mines Creek
- Mittagong - Mount Alexandra Reserve
- Moss Vale - Cosgrove Park; Whites Creek
- Wingecarribee River - Bong Bong Cycleway and Youth Landcare
- Paddy's River - Paddy's River Reserve
- Yerrinbool - Yerrinbool Oval and Waterhole.

Revegetation works continue to be implemented on Council Bushcare sites which included the planting of over 7,000 native plants over the year, sourced predominantly from Council's Community Nursery.

Significant plantings occurred along the Mittagong Creek as part of the *National Tree Day* and *Frensham Planting Program*, where 3,000 plants were planted.

Council supports 17 Bushcare and Landcare groups with more than 170 Bushcare sessions delivered over the year. Of the 3,237 hours given by volunteers to conduct environmental projects, Bushcare volunteers dedicated 3,144 of these hours in 2016/2017.

Riparian works along Mittagong Creek continued:

- Woody Weed Control: all woody weed between Old South Road and Bowral Street has been treated and removed.
- Weed Control Project - Bowral to Sheppard Streets: revegetation of treated area was completed with 500 plants provided and installed in this treated area.
- Weed Control and Bed Stabilisation Project - Old South Road to Bowral Street: the next phase of this project saw 3,000 plants planted with the assistance of Frensham students and volunteers on National Tree Day.
- Mittagong and Whytes Creek saw woody weed removal and planting of 1,000 native plants along the Holly Street section rehabilitation project to improve riparian management.

**Volunteers donated
3,237 hours to
environmental
projects in 2016/17**

As a part of the *Land for Wildlife* Program, four new Land for Wildlife agreements have been registered. A total of 91 properties now participate in this program.

The *Habitat for Wildlife* project continues and now has over 156 registrations.

Council hosted a *Breakfast with the Birds* workshop in October 2016 as part of *National Bird Week* and four community workshops under the Vegetation Conservation Program.

The NSW Office of Environment and Heritage continued work on the new Native Vegetation Map for Council for the Green Web Strategy and Vegetation Mapping Project, which will improve the accuracy of vegetation community modelling. A final draft of the new maps was completed in March 2017. The new vegetation maps and the results of the Southern Highlands Koala Conservation Project will feed into the Green Web Strategy.



Lee's Fire Trail before and after restoration works



Wonsons Fire Trail before and after restoration works

In 2016/17 Council's Bushfire Hazard Reduction continued and all Council Asset Protection Zones have been audited and maintenance completed. Council fire trails have been audited and maintenance works completed. More than \$290,000 of grant funds received from Rural Fire Service in late 2016 were used to complete urgent fire trail restoration works by Soil Conservation Services due to the east coast low storm damage.

Maintenance and repair work took place at:

Location	Cost
West Break Fire Trail	\$18,000
Galah Circuit	\$20,000
Gang Gang Trail	\$12,000
Wonsons Fire Trail	\$100,739
Lee's Fire Trail	\$50,330
Nattai Creek Fire Trail	\$28,090
Scar Fire Trail	\$66,052





Five hazard reduction burns within Council Bushland reserves were completed, including, Mount Gibraltar Reserve and Mount Alexandra Reserve. A further eight hazard reduction burns within Council Bushland reserves have been scheduled with the NSW Rural Fire Service and NSW Fire and Rescue, including action in Mount Gibraltar Reserve, Mount Alexandra Reserve, Boronia Park, Yerrinbool, and Bundanoon. A significant project at Wonsons fire trail installing concrete block work along the reserve boundary to restrict vehicular access is now complete.

Council implemented a community engagement program entitled *Six Week Bush Fire Get Ready Challenge*. Organised in conjunction with the Southern Highlands Rural Fire Service, the program allows recipients to receive weekly emails with tips to help prepare their families and homes against bush fires. The Challenge sets out a series of simple tasks spread over six weeks that everyone can undertake to help protect their home and family.

DP22 Ensure development doesn't threaten underpinning natural resources of the Shire

Council compliance programs in 2016/17 have focussed on regulating non compliant developments throughout the Shire including both illegal and non-complying developments.

Council has in 2016/17 employed resources into the Tree and Vegetation Assessment portfolio to ensure that natural resources such as Endangered Ecological Communities and also local trees and vegetation which form an important part of the Shire's streetscape and natural landscape are not impacted by development.

DP23 Promote and encourage waste minimisation and recycling

Council continued to review the recycling services offered at its Resource Recovery Centre (RRC) and examine alternative solutions to recycling and removing tonnage from the inert stream. Council's diversion rates remain among the best in the state.

Council has entered into an alternative arrangement for disposal of electronic waste. Contractors were engaged to receive electronic waste and the new contract provides a positive revenue stream for this recycled material.

Other initiatives include reuse of soft and hard plastics and Council is investigating further options for recycling of building products such as treated timbers and plaster board which will see a further 15 per cent reduction in material sent to landfill.

The RRC's Community Recycling Centre (CRC) currently offers residents recycling opportunities free of charge. There are currently 22 items that the RRC can receive and Council is leading the state in CRC volumes.

Council's waste diversion rates remain among the best in the state

An audit of waste bins conducted across the Shire in May and June of 2017 demonstrated that recycling levels across the Shire are high. The bin audit revealed that 65.3 per cent of all waste generated by the sample study was correctly placed in the recycling bin. This result means that nearly two-thirds of all waste generated by residents is being recycled.

The NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) in conjunction with Council accepted unwanted chemicals as part of its annual Chemical CleanOut program in April 2017 at Council's Moss Vale Depot. Residents were able to drop off their unwanted household chemicals free of charge. Chemicals that could be dropped off included:

- pesticides and herbicides
- motor oils and fuels
- fire extinguishers
- acids and alkalis
- paints and paint products

- car batteries
- fluorescent globes and tubes
- poisons
- solvents and household cleaners
- gas bottles
- pool and hobby chemicals (i.e. photography)
- floor care products and ammonia based cleaners.

During the reporting period almost 500 people took advantage of the free service surrendering over 17 tonnes of chemicals on the day. Council's Chemical CleanOut is a *NSW EPA Waste Less, Recycle More* initiative funded from Council's Environment and Waste Levy.

Council has continued to work proactively with the EPA throughout the reporting period to ensure compliance with the 'Clean-up Notice' received after the discovery of asbestos in a sample of crushed concrete at the RRC.



Sorting recyclables

DP24 Reduce Council's environmental footprint

Council continues to monitor its energy consumption with the goal to minimise its environmental footprint and reduce its energy costs.

Council completed the installation of a 99.75 kilowatt Solar PV Installation at Moss Vale War Memorial Aquatic Centre. This was funded through Council's Revolving Energy Fund (REFund). This brings the total of installed solar electricity systems to over 200 kilowatts across Council facilities. Council also completed an energy efficient lighting upgrade for the Moss Vale Library. All these projects serve to minimise Council's environmental footprint and reduce its energy costs.

Over 200 kilowatts of solar electricity systems operate across Council facilities

Council hosted a number of sustainability events throughout the reporting period including nine organised bushwalks across the Shire, *Wingecarribee Schools Environment Day*, *Breakfast with the Birds*, *Whose Living on my Land*, *Threatened Species Conference*, *World Environment Day/Week 2017* and Council stalls at the *Southern Highlands Home and Garden Show*, *Bong Bong Track Bike Ride* and *Community Services Expo*.

Council proudly supported *Speaking 4 the Planet* in 2017, a public speaking and drama competition for secondary school students. The competition was run in conjunction with June's World Environment Day, and provided an opportunity for students to engage in and speak about environmental issues.



Speaking 4 the Planet participants, June 2017

This year's World Environment Day theme, *Connecting People to Nature*, encouraged people to rediscover the beauty and value of the Shire's natural environments.

The Environment Levy continued to support community environmental actions via the *Wingecarribee Community Assistance Scheme*. The Environment Levy also sponsored the *Southern Highlands Business Awards* in the category of Environmental Sustainability in order to recognise the efforts of local business.

Council delivered the Active Transport Cycling competition and Education Workshops to promote safe bicycle usage within the community. The program was run in January 2017 as a way to reward residents for their commitment to safe and sustainable living.

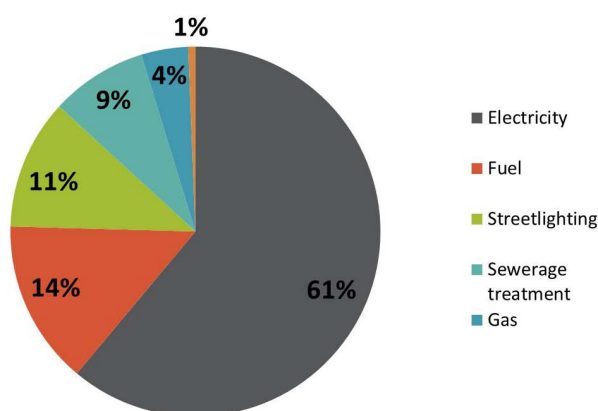
The following workshops, forums and presentations were delivered during 2016/17:

- Land for Wildlife Biennial Forum Queanbeyan, April 2017
- Water sampling and macro invertebrate talk and demonstration to Moss Vale High School students, April 2017
- Council rural partner and private land conservation programs at South East Local Land Services autumn seasonal update, May 2017
- Presentation at National Koala Conference, Port Macquarie on the Southern Highlands Koala Conservation Project, June 2017
- Keynote presentation to the Environmental and Zoo Educators Conference at Craigieburn. Presentation covered Wingecarribee Shire Council sustainability initiatives, focusing on biodiversity programs, February 2017
- Council wildlife conservation programs presented to “Who’s Living On My Land” workshop participants on February 2017
- Koala Conservation Project at Robertson Environment Protection Society meeting attended by more than 30 people.

Council’s 2016/17 greenhouse gas emissions total was 16,308 tCO₂-e (Tonnes Carbon Dioxide Equivalent).

Electricity, fuel and street lighting were the highest sources of greenhouse gas emissions as seen in the following chart. Emissions attributable to providing water and sewer services account for 56 per cent of the total emissions.

2016/17 Greenhouse Gas emissions



The following table provides a comparison over the last three years.

Greenhouse gas emissions over time (tCO₂-e)

Scope	2014-15	2015-16	2016/17
Scope 1	4,087	4,026	4,148
Scope 2	8,966	9,108	8,705
Scope 3	3,699	3,528	3,454
Total	16,752	16,662	16,308

Scope 1: Direct combustion such as fuel and gas.

Scope 2: Purchased electricity

Scope 3: Indirect emissions through items purchased such as paper.

The complete greenhouse gas report can be found at www.wsc.nsw.gov.au/climate-change.

Complete activity data for all of the emission sources within the reporting boundary is not currently available.

The full report contains information on activities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, breakdown of emissions from particular sources and the sources for which data is not currently available.

DP25 Provide efficient and effective water and sewerage services to the community

Council continues to provide effective Water and Sewer systems to the community to meet both regulatory and compliance standards. Council regularly engages with both *NSW Health* and the *Environmental Protection Authority (EPA)* to ensure a clear communication path. Council has achieved full compliance with its regulatory requirements, annual EPA returns and *Australian Drinking Water Guidelines* in 2016/17.

Council has also conducted successful illegal connection and infiltration programs in a number of areas within the Shire to minimise impacts on the sewerage system.

Council is set to continue its comprehensive water and sewerage renewal program, targeting multiple towns and villages across the Shire. The 12 month replacement program will begin in July 2017 and involves the upgrade and replacement of water mains, water meters, sewer mains and manholes in Moss Vale, Bowral, Mittagong, Bundanoon, Welby, Colo Vale, Exeter and Burradoo. These works are being carried out to ensure our water and sewerage systems operate at peak performance and continue to provide our residents with safe, reliable and continuous water and wastewater services.

During 2016/17, Council conducted a number of assessments as part of its Water Master Plan. This has provided a clear strategic scope for the long term performance and capabilities of three sewer treatment plants and the Bundanoon Water Scheme.

Chemical dosing tanks at Robertson Sewerage Treatment Plant





ECONOMY

Economy Activities:

- Economic Development
- Tourism
- Entrepreneurial Business

Highlights and Special Projects:

- The Welcome Centre was recognised as the best Visitor Information Centre in the NSW Destination Tourism Awards
- Broadcast of the Channel 9 TODAY Show live from Bradman Oval
- Increased media coverage in the Southern Highlands, including Jetstar Inflight Magazine, Sydney Morning Herald, Sunday Telegraph, local radio, Sydney 2GB and WIN TV's Sydney Weekender
- Record levels of visitation to the Southern Highlands during the last half of 2016
- Record number of visitors to the 2016 Tulip Time Festival
- The inaugural Pie Time Festival held in June 2017

Economy Indicators

Economy Indicators	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Bookings for conferences commission within the Shire (\$)	1,609	6,909	14,124	2,018
Accommodation bookings/ commission through Visitor Information Centre (VIC) (\$)	40,843	39,359	36,001	25,628
Commission from events ticketed through VIC (\$)	5,815	7,204	6,056	3,041
Visitation to Welcome Centre	57,562	52,307	68,568	61,907
Tourism website hits	236,715	182,531	193,564	286,657

DP27 Promote Moss Vale Enterprise Zone

Ongoing promotional activities have been conducted with existing property owners as well as potential developers in the Moss Vale Enterprise Zone. Work has been focused on attracting targeted businesses and industries that align with the strategies resulting from the Economic Framework Sector groups, to the Moss Vale Enterprise Zone. Several meetings with prospective businesses also took place.

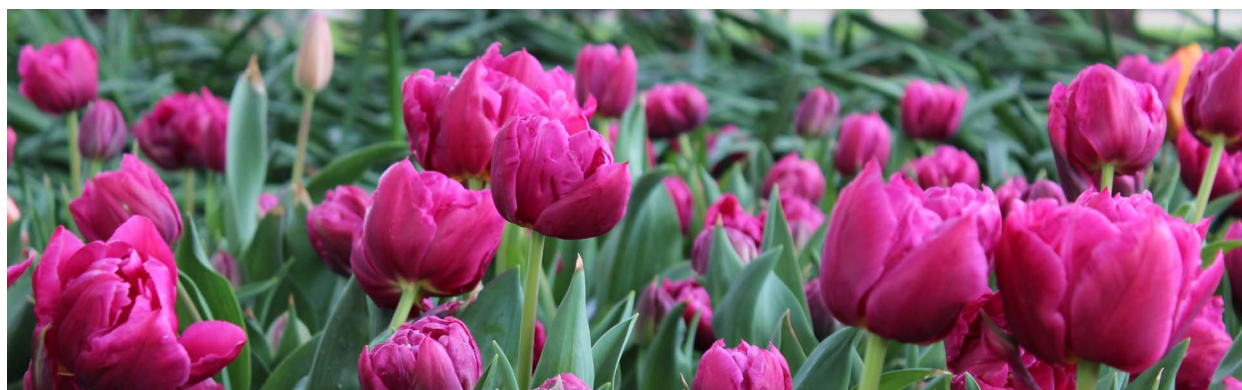
In addition, an internet-based marketing platform has been developed to help promote the Zone to prospective local, regional and international businesses. This platform was tested and completed and an appropriate domain has been purchased; www.commercialandindustrialproperty.com.au.

Once Enterprise Zone land is sold and/or leased, the website could be used to promote commercial and industrial property throughout the region.

DP28 Continue to promote the Southern Highlands as a recognised tourism destination

The 2016 Tulip Time Festival was held once again in September 2016.

Tulip Time, one of Australia's oldest and best loved floral festivals continues to grow as the region's largest event. Corbett Gardens, the centrepiece of the Festival is mass-planted with over 75,000 tulips, 15,000 annuals and an additional 40,000 tulips planted across the Shire.



The Southern Highlands region continued to achieve high levels of visitation and visitor spend in 2016/17. This has been achieved as a result of proactive and targeted marketing by Destination Southern Highlands (DSH) and its industry and media partners. The platform for successful promotion of the Southern Highlands as a tourism and event destination continues to be achieved through the leveraging of its websites www.southern-highlands.com.au and www.mysouthernhighlands.net.au along with social media sites including the use of Facebook, Instagram and YouTube. Unique visits and page views to all of these marketing sites have increased over the reporting period in relation to the same period in 2015/16.

The continuation of the weekly *This Week in the Highlands* video clips by DSH distributed by direct email and Facebook to promote 'What's On' in the region each week is both growing in views and share distribution amongst both local residents and interested visitors to the Highlands. The production and promotion of new *Meet the Maker* videos which help tell the story of our region and our operators (characters) is also proving to be a unique and valuable destination marketing tool.

Media stories on the Southern Highlands during the year have been numerous, including *Jetstar Inflight Magazine*, *Sydney Morning Herald*, *Sunday Telegraph* producing printed features on the Southern Highlands and radio stations such as *Sydney 2GB* and television stations running regional news (WIN TV) and travel programs (*Sydney Weekender*) featuring our region all adding to the continual promotion of the Southern Highlands tourism offerings.

The development and introduction of new product and experiences into the market place during the year has also assisted the promotion and storytelling opportunities of our region.



Izabella Lane greets guests to the Welcome Centre

Examples of new product include the Southern Highlands Food Clusters of Robertson and Sutton Forest, Golf 'Stay & Play' midweek packages, A Grand Day Out Tours, the Old Bank Hotel, Highlands Farm and The Farm Club @ Werai. Further to this, the development of new and/or reinvention of old events such as the *Bowral Classic*, *Outdoor & Adventure Show*, *Bong Bong Picnic Races* have introduced new and additional visitors to the region. This coupled with the increased success of record crowds for *Tulip Time*, the *Wedding Fair*, *Highland Fling*, *Southern Highlands Food and Wine Festival* and *Brigadoon* are all having a positive effect of growing the Southern Highlands as a major tourism destination.

At the conclusion of the 2016 year, Destination Southern Highlands was recognised for its marketing and servicing innovation by being awarded the best NSW Visitor Information Centre for 2016 at the NSW Tourism Awards.



Steve Rosa is joined by the cast from the Today show at the launch of Pie Time

Council was also acknowledged at the *Illawarra Business Awards* for best Customer Service by a business or organisation in the Illawarra Region for 2016.

During the year DSH and its industry members also achieved the following economic milestones:

- Expansion of the 2017 Southern Highlands Destination Planner. The official regional guide is used to promote the experiences and businesses of the Southern Highlands to domestic and international markets with 40,000 copies produced and distributed.
- Broadcast of the Channel 9 TODAY Show live from Bradman Oval, with over 1.5 million national viewers. Broadcast footage included the regions key attractions and experiences and generated increased levels of website visits and calls to DSH.

A major promotional campaign was also undertaken during the year aimed to position the Southern Highlands as 'Australia's Home of Pies' via the launch of *Pie Time*. This was supported with a \$100,000 Short Break marketing and advertising campaign throughout June 2017. The initiative and campaign has generated State and National coverage of this unique destination marketing activity. The month long campaign and events have seen record levels of website visits, increased overnight stays as well as increased retail trading. Early indicators highlight that over 100,000 pies were produced and sold during June adding enormously to the visitor economy spend. The inaugural two day Pie Time Festival held in Corbett Gardens in late June saw over 4,000 visitors with the majority originating from outside of the region. This promotion and the positioning of the Southern Highlands as a "foodie" destination has provided another reason to visit outside of the peak seasons.

DP29 Continue operations of Southern Regional Livestock Exchange

The Southern Regional Livestock Exchange (SRLX) continues to be an important service to our community. There are currently 2,250 active producers who sell through the facility. Cattle are sold for domestic and export markets, breeding and re-stocking for later resale. There are currently three companies which act as agents at the SRLX. The agents act on behalf of the producers to obtain optimum sale prices and are also responsible for pre-sale inspections, animal welfare prior to sale, scanning of National Vendor Declarations and the actual sales process. There are approximately 400 active buyers who purchase cattle from the facility.

A key performance indicator of the SRLX is the number of throughput of cattle sold on an annual basis. The following table shows the number of throughput of cattle sold at the facility over the past five years:

Throughput of cattle

Year	No. of Head Sold	Total Sales
2016/17	51,359	\$58,348m
2015/16	68,432	\$70,269m
2014/15	58,321	\$44,818m
2013/14	58,583	\$30,425m
2012/13	46,059	\$26,285m

Note: Throughput of cattle can be influenced by external factors such as the climate, grain prices, beef prices, export prices and demand.

As part of the 2016/17 budget, Council introduced a \$3 per head of cattle levy for capital improvements at the SRLX.

The levy generated \$154,077 in income for the 2016/17 financial year which was spent on the following projects:

Project	Expenditure
Computer and network upgrade	\$35,801
External rails upgrade	\$54,650
Purchase and install a generator	\$38,850
Total	\$129,301

The unspent amount of \$24,776 has been restricted in the Capital Improvement Fund. Security improvements and a diesel powered air compressor have been identified as priority projects to be funded from the capital improvement levy in 2017/18.

The SRLX has been identified as one of the services provided by Council that will be subject to a *Service Delivery Review Program* as a part of its *Fit for the Future Improvement Plan*. Council at its meeting on 10 February 2016 endorsed a multi-phased approach and high level guiding principles for undertaking the review program. The review will focus on introducing efficiencies and improving service delivery.



DP30 Review Council's role in the promotion of learning across all demographics

As a result of the Memorandum of Understanding between Council and the *University of Wollongong*, the Economic Development Learning Sector Group prepared a facilitated forum for the aged care industry and related sectors in early 2017.

The key objective is to meet the demand for trained aged care personnel in the foreseeable future.

In conjunction with the Moss Vale Campus, Council is in the early stages of developing an integrated approach to learning and business mentoring that aligns with the community goals listed in the Community Strategic Plan. The strategy will be in sync with the Economic Development Framework. A key measure of success will be new and retained local jobs.

Highlights for the promotion of learning across all demographics during 2016/17 include:

- Delivery of an aged services workshop facilitated by the Learning Sector Group. The intention is to develop an industry-led aged services cluster so the Learning Sector Group can move on to other sectors.
- A business mentoring services project, intended to help local businesses cope with challenges due to job automation and climate change disruption, has been advanced. Expanding business mentoring resources has the potential to double the number of retained jobs in our region over the next 10-15 years. The intention is to offer Lean Management and Low Carbon Living support in addition to more generalised business mentoring.

- Preliminary planning for a joint promotion of the free *Google My Business* service. This is planned to be a partnership between Council, Regional Development Australia Southern Inland, Southern Business Enterprise Centre, and local Chambers of Commerce.
- A web based learning service is being tested that helps people to quickly develop effective business plans.
- Development of a web-based news service is nearing completion. The system aims to provide local innovators with easy access to local, national and international industry news.

DP31 Administer and manage Council owned land and operational property

Council continues to manage its property portfolio within legislative requirements and within the policy direction set by Council.

This has included a range of property acquisitions and disposal, leasing and licensing, road closures and administration of other property matters.

A number of land sales were finalised during the 2016/17 financial year including the Queen Street Moss Vale site and a number of small residential subdivisions which have been approved by Council are expected to be placed on the market during the first half of 2017/18.

Council appointed a site manager for the Mount Gibraltar Telecommunications tower site in December 2016 which has resulted in significant improvements to the management of this site and compliance with legislative and safety requirements.

A number of licence agreements relating to access to the tower have been negotiated and renewed in line with audit recommendations.

STATUTORY INFORMATION

The following chapter provides additional detailed supporting information and addresses statutory requirements under section 428 of the *Local Government Act 1993* and the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005* (Part 9, Division 7).

Private works policy, Private Works and major contracts awarded

Private works will be undertaken by Council’s Infrastructure Services branch if sufficient resources are available, and the undertaking of the private works does not impact on Council’s works program or core business activities. Any private works undertaken will ensure that Council does not incur a loss and that the work is to an acceptable standard. For further information refer to Council’s *Private Works Policy* located on www.wsc.nsw.gov.au.

Private Works	Summary or Details of work	No. of Works	Total Costs	Owner Contribution	Council Contribution
General Fund	Road repairs and clean-up works	2	\$17,038	\$17,038	-
Water Fund	Water mains works	22	\$78,274	\$104,103	-
Sewer Fund	Sewer mains works	45	\$80,781	\$156,426	-
Total		69	\$176,093	\$277,567	-

Asphalt works on Crimea Street in Mittagong, 2017



Contracts Awarded

In accordance with Section 428(2)(h) of the *Local Government Act 1993* the following is a list of contracts greater than \$150,000 awarded during the period 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017.

Description of Works	Contractor	Contract Value
Replacement of Johnsons Creek Bridge, Belmore Falls Rd, Robertson	Kenpass Pty Ltd	\$850,822.50
Water Mains Renewal and Water Meters Replacement Works	Carve Earthworks and Construction Pty Ltd	\$1,607,179.50
Sewer Mains Renewal and Sewer Manhole Replacement Works	Carve Earthworks and Construction Pty Ltd	\$1,864,244.25
Wilson Drive Widening and Bus Bay Improvements	Stefanutti Construction Pty Ltd	\$760,918.73
Colo Vale Rural Fire Services Station Construction	Auscorp Constructions Pty Ltd	\$623,832.00
Wingecarribee Animal Shelter Veterinary Services	Moss Vale Veterinary Hospital	In excess of \$150,000* [1+1+1 year contract]
Telecommunications Site Manager - MT Gibraltar	Total Site Communications Pty Ltd	\$325,346.00 [5+5 year contract]
Supply of Bulk Materials	Panel of 5 Contractors	In excess of \$400,000^ [1+1 year contract]
Building & Joinery Services	Panel of 4 Contractors	In excess of \$150,000^ [2+1+1 year contract]
Pavement Linemarking Services	Panel of 3 Contractors	In excess of \$750,000^ [2+1+1 year contract]
Electrical & Air Conditioning Services	Panel of 8 Contractors	In excess of \$150,000^ [2+1+1 year contract]
Painting Services	Panel of 5 Contractors	In excess of \$150,000^ [2+1+1 year contract]
Building Maintenance & Building Cleaning Services	Panel of 5 Contractors	In excess of \$150,000^ [2+1+1 year contract]
Plumbing Services	Panel of 8 Contractors	In excess of \$150,000^ [2+1+1 year contract]
Fencing Services	Panel of 5 Contractors	In excess of \$150,000^ [2+1+1 year contract]
Horticultural & Landscaping Services	Panel of 6 Contractors	In excess of \$150,000^ [2+1+1 year contract]
Kerb and Gutter & Concrete Footpaving Services	Panel of 3 Contractors	In excess of \$150,000^ [2+1+1 year contract]

Continued over page

Continued from previous

Description of Works	Contractor	Contract Value
Epoxy Coating and Gutter Refurbishment - Bowral Swimming Centre	Style Painting Pty Ltd	\$482,684
Berrima Road Deviation - Design Services	Opus International Consultants Pty Ltd	\$335,896.00
Supply and Delivery of Calcium Nitrate	Aquapac Pty Ltd	In excess of \$450,000* [2+1 year contract]
Site Maintenance of Resource Recovery Centre, Saleyards & Animal Shelter	The Green Horticultural Group Pty Ltd	\$219,648.00 [2+1+1 year contract]
Exeter Rural Fire Brigade Station Refurbishment	CBC Innovation Pty Ltd	\$250,810.00
Civic Centre Security and Access Control Renewal	FS Solutions (ACT) Pty Ltd	\$357,042.32
Supply and Installation of Traffic Signals - Railway Terrace/Old Hume Highway/Crimea Street Intersection Upgrade	GPE Electrical	\$228,629.50
Replacement of Colo Street Bridge, Mittagong	Bridgeworks Australia Pty Ltd	\$1,088,341.34
Railway Terrace/Old Hume Highway/Crimea Street Intersection Upgrade	BMD Urban Pty Ltd	\$978,890.83
Earthworks and Reinstatement Works associated with the remediation of Contaminated Land of Lot 5 DP 137123 and Lot 11 DP 749485	Enviropacific Services Pty Ltd	\$195,241.70
Essential Fire Trail Maintenance Works	Soil Conservation Services - Department of Primary Industries	\$328,136.60
Sprayed Bituminous Surfacing and Associated Products	Panel of 2 Contractors	In excess of \$2,000,000.00 [1 year contract]
Bowral Road Footpath	South Syd Concrete Pty Ltd	\$179,007.71

* Contract value is based on an estimate, as contract is unit rate. Estimate is based on previous volume.

^ Contract value is based on an estimate, as contract is a Panel Arrangement.

Condition of Public Works

Information on the condition of public works is now included in the *General Purpose Financial Statements* through Note 9a - Infrastructure, Property, Plant and Equipment and Special Schedule No. 7 - Report on Infrastructure Assets.

2016/17 Capital Works Projects

Works	Expenditure
Community and Operational Buildings	\$1,371,000
Roads and Related Assets	\$12,967,000
Bridges	\$289,000
Footpaths and Cycleways	\$1,713,000
Stormwater Drainage	\$5,299,000
Water Network	\$3,135,000
Sewer Network	\$6,596,000
Swimming Pools	\$155,000
Parks, Reserves and Sports fields	\$227,000
Total	\$ 31,752,000

Source: Note 9 General Purpose Financial Reports

Notes: This list includes capital projects dedicated to Council relating to new development.

This list does not include capital expenses relating to plant replacement, library books, furniture and fittings and land. These are not considered capital projects.



Special Rate Variation

The following 2016/17 maintenance works and capital projects were funded by the Special Rate Variation:

2016/17 SRV

Description of Works	Expenditure
Building Maintenance	\$123,909
Drainage Maintenance	\$54,845
Parks Maintenance	\$28,802
Roads Maintenance	\$306,605
Total Maintenance	\$514,161
Mittagong Community Precinct Design	\$ -
Loseby Park Hall Internal Toilets	\$13,581
Exeter Hall Car Park	\$95,511
Merrigang St Footpath Construction	\$47,828
Lackey Rd Footpath Construction	\$54,778
East Bowral Community Centre Car Park	\$29,165
Thomson St Stormwater Drainage Renewal	\$154,691
Price St Stormwater Drainage Renewal	\$94,226
Old South Rd Stormwater Drainage Renewal	\$35,336
Rush Lane Stormwater Drainage Construction	\$273,797
Bundaroo St Kerb Channel & Drainage Imp	\$100,000
Stephens Park Amenities Building/ Canteen	\$ -
Australia Avenue Seal of Approval	\$53,813
Stanley St Hilltop Seal of Approval	\$57,870
Ferndale Rd Bundanoon Gravel Resheet	\$210,000
Total Capital	\$1,220,596
Total	\$1,734,757

IPART Reporting Requirements: Long Term Financial Plan Comparison

This reconciliation compares Council's General Fund operating result for the period ending 30 June 2017 (Source: Note 21) with the financial forecasts contained within Council's Special Rate Variation Application submitted to IPART in February 2016.

	LTFP 2016/17	Actual 2016/17	Variation
Income from Continuing Operations	'000	'000	'000
Rate & Annual Charges	\$44,274	\$44,558	\$284
User Charges & Fees	\$7,104	\$10,293	\$3,189
Investment Income	\$1,787	\$1,880	\$93
Other Revenue	\$3,153	\$5,654	\$2,501
Grants & Contributions - Operating	\$7,842	\$13,114	\$5,272
Grants & Contributions - Capital	\$10,008	\$16,061	\$6,053
Net Gains from the disposal of assets	-	-	-
Total Income	\$74,168	\$91,560	\$17,392
Expense from Continuing Operations			
Employee Benefits & Oncost	\$28,065	\$26,973	(\$1,092)
Borrowing Costs	\$619	\$809	\$190
Materials & Contracts	\$11,825	\$23,353	\$11,528
Depreciation & Amortisation	\$15,216	\$16,682	\$1,466
Other Expenses	\$10,990	\$7,458	(\$3,532)
Net Loss from the disposal of assets	-	\$261	\$261
Total Expenses	\$66,715	\$75,536	\$8,821
Net Operating Result Surplus/(Deficit)	\$7,453	\$16,024	\$8,571
Net Operating Result excluding Capital Grants and Contributions	(\$2,555)	(\$37)	\$2,518

Major Variations Compared to Adopted Long Term Financial Plan (General Fund)

Comments and explanations for the major variations between Council's adopted Long Term Financial Plan from February 2016 compared to the actual results for the period ending 30 June 2017 is provided below.

Movement	Description of Variations	'000
Increase	Additional domestic waste management income compared to budget	\$284
Increase	Additional development user charges and Resource Recovery Centre User Charges	\$3,189
Increase	Additional investment income due to an increase in the level of funds available to invest	\$93
Increase	Further recovery of CDO investments \$2.3M (General Fund) and additional quarry income	\$2,501
Increase	Advance payment of Financial Assistance Grant \$2.4M and storm damage grant \$1.8M	\$5,272
Increase	Increase in dedicated assets \$7.4M, developer contributions income \$3.8M and a reduction in the level of grant income for Station Street upgrade \$4.6M.	\$6,053
	Income Variations	\$17,392
Savings	Reduction due to staff vacancies during the year and reduction in W/C premium	(\$1,092)
Increase	Local Infrastructure Renewal Scheme adjustment to reflect grant as operating income	\$190
Increase	A range of increases have led to this variation including (but not limited to) storm damage works \$2.1M, development contractors \$1.3M, Crimea St traffic lights \$609K and other variations to maintenance contracts \$1.2M. There are also a number of account reclassifications where expenses have been recorded as Materials and Contracts, rather than other expenses.	\$11,528
Increase	The original Budget contained a reduction target for depreciation which would be achieved through a review of useful lives. This review is yet to have a significant impact on depreciation expenses	\$1,466
Savings	This adjustment relates to the reclassification of expenses as Materials and Contracts, rather than other expenses. This is to ensure compliance with accounting standards and the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice.	(\$3,532)
Increase	Council does not estimate the net profit/loss from the disposal of assets as part of the annual budget; instead estimates are based on the expected sales proceeds.	\$261
	Income Variations	\$8,821
	Net Reportable Variations	\$8,571

Environment Levy

The following 2016/17 projects and programs were funded by the Environment Levy:

2016/17 Environment Levy

Program	Total
Biodiversity Conservation	\$767,812
Weed Management	\$385,705
Revegetation	\$125,467
Support Community Nursery	\$22,578
Vegetation Conservation	\$22,806
EEC Maintenance	\$104,482
Vertebrate Pest Management plans	\$14,537
Green Web Action	\$80,291
Roadside Reserves Environmental Weed Projects	\$11,946
Community Capacity & Commitment	\$195,446
Awareness Campaigns	\$11,665
Community Education	\$31,957
Community Support	\$17,729
Landcare and Bushcare	\$38,627
Environment and Sustainability Committee support	\$19,626
Environment Levy Awareness	\$280
Rural Partner Program	\$23,892
Urban Sustainability Partner Program	\$51,670
Program Coordination	\$158,402
Environment Levy Program Coordination	\$141,377
Grant Applications	\$17,025
Corporate Support	\$67,156
Environmental Systems	\$2,241
Data Collection Biodiversity	\$1,549
Water Quality Equipment	\$692
River Health and Wetlands	\$82,881
Riparian Management Plans Delivery	\$82,881
Sustainable Living	\$20,320
Community Sustainability	\$20,320
Expenditure (2016/17)	\$1,294,258

Stormwater Management Program

The following 2016/17 projects were funded from Stormwater Management Services Charge:

2016/17 Stormwater Management Charge

Project	Expenditure
Lyell Cook St Drainage Design	\$ 1,327
Southwood Place Drainage Easement	\$35,000
Biggara Street Drainage Construction	\$31,268
Stormwater Minor Capital Drainage Works	\$30,167
Upper Caalong St Robertson Flood Drainage Study	\$7,370
Nattai River Floodplain Risk Management Study	\$7,509
Gibbergunyah Creek Floodplain Risk Management Study	\$ 3,875
Robertson Village Overland Flow Study	\$5,395
Wembley Road Overland Flow Study	\$63,670
Asset Inspection and Data Collection	\$22,742
Drainage Asset Inspection	\$51,578
Drainage Maintenance	\$22,333
Canyonleigh Road Piped Causeway Crossing	\$5,957
Merret Drive Stormwater Pipe Renewal	\$45,183
Lyell Cook St Drainage Upgrade	\$143,108
Creek Cleaning	\$13,500
Stormwater Drainage Maintenance	\$75,000
Wetlands Maintenance	\$7,466
Bong Bong Road Drainage Construction	\$202,000
Sheffield Road Drainage Construction	\$20,000
Total	\$794,448

Rates and Charges Written Off

The following amounts were written off by Council during 2016/17:

Amount of Rates and Charges written off during the 2016/17	Amount
Postponed Rates under Section 595(1) LGA (1993)	\$24,287
Pensioners under Section 575 LGA (1993)	\$1,756,073
Water Determinations	\$70,039
Sewer Charges - Non Rateable Properties	\$109,304
Other	\$57,908
Total	\$2,017,611

Financial Assistance to Persons for Council Functions

Contributions made by Council under Section 356 of the *Local Government Act 1993* in 2016/17 include:

Category	Donations / Contributions	Community Assistance Scheme	Rate Subsidies	Total
Arts & Culture	47,683	15,200		62,883
Charity Welfare	44,241	3,300	6,959	54,500
Community	663,496	94,100	56,390	813,986
Environment	5,222			5,222
Local Schools	1,220			1,220
Sporting & Recreation	30,100	4,600		34,700
Total	791,962	117,200	63,349	972,511

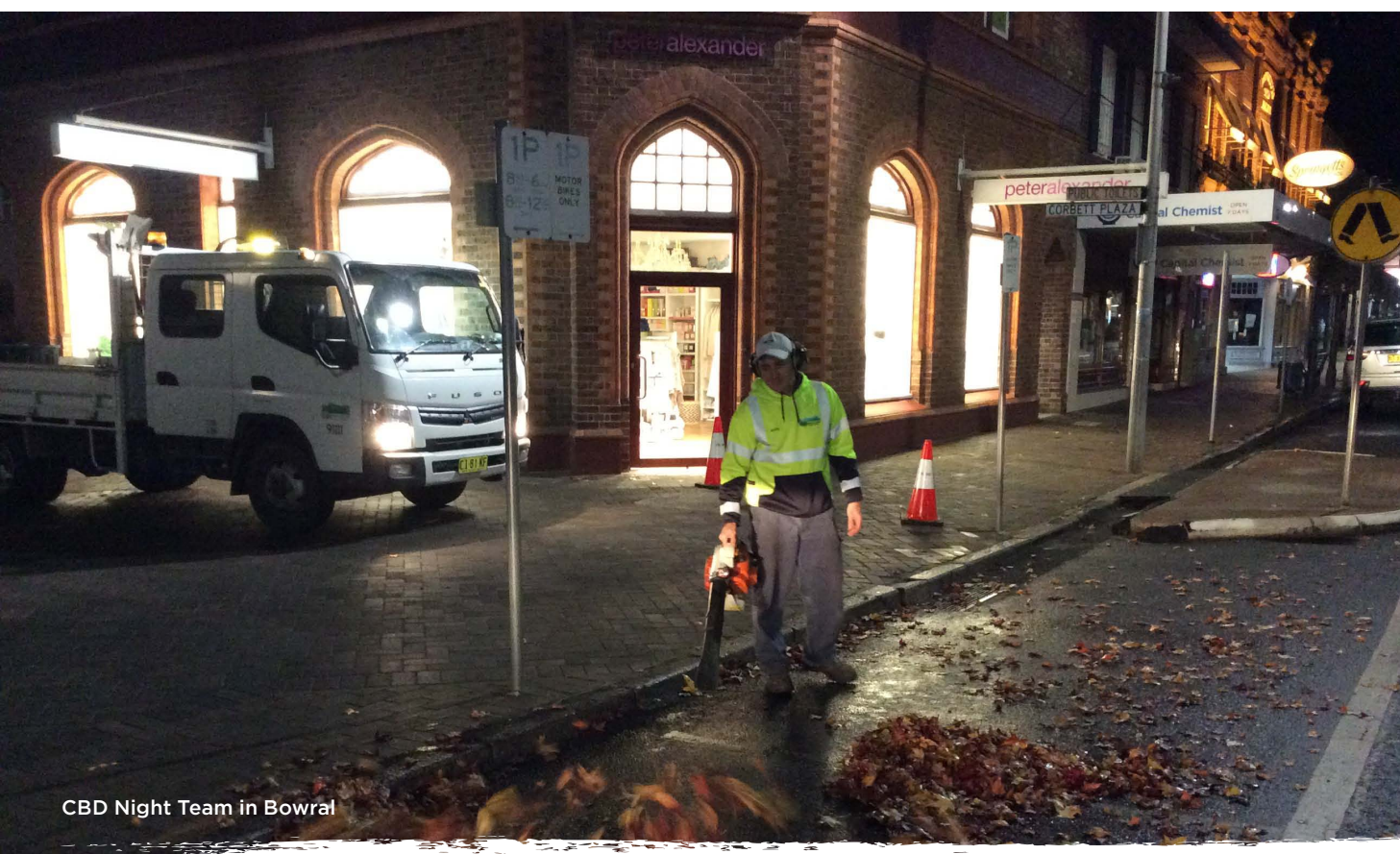
Legal proceedings

Summary of the amount incurred by Council in relation to legal proceedings 2016/17:

Legal Matter	Description NSW Land and Environment Court	Legal Expenses (\$)	Amount Received (\$)	Finalised (\$)
DeAngelis	Class 1 and Class 4	19,229.00	-	Yes
O'Shanassy	Class 5	27,394.22	528.00	No
Issa & Dahar	Class 1	5,376.45	2,000.00	Yes
Lei Wu	Class 1	104,296.11	23,500.00	Yes
Fenwick	Class 4	23,886.45	-	Yes
Lomman v Windbelt Pty Ltd (Centennial Winery)	Class 4	42,758.10	-	No
Moss Vale Projects	Class 1	2,539.00	-	No
BM & FE Robertson	Class 1	9,982.50	-	No
Village Lane Holdings Pty Ltd	Class 1	8,510.50	-	No
Tipglen Pty Ltd	Class 1	4,863.50	-	No

2016/17 Infrastructure Recovery Strategy

Program	Total
Local Road Construction	\$2,096,465
Road & Drainage Maintenance	\$609,261
Bridges	\$1,177,182
Public Car - parking	\$168,232
Footpaths and Cycleways	\$394,581
Road Ancillary Items (Signs, Seating, Traffic Lights etc.)	\$1,327,760
Street Lighting Costs	\$213,780
Community and Operational Buildings	\$1,165,500
Swimming Pools (including Debt Servicing)	\$1,332,320
Parks and Open Space	\$878,795
Vegetation Management	\$766,375
Roadside and Cycleway Mowing	\$229,050
Weeds Management	\$149,239
Public Streetscape / Cleaning	\$243,960
Cemeteries	\$70,882
Operations Management & Support	\$938,597
Organisational / Corporate Support	\$1,625,656
Total	\$13,387,635



CBD Night Team in Bowral

Government Information (Public Access) Applications

Government information (Public Access) Act, (GIPA Act) is the New South Wales Government's approach to giving the community greater access to government information. There are four main ways that council information is made available; mandatory proactive release; authorised proactive release; informal release; and formal applications. Council's program for the proactive release of information involves consultation with the Customer Service Branch and other key stakeholders.

Number of Applications by type of applicant and outcome

Number of applications by type of applicant and outcome	Access granted in full	Access granted in part	Access refused in full	Information not held	Information already available	Refuse to deal with application	Refuse to confirm/deny whether information is held	Application withdrawn	Total
Media	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Members of Parliament	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Private sector business	3	3	1	2	1	0	0	0	10
Not for profit organisations or community groups	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Members of the public (by legal representative)	2	4	0	2	0	0	0	1	9
Members of the public (other)	11	9	1	2	1	0	0	1	25
Total	16	16	2	7	2	0	0	2	45
% of Total	36%	36%	4%	16%	4%	0%	0%	4%	100%

*More than one decision can be made in respect of a particular access application. If so, a recording must be made in relation to each such decision.

Number of applications by type of application and outcome

Number of applications by type of applicant & outcome	Access granted in full	Access granted in part	Access refused in full	Information not held	Information already available	Refuse to deal with application	Refuse to confirm/deny whether information is held	Application withdrawn	Total
Personal Information applications**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Access applications (other than personal information applications)	16	16	2	7	2	0	0	2	45
Access Applications that are partly personal information applications and partly other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	16	16	2	7	2	0	0	2	45

* More than one decision can be made in respect of a particular access application. If so, a recording must be made in relation to each such decision.

** A personal information application is an access application for personal information (as defined in clause 4 of Schedule 4 to the GIPA Act) about the applicant (the applicant being an individual).

Invalid applications

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

Conclusive presumption of overriding public interest against disclosures

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

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

Other public interest considerations against disclosures

Other public interest considerations against disclosure: matters listed in table to Section 14 of GIPA Act	No of occasions when application not successful
Responsible and effective government	2
Law enforcement and security	1
Individual rights, judicial processes and natural justice	15
Business interests of agencies and other persons	4
Environment, culture, economy and general matters	0
Secrecy provisions	0
Exempt documents under interstate Freedom of Information legislation	0
Total	22

Timeliness

Timeliness	No. of Applications
Decided within the statutory timeframe (20 days plus any extensions)	33
Decided after 35 days (by agreement with applicant)	0
Not decided within time (deemed refusal)	0
Total	33

Number of applications reviewed under Part 5 of the Act

No of applications reviewed under Part 5 of the GIPA Act (by type of review and outcome)	Decision varied	Decision upheld	Total
Internal review	0	1	1
Review by Information Commissioner*	1	1	2
Internal review following recommendation under section 93 of Act	0	0	0
Review by NCAT	0	0	0
Total	1	2	3

Applications for review under Part 5 of the Act

Applications for review under Part 5 of the GIPA Act (by type of applicant)	No of applications for review
Applications by access applicants	2
Applications by persons to whom information the subject of access application relates (see section 54 of the Act)	0
Total	2

Applications transferred to other agencies

Applications transferred to other agencies	Number of applications transferred
Agency-Initiated Transfers	0
Applicant - Initiated Transfers	0
Total	0

Public Interest Disclosures

There were no public interest disclosures made during the 2016/17 financial year.

Council has adopted a Public Interest Disclosure policy which is available on the Council website at www.wsc.nsw.gov.au.

Mayor and Councillors Expenses 2016/17

Details of the total cost for the payment of expenses and provision of facilities to Councillors to attend their civic duties are itemised below.

In accordance with Section 252 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council will pay expenses incurred or to be incurred and provide facilities for the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors to enable them to discharge their functions of civic office. The total cost in 2016/17 was \$299,240. This consists of:

Accommodation	\$3,399
Conferences and Seminars	\$9,694
Office Equipment/Maintenance	\$16,920
Councillor Induction	\$14,110
Printing and Stationary	\$12,686
Sundries	\$4,588
Sustenance/Entertainment	\$16,621
Telecommunications	\$7,615
Travel	\$9,367
Councillor/Mayoral Fees	\$204,240

There were no interstate* or overseas trips required by Councillors.

There were no expenses payable in accordance with the guidelines accumulated by any spouse, partner or other person who accompanied a councillor. There were no expenses accumulated involved in the provision of care for a child or an immediate family member of a councillor.

*By definition for the purpose of this report, "interstate" travel does not include travel to Canberra, ACT.



External Bodies Exercising Power

No external bodies exercised functions delegated by Council during the financial year. Council did not hold any controlling interests in companies during the financial year.

Activities conducted to implement Council’s Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) management plan:

- Implementation of the new Corporate Induction Program in an on-line format that includes an EEO Component
- Cultural Awareness Training offered by Aboriginal Community Development Officer as an open invitation to staff and the community
- Four working parties were formed to address themes that emerged from the corporate wide Cultural Wellbeing Survey, providing the organisation with options to implement new ideas
- Review and use of a variety of Corporate documents that reinforce Council’s commitment to EEO:
 - *Workforce Management Plan* – adopted in June 2017
 - *Promotion of Council’s Workplace Bullying & Harassment Prevention Policy and Procedure*
 - *Promotion of Council’s Performance Management Policy and Procedure*
 - *Commenced a review of Councils Recruitment and Selection Policy and Procedure*

Remuneration package for the General Manager and Senior Staff

The current structure of Council consists of two Divisions with three senior management positions:

- General Manager
- Deputy General Manager (Operations, Finance and Risk)
- Deputy General Manager (Corporate, Strategy and Development Services).

Each senior staff member is employed under the Office of Local Government Standard Contract, which is performance based for a period of five years. The contract terms include salary, provision of motor vehicles and facilities and superannuation.

Position 2016/17	Total Remuneration Package
General Manager	\$304,681
Deputy General Manager(s)	\$462,275
Total	\$766,956

Companion Animal Management

Wingecarribee Shire Council conducted a responsible pet ownership program desexing and microchipping cats belonging to eligible pension card holders. This program was initially restricted to residents of Moss Vale but then expanded to include the whole shire. 61 cats were desexed under this program. 36 of these cats were female and 25 were male. Four cats were already microchipped and the other 57 were chipped as part of the project.

Wingecarribee Shire has three off leash parks (all fenced), one in each of the major townships of Bowral, Mittagong and Moss Vale.

The amount of funding spent on companion animal management and activities in 2016/17 was \$819,570.

Animal Shelter Information	Cats	Dogs
Impounded (seized and stray)	222	347
Surrendered	40	64
Released to Owner	16	254
Sold	177	126
Transferred to rescue organisation	0	3



Wingecarribee Shire Council has a minimal euthanasia policy for dealing with animals impounded at the Wingecarribee Animal Shelter. Strategies include behavioural modification training, working with rescue organisations and providing additional vet treatment to impounded animals funded in conjunction with volunteer group *Friends of Wingecarribee Animal Shelter*.

Companion Animals subject to Euthanasia	Cats	Dogs
Dangerous Dogs	-	1
Illness/Injury	24	0
Unsuitable for rehoming	35	33
Unable to rehome	0	0
Feral/Infant Animal	39	0
Owners request	0	1
Total Subject to Euthanasia	98	35

There were 49 dog attack incidents in the Wingecarribee Shire recorded on the Companion Animals Register in the period 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017. Thirty two of these investigations have been finalised.

Twenty five of these incidents occurred in a public place. Twenty seven of these incidents involved one attacking dog, 20 incidents involved two attacking dogs, and there was one incident with three attacking dogs and one with four.

In 31 of these incidents the victim was an animal or animals and in the other 18 cases the victims were human adults. None of these incidents involved minors.

Suburb	No. of incidents
Moss Vale	9
Bowral	8
Hill Top	6
Yerrinbool	4
Colo Vale	3
Mittagong	3
Sutton Forest	3
Wingello	3
Burradoo	2
Canyonleigh	2
Welby	2
Berrima	1
Bundanoon	1
East Kangaloon	1
Robertson	1
Total	49

Swimming Pool Inspection Program

As a result of the swimming pool inspections conducted by Council in 2016/17, a total of 568 certificates of compliance and 362 notices of non-compliance were issued.

Status of Voluntary Planning Agreements (VPA)

Particulars of compliance with and effect of planning agreements in force during the year *Act/General Regulation: s93G(5)*.

Application Number	Description of Works	Address	Party to Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA)	Status	Agreement Date
Renwick VPA	Subdivision of land (Civil and Community works under the VPA)	Renwick Drive, Renwick	Urban Growth NSW	Current	13/9/2014
Douglas Road VPA	Subdivision of land (Provision of electricity supply)	Lot 21 Douglas Road Moss Vale	Arkcoll, Hales, Dunlop and KND Nominees Pty Ltd	Current	9/11/2011
Frensham Pool VPA	Pool and Access works	Range Road	Winifred West Schools Ltd	Current	7/12/2012
Nattai Ponds VPA	Subdivision of land (provision of road upgrades under the VPA)	Old Hume Highway	Feldkirchen Pty Ltd	Current	17/9/2015
Dirty Janes VPA	Commercial Building (Fencing, civil works and trees under the VPA)	Bong Bong Street Bowral	Goldfish black Pty Ltd	Completed	4/12/2015
Retford Park VPA	Subdivision of land (Road and Civil including community infrastructure works under VPA)	Boardman Road Bowral	James Oswald Fairfax	Current	18/8/2015
Darraby Sewer VPA	Subdivision of land (Sewer works under the VPA)	Broughton Street Moss Vale	Broughton Street Moss Vale Pty Ltd	Completed	23/12/2015

ANNEXURES

1. Council's Audited Financial Statements are available online at www.wsc.nsw.gov.au/annual-reports.

Produced by Wingecarribee Shire Council.

Contact Council on phone **02 4868 0888**
or email **mail@wsc.nsw.gov.au**.

© November 2017

