GO5 - Committees/Advisory Groups of Council - Achievements, Outcomes and Future Focus - End of Term Report

GO5 <u>Committees/Advisory Groups of Council – Achievements, Outcomes</u> and Future Focus – End of Term Report

238 TRIM 7632-2

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- This is the End of Term report of Council's committees/advisory groups as required under the terms of reference of each committee.
- The report outlines the achievements of nine committees/advisory groups over the four year term.
- It is recommended that:
 - Council note the contribution and achievements of each of the Committees/Advisory Groups for the past four years.
 - The members of each committee/advisory group are thanked for their contributions to the success of each of the committee/advisory groups to which they belong.
 - Council dissolve the nine committees/advisory groups as listed below, noting that Council will undertake a process for Committee appointment following the Local Government Elections:
 - Disability Access Advisory Committee
 - Rural Industry Liaison Committee
 - Economic Development Advisory Group
 - Youth Advisory Committee
 - Companion Animals Reference Committee
 - Minerals and Energy Resources Committee
 - Transport Advisory Committee
 - Environment and Heritage Committee
 - Road Safety Group.

REPORT

BACKGROUND

The role of Council's committees/advisory groups is to:

- Facilitate links and partnerships between Council and community
- Provide opportunity for community voice and input
- Give a grass roots perspective on local issues
- Provide timely advice in relation to community issues
- Assist in implementing Council's Community Strategic Plan.



GO5 - Committees/Advisory Groups of Council - Achievements, Outcomes and Future Focus - End of Term Report

This report covers the following nine committees/advisory groups of Council:

- Disability Access Advisory Committee
- Rural Industry Liaison Committee
- Economic Development Advisory Group
- Youth Advisory Committee
- Companion Animals Reference Committee
- Minerals and Energy Resources Committee
- Transport Advisory Committee
- Environment and Heritage Committee
- Road Safety Group.

This report does not deal with the other Council committees as listed below. These committees either have separate reporting frameworks and procedures or are not required to prepare an end of term report to Council because of their specific nature.

- Australia Day Committee
- Community Leisure Centre Users Advisory Group.

COMMITTEE/ADVISORY GROUP ACHIEVEMENTS

Each committee/advisory group must report to Council at the end of the term on its achievements during the period of its establishment. The following tables outline each of the committee/advisory groups achievements over the past 4 years.

RELEVANCE TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN 2033

The following tables show how the achievements of the committees/advisory groups align with the strategies of the Community Strategic Plan.

DISABILTY ACCESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE	
Achievements in past 12 months	Relevant CSP Strategies
International Day of People with Disability (IDPWD) was celebrated with 3 art workshops with assemblage artist Freya Jobbins. Around 80 children, young people and adults with disability attended the workshops at Disability Services Australia, Macarthur Disability Services and Tahmoor Community Centre to create art boxes that were assembled to create a 'roadblock' which was an art concept by	CO1 – Community Building, Well- being and Identity



Queensland artist Ross Barber. IDPWD on 3 rd December saw the launch of Roadblock Wollondilly with the installation between the Shire Hall and Administration Building. The installation remained for 2 days and promoted inclusiveness in Wollondilly.	
Council's continued involvement in the Macarthur Access Group for Inclusive Communities (MAGIC) Project and the Disability Access Advisory Committee are represented by Emma-Jayne Gardiner and Eric Third at this working group. MAGIC has endorsed 51 businesses in Macarthur, 23 of these are in Wollondilly. Three maps of accessible businesses in Picton, Warragamba/Silverdale and Buxton/Thirlmere have been a driving force to the success of MAGIC in Wollondilly. MAGIC was officially launched in Wollondilly during the IDPWD Roadblock event.	CO2 – Working with Others
Proposed activities – 2015 to EOT	Relevant CSP Strategies
Assist in research and preparation of a Disability Inclusion Plan.	CO3 – Social Planning
Organise International Day of People with Disability.	CO1 – Community Building, Well- being and Identity
Continue to support and be involved in Macarthur Access Group for Inclusive Communities to encourage businesses to be inclusive and accessible for all.	CO2 – Working with Others



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Comments:

Over the past 12 months the DAAC has met on three occasions. The meetings have been well attended with representations from St Vincent de Paul, Sector Connect and community members attending regularly.

There were no major development proposals considered by the Disability Access Advisory Committee in the reporting period.

DAAC would like Council to consider naming the new Committee in the new term "Wollondilly Access and Inclusion Committee". Renaming the Committee will assist in promoting positive community attitudes and behaviours through broader inclusion and access in creating liveable communities, which responds to the Disability Inclusion Act 2014.

I recommend that the Disability Access Advisory Committee be continued from 2017, the focus would be around continuing the inclusion work and support the work on the Disability Inclusion Action Planning. I would propose a name change to reflect this, being the Disability Inclusion Committee.

RURAL INDUSTRY LIAISON COMMITTEE	
Achievements in past 12 months	Relevant CSP Strategies
Feedback on Planning Proposals and Development Applications which are likely to impact (positively or negatively) on agricultural production.	EC4 – Managing Development and Land Use
Facilitate communication between industry and various levels of government.	GO4 – Advocacy
Create and support opportunities and initiatives that enhanced agricultural production	EC1 – Economic Development EC2 – Planning for and Supporting Business
Promoted and participated in the Poultry Forum.	CO1 – Community Building, Wellbeing and identity CO2 – Working with Others CO4 – Engagement and Communication GO4 – Advocacy EC1 – Economic Development EC2 – Planning for and Supporting Business



CO2 – Working with Others GO4 – Advocacy EN3 – Development Assessment EC4 – Managing Development and Land Use
CO2 – Working with Others GO4 – Advocacy
EC1 – Economic Development EC2 – Planning for and Supporting Business
EC2 – Planning for and Supporting Business
CO2 – Working with Others GO4 – Advocacy EC2 – Planning for and Supporting Business
EC1 – Economic Development EC2 – Planning for and Supporting Business EC3 – Manage Growth EC4 – Managing Development and Land Use EC5 – Protect Natural Resources GO4 – Advocacy
Relevant CSP Strategies
EC1 – Economic Development EC2 – Planning for and Supporting Business EC3 – Manage Growth EC4 – Managing Development and Land Use EC5 – Protect Natural Resources GO4 – Advocacy



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Comments:

Over the past 12 months the Rural Industry Liaison Committee has met on five occasions. All meetings have been well attended.

This Committee has met its charter by working together to provide a positive communication channel in which Council has heard the concerns of the industry and taken positive steps to address them.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY GROUP	
Achievements in past 12 months	Relevant CSP Strategies
Delivery of the Economic Development Business Newsletter Your Business Wollondilly.	CO2 – Working with Others EC1 – Economic Development EC2 – Planning for and Supporting Business
Hosted numerous Business Networking Breakfasts.	CO1 – Community Building, Wellbeing and Identity CO2 – Working with Others EC1 – Economic Development EC2 – Planning for and Supporting Business
The Draft Economic Development Strategy was adopted by Council on 24 March 2016.	GO4 – Advocacy EC1 – Economic Development EC2 – Planning for and Supporting Business
Hosted the Wollondilly Events Forum.	CO1 – Community Building, Well- being and Identity CO2 – Working with Others CO4 – Engagement and Communication GO4 – Advocacy EC1 – Economic Development EC2 – Planning for and Supporting Business
New Wollondilly Discovery Guide printed and distributed.	GO8 – Corporate Image EC1 – Economic Development EC2 – Planning for and Supporting Business



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Tourism Event for Tourism Business Sector.	CO1 – Community Building, Wellbeing and Identity CO2 – Working with Others EC1 – Economic Development EC2 Planning for and Supporting Business
The Visitor Information Centre ran a series of programs at illuminARTe to attract people to the Centre.	CO1 Community Building, Well-being and Identity EC1 – Economic Development EC2 Planning for and Supporting Business
Proposed activities – 2015 to EOT	Relevant CSP Strategies
A new Economic Development Strategy was adopted by Council in March. The five key strategic directions from the new Strategy for Economic Development and Tourism are: - Planning for the Future - Supporting Existing businesses - Marketing Promotion and Branding - Investment Attraction - Advocacy	CO1 – Community Building, Wellbeing and Identity CO2 – Working with Others CO4 – Engagement and Communication EC1 Economic Development EC2 Planning for and Supporting Business EC4 Managing Development and Land Use GO4 Advocacy

Comments:

Over the past 12 months the Economic Development Advisory Group has met 4 times with meetings being held in July, November, February and May.

Previously the Economic Development Advisory Group met monthly. At the July meeting the Group endorsed the change from monthly to quarterly meetings.

The Economic Development Advisory Group were provided with updates regarding Wilton Junction and other project initiatives.

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YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE (YAC)	
Achievements in past 12 months	Relevant CSP Strategies
Leadership Experience/Opportunities	CO1 – Community Building, Well- being and Identity CO2 – Working
StreetART Project	with Others



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Attended the Youth Week "It Starts with Us" Forum in Sydney "30 Things to do in Macarthur under	
\$15" Resource – Macarthur Youth Support Network (MYSN) project	
Attend the Max Potential Showcase	
MYSN – coordinate professional training and networking opportunities for Youth Workers in the Macarthur Region	
Local Youth Leadership Mud Fun project.	
Participated in Focus Group for Wollondilly Social Plan	
Wollondilly's Beach Bus project	
Participated in a focus group session for the Social Plan	CO3 – Social Planning CO4 – Engagement and Communication
Conducted surveys with young people for the Wollondilly Social Plan	
Picton Show Mud fun Display.	
Plan and implement youth events in the Shire	
Gig Night in the Cage	
Mental Health Month – Volunteered to run the Wollondilly Shire Council Staff Wellness Walk	CO1 – Community Building, Well- being and Identity
Volunteered at the 2015 Australia Day Mayoral Fishing Competition	
Provision of free events in Wollondilly during Youth Week	



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Second Mayoral Fishing Competition – May.	
Proposed activities – 2015 to EOT	Relevant CSP Strategies
Review Youth Week and evaluate the need to deliver an event, or to refocus their objective to skills building and training.	CO4 – Engagement and Communication
Continue to raise awareness of the YAC and to further the reach by promoting it through tertiary educational institutions.	CO2 – Working with others

Comments:

Over the past 12 months the YAC has met 6 times, the formal meeting structure for YACs changed to quarterly, with additional meetings to be working meetings without a formalised structure.

Revise the Times and Venues for 2016 to make it accessible to more young people.

Move to rotate the chairperson for each meeting so that each YAC member can experience this responsibility.

COMPANION ANIMALS REFERENCE COMMITTEE (CARC)	
Achievements in past 12 months	Relevant CSP Strategies
Council has conducted a number of free micro-chipping afternoons for Companion Animals to promote and educate animal registration in accordance with the Companion Animals Act.	GO3 - Customer Service GO8 - Corporate Image
Council has advocated for funding and has been successful in obtaining a Second Round Grant for Responsible Pet Ownership totalling \$15,000 for an animal de-sexing and micro chipping program for low income and disadvantaged residents.	CO4 - Advocacy



The Companion Animals Committee is committed to working with Council to have input in the allocation of resources, improvements and well-being equipment with the assistance of Council allocated funding, donations and grants.	G06 - Resource Efficiency
Grant funds from the Federal Government's Stronger Communities Program and the Responsible Pet Ownership Program has resulted in the establishment of a Companion Animals off-leash area located at Picton Sports fields.	
Proposed activities – 2015 to EOT	Relevant CSP Strategies
Future open days to promote education of Companion Animals and the operation of the animal shelter.	CO1 – Community Building, Well- being and Identity CO2 – Working with Others
Seek further funding from grants being offered by external organisations for de-sexing programs and establishment of other off-leash areas and improvements to existing facilities.	CO4 - Advocacy
Invite further guest speakers who can enhance the management of Companion Animals.	CO2 – Working with Others
Continue to liaise with the general public, animal agencies and rescue groups to maintain the reduced euthanasia rates for companion animals.	CO2 – Working with Others
Continue to educate the general public on Council's current euthanasia rates and promote Council's success in reducing these rates.	CO2 – Working with Others CO4 - Advocacy



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Work with and lobby State Government Agencies - Office of Local Government and Office of State Revenue to improve information required at time of identification of companion animals, to further increase re-homing rates and to accurately identify animal owners to enable improved enforcement of the Companion Animal Legislation.

Work with and lobby the Office of Local Government to improve security of the companion Animals Register by major upgrades to the system in order to enable an audit of access to individual's private information.

Comments:

Over the past 12 months the CARC has met four (4) times. The meeting scheduled for 1 December 2015 was cancelled due to not having a quorum however it was then rescheduled for 15 December 2015. The March meeting was not held due to not having sufficient numbers to obtain a quorum, i.e. five (5) community members.

MINERAL AND ENERGY RESOURCES COMMITTEE	
Achievements in past 12 months	Relevant CSP Strategies
Discussion on the Gas Drainage Program associated with the Bulli Seam Project. This included: The observed bubbling on a section of the Nepean River near Douglas Park. The proposed power station associated with the program. The venting of methane not in the vicinity of watercourses.	EN1 – Biodiversity Resilience EN3- Development Assessment EC4 – Managing Development and Land use EC5 – Protect Natural Resources CO4- Community engagement and education GO4- Advocacy



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Discussion of NSW Government announcements including a Review of the <i>Mine Subsidence Compensation Act 1961</i> and Review of the Water Trigger attached to the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.	EN-3- Development Assessment EC4 – Managing Development and Land use. EC5 – Protect Natural Resources GO4 – Advocacy
Impacts of aquifer interference activities on the condition of Thirlmere Lakes. This included discussions on studies currently being undertaken by the Commonwealth Independent Expert Scientific Committee in regard to the groundwater environment associated with the Lakes and potential impacts from mining.	EC5 – Protect Natural Resources EN1 – Biodiversity Resilience EN3 – Development Assessment CO1 – Community building, well- being and Identity GO4- Advocacy
Discussion of issues associated with the closure and rehabilitation of coal seam gas wells following the announcement by AGL to cease operations as part of the Camden Gas Project by approximately 2023.	EN1 – Biodiversity Resilience EN3 – Development Assessment EN5 – Auditing, Monitoring and Enforcement GO4 – Advocacy
Provision of information to assist Council in the preparation of submissions and relevant strategies.	CO4 – Engagement and Communication. EN3 – Development Assessment GO4 – Advocacy
Advocacy by Council on a range of concerns of members of the Committee associated with mining and coal seam gas operations This included concerns regarding: Potential impacts associated with mining on the condition of Redbank Creek and Thirlmere Lakes. The Gas Drainage Program associated with the Bulli Seam Project.	CO3 – Social Planning CO4 – Engagement and Communication EC5 – Protect Natural Resources EN1 – Biodiversity Resilience EN5 – Auditing, Monitoring and Enforcement GO4 – Advocacy



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•	Issues	assoc	ciated	with	the
	closure	of the	Tahmo	oor Co	lliery
	operation	ns fro	om ap	proxim	ately
	2018 ar	nd the r	ehabilit	ation o	f the
	site.				

Engagement with industry and Western Sydney University representatives who provided presentations at meetings as well as other relevant Committees including the Economic Development Advisory Group.

CO2 – Working with Others CO4- Engagement and Communication GO4 – Advocacy

Proposed activities – 2015 to EOT

The Committee will continue to discuss issues associated with the mining and coal seam gas industry arise as well as associated with local projects such as potential impacts of mining operations on the condition of Thirlmere Lakes. addition. the Committee has provided broad agreement to expand activities to discuss advocate renewable energy issues within a local and broader context.

Relevant CSP Strategies

CO2 – Working with Others CO4- Engagement and Communication GO4 – Advocacy

Comments:

Over the past 12 months the Minerals and Energy Resource Committee has met four times. The current membership is 7 community members and an interested member with the average attendance being four to five.

Members and special guests are encouraged to make representation to the group on issues of interest. To date this has involved a presentation from Tahmoor Colliery on air quality monitoring activities and Dr Ian Wright from the University of Western Sydney on a research program regarding a monitoring program on Redbank Creek.

The major issues discussed by the Committee during the last 12 months were the impacts of subsidence associated with mining on the condition of water courses and related issues in regard to the Gas Drainage Program associated with the Bulli Seam Project.



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TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)		
Achievements in past 12 months	Relevant CSP Strategies	
Commenced implementation of grants under the Country Passenger Transport Infrastructure Grants Scheme. A total of \$257,250 for various bus shelter improvement works throughout the Shire, with completion of bus shelters at Noongah St and Railside Ave Bargo were allocated.	CO1 – Community Building, Well- being and Identity	
Proposed activities – 2015 to EOT	Relevant CSP Strategies	
Continued advocating for greater contact with Transport for NSW with the intent that they are represented at TAC meetings.	CO1 – Community Building, Well- being and Identity	
Continued to refocus the committee on strategic advice and direction for Transport related issues.	CO1 – Community Building, Well- being and Identity	
Continue to review potential funding sources such as Roads & Maritime Service grants and the Country Passenger Transport Infrastructure Grants program.	CO1 – Community Building, Well- being and Identity	
Review Councils Bike Plan with the intent of commencing a review in 2016.	CO1 – Community Building, Well- being and Identity	

Comments:

Over the past 12 months the TAC has met on two occasions. Each meeting was well attended by representatives from agencies except for Transport for NSW. Only one resident representative attended the meetings and another resident resigned from the committee.



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There were no major development proposals considered by the Transport Advisory Committee in the reporting period.

ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE COMMITTEE (EHC)		
Achievements in past 12 months	Relevant CSP Strategies	
Many environmental issues have been discussed including the biodiversity policy change. This has included Development Control Plan discussions - Sustainability, Biodiversity Act review.	EN1 Biodiversity Resilience EN7 Sustainable living	
Proposed activities – 2016 to EOT	Relevant CSP Strategies	
Picton Heritage and heritage Shire wide - look for project funding.	EN4 Environmental Responsibility	
DCP review - and discussion.	EN4 Environmental Responsibility	
Sydney water to address the group regarding the Picton Sewerage Scheme Upgrades and changes in October. Genetically Modified Cotton Biodiversity Bill Review M9 Orbital Greater Macarthur Study area Mining Bargo Gorge	GO4 Advocacy	

Comments:

Over the past 12 months the EHC has met 5 times and the group consists of 14 active members. (additional members have joined)

The group resolved to meet every second month which is a variation from the original terms set out by Council staff for convening meetings, however the group wanted additional meetings due to the time frames for submissions on Environmental issues to be formalised.

Members and special guests are encouraged to make a representation to the group on environmental issues that they are interested in at every meeting.



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To date we have had presentations from the following:

Dr Ian Wright - UWS - Water quality and catchment management Sydney Water - Picton Sewerage Treatment Plant David Smith - Growth and Planning Alexandra Stengl - koala Hotline David Henry - Biodiversity Bill review

ROAD SAFETY GROUP (RSG)		
Achievements in past 12 months	Relevant CSP Strategies	
Learner Driver Log Book Run (4 x events) targeting learner drivers. The project aims to reduce the incident and severity of road crashes by improving road user behaviour throughout the community and assist young and novice drivers to gain the required hours to obtain their drivers licence.	IN2 – Manage Road Network CO4 – Engagement and Communication	
Graduated Licensing Scheme Workshops' (2 x events) developed by Roads & Maritime Service and presented by Councils Road Safety Officer to parents/guardians of learner drivers twice yearly.	IN2 – Manage Road Network CO4 – Engagement and Communication	
2015 U-Turn the Wheel for Year 11 Students in both Picton High and Wollondilly Anglican College (approximately 160 students). A one day event held at Picton High School with 7 presentations from various presenters such as Police (x2); NSW Ambulance; Road Crash Victims; NRMA; Picton Tyre & Mechanical and Cawdor Haulage.	IN2 – Manage Road Network CO4 – Engagement and Communication	
Safe Child Restraints (3 x events) was a project offering free child restraint fitting checks, subsidised	IN2 – Manage Road Network CO4 – Engagement and Communication	



with Roads & Maritime Service project funding to enable parents/guardians an opportunity to have their child restraints in cars checked by a local Roads & Maritime Service authorised fitting station (Picton Tyre & Mechanical) free of charge on specific dates during the year. This project also involves an information stand displayed at Councils Australia Day event.	
Older Drivers On The Road 65 Plus (2 x events) project was developed by Roads & Maritime Service for seniors safety and was delivered to seniors in local Retirement Villages.	IN2 – Manage Road Network CO4 – Engagement and Communication
Motorcyclist Safety event targeted novice and experienced riders to raise awareness of potential hazards, riding skills, technique and basic motorcycle essentials (2 day event).	IN2 – Manage Road Network CO4 – Engagement and Communication
Variable Message Board promotes road safety to drivers, riders and all other road users displaying Roads & Maritime Service approved messages. The on-going program scheduled sites to raise awareness targeting fatigue, speed and school zones.	IN2 – Manage Road Network CO4 – Engagement and Communication
Proposed activities – 2016 to EOT	Relevant CSP Strategies
The Road Safety Group will continue to develop all of the above projects in 2016/17 (subject to approved grant funding).	IN2 – Manage Road Network CO4 – Engagement and Communication



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Comments:

Over the past 12 months the Road Safety Group met formally 3 times and informally 8 times (including events).

Council initiative — Alcohol Awareness event at Dam Fest in October 2015 with Roads & Maritime Service utilising Roads & Maritime Service breath testing equipment. This event was trialled for the first time however, as there were minimal patrons consuming alcohol, it is not envisaged to repeat this event next year.

DISSOLUTION OF COMMITTEES/ADVISORY GROUPS

The length of each committee/advisory group, except for the Australia Day Committee and the Community Leisure Centre Users Advisory Group, is for the electoral term of Council. This report is the final report for each of the committees/advisory groups for the period 2012 – 2016. The committees/advisory groups will be dissolved and a report will come to the new Council in September 2016 to decide which committees/advisory groups will be reinstated and/or new ones formed.

CONSULTATION

Consultation was carried out with the relevant Managers and Committee Convenors.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This matter has no financial impact on Council's adopted budget or forward estimates.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That Council note the contribution and achievements of each of the Committees/Advisory Groups for the past four years.
- 2. That the members of each committee/advisory group is thanked for their contributions to the success of each of the committee/advisory groups to which they belong.
- 3. That Council dissolve the nine committees/advisory groups as listed below, noting that Council will undertake a process for Committee appointment following the Local Government Elections:
 - Disability Access Advisory Committee
 - Rural Industry Liaison Committee
 - Economic Development Advisory Group



WOLLONDILLY SHIRE COUNCIL

Report of Governance to the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Monday 15 August 2016

- Youth Advisory Committee
- Companion Animals Reference Committee
- Minerals and Energy Resources Committee
- Transport Advisory Committee
- Environment and Heritage Committee
- Road Safety Group.

