
**NARROMINE SHIRE COUNCIL
ORDINARY MEETING BUSINESS PAPER – 10 DECEMBER 2025
MAYORAL MINUTE**

1. MAYORAL DIARY

November 2025

1 November	Retirement Celebrations for Tony Terry for 40 year's service with Fire and Rescue NSW
5 November	Interview with Western Plains App regarding NBN Wireless Towers
6 November	Dinner – Alliance of Western Councils in Nyngan
7 November	Alliance of Western Councils Board Meeting in Nyngan
11 November	Laid wreath at Narromine Cenotaph for Remembrance Day
12 November	Ordinary Council Meeting
13 November	NSW Governor's CMA Reception at Government House
14 November	Country Mayors Association Meeting
19 November	Councillor Meet and Greet at Narromine USMC
21 November	Narromine Shop Local Event
23-25 November	Local Government NSW Annual Conference in Penrith
28 November	Volunteers Day - Thankyou Morning Tea Catholic Care Wilcannia – Forbes "Hidden no more – Shining the light on Domestic Violence in Rural Communities" Forum at Soul Food Narromine

RECOMMENDATION

That the information be noted.

2. DEPUTY MAYORAL DIARY

November 2025

1 November	Aerobatics Presentation Retirement Celebrations for Tony Terry for 40 year's service with Fire and Rescue NSW
11 November	Laid wreath in Trangie for Remembrance Day
12 November	Ordinary Council Meeting
28 November	Volunteers Day - Thankyou Morning Tea

RECOMMENDATION

That the information be noted.

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3. REPRESENTATIVE REPORT ALLIANCE OF WESTERN COUNCILS BOARD MEETING

My representative report regarding the Alliance of Western Councils Board Meeting held 7 November 2025 is attached **(see Attachment No. 1)**.

RECOMMENDATION

That the information be noted.

4. REPRESENTATIVE REPORT COUNTRY MAYORS ASSOCIATION MEETING

My representative report regarding the Country Mayors Association Meeting held 14 November 2025 is attached **(see Attachment No. 2)**.

RECOMMENDATION

That the information be noted.

5. REPRESENTATIVE REPORT LGNSW ANNUAL CONFERENCE

My representative report regarding the LGNSW Annual Conference held 23-25 November 2025 is attached **(see Attachment No. 3)**.

RECOMMENDATION

That the information be noted.

Cr Ewen Jones
Mayor

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

COUNCILLOR REPORT ON ATTENDANCE AT: Alliance of Western Councils AGM and Board Meeting in Nyngan

COUNCILLOR: Mayor Ewen Jones

DATE ATTENDED: 7 November 2025

1. Main Purpose of Conference/Visit/Meeting

Quarterly Board Meeting

2. Key Messages/Highlights of Relevance to Council

- The Election of Chair and Deputy Chair resulted in Cr Neill (Bogan Shire Council) being elected as Chair along with Cr Whiteley (Warren Shire Council) and Cr Ford (Bourke Shire Council) being elected as Deputy Chair.
- It was resolved that the Board explore the opportunity to become an Associate member of the Central West Joint Organisation. There appears to be many issues that have synergies or related to the AWC region.
- The Board endorsed action taken by the Chair by way of a letter to the Hon. Chris Minns, Premier of NSW in relation to the growing threat of violent rural crimes in NSW impacting rural communities.
- Presentation by Tim Chinn, Superintendent, Orana Mid-Western Police District and Gerard Lawson, Superintendent District Commander Central North Police District noted the following:
 - Police have reported that the introduction of new Bail Laws has seen a reduction in crime.
 - Recruit numbers have increased following the introduction of payment for recruits.
 - Police shortages are still an issue.
- Presentation by Gemma Bilardi, Rural and Remote Health and Megan Callinan, CEO Marathon Health provided an overview of potential rural health workforce solutions through collaboration, specifically a new Program called "Connecting the Docs", which aims to encourage urban based doctors to spend some time in Rural and Remote areas of NSW. The hope is that these doctors will enjoy their time out west and tell their colleagues how much better family life can be in Regional and Remote areas of NSW.

3. Benefits to Narromine Shire Council:

Keeping up to date with what is happening both with the Alliance of Western Councils. Networking and meeting other Mayors and General Managers.

4. Suggestions for Future Action (if appropriate)

Ensure Councillors and Staff continue to attend Board Meetings.

Signature: Cr Ewen Jones

Date: 30 November 2025

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

COUNCILLOR REPORT ON ATTENDANCE AT: Country Mayors Association (CMA) of NSW

COUNCILLOR: Cr Jones - Mayor

DATE ATTENDED: 13 - 14 November 2025

1. Main Purpose of Conference/Visit/Meeting

Quarterly Meeting

2. Key Messages/Highlights of Relevance to Council

Thursday 13 November 2025:

The General Manager and I attended a reception at Government House hosted by the Governor of New South Wales, Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC KC. The event provided an opportunity to network with Mayors and General Managers from across the State. I also engaged in discussions with several Ministers, including the Minister for Roads and Regional Transport, The Hon. Jennifer Aitchison, and the Minister for Local Government, The Hon. Ron Hoenig.

Friday 14 November 2025:

New South Wales Premier, the Hon Chris Minns MP, addressed the Conference and spoke on key State priorities, including policing, hospitals, emergency services, and the ongoing housing crisis. The Premier noted that the current distribution of GST revenue by the Federal Government disadvantages New South Wales due to population density differences.

Premier Minns expressed his support for the Country Mayors Association (CMA) campaign advocating for the Federal Government to return 1% of GST revenue directly to Local Councils nationwide.

Federal Shadow Minister for Regional Development, Local Government and Territories, Dr Anne Webster MP, also addressed the Conference. Speaking from the Opposition's perspective, Minister Webster spoke against the Federal Government's reduced commitment to Local Government grant funding compared with previous Coalition programs.

Minister Webster confirmed her strong support for the CMA's 1% GST campaign, highlighting that Local Councils in NSW are responsible for maintaining approximately 90% of the State's road network. She emphasised that ongoing "cost shifting" from Federal and State Governments is significantly impacting the capacity of Local Councils to maintain essential infrastructure, including urgent road repairs.

Leader of the NSW Opposition (at the time of the Meeting), the Hon Mark Speakman SC MP, spoke on challenges relating to staffing shortages across NSW Police, education, and emergency services. He also raised concerns regarding the State's housing crisis, noting that many Housing NSW properties remain vacant and in need of major repairs.

The Hon Mark Speakman criticised recent changes to NSW Planning Laws, which remove elected Councillors from involvement in Development Application determinations, transferring full decision-making authority to Local Planning Panels. He also expressed his support for the CMA's 1% GST campaign.

NSW Nationals Deputy Leader (now Leader), the Hon Gurmesh Singh MP, addressed the Conference and spoke about the impacts of large-scale renewable energy projects on regional communities. He noted the pressure these projects place on housing availability, particularly in Renewable Energy Zone (REZ) areas. Minister Singh raised concerns about the future viability of privately-operated preschools, given the State Government's investment in new government-run facilities, which may pay higher wage rates and potentially disadvantage private providers.

He also outlined the need for reform within the NSW Court system, particularly relating to youth offending. Minister Singh identified increasing rural crime rates and expressed the view that young offenders should face stronger sentencing—"adult time for adult crime."



Mayor at the reception held at Government House hosted by the Governor of NSW, Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC KC



Minister for Local Government Hoenig with Narromine Mayor Jones and Bourke Mayor Ford



Mayor, Cr Ewen Jones and General Manager, Jane Redden outside the incredible NSW Government House.

3. Benefits to Narromine Shire Council:

The NSW CMA furthers the interests of rural and regional councils by advocating and lobbying on relevant state and national issues. The CMA also provides an information sharing forum.

Networking and meeting other Mayors and General Managers.

4. Suggestions for Future Action (if appropriate)

Continued membership with the New South Wales Country Mayors Association.
Ensure Councillors and Staff continue to attend Meetings.

Signature: Cr Ewen Jones

Date: 2 December 2025

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

COUNCILLOR REPORT ON ATTENDANCE AT: LGNSW Annual Conference, Penrith

COUNCILLOR: Cr Jones - Mayor

DATE ATTENDED: 23 - 25 November 2025

1. Main Purpose of Conference/Visit/Meeting

Voting Delegate for Council at the LGNSW Annual Conference. After each conference, LGNSW reviews resolutions and amends the Fundamental Principles and Positions Statements as required.

2. Key Messages/Highlights of Relevance to Council

The General Manager, Jane Redden, Cr Brian Leak and I attended the Local Government NSW Annual Conference in Penrith from the 23rd to the 25th November 2025.

There were 134 Motions in the business paper. Due to time restraints:

68 were voted on

28 had no objections prior to a break and were carried

38 will to be voted on by the LGNSW Board.

The Conference was another great opportunity to network with Councillors and General Managers from other Councils from across the State.



Cr Brian Leak, Mayor Ewen Jones,
Isobel from Inland Rail and Gilgandra Mayor Doug Batton

3. Benefits to Narromine Shire Council:

Opportunity for Councillors to come together to share ideas and debate issues and challenges.

Opportunity for Councillors and General Managers to speak with NSW Ministers and other key stakeholders to advance local issues.

4. Suggestions for Future Action (if appropriate)

Continued membership with LGNSW and attendance at annual conferences.

Signature: Cr Ewen Jones

Date: 2 December 2025

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