



**Annual Report  
2014/2015**

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# Mayoral Welcome



I am extremely proud to have served Council as its Mayor since September 2012 and to have the same Deputy Mayor, Cr Sue McCutcheon, during this time. This has enabled Council to provide the democratic leadership needed to work with the other Councillors, the General Manager and the senior management team to achieve all that we have. With this stability at the top, progress has been able to be steadily achieved as we strive to be a fit and sustainable Council to effectively represent our community.

Our many achievements on your behalf are outlined in the Annual Report and I commend it to you to read and note actions and future priorities to make this an even more sustainable and responsive Council.

During the last twelve months to June 2015, Council has had to undertake a Special Rate Variation (of 3.5% plus CPI in 2015/16 and 3% plus CPI in 2016/17) to meet interest due on our \$3 million Local Infrastructure Renewal Scheme road works backlog; to address rate catch-ups not previously taken by former councils and to ensure our income stream was at least equal to expenditure, allowing for fees, charges and grant income to maintain our current levels of service. The Chief Financial Officer was instrumental in preparing the proposal which the Independent Pricing & Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) agreed with after Council demonstrated it had the necessary community support. The first rate variation is included in the 2015/16 rate levy, effective from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2015.

By June 30, 2015, Council had to demonstrate to the NSW State Government that we are "Fit for the Future" as part of the State Government Local Government reformation program and consideration of the recommendations of the Local Government Independent Review Panel and Treasury NSW. Council was determined by the Independent Pricing & Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) as being financially "Fit" but "Not Fit" on Scale & Capacity, based on population projections and Council's desire to not want to merge with Dubbo City Council. At a recent public meeting over 150 residents agreed that Council not merge with Dubbo or any of our neighbours as they don't want to merge with us either. We now all await the State Government's determination on mergers throughout NSW before the year end.

Council is well positioned financially and able to meet current levels of service, as is reflected in the achievements outlined in the Annual Report and proposed future priorities. If the NSW State Government implements other initiatives such as the establishment of a Low Interest Loan Facility for Councils, reviews its rating structure regime, redirects Financial Assistance Grants on a needs basis and reduces 'red tape', then Council can be even more efficient and sustainable.

Our main priorities have been to focus on the feasibility study for the Narromine Flood Levee extension; a decision on this to be finalised in 2016, the relocation of the Cenotaph, adoption of a Strategic Asset Management Plan for the Narromine Aerodrome, including the ongoing development of Stage 4 and 5 Skypark Residential Estate, and finalisation of other asset management plans, including the review of the Recreation Facilities and Community Building Assets, which will no doubt cause some

# Mayoral Welcome (Cont'd)

conjecture in the community. Our Narromine Saleyards, for instance, is one of those community assets that needs to be maintained and its future properly planned for to ensure it is a sustainable asset. Consequently, Council has to look at its cost levels, fees from sales, possibility of agents or others leasing it, etc to ensure it is not unduly subsidised by ratepayers who do not use the facility. These are some of the hard decisions Council will have to make in the future.

The future for economic growth in the Narromine Shire looks bright for Council, with the development of a Public Relations & Marketing Strategic Plan, a Prospectus to attract business, the plans for the Inland Rail to go through Narromine, the sale of Council's Industrial land on the Mitchell Highway to local developers, the selling of residential blocks in Skypark, the extension of the Narromine Aviation Museum, and the proposed expansion of the Tomingley Gold Operations mine, and so forth. Added to this, are our close links to Dubbo, Orange and the emergence of mining and the upgrade of regional airport and transport operations, which will all set the platform for real growth.

In closing, I thank you, the community, for your patience and your input in making this the great rural shire that it is. I look forward to being part of Council's future to build on the many initiatives put in place by the current Council.

Cr W P McAnally  
**Mayor**



# Community Vision and values

Narromine Shire is ideally situated in the heart of the rich Macquarie Valley. Narromine, on the banks of the Macquarie River, offers a quality rural lifestyle and yet is just 39 kms away from the regional city of Dubbo.

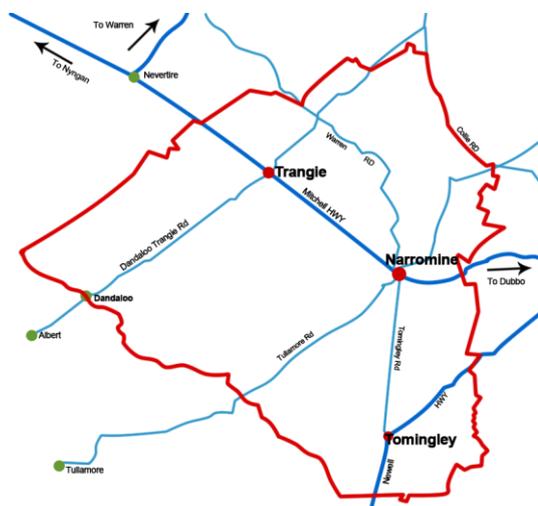
The Shire covers an area of 5268.9 km<sup>2</sup> within central New South Wales and has a population of approximately 6,850. The Shire comprises three urban centres of Narromine (population 3500), Trangie (population 800) 35 km to the west, and Tomingley (population 50) 35 km to the south. The remaining residents live in the surrounding rural areas.

Crops such as wheat, barley, maize, oats, canola, soy bean, sorghum, lucerne and cotton, contribute significantly to agricultural output. Other farm enterprises include stone fruit, citrus fruit, olive trees, and market gardens. The area also produces prime lambs, wool and cattle. Major commercial nurseries and research facilities at Narromine support the national forestry and vegetable industries and Trangie Research Centre is one of the largest broad acre agricultural research centres in Australia.

Narromine offers numerous opportunities to potential investors and the pro-active Shire Council will assist wherever possible. The planned future direction for the Shire is to encourage industrial development and provide a rural quality of life. The Shire is centrally located in the State with excellent links to capital cities, and the port of Newcastle. Significant mineral resources have been discovered near Tomingley, and the Tomingley Gold Mine is now in operation.

The Shire has a moderate and stable climate, an abundance of raw materials, an established irrigation industry and relatively cheap land. The Shire also has an excellent labour base including capable tradespeople in virtually every industry. The local and regional network of suppliers and support industries is also excellent.

Narromine is considered the best gliding area in Australia and one of the three best in the world. Pilots from many overseas countries visit Narromine every year for gliding and the State and National Championships are held here on a regular basis. The Aviation Museum complex highlights the extraordinary history of the aerodrome including a stopover for many famous aviators, providing a training base for pilots during WWII and instruction for Qantas pilots. The Aerodrome is also home to a replica Wright Brothers Plane, along with a number of restored historic aircraft.



# Community vision and values

## Vision Statement

In 2022, Narromine Shire will be: A highly desirable place to live, work and conduct business, and where shire residents care for one another and the natural environment.

## Our Mission

To enhance our Shire's image, lifestyle and environment through effective leadership, community involvement and commitment to serve.

## Our Values and Principles

That guide the Council will be:

- Council will practice and display civic leadership, integrity, a willingness to consult with shire residents, accountability and transparency;
- Council services will be accessible and affordable for all shire residents;
- Council services will not compete with commercial service providers or duplicate services from another organisation;
- Council will be supportive of volunteers, service clubs and other groups who wish to contribute to public use facilities, services and community wellbeing;
- Council places high value on the proper management, protection and where required, restoration, of the natural environment.
- Council will encourage new business development in the shire which contributes to the social and economic strength of the shire community, and which will not impact negatively on the natural environment.



# Councillors



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# General Manager's Message

I am pleased to present Narromine Shire Council's 2014/15 Annual Report to Residents on Council's achievements in 2014/15 and future priorities for 2015/16 as outlined in Council's adopted Delivery Program and Annual Operating Plan. Please take the time to read them; they outline the many tasks undertaken and achieved by Council in the last year. Council and Staff have done an excellent job in meeting our targets and propose to continue to do this in 2015/16.

The past financial year was the third in which Council developed and implemented the four year Delivery Program, one year Operational Plan, supported by a comprehensive Resourcing Strategy which addresses asset management, workforce planning and a ten year long term financial plan. It was also the third year of the new Council, elected in September 2012, who endorsed the strategies therein for the community.

Council has "fine-tuned" its organisational structure and made significant staff changes to ensure there is more stability with the retention and promotion of key Staff who are focussed upon delivering the best outcomes for the Narromine Shire. One critical change was the establishment of the Asset Management Unit for the development of funded works programs, aligned to the Asset Management Plans, with the Directors to undertake the projects plus upgrading the important functions of Records, Information Technology, Events, Tourism and Economic Development. There are now three (3) directorates, (reduced from four (4) previously) under the Chief Financial Officer, Director Infrastructure & Engineering Services, and Director Corporate, Community & Regulatory Services, in order to strengthen leadership levels.

Council has developed seven (7) Infrastructure Asset Management Plans – Water, Sewage, Waste, Roads, Aerodrome, Buildings and Recreational Facilities, and is contemplating breaking some of them into smaller asset plans such as Saleyards and Pools to ensure works programs are geared to sustaining the life cycle of the asset within the available resources. Strategic plans have been developed for all of the assets which will enable the level of service, retention or otherwise of the asset to be reviewed by Council and fully informed decisions made by them on a planned, non ad hoc basis.

To date, during this 2014/15 period, Strategic Plans have been developed for the Narromine Aerodrome, Roads, Water, Sewer and Waste following extensive community consultation, and the remainder, Recreation and Community Facilities thereafter. Internally, our Roads Management practices have been improved in consultation with our community needs and civil engineering consultants, with productivity gains identified to complement our Roads Asset Management obligations. The same process has applied for all other areas of Council's responsibility in order to ensure our financial and asset management capability. This will require a comprehensive review of our levels of service in due course to ensure our "Fit for the Future" sustainability strategies are met.

Council has had to demonstrate to the NSW State Government that it has the "scale and capacity" to be a stand-alone Council that meets the "Fit for the Future" (FFTF) criteria or otherwise it may be amalgamated with Dubbo City and Wellington councils to form a larger regional council by 2017. All three (3) councils do not want a merger to occur and whilst

# General Manager's Message (Cont'd)

IPART determined Council only to be financially 'Fit', but "Not Fit" on Scale and Capacity. It will be interesting to see what situation the Minister for Local Government determines by 31<sup>st</sup> December 2015 for Council.

Council has formed strong alliances within the Orana Regional Organisation of Councils (comprising 11 other councils), the Lower Macquarie Water Utilities Alliance (7 others), the Macquarie Regional Library (3 others), Orana Arts and Netwaste, to name a few. This enables Council to participate in the 'shared resources' philosophy and maintain a sustainable financial position sought by the State Government to ensure Council retains its independence as a 'stand alone' Council in lieu of the possibility of being a western dormitory suburb of the proposed Orana Regional Council, along with Wellington Shire, to the east of Dubbo.

The State Government has undertaken a trial of five (5) regional organisations of councils to explore the possibility of establishing them as legal entities entitled Joint Organisations of Council (JOs). The results will be known in early 2016. It is difficult to fathom how the Minister is going to determine whether councils merge or not in NSW, when the JOs and Rural Council compositions are not yet finalised, and will not be until early 2016.

Investigations into the extension of the flood levee for Narromine, improving sewer and water quality security and infrastructure for the Shire's towns and villages and continuing to consult with the community in improving the roads system and upgrading recreational facilities are a few key priority area "big ticket" items in the 2015/16 budget. To note, is the trial of Council "day labour" costs versus use of contractors for road maintenance and shoulder re-sheeting using projects identified in the Local Infrastructure Renewal Scheme, loan borrowing program for \$3m.

During 2014/15 the majority of projects proposed to be done were achieved and those that were not completed will be carried over into the next year. Very few projects were not completed, as outlined in this Annual Report, which is a credit to the Council, senior staff and operational staff.

Council is working hard to make the difficult decisions needed to ensure it is an efficient entity to provide the services the community seek in a cost effective manner, within the available resources, and has been laying the platform for this to occur during the term of the current Council. To be determined as 'Fit' financially is an extremely positive platform for Council to build upon.

Please submit any requests for service via Council's website, or come in and speak to any one of our friendly Staff who will be only too happy to assist you with your enquiry.

On behalf of Council and Staff, I look forward to working with the community in making this an even better Shire than it is with a decision on the feasibility of a possible construction of the flood levee to be made in 2015/16. Some other critical areas are upgrading water and sewer infrastructure and improving our roads network; and take advantage of the opportunities the Narromine Aerodrome has to offer, in order to increase our capability to entice people and businesses to relocate to our towns and rural areas.

Greg Lamont,  
**General Manager**

# How We Operated in 2014/2015



Greg Lamont  
General Manager



Vas Roberts  
Director Corporate,  
Community &  
Regulatory Services



Yvonne Clarke  
Chief Financial  
Officer



Kerrie Murphy  
Director  
Infrastructure &  
Engineering  
Services

Narromine Shire Council had four operational divisions responsible for the implementation of Council's Delivery Program which directed the everyday operations of the Organisation.

The Divisions in 2014/2015 were:

## Infrastructure and Engineering Services

Included the activities of Transport, Sewerage Services, Water Supply/Stormwater Drainage, Parks and Landcare Services, Community Facilities, Corporate Facilities, Waste Services, Assets, Plant and Fleet

## Finance & Corporate Strategy

Included the activities of Accounting Services, Information Technology and Customer Services

## Corporate & Community & Regulatory Services

Included the activities of Corporate Services and Community Services, Built & Natural Environment, Health Services, Shire Development

## Human Resources Unit

Included the activities of Human Resource Services, Industrial Relations, Workplace Health and Safety and Worker's Compensation for the organisation.

# Strategic Priorities

There are a number of important issues confronting the Shire that will require resolution over time to ensure the long-term wellbeing and prosperity of the Shire. These include:

## **The image of Narromine and the Shire**

The Shire has much to offer residents and visitors, with clean, vibrant towns, beautiful parks and gardens and excellent services such as a modern medical centre. With our close proximity to a major centre we are able to provide both residents and visitors access to a wider variety of requirements whilst enjoying the quiet rural environment.

## **Facilities and Services**

The challenge facing us is maintaining and improving our current facilities and services, without incurring further increases to rates and charges. One of the most important service levels expected by our community is the improvement of roads and drainage, as well as maintenance of our streets.

## **Maintaining and Improving Infrastructure**

We need to ensure that we have appropriate infrastructure to support growth of the economy and population. While the further deterioration of the local road network, for example, will have a negative impact on our Shire in the short term, the long term effects will extend to a State and National level. Without a sustainable road network, the movement of agriculture produce and machinery will be hindered. This will significantly impair the Shire's ability to produce food and fibre, creating economic consequences at a national level. The major challenge will be funding the maintenance and capital improvements required.

## **Our Regulatory Function**

Council must comply with public and environmental regulations and health standards to maintain a safe and healthy community. This regulatory role can sometimes be misunderstood. Council needs to educate the community more effectively on the benefits these regulations have in the long term.

## **Leadership and Delivery of Ideas**

Too often it appears that we identify means by which to improve our Shire, yet fail in their delivery. Furthermore, there have been great efforts made by many organisations yet the results have been limited due to a lack of coordination of these groups. This area needs addressing.

# Strategic Priorities (cont'd)

## Summary

Based around these issues, strategies and specific action statements have been developed to work towards delivering the community's vision for Narromine Shire 2022. The strategies and actions of Narromine 2023 are detailed in Council's Delivery Program and Operational Plan (2014-2015).

Council's Annual Report is one of the key points of accountability between a council and its community. It is not a report to the Office of Local Government or to the NSW Government; it is a report to the community. The Annual report focuses on Council's implementation of the Delivery Program and Operational Plan because these are the plans that are wholly the Council's responsibility. The report also includes some information that is prescribed by the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005. This information has been included in the Regulation because the Government believes that it is important for community members to know about it – to help their understanding of how the council has been performing both as a business entity and a community leader.

This report focuses on Council's key activities and the achievements in relation to those activities for the 2014/2015 year.



# Transport

**To develop and support a network of roads which are approved heavy vehicle transport routes which adequately and safely service local industries. To meet reasonable community expectations for a roads network that is safe and serviceable. To ensure accessible facilities are available for people with limited mobility. To continue to improve the number and length of walking and cycling paths, particularly to Council facilities and Tourism sites. To maintain sides of roads (mowing of grass) to increase visibility of animals and for fire hazard reduction.**

## Achievements in 2014/2015

- Continued to develop heavy vehicle bypass routes throughout the Shire.
- Re-valued road networks including bridges and footpaths.
- Reduced renewals backlog by using LIRS to borrow \$3M.
- Developed and implemented verge spraying program in conjunction with hazard reduction slashing.
- Created line marking for roads and town streets registry and developed 10 year plan.
- Widened existing seal on Weembah, Widgeree, Dubbo-Collie and Eumungerie (MR572) roads.
- Removed 12 grids (various locations) and reinstated road.
- Constructed 4 new mobility parking spaces.
- Extended kerb and guttering at Burroway Street as well as off-road cycle way.
- Sealed extension on Tyrie Road.

## Strategies Not Yet Achieved

- Maintenance grading "contractor trial" and review to be undertaken.
- Road culvert condition assessments and 10 year replacement program to be developed.

## Future Priorities

- Continue to develop heavy vehicle bypass routes throughout the Shire.
- Road verge spraying program to be developed and implemented in conjunction with hazard reduction slashing.
- 12 cattle grids (various locations) to be removed and the road reinstated.
- Gravel resheeting on Craigie-Lea, Gibsons, Foremans, Papworth and Mungeribar Lanes and Currington's, Fairview, Farrendale, Backwater, Belmont, Boggy-Plains, Kyalite, Webb Siding, Cornucopia, Cathundral-Bogan and Pinedene Roads.
- Widen seal on Trangie-Dandaloo Road.
- Rehabilitation works on Nymagee, Algalah and Manildra Streets and Trangie-Dandaloo, Peak Hill-Railway, Willydah, Tyrie and Cathundral Roads.
- Off-road cycle way to be developed in Burroway Street (Stage 2).
- Construction of Pedestrian Refuge in Dandaloo Street.
- Bulgandramine Timber Bridge Replacement.
- Rehabilitation of kerb and guttering in Manildra and Algalah Streets, Narromine.
- Approximately 20 road culverts to be replaced or upgraded.

# Transport (Cont'd)



# Sewerage Services

**To meet reasonable community expectations regarding Council's Sewerage Service.**

## Achievements in 2014/2015

- Upgraded telemetry system in accordance with Council policy.
- Extended sewer for IGA development.
- Additional 30+ clay mains relined.
- Installed pump station rag removal system complete with controls and alarm systems.
- CCTV investigation undertaken for residential mains.

## Strategies Not Yet Achieved

- Narromine Sewerage Treatment Plant (STP) inlet works remediation.
- Narromine STP aeration system replacement.
- Trangie STP replacement of inlet works and screening system.
- Trangie STP mechanical equipment upgrades.
- Trangie STP complete replacement of electrical switchboard and control equipment.
- Trangie STP install new telemetry monitoring and alarm systems.
- Trangie STP fencing of ponds.

## Future Priorities

- Trangie STP upgrades.
- Narromine STP upgrades.
- Further CCTV work on sewer mains.
- Additional clay mains to be relined.



# Water Supply/Stormwater Drainage

***To improve the management of stormwater drainage. To improve flood protection in Narromine. To meet reasonable community expectations regarding the provision of the domestic water supply.***

## **Achievements in 2014/2015**

- Installed rising mains in Trangie.
- Extended water main for IGA development.
- Upgraded telemetry system for water and sewer.
- Continued to support and promote the Lower Macquarie Water Utilities Alliance.
- Installed further backflow devices.
- Removed remaining dead ends in system in Trangie to maintain drinking water quality.
- Adopted and implemented drinking water quality improvement plan.
- Drilled and fitted out two new bores at Trangie.
- Designed and constructed 5000m of new rising mains in Trangie.
- Designed and constructed a new disinfection system at Trangie.
- Replaced water main in A'Beckett Street and Merilba Street Narromine.
- Daily monitoring and testing of drinking water in accordance with guidelines
- Acquisition of land adjacent to Wetlands to accommodate future stormwater needs

## **Strategies Not Yet Achieved**

- Extend water main for IGA development.

## **Future Priorities**

- Continue to finalise plans for levee upgrade.
- Narromine (Nymagee Street) reservoir rehabilitation.
- Reline aeration tank at Narromine Highliff Station.
- Trangie Reservoir rehabilitation.
- Redrill and upgrade existing bores in Narromine.
- Improve channel flow from Old Backwater Road to Nellie Vale Road.
- Install Gross Pollutant Trap at the Wetlands.
- Install new culvert in Wetlands.
- Install new drainage channel in Wetlands.
- Draft and implement policy for backflow prevention.
- Install rising mains in Trangie.
- Draft and implement policy for backflow prevention.
- Construction of additional bore in Narromine.
- Drilling and fit out of two more bores at Narromine
- Design and construction of 1200m of new rising main system in Narromine.
- Design and construction of new disinfection system at Narromine.

# Water Supply/Stormwater Drainage (Cont'd)



# Parks & Gardens

***To ensure appropriate provision, management and the effective use of all open space and recreation facilities. To ensure that appropriate plant choices are used significantly in town and village entrance plantings, along access routes and in park plantings.***

## Achievements in 2014/2015

- New playground equipment, sofffall and shade structure for Commodore Park, Narromine
- New swing set and sofffall for Bicentennial Park, Trangie
- Solar lighting for Swift Park, Trangie
- 134 trees planted in the Shire
- Planted native species along new heavy vehicle route

## Strategies Not Yet Achieved

- Sports User Group workshops were not required during the period.
- Upgrade irrigation system in Swift Park, Trangie.
- Upgrade irrigation system in Argonaut Park, Trangie.
- New bin surrounds for the main street, Narromine.

## Future Priorities

- Fencing of leash free area at Rotary Park.
- Replacement of sofffall at Dicken Park in Tomingley.
- Replacement of Burns Ovals complex fencing.
- Upgrade irrigation system on Burns Oval.
- Construction of officials shelter at Burns Oval.
- Upgrade of old Tennis Courts to Basketball Courts in Narromine and Trangie.



## Parks & Gardens (Cont'd)



# Community Facilities

***To provide medical and allied health accommodation facilities that are attractive to practitioners. To advocate for access to high quality health care facilities and services. To ensure adequate cemetery services are maintained. To meet reasonable community expectations regarding Council owned buildings.***

## Achievements in 2014/2015

- Undergrounding of power at the Narromine Showground.
- Raising and sealing the betting ring at the Narromine Racetrack.
- Installing stormwater harvesting at the Narromine Racetrack.
- Electrical upgrades to the Trangie Showground Pavilion.
- Repairs to the Tomingley school roof and guttering and installation of new rainwater tanks.
- Construction and replacement of three new bus shelters, Narromine.
- Installation of new shade structures at Macquarie Valley Family Day Care.
- Extension to Narromine Aviation Museum building.
- Installation of new seating at Tomingley Cemetery.
- Construction of new road within Narromine Cemetery.
- Refurbishment of Pathology collection rooms, Narromine Shire Family Health Centre.
- Refurbishment Administration and Customer and Service Payments Centre car park.
- All council buildings inspected for compliance with fire safety and access provisions.
- Continued to locate and record all reservations of unmarked graves to identify vacant plots.

## Strategies Not Yet Achieved

- Refurbishment of Trangie Memorial Hall toilets.
- External repainting of Tomingley Community Centre.
- Replacement of carpet in the History Room at the Narromine Library.
- Replacement of carpet and painting the internal surfaces of the Trangie Doctor's residence.

## Future Priorities

- Upgrades to internal electricals at the Narromine Showground.
- Replacement of electricals in the Trangie Pavilion.
- Upgrade irrigation at Narromine Cemetery.
- Upgrade fencing at Narromine Cemetery.
- Develop lawn cemetery extension, with additional irrigation, at Narromine.
- Replace air-conditioner at Narromine Library.
- Fit security screens at the Trangie Library.
- Install roof over the container at the Trangie Library.
- Upgrade to Goan Waterhole public amenities.
- Upgrade to Tomingley Hall toilets.
- Replacement of guttering on Tomingley Hall.
- Repair of footpaths at Tomingley School.

# Community Facilities (Cont'd)

## Future Priorities (Continued)

- Install solar lights along Heavy Vehicle Bypass.
- New barbeque and solar lighting at Tomingley.
- Install solar lighting at Tom Perry Park, Narromine.
- Install solar lights along Burraway Street, Narromine.
- Replace carpet and paint the internal surfaces of Trangie Doctor's house.
- Install new seating at Tomingley Cemetery
- Install a new headstone foundation, Narromine Cemetery
- Construct new road within Narromine Cemetery
- Refurbish Pathology collection rooms, Narromine Medical Centre.
- Refurbish Administration and Customer and Service Payments Centre car park.



# Corporate Facilities

**To maintain aerodrome infrastructure to increase the viability and sustainability of aerodrome operations. To maintain saleyards facilities to meet users needs and improve viability.**

## Achievements in 2014/2015

- Crack resealing of runway 04/22 Narromine Aerodrome.
- Refurbished Narromine Depot and workshop offices.
- Refurbished saleyards canteen, Narromine.
- Commenced design for Hangar development at the Narromine Aerodrome.
- Refurbished Trangie depot lunchroom/office.
- Installed new security fencing at Trangie Depot.

## Strategies Not Yet Achieved

- Strategic masterplan for the Narromine Saleyards to be completed as part of Community Facility Asset Plans.
- Lighting upgrade to Narromine Aerodrome.
- Installation of new storage area for glider trailers at the Narromine Aerodrome.
- Installation of automatic gate openers and security intercom systems at Narromine Depot.
- Installation of automatic water system at Narromine Saleyards.

## Future Priorities

- Lighting upgrade to runway 11/29 Narromine Aerodrome.
- New illuminated windsock for runway 11 Narromine Aerodrome.
- Design work for Aerodrome entrance to Tom Perry Drive.
- New signage for Narromine Aerodrome.
- Line marking of runway 04/22 to displace threshold Narromine Aerodrome.
- Runway gravel re-sheet Trangie Airstrip.
- Re-sheet internal roads and car park, Trangie Airstrip



# Waste Services

**To reduce our waste to landfill through effective waste management and recycling.**

## Achievements in 2014/2015

- Upgraded perimeter fencing at Trangie Waste Depot.
- Investigated the feasibility of a kerbside green waste collection service.
- Organics, timber and wood contract renewed through Netwaste.
- Household cleanout contract renewed through Netwaste.
- Asbestos Policy reviewed and adopted. The policy aims to provide guidelines for the safe handling of asbestos by Council and other organisations.
- Continued to be a member of Netwaste. Projects included collection of e-waste, waste management support guide, household hazardous waste and assessment of landfill gas emissions.
- Geolyse commissioned by Council to undertake a review of the Waste Management Strategy. The document will be used as a guide to waste management; a tool for communicating with the community and a basis for implementation, monitoring and evaluation.
- Participation in the collection of household hazardous waste.
- E Waste collection and recycling contract facilitated through Netwaste.

## Strategies Not Yet Achieved

- Extension of Narromine Waste Depot.

## Future Priorities

- Further review of Council's Waste Management Strategy in 2016/17.
- The feasibility of a kerbside green waste collection service is being investigated, with future developments dependent on construction of an organics facility in Dubbo.



# Assets

***To take a whole of shire approach to asset management and long term financial plans to conduct projects as resources allow. To continue to identify community needs and priorities for infrastructure investment and maintenance in the short, medium and long-term.***

## Achievements in 2014/2015

- Successful application to the Local Infrastructure Renewal Scheme to assist in \$3 million worth of road projects.
- Implementation of Asset Management System and Customer Service Module (CRM).
- Major revaluation of roads, bridges, footpaths and stormwater drainage assets which resulted in \$149 million increase in the value of those assets.
- Completion of Stage 4 of the Narromine Skypark.

## Strategies Not Yet Achieved

- Strategy and asset management plan for urban drainage.

## Future Priorities

- Aerodrome Asset Management Plan
- Saleyards Asset Management Plan
- Parks and Landcare Asset Management Plan



# Accounting Services

## **To provide sound financial management.**

### **Achievements 2014/2015**

- Applied for a Special Rate Variation after conducting three community consultation meetings throughout the Shire. The application was successful.
- Compiled and put forward Council's Fit for the Future submission with the assistance of management and a consulting firm.
- Delivery Program and Operational Plan implemented during the year.
- A balanced and financially sustainable budget adopted by Council. The Income Statement was balanced across the three funds - General, Water and Sewerage.
- Equitable rating strategies developed.
- Levies made and rates and charges collected in accordance with statutory requirements and Council policies.
- Monthly cash balances and detailed quarterly financial reports provided to Council.
- Annual Financial Accounts prepared in accordance with legislation and audited within the required timeframe.
- Outstanding rates and charges at year end 8.46% (target <10%).
- All accounting data and returns recorded accurately and on time.
- Grants were actively sought throughout the year and all projects monitored to ensure corresponding grants were fully utilised where possible.
- All projects were scrutinised to check suitability for grant applications.
- Infrastructure investments were identified from community needs and priorities and these capital items were maintained during the year.
- A Stormwater Levy was successfully introduced during the year. This enables Council to levy a charge for the provision of stormwater management services. Council has a large capital works program to complete in each of the three towns for the provision of stormwater facilities and this levy will enable significant works to be funded over the next ten year works program.

### **Strategies Not Achieved 2014/2015**

- Replacement financial/accounting software was deferred until Council's Fit for the Future submission is reviewed and deemed acceptable.

### **Future Priorities**

- Continue sound financial management.
- Outstanding rates and charges at year end to be below 10% target.
- Installation and implementation of new financial/accounting software to replace current software.
- Council continues to have balanced budgets in its three funds - General, Water and Sewerage.
- Council continues with its push towards more efficient operations and overall cost savings in all areas.
- Council continues to maintain its infrastructure assets in line with the Fit for the Future ratios.
- Council continues to bring down its infrastructure backlog of works in line with the Fit for the Future ratios.
- Council will endeavour to ensure equitable distribution of stormwater management services over the next ten year works program.

# Customer Services

***To provide funding to community groups and organisations which assist Council through the provision of services and facilities used by residents. To develop and implement strategies and actions to ensure that the outcomes outlined in the Community Strategic Plan are achieved. To update Councillors and the community on Council's progress on the implementation of the Delivery Program and Operational Plan. To identify the agency/officer responsible for the execution of the Integrated Plans, Strategies and Actions. To ensure adequate IT systems are in place to support service delivery and accountability requirements. To embrace new technologies such as an interactive Council website, Facebook account and Twitter. To continue shopping for services and products locally where possible.***

## **Achievements 2014/2015**

- Council donated a total of \$23,200 to community groups during the year and \$5,000 in sponsorship.
- Strategies were implemented improving the stability of Council's IT system, increasing uptime especially during working hours.
- Network wide security measures were improved.
- Extensive documentation of IT systems was begun.
- Monitoring of IT systems improved and automated.
- Major review of IT system undertaken.
- 214 new "help desk" requests received during the year, with 212 resolved within time period allocated. All requests investigated within 24 hours.
- Data backups conducted daily. Full backups conducted weekly. All backups monitored on a daily basis. Backup of system is being evaluated as part of the IT review and improvements made.
- Council's Facebook and Twitter account are operational and monitored daily.
- Council's intranet maintained to increase efficiency and enhance customer service levels.
- Council currently purchases its services and products locally when it is financially prudent to do so.

## **Strategies Not Yet Achieved**

- A full IT Strategy has yet to be written.

## **Future Priorities**

- In partnership with the community review Council's Integrated Plan in accordance with the NSW Government's Integrated Planning and Reporting Legislation.
- A total of \$23,200 for donations to community groups has been allowed for in the 2015/2016 budget.
- Disaster recovery testing to be implemented.
- Improve staff utilisation of Help Desk system.
- Council will continue to shop locally for services and products where financially possible.

## Customer Services (cont'd)



# Corporate Services

**Run activities and events that celebrate our values and include all groups within the community. To improve communication with shire residents. To maintain an open and transparent relationship with the community. To meet all governance and regulatory requirements in the conduct of Council's operations. To advocate for the interests of the community with external stakeholders. To provide opportunities for community members to participate in Council's decision-making processes. To maintain a records management system that meets the needs of the organisation, the community and legislative requirements. Evaluate the ongoing effectiveness of community engagement strategies and activities through learning from each engagement initiative and modifying approach as required.**

## Achievements in 2014/2015

- The following events were held in partnership with the community: Pink Pigeon Race Day in aid of McGrath Foundation, Local Government Week, Senior's Week, Youth Week and Narromine Australia Day.
- Hosted 1 citizenship ceremony during the year.
- Public forums, section 355 committees and various workshops held throughout the year which provided opportunities for community members to participate in Council's decision-making process.
- Annual report written, produced and made available to the public.
- Monthly newsletter 'Community Connection' celebrating and promoting the positive aspects of Narromine Shire distributed.
- Regular columns and notes placed in Narromine News and Flatchat informing the community of important information.
- Responded to formal government information public access requests – total received during the 2014/2015 year - 2. Council continues to provide the public with information when requested outside GIPA.
- Legislative checklists distributed monthly to management to ensure compliance with legislative requirements.
- Annual review of insurance cover undertaken.
- Incoming and outgoing correspondence electronically registered and distributed.
- Eligible records disposed of in accordance with State Records Act 1998.
- Community's interests represented through submissions, presentations, letters and lobbying on topics of significant impact to the Shire.
- Advocated for better allocation of funding through OROC – cost shifting.
- Submissions prepared for rural roads, infrastructure and services funding.
- Maintained partnerships with OROC, Lower Macquarie Water Utilities and LGNSW.
- Active membership and representation on OROC (Mayor Chair), GMAC Advisory Committee, Association of Mines Related Councils.
- State Regional Emergency Management Committee meets quarterly.
- Design and introduction of new Council logo.

## Strategies Not Yet Achieved

- All planned strategies were achieved.

# Corporate Services (Cont'd)

## Future Priorities

- Pink Pigeon Race; Seniors Week Morning tea and entertainment at Trangie; Australia Day celebrations, Local Government Week, Youth Week program.



# Community Services

***To provide residents with greater access to childcare, vacation and after school care. To negotiate with facility users - Narromine and Trangie Showgrounds and Racecourses, community halls. To promote and maintain the number of people utilising the services of the Narromine Shire Libraries.***

## **Achievements in 2014/2015**

- Narromine Branch library had 26,047 visitations with 22,802 articles on loan during the year. The library also responded to 6,949 information requests.
- Trangie Branch Library had 14,487 visitations with 7,547 loans and 3,371 information requests.
- The libraries ran very successful promotional weeks, author visits, and events during the year. Narromine Shire is a partner with the Macquarie Regional Library which includes the Councils of Dubbo, Wellington and Warrumbungle. Macquarie Regional Library Board Meetings are held in each centre quarterly.
- The Macquarie Valley Family Day Care provides the visitor information service from their office and have assisted tourists and residents with information during the last year.
- 270 children enrolled in Macquarie Valley Family Day Care in Narromine and Warren.
- 40 children enrolled in Narromine Vacation Care.
- Narromine Vacation Care was assessed in April 2015 by the NSW Department of Education as Meeting the National Quality Standard.
- Narromine Vacation Care children enjoyed excursions to Cowal State Forest, Macquarie River, Goobang National Park, Old Dubbo Gaol, Japanese and Biodiversity Gardens and Miniature Trains, Dubbo Aquatic Centre and Waterslide.
- Narromine Shire Council Children's Services website and Facebook pages are kept up to date, and provide relevant information to all and help to profile and promote Educators in the service.
- Continued partnership with Macquarie Regional Library where Vacation Care children attend organised activities each holiday period.
- Participated in Narromine Christian School's Alphabet Family Fun Day providing activities for children with the letter "C" for creative children.
- Ongoing support to Ngarru Mayin Elders Aboriginal Corporation by assisting with resources and community support. Participated in their NAIDOC day celebrations.
- Attended Annual NSW Family Day Care conference in Sydney in September 2014.
- Manned a stall promoting Macquarie Valley Family Day Care at Centacare's Family Fun Day at Dundas Park in May 2015.
- Provided Christmas parties at playgroups in Narromine and Warren in December 2014.
- Reviewed the service's Quality Improvement Plan which reflects strengths and weaknesses, and ways to continually improve the service.

# Community Services (Cont'd)

## Strategies Not Yet Achieved

- All planned strategies were achieved.

## Future Priorities

- Continue to promote opportunities for Educators to join Macquarie Valley Family Day Care.
- Become an agent for NSW In-Home Child Care Services.



# Built & Natural Environment

***To ensure that development within the Shire integrates ecological, sustainable development principles. Develop improved environmental practices in water, waste and energy usage, weed management and revegetation. To ensure that all developments incorporate waste water disposal systems that are operated in an environmentally sustainable manner. To provide an efficient service in the assessment of Development Applications and Part 4A Certificates. To engage with the community and external agencies to delivery programs that reduce weeds and feral pests, promote works in or near waterways, improving water quality, reduce unnatural stream bank and gully erosion, improve aquatic biodiversity, improve the condition of the Wetlands.***

## Achievements in 2014/2015

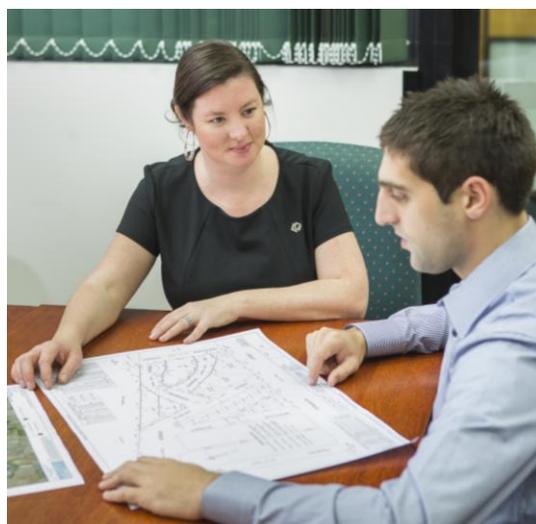
- Local Heritage Assistance Fund to assist owners of older buildings maintain the more expensive older design elements of their homes and buildings.
- A total of 89 development applications approved and complying development certificates with a total value of work of \$4,973,472 million.
- Processed 199 planning (s.149) certificates.
- Issued 54 Construction Certificates.
- Completion of On-site Sewage Management Strategy.
- Participation in Macquarie Valley Weeds Advisory Committee.
- Commitments and delegation within the Weeds Action Management Plan.
- Macquarie River stocked with over 4500 Murray Cod fingerlings and over 6800 Golden Perch fingerlings under the dollar for dollar native fish stocking program.

## Strategies Not Yet Achieved

- All planned strategies were achieved.

## Future Priorities

- Maintain Local Heritage Assistance Fund for maintenance and upgrades to older buildings.
- Review of the Narromine Development Control Plan.
- Review of the Rural Residential Land Use Strategy.
- Continuation of dollar for dollar native fish stocking program.



# Health Services

***To provide regulatory services to the Shire. Under the Narromine Liquor Accord promote greater awareness through local media, undertake a more coordinated approach to responsible drinking and ensure council management commitment at accord meetings.***

## **Achievements in 2014/2015**

- Food safety inspections carried out on food premises in Narromine, Trangie and Tomingley.
- Participation in Food Regulation Partnership program with NSW Food Authority.
- Attendance at North West Regional Food Group meetings and professional training.
- 4 inspections of licensed and accommodation premises undertaken to ensure fire safety and compliance to building standards.
- All complaints actioned in accordance with Council's complaints management system. Complaints received: 169 companion animal and stock on roads; 30 public health nuisance; 15 illegal waste dumping; 48 garbage service and 31 other.
- Inspection of 10 private swimming pools for compliance with Swimming Pools Act and Regulations. All non-compliances require rectification works.
- Council working with residents to upgrade child resistant barriers.
- Attendance at Narromine Liquor Accord meetings as required.
- Building inspections were carried out in line with Council's statutory obligations under the environmental planning legislation.
- Compliance inspections carried out on existing developments.
- Introduced a free online "I'm About Food Safety" training program.
- Introduced a free online "I'm About Responsible Dog Ownership" training program.
- Significantly increased re-homing rate of companion animals from Council's animal shelter.
- Renewed alcohol free zones throughout Narromine and Trangie to 2017.

## **Strategies Not Yet Achieved**

All planned strategies were achieved.

## **Future Priorities**

- Inspect a minimum of 5 on-site sewage management systems a year.
- Introduce "Score on Doors" for food premises.



# Shire Development

***To promote positive media coverage and advertisements of Narromine Shire – position Narromine Shire as a vibrant, dynamic and attractive community; to foster opportunities and partnerships with the local indigenous community; to promote Narromine Shire Council to metropolitan and regional cities as a desirable destination; to plan and develop future land use release to facilitate development growth ; to identify skills shortages and employment needs of the community’s current and future needs; provide incentives for new business to establish within the Shire e.g. rate free periods and availability of serviced land; to ensure newcomers to the Shire, including people with English as a second language (ESL) are welcomed and integrated into the Narromine Shire community and they are provided with opportunities; to focus on crime prevention through collaboration with the Orana Crime Prevention Partnership and the Community Precinct Committee Meetings. To plan and develop future land use release to facilitate development.***

## **Achievements in 2014/2015**

- Continued development of marketing collateral.
- Council regularly engaged with the indigenous community through support of events including NAIDOC Week, Reconciliation Day and Apology Day.
- Collaborative working relationship with the new Narromine Shire Economic Development Group to foster business and industry development within the Shire.
- Developed Business and Investment Profile in association with the Economic Development Group.
- Appointed full time Manager Events, Tourism and Economic Development.
- Continued marketing in regional and national publications to promote Narromine Shire as a desirable place to live, invest and conduct business.
- Ongoing marketing of Stage 4 of the Skypark Estate with two lots sold.
- Ongoing collaborative working relationship with neighbouring councils through participation in the Orana Economic Development Officers Network.
- Ongoing working relationship through Inland Tourism Destination Management Group.
- Sold Industrial land on the Mitchell Highway to developers.
- Assisted the Gliding Federation of Australia to secure event funding through Destination NSW for the 9th FAI Junior World Gliding Championships 2015.
- Participation in the Orana Relocation Project 'You'll love the life we live' website.

## **Strategies Not Yet Achieved**

- Welcoming newcomers to the shire including people with English as a second language and assisting with their integration into the Narromine Shire Community.
- Development and dissemination of welcome packs to all new residents.
- Host welcome functions for new residents, community group representatives, business owners and local agency representatives to provide an opportunity for new residents to establish contacts and networks within the community.
- Assist and support start-up business as required, subject to budget constraints, equity, fairness and legislative requirements.

# Shire Development (Cont'd)

## Future Priorities

- Develop Council's website to include economic development and tourism.
- Review of tourism services delivery.
- Delivery of grant writing workshops for community and sporting groups.
- Implement a broader marketing strategy for Narromine Skypark Estate.
- Facilitate forums with existing tourist operators and community groups to promote the Shire.
- Distribute welcome packs to all new residents.
- Host welcome functions for new residents, community group representatives, business owners and local agency representatives to provide an opportunity for new residents to establish contacts and networks within the community.
- Increase the number of aviation related events at the Narromine Aerodrome, by assisting groups where possible.
- Publish new tourist information through the Great Western Plains Visitors Guide.



# Human Resource Services

*To support and empower staff to enable Council to be considered an employer of choice. To minimise Council's exposure to risk and promote a strong risk management culture within Council.*

## Achievements 2014/2015

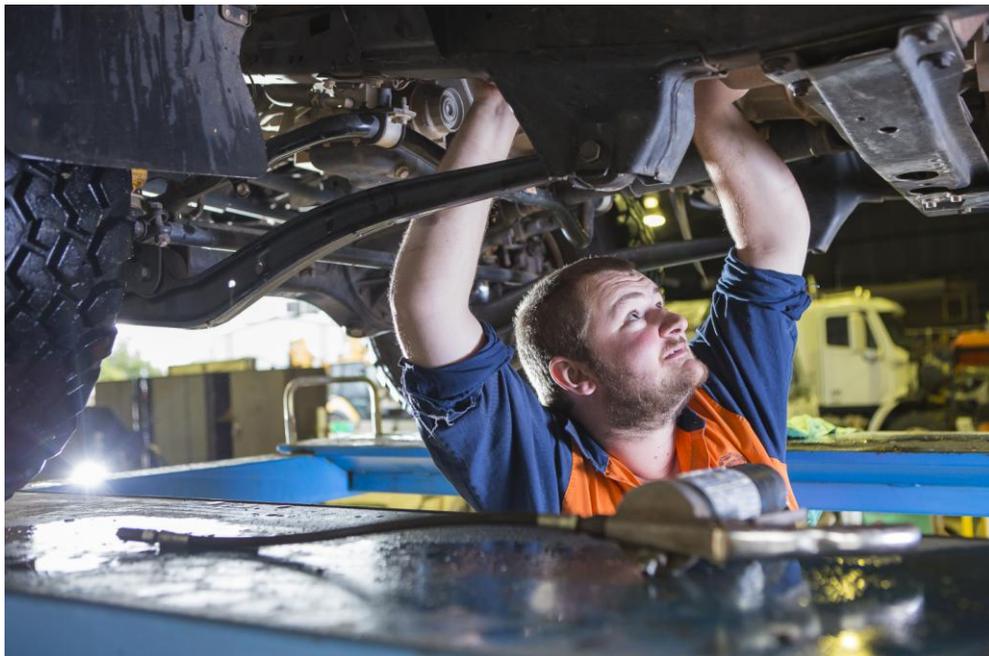
- Creation and implementation of a Performance Assessment System for staff and associated policies and procedures
- Human Resource Policies created, reviewed and developed throughout the year
- HR Advance used when required to assist in the development of policies and HR correspondence
- WHS Audits completed to identify and ameliorate risk to Council and Staff
- Individual training plans created for all staff to identify training gaps and ensure the workforce have learning to development opportunities to ensure they are up to date to meet regulatory and legislative requirements.

## Strategies Not Yet Achieved

All planned strategies were achieved.

## Future Priorities

- Risk register populated with further current information
- Develop and implement new Human Resources policies
- Continue to develop and implement WHS and Risk management plans, strategies and audits to identify and ameliorate risks to Council and staff



# Community Events

## Youth Week 10 & 17 April 2015

In 2015 Council's Youth Week Event was held on 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> April. Activities commenced with an under 18's Bluelight Disco at the Narromine USMC from 6.30 pm to 9.00 pm. On the 17<sup>th</sup> April the Rampt Mini FMX from Newcastle performed a high flying freestyle motocross stunt show at Dundas Park, Narromine. Over 400 people watched the professional riders adrenaline-filled jumps and tricks. A free sausage sizzle was followed by music and giveaways. This event was sponsored by National Youth Week, Council, Narromine Local Aboriginal Land Council, Narromine USMC, Narromine Tourist Park and Motel, Narromine Lions Club and UnitingCare Burnside.

## Local Government Week 4 - 10 August 2014

Council held mock Council Meetings for the primary school children in Narromine and Trangie and colouring in and essay writing competitions. All schools were presented with book prizes by Council. A mock Council Meeting was also conducted with the Seniors in Narromine which was followed by some light entertainment and a delicious morning tea.

## Seniors Week 17 March 2015

Council provided a morning tea for the seniors in the Shire and hosted a concert with singer "Voice of the King" Royden Donohue. He sang to a full audience of seniors at the Narromine USMC.

## Australia Day Celebrations 26 January 2015

Australia Day Celebrations were held at Dundas Park in Narromine and the Bowling Club in Trangie. Narromine's Ambassador was Professor Thomas Faunce, ANU College of Law and ANY College of Medicine Biology and Environment. Trangie's Ambassador was Lindy Hou, OAM, Paralympic Gold Medallist. The crowds were provided with free barbeque breakfasts followed by a variety of entertainment including thong throwing, face-painting, watermelon eating and song contests. Citizen of the year awards, sporting awards and community event of the year awards were presented by the Ambassadors.



# Statutory Report

Under the *Local Government Act 1993* and *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*, Narromine Shire Council must provide information to the Minister for Local Government annually. This information is provided below –

## S428(4)(a) Council's audited financial reports -

Refer to Annexure One (Financial Statements)

## cl 132 Amount of rates and charges written off during the year -

\$13,895

## S428(4)(b) Details of Overseas visits undertaken -

No overseas visits were undertaken during the year by any Councillors, Council staff or other persons while representing Council.

## cl 217(1)(a1) Total cost during the year of the payment of expenses of, and the provision of facilities to, Councillors in relation to their civic functions –

Expense	Amount
Mayoral Allowance	\$17,715
Councillor Fees	\$91,590
Provision of dedicated office equipment allocated to Councillors	\$908
Telephone calls made by Councillors	\$3,252
Attendance by Councillors at conferences and seminars	\$4,669
Training of Councillors and provision of skill development, including transport, accommodation and out-of-pocket expenses	\$318
Expenses of any spouse, partner or other person who accompanied a Councillor, being expenses payable in accordance with the Guidelines	Nil
Expenses involved in the provision of care for a child or an immediate family member of a Councillor	Nil
Interstate visits by Councillors, including transport, accommodation and other out-of-pocket travelling expenses	Nil
Overseas visits by Councillors, including transport, accommodation and other out-of-pocket travelling expenses	Nil
Other Councillor expenses (catering, stationery etc)	\$20,335
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$138,787</b>

# Statutory Report (Cont'd)

cl 217(1)(a2) Details of each contract awarded for amounts greater than \$150,000 -

Name of Contractor	Nature of Goods/Services Supplied	Total Amount Paid
Boral Construction Materials	Bitumen Supplier	\$279,663
JW Bouchier & Sons	Fuel Supplier	\$394,078
Centroc	Sewer Rehabilitation & Relining	\$980,167
Downer EDI Works	Road Stabilising	\$322,331
Dubbo Terrazo Construction Div.	Construction Services	\$281,062
Energy Australia	Electricity Supplies	\$184,930
Fulton Hogan Industries P/L	Emulsion & Road Sealing Works	\$1,426,498
JR Richards & Sons	Garbage & Recycling Collection	\$440,634
SJ McCutcheon & Sons	Earthworks	\$743,074
Narromine Building & Excavation	Construction and Earthworks	\$1,009,451
Origin Energy	Electricity Supplies	\$360,221
JR Richards & Sons	Garbage & Recycling Collection	\$411,215
Stephen Barlow	Water Carting	\$293,922
The Impax Group Pty Ltd	Water Projects	\$318,102

cl 217(1)(a3) Summary of the amounts incurred by the Council in relation to legal proceedings -

Nil

s67(3), cl 217(1)(a4) Summary of resolutions made under section 67 concerning work carried out on private land -

No resolutions were made during this period concerning work subsidised by Council and carried out on private land.

# Statutory Report (Cont'd)

cl 217(1)(a5) Total amount contributed or otherwise granted under section 356 (financially to assist others) -

\$23,200

cl 217(1)(a6) Statement of all external bodies that exercised functions delegated by Council-

No external bodies exercised functions delegated by Council during the year.

cl 217(1)(a7) Statement of all corporations, partnerships, trusts, joint ventures, syndicates or other bodies in which Council held a controlling interest -

Council held no controlling interest in any corporation, partnership, trust, joint venture, syndicate or other body during the year.

cl 217(1)(a8) Statement of all corporations, partnerships, trusts, joint ventures, syndicates or other bodies in which Council participated -

Council was a party to the following joint venture during the year –

- Macquarie Regional Library

cl 217(1)(a9) Statement of activities to implement Council's EEO management plan-

Council's EEO Committee is held in conjunction with Council's Consultative Committee Meetings.

cl 217(1)(b) Statement of the total remuneration comprised in the remuneration package of the General Manager -

Total remuneration package for the General Manager for the year was \$238,310. This includes bonus, performance or other payments that do not form part of the salary component; total amount payable by way of employer's contribution or salary sacrifice to any superannuation scheme to which the General Manager may be a contributor, total value of any non-cash benefits for which the General Manager may elect under the package and total amount payable by way of fringe benefits tax for any such non-cash benefits.

# Statutory Report (Cont'd)

cl 217(1)(c) Statement of the total remuneration comprised in remuneration packages of all senior staff members, expressed as the total (not of the individual members) -

There were no other staff positions that were determined as senior staff positions.

cl 217(1)(e) Statement detailing the stormwater management services provided (if levied) -

The Local Government Act 1993 provides Council with the ability to make and levy a charge for the provision of stormwater management services. Council has a large capital works program to complete the stormwater in each of the three towns within the shire. This levy enabled significant works to be funded over the next ten years program. Council endeavours to ensure equitable distribution of stormwater management services over time.

## **Properties categorised as Residential**

A flat charge of \$25 is charged against each eligible assessment categorised as Residential within the urban stormwater catchment. As the cost of management of stormwater runoff from impervious surfaces is usually less per residential strata lot than for standard residential property, a flat charge of \$12.50 is charged against each eligible Strata unit within the urban stormwater catchment.

## **Properties categorised as Business**

A stormwater management service charge is charged against eligible assessments categorised as business within the stormwater catchment area based on the following criteria:-

- \$25 for all lots with an area below 1,200 sq mts
- \$100 for lots with an area greater than or equal to 1,200 sq mts and below 10,000 sq mts
- \$375 for lots with an area greater than or equal to 10,000 sq mts

cl 217(1)(e1) Statement detailing the coastal protection services provided (if levied) -

Council did not levy an annual charge for coastal protection services.

s428A(1) State of Environment Report -

Refer to Annexure Two (State of Environment Report)

s54P Particulars of any environmental upgrade agreement entered into, in accordance with any requirements imposed under s406 -

Council did not enter into an environmental upgrade agreement during the year.

# Statutory Report (Cont'd)

s508(2) & A Report on special variation expenditure if required to do so by the instrument made by the Minister -

There were no special variations during the reporting year.

Capital Expenditure Guidelines Report on capital works projects-

There were no capital projects which met the Capital Expenditure Guideline reporting requirements.

cl 217(1)(f) Statement on activities relating to enforcing and ensuring compliance with the Companion Animals Act and Regulation.

Lodgement of pound data collection returns are submitted to the Office of Local Government as required. Reports relating to dog attacks are also submitted to the Office of Local Government as required. During 2014/2015 Council spent a total of \$167,505.77 on companion animal management and activities. As part of Council's Delivery Program Council has subscribed to a free online Responsible Dog Ownership program to encourage responsible ownership, care of companion animals as well as promoting the de-sexing of companion animals within the Narromine Shire. Council has also promoted responsible pet ownership through social media and Council's website. Council does not have a strategy document in place to seek alternatives to euthanasia for unclaimed animals; however Council does have working relationships with various companion animal rescue agencies, with the primary rescue agency being Pet Rescue. Council has seen a significant increase in re-homing rates since development and partnership with the rescue agencies. A dedicated off leash area is provided.

s125(1) & cl 7, Schedule 2 Information included on GIPA activity.

2 formal access applications were received by members of the public for the 2014/2015 year. Access was granted in part in accordance with the requirements of the Act. There were no invalid applications received. There were no conclusive presumption of overriding public interest considerations used or other public interest considerations against disclosure as listed in section 14 of the Act. All applications were decided within the statutory timeframe. There were no applications reviewed under Part 5 of the Act and no applications were transferred to other agencies.

s93G(5) Particulars of compliance with and effect of planning agreements in force during the year.

Council is party to the voluntary planning agreement associated with the Tomingley Gold Operations development and compliance with the agreement was maintained during the reporting period.

# Statutory Report (Cont'd)

s31 & cl 4 Information on number of public interest disclosures and whether public interest disclosure policy is in place

In 2014/2015 Council received seven public interest disclosure reports made by public officials performing their day to day functions. Of the public interest disclosures received all were primarily about corrupt conduct. Seven public interest disclosures (received since 1 January 2012) have been finalised in this reporting period. Council has adopted an Internal Reporting Policy which is based on the NSW Ombudsman's model internal reporting policy for Local Government. Council's General Manager has taken action to meet staff awareness obligations through policy briefings from senior managers, links on staff intranet site, messages in staff newsletters, messages with payslips and posters.

s8(2) Report on compliance with the Carers (Recognition) Act 2010

Council is not a Human Service Agency under the Act; however Council has formulated a policy on our obligations under the NSW Carers (Recognition) Act 2010. We value the diversity of our employees and promote inclusive human resource practices. Council also recognises the importance of flexible work arrangements. All employees have the same rights, choices and opportunities. Allowance is also made to refund Councillors expenses involved in the provision of care for an immediate family member to allow the Councillor to undertake their civic duty.

s220ZT Recovery and threat abatement plans

Council has not been identified in a recovery and threat abatement plan under the Act.

# Contact Information

## Contacting Council

### Customer Service & Payments Centre

120 Dandaloo Street  
Narromine  
Open from 8.30 am to 5.00 pm Monday to Friday  
Telephone 02 6889 9999  
(for payments and general enquiries)

### Council Chambers

124 Dandaloo Street  
Narromine  
Open from 8.30am to 5.00 pm Monday to Friday  
Telephone 02 6889 9999  
(for general enquiries)

### Correspondence

All correspondence should be addressed to the General Manager and sent to:-

Narromine Shire Council, PO Box 115, Narromine, NSW, 2821

Email: [mail@narromine.nsw.gov.au](mailto:mail@narromine.nsw.gov.au)

Fax: 02 6889 9998

## Council's Contact Directory

Administration – 6889 9999  
Animal Control - 6889 9999  
Narromine Public Library- 6889 1088  
Trangie Public Library- 6888 7501  
Narromine Swimming Pool – 6889 1448  
Trangie Swimming Pool – 6888 7536  
Narromine Sports Centre – 6889 1180  
Narromine Waste Depot – 6889 9957  
Macquarie Valley Family Day Care – 6889 1368  
Tourist Information – 6889 9980  
SES (Floods and Storms) – 13 2500

After Hours – 6889 9999

# Community Connection

## Provision of Information

**Council Column & Notes:** every Wednesday a 'Council Column' is published in the Narromine News, featuring information about upcoming events, draft policies, tenders, public notices, Council Meeting dates and proposed developments. The 'Council Column' is also published fortnightly in the FlatChat News. Every Friday, provided there is sufficient space, 'Council Notes' are published in the Narromine News with up to date information about Council services.

**Council's website** can be accessed at [www.narromine.nsw.gov.au](http://www.narromine.nsw.gov.au). The website includes up to date information about Council services, media releases, public notices, positions vacant and various other documents relating to Council operations.

**Monthly Newsletter:** Council distributes a monthly newsletter to all residents living in Tomingley, Trangie and Narromine.

**Twitter and Facebook:** Narromine Shire Council provides regular updates on social media channels

## Accessing Information

### Public Documents

Narromine Shire Council provides a number of documents to inform the community about Council operations and services. These include Business Papers and Minutes, Community Strategic Plan, Delivery Program and Operational Plan, Long-Term Financial Plan and Workforce Plan and Statutory Annual Report. These can be accessed from Council's website, the Customer Service and Payments Centre, Council Chambers or by contacting Council on 6889 9999.

### Public Officer

Council's Public Officer, Vas Roberts, can provide information on other documents not available on Council's website, and information under the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009. The Public Officer can be contacted on 6889 9931.